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northern STAR MAGAZINE

Bradford Festival
radio **diary**

pre-view

BLAST THEORY **Chemical Wedding**

Bradford Alhambra Studio, 1-3 July

Bradford Festival's most exciting theatrical event will be London-based performance group **Blast Theory**'s examination of issues around HIV and AIDS 'Chemical Wedding'. Working in, through and with the audience, using an in-your-face physical style reminiscent of DV8, the four-strong company lay bare the prejudice and disinformation that spreads more quickly than the virus itself. While a quadrophonic system mixes music with a babel of voices, two screens flash up computer-generated images of Hollywood movies, multiplying cells and distorted pictures of spectators and performers. Eschewing chaos, a strong narrative line runs through the evening, culminating in an electric final image, as despair gives way to the achievement of an ecstatic community. "Hell is a feast with a spoon too long for you to use... Heaven is finding out you are able to feed your neighbour with it."

Bill Broady

re-view

