Autumn / Spring 2021-22



























Autumn/Spring 2021-22

We are delighted to present our selection of shows and performances available for booking for Autumn - Spring 2021-2022, featuring the very best of touring theatre, family shows, music, storytelling and poetry.

It has been a challenging time for many of the hosts that we work with, so we are thrilled to be able to bring you such a brilliant line-up to entertain your community. With some returning favourite companies as well as some exciting new artists, this is our biggest and most varied menu yet.

Theatre - This season we have six brilliant theatre productions on offer. First Knight Theatre Co. bring you their take on John Godber's classic 'Happy Jack'; Conn Artists Theatre Company Ltd. shed a light on the fascinating meeting between Charles Dickens and Lewis Carroll in 'A Perfect Likeness'; Kuumba Nia Arts and Unlock the Chains Collective tell the powerful story of Mary Prince, whose life story galvanised the anti-slavery movement, in 'SOLD'; in 'WOMANS (like Romans but with a 'W')', Scratchworks Theatre Company transport us back to 44BC with the hilarious tale of Leta, who will do just about anything to make her mark in history; following the success of their acclaimed musical 'The Ministry of Biscuits' The Foundry Group return with their humorous show 'Lord God'; and finally Erin Hunter's 'Surfing the Holyland' mixes comedy, music and drama to explore important themes such as immigration, female empowerment and rebirth, all whilst Heather learns to surf!

Family - We also have a great selection of family shows, including beautiful puppetry productions such as Garlic Theatre's 'Oldilocks and the 3 Bears', Norwich Puppet Theatre's 'Beastly Belle', and Long Nose Puppets ('Penguin',' Out Of The Hat' and 'Arthur's Dream Boat') return with their new book adaptation, 'The Hug'. For a show that's sure to get the whole family laughing, Privates' 'Great Ideas By Geniuses' will have you in hysterics as they come up with all kinds of silly inventions; the multi-award-winning science-singer-songwriter John Hinton will have you laughing along to 'Ensonglopedia of the Human'; and

Petite Pantos bring their fabulous year round pantomime dame to the stage in 'Mama G's Story Time Roadshow', with original stories, music, BSL, puppetry and all the traditional audience participation you'd expect in panto... oh yes there is!

Music/Musical Theatre - If you're looking to bring some high-quality music to your community, then look no further than The Schmoozenbergs' 'Gypsy Jazz and Swing Show', with upbeat classics from the 1920s-40s; enjoy the varied repertoire of award-winning musician Sarah McQuaid in 'Sarah McQuaid in Concert'; be entertained by the ingenious string quartet Bowjangles with their new show 'Dracula in Space'; hear the extensive works of Brit-folk artists 'The Trevor Moss & Hannah-Lou Band'; or celebrate the 150th birthday of author Edith Holden with Broomdasher's 'The Country Diary in Song'.

Spoken Word/Poetry/Storytelling - Partnering with INN CROWD, we are pleased to also be able to offer you a brilliant selection of poets and storytellers, such as Luke Wright, Bernadette Russell, Molly Naylor, Stumble Trip Theatre, Suki Silvertongue, and Will Jackson.

Just to note that some of the productions and artists featured in this menu are touring the country for a limited period and the dates you see in this menu are only on reserve for Applause hosts for a few weeks. Therefore, please send us your booking requests as soon as possible.

We hope you enjoy browsing the wide variety of performances on offer in this menu and we look forward to receiving your requests.

Kind regards, Alice, Community Engagement Lead

Applause Rural Touring, The Yard, 2a Speldhurst Road, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 0DP 01892 457635 www.applause.org.uk / office@applause.org.uk Funded by







Hosting with Applause? We are here to help!

At Applause, we are passionate about bringing the very best, high-quality shows directly to your community! We understand the value of the arts in bringing communities together and we are always excited to welcome new hosts into the Applause family. Whether you've hosted 100 shows or this is your first, we are pleased to be working with you and we are here to help.

We work on a subsidy basis, whereby Applause pays the full price of the show to the performing company and then the hosts pay Applause a contribution, made up of a Minimum Fee, plus 40% of ticket sales in excess of the Minimum Fee. The Minimum Fee is listed with each show in the menu. Occasionally, hosts will opt to pay the full price themselves and then keep the ticket sales, so you may see the full price listed on some shows too.

We try to make hosting an event as easy as possible. We've listed the key steps for you below to give you an idea of what to expect and what you might want to think about:

- 1. Browse the menu. Take a look at what is on offer this season and create a shortlist of the shows and dates that you would like to book and submit your request to Applause. If you're unsure of what show would work well for your audience or you would like to find out more about the shows, then we are more than happy to have a chat and advise.
- **2.** Applause will liaise with the artists to agree dates, so you can focus on marketing the show and making it as successful as possible.
- **3. Market the show**. The Applause team are on hand to help make the show a success and have lots of handy tips on how to market your show. We will also supply you with a range of marketing assets that you might need.

- **4. Ticket sales.** Previously, our hosts have solely managed their ticket sales, some choosing to sell tickets in local shops and others turning to online sales, but this year we are really pleased to announce that we will be able to support online ticket sales on our website more to come on that once you have booked! Recommended ticket prices are given on each show page as a guideline.
- **5. It's show time!** Enjoy the show! On the day of the show we will ask you to help us collect some audience feedback (this is really important in helping us to secure our funding and continue to support shows like yours).

If you are new to rural touring and would like to receive additional information or find out more about what being a host means then please email our Community Engagement Lead, Alice, on touring@applause.org.uk

We look forward to working with you soon!







Shows

Theatre

Conn Artists Theatre Company Ltd: A Perfect Likeness

Scratchworks Theatre Company: WOMANS (like Romans but with a 'W')

Kuumba Nia Arts and Unlock the Chains Collective: SOLD

The Foundry Group: Lord God
First Knight Theatre Co: Happy Jack
Erin Hunter: Surfing the Holyland

Family Theatre

Norwich Puppet Theatre: Beastly Belle Garlic Theatre: Oldilocks and the 3 Bears

Long Nose Puppets: The Hug Privates: Great Ideas By Geniuses

Petite Pantos: Mama G's Story Time Roadshow John Hinton: Ensonglopedia of the Human

Poetry/Spoken Word/Storytelling

Luke Wright: The Ballad Seller

Bernadette Russell: 366 Days of Kindness Molly Naylor: Stop Trying to be Fantastic

Will Jackson: Yours Sincerely
Stumble Trip Theatre: Is This It?

Suki Silvertongue: Bedtime Stories for Grownups

Music/Musical Theatre

The Trevor Moss & Hannah-Lou Band

Sarah McQuaid: Sarah McQuaid in Concert

The Schmoozenbergs: Gypsy Jazz and Swing Show

Bowjangles: Dracula in Space

Broomdasher: The Country Diary in Song with Broomdasher



Funded by





Theatre



Conn Artists Theatre Company Ltd

A Perfect Likeness

Reclusive writer and photographer Charles Dodgson (aka Lewis Carroll) invites celebrity author Charles Dickens to his Oxford home to pose for a portrait. Dickens is so intrigued by the whimsical Alice's Adventures in Wonderland that he accepts.

What ensues is a baring of two creative souls, the one private and fastidious, the other boisterous and irreverent. As Dodgson struggles to capture a "perfect likeness" of Dickens, Dickens craftily pries into Dodgson's personal life to get a handle on one of the most curious men he has ever met.

The result is a hilarious and revealing conversation between two quirky, fascinating, and completely different men. A Perfect Likeness by Daniel Rover Singer (Reduced Shakespeare Company) receives its UK Premiere by Conn Artists following on from their hit tours of Silas Marner and The Four Men. Starring Ross Muir as Lewis Carroll and David Stephens as Charles Dickens. Directed by Nick Young.

For more information visit: www.conn-artists.co.uk



"Ross Muir's performance is exceptional, capturing the audience's attention with the character's fragile state of mind, evoking powerful empathy as the play progresses."

Theatre South East on Silas Marner

"David Stephens makes a truly venerable Grizzlebeard, full of the wisdom of old age." ★★★★ The Argus Brighton on The Four Men

Promoter Information

Available Dates

1 Sept, 7 Sept, 10-11 Sept, 22-23 Sept, 25 Sept, 1-31 Oct



Target Audience

Suitable for ages 12+



Promoter Minimum Fees

£400

Full Price: £800



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10.00 Child/Concs 8.00



Show Duration

104 mins + 20 min interval (required)



Key Times

In: 6 hrs Out: 1 hr



Company Size

2 Performers

1 Crew



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Raised stage preferred



Space Required

W6 metres x D5 metres x H3 metres



Sound Requirements

No



Lighting Needs

No



Scratchworks Theatre Company

WOMANS (like Romans but with a 'W)

A whirlwind of fast-paced physical comedy & live music.

It's 44BC, Ancient Rome. Our hero, Leta, has been declared a traitor by the Roman Senate. She is given a punishment worse than death - Damnatio Memoriae - to be erased from history. But with the help from some mischievous Muses, she decides to rebel against the Republic. Follow Leta's determined journey to reclaim her place in the history books. From crashing the Colosseum to freeing the slaves, she will go to the ends of the empire to make her mark. With physical comedy, clowning and original music, WOMANS is a raucous and hilarious tale of the first female resistance.

NB. some flashing lights at the start (not strobe lights)

For more information visit: www.scratchworkstheatre.com



"Highly imaginative... a genuinely funny & clever show!"

*** A Younger Theatre

"Highly entertaining...riotous fun!" ★★★★ Fringe Guru

Promoter Information

Available Dates

1-3 Oct (preferred), 4-10 Oct, Spring Season 2022 tbc



Target Audience

Suitable for all (ages 7+)



Promoter Minimum Fees

£375

Full Price: £750



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 8



Show Duration

75 mins + 15 min interval (preferred)



Key Times

In: 4 hrs
Out: 45 mins



Company Size

3 Performers 1 Crew



Workshops

Available on request



Stage Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W4m x **D**3m x **H**1.5m



Sound Requirements

Basic PA system to plug into laptop, if available



Lighting Needs

Basic lighting required





Kuumba Nia Arts and Unlock the Chains Collective

SOLD

To be free is very sweet

To be free is very sweet"

SOLD is the story of Mary Prince and her journey to overcome the brutality of enslavement through the power of her indomitable spirit. Born into enslavement in the British Caribbean colony of Bermuda, Mary went on to become an abolitionist and autobiographer, highlighting the harsh realities of the brutality of being bought, owned and sold.

Her book was the first account of the life of a Black woman to be published in the United Kingdom and had a galvanising effect on the anti-slavery movement, exposing some of the intricacies of chattel slavery that are seldom heard.

Told through theatre, song, drumming and dance, SOLD is a masterpiece of Black British theatre inspired by the storytelling traditions of the West African griot.

The show flows straight into a Q&A session of 20 - 30 minutes if required.



Every so often there is a piece that touches the soul. Sold is one such show. $\star\star\star\star\star$ Musical Theatre Review Edinburgh Fringe 2019

SOLD is a thrilling and unimaginably skilful blend of storytelling, song, drumming and dance. Immensely powerful and artistically vibrant! A must see! *****

Ask The Ushers- Vault festival2020

Promoter Information

Available Dates

10 - 13 and 17 - 20 November . 1-4 December. 6-9April



Target Audience

11



Promoter Minimum Fees

£300

Full Price: £600



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 6



Show Duration

60 mins



Key Times

In: 1 hr 30 mins
Out: 1 hr



Company Size

2 Performers 1 Crew



Workshops

Available on request



Stage Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W6 metres x **D**5-6 metres x **H**3 metres



Sound Requirements

An in house pa system would be great if available



Lighting Needs

An in house lighting system would be great if available





The Foundry Group

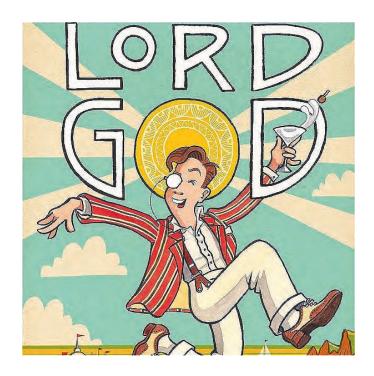
Lord God

When Lord God is persuaded by retainer Gabriel to take a holiday in a Devonshire seaside hotel (to get Him out from under His angels' feet), He looks forward to a fortnight filled with tennis, cream teas and the latest Agatha Christie. But the presence of campaigning atheist Prof. 'Minty' Tweddle and her fiancé, caustic drama critic Rex Addison, leads to all manner of supernatural scrapes, japes and narrow escapes and the invention of a hot new global dance craze.

Can our hero persuade Minty He really exists? Can He solve the Problem of Evil before breakfast? Will Gabriel step in once more to save the Almighty's bacon?

Find out the answers to these questions and all the mysteries of Creation in this new 1920's-set, family-friendly musical comedy from best-selling author Philip Reeve and award-winning playwright and composer Brian Mitchell, writers of the acclaimed musical 'The Ministry of Biscuits'. 'Lord God' takes a timely look at morality, faith, and why sometimes it is best not to take things too seriously. With a top-notch cast including comedian Joanna Neary (BBC2's 'Ideal') 'Lord God' promises a night of witty lyrics, toe-tapping tunes and thoughtful frivolity.

For more information visit: www.foundrygroup.co.uk



Promoter Information

Available DatesGeneral availability



Target Audience 7+ - family friendly



Promoter Minimum Fees



£300 Full Price: £600 Minimum Rec Ticket Price Adults 10

Child/Concs 8



Show Duration

100 mins + 20 min interval (preferred)



Key Times

In: 3 hrs Out: 1 hr



Company Size

4 Performers



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Raised stage preferred



Space Required

W3.5m x **D**3.5m x **H**2.4m



Sound Requirements

Supplied



Lighting NeedsSupplied



First Knight Theatre Co

Happy Jack

Set in a West Yorkshire mining village, John Godber's Happy Jack is about the lives of Jack and Liz Munroe. Inspired by Godbers own grandparents, the play follows the couples 40-year marriage through the good times and bad, telling snippets of their lives together, the love, sadness, anger, joy and conflict.

Balancing humour with some tough realities, it highlights the lives of working miners and the terrible legacies that many were left with long after leaving the pits.

Told uniquely in reverse, we first meet Jack and Liz in their sixties not long before their deaths, and the play ends as Jack asks Liz out for the first time. All effectively set to the music of their time: Mario Lanza, Alma Cogan, The Ink Spots and Johnny Ray among others.

One of Godber's earlier works, Happy Jack has found itself suddenly relevant and powerful, showing a fascinating snapshot of a lifestyle that may never be with us again, a way of life lost forever - annual family seaside holidays, coach trips, working men's clubs, Mr & Mrs competitions, Blackpool rock, saucy seasidepostcards and organ recitals in ballrooms.

For more information visit: www.jonnymagnanti.com



"Happy Jack is about a lifetime of routine, about memories from lives lived in a rut, but written so well and performed so beautifully by Jonny Magnanti and Tracey Ann Wood." ★★★★ The Stage

"Wood and Magnanti are both excellent and make us feel for their characters as their stories unfold." London Theatre 1

Promoter Information

Available Dates

Good availability



Target Audience

Suitable for any audience 14+



Promoter Minimum





75 mins + 15 min



In: 45 mins



Fees

£375

Full Price: £750



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 8

Show Duration

interval (preferred)



Key Times

Out: 30 mins



Company Size

2 Performers 1 Crew



((1)

Workshops

No



Requirements

Raised stage preferred



Space Required

W12ft x D12ft x H12ft



Sound Requirements

We can use the venues sound equipment or provide our own **Lighting Needs**

We can work with the venues lighting or provide our own



Erin Hunter

Surfing the Holyland

When a wide-eyed American moves to Tel Aviv, how does she survive the mad Middle East? She learns to surf.

"Oh, we have sharks here...but they're not in the water."

Heather is bored of her job, bored of Ohio, and bored of, ahem, fertility problems. But when she moves to exotic Tel Aviv, the Israeli "balagan"* slaps Heather with acute culture shock, a rejected visa and a husband who finds God. So how does a wide-eyed American survive the mad Middle East? She learns to surf! Twelve colourful characters, four comedy ukulele numbers and one woman searching for inner "chutzpah"** on a surfboard in this dynamic solo show exploring the immigrant experience, female empowerment and rebirth.

Playfully intermingling comedy, musical and drama, Surfing the Holyland is the story of hope every pandemicweary audience needs. A classic fish-out-of-water tale with bighearted comedy and electrifying story-telling.



"charming, funny and occasionally irreverent...a truly riveting performance...delightful and artfully witty ukulele numbers" -Joel Renouf-Cooke, reviewer at **Brighton Fringe**

Promoter Information

Available Dates General availability



Target Audience



Promoter Minimum



Fees £250



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Child/Concs 7



Show Duration

70 mins



Key Times

12+.

In: 2 hrs 30 mins Out: 30 mins



Company Size

Full Price: £500

1 Performer 1 Crew



Workshops

Adults 9

Available on request



Requirements



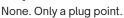


Space Required

W3 metres x D2 metres x H2.8 metres clearance from stage floor



Sound Requirements





Lighting Needs

None required. However, full stage lights preferred if available.

Family Theatre



Norwich Puppet Theatre

Beastly Belle

Be charmed and surprised by a new twist on an old tale, inspired by the iconic era of 1920s and 30s cinema. Our young heroine Belle is plucked from a life of poverty by Merill, a greedy film producer who sweeps her off her feet and into fame and fortune in the movies. Caught up in the glitz and glamour, Belle forgets her roots and is ensnared by a world obsessed with good looks - but looks aren't everything, right?

A journey of discovery which explores perceptions of physical beauty and how two strangers can overcome their differences. Will Beauty come to understand and accept the Beast?

Featuring a skilful mix of puppetry, film projections and an original musical score. One of only a handful of dedicated puppet theatres in England, Norwich Puppet Theatre is a hub for leading international puppeteers and theatre makers. Using traditional and contemporary puppet craft, Norwich Puppet Theatre productions bring a fresh twist to well loved fairy tales and stories which entrance children and adults alike.

Post show Q&A with puppeteers

For more information visit: https://www.puppettheatre. co.uk/



The characters are witty and snarky, adding a new buzz to the traditional tale. Not to mention, they're beautifully carved, with vintage velvet and tulle Gatsbyesque costumes, and sparkling marble eyes that seem to engage directly and cheekily with the audience. Georgina Parfitt, Towerbable

The characters are witty, realistic and a little bit cheeky at the same time. Exquisite Animations-Online

Promoter Information

Available Dates

31 Oct - 5 Nov, 8-19 & 21 Nov, 4-9 & 11 Dec, 19-24 Dec



Target Audience

Aged 4 + & families



Promoter Minimum Fees

£375

Full Price: £750



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 8 Child/Concs 6



Show Duration

50 mins



Key Times

In: 2 hrs 30 mins Out: 1 hr



Company Size

2 Performers



Workshops

No



Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W4.5 metres x **D**4 metres x H3 metres



Sound Requirements

none



Lighting Needs

none



Garlic Theatre

Oldilocks and the 3 Bears

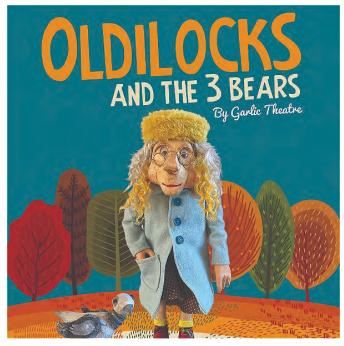
One winter, Oldilocks finds a teddy bear in the park and remembers a delicious bowl of porridge she tasted years ago in the woods. Something else happened but she can't quite remember what... so she sets off for the forest. Will she find the bears house and what will happen then?

A wonderfully funny and warmhearted celebration of the classic story starring a naughty old lady who looks very familiar... and 3 funny bears who love their breakfast. Garlic Theatre hold their young audience spellbound with lovingly crafted puppets, music and some steaming bowls of porridge.

For ages 3 to 7 years.

An after show puppet demo will replace our normal invite for the audience to come and look at the puppets.

For more information visit: https://www.garlictheatre.org. uk



Iklooshar gave a flawless amusing performance, engaging superbly with the audience young and old alike Fownhope Village Hall Arts Alive Feb 2018

Promoter Information

Available Dates

Selective dates Sept-December



Target Audience

Age 3 - 7 and families



Promoter Minimum Fees

£275

Full Price: £550



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 8 Child/Concs 6



Show Duration

50 mins



Key Times

In: 3 hrs Out: 45 mins



Company Size

1 Performer



Workshops

No



Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W4m x **D**4m x **H**2.5



Sound Requirements

none



Lighting Needs

none





Long Nose Puppets

The Hug

Long Nose Puppets are proud to announce their brandnew show. A tale of hope, empathy and acceptance.

Based on the heart-warming and funny book 'The Hug' by Eoin McLaughlin and Polly Dunbar. Starring a Hedgehog and a Tortoise both in search of a restorative hug. They face many rejections along the way from a rather scary badger, a squirrel (who knows A LOT about nuts), a shy frog, a fabulous fox and an owl who really wants to be wise.

Set to Tom Gray's beautiful and witty music, the audience are invited on a journey full of fun, laughter and love...and at the end, a very special hug from our puppets.

Trailer:

For more information visit: www.longnosepuppets.com



Promoter Information

Available Dates

General availability from 25 Sept, 2021 -April 2022



Target Audience

2-



Promoter Minimum Fees

£300

Full Price: £600



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 8 Child/Concs 6



Show Duration

45 mins



Key Times

In: 2 hrs Out: 1 hr



Company Size

Requirements

supply our own.

Use venue equipment or can

3 Performers

Sound



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W5 x **D**4m x **H**2.5



Lighting Needs

Use venue equipment or can supply our own.



Privates

Great Ideas by Geniuses

Live comedy's answer to Wallace & Gromit

Three brilliant, big-headed idiots try to make history and win a Nobel Prize with some totally stupid homemade inventions. Meet live comedy's anarchic answer to Wallace and Gromit. 2019 Otherplace Award Winners. "Absolute magic" ***** (Mumble Comedy)

Discover a show about the discoveries that changed the world, by people who know nothing.

Award-winning idiots Privates reinvent the wheel, ignoring the past and ruining the future along the way. This show will eureka you out of the bath, drop an apple on your head and invent the chair you're sitting on. Not sat down? Oh man, you have got to try one of these chairs!

Great Ideas By Geniuses is the greatest invention in human history - because it's got them all in it.



"Absurd and hilarious" (The Wee Review) The Wee Review

"Highly enjoyable... Absolute magic" ★★★★ Mumble Comedy

Promoter Information

Available Dates

1 September - 1 May 2022



Target Audience

Family Audiences



Promoter Minimum Fees

£275

Full Price: £550



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 8 Child/Concs 6



Show Duration

60 mins



Key Times

In: 30 mins
Out: 30 mins



Company Size

3 Performers 1 Crew



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Raised stage preferred



Space Required

W4m x **D**3m x **H**0m



Sound Requirements

Sound System to plug in a laptop



Lighting Needs

Basic Stage Lighting



Petite Pantos

Mama G's Story Time Roadshow

Mama G is a year round pantomime dame who tells stories about being who you want and loving who you are to children and their families. Mama G tells her own original stories - so get ready to meet some of her magical characters including feuding fairies, Eunice the Unicorn, a bunny that's lost her bounce and Little Roar the fashionista dinosaur.

The stories are told with a mixture of music, BSL, puppetry and lots of joining in, and in the tradition of pantomime: there's humour that the whole family will enjoy. Mama G has been telling stories since 2018 and in that time has visited theatres, schools, festivals, libraries, museums, prides and bookshops around the country.

She has worked with Disney, ZSL London Zoo, the Unicorn Theatre and Museum of Liverpool and is committed to taking her stories and message to communities large and small!

After show Q & A if required.

For more information visit: www.petitepantos.com/ mama-g



An exceptionally well written and directed feel-good show that leaves you feeling uplifted. Mama G's stories are sprinkled with tales of inclusivity and acceptance.

★★★★ The Guardian

"I found myself on more than one occasion misty-eyed with just the sheer goodness of it all - nothing was cloying; it comes from an authentic place and I saw that connection in the eyes of the children." London Theatre1

Promoter Information

Available Dates

Sept 13 - Dec 5, 2021 and Feb 6 2022 onwards



Target Audience

4+ and their families



Promoter Minimum Fees

£250



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 8 Child/Concs 6



Show Duration

70 mins + 20 min interval (preferred)



Key Times

In: 2 hrs Out: 1 hr



Company Size

1 Performer

1 Crew



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Raised stage preferred



Space Required

W3m x **D**3m x **H**2.5m



Sound Requirements

Speakers and foldback.



Lighting Needs

A rig that can provide a chase and a warm wash. (or lights on and off)

John Hinton

Ensonglopedia of the Human

What makes us human?

Multi-award-winning science-singer-songwriter John Hinton hasn't just got one answer, he's got twenty-six - one for each letter of the alphabet - and he's turned them all into comedy song. He's accompanied on his journey through all things human by the Imaginaut - a digital avatar who has his own ideas about how the show should run, and is determined to let the audience have their say about which songs are heard and in what order.

John is the writer and performer of musical comedies about Charles Darwin, Albert Einstein and Marie Curie, all of which have previously toured with Applause, and has also created several previous Ensonglopedias on different themes. The show is peer reviewed by scientists, healthcare professionals and academics. Suitable for all humans old enough to think and laugh at the same time. "John Hinton is an absolute joy... This guy could get anyone interested in science" - Adelaide Theatre Guide "Ensonglopedia of the Human is a magical show, wonderfully performed by Hinton... with an energy that the Duracell Bunny would be envious of" - four stars, The Reviews Hub



Ensonglopedia [of the Human] is a magical show, wonderfully performed by Hinton... with an energy that the Duracell Bunny would be envious of ** ** ** The Reviews Hub

Promoter Information

Available Dates

15 Nov - 19 Dec and 14 Feb onwards



Target Audience

Families, kids aged 6+



Promoter Minimum Fees

£300

Full Price: £600



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 8 Child/Concs 6



Show Duration

70 mins + 10 min interval (on request)



Key Times

In: 2 hrs 30 mins Out: 1 hr



Company Size

1 Performer

1 Crew



Workshops

Available on request



Stage Requirements

Raised stage preferred



Space Required

W4m x **D**2m x **H**2.5m



Sound Requirements

We can use the venue PA system, or supply our own.

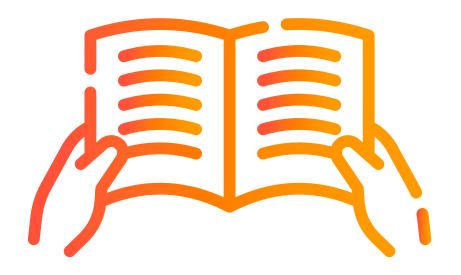


Lighting Needs

We will use any lighting Σ that the venue has, or supply our own.



Poetry, Spoken Word, Storytelling



Luke Wright

The Ballad Seller

Back in Georgian times we got our news from poetry. Before papers, broadcasts or the internet, ballad sellers would hawk their doggerel on street corners for a penny.

Scandalous affairs, grisly crimes, and colourful characters were brought to life in rhyming verse long before the first tabloid was printed. Now Luke Wright has rewritten the very best of these stories for the modern ear: take a trip through the Drury Lane gin shops with the Boxing Baroness; filch oysters by the dozen with Dando, the celebrated gormandiser; and escape the Bull Ring with Jemmy the Rockman. Expect scandal, excess, and beautiful flawed humanity.

For more information visit: https://www.lukewright.co.uk/ the-ballad-seller/



"You will leave his show brimming with energy, heart pounding and brain whirring." - The Guardian

Promoter Information

Available Dates

General availability Sept-Dec



Target Audience

Recommended 14+ (some swearing)



Promoter Minimum Fees

£200

Full Price: £500



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 8



Show Duration

65 mins + interval (on request)



Key Times

In: 15 mins Out: 15 mins



Company Size

1 Performer

1 Crew



Workshops

No



Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W3m x **D**3m



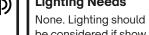
Sound Requirements

Microphone and PA but not essential



Lighting Needs

be considered if show is held outside after dark.



Bernadette Russell

366 Days of Kindness

The true story of one woman's mission to answer the question "can kindness change the world?" by carrying out an act of kindness for a total stranger every day for 366 days. Involving cakes, compliments, phone boxes and Billy Bragg teaching her how to play "The Milkman of Human Kindness" in a cupboard at the BBC. This is a comedy about how, despite what we are told about the state of the world, there is more love than hate, more hope than fear, more good than bad. All this plus a chance to win a million pounds (really)

For more information visit: https://www.bernadetterussell.com/



'A thought-provoking, hilarious and disarmingly honest show' ** * Daily Express

Promoter Information

Available Dates

General availability Sept-Dec



Target Audience

14+ some references to drugs, smoking, homelessness, drinking



Promoter Minimum Fees

£200

Full Price: £400



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 8



Show Duration

60 mins



Key Times

In: 1 hr Out: 20 mins



Company Size

1 Performer



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W3m x D3m x HAccess to a chair



Sound Requirements

Access to electricity helpful but not essential.



Lighting Needs

Access to electricity helpful but not essential.



Molly Naylor

Stop Trying to be Fantastic

'Stop Trying to be Fantastic' is a story about suffering, and the lengths we go to to avoid it. It charts one human's attempts to win at life via a range of adventurous mistakes. It's about getting stuck between what we owe to each other and what we owe to ourselves. From award-winning writer/performer Molly Naylor (Whenever I Get Blown Up I Think Of You, Sky One's After Hours) comes this lyrical and funny spoken-word show about ambition, altruism and how to be medium good. Molly Naylor is a writer, performer and director. She is the creator and co-writer and creator of Sky One comedy After Hours. Theatre work include Whenever I Get Blown Up I Think Of You (writer/performer), My Robot Heart (writer/performer) and LIGHTS! PLANETS! PEOPLE! (writer/director). Her debut poetry collection Badminton is published by Burning Eye. She is the co-director of sell-out storytelling night True Stories Live.

For more information visit: https://www.mollynaylor.com/



Promoter Information

Available Dates

General availability Sept-Dec



Target Audience

14+ (some swearing)



Promoter Minimum Fees

£200

Full Price: £400



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 8



Show Duration

60 mins



Key Times

In: 30 mins
Out: 30 mins



Company Size

1 Performer



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W3m x **D**3m



Sound Requirements

Mic on stand and PA (only if available). No noise spill



Lighting Needs

Venue rig if available



Will Jackson

Yours Sincerely

Will Jackson has accidentally stolen 300-second class stamps from the post office. But he's making them count. He's going to write letters. From reconnecting with old friends and ex-boyfriends to run-ins with the marketing department at John Lewis, stamp collecting has never looked so sexy... Based on real-life correspondences; storytelling and lipsync cabaret collide in this queer coming of age comedy about the complications of 21st-century communication.

For more information visit: https://www.will-jackson.co.uk/yours-sincerely



Crammed from start to finish with belly laughs and brilliance. The power of the pen falls more swiftly and with far more punch than the sword in this heartwarming, laugh-out-loud comedy." - Feminist Fringe Reviews

Promoter Information

Available Dates

General availability Sept-Dec



Target Audience

14-



Promoter Minimum Fees

£200

Full Price: £400

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Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 8

Show Duration

120 mins + 15 min interval (on request)



Key Times

In: 30 mins
Out: 20 mins



Company Size

1 Performer



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W3m x D3m x HAccess to electricity. A table.



Sound Requirements

Venue pa and microphone if available

Lighting Needs
Venue lighting rig if

available



Stumble Trip Theatre Is This It?

Scintillating, satirical, playful stories come together with enchanting music for an evening of madcap humour. Three tales about the world we live in and the lives we are speeding towards. A woman escapes domestic drudgery into the wild magic of the woods. A talented singer is swamped by social media obsession. And two sisters escape a zero-waste, wellbeingobsessed culture into a community of misfits and outcasts. Told with energy and verve, these stories are sure to entertain. All the while asking whether there might not be a little more to life than this.

For more information visit: http://stumbletriptheatre.com/



""A simply outstanding show in the delivery of multiple skills, classic storytelling and madcap humour" Fringe Review

Promoter Information

Available Dates

General availability Sept-Dec



Target Audience

PG / Adult - this can be altered depending on the booking



Promoter Minimum Fees

£200

Full Price: £400



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 8



Show Duration

60 mins + 15 min interval (required)



Key Times

In: 30 mins
Out: 30 mins



Company Size

2 Performers



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W3m x **D**3m



Sound Requirements

Electricity is required for guitar amp / microphone.



Lighting Needs

Venue lighting if available



Suki Silvertongue

Bedtime Stories for Grownups

Lusciously lyrical and sublimely subversive, Suki Silvertongue straddles the worlds of poetry and storytelling, serving up deliciously decadent versions of classic tales as you've never heard them before. Journey with Suki into a fantasy realm filled with kick-ass heroines, wondrous creatures, poetic justice and unexpected twists that is as timeless as it is bang up to date. Where traditional tales meet contemporary themes to dance the tango with a rose between gritted teeth. With an a la carte menu featuring such tantalising treats as 'Rapunzel's Lady Garden of Love', 'Titania's Bottom' and 'Lady Victoria Frankenstein', you'll be spoilt for choice and hungry for more!

For more information visit: https://www.sukisilvertongue. co.uk/



"What a performance! Suki Silvertongue is beguiling, engaging, entertaining, intelligent, witty, funny and very, very saucy. Everyone who was there asks weekly when she is coming back. Her performance is spoken word art for grown-ups, and you are guaranteed to laugh and laugh and laugh" Geoff Dixon, The Burston Crown

Promoter Information

Available Dates General availability

Sept-Dec



Target Audience adults



Promoter Minimum Fees





Show Duration

80 mins + 15 min interval (required)



Key Times



Full Price: £300



Ticket Price Adults 9.94 Child/Concs 8

Minimum Rec







In: 20 mins Out: 20 mins



1 Performer

£200

none





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Workshops No



Requirements



Space Required W3m x **D**3m



Sound Requirements



Lighting Needs none



Music & Musical Theatre



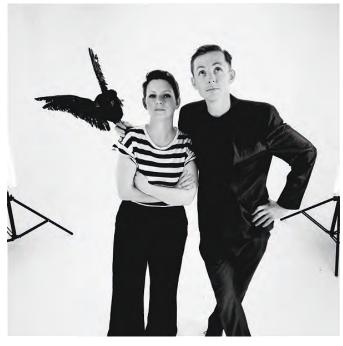
The Trevor Moss & Hannah-Lou Band

The Trevor Moss & Hannah-Lou Band

'Fairport Conventions's folk with Fleetwood Mac's pop sensibilities'

Described by the NME as having 'Fairport Conventions's folk with Fleetwood Mac's pop sensibilities', highly acclaimed husband and wife songwriters Trevor Moss & Hannah-Lou have crafted a rich tapestry of songs over a number of years, from their time fronting Indigo Moss through to their last critically acclaimed 'Fair Lady London' masterpiece. Performing songs from their extensive back catalogue with a full band, expect full harmonies with Velvet Underground vibes.

For more information visit: trevormossandhannahlou.com



'Moss's burbling guitar is reminiscent of Michael Chapman, Hannah-Lou's cut-crystal voice like a modern Sandy Denny, but woven into the traditional structure are songs very much rooted in the present rather than the past.'

'Pitch-perfect harmonies fused together with tremendous skill. The husband and wife singing duo have struck gold with their latest album 'Fair Lady London' ★★★★ Maverick

Promoter Information

Available Dates

1 Sept -1 Feb, 15 March to 31 May



Target Audience

Any



Promoter Minimum Fees

£250

Full Price: £500



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 8



90 mins + 20 min interval (on request)



Key Times

In: 2 hrs
Out: 1 hr



Company Size

4 Performers



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W4m x **D**3m x **H**0



Sound Requirements

PA if possible.



Lighting Needs

nothing specific, but a bonus if provided.



Sarah McQuaid

Sarah McQuaid in Concert

"One of the most instantly recognisable voices in current music ... Shades of Joni Mitchell in a jam with Karen Carpenter and Lana Del Rey." --Trust The Doc

Sarah McQuaid presents a varied, eclectic programme playing keyboard and drum as well as acoustic and electric guitars. "One of the most instantly recognisable voices in current music ... Shades of Joni Mitchell in a jam with Karen Carpenter and Lana Del Rey." -Trust The Doc

"Stunning vocals, excellent live sound quality, engaging narrative with the audience - an all round musical treat." - Claire Ayres, Beaford Arts

"Sarah is perfect for VIA audiences - her chatting anecdotes build a lovely rapport and of course, her music is fab." - Peter Tavy Village Hall (Villages In Action)

See https://youtube.com/sarahmcquaid for extensive live performance video footage.

For more information visit: https://sarahmcquaid.com



"I've attended hundreds of concerts of all kinds, and her subtle mastery onstage launches her straight into my fave shows ever." Huffington Post

"Captivating, unorthodox songwriting ... layered satin vocals ... enthralling, harrowing arrangements ... a gateway into a true innovator's soul." PopMatters

Promoter Information

Available Dates

General availability (not December or March)



Target Audience

Suitable for all ages



Promoter Minimum

Fees £200

Full Price: £400



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 8



Show Duration

90 mins + 15 min interval (preferred)



Key Times

In: 2 hrs
Out: 1 hr



Company Size

1 Performer

1 Crew



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W2m x **D**2m x **H**2m



Sound Requirements

None.



Lighting Needs

If venue can provide lighting it is helpful but not necessary.



The Schmoozenbergs

Gypsy Jazz and Swing Show

An evening of heart-warming live music to put a smile on your face and a spring in your step

The Schmoozenbergs bring you their special blend of gypsy swing delights, with Parisian and Eastern European flavours, and liberal sprinklings of jazz and high-energy folk

With two guitars, fiddle and double bass, The Schmoozenbergs play spirited, lively instrumental tunes to put a smile on your face and a spring in your step. The show is a journey through classic jazz favourites of the 1920s-1940s, along with a selection of original compositions: A homage to the roots of this beautiful genre (tunes by the likes of Django Reinhardt, Stéphane Grappelli, George Gershwin, Fats Waller & Duke Ellington) and a foray into new ideas and inspirations.

The music is timeless, very accessible, and appeals to all generations, young and old. Expect a light-hearted, evocative and upbeat night of music!

For more information visit: www.schmusic.co.uk



"a voyage of delight, a foot tapping whirl of expressive energy" Liverpool Sound and Vision

"Upbeat good-time music" Songlines

Promoter Information

Available Dates

General availability from November 2021 -May 2022.

Target Audience

The show is suitable for all ages. The majority of our rural tour audiences so



Promoter Minimum Fees

£400

Full Price: £800



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 8



Show Duration

100 mins + 20 min interval (required)



Key Times

In: 2 hrs
Out: 30 mins



Company Size

4 Performers



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

W4 m x **D**3 m x **H**2.5 m



Sound Requirements

None



Lighting Needs

No specific requirements. Can work with basic room lights,

Bowjangles

Dracula in Space

Rural Touring favourites Bowjangles presents their brand new show 'Dracula in Space'.

Forget everything you think you know about string quartets, Bowjangles is an irreverent, anarchic group of genre spanners, bringing music, theatre and comedy together in a way you've never seen before. In this brand new show for 2021 the intrepid foursome are blasting off into outer space to meet a mysterious benefactor whose proposition seems a little too good to be true. But what happens when their lead violinist starts to act a little strangely?

The award winning, internationally acclaimed quartet - who seem to have taken 'hands, face, space' a literally too literally - proudly present their new sci-fi horror musical comedy "Dracula in Space". (WARNING: Contains scenes of graphic violins)

For more information visit: Www.bowjangles.org



* * * * * 'Completely original... the music would be entertaining enough without all the other incredible action and comedy going on' * * * * * Broadway Baby

With the dancing, singing and fast pace it is easy to forget that they are playing all the music, all the time, without missing a beat' ★★★★ Wiltshire Gazette and Herald

Promoter Information

Available Dates

General availability between December 2021 and May 2022



Target Audience

10



Promoter Minimum Fees

£425

Full Price: £850



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 8



Show Duration

90 mins + 25 min interval (required)



Key Times

In: 4 hrs 30 mins Out: 1 hr



Company Size

4 Performers 1 Crew



Workshops

No



Stage Requirements

Raised stage preferred



Space Required

W5m x **D**4.5m x **H**2.5m



Sound Requirements

N/a



Lighting Needs

N/a



Broomdasher

The Country Diary in Song

The Country Diary in Song is a new folk musical celebrating the 150th birthday of The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady author Edith Holden. If brings her diary to life through well-loved folk songs like Wild Mountain Thyme; Bushes and Briars; If I was a Blackbird and Seeds of Love.

You're encouraged to join in choruses as London-based acapella folk group Broomdasher intertwine Edith's beautiful descriptions with songs collected by Cecil Sharp and Ralph Vaughan Williams at the same time she was writing her diary.

Audiences will remember the book and many will have something in their house featuring paintings from the Diary. A family-friendly show, where possible audiences are invited to bring their own picnic/snacks to get into the spirit of Edith's exploratory bike-rides. Broomdasher have an outstanding reputation for their harmonies, arrangements and engaging live performances. All their recordings are part of the National Sound Archive at the British Library as "an outstanding example of grassroots folk in Britain today".

For more information visit: www.broomdasher.com



A superb Evocation of Bygone Rural England fRoots

"Inspired performances. Traditional folk meets Edwardian Eco-Warrior! Folking

Promoter Information

Available DatesGeneral Availability



Target Audience





Promoter Minimum Fees

£200

Full Price: £400



Minimum Rec Ticket Price

Adults 10 Child/Concs 8



90 mins + 15 min interval (required)



Key Times

In: 2 hrs
Out: 1 hr 30 mins



Company Size

5 Performers 1 Crew



WorkshopsAvailable on request



Stage Requirements

Can Perform on Floor



Space Required

WWidth: 4/5 Metres x DDepth: 4 metres s x HHeight: 3metres



Sound Requirements

Light enhancement of the singing voices



Lighting Needs

We can work with dipped house lights or minimal spots and floods.