



DECISIONS, DECISIONS



THE MENU 2019/20



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Take Art
Rural Touring
Somerset Promoters' Menu
Sept 2019 - May 2020

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Cover image: Scratchworks / WÖR / Teater DOS



WELCOME TO THE TAKE ART PROMOTERS' MENU 2019/20

The Take Art rural touring scheme is a well-established scheme set up to bring professional, high quality arts events to communities across Somerset. The scheme relies on 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 Scheme Works

The scheme relies on a partnership between promoter and Take Art. By signing up to the scheme 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 is still some local authority funding); providing advice, support and lists of local press contacts; contracting, paying and liaising with the performance companies.



Take Art will also produce, and distribute widely across Somerset, a seasonal programme listing all live events and publicising show details. Resources for promoters and artists, along with online tickets will be available on the Take Art website at www.takeart.org

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 safe, accessible and complies with all insurance and licensing regulations; managing the event on the day; hosting the artists; and paying Take Art the agreed fee.

Reduced Price Shows: In districts where we receive local authority funding, we will offer Reduced Price shows. Thanks to investment from South Somerset District Council there will be 22 of these available in South Somerset. Taunton Deane have an annual funding application process. We will hear in June if we have been successful to support another ten reduced price show to villages in the Deane. We 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.

We no longer offer full financial support for shows in villages in Mendip, Sedgemoor or West Somerset, where local authority funding has been totally cut. However, this menu includes a substantial number of attractive 'easy-to-sell' Full Price shows that we think are affordable to any village hall. Approximately 20 of these Full Price shows will be available this year.

Full Price Shows:

Villages in any district can apply for Full Price shows which also include a small contribution to our own costs. It should be possible for most villages to afford Full Price shows at £500, e.g. 60 tickets @ £10 = a box office of £600. Some shows have quite easily made over £300 profit and a few over £650.

The full prices shown on the following pages include a small contribution, of around £50, towards the scheme's costs. Many villages have actively identified their own local fundraising to help make promoting Full Price shows affordable, such as Parish Council support, local charities and businesses, local patronage and individual giving. Other villages have set up a separate account for Take Art shows and ringfence any profit made for future shows.

Guarantee Against Loss

To support some smaller villages where a higher box office is impossible, even with a sell-out audience, we have a modest 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 events in all five districts of Somerset and believe the above plan is realistic. We don't make light of the fact that selling tickets for shows is easy and are prepared to help you in as many ways as we possibly can!

Publicity

Posters: Companies will send posters (see examples below) and fliers to each promoter direct. These should have a blank box for you to put your venue info, ticket prices, box office etc.



Should you need help, we can provide training and advice in designing and printing labels.

Press

Each company will be asked to send you a press release in advance of your show. If you need a list of local press or radio contacts please get in touch.

New Marketing Ideas

Louise Monks, Take Art's Marketing Director is very happy to offer you dedicated time when she could meet with you to discuss additional and new marketing ideas for your chosen show.

Website, Facebook & Digital Media

Take Art has a new revamped website with up-to-date listings information on all our shows and activities so please do use links to the site to help market your events. We would also love your feedback on the new site, so we can ensure your shows are presented correctly and easy to find www.takeart.org. We will also regularly use Facebook and Twitter, as well as sending out weekly e-bulletins to our database of over 1,300 active audience members. Please do follow us on Twitter and Facebook as it may well build audiences in your community.

Workshops

Some companies offer workshops with their performance. A workshop at the hall or local school can significantly boost ticket sales. Call us for availability and costs.

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 encouraging your audiences to fill in a paper survey at the shows.

New Audiences: "First-Timers £5 Ticket"

Take Art are very interested in attracting new audiences to rural touring. In particular we would like to see an increase in low income earning families attending shows. We would like to work with any promoters interested in developing a **First-Timers £5 Ticket Scheme** for people on low incomes.

What do you do next?

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 Fri 24th May 2019**. You will hear back from us during June to discuss both your choices and the best possible dates to fit in with other promoters' bookings.



Tor Theatre | *The Fire Catcher*

For children over 3 and their families

Meet Coyote... She's fast and fearless, cunning and kind! But there are two things she doesn't like... One is being cold: so she decides to steal fire and give it to the world! And the other is Narrators... because they're a bit, y'know, boring. So imagine her surprise when she finds a Narrator telling her story... The story of *The Fire Catcher*!

Physical theatre and storytelling collide in this fast and fun-packed performance that boasts bags of opportunities for an audience to howl along to! *The Fire Catcher* is good old-fashioned family theatre suitable for children aged three and up and their adults.

Tor Theatre were set up in 2006 by Angela Laverick and David Reakes, two professional actors who moved from London to Glastonbury. After a few years in the educational sector they started to produce their own original plays and adaptations of classic texts. Angela also tours nationally as an actor with companies such as Vamos Theatre and you will quite possibly have heard David's voice on Radio 4 in the afternoon play.

"A great show for all the family. Fun, lively with an array of characters." Sarah Peterkin

Website:	www.tortheatre.co.uk
Available Dates:	Sept-May 2020
Accommodation:	Not required
Performance Space:	16ft x 10ft
Running time:	50 mins
Interval:	No
Get In and Out Time:	2 hrs (get out 1.5 hr)
Target Audience:	3+ and their families
Full Price:	£500
Reduced Price:	£220 minimum
Recommended Adult Ticket Price:	£6 (Children £4)



Pip Utton Theatre | *At Home with Will Shakespeare*

Pip brings to life the famous man

Shakespeare probably wrote some of the greatest works in the English language but we know very little about the man except from where he was probably born and is probably buried. Even the famous portrait, statue and engraving might be of someone else entirely.

In *At Home with Will Shakespeare*, Pip Utton gives us all the chance to spend time with the great man; a man who loves, laughs, drinks, sings, dances and cries, and in between is forced to write some plays and poetry to make a living. Living a double life, as a family man and landowner in Stratford on Avon, and as the great playwright in London. His wife, his loves, his children are all there for us to meet. It's fun, it's moving and from time to time it involves the audience. It's just William Shakespeare and his life and his 'greatest hits', all performed by Will himself.

Pip is internationally respected as one of the world's finest solo performers. His style is to adopt the persona of the famous people he plays. You may have seen him as Adolf, Bacon, Churchill, Chaplin, Dickens or even Maggie Thatcher! Now he is Will Shakespeare.

"Shakespeare comes to life masterfully. Poetic, fun and beautiful". theaterpardijs.nl

Website: www.pip-utton.co.uk
Available Dates: Sept-May 2020
Accommodation: Not required
Performance Space: 12ft x 10ft
Running time: 100 mins
Interval: Yes
Get In and Out Time: 2 hrs (get out 1 hr)
Target Audience: 10+
Full Price: £550
Reduced Price: £300 minimum
Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



Pip Utton Theatre | *And Before I Forget I Love You, I Love You*

A moving and affectionate performance

Pip's performances are renowned for his ability to 'break the fourth wall', speaking directly with the audience, involving them with the emotions, making them an essential part of the performance. This play is no different.

Based on his and his brother's experience of seeing their mum deteriorate and die from Alzheimer's, and on intensive research, it's a moving and affectionate performance about the devastating effects of the disease; not only on the sufferer but on family, friends and carers. It's a journey full of smiles, laughter, love and tears. Please note there is a language warning with this show.

One of the world's most respected solo performers, Pip's work, Adolf, Churchill, Chaplin, Playing Maggie, Dickens, garner rave reviews and awards.

Recently Pip won the Stage Special Award, Fringereview.co.uk Award for Outstanding Theatre, the Valery Kashanov International Award for International monodrama, and in 2018 a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Turkish Ministry of Culture.

Website:	www.pip-utton.co.uk
Available Dates:	Sept-May 2020
Accommodation:	Not required
Performance Space:	12ft x 10 ft
Running time:	100 mins
Interval:	Yes
Get In and Out Time:	2 hrs (get out 1hr)
Target Audience:	10+
Full Price:	£550
Reduced Price:	£300 minimum
Recommended Adult Ticket Price:	£10



DT2 Productions Film | *Kinetics*

A very brave, ground-breaking 50 mins film

What can a teenage boy who is into Parkour and a middle-aged woman with Parkinson's possibly have in common? The desire to move... *Kinetics* is a film based on the remarkable true story of two people seemingly at polar opposites. As Rose tries to come to terms with her diagnosis, an unlikely friendship springs up when young Lukas comes tumbling into her life. But will the bond between them be strong enough when things go wrong?

Kinetics was written by Dorchester-based actor and writer Sue Wylie in reaction to her diagnosis with early-onset Parkinson's. As a stage play it toured the South West and London, receiving phenomenal feedback from audiences and medical professionals alike, for its bravery, honesty, humour and passion. The film version has been equally well received and has recently been selected for the 2018 Cambridge Film Festival. Q&A sessions with Sue Wylie and possibly a medical professional have been arranged at many showings. Can be arranged for most screenings, given enough notice.

"If anyone feared it would be worthy and important but perhaps not fun, their worries will be swept away in the first few minutes with its witty and compelling script and some great camerawork." **Fine Times Recorder**

Website:	www.kineticsfilm.com
Available Dates:	Sept-May 2020
Accommodation:	Not required
Performance Space:	DVD player, projector and screen/blank wall
Running time:	50 minutes + Q&A
Interval:	Yes (interval between showing and Q&A)
Get In and Out Time:	1 hr (get out 1 hr)
Target Audience:	14+ (younger children welcome)
Full Price:	£250 includes Q&A
Reduced Price:	£150 minimum
Recommended Adult Ticket Price:	£6
	10



Scratchworks Theatre Co. | *WOMANS* (Like Romans, but with a 'W')

“A frenzied feminist fiction told through a whirlwind of tightly choreographed theatrical invention” The Stage

After the huge success of the award-winning *The Great Train Robbery*, Scratchworks returns to Take Art with the next instalment of their historical comedy trilogy, *WOMANS* (Like Romans, but with a 'W'). Packed full of physical comedy, clowning and original music, *WOMANS* is a family-friendly adventure of the first female resistance.

It's 44BC, Ancient Rome. Our hero, Leta has been declared a traitor by the Roman Senate. She is given a punishment worse than death "Damnatio Memoriae" – to be erased from history. Whilst noble Gladiators and infamous Emperors around her are becoming legends, Leta's name will be scratched out and forgotten forever. So, with the help from some unexpected muses, she decides to rebel against the Republic. Join Leta's determined journey to reclaim her place in the history books, from crashing the Colosseum to freeing the enslaved, she will go to the ends of the empire to make her mark. Suitable for ages 8+.

“Highly imaginative...a genuinely funny & clever show” **** **A Younger Theatre**

“Highly entertaining...riotous fun!” **** **Fringe Guru**

Website: www.scratchworkstheatre.com

Available Dates: 11 & 12 Oct 2019 (plus others on request)

Accommodation: Might be required for 4 people

Performance Space: 15ft x 9ft

Running time: 90 mins

Interval: Yes

Get In and Out Time: 2 hrs (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: 8+

Full Price: £650

Reduced Price: £300 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



Little Bulb/Farnham Maltings | *Mountain Music*

A play about songs that leave and come back again

When pioneers from the British Isles came to settle in the Appalachian Mountains they brought with them the invisible baggage of songs and reels from 'the old country'.

In this unique theatre spectacle/concert the fabulous Little Bulb create an unforgettable tapestry of culture, migration and history exploring the roots of what we now call country music and its impact on popular music today.

Told in exquisite three part harmony and featuring fiddle, bass, guitar, banjo and mandolin, join us for a theatrical feast, of tales and songs.

Produced in collaboration with Farnham Maltings this will be a great evening's entertainment. Farnham have never let us down in ten years of working together, they reliably turn out really wonderful theatrical events that are perfect for village halls.

"Boundlessly enthusiastic, insanely optimistic and inexpressibly charming."

Lyn Gardner

Website: www.farnhammaltings.com

Available Dates: 16-20 Oct 2019

Accommodation: Might be required for 5 people

Performance Space: 15ft x 15ft

Running time: 90 mins

Interval: Yes

Get In and Out Time: 4 hrs (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: 11+ (but younger also welcome)

Full Price: £650

Reduced Price: £300 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



Tentacle Tribe | *Origami Mami* & *Nobody Likes a Pixelated Squid*

Breaking and popping in this Hip Hop double bill

Tentacle Tribe are a contemporary / hip hop dance group from Montreal in Canada, offering a double bill of award-winning performance pieces to Somerset village halls.

Origami Mami - A trio of exceptional dancers perform a routine that unfolds from simple to complex geometry, looking like the interlocking parts of a complex machine with bending, folding steps as intricate as origami.

Nobody Likes a Pixelated Squid - A piece consisting of stunning urban hip hop dance, inspired by the fluid movements of diverse land and sea creatures. Relentlessly athletic and hugely impressive, these dancers have the internal resources and the external strength to pull off a superbly entertaining show.

Emmanuelle and Elon, the choreographers, have worked together since 2005 forming Tentacle Tribe in 2012 after their first performance for Cirque Du Soleil in Quebec City. Meet them both in a post show discussion to learn more about their work as professional street dance artists from Canada. A street dance workshop would also be available on request. Ralph from Take Art absolutely adored this show for its high energy and skill.

Website: www.tentacletribe.com

Available Dates: 21 Oct-10 Nov 2019

Accommodation: For 5 people, but might not be required

Performance Space: 20ft x 20ft minimum (on a clean wooden floor)

Running time: 60 mins

Interval: Yes

Get In and Out Time: 4-5 hrs (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: All ages

Full Price: £650

Reduced Price: £300 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



Louise Jordan /Azania Ltd | *The Hard Way*

'Life to me has been a great adventure'

The Hard Way is a one-woman show that tells the story of Hannah Mitchell; self-taught, self-made woman, campaigner, speaker, writer, suffragette, councillor and magistrate.

The story travels from a remote hilltop farm in the Derbyshire Peak District to Manchester city magistrate. With two weeks' formal schooling behind her and through sheer force of character, Hannah escapes domestic drudgery and leaves home aged 14, exchanging one exploitative situation for another. In 1906 she finds herself face to face with Winston Churchill at a public meeting and then spends time in Strangeways prison before forging on to achieve her true destiny.

Combining storytelling and song, acclaimed musician and composer Louise Jordan brings to life this fascinating and inspiring tale that celebrates one woman's determination to take power in the face of insurmountable barriers.

"An evening of engaging storytelling and beautiful songs and music."

St Helens Library's team member

Website: www.louisejordan.co.uk

Available Dates: 25-27 Oct, 1/2 Nov 2019 & 4/5 April 2020

Accommodation: Required for 1 person

Performance Space: 8ft x 8ft

Running time: 70 mins

Interval: No but negotiable

Get In and Out Time: 2 hrs (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: 14+ (but younger also welcome)

Full Price: £450

Reduced Price: £220 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman | *In Concert*

One of the UK folk scene's most rewardingly enduring partnerships

Duos come and duos go... and some nurture and fine tune their art and watch it grow into something totally original, captivating and award-winning. Bonded by an unseen alchemy, Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman have entwined their professional and personal relationship into an enviable class act of imaginative songwriting and musicianship.

The Dartmoor-based husband and wife have twice won the coveted Best Duo title at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards (2016 & 2013), consistently delivering assured, distinctive performances whether live or recorded. Over two decades of performance they have never been trapped in a groove – always bold and innovative, mixing traditional song arrangements with their self-penned material. The couple's intimacy and strength of passion on stage have won them many fans and an enviable reputation as 'Songwriters par excellence' (froots).

With a story that includes over 20 years of music making with the likes of Seth Lakeman, Cara Dillon, Levellers, Fotheringay, Kate Rusby and Show of Hands, Kathryn and Sean have consolidated themselves as pillars of modern British folk.

Website:	www.kathrynrobertsandseanlakeman.com
Available Dates:	7-24 Nov 2019
Accommodation:	Not required
Performance Space:	9ft x 9ft
Running time:	1h 50 mins
Interval:	Yes
Get In and Out Time:	2 hrs (get out 1 hr)
Target Audience:	All ages
Full Price:	£650
Reduced Price:	£350 minimum
Recommended Adult Ticket Price:	£10-£12



Alleyne Dance | *A Night's Game*

Contemporary dance at its absolute best

How does it feel to have your freedom taken from you? Would you spend every waking hour longing to be free again? Or would you fight against it?

Inspired by true life events, including stories of escaping the world-famous Alcatraz prison, *A Night's Game* reflects the turmoil faced with the prospect of incarceration.

Alleyne Dance brings to the stage dynamism and athletic strength delivered with grace and beauty. Explore the journey of these two athletic movers, as they create a dark, atmospheric and abstract show that is as thrilling as it is powerful.

Part of the RTDI project to bring fantastic quality dance from the best possible national companies to rural village halls, the Alleyne twins, Kristina and Sadé deliver top quality dance that demands respect. Their movement manifests all the power and beauty that the human body can create. This is a rare treat.

"Alleyne Dance are rising stars of the contemporary dance scene." **Serendipity UK**

Website: www.alleynedance.com
Available Dates: 8 Nov 2019
Accommodation: Required for 3 people
Performance Space: 24ft x 24ft on wooden floor with audience on 3 sides
Running time: 70 mins
Interval: Yes
Get In and Out Time: 5-6 hrs (get out 2 hrs)
Target Audience: 8+
Full Price: £650
Reduced Price: £300 minimum
Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10





Altered Skin | *Confessions of a Cockney Temple Dancer*

Indian dance meets stand-up comedy

Comic, director and choreographer Shane Shambhu introduces his latest character creation, master of South Indian cuisine: Chef hiruvanathapurathilhariramachand-rakrishnaprasadasundaram.

Chef T will be sharing his immense knowledge of Indian spices, the culinary delights of Southern Indian cuisine and why South Indian names are sooooo unbelievably long! Through physicality and mime he demonstrates the unique processes of preparing and cooking South-Indian dishes along with his trusty Sous Chef, Dave from Bethnal Green. Dave will share with you all the names of the different and exotic types of Indian vegetable that you can now buy from your local supermarket like...erm...Coconuts?!

Together Shane, Dave and our distinguished Chef, share stories of food and culture and finally blend together to create their special Cockney curry dishes that you might or possibly, might not want a little taste of! Another RTDI show, we are delighted to welcome Complicite Associate, Shane to Somerset with his solo show.

"Brilliant...hilarious...heart-warming...inspirational. A must see." The British Theatre

Website: www.alteredskin.org
Available Dates: 15 Nov 2019
Accommodation: Required for 2 people
Performance Space: 16ft x 20ft x 13ft on clean wooden floor or lino
Running time: 70 mins
Interval: No but optional post show Curry House
Get In and Out Time: 5-6 hrs (get out 2 hrs)
Target Audience: 7+
Full Price: £750
Reduced Price: £320 minimum
Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10-£12





Two Destination Language | *Fallen Fruit*

“Back there, back then, I had it all!”

The Berlin Wall splits open in 1989, a girl looks forward to life beyond communism, a couple unravels, and 80s TV permeates everything. In 2019, Britain leaves the EU while Europe celebrates 30 years since the end of the Cold War.

Fallen Fruit is a one-woman show that weaves three narratives together to create a poignant and entertaining glimpse of life growing up against the background of political turmoil. It is a story of love, breaking free and Europe, brought to you from multi-award-winning Two Destination Language and depicts a unique migrant voice born in communist Bulgaria.

“A gem of a small-scale show, coming from a truthful place and putting into sharp perspective the issues of borders. The design is beautiful and Katherina Radeva is exceptional.” Sarah Brigham - Director, Derby Theatre

“thoughtful stuff about political walls and personal barriers” Lyn Gardner

“Fallen Fruit reveals the process of change for what it is: hard work.”

Guardian best shows in the Edinburgh Festival 2018

Website: www.twodestinationlanguage.com

Available Dates: 21-24 Nov 2019

Accommodation: Required for 3 people

Performance Space: 18ft x 15ft

Running time: 70 mins

Including Interval: No

Get In and Out Time: 5 hrs (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: Adults (but children welcome)

Full Price: £700

Reduced Price: £300 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



Máire Ní Chathasaigh & Chris Newman | *Celtic Christmas Strings*

A spellbinding treat for mid-winter

There's something magical about harps, and particularly at Christmas, though Máire and Chris's alchemy on harp and guitar creates a very special magic at any time of year.

Individually famed for their originality and innovation on their respective instruments, together Máire and Chris have created one of the most distinctive sounds in modern acoustic music and we are delighted to welcome them back to Somerset.

Appearing together in venues large and small in twenty-two countries on five continents, their music encompasses a depth of tradition, while remaining eternally playful, curious and adventurous.

Their new Christmas show features a breathtaking blend of traditional Irish music, swing jazz and bluegrass, plus festive favourites given a fresh voice with intricate arrangements, performed in their characteristically heart-warming style.

"Both are in the virtuoso class" The Guardian

Website: www.maireandchris.com

Available Dates: 4/5, 20/21 December

Accommodation: Required for 2 people

Performance Space: 10ft x 6ft

Running time: 2 hrs

Including Interval: Yes

Get In and Out Time: 2 hrs (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: 9+ (younger children also welcome)

Full Price: £650

Reduced Price: £350 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



Paprika | *In Concert*

Winning the hearts of music lovers from all walks of life

They say that music is the language of the soul, and nothing could be truer for Paprika, a World Music Band comprised of inspirational musicians and skillful performers. The band have earned a very impressive reputation, touring worldwide, from Glastonbury and WOMAD to the Royal Albert Hall and Sydney Opera House.

Paprika's line up consists of two accordions, guitar and percussion with regular guest members on violin and bass.

They are the UK's leading Balkan band, specialising in bringing rare or lost traditional Balkan music back to life, fusing together Eastern European, Balkan, Gypsy and Classical music in a whirlwind performance of frenzied virtuosity. Fiery melodies and foot-tapping rhythms are interspersed with lilting laments. This is a high energy musical experience from a very exciting group.

"A must see" Cerys Matthews, BBC

Website: www.paprikamusic.com

Available Dates: 28-30 Nov, 12-14 Dec 2019 or Jan 2020

Accommodation: Required for 4 people

Performance Space: 10ft x 10ft

Running time: 2 x 45 mins sets

Including Interval: Yes

Get In and Out Time: 2 hrs (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: All ages

Full Price: £650

Reduced Price: £400 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



Toby Thompson | *For The Record*

Brilliant, beguiling wordsmithery and classic tunes on vinyl

A huge success at Edinburgh Fringe 2018, this wonderful show features a full set of Toby's poems, set against the backdrop of the music that so often inspired and surrounded their creation. It is a deeply affecting walk through the mysteries and wonders of life and love.

For the Record also celebrates the peculiar allure of music shared and enjoyed on vinyl - in a slower, more considered way, unlike our listening experiences in the age of disposable downloads.

Toby Thompson is a performance poet based in London, hailing from Bath. His career jumpstarted at just 16 when we was commissioned to write a poem expressing his feelings about how Shakespeare was taught in schools. He first performed 'The System' to an audience of teachers and artists, including Kate Tempest and Cicely Berry of the RSC who asked him to perform it at the Roundhouse in London and at the House of Lords.

"Touching and often achingly funny..." **Edinburgh Festival Fringe**

Website: www.tobythompson.net

Available Dates: Jan-May 2020

Accommodation: Not required

Performance Space: 15ft x 12ft x 10ft, Toby needs a piano

Running time: 50 mins

Interval: No but if required we could ask Toby to do some of his performance poetry

Get In and Out Time: 2 hrs (get out 30 mins)

Target Audience: 14+ (younger children welcome)

Full Price: £550

Reduced Price: £250 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



Harbottle & Jonas | *An evening with...*

Disarmingly honest with spine-tingling moments

Harbottle & Jonas will provide an evening of stunning musical entertainment. Together the husband and wife duo combine the rich traditions of folk music with original and contemporary interpretations through a blend of closely intertwined vocal harmonies.

Each song has been carefully written and researched, and is always accompanied with a great story and a good degree of humour, however macabre the content may be! Their songs cover a range of social, political and historical issues. Harbottle & Jonas sing about family, villages swept into the sea, polar expeditions, historical characters and peculiar narratives.

Their music is original and unique. It is performed with integrity and on instruments that include the concertina, harmonium, banjo, stompbox, acoustic guitar and dobra. They receive regular national airplay on the BBC2 Folk Show and BBC6 Music.

Each performance establishes a warm rapport, engagement and interaction with the audience. So...warm up your vocal chords, pack your hankies, put on your finest tweed and prepare yourselves for an unforgettable evening of beautiful folk music.

Website: www.harbottleandjonas.com

Available Dates: Jan-April 2020

Accommodation: Required for 2 people

Performance Space: 9ft x 7ft

Running time: 120 mins

Interval: Yes

Get In and Out Time: 2 hrs (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: All ages

Full Price: £400

Reduced Price: £250 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



Spitz & Co | *Les Gloriables*

Inspired by Victor Hugo's Les Miserables

Legendary French actress Gloria Delaneuf has created a life-changing piece of theatre which will reunite Europe. She has dreamed a dream, and her hapless assistant Josephine has promised to build a barricade. Expect a master class in mutiny - French style. Vive la Revolution!

Les Gloriables is a riotously silly, very physical and highly visual theatre show, created by award-winning French/English female comedy duo Spitz & Co. This show is the third in their trilogy, following on from *Gloriator* and *Gorilla*. Two shows that gained them a fantastic reputation in village halls across SW England, where audiences adore their humour.

"Catch them now before they're selling out the Albert Hall!" Mel Giedroyc

"I have never seen a piece of theatre three times and still cried my eyes out with laughter...until now." Audience member

"Riotous slapstick and immaculate comic timing." The Stage

Website: www.spitzandco.com

Available Dates: 30 Jan-9 Feb 2020, plus other dates

Accommodation: Required for 3 people

Performance Space: 16ft x 16ft x 10ft

Running time: 70 mins

Interval: No

Get In and Out Time: 4 hrs (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: 13+ (but younger children welcome)

Full Price: £750

Reduced Price: £300 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



Protein | *The Little Prince*

The world famous story for all ages 5-105 yrs

Welcome to the incredible story of *The Little Prince*, retold in this dance and theatre show by a pilot stranded in the desert. Find out how the Little Prince leaves behind his own tiny asteroid and beloved rose and journeys through the universe, coming face to face with the baffling world of grown-ups!

Have you ever heard of a king who reigns over nothing? Or a business man obsessively counting stars? Upon landing on planet Earth, the Little Prince is welcomed by a mysterious snake and a truly wise and friendly fox before encountering the lone pilot. Together they discover the power and beauty of friendship and the complexity of love.

Based on the world-famous story by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, *The Little Prince* is brought to life using Protein's award-winning mix of dance, humour and spoken word. Protein's new show invites us to look at the world through one's heart and to reconnect with our inner child.

"St-Exupéry's enigmatic tale... delivered with quirky charm." **The Observer**

Website:	www.proteindance.co.uk
Available Dates:	2 Feb 2020
Accommodation:	For 5 people but might not be required
Performance Space:	20ft x 24ft on wooden floor with audience in horseshoe shape
Running time:	90 mins
Interval:	Built into the performance
Get In and Out Time:	4-5 hrs (get out 2 hrs)
Target Audience:	All ages
Full Price:	£650
Reduced Price:	£300 minimum
Recommended Adult Ticket Price:	£10 (Children £4)





Nick Cassenbaum | *Bubble Schmeisis*

‘Bubblemeises’ is Yiddish, it translates as a ‘grandmother’s story’

Writer and street performer Nick Cassenbaum, alongside two live klezmer musicians, invites you into the warmth of the Canning Town Schvitz, East London’s last authentic bath house. Admidst the steam and ritual Nick will take you on a journey to find the place he belongs. Schlapping through summer camps, barber shops and Spurs games. Will he find what he was looking for?

Bubble Schmeisis is full of intimate and personal true stories about identity, home and getting schmeised (washed) by old men. The show changes depending on who is in the audience and how they respond, leaving no performance the same.

Nick is a storyteller, street performer and theatre maker. He also has an MA in Writing for Performance. He writes plays and performs solo shows, working for many top theatres including Battersea Arts Centre, the Royal Court and Soho Theatre amongst others.

“I saw this production at a showcase last summer and loved it’s humour, it’s music and it’s insight into a world I know nothing about.” Sarah Peterkin, Take Art

Website: www.nickcassenbaum.com

Available Dates: 3 Feb-15 March

Accommodation: Required for 4 people

Performance Space: 12ft x 12ft

Running time: 70 mins

Interval: No

Get In and Out Time: 3 hrs (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: 14+

Full Price: £700

Reduced Price: £300 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



WÖR | *Back to the 1780's!*

If it sounded good back then, why not today?

Almost 300 years ago, some musicians from around Antwerp, Brussels, Gent and Leuven decided to write down their favourite music. As time passed, however, the paper turned yellow, the ink began to fade, and the music itself was left to gather dust along with the faded manuscripts.

That is, until now! With their finely textured arrangements WÖR injects new energy into 18th-century tunes from the Flanders region of Belgium. Their music shines an inventive spotlight, with a modern twist, on tunes from these manuscripts. Playing saxophone, fiddle, accordion, guitar and bagpipes, these five young Belgian musicians will pull a crowd from far and wide. WÖR released two albums *Back to the 1780's* and *Sssht* and have toured throughout Europe and America, including at the famous Shetland Folk Festival. They will be back in Somerset for a second year running by popular demand.

"An absolute treat of a night." Langport promoter

"A brilliant evening, people were raving about it for weeks....many could not believe such an event was in our village hall." Hatch Beauchamp promoter

Website: www.wearewor.com

Available Dates: 5-9 Feb 2020

Accommodation: Required for 6 people

Performance Space: 18ft x 7ft

Running time: 2 x 45 mins sets

Interval: Yes

Get In and Out Time: 3 hrs (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: All ages

Full Price: £750

Reduced Price: £500 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10-£12



Mr & Mrs Clark | *Louder is Not Always Clearer*

A true funny story for hearing and non-hearing audiences alike

Meet Jonny. Jonny is a teacher, a workshop leader and an avid football fan. He's an artist, a campaigner and he's just become a father. He is also deaf. He loves to dance, but he can't hear the music unless the bass is turned right up.

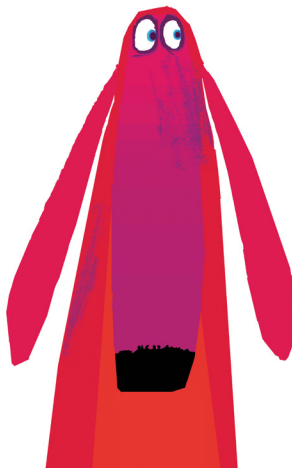
Jonny was born deaf and grew up in a hearing family, surrounded by hearing friends who did not use the word deaf. In fact, some of those people didn't know Jonny was deaf until they saw this show. *Louder is Not Always Clearer* is about the importance of connecting with others and how hard it can be to do so. It's the story of one man, who despite appearing to be sociable and confident is also vulnerable and at times isolated. It's the very human story of trying to fit into a world when you don't quite match the mould. In a hearing world, Jonny is different and *Louder Is Not Always Clearer* highlights those differences in a warm and humorous way.

Using projection and mime, dance and drawing along with Johnny's natural charm and humour this show brings the audience together, he has them singing and sign-ing along in no time. He is very keen to share his practice with any local deaf schools and groups.

"Simply I was moved. Thank you for your bravery in sharing your world with us."
Audience Member

Website: www.mrandmrsclark.co.uk
Available Dates: 13 Mar 2020
Accommodation: For 4 people, might not be required
Performance Space: 13ft x 13ft
Running time: 80 mins
Interval: Yes
Get In and Out Time: 4 hrs (get out 1 hr)
Target Audience: 14+
Full Price: £650
Reduced Price: £300 minimum
Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10





Can't Sit Still | *Oh no, George!*

***George really wants to be good.
But George has seen a cake.
What will George do?***

Oh no, George! is the delightfully playful tale of a dog who wants to be good but just can't resist temptation. Adapted from the award winning book by Chris Haughton, this brand new stage adaptation for 3-7 year olds uses acrobatics, slapstick comedy and live music to bring George's struggle with his willpower to life.

Oh no, George! has been commissioned by ARC Stockton and The Civic in Barnsley. The show is created by Can't Sit Still, a Bristol based circus theatre company who tell stories, start conversations and try to change the world! This production follows the success of *Plink and Boo* in 2018-19, which toured to 20 theatres, libraries and community centres, playing to over 2000 people.

"An important, thought provoking, entertaining piece of theatre that encourages audiences to think outside the box." Children's Theatre Reviews on *Plink and Boo*

Website: www.cantsitstill.net
Available Dates: 14/15 and 21/22 March 2020
Accommodation: Unlikely to be required
Performance Space: 20ft x 20ft
Running time: 60 mins
Interval: No
Get In and Out Time: 3 hrs (get out 1 hr)
Target Audience: 3-7 year olds and their families
Full Price: £550
Reduced Price: £220 minimum
Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £6 (Children £4)



JOHN PEEL'S SHED

John Osborne | *John Peel's Shed*

One of the loveliest things you'll see all year

Writer and theatre maker John Osborne returns to the stage, this time with his Edinburgh sell-out show *John Peel's Shed*. A storytelling show about radio, music and a whole heap of records.

In 2002 John won a competition on John Peel's BBC Radio show; his prize was a box of records that took eight years to listen to. This is an ode to radio, to those records and to anyone who's every sought solace in the wireless. Featuring a selection of the records previously owned by the late and infamous John Peel, many of which are very rare recordings by obscure and now defunct bands, this is a unique opportunity for any Peel fans. The show was broadcast on BBC Radio 4 and has performed at Glastonbury, Soho Theatre and across the country. It is an absolute favourite on the rural touring scene.

"Beautifully written, funny and poignant" **The Scotsman.**

*"I could have listened for hours" ****** **The Independent**

"An absolute treat" **Greg James, Radio 1**

Website: www.johnosbornewriter.com

Available Dates: March-April 2020

Accommodation: Required for 1 person

Performance Space: 6ft x 6ft

Running time: 90 mins

Interval: Yes

Get In and Out Time: 1 hr (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: All ages

Full Price: £450

Reduced Price: £250 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



Teater DOS | *Sitaraha - The Stars*

Powerful stories of Afghanistan women with song and dance

Sitaraha – The Stars is the story of three women living in three different historical periods in Afghanistan. They have all experienced war throughout their lives, and been oppressed by religion and power. They all try to keep their stories alive as they intertwine their dances and songs together.

The first is Halima: a young woman awaiting her execution sometime in the 2000s. She has been charged with adultery and sentenced to death by stoning. The second is Gul Begum: a young woman who has lost all her family members in the war in 1892, becoming a slave of the war lords. And the third is Sara: a woman affected by the civil war during the 1980s. Women and their stories have forever been suppressed and restrained in Afghanistan. Monirah Hashemi is an actor and playwright who uses film and theatre to help women build their self confidence, express their ideas and stand up for human rights. Monirah left Afghanistan six years ago to start her life in Sweden where she has been working with Riksteatern Värmland and Teater DOS.

“This is obviously a challenging piece of work. But it is powerful and feels important to see. I saw it in Sweden in March 2019 where a small village hall audience all rose to their feet to give the actor a standing ovation.” Sarah Peterkin, Take Art

Website: www.teaterdos.se

Available Dates: 24-28 April 2020

Accommodation: Required for 2 people

Performance Space: 17ft x 17ft

Running time: 60 mins

Interval: No

Get In and Out Time: 3 hrs (get out 1 hr)

Target Audience: 16+

Full Price: £700

Reduced Price: £300 minimum

Recommended Adult Ticket Price: £10



CALL OUT TO PROMOTERS AND PUBLICANS!

Do you fancy hosting an original live event in your local with Take Art this year?

Last year Take Art was part of an exciting new project, The Inn Crowd, giving our promoters the opportunity to host live performances in Somerset pubs.

It was a huge success. Over the season we had 6 shows in 4 village pubs - all of which were terrific nights with capacity audiences. The landlords were really pleased and have said they would be delighted to repeat the experience.

The Inn Crowd is organised by our partner rural touring schemes in Kent (Applause) and Norfolk (Creative Arts East). We are awaiting news to see if they have been successful in a new Arts Council grant to extend the project over the next four years.

If they receive good news, then Take Art has been invited to be a key partner for Somerset again. Please let us know if you would like to take advantage of this opportunity by ticking the Inn Crowd box on the booking form.



Why not self-promote your own shows

by Somerset Theatre Companies and Musicians

Somerset is blessed with dozens of excellent musicians and a growing number of excellent theatre companies and performers. We can put you in touch with some great performers who you could book directly and independently. Contact Sarah Peterkin to discuss on **01460 249450** or email **sarah@takeart.org**

Take Art

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



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