

**TOBACCO
FACTORY
THEATRE**

PROTOTYPE

experiments in theatre

26 April 2008 @ 8pm in association with **Theatre Bristol**

A very warm welcome to *Prototype: Experiments in Theatre* brought to you by Theatre Bristol and the Tobacco Factory Theatre. It is great fun programming this event, as there is a constant stream of inventive, hardworking artists in Bristol keen to share their work and get your help to make it the best it can be. I hope you enjoy the evening. If you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to email me.

Please also email me if you are an artist and would like to show your work at the next *Prototype*, or if you'd like to find out more about Theatre Bristol's Artist Support Scheme.

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



1. **Awkward City**

Contact name.....Amy Lewis
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Web.....www.awkwardcity.co.uk

WHO? Awkward City is a young visual performance company with a creative focus addressing perceptions of society and interaction and the complexities of the real world. They are interested in pushing the body beyond certain boundaries of physical control and discipline throughout the development of their work.

WHAT? Awkward City says: We have been exploring the various dimensions of relationships - and the preconceptions society brings to them - through sensory images, illusions and shadows. We are in the very early stages of developing material and wish to continue exploring interactions and the difficulties of communication within relationships through the real and the fake.

2. **KEEPERS** **The Plasticine Men**

Contact name.....Simon Day
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E-mail.....simon@theplasticinemen.co.uk
Web.....www.theplasticinemen.co.uk

WHO? The Plasticine Men are a loose collective of irreverent theatre-smiths, scouring the land for stories that beg to be told onstage.

Director: Simon Day, Performers: Martin Bonger and Fionn Gill, Sound: Lawrence Williams, Design: Samantha Keeble

WHAT? The Plasticine Men say: This is just the second outing for some first ideas in response to a true story that fascinates us. It is also the first time that any of us have worked together to make theatre. We are trying to discover how we can do justice to a very rich tale, and whether this project has the legs to develop into a full piece. We hope, and dare to believe, that it has...

Please note, for this showing, Simon will be doing a very poor and pre-recorded impression of our sound designer and instrumentalist, who unfortunately can't be with us.

3. **AN EXTRAORDINARY ORDINARY DAY**

Once

Contact name..... Refkah A' Court
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Web.....www.once.uk.com

WHO? Since 2003 Once have been creators of poetic happenings and magical performance events, marking the day-to-day and the extraordinary of our lives. Using theatre and performance as a framework, Once's work explores how artists can facilitate and address the human need to mark significance, whether an historical or global event, a local river, a birth, the story of your day today or a family recipe.

WHAT? *The years turn and the rhythms repeat, each with a different melody. I lost my mother today, my mother died today, but the traffic lights are still changing and the radio babbles on.*

Once says: *An Extraordinary Ordinary Day* is a perpetual performance exploring how death and loss are at once totally intimate yet universal, extraordinary and yet everyday. It is in the middle of its devising process and we will be using tonight specifically to explore and test the methods of interaction we use with our participants. This piece has been commissioned by West Midland Strategic Health Authority and is to be publicly presented at Mayfest and in public space in Birmingham in June 09. *An Extraordinary Ordinary Day* is the second piece in our 'Lifting the Lid' programme of performance work that explores death and dying in modern society.

4. INTERVAL

10 mins

5.

Tittle-Tattle Theatre

Contact name..... Saini Manninen
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WHO? Tittle-Tattle Theatre is a recently formed collective of Bristol-based artists with experience in community theatre and playwriting, school drama, performance art and devised theatre. The members are Jan Wozniak (writer), Sarah McCormack (director) and Saini Manninen (performer). This production is their first collaboration.

WHAT? Tittle-Tattle says: Based on Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*, this one-woman performance explores the complex nature of the play's depiction and realisation of women, and experiments with performance particularly in relation to issues of gender. In the course of the performance, Kate examines her role as a woman in contemporary society, the pressures which she faces and the reasons she has become the woman she already is. We are in the early stages of writing and devising. This piece requires its audience to consider questions of location in performance and we will explore issues of space and performance during the development process.

6. Angus Barr, Wayne Clendennen, Holly Stoppit

Contact name.....Angus Barr
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WHO? Angus is a writer/performer, Wayne is a street performer and clown, and Holly is a clown, circus, street and cabaret artist.

WHAT? Wayne and Holly have kindly joined Angus to help him realise and develop some random ideas masquerading as a 15-minute play, using elements of clown, melodrama, parody, farce and post-modernism.

7. Feedback

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

COMING SOON... MAYFEST: Bristol's annual festival of contemporary theatre, with shows, workshops and special events taking place across the city. Including...

LONG-FORM IMPROVISATION TECHNIQUES

Friday 08 May, 1.30 - 4.30pm, £10

Cartoon de Salvo

TF studio

A unique opportunity to participate in a hands-on workshop from the UK pioneers of long-form improvisation.

In order to keep stories going we need to invest in character, 'playing it for real', location and ensemble. This workshop will be rooted in Keith Johnston's basic impro techniques, but it will also explore where stories come from. It will be challenging, safe and fun. Visit www.mayfestbristol.co.uk for further details.

THE GENERATOR: STARTING POINTS

Friday 15 May, 1.30 - 4.30pm, FREE

Mayfest and Tobacco Factory

TF studio

The TF is delighted to be working with Mayfest to bring you the first of its Generator sessions, opportunities for local artists to learn from and be inspired by each other through exchanging strategies and tools for making work. For the first session, Starting Points, we're inviting practitioners who make visual, physical and experimental work to share the games and exercises they use to get the creative process started. The session, which will be led by an experienced facilitator, will provide a valuable forum in which industry peers can develop their practice through collaborative learning.

To find out more and to book a place, please contact Carrie on 0117 902 0345 or email theatre@tobaccofactory.com.

FOR FURTHER MAYFEST ARTIST EVENTS VISIT WWW.MAYFESTBRISTOL.CO.UK