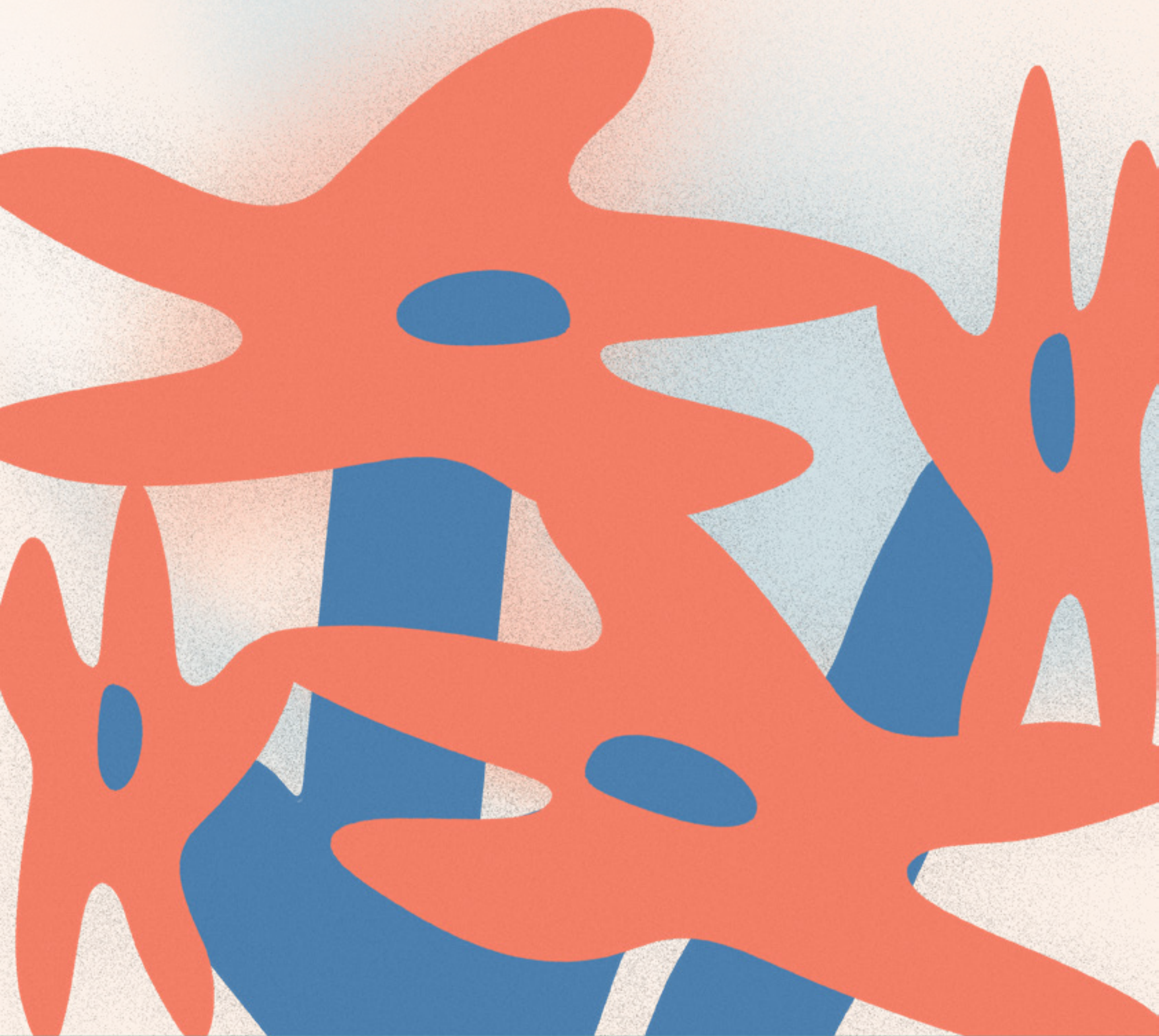


SPRING PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

20
22



exeter **phoenix**

SPRING PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME



Pricing	
STD TICKET	STANDARD TICKET Full price tickets to our theatre programme are £12 (£10 concession*) *Over 60s / Disabled / Student (over 16) / Kids 15 years & under / Benefit Recipient All shows are the standard ticket price unless stated otherwise.
EARLY BIRD	EARLY BIRD : FIRST 5 TICKETS £5 Across the full performance programme for standard priced shows
MULTI BUY	SAVE £6 WHEN YOU BOOK ANY 3 THEATRE/DANCE SHOWS Across the full performance programme for standard priced shows
PWYD	PAY WHAT YOU DECIDE Selected performances
FAMILY TICKET	FAMILY TICKET (£37.50) Selected performances

SPRING PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

2022



PROPS 01 JAN 2022

PROPS: A New Radio Series About The Radical Act Of Caring

This year we have all been asked to isolate ourselves for the wellbeing of others. But there are thousands of people in British society who have lived with isolation for years, if not decades, to support someone they love. PROPS is a new radio series about

the radical act of caring and the loneliness and stigma that often comes with it.

South West company, Documental Theatre has interviewed sixteen participants. These include, among others, a prisoner's spouse, a support worker in a children's home, the parent of a recovering alcoholic, a domestic worker sending money to her family overseas, a mother of an autistic adult, a Navy wife and a resettled Syrian who spent years trying to bring his mother to safety.



Scratch Night 20 JAN 2022

Have you finally gotten round to writing the first draft of a script you've been meaning to write? Or practiced some new choreography in your garden which you want to put on stage? Got a bunch of new ideas, but no platform to share them? Here's your chance! Exeter Phoenix's Scratch Night is returning in the new year as a regular bi-monthly

event! Join us in the main auditorium for a pay-what-you-decide evening dedicated to sharing new work from local artists.

The World Turned Upside Down 13 JAN 2022

The World Turned Upside Down is a play with a purpose: to engage the audience in a theatrical conversation to explore possible outcomes to communication challenges faced by people with dementia. Four key scenarios are presented

where the situation could be made better or worse by someone interacting with a person with dementia.

You - the audience - contribute to how the scenes play out, as you enter the world of dementia through theatre. A production which comes out of the IDEAL dementia research programme at the University of Exeter, The World Turned Upside Down is informed by both research and real-life experiences of people with dementia and carers who have been involved throughout.

Open to all, this play will be of particular interest to people who are professionally or personally affected by dementia

Conceived and directed by Paul Jepson.



I, AmDram 22 JAN 2022

Amateur dramatics. The hidden history of many a performance artist.

From four generations of leading ladies comes one queer Londoner, sharing a story of return and reconciliation - with her hometown, cultural inheritance and secret love of musical theatre. Step-ball-changing between suburb and city,

I, AmDram minds the gap between the identities we assert and the worlds we leave.

Supported by Arts Council England. Developed through Starting Blocks at Camden People's Theatre. The artist is honoured to enjoy the support of the Welwyn Thaliens Musical and Dramatic Society (est 1929).

Hannah Maxwell is a writer, performer, artist and podcaster. Her writing has appeared in the Guardian and the Scotsman. The playtext of I, AmDram was published by Oberon Books in May 2019. She collaborated with international lesbian performance company Split Britches as co-writer on Unexploded Ordnances (La Mama ETC, NY and Barbican Centre, 2018).



SPRING PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

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PWYD



Gold. Crest? + Online Live Stream Available 25 JAN 2022

She is tiny. She flits about hungrily and feeds. She does not look at the world around her. She makes tiny noises that are barely heard. She has a beauty that is rarely seen. She does beautiful things that make little difference. She won't live long and her life

won't really make an impact. But she's there and her voice might just touch your soul.

Gold. Crest? Is a heart-wrenching yet uplifting one-woman journey through many fragile minds, fusing new writing by Claire with fresh live music which explores the emotions and sounds that birds evoke. This work-in-progress is inspired by the birding responses of the Creative Women Birders and was researched and developed especially for this Livestreamed event, inviting you to experience the benefits of Social Prescribing in our anxiety-ridden, stressed-out world. The performance is 40 mins approx with a short Q&A to follow.

Haiflu Ever After 27 JAN 2022

Spoken word poet and filmmaker Liv Torc and composer Richard Monks have a story to tell. The story of two lockdowns and 10,000 haiku, of a project that started as a Facebook status and ended up on BBCR4's Today Programme. A story that engaged thousands of people around the world and changed Liv's life forever, at the very moment she came close to losing it.



Haiflu was one of the runaway creative success stories of 2020/2021, weaving together crowd-sourced haiku, photography and music to tell a week-by-week creative social history of one of the biggest crises of the last 100 years.

Now thanks to Arts Council England, they have created a full-length show using film, theatre, poetry and live music. Audience members will be invited to write their own haiflu as part of the event.

Support Liv as she tours Haiflu Ever After in a post COVID world. Emoticons on sticks will be provided!



TALK 12 FEB 2022 - 13 FEB 2022

Have we forgotten how to socialise?

During the past 18 months we've all had to avoid human interaction. Here at Kill The Cat HQ we've been examining the human population and reckon we all need a little help re-adjusting, so, don't worry we're here to help: prepare yourself for a once in a lifetime "social" event. TALK is a social-scientific-experimental-game-show-installation-theatre-extravaganza.

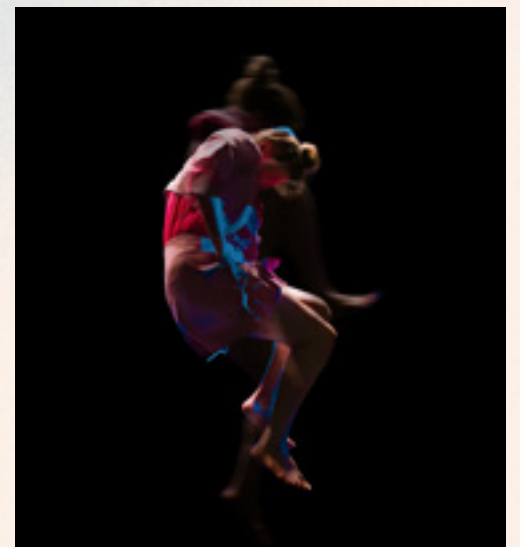
The Kill The Cat "scientists" will guide you through this unique interactive installation, a treasure hunt of communication - make a pot of tea, paint a portrait, share memories, dress-up in cardboard armour and there's a few surprises along the way, some pops and bangs and mad cap fun. (full disclosure, for legal reasons, this is in no way scientific but it will get us all talking again - probably)

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Post Truth Whatever 14 FEB 2022

Excessive Human Collective presents Post Truth Whatever an interdisciplinary live dance theatre performance which challenges us to look at how we decipher fact from fiction in a post-truth world.

Excessive Human Collective's impressive ensemble of female dancers combine seamlessly with projections, live and recorded text and a brand-new electronic composition to create a world where fact and fiction blur and anything can become reality.



Post Truth Whatever explores hyper normalisation, political double speaks and how we engage with digital tools to access information. The work presents 3 female performers as they create and broadcast propaganda in a fictional world which is eerily similar to our own. We watch as they slip in and out of control of the hegemonic narrative they are trying desperately to weave.

SPRING PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

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Yukon Ho!

20 FEB 2022

Come to the Yukon! Cold, dark, and lonesome, with big animals, dubious men and dodgy liquor. Lots of liquor.

Where there are more caribou than people, tossing chainsaws is sport and watching bears forage for garbage is considered a big night out. It's where 'Intrepid' Jen grew up and barely escaped.

Join her riotous cabaret-style survival guide and learn to quaff questionable cocktails, beBear Aware and kick your way out of Canada's frozen North with your mukluks on fire. Tragic, funny and bizarre, it's all mostly true.

KHAOS

20 FEB 2022

Chhaya Collective presents double bill, KHAOS, featuring electrifying live music and dance.

Inspired by the Women's March, Chhaya's double bill centres around female empowerment and freedom of speech. The evening will feature Chhaya's duet, HYMNOS and ensemble production, KHAOS, featuring six dancers and three live musicians. KHAOS celebrates what it is to be woman; drawing on ancient stories and oppressive archetypes to bring audiences of all ages a highly energetic, stirring and visceral dance performance that rejects order in favour of complexity and chaos. Expect evocative choreography that seems to compel audiences to dance in the aisles and out into the streets

Choreographer: Kay Crook
Musical Director/Composer: Cameron Murray Crook



LAVENDER + Q&A

23 FEB 2022

A butch train-wreck that works in the cereal aisle. A Christian university student with a dead mother and an engagement ring. An expectant audience. So, Nancy and Lucy must confess everything, starting where it began: sharpening pencils aged 7.

Lavender is a new play by emerging South West playwright Holly Fitzpatrick. Two queer female protagonists stand onstage, surrounded by coats and dresses, gin bottles, school bags, homework. History in the polyester fabric of thongs, dolls and skipping ropes.

This is a vibrant, outrageous, truthful sapphic which scrutinises the impact of Christian iconography on female sexuality, gender expression and autonomy. A timely exploration of how performance functions as a means of survival in hetero society.

FEBRUARY HALF TERM THEATRE WEEK FOR IMAGINATIVE 7-11 YEAR OLDS

21 FEB 2022 -
25 FEB 2022

Imaginative young people aged 7 to 11 are invited to create a stage play with award winning PaddleBoat Theatre Company during the February half term.

The inventive Exeter-based company, which is known for its distinctive and playful approach to theatre, will guide youngsters through a week of storytelling, puppetry, music, design, acting and directing.

This theatre week offers children the chance to have fun creating with other children and professional artists to put together a piece of original drama and perform on Exeter Phoenix's stage. The theme of the week will be "Careful what you wish for!" Taking inspiration from classic stories such as Five Children and It, The Queen's Nose and The Monkey's Paw - the week will be about making fantastic wishes, and what happens when these go wrong!

At the end of the week, friends and family will be welcomed into Exeter Phoenix's auditorium to watch the children perform their show on stage.



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The Snow Beast

24 FEB 2022

In the snowy town of Seldomberg test tubes bubble, experiments explode and new inventions whirr for the Science Academy's Final Exams. But Faina's got a problem... her project has unexpectedly burst into flames!

Desperate to pass her Final Exams, Faina sets off on a

perilous expedition to find the legendary Snow Beast. With help from her owl assistant Maude, they encounter extraordinary spectacles and mountainous obstacles as they battle through the wild, wintry wilderness in search of the truth.

Can you help Faina and Maude overcome the scientific puzzles along the way? Does The Snow Beast even exist?

This show is a captivating collision of storytelling, original music and interactive science experiments which will inspire budding scientists of all ages.

The Snow Beast is a collaboration between critically acclaimed theatre company Scratchworks and award-winning writer Jack Dean. Originally developed in association with Barbican Theatre, Plymouth.



I_RAN

01 MAR 2022

Aurora borealis comes in view... A cloud appears above your head... and a beam of light comes shining down, on you.

Welcome to I_RAN, a solo performance investigating notions of anxiety and the human desire to run away from emotion. Pungent with the euphoric melancholy of electronic music and taking the narrative and stylings

of hit song 'I Ran (So Far Away)' by 80's new wave, synth-pop band A Flock of Seagulls, I_RAN follows a character as they fall in love with a seagull and struggle to face their feelings. A treadmill, a scrolling LED text bar and a mute performer guide audiences through an unusual world formed with a sharp, mesmeric aesthetic.

Playful, surreal, and lonely, this is for those who dream of running... of running far away...

Beyond Face Presents: An Evening of Early-Stage Live Performance

28 FEB 2022

Beyond Face presents an evening of early-stage live performance from global majority artists from across the region. Featuring short performances from some of the most exciting artists from the South West, expect new writing, spoken word, dance and much more, come along and be among the first to watch and shape this work.

*Beyond Face CIC is a Devon-based performance company whose mission is to raise the profile and visibility of Global Majority artists, young people and communities in the South West.



Triffids!

07 MAR 2022

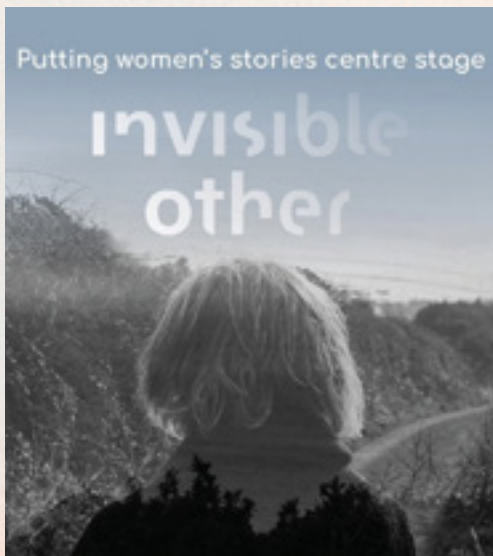
Platform 4 presents: Triffids! A gig theatre adventure in music sound and pictures... METEORS! KILLER PLANTS! B MOVIES! This remarkable collision of music, text and rich visual imagery takes the audience deep into John Wyndham's classic cold war novel: The Day of the Triffids. The live soundtrack is created with instruments including Moog, Double Bass, Theremin, Hammered Dulcimer and... a Cactus! The incredible team behind Triffids have worked with The National Theatre, Bellowhead, Southbank Centre, Kneehigh, BBC and The Bone Ensemble; together they create a very special magic, as seen in their previous collaboration, the acclaimed Invisible Music. "Platform 4 are a remarkable company" - Lyn Gardner, The Guardian.

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SPRING PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

2022



Invisible Other 13 MAR 2022

Invisible Other takes the stories from women's lives and celebrates them by putting them centre stage. Through these women we remember the ordinary, reveal the forgotten, join in with the laughter and share the best stories that make up the fabric of all our lives.

During lockdown, Ruth interviewed over 20 women online, Invisible Other is a

celebration of their stories and their life experiences.

ENG-ER-LAND 26 MAR 2022

Hannah Kumari and WoLab present ENG-ER-LAND

"Walking up to Highfield Road for the first time was mind blowing. Seeing all the other people with their shirts and scarfs, feeling like you're part of that, feeling that excitement in the air."

1997. Last year England made it to the semi-finals of Euro 96, Gina G came third in Eurovision and 13 year-old Lizzie went to her first in-person football game: Coventry vs. Manchester City. Not the Man City of today, oil and superstars, but the old Man City - a bit rubbish, but with good fans. Lizzie fell in love with the beautiful game that day, and she's been obsessed ever since. But then something happens to make her question her place in the stands. ENG-ER-LAND is an energetic play about who's really on your team.

Supported by The Football Supporters' Association and with public funding from Arts Council England.



Squidge 11 APR 2022

Do you squish or squash, tickle or most certainly not, handshake or hug, stretch out or snuggle in like a bug?

'Squidge' is a fun interactive dance performance with live music and digital projection, which takes a light-hearted look at our sense of touch and how it influences our everyday lives. At the heart of the

show is a tale of friendship, compromise and how each and every one of us need touch to make us feel alive! Immerse yourself in this shared experience for children 3-8yrs and their grown-ups.

Sit in your own special seating area where you can explore magical light-up boxes, full of exciting textures for little hands which will delight and tickle your senses.

"Playful and cheeky, perfect for young audiences" - audience member

Dry Season 16 APR 2022

*Menopause?
Seriously? WTF?*

Kat thought they were far too young to worry about menopause; biology thought differently. Now their hormones are going haywire, their diary is full of NHS visits and sleep is a distant memory. Join Kat on a journey featuring anxiety, insomnia, and self-conscious jogging as they explore their changing identity, question societal expectations of age and gender, and do their best to navigate the first chaotic year.

Interweaving music, movement and medical texts with original poetry and animation, Dry Season is a witty, honest and intimate spoken word theatre show about questioning assumptions and learning to rewrite your story.



SPRING PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

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Jabala & the Jinn

19 APR 2022

A story of a little girl's encounter with a very cheeky Jinn.

We're in Bradford. It's been a few months since Jabala's beloved Mum died. Dad is a brilliant father, but it's an effort to get to school on time every day.

One morning, when she says goodbye to her house as usual, Jabala hears a voice replying to her in Arabic. But no one's there. Could it be Mum? Has she imagined it? With the help of a 'Refugee Boy' at school, a Shakespeare enthusiast called Munir, she summons... a Jinn. But this is no ordinary 'Jinn', as told in grandma's stories and Jabala is in for a surprise. As the day of Eid approaches, events take a drastic turn and Jabala is forced to make some difficult decisions. Will things come together in time for the celebration? Using physical theatre, original music and vivid design, this new play by award winning writer Asif Khan is a funny and endearing story for the whole family.

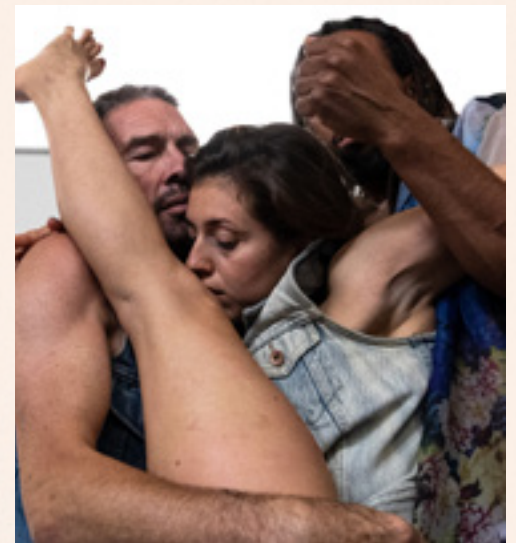
Re:birth

25 APR 2022

Dam Van Huynh draws upon the words of writers, poets, activists as an awakening to his displaced experience as a child refugee from the Vietnam war.

Moving from a state of disorientation into a state of consciousness, Re:birth retraces a personal experience of rediscovery. The performance unravels a recollection of visual impressions and sensations, a memory book whose pictures and stories long forgotten begin to resurface, a distortion between memories and dreams.

Movement responds to a field of light, sound and voice to elude the senses. Winner of the Asian Arts Award for Best Directing 2018



Riot Act

07 MAY 2022

Riot Act is a solo verbatim show, created entirely, word for word, out of interviews with three key-players in the history of the LGBTQ+ rights movement; Michael Anthony Nozzi; a survivor of the Stonewall Riots, Lavina Co-op; an alternative '70s drag artist and Paul Burston; a '90s London AIDS activist.

This critically acclaimed audience favourite is a breathtaking, rip-roaring, whiteknuckle ride through six decades of queer history, taking the audience right up to the present day.

Provocative, tender, truthful, funny, political and personal, these are stories of queerness, sexuality, activism, addiction, family, childhood, love, sex, drag, community, togetherness, conflict, identity, youth, ageing, loss, fierce queens and a Hollywood diva.

Riot Act is a celebration of queer activism across the decades, pulling no punches, hilarious and inspiring...it's a riot.

Written and Performed by Alexis Gregory Directed by Rikki Beadle-Blair An Emmerson & Ward Productions and Alexis Gregory Production

Funeral Flowers

09 MAY 2022

Can you escape the cycle you've been bound by your whole life?

Emma Dennis-Edward's multi award-winning play tells the story of Angelique, 17, who dreams of being a florist.

Part poetry, part play, we're taken on the journey of a young girl with her mum in prison left to navigate the care system and the recurring threat from her boyfriend's gang.



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Hold On Let Go 12 MAY 2022

Alex is 56. Luca is half his age.

Alex has an encyclopaedia in his head. Luca has one on her phone.

Alex can't recall his mother's voice or most of the 1980s. But he can instantly bring to mind his mother's

cooking and his family's stories of the Spanish Civil War.

Luca worries that she can't remember the important stuff - things that might make the world a better place. Her journey sucks her into a black hole crammed full of everything she's ever forgotten.

A poignant, personal meditation on the gaps in our memories, Hold On Let Go asks what we want to pass on to future generations. It's a show that bakes bread, dances on the kitchen table and wonders what is left when words are gone.



SWIM 23 MAY 2022

"The sensation of water flowing around my body happily floating down a river, watching the banks pass me by. I like to take the same journey as a river it's the lack of control which feels so good, it's good to leave my life alone for a while."

Liz grew up in the Lake District. She spent her childhood walking in the fells, playing in the lakes and in the river at the end of her garden. After time away living in the City, Liz returns to the hills and into a new village for a new chapter of her life. But when her new community is rocked by tragedy, Liz rediscovers outdoor swimming and how it can keep both her and her new friends afloat. Filled with humour and heart, live music and projection, SWIM is a tender tale based on a true story.

Written and performed by Liz Richardson (Gutted) and featuring live music and video projection, SWIM is premiering at Theatre by the Lake in Spring 2022 ahead of a rural and UK theatre tour

My Mate Ren 17 MAY 2022

Sticky Theatre presents:

My Mate Ren

'Ren did my eye make up too cos I'm still struggling a bit with liquid eyeliner. We forgot about shaving till just before we had to go, so I did my armpits in the sink, while Ren shaved her legs in the bath. Brushed our teeth in unison.'

My Mate Ren is raw, unapologetic, and unashamed storytelling. It's a coming of age story about growing up in the North East. We join Alex as she tells us about first kisses, sex, tinnies, cherry sourz, and her best mate Ren.



Constellations 29 MAY 2022

Mapping my 30-year standard normal*

An intimate performance exploring landscapes of memory and humanity's relationship with the earth, Constellations is designed for small audiences of up to 6 people. Through a re-imagining of the performance space in miniature, it examines humanity's power to both destroy and be destroyed, and our capacity to care for a world within which we are totally enmeshed.

*30 years is the standard reference period for calculating climate normals and identifying variations in global temperature (WNO, 2021).

Sian Goldby is an interdisciplinary performance maker and practice-based researcher based in Bristol. Her current research explores performative re-imaginings of micro and macro scale in relation to environmental crisis.

