

take  
art *A*

Autumn 2021 to Spring 2022



Rural Touring Promoters Menu



# Contents

## Page:

3-5	Welcome & Introduction
6	Joan Cleville and Scottish Dance Theatre: <i>Antigone, Interrupted</i>
7	Jo Fong & George Orange: <i>The Rest of Our Lives</i>
8	Joshua 'Vendetta' Nash: <i>Blacklist + Figleaf</i>
9	John Hegley: <i>Peace Love and Potatoes</i>
10	David Mynne: <i>The Canterbury Tales</i>
11	aKa Dance Theatre: <i>A Real Fiction</i>
12	Tango Calor: <i>A Night with Tango Calor</i>
13	David Mynne: <i>A Christmas Carol</i>
14	Flats and Sharpes: <i>Live Concert</i>
15	Paddleboat Theatre: <i>Margo &amp; Mr Whatsit</i>
16	Elvis McGonagall: <i>Full Tartan Jacket</i>
17	Multi Story Theatre Company: <i>Hefted</i>
18	WÖR: <i>Back in the 1780's</i>
19	The Egg, Holm Theatre Wales/Somerset: <i>Josephine</i>
20	Hannah Kumari: <i>ENG-ER-LAND</i>
21	Christian Garrick & John Etheridge
22	Wassail Theatre Company: <i>Whispering Willows</i>
23	New Art Club: <i>Cupid's Revenge</i>



## WELCOME BACK TO RURAL TOURING

The Take Art rural touring is a well-established programme set up to bring professional, high quality arts events to communities across Somerset. It relies upon making a partnership between village organisations and Take Art. By working together, memorable social events can be organised in rural areas where people live and meet and so provide a way for villagers to come together socially.

### How The Rural Touring Programme Works

The scheme relies on a partnership between promoter and Take Art. By signing up each side of the partnership is agreeing to the following responsibilities:

**Take Art is responsible for:** providing a menu of performances that are memorable, enjoyable, diverse and affordable; financially supporting some of these shows (e.g. in areas where there some local authority funding); providing advice, support; contracting, paying and liaising with the performance companies.

Take Art will also publicise all live performances on our website and send regular ebulletins to our mailing list advertising the events and how to purchase tickets. Resources for promoters and artists, along with online tickets will be available on the Take Art website.

**Village promoters are responsible for:** their event planning and promotion in liaison with Take Art. This includes choosing, booking, publicising and selling tickets for their events; ensuring the venue is accessible, welcoming, warm and safe, including complying with the latest Govt Guidance on Covid-19, and also complies with all insurance and licensing regulations; managing the event on the day; hosting the artists; and paying Take Art the agreed fee.

### **Covid-19 Pandemic:**

We will listen to all the latest Govt Guidance and offer advice and support for all your promotions. If still recommended, we will ask all visiting company members to take a daily lateral flow test whilst on tour.

We also appreciate that you may wish to restrict your audience size in line with social distancing good practice and that this will obviously affect your box office return. We recommend you consider slightly raising ticket prices, and also offer an affordable concessionary ticket for those in receipt of low income.

### **Guarantee Against Loss**

To support villages where you have to restrict your audience size, we have a small Guarantee Against Loss fund. Should the need arise, villages in any district can apply to this fund after discussion with Take Art. We really want to help support people to re-engage with social life again at indoor events and are prepared to help you as much as we can.

**Reduced Price Shows:** In 2021-22 we will offer Reduced Price shows in all areas where we receive local authority funding. In fact, Sedgemoor is now the only district not funding us (this is currently under discussion). Thanks to local authority investment, these are the number of Reduced Price Shows we can offer during 2021-22:

- 22 in SSDC
- 16 in SW&T
- 10 in MDC

We have kept the minimum fee as low as we can for 2021-22 and will continue to ask for 80% of the gross box office to be returned to Take Art after the event if this figure is greater than the Reduced Price.

**Full Price Shows:** Villages in any district can apply for these. In the past some shows have made over £400 profit and a few over £650. Whilst we have previously been delighted to support your local fundraising, as the scheme is now under such financial constraints, we ask for an 80% return on all box office over and above the Full Price.

## Accommodation and Hospitality

Due to the pandemic, we are not presuming that you will be able to offer performers overnight accommodation this season. This has always been such an important part of rural touring. It helps keep the company fee affordable and many promoters enjoy hosting visiting artists, finding it can add to the whole experience (albeit additional work!). If the company have to stay locally, we have indicated the number of people. Of course, if you are happy to accommodate them, please let us know.

If you are able to offer some form of catering/refreshments, then this is always hugely appreciated by the performers. However, if not, please could you make sure performers know where food is available locally.

## Workshops

Some companies can also offer workshops at the hall or local school, which contributes to extra ticket sales. Call us for availability and costs.

## Publicity & Marketing

We are asking companies to email a PDF of their poster and flier with a blank space to add your venue info, ticket prices, box office number, funders logos etc. If you wish, we can easily add this info for you before emailing back for you to print copies yourselves. Or you could take the finished PDF to a local print copy shop. Or if you need us to print copies in the office and post to you, please just let us know.

## Website, Facebook & Digital Media

Our website will have up to date listings, do use links to the site to help market your event locally. We also publicise events on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, as well as sending out regular weekly e-bulletins to our database of active audience members. Follow Take Art on our social media platforms so that you can easily share your events.

## Audience Research

Take Art is continuing to be part of a national research project looking at rural audiences; eg how often and why people attend village hall arts events. Knowing why your audience attends is a vital first step to develop new arts-going audiences. This year we will be trialling using a QR Code that links from mobiles phones directly to a short survey form.

## What do you do next to make your booking choices?

Talk to committee members, friends in your village etc and decide on the best shows for your community and venue. Fill in the Booking Request Form and return to Take Art by **the deadline of Weds 1st September**. Late bookings may be accommodated subject to availability of funds.



## Joan Cleville and Scottish Dance Theatre: *Antigone, Interrupted*

Specially commissioned by the Rural Touring Dance Initiative.

A young girl ready to die to defend what she thinks is right. A king determined to impose his will as the rule of law. *Antigone, Interrupted* re-imagines a classic story for the modern world through the body and the voice of a single performer.

From the team that brought you the wonderful and highly entertaining *Plan B for Utopia* and *The North*, this new work by choreographer Joan Cleville packs all the drama, passion and big ideas of a Greek tragedy into a one-woman show, created specifically for village halls.

Mixing dance with storytelling and sprinkled with a dash of humour, *Antigone, Interrupted* is a tour de force by acclaimed performer Solene Weinachter, who RTDI audiences will remember well from her recent appearances in Cleville's works as well as Lost Dog's memorable production of *Juliet and Romeo*.

This will be a very special night out.

<b>Website:</b>	www.scottishdancetheatre.com
<b>Available Dates:</b>	11 Oct 2021, poss other Oct dates on request
<b>Accommodation:</b>	required for 4 people, locally if possible
<b>Performance Space:</b>	12x12m, including the audience sitting in a circle around the performer
<b>Running time:</b>	60mins with a Q&A with the performer
<b>Interval:</b>	No
<b>Get In and Out Time:</b>	Get in: 5hr. Get out: 1.5hr
<b>Target Audience:</b>	All over 14+yrs
<b>Full Price:</b>	£650
<b>Reduced Price:</b>	£250
<b>Recommended Adult Ticket Price:</b>	£10-12



## Jo Fong & George Orange: *The Rest of Our Lives*

Specially commissioned by the Rural Touring Dance Initiative with funding from Arts Council Wales.

Hopefully hopeful, *The Rest of Our Lives* is a cabaret of life and near death. Join Jo and George for a night of dance, circus and games.

The struggle is real.

We're only at the beginning of the end.

But we're all still here.

Jo is an old dancer, George an old clown. They are international artists with 100 years of life experience between them. They've reached the mid-way point, and now they're looking at the rest of their lives and wondering, what next?

Armed with a soundtrack of floor-fillers, a book of raffle tickets and a sprinkling of eco-friendly glitter. Join them as they negotiate middle-life together with humour, tenderness and outlandish optimism.

*"One of the most joyful, celebratory and hilarious experiences of my life"*

Hannah Robertshaw, Yorkshire Dance

**Website:** Trailer: [vimeo.com/376390894/e1dc7fa3e0](https://vimeo.com/376390894/e1dc7fa3e0)

**Available Dates:** 11 Nov 2021, poss other Nov dates on request

**Accommodation:** Required for 3 people, locally if possible

**Performance Space:** 6m x 9m (if hall size of a badminton court, show and audience of 80 will easily fit)

**Running time:** 80mins

**Interval:** Yes

**Get In and Out Time:** Get in: 5hr. Get out: 1hr

**Target Audience:** All over 14+yrs

**Full Price:** £650

**Reduced Price:** £250

**Recommended Adult Ticket Price:** £10-12



## Joshua 'Vendetta' Nash: *Blacklist* + *Figleaf*

Another show specially commissioned by the Rural Touring Dance Initiative.

*Blacklist* is an explosive piece asking how do we cope with inner conflict? Delving into brotherhood, isolation and friendship explored through hip hop, krump and theatre.

A double bill of shows from one of the UK's leading Krump dancers. Krump: a form of street dance characterised by free, expressive, exaggerated, and highly energetic movement. It's the Rock and Roll or Heavy Metal of the Hip Hop world, a way of expressing difficult emotions, the ones that get you all twisted up inside.

*Fig Leaf* asks what does it mean to be a man? And when does masculinity become toxic? Swinging from love and support, to anger and aggression. The dancers fight the urge to compete with one another and instead attempt to create a support network, brotherhood and community bond.

*"Nash offers a mission statement that he 'aims to change perceptions of krump being nothing more than an aggressive dance style' With Blacklist he achieves this and much, much more"*

Ian Abbott, National Dance Critic

<b>Website:</b>	Trailer: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TV354T-LCUQ">www.youtube.com/watch?v=TV354T-LCUQ</a>
<b>Available Dates:</b>	18 & 19 Nov 2021
<b>Accommodation:</b>	Required for 5, locally if possible
<b>Performance Space:</b>	6m x 6m flexible. Normally performed end-on but could be in round or audience on 3 sides
<b>Running time:</b>	70mins
<b>Interval:</b>	Yes
<b>Get In and Out Time:</b>	Get in: 6hrs. Get out: 1-2hrs
<b>Target Audience:</b>	All over 10+yrs
<b>Full Price:</b>	£650
<b>Reduced Price:</b>	£250
<b>Recommended Adult Ticket Price:</b>	£10-12



## John Hegley: *Peace Love and Potatoes*

John Hegley is an English performance poet, comedian, musician and songwriter who we have long wanted to bring to Somerset. This show is about his family friends, working life and everyday goings on which resonates with audiences, who, (when it is safe to do so) are invited join in with the singing. The poems are poignant and funny and although the show is designed for adults the odd 9 year old has happily joined the journey.

John's French grandmother, who danced with the Follies Bergeres features, alongside a grumpy brother-in-law and attempts to cheer up some grumpier daleks and dragons with the poetry of John Keats. Tales of growing up in a bungalow in Luton, where his mother would think nothing of peeling a potato in one long, thin winding and unbroken strip.

John's half-French father (the bottom half), an older dad who was in the Royal Air Force in WWII made striking paintings of his native France and encouraged his childrens' creativity. This show is an opportunity to celebrate the result of that encouragement with a performer who knows his trade and looks forward to getting to know his audience.

Hegley began his performing career at London's Comedy Store in 1980 and has since written a number of collections of poetry, ranging from the surreal through the humorous to the personal and emotional. There are a number of recurring themes, notably glasses, dogs and reminiscences of his childhood in Luton.

<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.johnhegley.co.uk">www.johnhegley.co.uk</a>
<b>Available Dates:</b>	19-30 Nov 2021 and 18-28 Feb 2022
<b>Accommodation:</b>	Required for 1 single, locally if possible NB
<b>Performance Space:</b>	3m x 2m
<b>Running time:</b>	90 mins
<b>Interval:</b>	Yes
<b>Get In and Out Time:</b>	Get in: 1hr. Get out: 30mins
<b>Target Audience:</b>	Adults but may appeal to the odd 9 yr old
<b>Full Price:</b>	£300
<b>Reduced Price:</b>	£200
<b>Recommended Adult Ticket Price:</b>	£10-12



## David Mynne: *The Canterbury Tales*

Welcome to 'The Canterbury', an Olde English Inn:  
Infamous around these parts for villainy and sin.  
The floor is fresh with sawdust for soaking up the spit.  
And the air is full of stories, told with wisdom, guile and wit.  
Some of them romantic, some are bawdy, others scary  
And there are tales about the devil that should make you oh so wary.  
Some are beautifully poetic and some a little coarser;  
A medieval medley from the pen of Geoffrey Chaucer!

Revered as one of the most important works in English literature, *The Canterbury Tales* paints an ironic and critical portrait of English society in the middle-ages. All of life is here in these few bawdy, funny, serious and sometimes shocking, short stories.

Experience a journey down the foul and fetid footpaths of fourteenth-century England, told with the usual irreverence, wit and silliness! Expect naughtiness, nonsense and medieval swearing! It's rude! It's ribald! It's ridiculous! Let's party like it's 1387!

This is Chaucer... but not as you think you know it!

Dave Mynne is a veteran Cornish actor and founder member of Kneehigh Theatre

**Website:** [www.davidmynne.com](http://www.davidmynne.com)  
**Available Dates:** 19, 20, 25 and 28 Nov 2021  
**Accommodation:** Possibly needed locally for 2  
**Performance Space:** 3m x 3m (indoors or outdoors)  
**Running time:** 60mins  
**Interval:** No  
**Get In and Out Time:** Get in: 2hrs. Get out: 1hr  
**Target Audience:** All over 12+yrs  
**Full Price:** £500  
**Reduced Price:** £220  
**Recommended Adult Ticket Price:** £10-12



## aKa Dance Theatre: *A Real Fiction*

Fasten your seatbelts, *A Real Fiction* is coming and it is filled with fun, funk and foam bananas! *A Real Fiction* has been whipping up a storm and collecting memories on the way through! Loaded with current affairs, childhood nostalgias and one hit wonders this work has been co-created with the community, for the community.

A hyperactive mix of dance, theatre and pop culture. You can expect the unexpected as you lose yourself in other people's memories, whilst we guarantee you'll have an unforgettable time. For ages 7-107! A great fun, immersive and intimate performance.

aKa Dance Theatre Company was co-founded by Jen Grant and Joe Garbett in early 2014. Based in Taunton as company in residence at Tacchi-Morris Arts Centre, they are fiercely interested and invested in ensuring that the arts are accessible and enjoyable to all and love nothing more than bringing communities together.

Since starting in 2014, aKa have been having a cracking time creating bright and playful dance theatre works that are loaded with colour and craziness, taking them out and about to a variety of audiences in a variety of places and spaces.

*"Very very funny, very very entertaining, very clever."* Mary Duke, audience member  
*"So different..just what we needed, get them back. Bonkers (in a good way)"*  
Hatch Beauchamp audience members

**Website:** [www.akadancetheatre.yolasite.com/](http://www.akadancetheatre.yolasite.com/)

**Available Dates:** Generally available Nov - May 2022

**Accommodation:** Not required

**Performance Space:** 7m x 7m to include audience, in the round

**Running time:** 45mins

**Interval:** No

**Get In and Out Time:** Get in: 5hrs. Get out: 1hr

**Target Audience:** All ages

**Full Price:** £550

**Reduced Price:** £220

**Recommended Adult Ticket Price:** £8-10



## Tango Calor: *A Night with Tango Calor*

*"One of the best tango trios you will hear in the UK"* Tango Alchemy

Tango Calor will take you on a journey from the backstreets of Buenos Aires to the salons of Paris. This trio has performed for tango milongas (dances) around the country and has played in festivals such as WOMAD and Glastonbury in the UK and La Ghironda in Italy.

Indira Roman is one of the great stars of Latin music in the UK. She has sung all around Europe with artists such as Roberto Pla, performing the music of her home town Havana, Cuba. In this show she gets to explore her other love, the great love songs of Argentine tango. Mirek Salmon is one of only a few bandoneon players in the country. This instrument (Argentine concertina) is the true sound of tango and this will be a rare opportunity to see it played live.

This show will appeal to young and old and moves from high energy latin rhythms to the heartbreaking songs of Carlos Gardel.

Suitable for both those who like to dance and those who want to sit and drink it all in.

**Website:** [www.tangocalor.com](http://www.tangocalor.com)  
**Available Dates:** 26 & 27 Nov, 10 Dec and 4 & 5 Feb 2022  
**Accommodation:** Possibly required locally for 3 people  
**Performance Space:** 3m x 4m but flexible  
**Running time:** 2hrs  
**Including Interval:** Yes  
**Get In and Out Time:** Get in: 1.5 hrs Get out: 1hr  
**Target Audience:** All ages  
**Full Price:** £450  
**Reduced Price:** £220  
**Recommended Adult Ticket Price:** £10-12



## David Mynne: *A Christmas Carol*

Our second show on offer this season by David Mynne, veteran Cornish actor and a founder member of Kneehigh, in a one-man performance of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.

Joy to all mankind? Bah!

Spend an evening with Ebenezer Scrooge: a squeezing, wrenching, grasping, clutching, covetous, old miser! Bah!

In their inimitable style, the team that brought you *Great Expectations*, *Dracula* and *The Odyssey* will now take you on a grim (sort of) journey through the dark, dismal streets of Victorian London. Dickens' original words with added silliness. Silliness? Bah!

Celebrate the festive season with a mesmerising one-man performance of Charles Dickens' timeless, transformative story: *A Christmas Carol*. Bah!

Now with extra Humbug!

David admitted this was possibly his favourite ever show to perform. He just loves it.

**Website:** [www.davidmynne.com](http://www.davidmynne.com)

**Available Dates:** 13-20 Dec 2021

**Accommodation:** Possibly required locally for 2 people

**Performance Space:** 3m x 3m

**Running time:** 60 mins

**Interval:** No

**Get In and Out Time:** Get in: 2hrs. Get out: 1hr

**Target Audience:** All over 9+yrs

**Full Price:** £500

**Reduced Price:** £220

**Recommended Adult Ticket Price:** £10-12



## Flats and Sharps: *Live in Concert*

A chance to see one of the UK's most prestigious Bluegrass outfits in an intimate setting.

Flats and Sharps are a four-piece Bluegrass outfit from Penzance, Cornwall. Delivering energetic, enthusiastic and spirited Bluegrass to audiences all around the world,

Virtuosic players with an incredible stage presence, and with years of international touring under their belts.

Their shows include a wide variety of influences, from a fresh and modern outlook on foot-stomping Bluegrass material through to their powerful and well-crafted original songs, with beautiful moments everywhere in between. Their music perfectly blends strong harmonies and solos, their incredible stage presence and energy create an evening that'll have you dancing, laughing and singing along in no time.

Over their time together, the band have made their presence known all around the world, including multiple tours in Australia, Europe and around the UK. Festival appearances at Nashville Meets London, Cambridge Folk, Isle of Wight, Larmer Tree, to name just a few.

<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.flatsandsharps.net/">www.flatsandsharps.net/</a>
<b>Available Dates:</b>	27-30 Jan & 24-27 Feb 2022
<b>Accommodation:</b>	Required locally for 4 people
<b>Performance Space:</b>	3m x 3m
<b>Running time:</b>	2 x 45mins
<b>Interval:</b>	Yes
<b>Get In and Out Time:</b>	Get in: 2hrs. Get out: 1hr
<b>Target Audience:</b>	All ages
<b>Full Price:</b>	£600
<b>Reduced Price:</b>	£250
<b>Recommended Adult Ticket Price:</b>	£10-12



## Paddleboat Theatre: *Margo & Mr Whatsit*

Do you have an imaginary friend? A little piece of mischief only you can see? Sophia's imaginary friend is called Mr Whatsit. No matter where Sophia finds herself living, he's always there with a new joke to tell and a new game to play.

But when Sophia moves into her new foster home, Mr Whatsit finds himself unimagined! Now Sophia has a new imaginary friend – the glamorous, grown-up Margo.

Can Mr Whatsit's childish playfulness keep him from being unimagined for good? And with her imaginary friends competing against each other, will Sophia manage to find her forever home?

PaddleBoat Theatre Company present an interactive make-believe tale where the real and imaginary collide, and friends are never far away.

Our colleagues who run Carn to Cove in Cornwall speak highly of this children's theatre company and we have wanted to tour them for a while now. They will also provide promoters with a great marketing pack, full of brilliant ideas to support the show.

<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.paddleboattheatre.co.uk/">www.paddleboattheatre.co.uk/</a>
<b>Available Dates:</b>	Late Jan and Feb 2022, including half term
<b>Accommodation:</b>	Not required
<b>Performance Space:</b>	5.5m x 5m ideal
<b>Running time:</b>	50 mins
<b>Interval:</b>	No
<b>Get In and Out Time:</b>	Get in 1hr. Get out 1hr
<b>Target Audience:</b>	Families over 3+yrs
<b>Full Price:</b>	£600
<b>Reduced Price:</b>	£200
<b>Recommended Adult Ticket Price:</b>	£8



## Elvis McGonagall: *Full Tartan Jacket*

Stand-up poet, comedian and broadcaster, armchair revolutionary and walking shortbread tin Elvis McGonagall resides at the Graceland Caravan Park somewhere in the back of beyond, where he scribbles poetry while drinking malt whisky and listening to Johnny Cash.

His live shows feature biting and savagely funny satire in a blend of provocative verse and politically savvy stand-up comedy, all imbued with searing wit, wordplay and anarchic invective. Pulling no punches but not afraid to be plain daft, Elvis directs his scurrilous diatribes at the powers-that-be from Westminster to Waitrose, taking aim at the injustices of our septic isle and beyond. Stockpiling cat food, celebrity branding, the nature of truth, some bloke called Trump, the Prime Minister and Mr Benn, the pernicious effects of the patriarchy, Piers Morgan, disappearing rainforests, Brexit milkshakes and a pandemic - yes, all his feel-good hits are there. There's even a love poem.

*Full Tartan Jacket* presents the prime cuts from the work of a comic poet at the top of his game - all current and bang on target. Join this World Poetry Slam Champion and Radio 4 regular as he bellows into the void of our diseased, burning planet and we all trundle along the primrose path to Beelzebub's bottomless pit.

<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.elvismcgonagall.co.uk/">www.elvismcgonagall.co.uk/</a>
<b>Available Dates:</b>	End Jan or March/April 2022
<b>Accommodation:</b>	Possibly required locally for 2 people
<b>Performance Space:</b>	3m x 3m
<b>Running time:</b>	60mins
<b>Interval:</b>	If wanted
<b>Get In and Out Time:</b>	Get in: 1hr. Get out: 30mins
<b>Target Audience:</b>	All ages over 16yrs
<b>Full Price:</b>	£330
<b>Reduced Price:</b>	£200
<b>Recommended Adult Ticket Price:</b>	£10-12



## Multi Story Theatre Company: *Hefted*

*Hefted* is a play told through nine stories embedded in the landscape, history and psyche of rural life, presented by four actors who conjure a score of characters between them, interspersed with song and a spectacular soundscape.

All nine stories explore the notion of being ‘hefted’ – deeply connected to the land.

The audience watches from two sides of the playing area: watching the watchers as well as the action.

The stories of those who live in the countryside are rarely heard or heeded; this play opens the door for those stories to be shared.

Press quotes:- *“A powerful, intense and gripping production that transformed our village hall into a window onto our landscape.” “You could almost smell it - of course you couldn’t, but you could, if you know what I mean”. “I was so engrossed that I nearly leapt up and joined in - and I’ve never been on stage in my life!”*

Written by the wonderful SW based playwright David Lane who understands our region and performed by Devon theatre company, Multi Story, this highly recommended production is rooted in our rural culture and times.

<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.multistorytheatre.co.uk">www.multistorytheatre.co.uk</a>
<b>Available Dates:</b>	Mid-Jan, 5 & 6 Feb, late Feb & March 2022
<b>Accommodation:</b>	Not required
<b>Performance Space:</b>	3.5m x 8m audience on both sides, can adapt playing space to suit most venues
<b>Running time:</b>	1hr 45mins
<b>Interval:</b>	Yes
<b>Get In and Out Time:</b>	Get in: 4hrs. Get out: 1hr
<b>Target Audience:</b>	All ages over 14yrs
<b>Full Price:</b>	£650
<b>Reduced Price:</b>	£250
<b>Recommended Adult Ticket Price:</b>	£10-12



## WÖR: *Back in the 1780's*

Back to the 1780's! If it sounded good back then, why not today?

And now back in Somerset! A huge excitable welcome back to Somerset for WÖR (pronounced 'were'). We had sell out tours with them a few years ago and audiences absolutely loved these concerts.

A band of five musicians whose curiosity, passion and talent has led to a niche goldmine of melodies in stunning contemporary arrangements. With their finely textured arrangements WÖR injects new energy into 18th-century melodies from the Flanders region of Belgium. Their music shines an inventive spotlight, with a modern twist, on the melodies in these manuscripts.

They have released 3 albums *Back to the 1780's* (2015), *Sssht* (2017) and *About Towers* (2021) and toured in Europe, Australia, Canada & the US including the National Folk Festival, Musikfestspiele Potsdam Sanssouci, Concertgebouw Brugge, Sunfest, Shetland folk festival etc. In August 2018 they won a prestigious German award with their album *Sssht*. In 2021 they were nominated for 'Best live band' at the Flemish Folk Awards' and their album *About Towers* made it into the 'World Music Charts Europe'.

Their sheer joy when playing live is infectious and it is always a night to remember.

**Website:** [www.wearewor.com/](http://www.wearewor.com/)

**Available Dates:** 17-20 Feb 2022

**Accommodation:** Required locally for 6 people

**Performance Space:** 3m x 5m

**Running time:** 90mins

**Interval:** Yes

**Get In and Out Time:** Get in: 2hrs. Get out: 1hr

**Target Audience:** All ages

**Full Price:** £750

**Reduced Price:** £300

**Recommended Adult Ticket Price:** £10-12



## The egg, Holm Theatre Wales/Somerset: *Josephine*

The egg Theatre, Bath has teamed up with Holm Theatre Wales/Somerset, to create a new play about the iconic entertainer, spy and civil rights activist, Josephine Baker.

Born in St Louis in 1906, Baker was a famous dancer and the first Black woman to star in a major motion picture. She became a French national where she raised her 12 internationally adopted children, dubbed the Rainbow Tribe and aided the French Resistance during WWII, which earned her the Croix de Guerre. She spoke at the March on Washington in 1963 alongside Martin Luther King.

The play is suitable for all audiences aged 8+ and works as well for adults as it does in schools.

*Josephine* has a fantastic creative team behind it. Directed by Jesse Briton, with music composed by Nadine and Simon Lee (Wise Children), choreography by Ingrid MacKinnon and designed by Debbie Duru, this is a very exciting production for us to tour.

The live production also comes with a new digital education innovation: The Learning Portal. Delivered in spoken and sign supported English with English captions, it's a free resource for any school that also sees the live performance. We are hoping to get 2 village hall evening shows with 2 schools performances nearby on the same days.

<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.theatreroyal.org.uk/josephine/">www.theatreroyal.org.uk/josephine/</a>
<b>Available Dates:</b>	14 March – 3 April 2022
<b>Accommodation:</b>	Possibly required locally for 4 people
<b>Performance Space:</b>	5m x 5m
<b>Running time:</b>	60mins
<b>Interval:</b>	No
<b>Get In and Out Time:</b>	Get in: 4hrs. Get out: 1hr
<b>Target Audience:</b>	All ages over 8+yrs
<b>Full Price:</b>	£750
<b>Reduced Price:</b>	£300
<b>Recommended Adult Ticket Price:</b>	£10-12



## Hannah Kumari: *ENG-ER-LAND*

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. The production will be touring London schools, as well as the National Football Museum and many theatres and arts centres across the UK.

We are really excited that writer/director/performer Hannah Kumari has recently relocated to Frome to start her life making theatre in the West Country and we are looking forward to giving her a warm welcome to Somerset village hall touring.

**Website:** [www.twitter.com/hannahkumari](https://www.twitter.com/hannahkumari)

**Available Dates:** 24 & 25 March, 30 March - 2 April 2022

**Accommodation:** Not required

**Performance Space:** 2.5m x 2m

**Running time:** 55mins followed by Q&A if required

**Interval:** No

**Get In and Out Time:** Get in: 4 hrs. Get out: 1hr

**Target Audience:** All ages over 12yrs

**Full Price:** £350

**Reduced Price:** £200

**Recommended Adult Ticket Price:** £8-10



## Christian Garrick & John Etheridge

Christian Garrick (violin) and John Etheridge (guitar).

This world class duo provides a feast of interplay, improvisation and eclectic repertoire with music ranging from Peter Gabriel to Richard Rogers via Dollar Brand and Alison Goldfrapp. Both players make extensive use of looping and other effects, creating exotic tapestries of sound, almost orchestral at times, yet they can switch seamlessly to a pure acoustic sound with rollicking renditions of Hot Club swing evoking the spirit of Reinhardt and Grappelli as they do. Atmospheric, hypnotic, humorous and entertaining. They can roar, seduce and whisper.

John Etheridge (Soft Machine, Stephane Grappelli, Dizzy Gillespie, John Williams and Nigel Kennedy) and virtuoso violinist Christian Garrick (Van Morrison, Cleo Laine, Wynton Marsalis, Bireli Lagrene and Bryan Ferry) have been associated for many years starting with the Grappelli/Reinhardt-based Sweet Chorus project and concurrently in duo format.

*"One of the most potent relationships in European Jazz". The Guardian. "Superb interplay - gorgeous stuff" The Times*

This promises to be a real treat so if you are not promoting this one yourself, we recommend you make sure you have purchased a ticket well in advance.

**Website:** <http://www.chrisgarrick.com>

**Available Dates:** 6-10 April 2022

**Accommodation:** Possibly required locally for 2 people

**Performance Space:** 3m x3m

**Running time:** 110 mins

**Interval:** Yes

**Get In and Out Time:** Get in: 3 hrs. Get out: 1hr

**Target Audience:** All ages

**Full Price:** £750

**Reduced Price:** £350

**Recommended Adult Ticket Price:** £12



## Wassail Theatre Company: *Whispering Willows*

Wassail is Somerset's theatre company. Founded in 2015 they've been touring to communities across Somerset with all sorts of stories: about floods, football and famous darts players, amongst others.

*Whispering Willows* is a highly accessible show for families: it's non-verbal and features beautiful puppets made from withies.

It's 1929. Morris has been planting, harvesting, basket making and drinking tea on his Somerset Willow farm since before he can remember. Every year the same pattern repeats itself. Plant, harvest, weave. Plant, harvest, weave.

One day he pulls up a particularly large piece of Willow with a girl clinging to the end of it! She eats too much, breaks everything in his workshop and is a complete nuisance. But as time moves on, they teach each other the ways of the Willow. Planting, harvesting, weaving... the cycle continues and all is well in their world until the chaos of WWII and the invention of plastic threaten to destroy the farm and their livelihoods. Can they find a new use for Willow before it's too late

*Whispering Willows* premiered earlier this year at the Brewhouse. Mark from Take Art went along and really loved this show and could see it working well for a wide range of audiences.

**Website:** [www.wassailtheatre.co.uk](http://www.wassailtheatre.co.uk)

**Available Dates:** 25 April - 25 June 2022

**Accommodation:** Not required

**Performance Space:** Flexible

**Running time:** 40mins

**Interval:** No

**Get In and Out Time:** Get in: 2hrs. Get out: 1hr

**Target Audience:** Families, ages 5+yrs

**Full Price:** £500

**Reduced Price:** £200

**Recommended Adult Ticket Price:** £8



## New Art Club: *Cupid's Revenge*

One final show in this menu especially commissioned by Rural Touring Dance Initiative.

In today's disposable world where love is used to sell us everything from fizzy drinks to insurance policies... where did real love go?

A dance theatre comedy show by New Art Club about love. Mythical love that drives the creation of the universe and everything in it. Romantic love. Love between friends. It is funny, sad and reflective. It is not a story but it holds lots of stories inside it. In that way it is like you. It has a huge glowing red heart that has crashed landed onto the stage.

*Cupid's Revenge* was made as a response to the cynicism and division that is all around us. It is made with Love. Sometimes funny, sometimes heart-breaking, this show is a wonderful night out that gets people talking about love and how it affects us all.

*"Dynamic, physical, touching and hilarious"* Broadway Baby (Feel About Your Body)

*"Physical comedy with brains, I laughed 'til my face hurt"* The Observer

*"Even those who hate dance will love this show"* The Guardian

New Art Club are one of the funniest companies around. The performers are both award-winning comedians and dancers, working together for over 20 years, touring worldwide.

**Website:** [www.newartclub.org](http://www.newartclub.org) Trailer: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=MxgOEOGovX4#action=share](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MxgOEOGovX4#action=share)

**Available Dates:** April - May 2022

**Accommodation:** Possibly required locally for 3 people

**Performance Space:** 6m x 6m but can be flexible on this

**Running time:** 60mins

**Interval:** Yes followed by a Q&A with performers

**Get In and Out Time:** Get in: 6/7hrs. Get out: 2hrs

**Target Audience:** All ages over 12+yrs (mild swearing)

**Full Price:** £700

**Reduced Price:** £250

**Recommended Adult Ticket Price:** £10-12

23

**RURAL TOURING  
DANCE INITIATIVE**

making the best dance happen in small spaces



And finally, having thoroughly loved running the rural touring programme and working with all Take Art's many wonderful volunteer promoters for several decades, I am now hanging up my Rural Touring boots and putting on a comfy pair of retirement slippers!

Please give a big warm hello to Danny Pedler who joins us as the new Take Art Rural Touring Manager for Somerset.

Danny is really looking forward to getting to know all of you as well as meeting all the fantastic companies on offer in this menu. We know you are going to get on like a house on fire!

Sarah x

## Take Art

The Mill, Flaxdrayton Farm, South Petherton, Somerset TA13 5LR  
Call **01460 249450** or email **danny@takeart.org** or **ruth@takeart.org**  
**www.takeart.org**

**Take Art is proudly supported by Arts Council England,  
Mendip District Council, Somerset West & Taunton and  
South Somerset District Council, as well as a  
member of the National Rural Touring Forum**

