# Fairytales, Fables & Other Assorted Nonsense

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A story of magic, wonder and rebellion Written & Produced by Assembleth Theatre

LOTTERY FUNDED

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supported by Barbican Theatre Plymouth



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# About the Show

Fairy tales across the land live in fear. Fear for their lives, fear for their freedom and, most importantly, fear for their turnips. Why? Because Little Red Riding Hood has taken control. The once sweet and innocent girl now rules The Fairytale Woods with an iron fist and a mob of incompetent wolves. Everything changes when Susan, our accidental hero, finds herself magically transported to this world of wonder and fantasy. Faced with tax collecting big bad wolves, radical talking pigs, and smorgasbords of poisoned fruit, Susan must try desperately to find a way home. If she starts a revolution along the way, well that can't hurt anyone can it?

Susan must team up with familiar favourites from Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, The Three Little Pigs, Cinderella and more to keep the literal wolves from the door. Ridiculous mishaps, outlandish love stories and a barnyard full of animals that won't stop talking await in Assembleth Theatre's new riotous, rebellious adventure *Fairytales, Fables & Other Assorted Nonsense*.

*Fairytales*, *Fables* & *Other Assorted Nonsense* is supported by Art Council England and Barbican Theatre Plymouth & their young people.





**Key Points** 

- A new take on classic fairy tales.
- The concept has been co-created over 14 weeks with a group of 15-18 year olds, developing a show that is perfect for this age group whilst remaining family friendly.
- Family friendly.
- Physical theatre and farce.
- Normalising and celebrating disability within the performing arts.

# **Target Audiences**

**Families with children aged 8+** - This show is perfect for families with late pre-teens and teenagers. We have found that children of all ages enjoy the more physical and farcical elements, as well as the storyline.

**Teenagers** - Due to the co-creation process *Fairytales*, *Fables* & *Other Assorted Nonsense* explores many themes that are important to teenagers today, including the economic outlook and state of the country. This is done through comedy and fairytales in a way that is perfect for this demographic, as it was created with them.

**Comedy Audiences (including Panto)** – Our work combines fast paced humour, physical comedy & farce. Fans of La Navet Bete, Scratchworks or Mischief Theatre will enjoy our work.

# **Industry Feedback**

"I saw this show in a glorious outdoor setting which seemed perfect for a story about an epic voyage. The Shodyssey is a joyful romp through the Greek tale, and the script and acting are as sharp as the previous work that Assembleth have produced. The comedy was perfectly suited to a family audience, and the company are easy and professional to work with. Highly recommended!" **Claire Marshall - Director, Carn to Cove on The Shodyssey 2022** 

"A very funny and fast-paced show. It's cleverly written, but also very, very, very silly." Fringe Review [The Shodyssey]

"There's carnage, chaos and a huge amount of humour as Assembleth Theatre populate Greece, Troy and a doorless wooden horse." Rated in British Theatre Guides top South West Picks of 2017 British Theatre Guide [The Shodyssey] "The Shodyssey is a hilarious journey through classical mythology, and our rural audiences loved it! The company were self-contained and professional throughout the process and a pleasure to deal with." **Mair George - Director, Villages in Action on The Shodyssey 2022** 



About the Company

Assembleth Theatre are a touring theatre company based in Plymouth. Having originally formed in 2014, they have had success at several national and international festivals, and produced theatre for a local and national stage. They create shows for all ages, bringing laughter to the heart of the theatre. Using traditional stimuli, from Homer to Shakespeare, they tell stories that are accessible to everyone and can travel anywhere. From village halls and traditional auditoriums to First World War diving platforms, they take their unique and fast paced comedy across the country to bring high quality stories to the centre of the community. Assembleth have performed in local, regional and national tours. In 2019 the company were named Thrive Associates at the Barbican Theatre, Plymouth.

An integral aim of Assembleth Theatre is to normalise and celebrate disability within the performing arts for audiences. We've found from conversations with audiences that Cal Moffat (joint company founder), is often the first disabled actor that they've seen onstage, particularly in roles not specifically written for disabled actors, or one of the few. We're proud to show them that disabled people have roles to fulfil in all parts of society, particularly the performing arts.

#### www.assembleththeatre.co.uk



# **Education & Outreach**

Assembleth Theatre are experienced workshop facilitators for both children and adults. *Fairytales, Fables & Other Assorted Nonsense* has two accompanying workshops one for ages 8-14 and one for ages 15-18.

- 8 14 This workshop explores different elements of comedy using fairytales as a basis. It uses drama games and short scripts to allow participants the opportunity to develop their own fairytale story. Suitable for all experiences.
- **15 18** This workshop is based on the co-creation process we delivered with Barbican Theatre, Plymouth. It uses a mix of improv and devising to develop theatre skills. It is suitable for those with no experience of acting but will be more beneficial to those already involved with drama, either in school or youth theatre.

All workshops last 60 minutes, however longer/shorter sessions are available upon request.

In addition, we can tailor sessions for ages 8+ and can provide workshops on one or more of the following areas:

- Adaptation and comedy. Suitable for ages 8 18, how to develop your own comedy through working from a set text.
- **Comedy acting & writing.** Suitable for ages 8 18, this session runs through the basics of how to develop your comedy craft, this workshop works through one or more of Commedia dell'arte, farce and improv.
- Modern Shakespearean comedy. Suitable for 11+ this workshop uses Shakespeare as a basis to develop comedy stories and characters relevant to a modern audience.
- How to produce a fringe show. Suitable for 16+, this workshop is a practical guide built on our knowledge of multiple successful Edinburgh Fringe runs and works through the basics of how to produce a show, how to market it, future life of the work and how to get an audience.

We are also happy to take part in post-show discussions or Q&A sessions, involving a wide range of topics.

**Education packs** – We are producing an educational resource pack to accompany the show including exercises and games to help community workshop leaders or teachers lead sessions on devising and writing comedy. These can be made available to local schools or youth groups attending a performance.

For more information or to discuss workshops please email Plum on assembleththeatre@gmail.com



# Show Information & Booking Details

#### **Show Details**

Space: The show needs a minimum of 4m x 3m playing space. Running Time: 72 minutes no interval, 85 minutes with interval. Get in: 2.5hr minimum Get out: 1hr minimum Touring Company: 3 actors, 1 tour manager Age Guidance: 8+ **Sound:** Needs basic PA system, the company can travel with their own. Lights: Needs basic lighting rig.

#### Marketing

- o Print: leaflets (A5) and posters (varying sizes)
- o Marketing pack downloadable via Dropbox
- o Short, medium & long copy
- o E-flyer: PDF format
- o Trailer and social media clips
- downloadable via Dropbox
- o Production Shots: Downloadable via Dropbox
- o Artwork: Downloadable via Dropbox
- o Press release: PDF via Dropbox
- o X (twitter): @assembleth
- o Facebook: Assembleth Theatre
- o Instagram: Assembleth Theatre
- o Website: www.assembleththeatre.co.uk

For more information or to discuss booking please contact Plum Grosvenor-Stevenson on 07971 723 880 | assembleththeatre@gmail.com







