**The Ballad of Mulan Copy**

Bi-line

The real woman behind the Chinese Legend that inspired Disney’s *Mulan*.

44 words

Woman, warrior, Legend. For ten years Mulan disguised as a man has fought for the Chinese Empire, but now it is time to go home. Grist to the Mill and Red Dragonfly brings you the real Chinese heroine that inspired Disney’s original animation *Mulan*.

85 words

Woman, warrior, Legend. For ten years Mulan disguised as a man, has fought for the Chinese Empire, but now the fighting is coming to an end, one last battle and she will be going home – but how can she return to her old life, become a woman again, does she even want to? A search for identity in a violent world.

From the team behind '*The Unknown Soldier*' and ‘*The Empress and Me*’ Grist to the Mill brings you the real Chinese heroine that inspired Disney’s original animation *Mulan*.

A collaboration with Red Dragonfly Productions.

**Presented by** Grist to the Mill and Red Dragonfly Productions

**Written and Directed by** Ross Ericson **Performed by** Michelle Yim

**Website:** [www.gristtheatre.co.uk](http://www.gristtheatre.co.uk) **twitter:** @gristtheatre **Facebook:** @gristtheatre

**Date and time:** TBC

**Duration:** 60min **Ticket Prices:** TBC

**Themes:** Chinese poem, Chinese history, war, identity, gender expectations,

**Suitable for:** age 10+ and adults **Post-show talk:** available with artist

Reviews

*'Full of ambition, politics and cultural tension'*

**★★★★ Adelaide Theatre Guide on ‘The Empress and Me’**

*‘Delivered with style and feeling by [Michelle Yim]’*

**★★★★ The Scotsman on ‘An Evening with Miss Wong’**

*'Absolutely fascinating'*

**RECOMMENDED SHOW - Fringe Review on ‘The Empress and Me’**

*'[Michelle] Yim is a winning performer.'*

**The Stage on ‘The Empress and Me’**

We are Grist to the Mill Productions, passionate about bringing theatre, exciting new-writing and stories with a new perspective to the British and International stage. Ross Ericson is the founder and resident playwright. The company's production of ***'Casualties'***, a gritty story about the soldiers in the bomb disposal unit in the Afghan war, was **nominated for** **Best New Play** **at the OffWestEnd Award** in 2013. Working with sister company Red Dragonfly Productions, the team has adapted various Chinese classics into a European theatre format and toured around the UK, promoting intercultural interest and creating opportunities for British East Asian artists. To date Ross Ericson has 4 plays **published by Bloomsbury, Methuen Drama: ‘Casualties’, ‘The Unknown Soldier’, ‘Gratiano’ and ‘Henry Fielding’s Tom Jones**’. The thought-provoking **‘The Unknown Soldier’** continues to tour after a **Sell-out season at Edinburgh Fringe** in 2016 and even after the centenary, touching the hearts and thoughts of the audiences everywhere.