



photo © Gregory Batardon

2019 London International Mime Festival in association with Platform Theatre, Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London presents

BARELY METHODOICAL TROUPE (UK)

SHIFT

London premiere

**Platform Theatre,
Central Saint Martins, UAL
Wed 9 - Sat 12 January**

After-show discussion:
Fri 11 January led by Kate White

Runs approx 60 mins, no interval

Original concept: Melissa Ellberger
Directed and devised by Melissa Ellberger and Ella Robson Guifoyle with the company

Performers: Louis Gift, Esmeralda Nikolajeff, Elihu Vazquez, Charlie Wheeler

Designer: Lucy Sierra
Lighting Design: Elliot Griggs
Sound Design: Tom Parkinson
Producer: Di Robson

Co-produced by DREAM, Commissioned by Norfolk & Norwich Festival, funded by Arts Council England.

Barely Methodical Troupe is an experimental acrobatic circus company, fusing hand-to-hand and Cyr wheel with creative dynamic movement. The artists came to circus, each having trained independently in their own respective fields, with a thirst for breaking boundaries. Influenced by their already existing skill sets (parkour, B-boying and tricking), they bring a fresh perspective to the creation of their material. This combination of technical ability and stylish flow is the defining feature of the troupe.

BMT's first show *Bromance* premiered at the 2014 Edinburgh Fringe, opened the 2015 London International Mime Festival and has toured internationally ever since, including a three week run at the New Victory Theatre in New York. Its second show, *Kin* was commissioned by the Roundhouse for the CircusFest 2016 and this 2018 production was a commission from the Norfolk and Norwich Festival.

Director's Note

I've worked closely with BMT since they trained at NCCA building their movement quality, creating new challenges for the company and finessing tricks. The great strength and indeed the excitement of working with BMT is centred on their desire and willingness to push their work by training in new disciplines and collaborating with specialist performers who bring new skill sets and ideas.

For *SHIFT* we collaborated with Swiss choreographer and director Melissa Ellberger. Melissa's core skills in breakdance and martial arts generated exciting ideas when we added in the gravity defying talents of Spanish break dancer Elihu Vazquez who had worked with Louis and Beren on my outdoor show *Echoes* for Roundhouse CircusFest 2014. The movement vocabulary for *SHIFT* comes directly from these influences.

Ella Robson Guifoyle, co-director



**Platform Theatre,
Central Saint Martins, UAL**

Central Saint Martins is a world-renowned arts and design college which brings together a diverse range of creative practices under one roof – and the Platform Theatre is its stage. The theatre programme is diverse, ranging from student performances to events with the College's external partners, including London International Mime Festival and Sadler's Wells. The space is a platform for public programmes and experiments in performance practice and design, showcasing emerging talent.

For more information on what's on at the Platform Theatre and across Central Saint Martins' spaces visit:

www.arts.ac.uk/colleges/central-saint-martins/whats-on-at-csm



London International Mime Festival

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London International Mime Festival (LIMF) promotes contemporary visual theatre. Its productions have won nominations for Olivier Awards and in 2017 the festival was honoured with the Empty Space - Peter Brook Special Achievement Award for its work over four decades. Founded in 1977, LIMF is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation.

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