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# The Mexico Mission



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# Things to know about: *The Mexico Mission!*

It's a play performed by two actors called Paul and Gill.



Paul plays one character in the play, whilst Gill pretends to be lots of different characters during the play. Gill changes their clothes (or costume) to help you know which character they are being.



Paul's character in the show is an art detective called Agent Dali. He is sometimes funny, sometimes quite anxious and stressed, and he wears a very big fake moustache.



Gill's main character is Agent Kahlo. She is very colourful and excitable. Sometimes she is chaotic. She's an art detective for her job. She sometimes wears sunglasses. Sometimes she takes off her headscarf, but not often.



Gill also plays an American character called Courtney. She is bossy, rude and only really cares about making lots of money. She is unkind to Agent Dali but he is not bothered by her bad manners.

Gill also plays an old lady called Olga who works as a cleaner in an art school in Mexico City called La Esmeralda. She speaks English with a German accent because she was born in Germany. She is a kind character who tries to help Agent Dali. She is sometimes worried about what she will do for work if La Esmeralda art school closes.



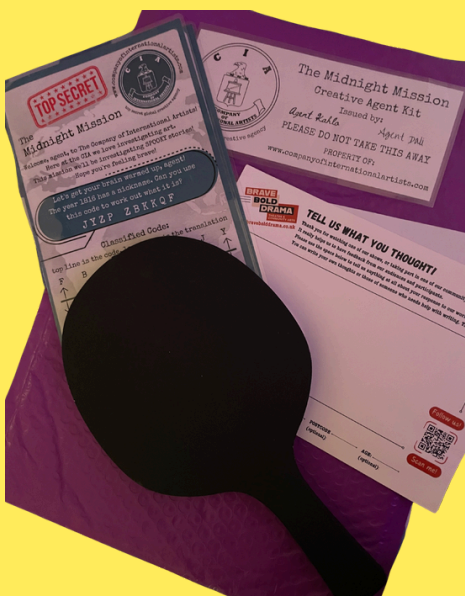


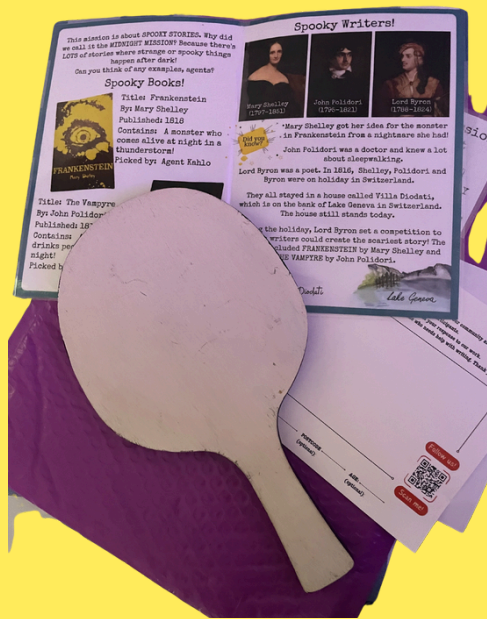
Gill plays another American character called Aurora. She works as a tour guide helping visitors in Mexico City find out about all the street art there. She's quite direct, and her New York accent means she might come across as a little aggressive, but actually she's a kind character who tries her best to help Agent Dali.

The play starts at the Company of International Artists top secret Headquarters. The CIA is an art detective agency where detectives (or agents) investigate art. You will become an art detective in the CIA when you come to see the play.

When you first arrive to watch the play, Gill and Paul are being Agent Kahlo and Agent Dali.

They will give you an orange envelope with bits of paper, a pencil and some things to read if you like. There's also a little puzzle to solve in the envelope which you can do if you like with your grown up.





Also in the orange envelope is a wooden paddle. One side of the paddle is black, the other side is white. This is your **VOTING PADDLE**.

During the play, several times the characters will ask you to choose things, for example they might ask you where we visit next in the play.



You will hold up your paddle like in this picture. You choose to show the black side or the white side to the actors on the stage. That tells the actors which choice you are voting for.

The actors will count all the black and all the white votes and the choice with the most votes is what we will do next. It might feel a bit unfair if you don't get your choice sometimes, but voting is actually a kind and fair system and it's good to get used to it if you can.

## Other important things that you'll see



We don't change the main scenery very much in the play. The audience pretends with the characters that they are in different locations and even countries.

We move the grey blocks and filing cabinets around and put different pictures on the screen to help you understand which location we are pretending to be in.



Sometimes we add extra things like rugs, duvets or blankets to the grey blocks to also help you understand which location we're in.





Sometimes we act behind the screen and you can only see us in shadow. Sometimes we act with shadow puppets that are smaller than real people.



The actor wearing the black clothes is called Isa. She helped us by having her photo taken and by recording her saying some lines. She plays a character called Agent Modotti who does some quite scary and unkind things to Agent Kahlo. But you never meet Agent Modotti in person, you just see her photo and hear her voice.

## Other important things that you'll see and hear

Paul's character, Agent Dali, is nervous about flying on aeroplanes. Gill's character, Agent Kahlo, attempts to calm his nerves but he remains worried throughout the scene on board the plane. Don't worry - Paul is pretending to be scared and isn't scared of flying in real-life.

Some parts of the story happens at night, which makes it feel a little more mysterious. It may feel quite dark at times but you are completely safe.

There a few bangs in the show including a car door slamming shut before it drives away.

An alarm goes off near the start of the show but Agent Dali turns it off very quickly.

You will also hear the sound of glass smashing a couple of times playing through the speaker during the play.

There's music that plays when you first arrive.

Music also plays when the actors are moving scenery about, and also some music plays more quietly during scenes to help you imagine what location you're in.

Sometimes you hear echoey sounds and voices which is Agent Dali's character remembering things that he's heard before, or reading things in his head.

## After the play ends

After the play ends, you will be invited to write on a piece of paper in your orange envelope what you thought about the play. You don't have to write if you don't want to. You can also draw what you liked if you prefer.

You have to give back everything that's in the orange envelope to the actors afterwards so they can use the envelopes again another day with another audience.

But you will be offered a free postcard that has the painting that was shown in the play to help you remember the play when you go home. You don't have to take the postcard home with you if you don't want to.



There will also be small things to buy after the play. You can buy pin badges, art kits and posters.

The prices are between £1.50 to £6.50. We have a card reader and a cash box.

You don't have to buy anything if you don't want to.

You can have your photograph taken on the stage or with the actors after the play if you like. This is free. In the photo you can hold a prop that an actor gives you if you like.

Please don't just pick things up from the stage without asking the actors first because some things are quite fragile and if they break then we can't do the play for other people.

**We really hope you enjoy  
The Mexico Mission!**