

# XTRAX at Mintfest 2012

31st August - 2nd September - Kendal, UK



ARTISTS BOOK

## ABBOZZO ARTS

### **Sian Haslock**

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### *Gabbro The Gargoyle*



Abbozzo Arts is a fresh Street Theatre company. Working in the mediums of street theatre, theatre, cabaret and circus- performing and running workshops. Having 5years of street theatre experience working with Artizani Street Theatre, Avanti Display and Molly Orange. Abbozzo is dedicated in representing quality UK street arts.

Gabbro is dense, greenish or dark-colored and contains pyroxene, plagioclase, amphibole, and olivine (olivine gabbro when olivine is present in a large amount).- It is also the name of a Gargoyle. Gabbro has recently left his/her (the sex is often a mystery among these "begins") perch on the side of the Cathedral to explore the surrounding areas. With little in the way of social skills, a almost invasive interest in humans and a total disregard for hygiene Gabbro moves about investigating in his/ her rather blunt far off and very odd perspective.

## A FETTLE OF KITSCH

### **Carrie English**

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### *Door Bitches*



Accessorised with a velvet rope, two vulgar fashionistas appear at the place to be and then decide who is beautiful enough to enter. As self-appointed goddesses of style, they're fickle, they're foul and they don't have an ounce of fashion sense between them. No sooner have they arrived, than our duo of darlings are skittering off to the next New Place to Be. Their punters are left feeling mildly molested, and unsure of what happened to that exclusive VIP area they've just been promised.

AHAB

**Phil Simpson**

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The most exciting harmony-infused Americana/Pop outfit to emerge on the scene since Mumford & Sons. Outstanding songs, a huge sound and an unrivalled stage presence - with the looks to top it off! Ahab had a truly incredible 2011 which saw them playing at over 20 festivals throughout the UK and Europe, releasing their second EP *KMVT* and a tour support with the mighty Bellowhead.

ANDY PLANT AND TIM HUNKIN

**Andy Plant**

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*The Astronaut's Caravan*



An amusing journey through space and time, cosseted in a sumptuous decor and sensitively piloted by two ex astronauts. Will you experience weightlessness or see the milky way...?

Based upon a victorian illusion called The Haunted Swing, engineers and artists Andy Plant and Tim Hunkin invite you to experience The Astronaut's Caravan...

ARTIZANI

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*Desert Island Discs*

Artizani is a UK arts company which specialises in spectacular theatre performed in unconventional spaces. One of Europe's most stylish and stunning street theatre acts, Artizani combines physical theatre and circus with a vaudevillian repertoire of routines and an eye for the surreal image.

Desert Island Discs features a tropical island, a gramophone, flotsam, jetsam and one hapless castaway. 20 years pass in 40 minutes as records spin and rescue never comes, then as the island gives up its secret the show ends in a beautifully surreal spectacular finale.

ASTERIONS HUS (Denmark)

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*The Iliad*

The myth of Troy is unraveled in the most exquisite way and told by three physical actors at a breathtaking pace. With a gallery of characters of more than thirty – from luscious maidens and glorious heroes to proud kings and scrawny priests to hordes of gods and goddesses – the actors bring this epic work to life.

## AVANTI DISPLAY

### **Mike Lister**

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### *The Fountain Machine*



The Fountain Machine is a clanking iron contraption, operated by two charming engineers of the old school: a meandering performance that arrives at a charming climax which will shower the audience with joy!

## BASH STREET THEATRE

### **Simon Pullman/JoJo Pickering**

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### *The Strongman*



Founded in 1991 Bash Street Theatre has developed a national and international reputation for lively street theatre shows combining physical theatre, circus skills, silent comedy and live music. We have performed at most of the major street theatre festivals in the UK, and over the last six years we have worked regularly throughout Europe at major festivals in Germany, Austria, Scandinavia, Poland, Holland, Belgium, France, Spain, Italy, Romania, Czech Republic and Hungary.

With silent comedy, circus skills, live music and a little bit of magic, THE STRONGMAN is a brand new, street theatre show from the award-winning Bash Street Theatre Co. Inspired by Charlie Chaplin's 1928 film 'The Circus', THE STRONGMAN tells a story of intrigue and jealousy, with a big helping of comedy and musical 'joie de vivre'. Set in the 1920s, the story involves a travelling circus that has just lost its headline act. The Strongman has died, and if his assistant doesn't find a replacement she will be forced to leave the circus...

## BOOM BIKE BIG BAND

### **Matt Robinson**

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The Blaze Boom Bike Big Band is a performance outfit like no other; a groundbreaking mobile performance ensemble featuring a unique sound system on wheels, a colourful troupe of top young musicians and repertoire that includes oomph tunes, Ethiopian melodies, beatbox grooves and hip hop lyrics.

## CALAITA

### **Glenn Sharp**

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'Calaita - flamenco son' are a 5 piece flamenco group based in Manchester, UK. Calaita are Chico Pere – voice and guitar, Diana Castro – voice, Glenn Sharp – guitar, Leo Paredes – Cajón and Matt Nickson – flute and saxophone. Calaita offer authentic flamenco in the UK. Their live concerts include traditional styles such as bulerías, alegrías, seguiriyas aswell as more contemporary flamenco rumbas. Calaita display passion and flamenco spirit, energy and spontaneity.

'Calaita - flamenco son' live concerts include traditional styles such as bulerías, alegrías, seguiriyas aswell as more contemporary flamenco rumbas. A totally original set Calaita display passion and the flamenco spirit, energy and spontaneity. Calaita are currently putting together the finishing touches to their first album and a two hour full Flamenco show with dancers

CIRCII

**Gwen Hales**

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*The Legwarmerz*

Circii (pronounced 'sir k eye') produce street theatre performances with fantastic costumes and imaginative characters. Created specifically with family audiences in mind, the acts range from our music-based interactive street show 'The Legwarmerz!' to the endearingly simple walkabout act 'The Pigeons'. Gwen Hales, the artistic director of Circii, also produces & performs high quality, character-driven aerial shows and choreographed fire performances.

A love story limbering up in lycra. Jeff loves his aerobics, Bonnie loves Jeff. How can she win him over during this hilarious fitness class? With audience participation and an unforgivably cheesy soundtrack, The Legwarmerz! are on a mission to bring Free Fun Fitness to a town near you. This act comes with their own small portable PA and microphone, and each performance can include walkabout with or without music and/or the 25 min static show. The Legwarmerz! will happily adapt their performances on the day to suit the event and weather.

CIRCLE OF TWO

**Ralph Taylor**

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*Bambolina & Dodo*

When the clock strikes twelve, magic begins and a doll comes to life... A poetic pantomime full of romanticism, comedy and illusion inspired, amongst others, by the stories of E.T.A. Hoffman and the ballets developed after them, Coppelia and The Nutcracker...

*"Once upon a Time,  
In the Far Away Land of Dreams,  
Dodo saw the doll Bambolina and fell in Love...  
Bambolina, though, didn't have a Heart...  
Dodo worked Day and Night, Night and Day...  
And Hours passed, and Weeks, and Years...  
He put some Life into His Beloved...  
Dodo still dreams about the time when  
True Love will reign...  
He and Bambolina will live together Happily  
Ever After!"*

## CIRCUS MAXIMUS

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Circus Workshops



Circus Maximus brings a fresh new face to circus workshops. Big kids, little kids and even grown-up kids will adore the opportunity to explore the fantastic world of circus skills!!

## CIRCUS RONALDO (Belgium)

**Lisbet Van de Sype**

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*Amortale*



Circus Ronaldo is a small family concern, very much in keeping with the romantic circus tradition. They have performed for generations upon generation, and the arts have been passed on from generation to generation. As the sixth generation, David and Danny Ronaldo have restored the balance between theatre and circus.

In this production, the puppet theatre from 'Filli' takes on a new life. The atmosphere and childlike imagery of marionette theatre give rise to an evening of spectacle and visual delight. Acts of life and love, played out throughout the tent, in which the air is scented with the sweaty perfume of desire. An evening that has the audience appeal of freak show. A cabinet of curiosities, where the only curiosity is people in love. Come and see how love deprives the body of reason, how love removes people's masks. The audience may roar with laughter, but nor is it spared the legacy of life's pain. The burden of guilt borne by those who once tasted forbidden fruit.

CIRQUE INEXTREMISTE (France)

**Géraldine Gallois**

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*Inextremiste*



A giant red ball, several large calor gas canisters and a very disturbed man meet on a trampoline. The result - a laugh a minute show with skills to take your breath away!

COMPANY CHAMELEON

**Anthony Missen & Kevin Edward Turner**

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*Push*



Company Chameleon Dance Theatre was formed in 2007, out of the collective vision of artists Anthony Missen and Kevin Edward Turner. Company Chameleon believes in Dance Theatre as a vital method for social change. Their work allows the viewer to experience the art of dance whilst tackling challenging issues in inventive ways that allows the viewer access and inclusion. Through the performance of their work, and through educational programmes, Company Chameleon hope to support social cohesion and artistic understanding through the propagation of expression, creativity and physicality.

An exploration on the quality of touch and its physical and emotional resonance. Athletic yet sensitive, the work continues a conversation that began in childhood between artists Anthony Missen and Kevin Edward Turner. This powerful and engaging duet looks at the different stances we take as we relate to one another, and how the complex nature of our psychology means at times we push to exert our dominance and control, and at others submit and yield. Push is co-commissioned by Without Walls and Dance Initiative Greater Manchester.

## COOL DRUMMINGS

**Simon White**

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Just a group of enthusiasts who get together each week to play drums. Come and talk to us if you are interested...

A selection of traditional rhythms from Guinea that we have arranged for simple performance!

## COTTON TOWN HOT CLUB

**Janet Wardlaw**

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Cotton Town Hot Club consists of Wingtip Windy and Dapper Dan. A DJ team brought together through the common interest in swing music and dance dedicated to promoting the great music born out of prohibition and speakeasies. They bring you the sounds from 1930s Harlem, through the big band era to its demise later in the 1940s as the smaller combos gave way to Rhythm n Blues. The great music can be accompanied by swing dancers dressed in the fabulous vintage style which provides a spectacle that audiences can't help but embrace.

## CLOUD FACTORY

### **Lisa Gort**

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Enchanting environments for inspirational play.

Cloud factory designs and builds simple, magical installations; from giant paper pods to wooden shelters, willow dens and childrens gardens, giant kaledescopes and flying machines.

We work with natural, reclaimed, and recycled materials. We run artist led workshops at schools, galleries, festivals.

## 12 DEGREES NORTH DANCE COMPANY

### **Gil Wilson-Graystone**

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### *The 6 Day Challenge*

12 o North Dance Company is the North West Graduate Dance Company - creating opportunities for talented graduates and young dance professionals based in the North West. This new and innovative pilot programme will support the transition from training to professional practice. The scheme will exist to strengthen dance provision in the North West and serve to increase the potential of employability for the region's graduates.

'The 6 day Challenge' Antonia Grove, Artistic Director of PROBE takes on the 6 day challenge to create work with this brilliant new company, hand -picked for their distinctive style. Antonia will make a dance for 5 dancers, utilising the skills and individual qualities of the performers to create a piece which could stand, walk or run.....in any direction. A unique dance performance for all people and all spaces.

## DE FUEGO

### **Edina Balczo**

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De fuego is a sensational guitar duo, playing energetic instrumental flamenco and rumba-based music. From different backgrounds, Edina Balczo is a Hungarian self-taught guitarist, but became extremely popular on Youtube and Davide Lufrano Chaves is Italian/Costa Rican and studied classical guitar at the Conservatorio Puccini gaining his Masters Degree in Music. At the beginning of 2010 the musical paths of these two talented musicians crossed in London. They have come a long way since these humble beginnings when they were buskers in different markets across London. During the second summer since playing together De Fuego have performed at various UK festivals (Glastonbury festival, Secret Garden party, Cosmofestival, Small world festival etc) and in famous clubs, including Hootananny and Ronnie Scotts. They were also invited to Sziget in Hungary, one of the biggest music festivals in Europe. In their music you can clearly hear their passion and virtuosity and with their spectacular percussion guitar techniques only with two guitars they make the people dance. On the 13th of January, 2012 they published their very first album, "Bluebird".

## DENNIS TEETH

### **Jo Burgess & Nicki Street**

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Your ears won't believe your eyes! Dennis is one of Europe's most accomplished virtuosos of this unusual and hypnotic instrument, the musical saw.

Heart-melting melodies, comedy numbers and classical music are all played expertly by this duck-suited maestro. Available with piano accompaniment, backing from the 'Sunshine Radio Sound System' or wind-up gramophone.

## DESPERATE MEN

### **Richard Headon**

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### *CSI Clowns*



Desperate Men have been inviting people to play for over 30 years, creating, performing and producing ground-breaking outdoor theatre in the UK and internationally. As creative producers, we work on large-scale outdoor art projects and collaborate with other partners and arts organisations. We also create bespoke performances, street animations and education projects on commission and still find time for our own creative work.

Dr Litmus, Crime Scene investigator, and tough New York cop, Lieutenant McHeath, have been called in to investigate a crime scene. At the centre is a large box with a radioactive sticker. Wires protrude, connected to a variety of everyday objects: water, charcoal, tofu, a bugle, anti-dandruff shampoo, matches, a drill bit and an axe, amongst many strange items. What is going on? Can our heroes solve the mystery? Are these objects connected in some way? And why is there a wired up banana-bomb? In *CSI Clowns*, our comic investigators look at elements and compounds, and explore how the building blocks of life are created.

## DE VUURMEESTERS/CIRQUE DEL MUNDO (Belgium)

### Name

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### *Fire Village Royale*



The Fire Masters ("De Vuurmeesters") is a fire collective that specializes in bringing fire on scene. Our main trump card is our unique blend between fire installations and street theatre. We also offer fire animation on demand under the umbrella of our mother organization Cirque Del Mundo.

This concept is not street theatre in its classical sense: instead of a chronological, sequential story, it is an atmosphere creation with a continuity and overlap of events. The public enters this world through a fire gate... at seemingly random moments and places there is an act happening or there is something enchanting to watch: a seductive lady who beckons innocent bystanders, a crazy chef brewing fiery concoctions, a clownesque figure bathing in a burning water tub, a knight with a burning head and sword... Each performance is a melting pot of fire installations, short acts, acrobacy and fire effects.

## DIZZY O'DARE PRESENTS...

### **Alana Jones**

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### *Cabinet of Curiosities*

Dizzy O' Dare Presents... is a contemporary circus company, formed in 2009 after being awarded a Local Arts Commission by Fuse Medway Festival. Tightwire is the main focus of their work but there is a heavy influence of other circus, cabaret, street theatre and physical theatre. Dizzy O'Dare Presents... has three main aims; to push artistic boundaries, to reinterpret the use of tightwire within circus and theatre, to push audience development. The ultimate aim is to encourage audiences to view circus and theatre in a new way and engage with them in a much more intelligent and emotional level.

Cabinet of Curiosities is wheeled around the crowds by Floggit and Skarper, two Victorian down and out peddlars. The travelling treasure trove is full of weird and wonderful artifacts, ranging from the Beast of Plymouth to the Invisible Man puppet! Each strange and eccentric object has it's own bizarre tale to tell. Spot the eccentric but charming duo trundle along whilst they try anything to weave a tale!

## DOTCOMEDY

### **Richard Stamp**

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### *Festival TV*

FTV is a show with 3 parts. The Roving News Team, The Edit and The Live Chat Show. The team scours the festival each day in search of breaking news, the footage is then edited into approximately 20 minutes of daily news which is then presented as part of Festival TV in the style of a live chat show complete with mock studio audience set up.

FTV is a new original idea by dotComedy's Richard Stamp, in collaboration with fellow performer Kate Wright and film maker Paul Bell (credits National Geographic TV /Lonely Planet TV, BBC Worldwide). FTV is a fusion between film and performance and gives a festival a medium to document and expose not only the performers of a festival but also all the people that make a festival happen, from the producer to the sound tech to the recycling team to the city council to security and, of course, the all important audience. FTV connects the dots and helps to bridge the gap between a Festival community through the medium of Film and Comedy.

## DR BUTLER'S HATSTAND MEDICINE BAND

### **Andrew Butler**

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### *Good-Time Music*

The Hatstand Medicine Band are a travelling troupe of musicological minstrels, peddling the good Doctors unique good-time tonic to all four corners of the land. Formed from a secret combination of early blues and jazz forms, a sprinkle of ragtime, a dash of hot swing, the essence of sweet spiritual, a pinch of the oldest of old-timey melodies and a teaspoon of Vaudevillian and Music Hall showoffery. All whisked together with the most esoteric of folk rhythms. The result is a morally good music which is replete with tones of joy and fulfilment. Dr Butlers Hatstand Medicine Band will present to you their good time rags and reels, show stoppers and sight stealers; music for foot stomping and toe tickling that joins hearts with flesh whilst invigorating the thinking mind. Recommended dosage: To be consumed as frequently as possible at all times of the day. Side effects: A shaking of the limbs in rhythmic unison with the beat Dr Butler's Hatstand Medicine Band are a morally good medicine band and they guarantee to cure whatever ails you and bring back your vigour and vim.

## ENCORE

### **Craig Harris**

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### *One Minute Masterpieces*

Oldham Theatre Workshop is a creative, inclusive and quality drama resource contributing to the personal and social development of young people and the community in Oldham. Our performers are all aged 17 - 25 years old and have created the company as part of their ongoing youth arts experiences.

Audiences are invited to take the weight of their feet as they are presented a one minute masterpiece. See Swan Lake glide into view, marvel at the wonder that is Edvard Munch's The Scream, rock out to Bohemian Rhapsody, relive the magic of The Phantom of the Opera, witness the excitement of Star Wars. All these works of art will be lovingly recreated for a social media fuelled society. Sit, relax, enjoy and emote at the world's first fully portable museum of One Minute Masterpieces.

FADUNITO (Spain)

**Ferdinand**

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*Ceci 3.0*



A wheelchair. Seemingly abandoned. What is it doing in the middle of the street? Through play and interaction with the public we discover the soul and the humanity within this object.

THE FAIRLY FAMOUS FAMILY

**Jem Hulbert**

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*The Strolling Gardeners*



We are a company established for over 25 years. We aim to produce high quality original street theatre that is both accessible and inspiring.

"The Strolling Gardeners" is a comedy walkabout act on the theme of food and gardening. Members of the audience are transformed into wonderful floral displays by two gardeners on a mission to spread love, laughter and manure!

fanSHEN

**Rachel Briscoe**

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*GreenandPleasantLand*

fanSHEN tells stories of real people exploring big questions. We seek to challenge, confound and surprise. We create accessible performance pieces for theatres and non-traditional locations which ask audiences to engage imaginatively with ideas, to look at the world through the eyes of others and to ask, 'Is there another way?'

GreenandPleasantLand is an accessible outdoor family show in the style of Footsbarn mixed with the Muppets. It is an epic adventure through the unexpected, told in a village fete-cross-Super Mario Bros style, using the things that the everyday folk leave behind. GreenandPleasantLand mixes the immediacy and interactivity of outdoor theatre with a strong quest narrative, presented through physical theatre, live music and clowning.

FEVERED SLEEP

**Ellie Hartwell**

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*Little Universe*

Fevered Sleep creates new work in performance, installation, film, publication and digital art, for children and for adults. Our work takes place in arts venues such as theatres and galleries, in unusual places and interesting sites, both indoors and out, and in the physical and virtual spaces people encounter in their everyday lives. Whatever we make, and wherever it's found, we seek to provide thought-provoking, surprising and intimate experiences that encourage people to see the world in new and unexpected ways.

From the biggest of galaxies to the smallest things in the world, Little Universe reveals the patterns and movements that set everything in motion. Visually striking and playful Fevered Sleep presents a brand new performance for 3 - 5 year olds, created especially for the outdoors. Fevered Sleep has an international reputation for making outstanding performances for little people that explore really big ideas. Fevered Sleep's work is produced in association with Fuel. Little Universe is a Small Wonders commission.

FOOLS COMPANY

**Ian Douglas**

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Ever wondered what you get when you squeeze a Leprechaun? Or if the goat ever got down from that tree? How did Jack get out of the stomach of the whale? What happened when the North wind blew a gale? Come join storyteller Ian Douglas, for the answers and more in a storytelling session fit for the Mad March Hare.

FROLICKED

**Beka Haigh**

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*The Alchemist*

Frolicked is an outdoor, puppet-orientated theatre company touring across Europe with engaging walkabout characters and magical static and site specific shows. Frolicked create unique and intimate experiences for all kinds of unusual spaces and places, with memorable, beautifully illustrated, self-designed and made puppets and performances.

The Alchemist is a medieval man who desperately wants to make his name in his contemporary scientific community, as well as making a small fortune on the side. Due to another dangerous attempt to make gold, his latest assistant has met with a grisly end. As the Alchemist continues with his experiments alone, he makes a series of unfortunate mistakes with potentially catastrophic consequences...

## GANDINI JUGGLING

### **Jo Burgess & Nicki Street**

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#### *Gandini Sailors*



Gandini Juggling has been set up to celebrate the art of juggling in all its facets, fuelled by a belief that juggling is an exciting living art form. During the last past 19 years, the Gandinis have performed over 4,000 shows in 40 countries and are in constant worldwide demand for their virtuoso juggling and breathtaking choreography.

An outdoor act specially made by the Gandinis for Fools Paradise. A juggling divertimento, quoting the classic Hollywood musicals in a humorous cheeky way. The show is available as a duo or trio and works well as a 20 minute street show or a shorter stage performance. Featuring some of the Gandini's trademark juggling choreography it is the most light-hearted piece in their repertoire!

## GENEVIEVE SAY COMPANY

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#### *5IVE*



Genevieve say is an independent dance artist, performer and choreographer based in Manchester, UK. In 2010 she created The Mustdashios, an all female comedy dance duo who have been delighting audiences with their unreserved and quick paced performance style.

5IVE is a development of Genevieve's solo from 2011; Thick Skin, and reflects her ongoing interest in audience expectations of women within dance and performance. Five women find strength in unity as they take on the world. Through daring movement and thoughtful imagery, the performers lead you on a journey of defence, defiance, friendship and hope. 5IVE is a visual treat and has been described as a varied, witty and engaging piece with choreographic surprises and personality. 5IVE was commissioned by Urban Moves International Dance Festival and is supported by Arts Council England.

## GREENBANK PRODUCTIONS

### **Gordon Banks**

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[gb@gordonbanks.com](mailto:gb@gordonbanks.com) | [www.gordonbanks.com](http://www.gordonbanks.com)

#### *Silent Movie*



A silent movie film company has obtained a road closure of 40 minutes to shoot a scene from a forthcoming silent movie. As the 40 minutes begin the Movie Company proceeds to create the set for the specific scene they are about to shoot. The "Director" reveals himself and shouts for the "matinee idol", who is not in his chair. The "Director" is informed by the "Producer" that the "matinee idol" won't be coming as he is still in hospital as a result of the last scene from yesterday. Devastated the Director then acquires an audience member who is shown how to be a matinee idol by the director and producer and then dressed for the part from the "Instant Wardrobe". This scenario is repeated as it appears that all the other players needed for the prospective scene are also not available, and neither are members of the production crew.

New cast members will be dressed from the "instant wardrobe", photographed against a photo screen, 'signed up' [for real], and taken through their part and put on their marks.

## HALF HUMAN THEATRE

### **Jo Burgess & Nicki Street**

+44 (0)1392 454 160

[fools@foolsparadise.co.uk](mailto:fools@foolsparadise.co.uk) | [www.halfhuman.co.uk](http://www.halfhuman.co.uk)

#### *A Dickens of a Time*



Half Human Theatre's work is accessible, entertaining and designed specifically for the street. Their shows weave comedy and music together and work particularly well with a non English speaking audience.

A Dickens of a Time features the time travelling Victorian trio, The Gaslights, arriving from a parallel universe accompanied by their mechanical helper Albot, the first ever 19th Century robot. Through music and comedy they present an extraordinary view of how the scientific inventions and social reforms of the Victorian age could have affected our world today. This is a Victorian, Dickensian, Jules Verne and HG Wellesian, steampunkian extravaganza.

HELEN CHADWICK SONG THEATRE

**Ruby Baker**

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[ruby@helenchadwick.com](mailto:ruby@helenchadwick.com) | [www.helenchadwick.com](http://www.helenchadwick.com)

*White Suit*

Helen Chadwick is a performance creator and composer working with theatre and dance. She has been commissioned to create song theatre performances for the Royal Opera House and Salisbury and Greenwich festivals. Her shows have toured in Europe, Latin America and the former Soviet Union.

White Suit combines close harmony singing with larger than life physical performance to tell the story of a landmine survivor.



THE HOT POTATO SYNCOPATORS

**Jo Burgess & Nicki Street**

+44 (0)1392 454 160

[fools@foolsparadise.co.uk](mailto:fools@foolsparadise.co.uk) | [www.foolsparadise.co.uk](http://www.foolsparadise.co.uk)



Straight from the golden era of the roaring twenties, these distinguished gentlemen present a musical revue of jazz and dance band melodies interspersed with visual gags, delightful humour and novelty moments. Since 1927\* these cat-swinging jazz hounds have been delighting audiences with galloping ukulele, tea chest bass, virtuosic musical saw and charming harmony singing. Absolutely top-hole entertainment! \*not actually true.

## IT'S A WIND UP! VINTAGE 78 DJs

### **Matt Nickson**

+44 (0)7971 805 134

[matt@mattnickson.com](mailto:matt@mattnickson.com) | [www.vintage78dj.co.uk](http://www.vintage78dj.co.uk)



Truly different DJing on HMV gramophones that we wind up to play. Our stage set evokes many eras of 20th Century music and we interact with the audience inviting them to talk to us, view and use the players. We also can play as a disco or dance and often use dancers to enhance the experience giving dance lessons and getting people involved in the music. Recent shows range from weddings to festivals including Mint Fest, Camp Bestival and Bestival. We pride ourselves on getting the music right and lots of our old records are in near mint condition guaranteeing that the sound quality from our superbly maintained gramophone players is the highest "low-fi" you will hear! In addition we're collectors of all things vintage and will dress in 20's to 50s clothes for the occasion. We also "dress the set" appropriately with a huge selection of props to fit in with the style of the event

## JAIPUR KAWA BRASS BAND (India)

### **Graham Breakwell**

+44 (0)1743 235 384

[accessallareas@btinternet.com](mailto:accessallareas@btinternet.com) | [www.accessallareas.info](http://www.accessallareas.info)

#### *The Magic of Rajasthan*



Jaipur Kawa Brass Band Sound the brass and the drum! Hailing from a long family lineage of musicians and sharing his life between Jaipur and Paris, Hameed Khan Kawa, a tabla maestro and artistic director of Musafir, has known the sound of the brass band since his birth. In its native place, Rajasthan, the brass band is a feature of life itself. Exposed to different musical styles – jazz, Western traditional music, Indian music – Hameed developed the idea of creating a brass band of his own to present the fantastic sound of the Indian Brass Band. He selected the most talented musicians from the best local bands of Rajasthan, with a repertoire blending popular themes from Bollywood films, traditional music of Rajasthan with its distinctive Gypsy sound, and even a touch of Hindustani classical music to create a sound which is individual and unexpected. With elaborate rhythms and virtuoso improvisations this spectacular group of authentic Rajasthanhi gypsies present a wild repertoire, from traditional Indian classics to popular Bollywood movies hits.

## KAKATSITSI (Ghana)

### **Steve Peake**

+44 (0)7766 566 691

[steve@indigenouseople.f9.co.uk](mailto:steve@indigenouseople.f9.co.uk) |

[www.myspace.com/kakatsitsi](http://www.myspace.com/kakatsitsi)



Kakatsitsi are a group of traditional drummers, dancers and singers from the Ga tribe of Southern Ghana, with their roots in the fishing community of Jamestown, the part of Accra where the British based their colonial headquarters.

Their music takes traditional rhythms and chants from their own Ga tradition and those of a variety of other West African cultures, rearranging them in a modern and accessible way. Since 1996, Kakatsitsi have toured the UK 7 times, working with a wide variety of festivals, arts centres and local authorities. The recent addition of a strong dance element, to complement the drumming and singing components, has established Kakatsitsi as the leading African traditional group in the UK, with the leading Ga singers, drummers and dancers among their number.

## THE KAZIMIER KRUNK BAND

### **Ralph Goldacre**

+44 (0)7814 017 686

[records@thekazimier.co.uk](mailto:records@thekazimier.co.uk) | [www.thekazimier.co.uk](http://www.thekazimier.co.uk)



A band of musicians who specialise in creating fun energetic instrumental music for all ages. Gypsy-carnival and circus-themed, the band always plays in amongst the crowd to create a more communal and anarchic spirit, which always gets people smiling and dancing.

## LOSTBOYS PRODUCTIONS

### **Paul Smith**

+44 (0)7403 866 077

[paul@lostboys.eu.com](mailto:paul@lostboys.eu.com) | [www.lostboys.eu.com](http://www.lostboys.eu.com)

### *The First Kings of Hollywood*



Lostboys Productions are a theatre company seeking to bridge the gap between cinema and theatre by employing devices and forms from each art. The company create, write, produce, and perform their own original material. They work in theatre and in street theatre and so far have produced six original theatrical productions and two walkabout street theatre pieces. Lostboys are also stage combatants and utilise this skill in their productions alongside choreographing other companies work.

The First Kings of Hollywood brings Douglas Fairbanks and Charlie Chaplin to the streets. Both of them were perfectionists and pioneers during the early Hollywood years. Lostboys are recreating the silent--movie era, with action speaking louder than words, black and white imagery, music and dialogue cards with the help of the audience. Lostboys will bring back Fairbank's dynamic and very physical style as he swashbuckles his way through the streets and out of trouble, whilst trying to evade capture. Whilst Chaplin has to endure a boxing match to seem the heart of the woman he loves, of course the boxing doesn't quite stick to Queensbury Rules!

## MAD DOG MCREA

### **Ian Luxon**

+44 (0)1458 211 117

[mail@midnightmango.co.uk](mailto:mail@midnightmango.co.uk) | [www.maddogmcrea.co.uk](http://www.maddogmcrea.co.uk)



Jiggery folkery, hokery pokery..... Mad Dog Mcrea blend a unique mixture of folk rock, pop, gypsy jazz, bluegrass and 'shake your ass' music. From self penned songs of adventure, drinking, love and life to traditional songs of gypsies, fairies, legless pirates and black flies, Mad Dog never fail to capture their audience with their infectious songs.

## MARKMARK PRODUCTIONS

### **Mark Tillotson**

+44 (0)1226 747 373

[info@markmarkproductions.co.uk](mailto:info@markmarkproductions.co.uk) |

[www.markmarkproductions.co.uk](http://www.markmarkproductions.co.uk)



### *The Maniax / Mega La Maniax*

Markmark have been touring festivals for over 22 years. They have performed in many different countries and each year they play at over 100 festivals. This year they were commissioned to perform a new show 'Team BGee' at the 2012 Olympics. They perform small-medium shows that play to very big audiences.

Markmark will perform 'The Maniax', a show which has twice won the 'International Street Entertainers' award and has been performed all over the world. Its an energetic comedy involving circus, music, clowning, tricks and illusion. The show culminates in 'The Box of Death'; a deadly dangerous stunt performed on top of a tower.

Markmark will also perform their world premier of 'Mega La Maniax', a stunning new street act involving comedy, magic and lots of terrible jokes.

## METROCCOLIS (Germany)

### **Rocco Menzel**

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Metroccolis is a Berlin-based performance company captivating audiences worldwide with one great passion: mime.

For 15 years now, we have been constantly working on this non-verbal art form developing several projects from a feature-length theater show to an outdoor installation act, from various short mime sketches to our very unique robot. While keeping costumes and stage design to a minimum, our major focus is the core technique of mime and body, in which skills are as crucial as touching stories. Metroccolis does not know any limits. Your heart is our target.

MIMBRE

**Charlotte Dove**

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*Falling Up*



Mimbre is a local and international circus and street theatre company, producing innovative and extraordinary acrobatic performance work and promoting a positive, strong image of women. We are committed to street theatre and work in unconventional settings, creating moments of the unexpected and reclaiming some beauty in the urban environment.

Falling Up is a physical tale of 4 women and what makes them who they are. There is no such thing as a perfect body, but each one is extraordinary. From the UK's premier all female street theatre company, using acrobatics, dance and humour, Falling Up celebrates the beautiful reality of every body. Pick a character and follow her story, from solo performance to beautiful finale, as she explores both her weaknesses and her amazing strengths.

MISCHIEF LA-BAS

**Andrew Blackwood**

+44 (0)141 559 4920

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*Elvis Cleaning Company / Spiv Traders / The Triffids*



Mischief La-Bas has a range of forty-plus comedic 'manifestations', mainly performed by groups of four or five identical walkabout characters that interact with the public. Our motto: 'To gently warp the underlay of the fabric of society'. The Company always offers more than one manifestation per gig, and currently undertake much new work as 'bespoke' commissions.

We specialise in comedy walkabout or street theatre acts such as 'The Spiv Traders' or 'Elvis Cleaning Company' which engage directly with the public or which are highly visual such as 'The Triffids'. We also have a small number of installation-based acts.

MORADOKMAI THEATRE TROUPE (Thailand)

**Hazel Roy**

+44 (0)161 434 5021

[hazelroy46@hotmail.com](mailto:hazelroy46@hotmail.com) | [www.moradokmai.com](http://www.moradokmai.com)

*Daddy! Is That You?*



Moradokmai are a theatre company, school and community based in rural Thailand. The 80 strong company members live together in a self-sufficient community growing their own food and teaching both Western and traditional Thai theatre music and dance. They tour regularly to Europe and Asia and have links with 600 schools in Thailand.

Daddy! Is That You? is a one hour interactive musical contemporary play based on traditional poetry of the UNESCO World poet Sunton Bhu. Full of dance and fun. Suitable for family audiences of all ages.

NURU KANE & THE BFG (Senegal)

**Will Greenham**

+44 (0)7561 565 009

[will@smugglersrecords.com](mailto:will@smugglersrecords.com) | [www.myspace.com/nurukane](http://www.myspace.com/nurukane)



Nuru Kane and The BFG fuse the melodies and rhythms of North and West Africa. While his music is loosely described as Afrobeat, Nuru's influences take in blues, jazz, reggae and funk. All his music is laced with a persuasive dance rhythm and Nuru's infectious sense of humour.

Nuru Kane's unique sound and presence is backed by the magnificent Bayefall Gnawa band, which includes :

- Thierry Fournel (guitar, oud, n'goni)
- Mamadou Sarr (calabash, djembe)
- Jawad el Garouge (guembri and vocals)
- Abdelkader Tab (percussions, vocals)

PA-BOOM

+44 (0)1484 689 516

[masclela.fireworks@virgin.net](mailto:masclela.fireworks@virgin.net) | [www.pa-boom.com](http://www.pa-boom.com)



pa-BOOM is a company of artists, sculptors, designers and technicians producing work, shows and projects using the medium of sculpture and theatre animated by fire, light and pyrotechnics.

pa-BOOM will be beautifully lighting Abbott Hall, transforming it into a veritable hive of activity.

PANGOTTIC / MATT PANG

**Jo Burgess & Nicki Street**

+44 (0)1392 454 160

[fools@foolsparadise.co.uk](mailto:fools@foolsparadise.co.uk) | [www.foolsparadise.co.uk](http://www.foolsparadise.co.uk)



*Thingamabob*

Matt Pang is a versatile performer and juggler currently based in Bristol, UK. Since his first solo stage appearance at a school talent show, in his home town of Exeter Matt has been hooked on live performance, and has since been creating high quality, circus, theatre and street theatre.

Inspired by the famous Rube Goldberg Machines; "a comically involved, complicated invention, laboriously contrived to perform a simple operation" (Webster's New World Dictionary). A spectacle with an originally devised, ball slinging, self-exploding contraption. The show uses a mixture of circus, invention and comedy to bring this piece of gadgetry to life. All presented with Matt's charm and wit.

PIF-PAF

**Pete Gunson**

+44 (0)7931 339 161

[mail@pif-paf.co.uk](mailto:mail@pif-paf.co.uk) | [www.pif-paf.co.uk](http://www.pif-paf.co.uk)



*Action Painting*

Pif-Paf is a groundbreaking theatre company creating high quality performance and sculpture and taking it to places it doesn't normally reach. Our work is presented outdoors and in non-traditional spaces and we are keenly involved in the development of the possibilities and perception of outdoor theatre.

An indoor/outdoor get involved Action Painting Spectacle, Action Painting is a new participatory installation distilling the artist/engineer collaboration within Pif-Paf. Born from a simple question from the director of Sheffield Children's Festival, "What would happen if you filled a cannon with paint and shot it?", we decided that amongst the ballistic bombast of our new paint cannon was needed some dynamic whooses and swooshes, so a craft punk pneumatic arm was born. Action Painting focuses on the thrill and joy of mark making, the physicality and viscerality of the medium and the love of anarchic creation in all of us. The public take it in turns to drive the array of big red buttons controlling the painting machines, choosing the colours and tools to build up the collaborative canvases.

RANNEL

**Jo Burgess & Nicki Street**

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*Fhip Fhip*

Putting a fresh new twist on Hip-Hop theatre, Rannel Theatre Company continue to tour their acclaimed work Fhip Fhip.

Take a whole bag full of classic comedy routines, shake them up and update them for the hip-hop age and you have the exhilarating and hilarious Fhip Fhip. Life can be really boring, especially when you're a decorator with time on your hands and beats in your head. But when your mate's into the same sounds as you are, work gets a bit funkier. This crazy pair of painters escape the monotony of their dull jobs by taking refuge in hip-hop, MC-ing and beatbox, mixing it up but usually ending up just mixed up!

RED HIPPO

[www.redhipp0.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.redhipp0.blogspot.co.uk)



**Red Hippo is ...**

**Peadar Long** saxes, whistles, bagpipes and bass clarinet

**Daz Jones** sousaphone, bass

**Simon Chantler** fiddle, guitar and mandolin

Individually, they have paid their dues in the worlds of jazz, folk, world music and ska. Together they explore a musical world influenced by traditional English, Irish and Scandinavian folk melodies and original tunes often underpinned with "posh jazz chords".

RICHARD DEDOMENICI

**Richard DeDomenici**

+44 (0)7894 949 752

[richarddedomenici@gmail.com](mailto:richarddedomenici@gmail.com) | [www.dedomenici.co.uk](http://www.dedomenici.co.uk)

*Igloo*



Mintfest's artist-in-residence Richard Dedomenici will spend the weekend at K Village attempting to build an igloo out of everyone's favourite locally-produced, mint-flavoured, sugar-based confection, Kendal Mintcake.

On Sunday at 4.30pm will be the Grand Opening – when (health and safety permitting) Richard will attempt to eat his way out of the igloo. Either that or he'll just emerge!

## SAFETYCATCH PRODUCTIONS

### **Garth Williams**

+44 (0)7980 801 653

[garth@safetycatch.net](mailto:garth@safetycatch.net) | [www.safetycatch.net](http://www.safetycatch.net)

*"Watch the Birdie!"*



Safetycatch Productions create Street Theatre for a contemporary family audience fluent in mediums like stand up, karaoke, and cabaret. We involve our audiences, bringing quality engagement and putting them in the spotlight but with great rewards. Using traditional means with a modern twist to bring you comedy with a touch of beauty and a lot of heart.

"Watch the Birdie!" - an old-fashioned photographer from the silent movie era, dresses & poses volunteers for portraits in a paper moon. A mini darkroom magically develops prints for keepsakes & springs odd surprises...

## SHAUN PARKER WITH C-12 DANCE THEATRE

### **Adam Towndrow**

+44 (0)7782 251 816

[adam@c-12dancetheatre.com](mailto:adam@c-12dancetheatre.com)

*TROLLEYS*



C-12 Dance Theatre entwines both dance and theatre disciplines to deliver an innovative and emotional blend of physical dance performance with a theatrical narrative. C-12s choreographic style is a fusion of contemporary and modern dance techniques and was established in 2005 by Annie-Lunnette Deakin-Foster, Nasaevans and Adam Towndrow.

Led by award winning Director/ Choreographer Shaun Parker, and winner of the Argus Award for Artistic Excellence at Brighton Festival 2012, TROLLEYS is a new ballet for five supermarket trolleys. Five shopping trolleys randomly appear in a public space. Two meet and fall in love. One grapples to find a friend. Three others revolt and ignite a dance of anarchy. Trolleys spin, glide and slide in this highly physical, humorous outdoor performance where high-octane contemporary dance, acrobatics and street dance merge with the extraordinary world of trolleys. Set to a pounding electro-acoustic score, TROLLEYS will tease, thrill and move its audience. You'll never go shopping in the same way again.

## SQUASHBOX THEATRE

**Jo Burgess & Nicki Street**

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*Stones and Bones*



Squashbox Theatre produces quality performances involving puppetry, storytelling, live music and comedy for schools, theatres, village halls, festivals and events.

Squashbox Theatre's new show is a marvellous mix of history and mystery! Find out all about archaeology and fossils, say hello to one of your stone-age ancestors, hear stories of giants and wizards, see a volcano erupting before your very eyes, and maybe even glimpse a dinosaur or two...

## STRONG LADY PRODUCTIONS

**Charmaine Childs**

+44 (0)7512 149 452

[thestronglady@gmail.com](mailto:thestronglady@gmail.com) | [www.stronglady.com.au](http://www.stronglady.com.au)

*Strong Lady Show*



Charmaine is an Australian artist, based in the UK, who has been performing street theatre shows and variety acts internationally since 2003. The Strong Lady Show is her only solo work, it began development in 2005 and has been touring internationally since 2007 in outdoor arts festivals, variety shows, circus and sideshows.

Born with the grace of her mother & the strength of her father, Betty Brawn is known as the Strongest Lady Alive! With a cheeky twinkle in her eyes she presents an array of astounding feats of strength, not in the brutish style of the strong man, but with the elegance of a true strong lady. Audiences delight as she tears thick books, snaps solid chain & lifts grown men into the air as if they were feathers in a series of stunts which culminate in her signature piece, The Human Carousel! This show is a celebration of what makes us all different in our own wonderful ways.

## SURREAL MCCOY

### **Mike Rowan**

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[surrealmccoy@hotmail.com](mailto:surrealmccoy@hotmail.com) | [www.bigroxy.com](http://www.bigroxy.com)



### *The Urban Meerkats / Hell's Cockies*

Surreal McCoy specialize in audience interaction through surreal, humourous and beautiful characters.

*The Urban Meerkats* - A pair of human sized Meerkats. Highly strung and totally paranoid, they are in constant search of the predators out to get them. Alert and twitching on street corners, popping up by bins and bushes. Checking constantly with the general public. Determined to find the dreaded predators before they find them.

*Hell's Cockies* - A pair of human sized white Cockatoos, complete with sulphur crests that rise on their heads at the threat of danger, or just if they like you! With leather vests, beautifully embroidered with their own Hells Cockies logo, and piercings in their beaks, these characters bring out the true nature of this iconic Australian bird, stomping about with attitude and a very cheeky humour.

## THE HONK PROJECT

### **Jo Burgess & Nicki Street**

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### *Trundlehonk*

The Honk Project is a troupe of musical clowns, a medley of musical misfits, a bevy of beavering brass bandits. As a young, up and coming theatre company, we are all about bringing music and theatre clowning together in wonderful, hilarious, titillating, aurally and visually inspiring, and just generally rip-roaring shows.

What do you do when your musical instrument has a mind of its own? How do you cope when your team starts to test you? In this family-friendly walkabout, meet the loveable Trundlehonk, a keen member of the local brass band, whose troublesome trolley and extremely willful horn simply refuse to play along... Complete with a magnificent stand-alone bandstand, Trundlehonk! is packed full of rousing live music, physical comedy and slapstick. A wonderful medley of mayhem that you won't want to miss.

## TACITURN

### **Cathy Butterworth**

Number

[taciturndance@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:taciturndance@yahoo.co.uk) | [www.taciturn.co.uk](http://www.taciturn.co.uk)

#### *A Turn or Two*



taciturn is a Liverpool based dance company who have been making and presenting work since 2006. As a company we believe that everyone should be able to enjoy contemporary dance and not feel estranged or intimidated by performance work. We always aim to create dance that is honest, open and entertaining, with no hidden agenda. Each dancer brings their individual style and vocabulary of movement to the company's work, forging a unique and fascinating collective dance identity that is taciturn; a diverse repertory of work that veers between high physicality, subtle slickness and playful antics, all underscored with a gentle, quirky and knowing humour.

*A Turn or Two* was created after a week intensive with Liz Aggiss. It looks at how movement is framed and what happens when you just don't let something go, in 3 separate sharings of Love, Loss and Life.

## THE2MEN

### **Jo Burgess & Nicki Street**

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#### *The Wardens / Patent Pending / The Tourists*



*The Wardens* - The wardens are completely dedicated to their jobs and with the jurisdiction to issue tickets for just about any ridiculous rule or law that they see fit to invent. These may include: Walking without due care and attention, wearing a loud shirt in a built up area, possession of an offensive child, whistling an infectious song or just walking whilst using a mobile.

*Patent Pending* - Trevor and Malcolm have been best buddies since school. After 20years of failed inventions (The solar paneled torch, glow in the dark sunglasses, the pedal powered wheelchair and the smoke alarm with snooze option), the boys think they have struck inventing gold! – or have they?

*The Tourists* - Terry and Derek are good old salt of the Earth, lovable East End cockney geezers. Truth is they don't get out of London much. In fact this is their first time! Enjoy the delights of watching Tel and Del as they Marvel at all the new and exciting things they find on their first trip away.

TILTED

**Maresa von Stockert**

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*SEASAW*

Visually striking and thought provoking, Tilted Productions' work redefines the crossover between dance, theatre and performance art. Meaningful and current, sometimes beautifully subtle, sometimes brutally disturbing and often laced with dark humour, at the heart of Tilted's work lie social and political observations.

A trail of contemporary dance, performance art and physical theatre vignettes, SEASAW is inspired by the relationship between humans and water.

Whether evoking childhood memories of waterside holidays or provoking thoughts on current environmental issues such as water pollution and global warming, SEASAW endeavours to both entertain and challenge.

TORANN DRUMS (Republic of Ireland)

**Marc Merriman**

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*Weapons of Mass Percussion*

Torann Drums have been playing together since early 2002, inspired by the tradition in Waterford for street percussion started by Waterford Spraoi. With support from Spraoi, Torann Drums had somewhere to come into existence. With so many different tastes within the group, it was, and still is, very difficult to put a genre on their sound. It doesn't fall into the expected categories of drumming groups, with ideas and influence coming from all over. The sound has been variously described as Tribal, Rock, Techno, Celtic, Drum'n'Bass and Contemporary Irish.

Weapons Of Mass Percussion is a series of high impact, fast tempo percussion/drumming, played with passion, intent and a whole lot of sweat. Just us doing what we do really.

UPSWING

**Vicki Amedume**

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*Red Shoes*

Let us turn your world upside down! Upswing have swung and spun their way through a stunning array of multi-disciplinary performances: from old skool hip hop and young love, to an Olympic descent of Nelson's column that sent a silk banner cascading down this familiar monument. The aerial world of Upswing is poignant, unpredictable, and eloquent. The company produces a mix of indoor and outdoor touring productions, educational projects and bespoke, site specific performances.

Red Shoes draws from the rich imagery provided by fairytales both grim and glorious. Enter a forest of poles, a place beyond the 'normal', where strange things might occur, and strange people might live, the home of magic, imagination and ultimately transformation. The piece explores themes of loss, journey, transformation, and uses dance, Chinese poles and other circus techniques to create a new playful outdoor dance work.

VOF DE FONTJIN (Netherlands)



*The Fontjin*

The world's only mobile fountain tent. This static light installation will entice you into the magic of the fountain through sound, light and, of course, water everywhere...

## WHAT A PALAVER

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25

Established in 1993, presenting a mixture of circus skills, comedy, street theatre and general fooling around.

"25" is a very fast, action-packed show, featuring 25 different acts each lasting exactly 1 minute.



## WOEST (Netherlands)

**Claudia Geubel & Casper De Vries**

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*NietNietNiets*

Three women in the middle of the street, each in their own space. A stack of suitcases and a bench with a guitar player. The content of the suitcases leads to struggle and jealousy but eventually to cooperation towards a common goal.

