

2019 London International Mime Festival in association with Shoreditch Town Hall presents

THEATRE RE (UK)

BIRTH

World premiere



SHOREDITCH

TOWN HALL
OLD STREET, LONDON, EC1

Thu 10 - Sun 13 January

After-show discussion:
Sat 12 January led by James Pidgeon

Runs approx 75 mins, no interval

Conceived & Directed by Guillaume Pigé
Devised by the Company

With: Eygló Belafonte, Vyte Garriga, Claudia Marciano, Alex Judd, Charles Sandford, Andres Velasquez

Composer: Alex Judd
Lighting Designer: Dr Katherine Graham
Costume & Prop Designer: Malik Ibheis
Costume Maker: Amédine Bello
Dramaturg - Tamara von Werthern
Company Stage Manager, Production Manager & External Advisor: Josephine Tremelling

Outreach Coordinator: Hannah Bixby
External Curator: Reverend Professor June Boyce-Tillman
Philosopher: Dr Graeme A Forbes
Scientific Collaborator: Professor Kate Jeffery

Devised by: Louise Wilcox, Eygló Belafonte, Matthew Austin, Claudia Marciano, Stefanie Bruckner, Guillaume Pigé, Alex Judd, Andres Velasquez, Charles Sandford and Vyte Garriga.

ABOUT BIRTH

"I am not interested in the ephemeral... I am interested in those things that repeat and repeat and repeat in the lives of the millions"
Thornton Wilder

Pregnancy loss is experienced by a great number of women. What the parents go through is rarely discussed and often considered taboo. It is part of the realm of the 'unspoken', or the 'unvoiced'. It is buried.

Over fifteen months of development we explored the idea of secrets in families, unearthing the parallels between our own lives and the lives of our parents and grandparents. We engaged through interviews and workshops with women and families who have experienced pregnancy loss. We also collaborated with UCL Neuroscience Professor Kate Jeffery and Dr Graeme Forbes, lecturer in philosophy at the University of Kent, to explore the questions of 'what is being passed down from one generation to the next' and 'when does memory begin'?

BIRTH is the story of Sue, Katherine and Emily, three generations of women from the same family whose lives are part of an invisible web they help to weave. It traces their journey of self-discovery, acceptance and hope.

Theatre Re



THEATRE RE

Established in 2009, Theatre Re is an award-winning international ensemble based in London.

The name of the company comes from the prefix 're'. It is the 're' of re-discovering and re-imagining, breathing new life into what already exists. Its shows examine fragile human conditions in a compelling, physical style embracing mime, theatre and live music, and are often described as magical, poetic and tender as well as disturbing and haunting. Intimate collaborations with experts in different fields – such as science, philosophy and public health – and various community groups throughout the devising process play a crucial part in the development of the work.

Previous productions have toured widely in the UK but also in France, Brazil, Peru, Ireland, Switzerland, Germany, China, Taiwan, South Korea and the USA.

BIRTH was funded by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and co-commissioned by London International Mime Festival, The Point Eastleigh and South Hill Park and supported by Shoreditch Town Hall, The Lowry and the University of Kent.

Theatre Re thanks:

Helen Lannaghan, Joseph Seelig, James Pidgeon and everyone at Shoreditch Town Hall, Sacha Lee and everyone at The Point, Ron McAllister and everyone at South Hill Park, Andrew Visnevski, Matthew Eames, Jason Keen, Lisa Harmer, William Wollen, Yota Kondopoulou, Chris Jones, Aching Arms, Léa Tirabasso and Gaspard Pigé.

And for their generous donations, thanks to:

Rebecca Carron, Anjelika Issa, Martin Durov and Laja Martin, Nini McCabe, A.C. Smith, Melanie Spencer, Russell Turner, Jo Sargeant, Anthony Dawson, Robyn Uhl, Jude Fergusson, Marta Brugnattelli, Sabrina Mahfouz, John Middleton, Liyun Lin, Nikki Holdaway, Helena Leonard, Felix Meadowsweet, Andrew Bates, Natalie Bamunuwate, Ross Hayward, Stella Jones, Steve and Karen Hall, Mathias Löffler, Alex Finch, Stephanie Hibst, Rachel Hardisty, William St Clair and Penny Tasker, Phyl Herbert, Danielle Kretzmer-Lockwood, Craig Fisher, Patricia Cabredo, Nick and Chris, Jean-Paul and Michèle Pigé, Sophie Girtanner, Isabelle Bloy, Eddy and Daniele Bloy, Raphaëlle Pigé.

ABOUT Anyone EveryMum

If you have experienced or been affected by pregnancy loss and would like to speak with someone after the show **Anyone EveryMum** will be outside. Come talk with us about your experience, get information on support services, ask questions... Tell us what you need.

Anyone EveryMum are two women who believe emotional wellbeing is just as important as your physical health and that creativity and support is the key. Our aim is to assist people in finding what they need and sustaining it once it has been found.



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.

Festival Directors:
Helen Lannaghan & Joseph Seelig

Production Manager:
Bill Deverson

Artists Managers:
Stephanie Brotchie & Shanti Freed

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London International Mime Festival 2019 gratefully acknowledges co-operation / financial support from:
Arts Council England; Institut français as part of its En Scène programme; Finnish Institute in London/TelePART; Royal Norwegian Embassy, London and Wallonie-Bruxelles International (WBI)



Supported using public funding by
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