

**TOBACCO
FACTORY
THEATRE**

PROTOTYPE

experiments in theatre

15 Feb 2009 @ 8pm in association with **Theatre Bristol**

Theatre Bristol and the Tobacco Factory are delighted to collaborate once again on *Prototype: Experiments in Theatre*. It is number 5!

Word has got out that you are a generous and insightful audience and, as a result, I received a lot of great proposals for tonight's event. I've been a bit greedy and programmed six shows, which will be a squeeze on a school night, so please rush back from the bar after the breaks.

The point of Prototype is not to present shiny finished pieces of work, but new ideas and early experiments. As ever, I'm grateful to the artists for being brave enough to let us in and show us ideas in progress.

If you are a theatre-maker yourself and would like to present something in Prototype, or if you would like to access Theatre Bristol's artist support programme, please do email me. I hope you enjoy tonight.

Katie Keeler, Creative Producer
Theatre Bristol | Katie@theatrebristol.net



1. MUSE

fecund theatre

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WHO? fecund makes bold and ambitious work that fuses theatre and popular cultural forms to create a dynamic live performance experience. It has become one of the most successful and progressive theatre companies touring the UK, bringing the award-winning work of writer/director John Keates to the stage.

WHAT? Tonight you will see a short public reading of some first draft content for *Muse*. *Muse* is about the moment of chemistry or connection when a person, force or desire triggers inspiration. The piece explores intense connections between people, passions and creative ideas through the integration of three different themes: (1) a passionate love story, (2) the actors' personal and interpersonal dramas, and (3) the re-evaluation of these through the internal creative thoughts of the director. The piece aims to present an exploration of the intellectual, emotional and instinctive choices made during a creative process.

2. INSIDE OUT

Foulisfair Theatre

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WHO? Foulisfair Theatre was founded in Leeds in 2007 and has recently relocated to Gloucestershire. The company explores experiences that sit awkwardly on the knife-edge between happiness and despair, aiming to 'stir up audiences' emotional and intellectual cauldrons', whilst entertaining, engaging and opening the odd can of worms. The all-woman company selects and approaches its material from the female perspective, in order to be both engaged and engaging in the theatre it produces.

WHAT? *Inside Out* is about a woman who chooses to live in a bubble. Gemma says: *Life is easier when you control your environment, when you don't face up to what's going on outside. But if humankind cannot bear very much reality, how long can a fantasy prevail? The ripples to this question are: How much do we all live bubble-bound? And how will we react when we get found out?*

Inside Out will be performed in its entirety as part of Red Dog's Sky Bound, Painswick Inn, Stroud, March 26-29.

3. PEDESTRIAN

Tom Wainwright

Contact name.....Tom Wainwright
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WHO? Tom is a Bristol based writer, actor and collaborator. He's interested in making solo work about what is ridiculous and a problem in life.

WHAT? Tom says: 'Pedestrian' is a working title. The piece involves me walking down a never-ending pedestrianised shopping centre pursued by a fish. I scratched an initial section at Prototype last year. Tonight's portion is mainly occupied with a series of tortuously mundane transactions in a Tesco metro involving Sliders, Snappers, Sweatybacks and Self-service machines. I would like to collaborate with a visual and sound artist(s) on this project.

INTERVAL 10 MINUTES INTERVAL 10 MINUTES INTERVAL 10 MINUTES

Why not make your way to the CAKE STAND to sample some delicious THEATRE CAKE? Tonight's offering is yummy beetrooty madness with a lime green icing. PROTOCAKE is here for you to interact with! For just £1 you can partake in a brand new experimental art form - CAKE SCULPTURE! And really, why wouldn't you want to...? If you'd like a bespoke cake for any occasion, email Cori 'CAKE' Bona - coribona@hotmail.com. Mmmmm...

4. SIR GREGORY'S HUTCH

Soap Soup Theatre

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WHO? Soap Soup Theatre fuses puppetry, music and live performance to create a dark and haunting signature style. Soap Soup is currently Tomasin Cuthbert (Artistic Director), Corina Bona (Devisor, Performer), Adam Fuller (Devisor Performer) and Saskia Portway (Cellist).

WHAT? An excerpt from *Sir Gregory's Hutch* was showcased at Prototype last year and at the Ustinov (Bath Theatre Royal) in the autumn. Now the company is experimenting with live sound and more humour to develop the levels on which the piece works. Soap Soup hopes to tour the show at the end of the year.

5. THE DEPT OF SMELLING PISTAKES Publick Transport

Contact name.....Angus Barr
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WHO? Publick Transport is a small-scale touring theatre based in Bristol that specialises in physical comedy. The performers tonight are Angus Barr and Toby W. Davies (a recent graduate of BOVTS).

WHAT? *The Dept. of Smelling Pistakes* is a Gogol-inspired piece set in state-controlled Russia about a civil servant and his unexpected visitor.

6. THE GLASS MOUNTAIN

Trestle

Contact name.....Natalie Richardson
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WHO? Trestle has been creating high-energy physical storytelling theatre since 1981, developing its performers' skills through sustained creative engagement

with leading international artists. Trestle describes every show as 'a new adventure for both the company and its audiences'.

Performer/devisers: Emma Bonnici, Kate Lush and Gordon Peaston; Composer and Musical Director: Laurence Kaye; Writer: Anna Reynolds; Designer: Katherina Radeva; Director: Emily Gray; Associate Director: Oliver Jones; Producer: Natalie Richardson. *The Glass Mountain* is inspired by a collaboration with Anna Helena McLean (ex *Gardzienice*) and Christopher Sivertsen (ex *Teatr Piesn Kozla*).

WHAT? *In a world of endless choices and well-worn paths, how does one individual find their own way?*

This work in progress has emerged out of a week of exploration around the meeting points of song, physicality and character, influenced by the Polish myth of the Glass Mountain and contemporary stories of migration. The resulting production will combine the Glass Mountain with physical and vocal training inspired by Eastern European theatre practice and the company's process of devising storytelling theatre.

The Glass Mountain will preview in June and tour more extensively in September through to November, including three nights at the Tobacco Factory from 28 - 30 September.

7. Feedback

Katie will guide the discussion that follows the performances. The artists/companies have some questions they'd like to ask you.

You may also be interested in...

WATCH ME FALL

Arnolfini, Fri 20 Feb, 7pm, £8.00 (£6.00)

Action Hero would like to invite you to Watch Me Fall, a show about daredevils. An intimate yet epic live performance - an experiment with the relationship between an audience and an event; a celebration of futility and danger. *If at any point you see me on fire. Don't try and help just stand well back and wait for my own people to be there. "An ecstatic atmosphere" Metro*