TORTOISE IN A NUTSHELL

Producer and Creative Company

Tortoise in a Nutshell is an Edinburgh-based visual theater company dedicated to creating theater that inspires and ignites the imaginations of its audience.

The company is multi-award-winning and has toured work extensively throughout the UK and internationally. In their nine-year history, they have delivered performances in over eighty cities, across ten different countries throughout the world, including Switzerland, Denmark, Montenegro, Austria, and Mexico.

Since forming in 2010, the company have won a prestigious Scotsman Fringe First, an IdeasTap Edinburgh Award, and two Kotorski Awards for Outstanding Performance and Best Design. The company have received two Total Theatre Award nominations and two Arches Brick Award nominations. They were the first UK company to ever be nominated for the Grünschnäbel award for young companies at the Figura Theaterfestival in Switzerland.

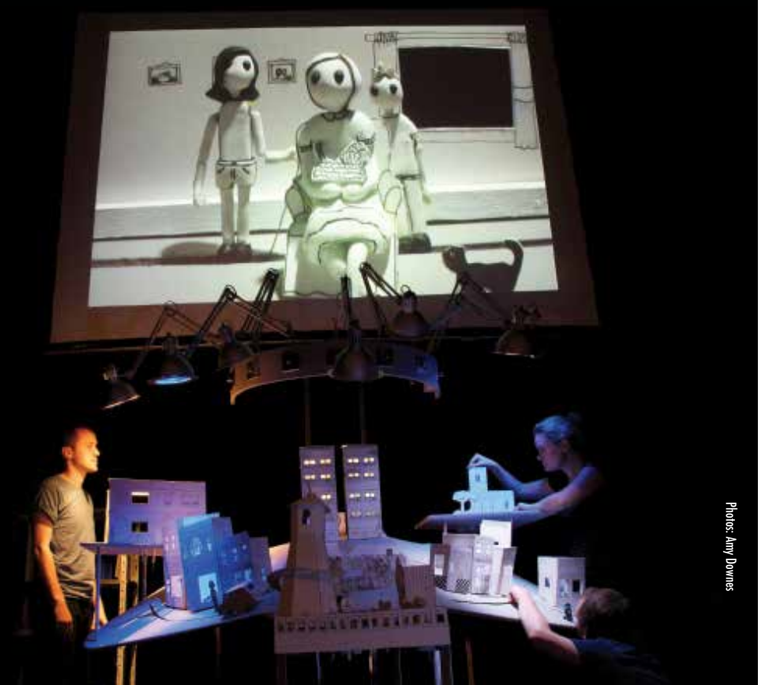
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CUMBERNAULD THEATRE

Original Co-Producer

Tortoise in a Nutshell were the company in residence at Cumbernauld Theatre in 2012-13.

Cumbernauld Theatre creates vibrant and exciting contemporary theater which engages diverse audiences. They are a Centre for Creative Communities, developing professional theater productions, delivering participatory projects, and presenting the work of visiting artists from across Scotland and internationally. From their base in Cumbernauld, they develop a broad range of artistic activity, from in-house productions, to national touring productions, international exchanges, and professional artistic development programs. They have a passion for the intelligent, the visual, and the vibrant. The Company is a key part of the infrastructure of Scottish arts and is a Regularly Funded Organisation (RFO) within the Creative Scotland portfolio.



Photos: Amy Downes

CURATOR'S NOTE

Welcome to Tortoise in a Nutshell's production of ***Feral***, a holy grail of sorts for a curator on the hunt for shows outside the box of traditional theater without sacrificing storytelling. This extraordinary Scottish company manipulates every element in painstakingly exquisite detail by moving their backstage business to center stage, revealing the intricate mechanics of their process to impart a riveting and politically relevant tale.



Val Day
Artistic Director
59E59 Theaters

59E59 THEATERS STAFF

ELYSABETH KLEINHANS
President/Founding Artistic Director

VAL DAY Artistic Director
BRIAN BEIRNE Managing Director
JESSICA HART Finance Associate
LAUREN PARRISH Production Manager
KIRSTY GAUKEL Director of Marketing
KAREN GRECO Press Representative
JEN GUSHUE Marketing Manager
CRISTINA GREENFIELD Marketing Associate
BARBARA IAMS KOREIN Archivist
KELVIN VERAS Director of Ticketing Services
LLOYD MULVEY Box Office Manager
LEAH GABRIEL Box Office Supervisor
MARK COOPER Box Office Supervisor
CRAIG SCHENKER Box Office Supervisor
DEIRDRE HERLIHY Box Office Associate
NATHANIEL CLARIDAD Box Office Associate
MELANIE GARDNER Box Office Associate
MARTAVIUS PARRISH Box Office Associate
KATIE SIEGMUND Box Office Associate
JOEL STIGLIANO Box Office Associate
JORDAN ELMAN Box Office Associate/Front Desk
DARIELLE SHANDLER Box Office Associate/Front Desk
EVELYN JEREZ E:BAR Manager
WILFREDO FELIZ E:BAR Staff

MOLLY GROOME E:BAR Staff
ALICE JOHNSON E:BAR Staff
MIRANDA STEVENS E:BAR Staff
JENNIFER TESKA E:BAR Staff
CAROLYN STEINBERG Theater Manager
GIRAULT SEGER Assistant House Manager
JASMIN MORALES Front of House Assistant
STACY DEGOLIER Usher/Front of House Assistant
JUSTICE OCASIO Usher/Front of House Assistant
RICARDO ANTONIO Usher
ANNE BAKAN Usher
BRENNA GAUSE Usher
CHRIS HORAN Usher
REBECCA McCLAIN Usher
NOAH OCASIO Usher
DASHON PRATT Usher
BENJI SILLS Usher
BRITTANY STEELE Usher
DALE WHITE Usher
JAY RIVERA Facilities Manager
SPONDEE House Guy
JOHN D. IVY Theater Technician
CARLOS CONILL Facilities
JOHNATHAN PRICE Facilities

NEXT IN THEATER B **JUNE 11 – 29**



Design: www.musedesign.co.uk

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59E59

THEATER B

MAY 14 – JUNE 9

TORTOISE IN A NUTSHELL PRESENTS

FERAL

BY TORTOISE IN A NUTSHELL

AN ORIGINAL CO-PRODUCTION WITH CUMBERNAULD THEATRE

DIRECTED BY ROSS MACKAY

CAST

ALEX BIRD
JIM HARBOURNE
ARRAN HOWIE
MATTHEW LEONARD
ROSS MACKAY

CREATIVE TEAM

SCENIC DESIGN ..... AMELIA BIRD
LIGHTING DESIGN ..... SIMON WILKINSON
ORIGINAL MUSIC & SOUND DESIGN ..... JIM HARBOURNE

PRODUCTION TEAM

PRODUCER ..... TORTOISE IN A NUTSHELL
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR ..... ANDREW GANNON†
AEA STAGE MANAGER ..... ALYSSA K. HOWARD*

The running time of *Feral* is 55 minutes with no intermission.

† These Production Team members are members of BECTU.

*The Stage Manager is appearing courtesy of the Actors' Equity Association.

ALEX BIRD

Performer



Alex is an award-winning performer and theater maker. He is a full time member of Tortoise in a Nutshell and co-director. He has toured extensively as a performer in productions for all age ranges world-wide. Most recently, he won an award for Outstanding Performance in ***Fisk*** at the Kotorski Festival in Montenegro. Other performance/creative credits include ***Flutter*** (Scotland tour), ***The Lost Things*** (UK & international tour), ***Feral*** (UK & international tour), ***The Last Miner*** (UK & international tour), and ***Grit*** (UK tour).

JIM HARBOURNE

Original Sound Design, Composition, and Performer



Jim is an Edinburgh-based sound designer, composer, and performer. His performance sound credits include ***The Myth of the Singular Moment*** (Jim Harbourne, UK tour), **Fisk** (Tortoise in a Nutshell, international tour), ***Velvet Evening Séance*** (Ross MacKay & Freshly Squeezed Productions, Scotland tour), ***Wiglia*** (TV Film, Tartan Features), ***Leaper*** (Tucked in Productions, Lyric Hammersmith & UK tour), ***Fable*** (Flanagan Collective, international tour), and ***The Lost Things*** (Tortoise in a Nutshell, international tour).

ARRAN HOWIE

Performer



Arran is an award-winning theater maker and co-director of Tortoise in a Nutshell. She has toured extensively as a performer and puppeteer in the company's productions including ***The Lost Things*** (UK & international tour), ***Fisk*** (UK & international tour), ***Feral*** (UK & international tour), ***The Last Miner*** (UK & international tour), and ***Grit*** (UK tour). Most recently, she designed and co-directed ***Flutter*** for young audiences in a Scotland-wide tour.

MATTHEW LEONARD

Performer



Matthew studied at Queen Margaret University on the NCDT accredited acting and performance course, graduating in 2008. Since then he has worked as a professional actor, performer, and puppeteer in a wide range of productions, including film, theater, live art, script development, and storytelling. He has worked with Tortoise in a Nutshell as a deviser and performer on several productions, including the Fringe First-winning ***Feral*** which has toured internationally. Matthew also writes and performs his own work. In 2017, he debuted his first full length spoken word show ***My Name is Irrelevant*** which will be touring Scotland in 2019.

ROSS MACKAY

Director and Performer



Ross MacKay is the artistic director of Tortoise in a Nutshell where he first directed Scotsman Fringe First winning, ***Feral***, back in 2013. He most recently directed the international co-production, ***Fisk***, opening in Denmark. Other directorial credits for the company include ***The Lost Things***, ***Grit***, and ***The Last Miner*** which have received between them two Kotorski Theatre Festival Awards and multiple award nominations. Ross is also Associate Artist for Perth Theatre where he directed the Offie Award nominated ***Prince Charming***. Other credits include the Scottish Arts Club award nominated ***Myth of The Singular Moment*** and the critically acclaimed ***Velvet Evening Séance***.

AMELIA BIRD

Set Designer

Amelia Bird is a designer, director, and all around theater maker. Design credits include ***Stella*** (Filskit Theatre, The Arc Stockton/ Barnsley Civic), ***The Great Odds*** (Macs Arcadian, the Lighthouse Poole), ***The Boy Who Never Grew Up*** (UK tour), ***The Many Doors of Frank Feelbad*** (Bootworks, UK tour), ***The Lost Things*** (Tortoise in a Nutshell, international tour), ***Feral*** (Tortoise in a Nutshell, international tour), and ***The Magic Theatre*** (Bogglesox TV). Amelia works with London Bubble Theatre and prior to that was the Artistic Director of Gomito Productions.



SIMON WILKINSON

Lighting Designer

Simon designs lighting for theater, opera, and dance in all shapes, sizes, and locations. Simon has won the CATS Award for Best Design three times: for ***Flight*** in 2018, ***Black Beauty*** in 2017, and ***Bondagers*** in 2015. Over the years, his lighting has created a Guinness World Record, brought 30,000 people to a windswept Highland Forest, and caused reports of an alien invasion. His most recent design credits include Robert LePage and Ex Machina's ***The Magic Flute*** as part of the Quebec City Opera Festival and ***Dark Carnival*** (Vanishing Point).

ALYSSA K. HOWARD

AEA Stage Manager

Alyssa is a NYC-based stage manager and musician. Recent credits include ***If Pretty Hurts...*** (Playwrights Horizons), ***Word Sound Power*** (BAM), ***Good Grief*** (Vineyard Theatre), ***Henry VI*** (NAATCO), ***Teenage Dick*** (Ma-Yi + Public Theater), ***Soldier Songs*** (BMP), ***The Echo Drift*** (Prototype Festival), and ***Glass Guignol*** (Mabou Mines). Other NYC: Playwrights Realm, Atlantic Theater, Noor Theatre, Bushwick Starr, 3LD, Mannes Opera, and Juilliard School of Vocal Arts. Regional: Yale Repertory Theatre, Berkshire Theatre Group, McCarter Theatre, Bucks County Playhouse, Connecticut Repertory Theatre, Children's Theatre Company, and Orlando Shakespeare Theater. Tour: Japan Society/ Tokyo Bunka Kaikan and Beth Morrison Projects. MFA: Yale School of Drama. BA: Williams College.

Special thanks to Made in Scotland for the support to bring ***Feral*** to New York and to Pickerings Gin for sponsoring the production's tour to 59E59 Theaters.