



This show is dedicated to the memory of lobster fisherman and theatre-maker Nick Darke

*"The short story 'A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings' by Gabriel Garcia Marquez has inspired and haunted me for many years. It's not about one person it is a story of a community, a universal village."*

Bill Mitchell Director

Drawings from workbooks by Sue Hill and Bill Mitchell  
Malta 2003 / Cyprus 2004 / Hayle 2005



Kneehigh Theatre  
and WILDWORKS

In collaboration with THOC, State Theatre of Cyprus  
and St James Cavalier, Malta presents

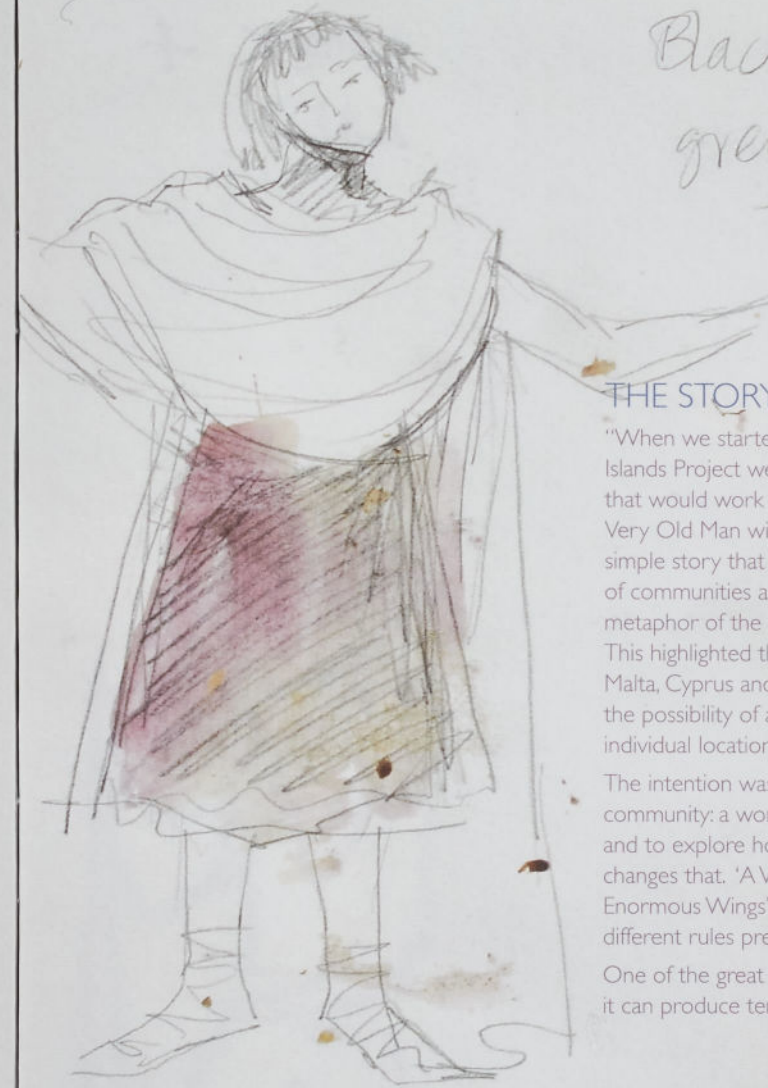
a very old man with  
enormous wings



W



We are very grateful to the Marquez Estate which has generously given us exclusive permission to present this story.



Black and grey dresses  
grey/cream veils.  
(mulberry juice?)

### THE STORY

"When we started working on the Three Islands Project we needed to find a story that would work in all three locations. 'A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings' is a simple story that deals with profound issues of communities affected by change, and the metaphor of the sea bringing and taking away. This highlighted the commonalities between Malta, Cyprus and Cornwall and presented the possibility of adapting the story to the individual locations.

The intention was to represent a working community: a world that is self-sustaining and to explore how an unexpected arrival changes that. 'A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings' is a magical text, where different rules prevail.

One of the great things about theatre is that it can produce temporary communities.

The Three Islands Project has become one such community. I think what makes it different from other projects is the fact that it is truly international and that it travels. It somehow sets us all in a space where differences are valued and celebrated. We all start as strangers and nothing is taken for granted.

Not even a common language is taken for granted. The language of the show, spoken by a multicultural and multilingual cast, has become the language of our village 'Mahal-le' and it bears traces of Latin, Maltese, English, Spanish, Italian, Greek Cypriot and Japanese all gathered as we travelled and we also collaborated to invent words. The script has become a palimpsest: like an old medieval manuscript that has been erased and written over time after time, so open your eyes and listen with your heart."

Mercedes Kemp Writer





## THE SHOW

"This production of 'A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings' is unique in a number of different ways. So how did this international project come about, how is it made and why have we chosen to perform it in Hayle Harbour?"

3 Islands Project - Malta and Cyprus

Kneehigh were invited to make a piece of work in Malta in 2000. The project was based on the memories of the local population in the face of rapidly evolving change in the town. The final show worked so well that we were invited back.

Two years later the British Council in Malta and Cyprus helped us to forge links with St James Cavalier in Valletta and THOC, the State Theatre of Cyprus in Nicosia; they in turn found performers, makers, musicians and the resources to create this epic 3-year 'Three Island Project'.

At each site the professional core team begins the making process. Every place makes its own special demands. In Malta we were near water; we needed to find boats and people to work them. We were introduced to local people willing to help us and they become part of the production. The team grew and every such chance encounter added meaning to the performance.

The production opened in Birgu, Malta, in September 2003, with a panoramic view across the Grand Harbour to Valletta. The whole town turned out to watch the event, witnessing local people abseiling down the 60ft sheer walls of the town, speed boats racing across the water and an 'angel' flying 300ft over the grand harbour.

In Cyprus in 2004 we had to get permission from the UN to build our village, as we wanted to place it on the Green Line, the buffer zone between the two separated halves of the island. THOC found us a rare and wonderful mix of Turkish and Greek Cypriot theatre makers and amazingly we also managed to get permission to allow the two halves to come together in the audience, although the Turkish Cypriot artists and audience had to come through passport control first. Our village was set in a derelict taverna, uninhabited since clashes made it unsafe to visit because of sniper fire. Every night we brought it back to life with songs, dances and poignant emotion.

Some memorable moments...

A Cypriot scout group building a rope bridge and a huge tree house for the set; a Greek police band accompanying the show; a local child with an amazing voice singing a plaintive farewell song. In Cyprus we discovered that Michalis Terlikkas, who plays Hermes in the show, is a major singing celebrity there, as he made his entrance on a tiny tricycle the packed audience surged forward cheering wildly and calling his name.

But my strongest memory making this show was in a rehearsal. Derman, a Turkish Cypriot performer began teaching his dance

to the company. The Greek Cypriot girls immediately joined him, with tears in their eyes they said, "we know this, and this is our dance as well". I had been told that the two cultures have been separated for 30 years, I now had a glimpse of what that meant and this is perhaps what this work does best - it leaps across boundaries of nationality, culture, language, prejudice and history.

This year it's time to bring the project home to the third island, Cornwall.

Hayle, Cornwall 2005

This time we have built our village on South Quay in Hayle. The team not only perform in the village but also live in it.

We chose Hayle. This town, in common with Birgu and Nicosia, is now undergoing

a transformation. The harbour site we are on has been in limbo for many years, but for these few evenings our village will come to life. I don't know what surprises, lucky accidents, and wonderful chance encounters will happen here but they will, and they will become part of the meaning of the piece and produce many more memories.

I love this work, I love the chance encounters and the serendipity of working in unconventional spaces; I love meeting people and seeing them adding their particular skills to the project; I love watching the distinction between the audience and the performers gradually blur and I love seeing the project gathering layers of meaning day by day."

Bill Mitchell Director

*'This magical production is an amazing tour de force of physical theatre, breath-taking images and dare-devil circus like stunts.'*

The Malta Independent

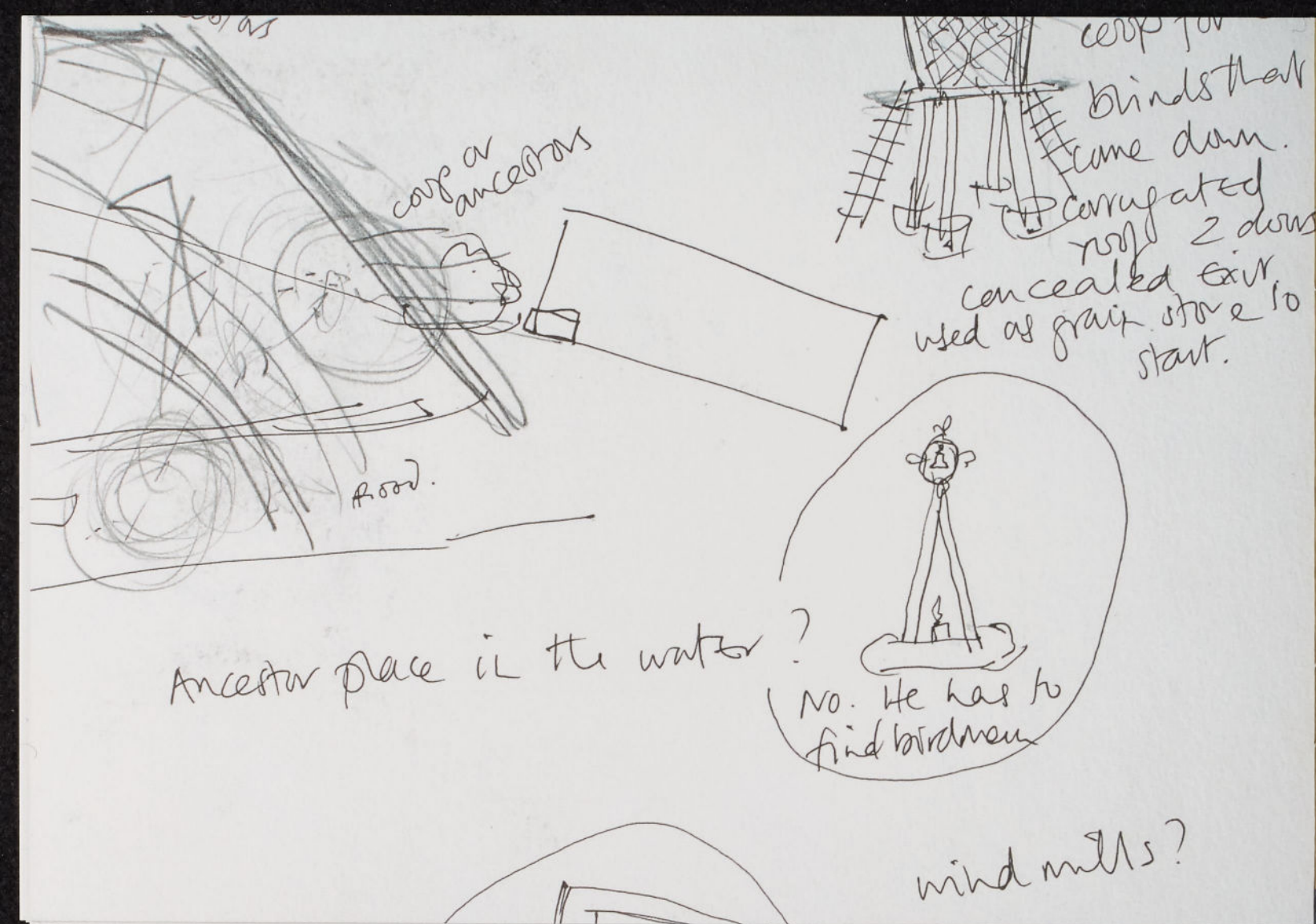
*'The sheer audacity and inventiveness of their work came as a breath of fresh air... This is promenade-theatre par excellence.'*

The Times & Sunday Times, Malta

*'This is a spectacular, pioneering artistic happening.'*

Cyprus Mail





## KNEEHIGH THEATRE

"Kneehigh has been on a roller coaster this year. We have seen our work evolve over the years and found ourselves touring locally, nationally and internationally. We were working in theatres, in the open air, site specifically and in village halls. We were gaining a reputation for groundbreaking, exhilarating work on all scales and we literally burst our banks! We hit the wall! We simply could not sustain the amount of work we wanted to produce. Early in 2005, Bill Mitchell decided to jump - not down or away, but up! He decided to form his own company 'Wild Works'. 'Wild Works' will continue the journey of site-specific theatre and events that Bill had started within Kneehigh. He could build a team dedicated to creating meaningful, life-affirming, international theatre events.

And here it is! In Cornwall, working in collaboration with Kneehigh, bringing performers and artists from around the world to tell us a tale of dreams and greed, hope and wonder. How exciting is that?

## WILD WORKS

Bill Mitchell's new company WILD WORKS has been created especially to make this type of work outside conventional theatre spaces.

"I want to continue to make theatre down holes, on beaches and in disused factories. I love making theatre with cranes, boats and castles. With sunsets, tea sets, water, food and fire. I want to make this theatre with people, all sorts of people. Professional performers and musicians working alongside trail bikers, abseilers and firework makers.

WILD WORKS is a Cornish company that includes people from all around the world. WILD WORKS is a company that will make lots more events like this."

Bill Mitchell Director

My toes are tingling with anticipation! So, Summer 2005 sees the launch of 'Wild Works'. Many of the faces will be familiar but this is the beginning of something new, ambitious and important. The two companies will work closely over the following years as colleagues and supporters, using our shared history, expertise and affection to create more world-class work in, and for, Cornwall. So life is vibrant and fragile, full of possibilities and dangers, but I love this roller coaster!"

Emma Rice Artistic Director Kneehigh Theatre





## CAST AND COMPANY

### PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Bill Mitchell  
 Designer Sue Hill  
 Writer Mercedes Kemp  
 Musical Director Adrian Freedman  
 Asst. Director Bec Applebee  
 Lighting Dominic Bilkey  
 Sound Lucy Gaskell  
 Site Manager John Voogd  
 Production Manager Geoff Broadway  
 Market Coordinator Charlie Riley  
 Catering Daisy Wright  
 Outreach Coordinator Janice Warnock

### PERFORMERS

Bec Applebee Dina  
 Angelina Boscarelli Press team  
 Heidi Dorschler Press team  
 Roger Delves-Broughton Padre  
 Gabriella Fenton Mannamu Then  
 David Greeves U'Boy  
 Jonathan Grima Jacka  
 Kyra Harris Mannamu Now  
 Sue Hill Ancestor  
 Monika Hadjivasilieou Mimi  
 Steve Jacobs Maximilius Autoritos  
 Anna Lindren Vasha  
 Oliver Oakenshield Dry'Arry  
 Pawlu Portelli A man with wings  
 Nix Rosewarne Spider Woman  
 Jen Tredinnick Captain  
 Michalis Terlikkas Hermes  
 Misty Wood Pesca

### MUSICIANS

Jim Carey Accordion and Carniyal Barker  
 Neil Davey Mandolin (from Dalla)  
 Hilary Davey Clarinet (from Dalla)  
 Mark Hadley Drums  
 Keith Marshall Sax  
 Sian Pilley Trombone  
 Pete Townsend Bass  
 Evxifios Sachias Violin  
 Giorgos Fountos Lute and bouzouki

### CHOIR

Vicky Abbott  
 Lesley Billingham  
 Kate Blackmore  
 Lucy Fontaine  
 Sofie Halling  
 Patrick Walker

### MAKERS

Colin Carter  
 Melita Couta  
 Sean Donohoe  
 Heidi Dorschler  
 Simon Heywood  
 Pete Hill  
 Leigh Jacobs  
 Dave Mynne  
 Dieter Straub  
 Jo Tabone

### Volunteer Performers & Makers

Emma Barker  
 Tom Barnecut  
 Ben Dunks  
 Emma Mansfield  
 Jack & Nix Rosewarne  
 Jen Tredinnick  
 Myriddin Wannell  
 Misty Wood  
 Tom Voogd

### Photography/Film

Steve Tanner  
 Morgan Lowndes

### Box Office Manager

Ben Read

### Front of House Manager

Maria McEwen

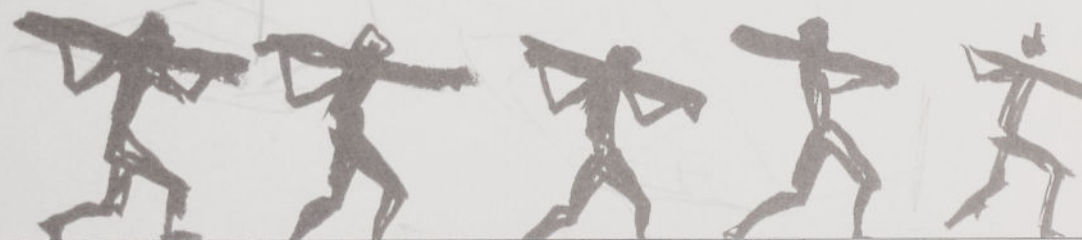
### OUTREACH PROGRAMME

#### Outreach Team

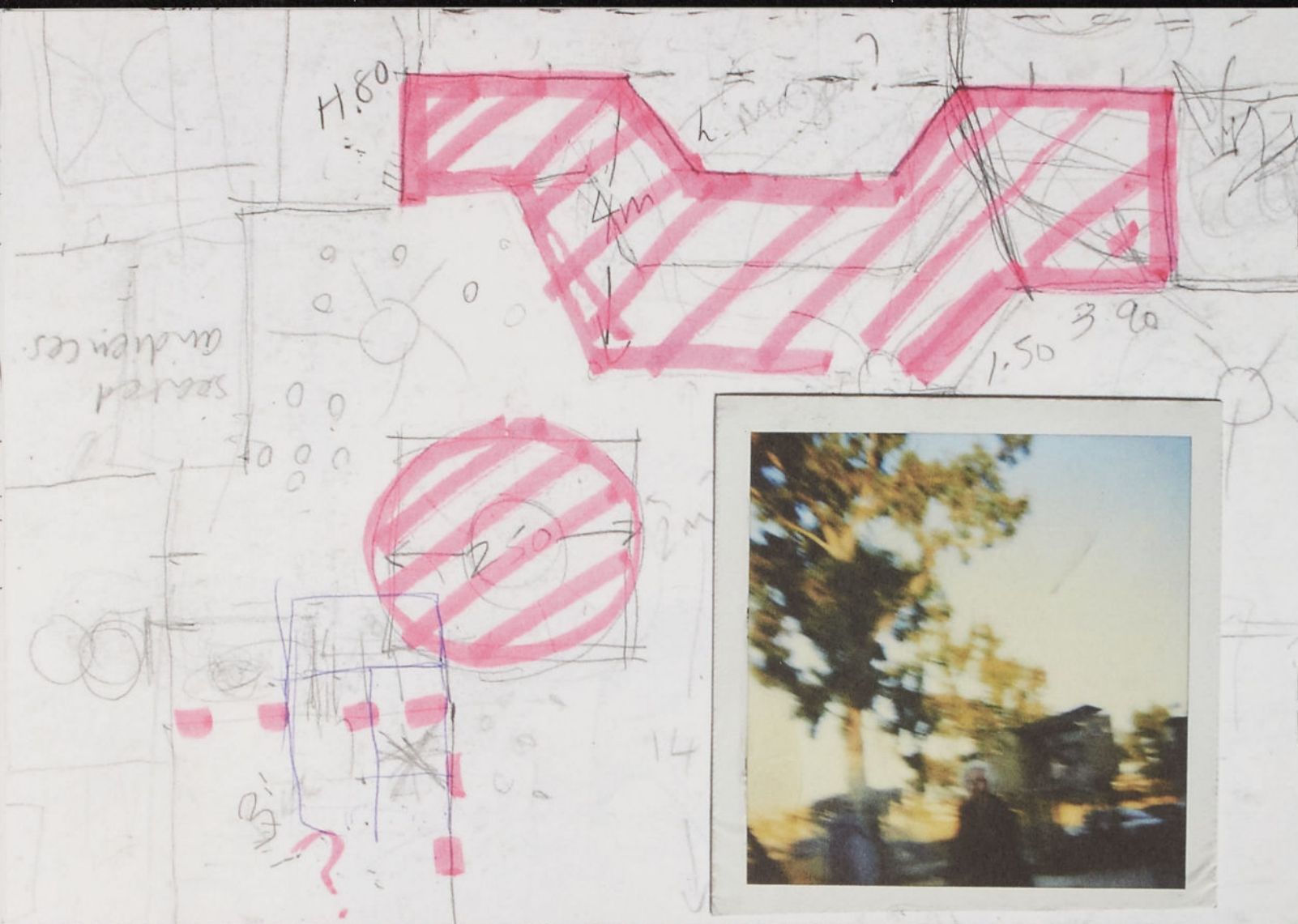
Bec Applebee  
 Sean Donohoe  
 Adrian Freedman  
 Steve Jacobs  
 Mercedes Kemp  
 Alice King  
 Denzil Monk  
 Anna Maria Murphy  
 John Voogd  
 Tom Voogd  
 Daisy Wright

### KNEEHIGH THEATRE

Artistic Director Emma Rice  
 Company Director Mike Shepherd  
 Associate Artist Bill Mitchell  
 General Manager Victoria Hutchinson  
 Finance Coordinator Ali Firth  
 Tour Coordinator Sarah Leigh  
 Marketing & Publicity Laura Eastwood







THE CARNIVAL INTERVAL  
A dark carnival descends on the village





Preparation for the carnival interval started six months ago in Hayle. With the support of Creative Partnerships and the Local Heritage Initiative professional artists, musicians and theatre workers have been running the outreach programme with schools and youth groups in the area.

In engaging with the schools in an area, you reach far more than just the children. Just stand at the school gate at home time - parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, older brothers and sisters, cousins, friends, Uncle Tom Copley and all. The cook, caretaker and secretary are usually the fount of all knowledge. If you want to know who's who and what's what, ask them.

In Bodriggy we held a Tea-Treat. The children invited grandparents, dignitaries, historians and people with stories to tell and memories to share. In this wonderful afternoon the children and guests found out things you

might never find in a history book. They saw photographs that had been hidden in people's albums and came alive in the classroom. Some guests had been at the school 60 years ago.

Young and old looked at each other and Hayle anew. A living history of how things were and what they could be. True Heritage.

In Penpol we journeyed to the Harbour, remembering what was there and finding poetry in what is there now. The children have invented wonderful "Cures" from things they found in their town, reminding us of what a special place it is. Try them for yourselves and be proud of the young people of Hayle.

In these wonderful projects we have delved into local history, literacy, memory, the making of extraordinary artefacts, poetry, community and, uniquely, the results of this work will be part of the performance. On themes of flight, freedom, reminiscence, past and present, they have created small wonders, illusions and stunts that form an integral part of the interval experience.

We have been making theatre on their doorsteps, for and with the people of Hayle, and they have made us very welcome.

Interval rig  
Spider woman

Village change -  
Lx bulbs microphone

Til serials



## OUTREACH PROJECTS

### BODRIGGY COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

#### 'ANGEL BOX'

Installation. Cakes, memories and cures.

The culmination of work by Year 6 and Kneehigh outreach artist Anna Maria Murphy with the assistance of Daisy Wright.

*With special thanks to pupils of year 6, teaching staff and classroom assistants and the relatives and friends of year 6 who made our Tea Treat such a success.*

### HAYLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

#### 'FREEDOM', 'OPERATION SPLATT!', 'FREEDOM SKATES' and 'OUR FUTURE, OUR GENERATION'

Film Shorts. Students of year 9 show what it's like to be a teenager in Hayle.

#### 'MASKED PROCESSION'

What weird and wonderful characters appear when the Carnival is in town?

#### 'CARNIVAL BAND'

Live music developed in workshop sessions involving pupils and musicians from the local community including traditional Cornish horn players.

*With the assistance of Mercedes Kemp, Denzil Monk, Adrian Freedman and Sean Donohoe. With special thanks to all of year 9 and year 10 music students as well as staff members of the school.*

### HAYLE SAMBA

Carnival Samba rhythms and exotic plumage.

*With the assistance of Adrian Freedman and Sean Donohoe. Thanks to co-ordinator, Jude Kirk and Penzamba.*

### MOUNTS BAY SCHOOL, PENZANCE

#### 'STUNT'

Be amazed, be astounded at the daring and ingenuity of this physical performance.

*With the assistance of Steve Jacobs. Thanks to Debbie Rodda and year 10 pupils at Mounts Bay School and the participating pupils from Cape Cornwall & Humphry Davy School.*

### PENPOL SCHOOL, HAYLE

#### 'BOOTH OF CURIOS'

Installation.

#### 'FLIGHT'

Short film.

*With the assistance of Anna Maria Murphy, Alice King, Denzil Monk and Tom Voogd. Thanks to year 4 pupils and all the staff.*

### SHALLAL DANCE THEATRE, PENZANCE

#### 'MOVING IMAGES'

A short film / performance from Shallal: an innovative community dance theatre company of all ages and abilities who combine Dance-Theatre-Voice-Music-Moving image in an exciting, comic and eclectic mix.

*With the assistance of Denzil Monk. Thanks to Danu Fox, Phil Jacobs and Jo Willis.*

### TRURO COLLEGE

#### 'FLYING SOUTH'

Taking a pit stop before continuing their long journey south, this bizarre family are slightly off course. Father puts them through their paces while mother ruffles her feathers, until eventually the baby of the group finally leads them back on course.

Cast

Mother	Lesley Hibbs
Father	Phil Kincaid
Honk	Misty Wood
Hiss	Jen Tredinnick
Baby	Kirsty Smith

*With the assistance of Bec Applebee and Steve Jacobs. Thanks to Kathy Sharpe and the 1st and 2nd year drama students at Truro College.*

### TREGAJORRAN YOUTH GROUP

#### 'A TASTE OF THE FUTURE'

This group of young people thought long and hard about the past, the present and the future.

As a result they have come up with a fantastic invention to solve all your future domestic needs. Be amazed as the thinking, feeling 'VINMAR 3 ROBOT' is revealed and available for sale to the general public for the first time by entrepreneur Luigi Vanfire and, out of this world scientist, Professor Robert Jago.

But all is not quite as it seems!

Cast

VINMAR 3	George Richmond
Luigi Vanfire	Alfie Colman
Professor Robert Jago	Sam Jago Colman

*Thanks to Simon Williams for use of Old Carnkie School*

### STEVEN SIMMONS

#### 'ILLUSIONS'

This young man from Camborne is multi-talented – a fantastic magician, DJ and circus performer! "LOOK OUT" for his Magical Booth of Illusion. Watch in wonder as Steven dexterously performs his magic and mystifies the crowd.

He makes the impossible possible!

*With thanks to John Voogd.*

### GOLOWAN FIRE SWINGERS

Youth Golowan street performers add after dark drama to the carnival atmosphere

*Thanks to the Golowan Festival.*

### CRAFT AND FOOD MARKET

We wanted to create a bustling market for the carnival interval incorporating a crafts market and food and drinks vendors from the three participating Islands. Charlie Riley at Cornwall Arts Marketing has co-ordinated this craft and food market with support from Penwith District Council, Cornwall County Council, Taste of the West and Creative Kernow, and the help and co-operation of all the stallholders.



## FRIENDS SCHEME

Kneehigh has always appreciated the loyalty of our supporters and have been looking for ways to bring you closer to the company. So we have decided to launch an official friends scheme.

Whether you have been a long-term supporter or have just discovered the company we warmly welcome you to the world of Kneehigh Theatre. Your membership donation of just £10 per year helps us to continue and develop our ground breaking work and in return you will receive exclusive tickets & event offers, newsletters and advanced notice of all our forthcoming productions.

For more information contact Laura at Kneehigh  
01872 267910 office@kneehigh.co.uk



## KNEEHIGH THEATRE FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### TRISTAN & YSEULT

A collaboration between Kneehigh Theatre and the National Theatre

*Tour in association with Bristol Old Vic*

Following a sell out, five - star run at the Royal National Theatre, Kneehigh's highly acclaimed Tristan & Yseult goes on tour in Autumn 2005. For full tour details please visit [www.kneehigh.co.uk](http://www.kneehigh.co.uk) or Tel: 01872 267910

*'It made me want to gurgle with delight...  
It embraces you so warmly it feels like you have  
been physically hugged. I loved it with a passion.'*  
The Guardian\*\*\*\*\*

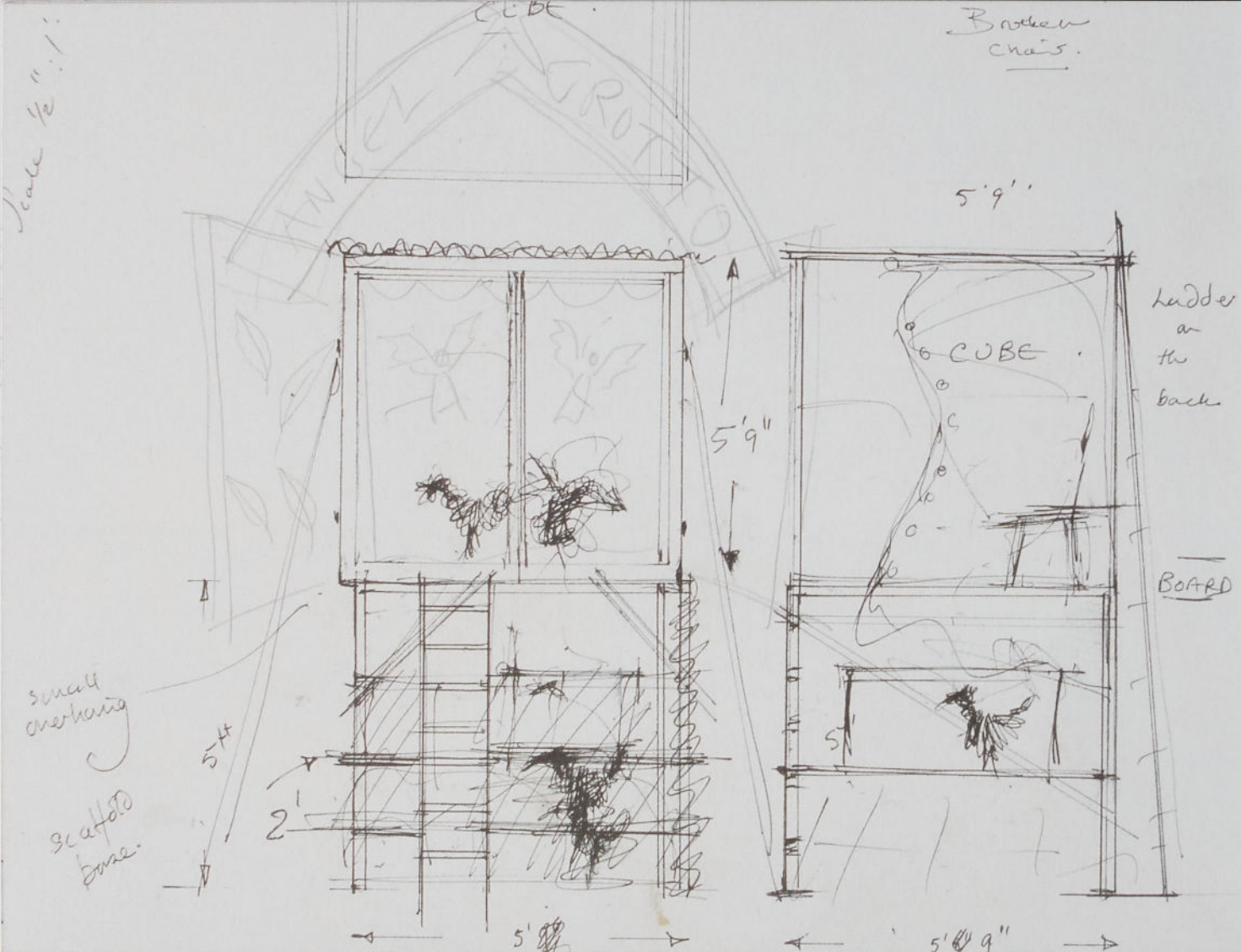
## WILD WORKS FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The next Wild Works project will be a site-specific event broadly based on the story of Orpheus and Eurydice. A man who loves so passionately he travels into the underworld to get his lover back. In this production the audience gets the chance to travel with him and go sight seeing in a very odd but strangely familiar world. This story is told with live music, humour and sadness wonderful visual treats. This bitter sweet adventure will take place in some stunning locations from May to September next year, starting at the Brighton Festival. The project then travels to three festivals in France, and to Colchester, before finally returning to Cornwall.



Photo: Steve Tanner lephoto.com





## THANK YOU TO

Julie Seyler & Julie Davies of Creative Kernow, Jackie George at Cornwall Enterprise, Lindsey Hall and Tamsin Harvey of Creative Partnerships, Cllr Terry Lello, Mayor of Hayle, Cllr Pam Lyne, Rob Poole, Poppy Treffry, Rose Barnecut of Penwith DC and Jane Sutherland at Creative Skills, Antony Waller, Helen Bunt and Dot Peryer at The Works, Jeremy Joslin & Hayle Chamber of Commerce, Dave Mynne, Neil Robson, Brian Hoskins, Stan & Elaine Fenton, Julie Harris, Philippa Hoskin, Mike Franklin, FSP Stephen Berry and Melanie Matthews, Dalla the leading lights of Cornish roots music and Ray Tovey and Hannah Reynolds from the Hayle Market and Coastal Town Initiative and Roger Warren & Mike Chaiken for use for their boats, Fishermen's Rep, John Carter, Nick Darke for the Spider Woman lyrics.

Our friends in Europe Lili Portelli, Ronnie Micallef, Chris Gatt, John Boxall, Peter Skelton, Adrian Wirth, Andrew Alamango and Etnika, Andy Bargilly, Marina Maleni, Andrie, Lelli, Derman, Oya, Ipek and all our friends in Malta and Cyprus.

Aggreko, John Eardley

Archie Browns & Penpol School for support with the catering

Ash & Lacey Perforators, Rob Johns

Automatics, Alan Davies

Brewers Group

Cook Auto Repairs, Malcolm Cook

Cornwall County Council Commercial Services

Cornwall Shed Company

Golowan Community Arts

Golowan Festival

GSD Site Security, Roger Thomas

Hayle Harbour Management Ltd, Richard Ford & John Brown

ING

James St Aubyn & ETS

Parkamatic Door Company, Ian McKechnie

Penpol County Primary School

Percy Williams & Sons Ltd

Ray Mills & Lee Mills, Well Parc Hotel

Skinner's Brewery

Sparrow Crane Hire Ltd, Jonathan Penney

Take Me Home

The Dome Company, Gil Gilligan

Wyevale Garden Centre, Martin Lucas

Thanks to all the craft and food market stallholders and to all the stewards and programme sellers.

Many thanks to all the fishermen of South Quay.

Special thanks to all our amazing volunteers who have given us their summer to work on the show.

This project has been an epic collaboration and for the final leg of the project we have tried to say thank you to everyone involved. But just in case this is a final thank you to each and every person who has been involved over the last three years whatever your contribution, be it large or small, we are sincerely grateful. We could not have done it without you!

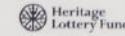


# PAWLU - TEST FLIGHT



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SEENCORNWALL



The Dodo Pad Ltd.





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