

# Pitch Up

at Brighton Fringe 20 May 2025



# welcome



## Hello and welcome...

... to house southeast theatre network's much-anticipated Pitch Up, part of, and in partnership with Brighton Fringe. It's brilliant to be holding this event amongst the buzz and excitement of an incredible festival here in the South East, and a real pleasure to provide a platform for this amazing group of artists, companies and venues.

house created Pitch Up in 2014 with the ambition of fostering new collaborations between South East venues and theatre-makers; to provide a space to meet and share their ideas and opportunities and in doing so give oxygen and kindling to the sparks that need fuel to ignite. We're proud to say Pitch Up is now in its second decade.

Pitch Up is a space for making connections and learning, so we encourage you to have as many conversations as possible and to let us know what happens as a result. We're all here for the same reasons – so say hello to someone you haven't met yet and if you know people, help introduce them to someone new.

house is a strand of Farnham Maltings' theatre development work, existing to ensure a thriving and sustainable theatre sector throughout the South East of England; supporting venues and artists to reach, engage and stimulate audiences. It's a difficult time for arts and culture right now - an environment we all share. More and more we are hearing the need to build connections, collaborations and partnerships to strengthen our sector. We hope that Pitch Up is a space to do just that today. The better connected we are, the stronger our sector becomes.

We'd like to thank our hosts and partner, Brighton Fringe for making today possible.

Have a wonderful time.

Harriet Bolwell

**Senior Producer, house**

harriet.bolwell@housetheatre.org.uk



## We're thrilled to welcome Pitch Up as part of Brighton Fringe's 20th anniversary celebrations!

Networking is such a vital part of what we do and has been an important part of our Artist Development programme 'Fringe Academy' this year. It's great to see our amazing artists connect with brilliant venues, festivals and events. We can't wait to meet everyone and hear all the venues, festivals and artists pitching today.

### about

**house southeast theatre network** is a venue support network and touring initiative based in the South East of England. It is delivered by Farnham Maltings with support from Arts Council England and an advisory group of venue leaders, programmers, and producers from the region. house supports venues to improve the range, quality and scale of theatre presented across South East England and exists to build audiences for contemporary theatre across the region.



housetheatre.org.uk



housetheatre



house-southeast-theatre-network

**Farnham Maltings** is a creative organisation that works with the artists and communities of South East England to encourage the greatest number of people to make, see and enjoy the best art possible. From a range of buildings, set in the heart of Farnham, we present events and workshops from large scale craft festivals to intimate cabaret shows, as well as providing space for voluntary and community groups to deliver their own ambitions.

We enable artists making craft, theatre and dance work to thrive by providing affordable studio and rehearsal space, offering producing and tour booking, developing networks, sharing resources and equipping artists with the skills and opportunities to promote their work locally, nationally and internationally.



farnhammaltings



farnhammaltingstheatre

# pitch up

## schedule

**11:30**    **Arrival**

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**12:00**    **Welcome remarks**

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**12:10 - Artist Pitches:**  
**12:35**    Seemia Theatre CIC  
            Hopeful Monster  
            Maria in the Stars  
            Alice Mary Cooper  
            Figs in Wigs

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**12:35 - Venue Pitches:**  
**13:00**    Brighton Dome  
            Cambridge Junction  
            The Nutshell  
            caravan  
            Portsmouth Guildhall & Hastings

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**13:00**    **Lunch**

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**14:00 - Artist Pitches:**  
**14:25**    Justice in Motion  
            LegalAliens Theatre  
            Undone Theatre  
            Simon Lyshon  
            Edie Edmundson

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**14:25 - Venue Pitches:**  
**14:55**    Chichester Festival Theatre  
            The Spring Arts & Heritage Centre  
            Farnham Maltings  
            Stanley Arts  
            New Wolsey Theatre  
            Ropetackle Arts Centre

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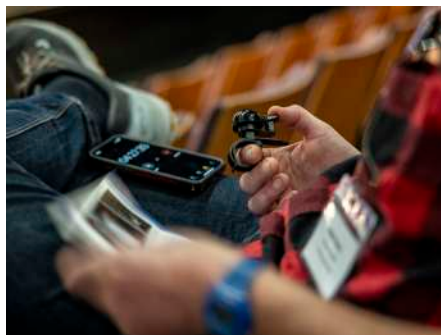
**14:55**    **Closing remarks**

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**15:00**    **Open networking**

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**15:45**    **End of event**



# Seemia Theatre CIC

Saria Callas



## about the company

**Seemia Theatre CIC** are an award-winning international ensemble of artists from Iran, Argentina and the UK, led by Director Sara Amini. Seemia translates as 'casting a spell with words' from ancient Persian. They believe in theatre as a tool to break barriers, and through socially engaged devised performances endeavour to bring communities together.

Their productions have been performed across the UK and Internationally, with highlights including Arcola, Kampala International Theatre Festival, and Aberystwyth Arts Centre. Their plays have been featured on BBC World Service, nominated for Amnesty International's Freedom of Expression award and won Summerhall's LUSTRUM Award.

Seemia were a Tangled Feet Emerging Ensemble 2017, a Barbican OpenLab Company 2022, and an Oxford Playhouse EVOLVE Associate for 2024- 2025. Across 2025 they will present two new productions. 'Saria Callas' originally commissioned by Camden People's Theatre's and co-presented with A Play, A Pie and A Pint, supported by Arts Council England; and 'Let's Love' is a newly devised production celebrating love & diversity in Teesside, commissioned by ARC Stockton.

## about the show

**Saria Callas** - This sexy, camp, pop-filled tragicomedy unpacks aspirations of becoming a singer while growing up where it is forbidden for women to sing. Already a bottle of red in, Sara reminisces about her experiences from childhood to womanhood.

Tehran, the schoolbus parties, the wannabe prayer-caller and the secret w\*\*ks at the all-girls' school. 'Did I get used to repression, or is music my way of fighting?' How does a woman who has experienced firsthand repression of her body and voice react as her child struggles with their own gender identity?

Audience: Iranian & MENA Diaspora, Women, LGBTQIA+. Premiering Spring 2025

## pitchers

Robin Yorke  
Sara Amini



seemia.com



@SeemiaTheatre

# Hopeful Monster

## Six Long Legs | Hopeful Monsters



### about the company

**Hopeful Monster** is an ensemble of three women working collaboratively to create playful visual theatre inspired by the natural world and informed by science. In evolutionary theory, a 'hopeful monster' is what you get when a sudden genetic mutation produces a radically new organism.

The company creates work that is weird and wonderful, playing with the possibilities of puppetry and delighting in the unusual visual creations that emerge.

Based across Glasgow, London and North Devon, they started working together in 2017 after training at the Curious School of Puppetry and the Puppet Barge. In 2019 they won an ABSW award for Innovation of the Year for collaboration on the short film 'The Tale of the Checkerspot Butterfly' commissioned by Nature Video.

They created their eponymous first show, 'Hopeful Monsters', in 2018 which has since toured to puppetry and visual theatre festivals internationally and UK-wide such as Manipulate Festival (Scotland), LUTKE (Slovenia) and the highly competitive and prestigious FMTM de Charleville-Mézières (France).

### about the show

**Hopeful Monsters** (ready to tour): A nonverbal puppetry show inspired by evolutionary theory for 5+. From simple organisms to complex beasts! The show is a playful illustration of the notion that all living things are made up of the same fundamental building blocks.

**Six Long Legs** (W-I-P): A physical theatre show for 4+. Featuring dressing up, puppetry and playful anarchy the piece sets out to improve human-insect relationships and inspire interspecies empathy through science and learning. Both can be accompanied by a thematically linked, playful wraparound activity and are accessible to d/Deaf & HoH audiences.

### pitcher

Bori Mezo

 [hopefulmonster.co.uk](https://hopefulmonster.co.uk)

 [@hopefulmonstertheatre](https://www.instagram.com/hopefulmonstertheatre)



# Maria in the Stars



## about the company

**Maria in the Stars** is the first production by a collaboration of deaf, Deaf and hearing theatre makers passionate about inspiring family audiences, and who believe that integrating BSL creates storytelling that is more accessible, creatively dynamic and joyful for all children. Maria in the Stars had a UK tour (Canada Water Theatre/MAC Birmingham/ Derby Theatre) in February 2025, using live video, creative captioning, projection mapping, visual vernacular and audience interaction to tell its story of a deaf female astronaut searching for life on Mars. The company are keen to continue to explore how we can use a multimedia form - including multimedia puppetry - to create work that is equally thrilling to deaf, Deaf and hearing audiences.

The Company are: Sibylla Archdale Kalid (Co-Director/Co-Producer), Mary-Jayne Russell de Clifford (Co-Producer/BSL Consultant), Zoë McWhinney (Co-Director), Ben Glover (Video Designer/Creative Captioner), Hazel McIntosh (Set/Costume Designer), Amy Helena (Lead Performer).

## about the show

**Maria in the Stars** - An interactive space adventure for ages 7-11, with integrated BSL and creative captions. Maria in the Stars follows deaf astronaut Maria, in a space race to win the Queen's gold medal. With the help of her Grandma's old exploration Rover, she finds something so exciting... they don't have the sign language for it yet! The audience help Maria come up with a brand new sign for her discovery.

Live video, projection and strong physical storytelling support the integration of BSL, making it accessible to deaf and Deaf children as well as offering hearing children a playful introduction to sign language.

## pitchers

Sibylla Archdale Kalid  
Mary-Jayne Russell de Clifford



[mariagoestospace.com](http://mariagoestospace.com)

# Alice Mary Cooper

## The Bush



### about the company

Actor, writer, clown and theatre maker, **Alice Mary Cooper** is an English born, Australian raised artist. She grew up in Sydney on the land of the Wallumedegal People of the Eora Nation. Alice makes work for all ages, often with a focus on women's stories, and is passionate about using her practice to create a more just and sustainable future, ideally making people smile in the process. She presents work in theatres, libraries, schools, museums, gardens, parks and online. She leads workshops and talks on creating a more sustainable theatre practice. Her solo shows, *Waves*, *The Bean Counter*, and most recently *The Bush*, have been presented extensively including to Edinburgh International Children's Festival and Auckland Arts Festival.

Alice recently developed *Experts Radio Lab*, a live radio show where young people are interviewed as experts. It was commissioned by *Imaginate* and presented at the *Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2023*, as part of the *Made in Scotland* programme and several international festivals since. Alice is developing a new show about her love for Charles Aznavour, the French Armenian crooner. She was the inaugural Artist Employee at *Magnetic North Theatre Company*.


### about the show


***The Bush*** is a solo show, for ages 12+, about a group of 'housewives' who saved a bushland in 70's Sydney and ushered in a global conservation movement. It's an epic story, joyfully and humorously told, about citizen action and the power of community. It's for unlikely activists and already proven a hit with a diverse audience from teenagers to their grandparents.


*Aznavour Mon Amour* is a contemporary clowning/physical theatre show about my love for Charles Aznavour and the power of a muse to change our lives. It's for a broad adult audience and those over 50 who know Charles!

### pitcher

Alice Mary Cooper

 [alicemarycooper.co.uk](http://alicemarycooper.co.uk)

 [@alicemarycooper](https://www.instagram.com/alicemarycooper)

 [/alicemarycooper](https://www.facebook.com/alicemarycooper)

# Figs in Wigs

Big Finish | Astrology Bingo



## about the company

**Figs in Wigs** are a UK based company who make genre-bending performance that sits somewhere just outside of live art, theatre, comedy, cabaret and dance. Their creative process is completely democratic and non-hierarchical; collaboration sits as their greatest asset. Their core artistic team Ray Gammon, Suzanna Hurst, Sarah Moore, Rachel Porter & Alice Roots have been working together for 15 years, along with a vibrant and very talented network of treasured collaborators across tech, lighting, sound, set and producing.

Their work is for anyone who gets annoyed with conventional theatre, who enjoys laughing at themselves and poking fun at traditions. It chimes strongly with those who seek radical ways of looking at the world and those who see humour as a tool for exploring bigger themes. Jokes are at the heart of what they do, and they take silliness very seriously.

They have toured their theatre work to many iconic venues across Europe including Bristol Old Vic's Main Stage, Southbank Centre's Queen Elizabeth Hall (WOW Festival) Battersea Arts Centre's Grand Hall, Kampnagel Hamburg & Teatro do Bairro Alto, Lisbon.


## about the show

**Big Finish** is a wrecking ball of chaos, oscillating between giving up and smashing the house down. It's about the end of the world, the death of theatre and the end of Figs in Wigs - maybe? A collective scream into the void - with jokes. A mashup of theatre, dance, TED talk and string quintet (untrained), Big Finish is a collage of ideas about endings, rebirth and regeneration. A studio show for ages 14+.

**Astrology Bingo** - A cosmic cabaret bingo night for astrology lovers, bingo wingers and their sceptic friends. All age ranges, performed at community halls, festivals, & studio spaces.

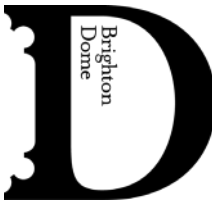
## pitchers

Rachel Porter  
Alice Roots

 [gsinwigs.com](https://gsinwigs.com)

 [@gsinwigs](https://www.instagram.com/gsinwigs)





## about the venue

**Brighton Dome**, situated in the Royal Pavilion Estate at the heart of the city, we are an arts charity, three historic contemporary live arts venues, a music education service across the region - Create Music - and the biggest curated cross-arts festival in England.

Our purpose is to enable extraordinary experiences where people can come together to enjoy, imagine, create and change. Our three performance venues are the Concert Hall (up to 1600 capacity), the Corn Exchange (505 seated mid-scale space or 1,000 standing) and the Studio Theatre (200 seated).

 [brightondome.org](http://brightondome.org)

 [@Brighton\\_dome](https://www.instagram.com/Brighton_dome)

 [/Brighton\\_dome](https://www.facebook.com/Brighton_dome)

[kyla.booth-lucking@brightondome.org](mailto:kyla.booth-lucking@brightondome.org)

[luisa.hinchliff@brightondome.org](mailto:luisa.hinchliff@brightondome.org)

# CAMBRIDGE JUNCTION

## about the venue

**Cambridge Junction** is a multi-artform venue with three flexible spaces hosting a range of music, club, comedy, theatre and dance events throughout the year. Our theatre and dance programme focuses on contemporary performance, hosting leading practitioners from the UK and overseas such as Forced Entertainment, Figs in Wigs, Lucy McCormick, Gandini Juggling, Igor & Moreno and Ontroerend Goed.

Alongside this we run a comprehensive creative learning programme for young people of all ages and abilities, and an artist development programme for performance makers based in the East region and beyond. Troop is our network for artists and producers based in the East of England, which offers a wide range of opportunities for networking, creative and professional development.



 [junction.co.uk](http://junction.co.uk)

 [/cambjunction](https://www.facebook.com/cambjunction)

 [@troop @cambridge junction](https://www.facebook.com/troop)

 [@cambridgejunction.bsky.social](https://twitter.com/cambridgejunction)

[catherine.willmore@junction.co.uk](mailto:catherine.willmore@junction.co.uk)




## about the venue

**The Nutshell** is a female-led organisation, home to Discarded Nut, run by two local women who have grass-roots involvement, a deep understanding of the changing landscape of Winchester and who have worked across the creative industry for over two decades specialising in working with young people, participatory projects, programming and small-scale community and touring theatre.

We support the wealth of talent within our city, collaborating with local creatives - championing children, young people and emerging talent, and shouting to the world that Winchester is a thriving dynamic cultural destination.



 [thenutshellwinchester.com](http://thenutshellwinchester.com)

 [@thenutshellwinchester](https://www.instagram.com/thenutshellwinchester)

 [/thenutshellwinchester](https://www.facebook.com/thenutshellwinchester)

[harriet@discardednut.co.uk](mailto:harriet@discardednut.co.uk)

# caravan





## about caravan

**caravan** is an international theatre initiative that celebrates and supports the independent theatre community in their ambitions to explore and create on an international scale - supporting collaboration, reciprocity, and exchange all around the world.

**caravan** works with artists and companies based in England to tour theatre internationally.

The initiative has grown from the roots of Farnham Maltings, a cultural hub nestled in Southwest Surrey, England. As the international arm of Farnham Maltings, caravan shares the organisations passion for community along with the power of cultural exchange and connection.

 [caravan-theatre.com](http://caravan-theatre.com)

 [@caravan\\_farnhammaltings](https://www.instagram.com/caravan_farnhammaltings)

[hannah.smith@farnhammaltings.com](mailto:hannah.smith@farnhammaltings.com)

Image: The Rest of Our Lives, created and performed by Jo Fong and George Orange. Photo: Catriona James & Craig Kirkwood




## about the venue


The **Guildhall Trust** provides inspirational opportunities to develop a passion for music and the arts through its engaging Get Involved programme of workshops, activities, groups and courses.


Dedicated to supporting emerging and developing creatives, **Portsmouth Guildhall** offers a range of spaces for rehearsal and performance, a Headstart Creatives programme offering affordable office space and the Trust's Harbour development programme provides seed funding, residency and in-kind support.

Opening in Spring 2024, The Base will be an exciting, new creative space for young people aged 11-25 that will give access to a range of facilities, equipment and a series of specialist programmes and workshops to support creative and educational development.

 [portsmouthguildhall.org.uk](http://portsmouthguildhall.org.uk)

 [@portsmouthguildhal](https://www.instagram.com/portsmouthguildhal)

 [/portsmouthguildhall](https://www.facebook.com/portsmouthguildhall)

 [@PortsmouthGhall](https://twitter.com/PortsmouthGhall)

 [The Guildhall Trust](https://www.linkedin.com/company/The-Guildhall-Trust)

[npassley@whiterocktheatre.org.uk](mailto:npassley@whiterocktheatre.org.uk)



## about the venue

Situated in a commanding position on the Hastings shoreline, the **White Rock Theatre** is the perfect entertainment venue with a rich and varied programme and is the ideal setting for corporate events and social occasions.

Since 1st February 2024, **The White Rock** has been operated by The Guildhall Trust, a registered charity whose vision is to become one of the country's leading cultural organisations which places its communities at the centre of everything it does, inspiring, entertaining and transforming lives, delivering an engaging 'Get Involved' programme of activity for the community.

 [whiterocktheatre.org.uk](http://whiterocktheatre.org.uk)

 [@white\\_rock\\_theatre](https://www.instagram.com/@white_rock_theatre)

 [/WhiteRockTheatre](https://www.facebook.com/WhiteRockTheatre)

[npassley@whiterocktheatre.org.uk](mailto:npassley@whiterocktheatre.org.uk)

# Justice in Motion

## CODE



### about the company

**Justice in Motion** make theatre. A powerful, thought-provoking, visual type of theatre. They tell stories about people who are victims of social injustice.

Their exciting and engaging shows mix dance, theatre, parkour, aerial acrobatics, film and music; shining a light into some of the dark places you can't normally see.

Working with academic, business and charity partners the company find out as much as they can about the people whose stories they tell, giving silent sufferers a voice.

Their live work is supported by post show discussions, programme notes, workshops and research pages, allowing audiences to uncover even more about the stories they tell. The company want you to hear and share others' stories, to make a stand for change, or even become a force for change yourself.

Alone, we may not be able to make the world a better place but together, who knows what we can achieve?


### about the show


**CODE**, Justice in Motion's urban odyssey into county lines and knife crime, told through a spectacular blend of physical theatre, parkour and trials bike stunts with live rap and music.


On an urban playground, skilled athletes and performers show what is happening to our young people exploited by organised drug crime gangs. See inside the county lines through up-close, dazzling, adrenaline-fuelled, audacious story-telling inspired by true case studies.


### pitchers

Anja Meinhardt  
Marcus Smith

 [justiceinmotion.co.uk](http://justiceinmotion.co.uk)

 [@justice\\_in\\_motion](https://www.instagram.com/justice_in_motion)

 [/justiceinmotion.theatre](https://www.facebook.com/justiceinmotion.theatre)

 [@justiceinmotion4161](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

# LegalAliens Theatre

## The Flowers of Srebrenica



### about the company

**LegalAliens** is a migrant-led ensemble and Theatre of Sanctuary based in Tottenham, North London with a vision to radically reframe how migration is represented on stage, platforming migrants and refugees as artists, performers, creatives and communities.

Their work reclaims space for those excluded from mainstream narratives, giving space to the voices and bodies of those too often marginalised.

Their productions are known for their striking aesthetics and ability to challenge stereotypes with nuance. *Poker Face* (Kings Head and tour) to *Closed Lands* (VAULT Festival) to *Ali in Wonder(Eng)land* (Jackson's Lane), *Tugging at The Sea* (Jackson's Lane and The Place), *Shapeshifting* (Migration Matters Sheffield and tour), and now *The Flowers of Srebrenica* (their first international coproduction) offer audiences a blend of humour, lyricism, and emotional truth.

They are committed to long-term engagement with our communities, leading to the development of the Tottenham Project, London's first permanent free theatre space for migrants and refugees, active since 2018.

### about the show

**The Flowers of Srebrenica** is an urgent piece, reimagining Aidan Hehir's illustrated novel about his recent journey to the Srebrenica Genocide Memorial through a chorus of refugee women from Bosnia, Rwanda and Ukraine. They layer a poetic commentary and dark humour onto the narrative connecting 20th century European events to contemporary global crises. Is history bound to repeat itself?

Fusing physical theatre, animations and text, it asks how societies fall apart and how we can practice empathy. It will attract audiences interested in politics, history, and migration, students, and anyone who loves theatre that isn't scared to ask difficult questions.

### pitcher

Lara Parmiani  
Amy Sze

 [legalalienstheatre.com](https://legalalienstheatre.com)

 [@legalalienstheatre](https://www.instagram.com/legalalienstheatre)

 [/legalalienstheatre](https://www.facebook.com/legalalienstheatre)

 [/legalalienstheatre](https://twitter.com/legalalienstheatre)



# Undone Theatre

## The Butterfly Project



### about the company

**Undone Theatre** are a queer- and migrant-led company platforming marginalised stories through formal innovation. They create new work that challenges traditional forms of storytelling and the dominant narratives they embody. They've developed multidisciplinary projects, new shows and created space for diverse communities to gather and discuss personal and political questions.

Credits include *Lessons On Revolution* at Jermyn Street Theatre, Summerhall and Soho Theatre (★★★★★ *The Scotsman*; ★★★★★ *The Morning Star*), "one of the most talked about shows from this year's Edinburgh festivals" (*The Conversation*). *LONDON/ LONDRA*, a series of audio walks following the traces of queer activist Mario Mieli around London, winner of the 2022 Lynne Segal Prize (BiGS: Birkbeck Institute of Gender & Sexuality).

In 2023, they produced a festival at Queercircle, exploring the intersection of queerness and migration and curated a public and family-focussed exhibition on yellowface and orientalist operas at artsdepot. Previous support includes: The Barbican, Nick Hytner, and Soho Theatre.

### about the show


**The Butterfly Project** - Meet real-life partners Joey and Gabs. The true story of how a 1904 opera caused the breakdown of their relationship. 25 years later, their son Joey is thinking of ending things with his Italian boyfriend. Turning to his parents' interracial relationship for guidance, a pattern emerges: the notes of Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* underscore a century of Asian misrepresentation, orientalism and exoticisation.

It's for audiences of both ESEA heritage & otherwise, themes of identity, belonging, family are universal, it provokes thinking on Asian misrepresentation, orientalism, and exoticisation. They would target existing theatre goers, young professionals who want a fun night out.

### pitchers

Natalie Chan  
Joey Jepps

 [undonetheatre.com](https://undonetheatre.com)

 @UndoneTheatre

# Simon Lyshon

## The Miniature



### about the company

**Simon Lyshon** is an independent theatre maker specialising in contemporary devised work, immersive theatre and facilitation. Simon grew up in Chichester and was a part of the CFYT from age 11 to 18, before training on the Collaborative and Devised Theatre BA at Royal Central. Simon co-founded devised theatre company Engineer and has recently completed a specialised, year-long programme in experience design with Odyssey Works. Simon also works as a facilitator, teaching young people and community groups (currently for Central, The Barbican Centre, Young Film Academy and Moving Waves).

Simon's theatre-making projects include winner of the Scottish Daily Mail Award Missing (created from original verbatim interviews with the family and friends of missing people); RUN (a dark comedy about finance interns, featured in the New Yorker, and finalist for best ensemble at the Offies); and The Gap In The Light (a psychological horror staged in total blackout with 360 sound, nominated for best ensemble and best directors at the Offies). Simon is also collaborating with French theatre maker Louis Atlan on a new piece of Anglo-French object theatre.

### about the show


**The Miniature** is an intimate storytelling experience for audiences of four. Sat inside a shed with a solo performer, audiences don headphones. The performer wears a live microphone which is mixed into a live triggered sound-score. Together they tell a story about a couple, a model house, and a question that threatens to turn a home into a pile of ashes.

An autobiographical piece, audiences imagine the future with a performer facing a big decision. Themes include climate, parenthood and the arts.

Suitable for age 13+, targeted at age 25 upwards, well-suited to adaptation for blind and low vision audiences.

### pitchers

Simon Lyshon

 [linktr.ee/simonlyshon](http://linktr.ee/simonlyshon)

 @SimonLyshon

# Edie Edmundson

## The Whale's Tale



### about the company

**Edie Edmundson** is a freelance puppeteer, puppetry director, performer and theatre maker. Trained at Curious School of Puppetry (2016), Edie has since worked for companies including Wise Children, Edinburgh Royal Lyceum, the Royal Shakespeare Company, Birmingham Rep and Freckle Productions.

Their own work blends puppetry with clowning, storytelling, music and cabaret. Edie has performed solo show 'The Pony Club at the End of the World' at Beverley Puppet Festival, Shambala Festival and community spaces around London. This summer it will be coming to Beautiful Days Festival in Devon.

Edie's work often has a social/political element to it to start conversations! Their play 'The Old Woman Made of Stardust', in collaboration with childhood bereavement charity Winston's Wish, premiered at the London Student Drama Festival in 2015 and went on to run at Theatre N16 in 2016. 'Sex and Puppets', a sex education puppet show Edie co-devised and directed in association with Loaded Object Theatre, visited Shambala Festival, Newcastle Puppet Festival and Camden People's Theatre.

### about the shows

**The Whale's Tale** is a new show for family audiences about whales, coastal communities, and protecting the oceans we all rely on. Through puppetry, original music and playful storytelling, the show asks what whales can tell us about ourselves, and inspires us to work together to save our seas.

The show is aimed at family audiences with children aged 5+. It is particularly aimed at people (young and old) who are Blind or Visually Impaired, using Integrated Audio Description and creative access elements. The show and associated workshop premiered at the National Marine Aquarium in Plymouth last October.

### pitcher

Edie Edmundson



[edieedmundson.co.uk](http://edieedmundson.co.uk)



[edieedmundson](https://www.instagram.com/edieedmundson)

# The Nest chichester festival theatre

## about the venue

**The Nest** is a creative hub for emerging artists and technicians, offering hands-on experience, mentoring, and bespoke development through Chichester Festival Theatre's Future Theatre Makers Programme.

With a focus on innovation and experimentation, **The Nest** will showcase bold, alternative work from around the UK, connecting with younger, more diverse audiences through music, comedy, and family-friendly performances.

It provides a platform for local creatives across Hampshire and Sussex to network, collaborate, and present ideas. As a flexible, affordable space for rehearsals, events, and exhibitions, **The Nest** opens CFT's doors to the wider community and supports grassroots arts development in Chichester and the surrounding region.



thenest@cft.org.uk



@chichesterft



/chichesterfestivaltheatre



@chichesterft

thenest@cft.org.uk

# The Spring



## about the venue

Through arts, creativity and culture, we empower the people of Havant and beyond to discover new ideas, learn new skills and find new futures.

We are a cross-artform and heritage organisation that collaborates with artists, creatives, communities and organisations, both locally and nationally.

We believe strongly in the power of working together and listening to each other to challenge the status-quo and make wonderful things happen.

Our hub, for creativity, learning and cultural opportunities for the community and beyond, is based in Havant Town and home to a 145 seater studio theatre, museum collection, workshop spaces and art studio.

We also have key focuses on Creative Wellbeing, Place-making, Children and Young People and Opening Up of the Creative Industries.



thespring.co.uk



@thespringhavant



/thespringhavant



thespringhavant

programming@thespring.co.uk

# farnham maltings


## about the venue


**Farnham Maltings** is a pioneering cultural organisation based in South West Surrey with a regional, national and international reach.

**Farnham Maltings** is many things. For over fifty years we have operated as an arts and cultural centre presenting a programme of performance, craft showcases and participation work which contributes to the town's quality of life. Over the past ten years, we have also cared for the Museum of Farnham. We make our own theatre for communities across the south east, as well as producing and investing in a cohort of the region's leading theatre companies.



 [farnhammaltings.com/about](https://farnhammaltings.com/about)

 [@farnhammaltings](https://www.instagram.com/farnhammaltings)

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# STANLEY ARTS

## about the venue

**Stanley Arts** is one of South London's premiere arts and performance venues, providing our local community with a vital home for cultural expression and discovery. As a radically inclusive space we seek to foreground under-represented voices, providing black, global majority, working-class, neuro-divergent and LGBTQI+ creatives with a platform to reach out to audiences across South London and beyond.

**Stanley Arts** welcomes all audiences and all artists, but is particularly welcoming to communities that have previously been excluded from creative spaces.

Our artistic family includes the widest range of artists working in dance, music, theatre, performance, visual arts, and crafts. We seek to give emerging artists across all these art forms the opportunity to grow through innovation, collaboration and participation.

 [stanleyarts.org](https://stanleyarts.org)

 [@stanleyarts.uk](https://www.instagram.com/stanleyarts.uk)

 [/tanleyarts.uk](https://www.facebook.com/stanleyarts.uk)

[louisa@stanleyarts.org](mailto:louisa@stanleyarts.org)





## about the venue

The **New Wolsey Theatre** in Ipswich is a vibrant cultural hub enriching the lives of people in Suffolk. We offer a diverse range performances, community engagement activities, and artist development opportunities. We are nationally renowned for our excellence, diversity, and accessibility, and we are committed to continuing this essential work.

We produce our own shows and co-produce with UK and international theatres and companies. Our productions include world premieres and landmark revivals of musicals and plays. We also present a diverse programme of productions by acclaimed national touring companies and support emerging theatre companies and independent artists.



wolseytheatre.co.uk



@brightonfringe



/NewWolseyTheatre

[sjones@wolseytheatre.co.uk](mailto:sjones@wolseytheatre.co.uk)



## about the venue

**Ropetackle Arts Centre** is a vibrant, award-winning venue on the River Adur in Shoreham-by-Sea, offering an exciting mix of live music, theatre, comedy, film, and more. As a registered charity powered by dedicated staff and 80+ volunteers, the venue is a creative hub rooted in community.

Their outreach work brings the arts to all ages and backgrounds - sparking imaginations, inspiring minds, and supporting local talent. With an intimate auditorium, flexible spaces, and a welcoming café-bar, we host top-tier events in a friendly, inclusive setting. At Ropetackle, the arts aren't just entertainment - they're a shared experience for everyone.



ropetacklecentre.co.uk



@ropetackleart



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