



AIR *in* **G**
ARTS IN RURAL
Gloucestershire

SUPPORTING LIVE ARTS EVENTS ON YOUR DOORSTEP



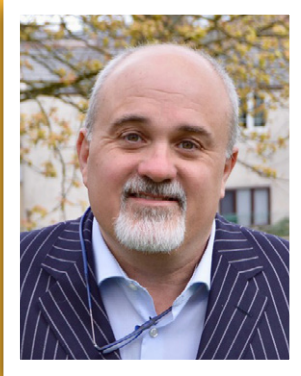
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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

PROMOTER'S BROCHURE 2023-24

Follow us on  

WELCOME TO AIR IN G

ARTS IN RURAL GLOUCESTERSHIRE



Welcome to our 22nd season!

The last year has been very busy with some great performances taking place the length and breadth of Gloucestershire. We also have some good news to share as we were once again successful in securing funding from Arts Council England to continue our rural touring activity. This will mean we will be able to promote shows through till 2026. We were also awarded additional money to bring our Youth Theatre back to the Forest of Dean so work is now well underway preparing for a launch later this year.

We hope we'll see some new promoters join the AIR in G family this year and inside this guide you'll find all the exciting shows available for booking between September 2023 to May 2024. They're all great but we're particularly delighted to welcome back a few old friends including David Mynne with his fabulous version of **The Canterbury Tales**, and Lempen Puppets with their new show **Flotsam and Jetsam**. In the music section **Jazz Dynamos** are new to rural touring but this five-piece band who take well known songs from the 70s and 80s and transform them with a mix of jazz, bossa and samba are sure to become firm favourites. Fronted by world class vocalist Lucy Randell, Jazz Dynamos have performed sold out shows at the legendary Ronnie Scott's and Pizza Express in London.

As usual you'll also find a selection of wonderful theatre from some of the country's most progressive and acclaimed companies as well as music, dance, puppetry and storytelling from all over the world. Thank you for all the feedback you send on AIR in G performances. It's greatly appreciated. Remember we're always more than happy to answer any questions you may have, either by phone or email, so please do get in touch if anything in this 'menu' needs further explanation. In the meantime we hope we get the chance to see you all again very soon and look forward to bringing top quality entertainment to the village hall near you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Ed O'Driscoll'.

Ed O'Driscoll

AIR in G administrator

AIR in G is supported by:



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

AIR in G is very grateful for support in the last year from:

Cinderford Town Council
Coleford Town Council
The National Rural Touring Forum

THE SHOW MUST GO ON.

WHO ARE WE?

AIR in G is an independent company that operates with the support of Arts Council England and various Parish Councils throughout the County. Our Board of Directors includes a village hall promoter and professionals from a range of backgrounds.

Ed O'Driscoll, an independent arts producer based in Ross-on-Wye, administers the scheme. He has particular experience in rural and community touring and will be your point of contact, should you wish to be involved.

WHAT DOES AIR IN G DO?

AIR in G takes away the risk for promoters by offering a substantial guarantee against loss for each event booked through us. This means you can host a performance that you might otherwise avoid because of worries over the cost.

For instance, look through the brochure for a performance you want to book. The scheme allows you to book it for a subsidised fee (shown in this brochure), which, as we continue to rebuild after the COVID outbreak, is only 50% of the full cost.

If your event fails to sell well you only need to pay this minimum fee and the scheme covers the remaining costs. However, once ticket sales exceed the minimum guarantee we ask you to pay us back 90% of your ticket sales up to, but never exceeding, the actual cost of the act. This means if an event sells well and you cover the full cost of the act you only pay AIR in G the actual cost of the act and keep any additional money for your community. For example, if you sell £900 worth of tickets and the act costs AIR in G £600, you keep the difference (£300).

Besides the financial guarantee against loss, we can also provide you with information on performance content, quality, and technical requirements. On your behalf we liaise with, and negotiate artist fees and availability, contract their services, and are able to help your event with marketing.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Look through the brochure and decide which performer suits your planned event. Then, using the form provided, let us know who you are interested in booking. Please do indicate first and second choices.

We'll do our best to ensure you get what you want. All the performers listed in the brochure specify their actual performance price so you know precisely how much each of them will cost. Of course, if you are unsure of anything then do contact us.

CONTACT US:

Ed O'Driscoll (AIR in G)
Chasewood Lodge
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Ross-on-Wye
HR9 5PQ

Telephone: 01989 566644

E-mail: admin@airing.co.uk

Website: www.airing.co.uk

PERFORMING FOR YOU!

SEE WHAT WE HAVE IN STORE FOR YOU INSIDE ...

CABARET

CABARET WITH CLAWS

CHARLIE BICKNELL



Mixing wicked humour and eclectic jazz and cabaret, interspersed with jaw-dropping circus in solo performances and ensemble creations, Charlie's shows receive critical acclaim and, just as importantly, foot-stamping encores.

In 'Cabaret with Claws' Charlie and cohort Louise Innes present twisted takes on familiar themes, with Tim Minchin, Phil Nichols and Bonnie Tyler influences thrown in.

Charlie Bicknell has performed all over the world, from London, to Dubai, Hong Kong and , Sydney, Louise Innes with the ENO, ROC and 10 Downing Street to name a few.

"Witty, wanton, wonderful—Charlie Bicknell's new show is cabaret with claws. She's a heady, edgy high octane mix of English rose, vamp and Cruella, shamelessly sexy, murderously funny. You have been warned. Roses have thorns."

SUE ARNOLD THE OBSERVER

£950: Cost to AIRinG
£475: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: 2 twins
Duration: 1x 80mins + 10min interval
HxDxW: 4m x 2.5m x 2.5m.
Technical: Self-contained.
Age Group: 14 years and above.
Availability: Mid-September onwards (Xmas show).
Website: www.charliebicknell.com

DANCE

AND

CHARLOTTE MCLEAN



A dance poem about wonder, worries and being alive.

A homage to the mothers and grandmothers who have danced before us and the children we are yet to meet. AND invites us to consider our view of the world, to relate, debate and dance.

Using honesty, charisma and humour, Scottish dance artist Charlotte Mclean weaves contemporary and highland dance with personal stories, political commentary and spoken word.

Exploring being, belonging, friends, family, politics, climate change, independence and reproductive rights to deliver an exciting, empowering and fierce performance.

"... exhilarating ... jaw-droppingly bold and clever."

THE SCOTSMAN

"McLean delicately weaves spoken word, political commentary and personal anecdotes with beautiful, eruptive pockets of dance."

DANCEARTJOURNAL

£600: Cost to AIRinG
£300: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: 2-3 singles
Duration: 55mins
DxW: 4m x 5m.
Technical: Self-contained.
Age Group: 14 years and above
Availability: October 2023 (Speak with AIRinG office)
Website: www.iamcharlottemclean.com

DANCE

DESERT ISLAND FLICKS

SPIITMILK DANCE



A blockbuster, adventure and rom com rolled into one, *Desert Island Flicks* sees two leading ladies reimagine, remake and spoof 90 (ninety!) of the most memorable movie moments of all time in just 90 minutes, taking on all the lead roles, stunts, and special effects!

From timeless classics to modern-day marvels, the show celebrates how iconic characters and thrilling plot twists have captured imaginations the world over, bringing people together to laugh, cry, and cheer along in a room full of strangers.

Somewhere between a dance performance, sketch show, a night at the movies and an epic game of charades, *Desert Island Flicks* shines a spotlight on life lessons learnt from the big screen, all set to a sensational soundtrack.

"Proper laugh out loud funny, my face hurts from smiling so much. Uplifting, clever and brilliant."

"Mind bogglingly brilliant! Fast-moving, supercharged fun and brilliant performers!"

AUDIENCE REVIEWS FOR
DESERT ISLAND FLICKS

£750: Cost to AIRinG
£375: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: 3 singles or 1 single + twin
Duration: 90mins + 20min interval.
HxDxW: 3m x 3m x 4m.
Technical: Self-contained.
Age Group: 8 years and above.
Availability: 12-15 Oct/Generally in Spring.
Website: www.spiltmilkdance.co.uk

DANCE

MAY CONTAIN
FOOD, MAY
CONTAIN YOU

LUCA SILVESTRINI'S PROTEIN



© Chris Nash

Join award winning *Protein* for a highly entertaining evening with friends and family. Transforming your local hall into a restaurant, you are invited to sit around decorated tables to watch and digest the performance that unfolds around you.

Your charming and multi-talented hosts will win your affections with a playful mix of dances, songs and humorous monologues. Food will certainly be on the menu, as the performance involves amuse-bouches and baking a scrumptious sticky ginger pudding for everyone to share!

With a raffle orchestrated by the performers during the interval, this sumptuous evening promises to make you smile, and enjoy the curious relationship we have with food.

"A lip-smacking fusion of song, dance, mime and sweet aperitif tomatoes."

THE GUARDIAN

"Excellent, beautiful singing, music, theatre, dance and food. What more could you want?"

AUDIENCE MEMBER,
GRITTLETON VILLAGE HALL

£750: Cost to AIRinG
£375: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: 4 singles.
Duration: 90mins inc. interval.
HxDxW: 5m x 5m x 6m.
Technical: Self-contained.
Age Group: 12 years and above.
Availability: Spring 2024. (Speak with AIRinG office).
Website: www.proteindance.co.uk/production/food/

FAMILY

BARON
MUNCHHAUSEN

OH SO FUNNY COMEDY



The extraordinary time-travelling adventures of Baron Munchausen is like *Jackanory* meets *Whose Line Is It Anyway*, Live. The cast are challenged to tell increasingly extravagant tales all based on *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen*. All they have are their wits, a box of silly hats, and the imaginations of a room full of giggling children to ensure that the stories end happily ever after.

The show is a proven success, both artistically and commercially and won 'Best Children's Show' at the Leicester Comedy Festival 2020; won 'Best Kid's Show' at the Greater Manchester Fringe 2019; and nominated for an Edinburgh Bobby Award at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2022.

"A joyous show of wit, sparkle and simple happiness."

BROADWAY BABY

"The whole thing is a blast!"

FESTMAG

£650: Cost to AIRinG
£375: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: 3 or 4 singles.
Duration: 60mins (no interval)
HxDxW: 2m x 2m x 3m.
Technical: Self-contained.
Age Group: 6-12 years and their adults.
Availability: Generally available.
Website: www.timetravellingbaron.com

FAMILY

FLOTSAM AND
JETSAM

LEMPEN PUPPET THEATRE COMPANY



Flotsam is soft, flexible, laid back. She slides and glides through life on the ice. Jetsam is the opposite, his insectile body is stiff and nervy, alert and watchful, suspicious of all in his forest home.

And then comes the weather ... and they are both cast adrift in a world that is strange to them and full of a range of dangers. Finally washed up on the same island beach they must discover the other and work out how they can work together.

A hopeful, adventure story about two very different creatures that must learn to work together.

Visual theatre with original music and delightful puppetry.

"I thought the show was engaging, colourful and just the right length for children. It was also funny and touching. The professionalism of the puppetry was exceptional. I loved the bit where Jetsam was running against the storm. The work on his body and limbs were just so realistically done, we could feel the wind with him!"

LAUREN JACKSON, EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR,
THE MUNI, COLNE

£600: Cost to AIRinG
£300: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: 1 double.
Duration: 50mins (no interval).
Ideal HxDxW: 2.7m x 4.5m x 5.0m.
Technical: Self-contained.
Age Group: 4-104 years and above.
Availability: Generally available.
Website: www.lempen.co.uk/page2.html

FAMILY

THE TAP DANCING MERMAID

TESSA BIDE PRODUCTIONS



© Paul Blakemore

It's time to hear the Moon's story, one you will NEVER forget.

Gather round for the Moon's magical story about a tippetty-top tap dancer who he has been watching at night. Marina Skippett creeps out of her house every night to shuffle and stomp on the boardwalk to the sounds of the sea. She can't tap dance at home any more since her evil, tractor-sized Aunty banned it!

One moonlit night, Marina meets a mysterious, watery boy swimming in the sea and her life is never the same again.

Featuring stunning puppets, original live music and tap dancing that will make you want to stick 50ps to your shoes and join in!

"The Tap Dancing Mermaid is the perfect example of a show where the adults are just as enthralled as the kids. This is just everything a children's theatre experience should be."

£650: Cost to AIRinG

£325: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: N/A.

Duration: 45 mins plus post show meet.

HxDxW: 3m x 3m x 4m.

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: 3 years and above.

Availability: Generally available.

Website: <https://tessabide.com/shows/the-tap-dancing-mermaid/>

FAMILY

WILL TELL AND THE BIG RED BARON

THEATRE FIDERI FIDERA



Join plucky heroine Will as disguised as a knight she rides off on her donkey Rosina to rescue her folk hero dad Wilhelm Tell from the wicked Baron Boris's deepest darkest dungeon.

Inspired by the exploits of her father and the tales of Robin Hood and Sir Lancelot, Will knows all about standing up to tyrants but nothing has prepared her for when the Baron's daughter Edel falls madly in love with her and wants to be rescued too. But can Will, with just pots and pans for armour and a farm donkey for a steed, rescue Edel and defeat the Big Bad Baron?

A fun-filled comic adventure for family audiences with capers around castles, damsels in distress, a jaw-dropping joust with life-size horse puppets—woven together with engaging storytelling and catchy original songs.

"A cracking show delivering the right dose of comedy magic. The adults in the audience were laughing as much as the kids."

EDINBURGH LIFE WITH KIDS

"A great family show. Highly recommended."

FRINGE REVIEW

£600: Cost to AIRinG

£300: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: 1 double + 1 single.

Duration: 60mins + interval (if required).

Ideal HxDxW: 3m x 4.5m x 7m (can work smaller).

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: 3 years and above.

Availability: Jan-Mar 23.

Website: <https://www.fiderifidera.com>

MUSIC

CHURCHFITTERS



They're not fitters and have absolutely nothing to do with churches. The name's origin is lost in the mists of time but there is one aspect that suits them perfectly—its quirkiness.

When your array of instruments includes a motorcycle petrol tank, a musical saw and a Mercedes Benzouki made from hubcaps there's little point worrying if the name makes sense!

Saucepan dulcimer, petrol tank bass, bing-bong machine and magic boots all join some more conventional instruments (fiddle, banjo, sax and whistle to name a few) to back Rosie Short's sublime voice.

These three flamboyant characters present their uplifting and entertaining show with a unique dynamism and describe their music as 'Folk Unlimited'.

Mike Harding calls it "Brilliant and beautiful", while Dave Pegg says they are "The most musically inventive group I've seen in decades".

"I went to Poppleton near York last night to see the Churchfitters they were stunning, a packed hall cheered them to the roof slates. Get to see them if you can they are so talented—brilliant musicians and great entertainers."

MIKE HARDING

£700: Cost to AIRinG

£350: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: N/A.

Duration: 2 x 45mins + interval.

Ideal HxDxW: 2m x 3m x 4m.

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: All ages and above.

Availability: Generally available.

Website: www.churchfitters.com

CORACLE



Coracle are Paul Hutchinson, Karen Wimbhurst, Anna Tam. Together they bring together the talents, imagination and creativity of three artists with vastly different backgrounds, who through their love of traditional music cut through with experimentation, boldness, humour and risk.

Expect ethereal to turn gusty, passion to be tempered by a good laugh and a tide of improvisation which means no two evenings are the same. Be thrilled by the silvery voice of Anna Tam, the free flowing mix of reeds, clarinet and accordion, cello, nyckelharpa, viola da gamba and hurdy gurdy.

With the British folk tradition at its heart, eddies of contemporary and classical, splashes of early music ebbs and flows, squalls and flurries—each gig is a exhilarating a journey of exploration and enjoyment.

"A wonderful blend of harmonies from many different backgrounds and ages. Anna's singing was divine and the audience were intrigued by the variety of instruments."

SIDMOUTH ACOUSTIC CLUB

£650: Cost to AIRinG

£325: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: N/A.

Duration: 2 x 45mins + 20min interval.

Ideal HxDxW: We can make do with anything!

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: Children welcome.

Availability: Generally available.

Website: www.coracleband.co.uk

FAITH I BRONKI



Fifteen years ago, UK born musician Faith met and married the Serbian Romani violinist Branko Ristic, resulting in the birth of an utterly unique and artistic musical union.

Bringing their own distinctive musical, cultural and personal stories into their music, this union has so far resulted in international tours, albums and an award-winning documentary on *Al-Jazeera*.

Leading Serbian Roma violinist Branko Ristic—a 'performer that Paganini would be proud of' [BBC Radio 3], and British 'passionate nimble-fingered accordionist' Faith Ristic [ABC Radio, Australia] perform virtuosic and original Roma-influenced music with their international quartet.

"These virtuosic performers are a major discovery this year."

THE GUARDIAN

"Moving, breath-taking and virtuosic."

BBC RADIO 3

£900: Cost to AIRinG

£450: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: 4 singles or 2 twins.

Duration: 2 x 45mins + 20min interval.

Ideal HxDxW: 3m x 3m x 3m.

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: Loved by all ages.

Availability: Generally available.

Website: www.faithibronki.com

JAZZ DYNAMOS



The five-piece band, *Jazz Dynamos* take well known songs from the 70s and 80s, transforming them with a mix of jazz, bossa and samba. Their unique set of exuberant, original contemporary jazz arrangements includes hits by Dolly Parton, Madonna, U2, The Police, A-HA and Britney Spears.

Fronted by world class vocalist Lucy Randell, *Jazz Dynamos* have performed sold out shows at the legendary Ronnie Scott's and Pizza Express Jazz Clubs in London as well as festivals in UK, Italy, Sweden, France, Norway and Bulgaria, and at private events for British and Hollywood Royalty.

"When I saw you play, you truly blew me away."

MUSIC EDITOR OF THE INDEPENDENT

"These are artistic re-imaginings of songs, many of which are better than the originals and the breadth of the extensive repertoire is staggering."

MIKE WELLS, THE REVIEWS HUB

£900: Cost to AIRinG

£450: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: 5 singles (liaise with AIRinG)

Duration: 2 x 45mins + interval. Flexible.

Ideal HxDxW: 2.4m x 3m x 5m.

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: All ages.

Availability: Generally available (except Oct/Nov).

Website: www.jazzdynamos.co.uk/home

MUSIC

KATHRYN ROBERTS AND SEAN LAKEMAN



Kathryn and Sean are one of the most popular and respected acts on the British Folk scene.

Their live performance brings a feeling of inclusivity and informality whilst showcasing a variety of music from old traditional ballads to self penned 'story songs'.

Performed to the highest standard on guitar and piano the duo have been twice recognised as 'Best Duo' at the BBC Folk Awards (2016 and 2013).

The couple provide an enjoyable evening's entertainment for all ages and living in a rural area themselves (Dartmoor) they understand the importance of bringing live music to small communities.

"It's folk music for the modern age."

THE TELEGRAPH (LONDON)

"These guys are something very special."

ACOUSTIC MAGAZINE

£650: Cost to AIRinG

£325: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: N/A.

Duration: 2 x 45mins + 15min interval.

HxDxW: 3m x 2m x 3m.

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: 6-106 years and above.

Availability: Nov 2023-Mar 2024.

Website: www.kathrynrobertsandseanlakeman.com

MUSIC

MUMBO-JUMBO



Mumbo-Jumbo have been on the edge of the big time for over 40 years.

Writing, performing, touring and entertaining crowds all their lives, our three musical heroes bring all that experience and fun to your village hall!

You will hear: the song that nearly made it to the *Eurovision Song Contest* ... but didn't; the song written for the *Mavericks* ... but they didn't record it; why they were twice nominated in the British Blues Awards ... but have yet to win one; how they were asked to write the song for the national VE Day celebrations ... but COVID got them cancelled.

"Excellent music, witty banter and audience participation."

LIVE & LOCAL PROMOTER

"A brilliant evening! Lots of happy folk leaving our village hall last night."

AIR IN G PROMOTER

£600: Cost to AIRinG

£300: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: N/A.

Duration: 2 x 45mins.

Ideal HxDxW: 2.5m x 4m x 6m.

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: 30-45, but all ages.

Availability: Generally 2024. Limited 2023.

Website: www.mumbo-jumbo.biz

MUSIC

PAPRIKA



Paprika is the UK's leading Balkan band. It consists of an accordion, violin, guitar, and percussion.

This electrifying group fuses 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 in high-energy sets from this exciting group.

The show guides the audience through the Balkans, showcasing different styles and rhythms with tunes you have to simply dance to, as well as more slow-paced and gentle pieces.

"Paprika's critically acclaimed performance at the Songlines Encounters Festival at Kings Place in June 2013 (where they performed alongside She'Koyokh and Yurodny) caused quite a stir with one audience member in particular, Classical Superstar Nigel Kennedy being 'knocked out' by what he heard."

SIMON BROUGHTON (EDITOR IN CHIEF, SONGLINES WORLD MUSIC MAGAZINE)

£800: Cost to AIRinG

£400: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: 4 singles or 2 twins.

Duration: 2 x 45mins + 20min interval.

HxDxW: 2m x 2m x 3m.

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: All ages.

Availability: Sep 2023 to Mar 2024.

Website: www.paprikamusic.com

THEATRE

CANTERBURY TALES

DAVID MYNNE



From the company that brought you *A Christmas Carol*, *Dracula*, and *The Odyssey* comes a one-man performance of *The Canterbury Tales*. 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 archaic naughtiness and nonsense. Possibly tights, and a codpiece! Definitely medieval swearing! Let's party like it's 1387!

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

"A Christmas Carol was beautiful—apparently simple theatre with just one actor but you go home remembering a cast of dozens! He is a genius."

RICHARD WOLFENDEN-BROWN:
DIRECTOR THE PLOUGH ARTS CENTRE

"Mynne's performance is exquisite: a masterclass in the telling of tales."

CIARAN CLARKE: ARTS END OF NOWHERE
(ON 'DRACULA')

£600: Cost to AIRinG

£300: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: N/A.

Duration: 75mins approx. Interval if required.

Ideal HxDxW: 2.5m x 3m x 3m.

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: Older children and adults.

Availability: Oct/Nov 2023.

Website: www.davidmynne.com

THEATRE

HELP I THINK I'M A NATIONALIST

SEAMAS CAREY



From Seamas Carey (creator of *The Reason Why* podcast), comes the controversial sell-out comedy show on identity, second homes, xenophobia, and bagpipes.

Cornwall is at a tipping point. House prices soar, the population shifts, tensions rise.

Seamas Carey is confused. He is desperately trying to understand. He's watched a wave of gentrification sweep through his rural hometown. There's nowhere to live, yet second homes stand empty.

Could closing borders be the answer? Where's the line between pride and power? What happens when it all goes too far?

Seamas needs help. He needs your help.

"It deftly and hilariously opens up discussion around displacement, identity, gentrification, borders—it's specificity helps the show to find a root and relationship to wherever it might be performed; we as an audience are poked to consider our own versions of Seamas' experience. It may seem to be about Cornish nationalism, but it is also a relentless satire of nationalism full stop."

BEN ATTERBURY: BRISTOL OLD VIC.

£700: Cost to AIRinG

£350: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: 2 singles.

Duration: 75mins (no interval).

HxDxW: 5m x 5m x 5m (can work with smaller).

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: 16 years and above.

Availability: Mid October–December 2023.

Website: www.seamascareymusic.com

THEATRE

JONNY FLUFFYPUNK



Stand-up poet, storyteller and lo-fi theatremaker *Jonny Fluffypunk* is back with a show about finding the hero inside yourself, without involving M-People.

Inspired by lockdowns, ancient myths, and *Grayson Perry's Art Club*, it's a celebration of our tiny victories; it's about love and strength and finding some sort of meaning. By turns funny, absurd, and touching, there's a pilgrimage across London with a dead dog, the tragedy of throwing your childhood home into a skip, and a midnight epiphany on a traffic island.

What it's really about is us fragile humans, and the ways we find to cope with it all.

"Acute social observation, intricate humour, surreal fantasy, sharp irony and wit ... and England's most pretentious moustache."

THE INDEPENDENT

"Sublime ... well-crafted, tender and life-affirming. Highly Recommended."

FRINGEREVIEW

£350: Cost to AIRinG

£175: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: N/A.

Duration: 20 mins warm up, then interval, followed by 60 mins.

HxDxW: 3m x 2m x 3m.

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: 14 years and above.

Availability: Generally available.

Website: www.jonnyfluffypunk.co.uk/about/

THEATRE

NIKIPEDIA

NIKKY SMEDLEY AND ROB WILKINSON



It's time to meet Laa Laa!

Sit tight for a whirlwind tour through the worlds of music, dance, the early days of alternative comedy, the rough end of 1980s London and the fun of 1990s Teletubbyland.

Nikky Smedley has lived through it all—and the audience get to choose what brutally honest tales she tells.

Some are funny, some are touching, some are tragic and some absurd, reminding us that all our lives are full of such stories.

Where Wikipedia is shared knowledge; *Nikipedia* is shared histories. The audience become part of one woman's crusade to connect us through stories extraordinary and everyday.

"At the heart of Nikipedia are the stories told by an expert storyteller but chosen by the audience; sometimes harrowing, sometimes funny, always honest. Each performance is unique as Nikky leads them through her fascinating career. It is inimitable, interactive and eminently stageable in village halls."

JOHN LAIDLAW MBE—LIVE AND LOCAL

£650: Cost to AIRinG

£325: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: 2 singles.

Duration: 110mins including interval.

Ideal HxDxW: 3m x 4m x 4m.

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: 18 years and above.

Availability: Generally available.

Website: www.nikipedia.online

THEATRE

SHAKESPEARE'S FOOL

TORTIVE THEATRE



Will Kempe was one of the finest performers of the Elizabethan age. Gentleman player, juggling jester, headmaster of Morris dancers and London's finest clown. Until, that is, he fell out with Will 'git-face' Shakespeare.

Kempe died alone and poverty stricken, not far from the original *Globe Theatre*, of which he was an original shareholder and faded into obscurity, a world away from his former life of superstardom.

Join him on the streets of London as he gives his final performance to an audience of a mouse and a marotte and tells the tale of his life, his rise to stardom and what really happened between him and William Shakespeare.

A bittersweet tale, told by an idiot.

"Shakespeare's Fool is an economic, classy piece directed robustly by Ben Humphrey and brought to life by a multi-faceted Leetham who embraces the tears of the clown."

BROADWAYBABY.COM

"... lively production, directed with pace and relish by Ben Humphrey ... It's captivating."

EDINBURGH EVENING NEWS

£675: Cost to AIRinG

£340: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: N/A.

Duration: 75mins (no interval).

Ideal HxDxW: Flexible.

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: 14 years and above.

Availability: Generally available.

Website: www.tortivetheatre.com

THEATRE

THREE MEN IN A BOAT

GILES SHENTON PRODUCTIONS



Join Jerome as he recounts the hilarious story of his boating holiday along the magnificent River Thames with his two companions and Montmorency the dog.

Come and join in the fun as Giles Shenton expertly takes the helm and pilots you through the ridiculous tale of men behaving badly while messing about in boats!

"Skilfully distilled from Jerome K. Jerome's comic masterpiece into 100 minutes of pure delight. A master class in confidence, stagecraft and delivery."

OPENING NIGHT REVIEW

"The nearest thing to 'audio slapstick' I've ever heard, culminating in the sublime comedy of opening a tin, when you've forgotten the tin opener."

VERA FLETCHER REVIEW

£600: Cost to AIRinG

£300: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Hospitality: N/A.

Duration: 100mins + 15mins interval

HxDxW: 3m x 4m x 4m.

Technical: Self-contained.

Age Group: 40+ years but OK for all ages.

Availability: Generally Nov 2023–May 2024.

Website: www.gilesshentonproductions.co.uk

MORE...!

AND, TWO ACTS MADE AVAILABLE TO YOU
FOR ANOTHER YEAR BY POPULAR DEMAND ...

CABARET

GRAFFITI CLASSICS

Sixteen strings, eight dancing feet and four voices, all with one aim: to make classical music wickedly funny and exhilarating for young and old alike. *Graffiti Classics* bursts the elitist boundaries of the traditional string quartet with its hilarious all-singing, all-dancing musical comedy show. It's a classical concert, gypsy-folk romp, opera, stand-up comedy and a dance show all rolled into one! There really is something for everyone; *Graffiti Classics* never fails to get audiences laughing, clapping and singing along.

"They had the audience falling off their seats with laughter."

WESTERN GAZETTE

£900: Cost to AIRinG

£450: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Website: www.graffiticlassics.com

MUSIC

FILKIN'S DRIFT

Filkin's Drift are an energetic folk duo whose fiddle and guitar tunes have been igniting audiences across the UK. Meeting in the multicultural city of Birmingham, *Filkin's Drift* weave together intricate melodies from the folklore of their homes, Wales and Gloucestershire. Their music combines the traditional and the contemporary, blending fiddle, guitar, harmonium and mandolin with their close vocal harmonies. Chris and Seth's multi-instrumental abilities combine with a showmanship gained from touring with Giffords Circus.

"Exquisite tune playing mixes effortlessly with irresistible grooves and an engaging chemistry."

DAN WALSH, BBC FOLK AWARDS MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR NOMINEE, URBAN FOLK QUARTET

£550: Cost to AIRinG

£275: Subsidised Minimum Payment

Website: www.filkinsdrift.com

HOW AIR IN G WORKS

What AIR in G does:

- Distributes in May a programme of arts performers available for booking in the 2023–2024 season (September to May)—we call this our 'menu'—together with a booking form.
- Provides applicants with detailed information about AIR in G, performer reviews, demo tapes and publicity photographs if needed.
- Liaises with village promoters to discuss tour details, availability of performers, venue suitability, arrangements and advice if required.
- Gives village promoters written confirmation of bookings and performers' technical or other requirements.
- Contacts artists to provide them with venue address and promoter name and details and issues written contract.
- Arranges publicity material six weeks prior to the event including up to 40 A4 posters and 150 A5 leaflets.
- Provides advice and assistance with marketing and publicity, ticket sales and technical matters when requested.
- Pays an agreed fee to the performers. Invoices the venue for the minimum fee or 90% of gross box office receipts, whichever is the greater.

What village organisations do:

- Chooses and books artists. (It is important to return the enclosed booking form as quickly as possible in order for the tour to be organised. Do ask about extra information on the artists and their show content; they often can provide CDs for you to borrow or links to their work online.)
- Organises the hire and payment of the venue. (Please ensure the venue is appropriately licensed—your local Council can advise you—and complies with alcohol license regulations, theatre license and applicable safety regulations.)
- Agrees ticket prices with AIR in G. Please note that the minimum ticket price is now £12.50 for adults and £8 for children (12 and under).
- Distributes publicity material, advertises the event locally using available media, and organises the sale of tickets. Liaises with AIR in G about press releases for local papers, radio and TV.
- Runs the event on the day. Arranges access for the performers and their equipment (when necessary) to the venue. Organises its volunteer workers for front-of-house etc. Organises refreshments for the audience—a chance to make extra profits for the venue. Hosts the visiting artists—overnight hospitality is often required by performers on tour and most companies appreciate a cup of tea on arrival!
- On receipt of invoice pays the agreed AIR in G fee and returns the survey form detailing audience numbers, income/expenditure figures and any comments.

QUOTES

The evening was brilliant—one of the best we've had. Marvellous music and musicianship.

BROADWELL—TANGO CALOR

Funny as well as outstanding singing and piano. The audience were on board straight away—they loved the show.

WESTCOTE—OPERA DUDES

Glowing Bright was well written and exceptionally well performed. Great Set. It was fabulous to enjoy live theatre in our small community hall.

EDGE—GLOWING BRIGHT

Would have Noble Jacks back anytime.

FRANCE LYNCH—NOBLE JACKS

Filkin's Drift created an excellent atmosphere and the audience were enthralled by their musical skills and charm.

CLIFFORDS MESNE—FILKINS DRIFT

The standing ovation just about sums it up—great audience participation, humour, emotion. An outstanding group of musicians—wonderful, brilliant, marvellous.

SHEEPSCOMBE—GRAFFITI CLASSICS

Very good. One of the best shows ever.

MEYSEY HAMPTON – OLD HERBACEOUS

The band had a great vibe. The audience were dancing and many said they hope we have them back next year.

BROCKWEIR—ROVING CROWS



AIR in
ARTS IN RURAL Gloucestershire
 SUPPORTING LIVE ARTS EVENTS ON YOUR DOORSTEP

AIR in G charity registration number 1104224.

This brochure can be downloaded from the AIR in G website. Also available in large print.

Website: www.airing.co.uk
 Telephone: 01989 566644



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