



THE ASH MAID



KNEEHIGH
T · H · E · A · T · R · E



Ashenputtel

Introduction

Cinderella is a universal fairy tale that has been picked up or invented by most cultures over thousands of years - the tale of triumph over despair, victory over oppression and good over evil, in a world where appearances are deceptive and magical transformations occur. Over 700 versions of the tale have been collected. The detail in each story may differ but many themes recur and the message is similar.

In the Chinese tale it is a long haired man who gives magical help to the young girl, in the Italian a fairy and a white bird in the German. In some tales the girl has a giant fish while in others she has a tree that grows to magnificent heights. The source of the heroine's fortune is also to be found in preserved bones - those of a red calf in Scotland and a fish in China. Common to all is the fact that the prince or king, however much he loves the beautiful young girl, must recognise her in her lowly, tattered state before the course of true love can prevail. No human knows of her secret but it can be shared with animals, birds or creatures from the other world.

It is Charles Perrault who made the slipper out of glass - a perfect form that cannot be stretched and in which the foot can be seen to fit.

Sources: Grimm's *Fairy Tales*, Perrault *Contes du Temps Passé*, Basile and Peter Opie *Classic Fairy Tales*. Kneehigh has not just used one source but has tried to get a flavour of them all.

Cendrillon



Who is who? Who has been transformed most since childhood? Who are each of these children?



B



"Deeper meaning resides in the fairy tales told to me in my childhood than in the truth that is taught by life" Schiller



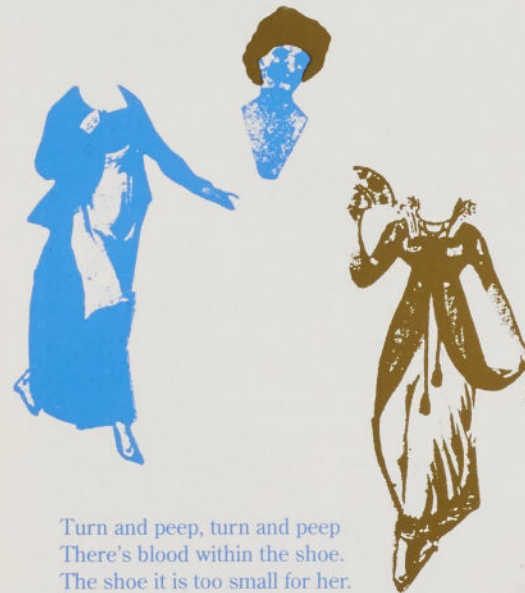
"The feet short and thick, signifieth a person to be weak; slender and short, to be wicked; fleshy and hard, to be a blockhead. The feet small and fair-formed, to be a fornicator; much hairy to be lecherous and bold; naked of hair to be weak of strength and courage;" **The Shepherd's Prognostication 1729**

Sooty

Cinders

Cinder's
Lungs of ash
Feet of coal
Fingers worn
Hand skin torn

Juice of ages
Tears of sea
Dress of fire
Kings desire



Turn and peep, turn and peep
There's blood within the shoe.
The shoe it is too small for her.
The true bride waits for you.

Cinderella

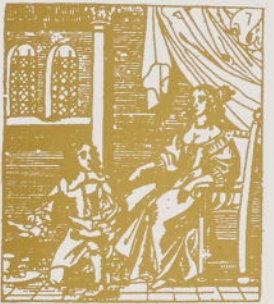
The Cast

Ash Maid
Father
Stepmother
Step Sisters

Prince
Stage Manager & Technician

Everything and everyone else is played by the Company

Emma Rice
Bec Applebee
Sue Hill
Mike Shepherd
Giles King
Bec Applebee
Allan Drake



Production

Direction

Design & Making

Costume
Text

Music
Department & Movement
Administration

Poster design
Photography
Programme

The action of the Ash Maid takes place in various parts of the Father's house, the Royal Palace and the strange and eventful journey between the two.

Bill Mitchell
Tristan Sturrock
Bill Mitchell,
Alice King, John Voogd,
Anna Maria Murphy
& the Company
Sean Donohoe, Sue Hill
Anna Maria Murphy &
the Company
Jim Carey & the Company
Nicki Rosewarne
Amanda Harris, Julie Smith,
Jane Sutherland & Ali Firth
Sue Hill
Steve Tanner
Tony Crosby



La Gatta Cenerentola

Kneehigh Theatre

"Kneehigh remain the master storytellers ..."
EVENT.

Cornwall's Kneehigh Theatre was formed in 1980 to provide exciting live theatre for children and their families. This aim still persists but we are constantly striving and seeking to explore the process of theatre making and of building a theatre of the future. The company is rooted in Cornwall but is also spreading its wings nationally and internationally with strong links in Germany and Holland and seeking to forge others in Portugal and Eastern Europe. As well as touring theatre we have a strong community arts programme and a commitment to working in Cornish schools. We hold regular courses and workshops at our Barn in Gorran Haven and seek creative collaborative ventures with other artists and art forms.

Kneehigh is a group of practitioners all living in Cornwall. They are a multi-talented group of performers, musicians, composers, artists, writers, sculptors, teachers, technicians, directors and administrators offering a wide range of professional skills and resources.

Kneehigh is a member of the South West Theatre Consortium which is a creative collaboration of six major theatre companies in the South West, namely: Kneehigh Theatre, Northcott Theatre, Orchard Theatre, Plymouth Theatre Royal, Rent-a-Role and Theatre Alibi. Kneehigh is also a member of the Cornwall Theatre Umbrella.

A Emma Rice
B Bec Applebee
C Susan Hill
D Mike Shepherd
E Giles King
F Alan Drake
G Will Coleman

News on our Local Work from Will Coleman

Figgie Hobbin returns for a second run of our enchanting illumination of Charles Causley's poetry touring to schools and village halls in March and April.

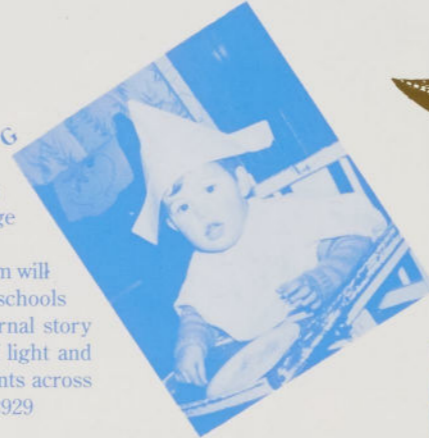
Wildfire, our community events team will be animating winter residencies in schools and communities, weaving the eternal story of the clash between the forces of light and darkness. Bonfire and lantern events across Cornwall. For information 0726 832929

Next Summer's production:
The Lost Stories of Don Quixote

Thanks

Lucy Davies in retrospect for Ravenheart efforts, Bit Computers for guardianship, Trudi and Ali for more dinnerly delights, Jo King, Giselle, Clive Shilton of Hardy Exotics for loan of wedding slipper, Mo Imms, the Kneehigh Board, Sam Hart, John Sleep Gramophones of Crantock, Clare Leverton, J.L.B. Textiles Ltd of St. Columb, St. Petroc's School, Events Technical and Production Services of Plymouth for star cloth, Sainsbury's, Leon Youlton of Cathedral Motors, and all our families and friends without whose support and assistance we'd all still be sorting the lentils in the embers...

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Rashin Coatie

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11 Castle Street, Truro, TR1 3AF or
phone 01872 223159 for further
information.

Kneehigh Network

If you would like to receive regular information about our work please fill in the form below with your name and address (or send it to us on a piece of paper if you do not wish to spoil this programme). All we ask in return is that you distribute the leaflets and posters to your friends so that everyone knows when we're performing in your neck of the woods!

Name.....

Address

.....Postcode.....

The Tour 1994/95

November
28th & 29th

December

1st & 2nd

6th

7th

8th

9th & 10th

13th

15th

16th & 17th

18th

20th - 23rd

January

3rd - 7th

10th

11th

12th

13th & 14th

17th

18th

19th

20th

21st

24th & 25th

26th

27th & 28th

31st & 1st

February

2nd

3rd

4th

7th

8th - 10th

Bodmin, Public Rooms

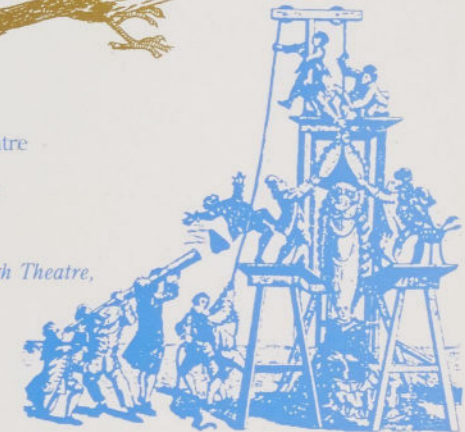
Falmouth, Princess Pavilion
Fowey Community School
Lostwithiel Community Centre
Mullion School
Torrington, Plough Arts Centre
Camelford, Sir James Smith School
Narberth, Queens Hall
Llantwit Major, St Donats Art Centre
Builth Wells, Wyeside Arts
Penzance, The Acorn

Plymouth Theatre Royal
Launceston Town Hall
St. Austell, Penrice School
Mevagissey, Jubilee Hall
Calstock, Village Hall
Corfe Castle, Village Hall
Gyllingham School
Bridport Arts Centre
Dorchester, Corn Exchange
Shillingstone School
Bristol, QEH Theatre
Bridgewater Arts Centre
Frome, Merlin Theatre
Dartington, The Barn Theatre

Gloucester, Guildhall Arts Centre
Cardigan, Theatre Mwidan
Milford Haven, Torch Theatre
Tavistock, Wharf Arts Centre
Truro, City Hall

For further information contact the venue or Kneehigh Theatre,
Tel: 01872 223159 Fax: 01872 260487.

Yeh-hsien



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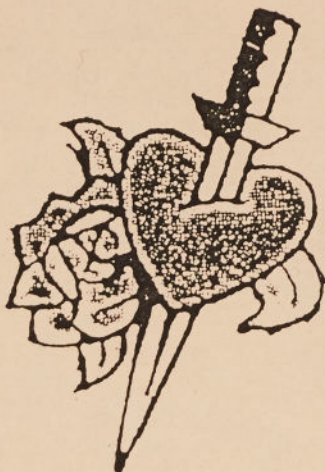
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ADULTS : £4 CONCS : £2.50
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