Strange Cargo

KNEEHIGH
T · H · E · A · T · R · E

Sponsored by BT

Strange Cargo
or 'The Virgin of Esperanza'

Strange Cargo has been 'cooked' over the past months by myself and John Lee.

We've sat in the shed at the bottom of his garden watching the rain slant down as we've played and struggled with dramatic structure, told each other jokes and dreamt of better weather.

We are now in rehearsal at our cliff top production base on the South Cornish coast. It has been the wettest April since 'who knows when'. The rain continues to slant in varying directions and Strange Cargo is set on the fictitious and forgotten island of Esperanza where the sun always shines and where wellingtons are unknown.

The 'cooking' continues with the combined imaginations of the cast, designer, production team, musical direction and choreography.

Strange Cargo is a comedy about an elderly community, a bright new dawn, it's about love and loss, happy accidents and quirky charms. It's about a fiesta and a homecoming. It's about belief in miracles, superstition and change. It's about old and new and the power of misrule.

Strange Cargo is an international show where action, image and music tell a story. The language of Esperanza has been developed texturally using Spanish as a starting point.

The work of Louis de Bernières and Gabriel Garcia Marquez has inspired this production.

Lastly.....may I wish all of us a good Summer!

Mike Shepherd - Director

Corre, que te persigue un sapo

Run, a toad is after you!

The Company

Bec Applebee	Milagros - The idiot
	Madre - The mother
Stu Barker	Juan - The musician
Jim Carey	El Capitan Delgares - The Captain
Carl Grose	Don Pedante - The Mayor
Giles King	Frankie Allegro - The rogue
Dave Mynne	Padre Don Pio - The priest
Emma Rice	Rosa Rosita - The lover

Milagros

Miracle

All other parts will be played by the Company

(The role of Rosa Rosita will be played by **Amy Rose** from August 26th)

Mike Shepherd	Writer and Director
John Lee	Co-writer and Director
Bill Mitchell	Designer
Jim Carey	Musical Direction
Mercedes Kemp	Script and Language development
Emma Rice	Choreography
Allan Drake	Company and Technical Manager
Sean Donohoe	Costume
John Voogd	Set construction
Graham Jobbins	Assistant set construction
Alice King	Prop maker
Gerry Goodrum	Assistant prop maker
Sue Hill	Masks and Programme illustrations
Ruth Shepherd	Assistant maker
Steve Tanner	Photography
Richard Elwell	Programme design

Alegre

Happy

Ye es la fiesta

It is the fiesta

Hilary Garnham	Administrative Director
Tom Critchley	Tour Co-ordinator
Jane Sutherland	Administrative and Marketing Assistant
Ali Firth	Finance Assistant
Amanda Harris	Work in Cornwall Co-ordinator

Cabrón

Old goat

Music

The drunken breath of the Esperanza tavern band reeks of other times, other places, other peoples.

A toast to the Latins, Bulgarians, Spanish, Macedonians, Portugese, Mozart and other Rock n' Rollers who have helped to create the music of Esperanza.

'Funeral March', 'Frankie's Love Theme', 'El Generalisimo' and other bits by Stu, Giles and Jim.

All music performed by the Strange Cargo Company.

'Rosa's Letter' based on 'Os Senhores de Guerra' by Madredeus.

Running order

An Elderly Prologue
The Fiesta Begins
Propaganda and a Letter
Frankie Allegro Comes Home
The First Night of the Icon
New day....El Capitan Arrives
The Second Night of the Icon
Rock 'n' Roll Taverna
Milagros Interrogated
The Night of the Miracles
Rock 'n' Roll Curfew

Hay pesca?

How's the fishing?

Te quiero, nunca te abandonaté

I love you, I'll never leave you

Interval

Anthem and Exercises
Newsflash
Frankie's Arrest
Rosa Rosita's Plan
Tragedy
El Capitan's Nightmare
Icon Insurrection
Final Fiesta

Hola buenos días

Hallo, good day

Vete a ve si ya puso la puerca

Go see if the sow has laid an egg
Meaning: Go jump in the lake

Thanks

We would like to thank all the many people who have assisted with the production of **'Strange Cargo'**: BT for sponsoring the tour, Trudi Stallard and Romer Robbins for feeding everyone and keeping their strength up, Nick and Dean at Protection Racket drum cases, Patrick Lowry at Falmouth College of Arts, DRV, John Nelson and the tent crew at Heligan, Harold Semmens, Steve Turner, John Oxenholme and Ivor Bowditch at ECC, Jo Tagney, David Bacon, Jim and Steve from Miracle Theatre, Rory for the baglama, Stan Grose, Ian at Stage Electrics, Dr Martin Wills from Hodgkinson Wills Bradburn, Colin Spargo and Wilshaw Dental Laboratory for the teeth, Emily Gray, Tristan Sturrock, Declan Conlan, Alison Cameron, the work experience boys Henry Darke and Luke Howe and the work experience girls Molly Weaver, Tamsyn Watson, Nia Thorpe and Ashling Deeks, Wills' of Truro for cigars, Truro Fabrics, Body Shop for sun protection, Graham Doss, Barbara Wiltshire, Trevor Deakin, Survival Equipment Section - RAF St Mawgan, all the promoters, ushers and programme sellers throughout the tour.

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The Strange Cargo Tour

June			
3rd-5th	***Tavistock***	**Bedford Hotel Gardens**	01822 617244
8th-12th	***Porthcurno***	**The Minack Theatre**	01736 810181
17th-18th	***Sidmouth***	**Connaught Gardens**	01392 493493
19th-20th	***Beaford***	**Centre Gardens**	01805 624624
21st	***Bryanston***	**Arts Centre**	01258 456533
24th-26th	***Lanner***	**Carn Marth Quarry**	01872 262466
27th	***Bodmin***	**Cornwall Theatre Festival**	01208 76616
30th-1st July	***Dawlish***	**The Lawn**	01626 863589
July			
2nd-4th	***Frome***	**Ecos Festival**	01373 465949 / 467271
5th	***Torbay***	**Torbay Hospital**	01803 654551
9th-11th	***London***	**Royal National Theatre**	0171 4523000
14th-16th	***Dorchester***	**Maumbury Rings**	01305 266926
17th-18th	***Purbeck***	**Kimmeridge Bay**	01305 269512
21st-25th	***Bristol***	**QEH Theatre**	0117 9877877
30th-1st Aug	***Stockton***	**Riverside Festival**	01642 611625
August			
2nd	***Leeds***	**West Yorkshire Playhouse**	0113 2137700
4th-8th	***Mevagissey***	**Heligan Gardens**	01726 68532
11th-15th	***Feock***	**Trelissick Garden**	01872 262466
26th-31st	***Edinburgh***	**Edinburgh Book Festival**	0131 6245050

Forthcoming Kneehigh Events

Good news for Kneehigh and Cornwall!

Following the success of Kneehigh's production of Nick Darke's **'The King of Prussia'**, we have been commissioned to co-produce Nick's latest comedy **'The Riot'** at the Royal National Theatre.

'The Riot' is loosely based on the Newlyn Fishing Riots of 1896 and is scheduled to run in repertoire for ten weeks at the Cottesloe from February 1999 before coming home to Cornwall.

Listen out for.....a radio version of **'The King of Prussia'** with a Kneehigh cast which is due to be broadcast on **Radio 4** on 15th August

Carn Marth - Bonfire Spectacular Party

Sunday 21st June from 9pm

To arouse the senses for the imminent arrival of Strange Cargo.

Big Sculptural Bonfire, Bands, Barbeque and Bar.

Further details and tickets contact:
Kneehigh 01872 223159
Carn Marth 01209 821310

Papanatas

Dumbo

Shop of Stories in Falmouth

July 14th - 25th
Venue to be confirmed

Keep an eye on the press for tales beyond belief to feast the imagination, or contact the Kneehigh Office 01872 223159

Kneehigh Theatre
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Reg. Charity No. 290218

Qué pasa, calabasa

What gives, pumpkin

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