

Kneehigh
ON TOUR

THE WILD BRIDE



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THE WILD BRIDE

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THE WILD BRIDE

(or The Handless Maiden)

I first had a stab at this epic story in 2002, commissioned by Éva Magyar and her company The Shamans. Bill Mitchell (designer then and now) and I travelled to Hungary to create a show based on the ancient story of the Handless Maiden. My memory is that it was rather beautiful: lyrical, full of flowers and poetry, pretty frocks and soft kid leather.

I returned home with a sense of achievement. I was proud of the work, had had a great time and held the show in great affection. I put the show on my 'sorted' shelf and forgot it, thinking my work was done.

I was, however, fortunate that I didn't understand Hungarian as it became painfully clear with time that the show had been a monumental flop, and ended soon after it began. My Hungarian friends had protected me from the truth and without the clarity of ever having read a review or understood audience feedback I remained in blissful ignorance for many years. Anyway! What did they know? The show was done.

But then came the knocking. I began thinking of the story again. Dreams circled, fragments of memory came into focus and I had a dawning awareness that I had indeed missed the heart, soul and very point of this extraordinary tale. Older, more bruised, and more myself, I decided to make this piece again. Only now was I beginning to understand what it is to do a deal with the devil and what it is to endure.

So, here it is. No party frocks for my women this time. This time there is dirt and blues and brutality. We drew inspiration from the great depression, from African landmine victims and from Robert Johnson. We used our own experience to explore the depths and possibilities of the human experience. And this is where story, theatre and life collide! Nuzzling right alongside the archetypal trials that our heroine endures, there is the real wonder of the people playing her and playing alongside her. As she feels that she can't go on, another sings like a siren, as she feels betrayed, another dances like a dervish and as she begins to heal a band plays with passion and empathy. The very people telling the story teach us that we are in this together, that we can go on, that we are capable of anything, that there is indeed hope. We are heroes all: living, breathing, hurting, fighting, enduring contemporary heroes.

So. This story has come of age. Or perhaps I have. Here's to getting up in the morning, to looking forward and back and to being firmly rooted in the moment. But most of all, here's to slow, quiet, sneaky healing.

As the show says:

Now I know why no one notices a tree as it grows
Because their deep roots creep down oh so slow
And their clever branches quickly learn
To blossom only when your back is turned

Emma Rice Director and Adapter Creative team





Audrey Brisson
The Girl



Stuart Goodwin
The Father/The Prince



Patrycja Kujawska
The Wild



Éva Magyar
The Woman



Stuart McLoughlin
The Devil



Ian Ross
The Musician

Boundless thanks to the company for their skill, experience, care and creativity. Without their generosity and brilliance, this work would not have been possible.

Creative team

Director & Adaptor
Assistant Director
Text & lyrics
Music
Choreographer
Designer
Costume Designer
Lighting Designer
Sound Designer
Associate Sound Designer
Producer

Emma Rice
Simon Harvey
Carl Grose
Stu Barker
Etta Murfitt
Bill Mitchell
Myriddin Wannell
Malcolm Rippeth
Simon Baker
Andy Graham
Paul Crewes

Additional Dance

Éva Magyar

Production team

Production Manager
Company Stage Manager
Re-lights/Lighting Operator
Sound Operator (Lyric Hammersmith Only)
Props/Puppet Maker
Carpenter

David Harraway
Steph Curtis
Ben Nichols
Scott Carter
Sarah Wright
Alex Crombie-Rogers

Kneehigh would also like to thank:

Tr2, Luke Woods at Foxglove Furniture, Ruth Shepherd, Sue Hill, Kirsty Harris, Emma Staton and Mr Bill, Jen Riddick, Peran Odgers, Chris Jordan, Bristol Old Vic, Daniel Sparrow, Dominic Fraser, Heligan Gardens, Linda Plimley, Mike Gunning and Lin Potter at Wrightsure.

*Please note that The Wild Bride has strobe lighting and smoke effects.



Simon Baker Sound Designer

Simon graduated from the Guildhall School in 1992 and became a fellow of the school in 2010. Most recent credits include The Lord Of The Rings (Toronto and London – 2007 Olivier Nomination for Best Sound), Boeing Boeing (London and Broadway – 2007 Tony Nomination for Best Sound), God of Carnage, Our House (UK Tour), The Norman Conquests (London and Broadway), Arcadia (London), The Birds (Dublin), Bridge Project 2010 (BAM/London/International Tour), The Real Thing (London), Late Middle Classes (London) and La Bete (London and Broadway). Brief Encounter (London/UK Tour/US Tour/St Ann's Warehouse – 2008 Olivier Nomination for Best Sound and 2011 Tony Nomination Best Sound), Don John (RSC/UK Tour/BAC) and the 2010 Asylum Season, all for Kneehigh. Matilda - a musical (RSC) Me and My Girl (Sheffield), The Umbrellas of Cherbourg (London) and Batman Live! (International Tour).

Stu Barker Composer

Stu has worked extensively as composer/musical director with Kneehigh over the last fifteen years. Co-produced shows as composer/MD include: A Matter Of Life and Death / Tristan & Yseult (Royal National Theatre), Brief Encounter (Broadway/West End), Cymbeline / Don John (RSC), Hansel & Gretel (Bristol Old Vic), The Bacchae / The Wooden Frock (West Yorkshire Playhouse), Nights at the Circus / The Red Shoes (Lyric Hammersmith), Rapunzel (BAC), Pandora's Box (Northern Stage). Other Composer/MD work includes: Shakespeare's Globe, Bristol Old Vic, Donmar Warehouse, Welfare State International, Contact Theatre, Travelling Light and Horse + Bamboo.

Audrey Brisson The Girl

This is Audrey's first time working with Kneehigh. She trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama, graduating in 2009. She also studied Classical Singing at Cegep St-Laurent, Canada. As a child and teenager, Audrey worked extensively with Cirque Du Soleil as a vocalist and performer. She performed in their international tours of Réinventé (1989) and Quidam (1996-2000). She also performed in the papal event at the Yankee Stadium (2008). Since graduation, Audrey has filmed the feature films Hereafter directed by Clint Eastwood and W.E. directed by Madonna and for television, a new drama adaptation of Martin Amis's novel Money (BBC).

Paul Crewes Producer

Before working with Kneehigh, Paul worked as Producer at the West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds, where he set up over 40 productions as well as collaborations with Kneehigh (The Wooden Frock & The Bacchae), Improbable Theatre, Teatre Romea, National Theatre and with commercial & West End producers. Other work includes producing the UK tour of Doorman with his own company in 2005, Associate Producer for the Lowry, producing King Cotton in 2007, Fireflies and Beyond the Frontline in 2009 and working for Metal with Jude Kelly on several projects including the Olympic bid for 2012. Paul has worked for Kneehigh since 2005 and for them has produced; Tristan & Yseult (UK, Sydney, New Zealand & US) Cymbeline (UK, Columbia & Brazil); Rapunzel (UK & US) Don John (UK & US),

Hansel & Gretel, Brief Encounter (US tour), the launch of the Kneehigh Asylum (featuring The Red Shoes, Blast!, The King of Prussia) and the 2010 tour of The Red Shoes (UK, US & Australia).

Stuart Goodwin The Father / The Prince

This is Stuart's first time working with Kneehigh, marking a return to theatre after several years during which time Stuart, his wife and two daughters travelled Europe working on organic farms and in eco-communities. They have now settled in West Sussex where they have a few acres of land that they are busy developing into a community smallholding and events venue. Having trained at Guildhall School of Music and Drama 95-98, Stuart particularly enjoyed working on The Lieutenant of Innishmore at the RSC; State of Play (BAFTA winner) and Cashback (Oscar nominated).

Carl Grose Writer

Carl has worked extensively with Kneehigh for the past sixteen years as both a writer and an actor. His writing for Kneehigh includes Quick Silver, Tristan & Yseult, The Bacchae, Wagstaffe The Wind-Up Boy, Blast!, Cymbeline and Hansel & Gretel. Carl has also written for BBC TV and Radio, Vesturport, Told By an Idiot, o-region, the RSC and the National Theatre. His recent plays include Gargantua (National Theatre Connections) and 'Orse Piss For Blood (The Drum Theatre, Plymouth). He is currently writing Burn Me Dead (a musical inspired by The Master and Margarita) and a new commission for Kneehigh about the Cornish world boxing champion, Bob Fitzsimmons.

Andy Graham Associate Sound Designer

Andy has worked on Brief Encounter (UK & USA), The Red Shoes (UK, USA and Australia), The King Of Prussia, and Blast! whilst part of the Kneehigh team. He graduated from Mountview Theatre School in 2001 with a BA Hons in Technical Theatre, and has worked as a sound operator and engineer primarily in London's West End ever since. Shows as an operator include The King & I, The Full Monty, Contact, Jerry Springer The Opera (Olivier Award for Best Sound), Guys And Dolls (Olivier Nomination), The Lord Of The Rings (Olivier Nomination) and Our House (UK Tour). As a production engineer Andy's credits include High School Musical, Treasure Island, End Of The Rainbow, and most recently Ghost - The Musical.

Simon Harvey Assistant Director

Simon is a director, performer and producer based in Truro, Cornwall. As Kneehigh's resident Assistant Director his recent work includes The Red Shoes (National and International tour), Hansel & Gretel, Brief Encounter (UK and American Tour), Rapunzel and Cymbeline. Simon has performed in a number of Kneehigh shows including Blast! and The King of Prussia (Asylum 2010), Wagstaffe The Wind-Up Boy and Journey to the Centre of the Earth. Outside of Kneehigh, Simon is the Artistic Director of o-region, a theatre and film production company for whom he recently produced and directed One Darke Night. He is also the co-producer of the company's second feature film Weekend Retreat by Brett Harvey, which is currently in post-production.

Patrycja Kujawska *The Wild*

Patrycja has performed with Kneehigh in Don John, The Red Shoes and as a regular member of The Kneehigh Band. She studied at the Academy of Music in Gdansk, graduating in violin. She was a guest performer at the City Theatre in Gdynia and sang in the Non-Cabaret of Maciej Nowak in the Baltic Sea Cultural Centre. She has performed with Dada von Bzdulow Theatre since 1994 and composed the music to Dada's performance The Doom of the People or My Liver Has No Sense. In 2000 she was awarded a Gdansk Theatre Scholarship from the City of Gdansk to create a recital of The Ninth Lover of Katarzyna Foster. She danced in Papugaj, choreographed by Tatiana Baganowa and in Avi Kaiser's Endstation - ZASPA. She played as a guest violinist with experimental psychedelic rock band Chlupot Mozgu and appeared on Magic Carpatian's album "Water Dreams". For Vincent Dance Theatre Patrycja has made and toured internationally Drop Dead Gorgeous (2001), Let The Mountains Lead You To Love (2003), Punch Drunk (2004), Broken Chords (2005), Fairy Tale (2006), Test Run (2006) and If We Go On (2009). She was awarded a grant from Arts Council England to compose music inspired by French sculptor Sabrina Gruss (2007).

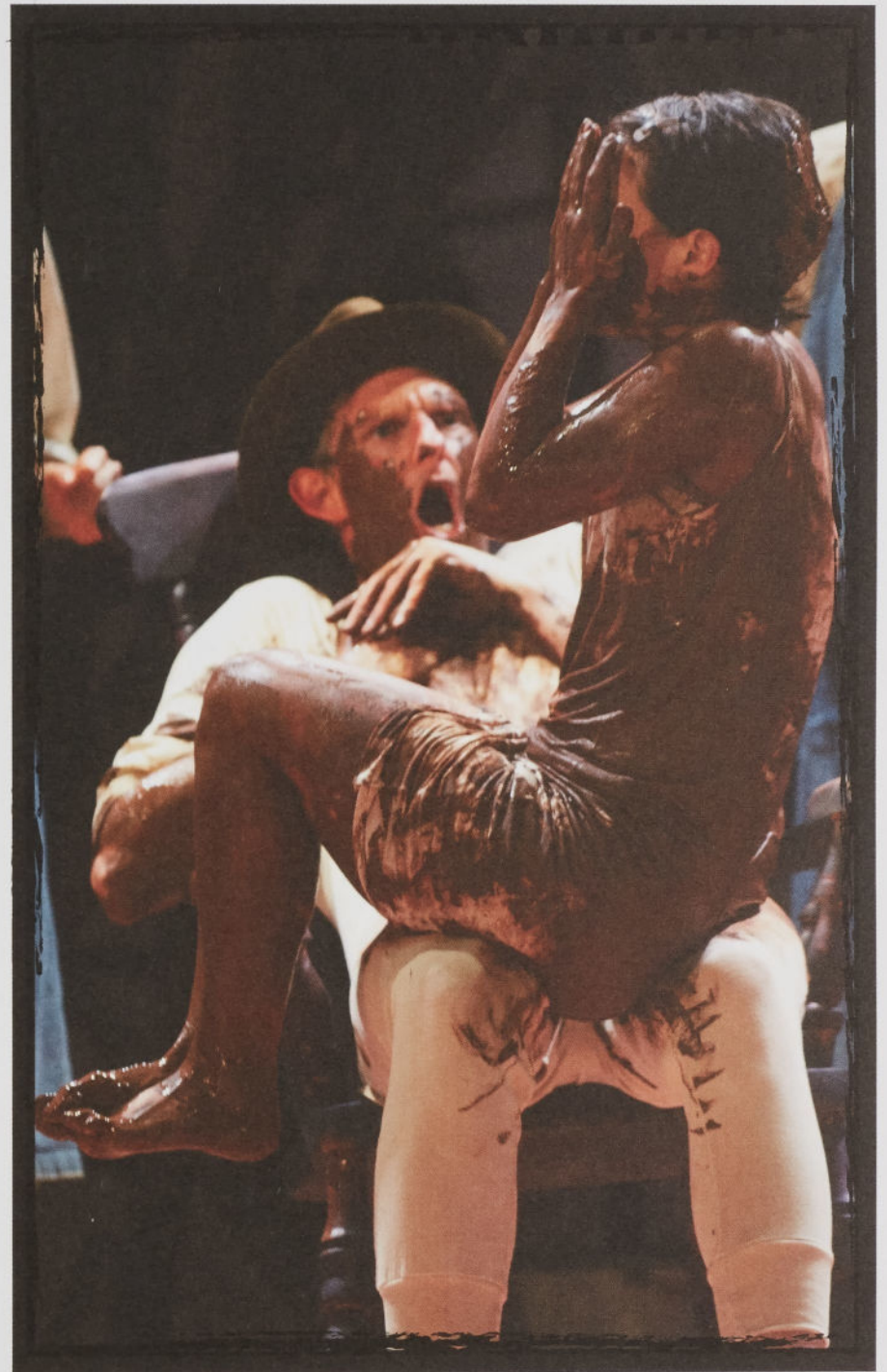
Éva Magyar *The Woman*

Éva is an actress, choreographer and director. She trained at The Budapest Drama and Film Academy. In her native Hungary, Éva worked on a great many productions in diverse theatrical forms, with various companies. In Britain, Éva has worked extensively with Kneehigh as Agave in The Bacchae and Yseult in Tristan & Yseult, which she reprised for the National Theatre. Éva has performed her one woman show House of Deer at Battersea Arts Centre, has played Kaikeyi in Ramayana for the Lyric Theatre Hammersmith and the Mother in Sexual Neuroses of Our Parents at the Gate Theatre in Notting Hill. Recently she has played Lady Capulet in Romeo and Juliet for the Royal Shakespeare Company and appeared in Breathing Irregular for the Gate Theatre. Her film credits include lead roles in A Matter Of Life, The Understudy, The Death of Pentheus (Methodact Ltd) and most recently X-Men: First Class (Fox London Productions Ltd). Éva runs her own company The Shamans which is highly acclaimed in Hungary and internationally, winning numerous awards including Best Actress (Poland), Best Director (Cairo), The Independent Award (California) and The Herald Angel (Edinburgh).

Stuart McLoughlin *The Devil*

Stuart returns to Kneehigh having previously been seen in A Matter of Life and Death (National Theatre) and Brief Encounter (West End). Other theatre credits include: The Odyssey, Suspension, Up The Feeder Down The Mouth And Back Again, Swallows and Amazons (Bristol Old Vic), The Wizard of Oz (Hall For Cornwall), Coram Boy (National Theatre), Film credits include: The Deep Blue Sea, Made In Dagenham, The Golden Age. TV credits include: Waking The Dead, Trevor Island, Little Dorrit, Clone.

THE WILD BRIDE



Bill Mitchell Designer

Bill became part of the Kneehigh team in 1987 and was Artistic Director from 1997 to 2005. In 2006 he was made an Honorary Fellow of University College Falmouth. Bill has worked on many Kneehigh productions including; Tregeagle, Ghost Nets, The King of Prussia and Tristan & Yseult. More recently he designed The Bacchae, The Wooden Frock, Nights at the Circus, A Matter of Life and Death and re-visited The Red Shoes for the Asylum last year. In 2005 Bill established his own landscape theatre company Wildworks creating A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings (2005), Souterrain in 2006/7 and The Beautiful Journey in 2009. This year Wildworks collaborated with Michael Sheen and the National Theatre Wales on The Passion in Port Talbot and at present is enjoying a 2-year residency in Kensington Palace with the much-acclaimed project Enchanted Palace.

Etta Murfitt Choreographer

Etta is Associate Director for Matthew Bourne's New Adventures, working on Cinderella (Sadlers Wells, UK Tour), Dorian Gray (Edinburgh Festival, Sadlers Wells), Edward Scissorhands (London, UK tour, Japan, Korea, USA, Australia), the restaging of Highland Fling (Sadler's Wells, UK tour and Japanese tour), Nutcracker! (London, UK tours, Far East tour and US tour), The Car Man (Old Vic, UK tour, European tour, US tour and Japanese tour). Rehearsal Director for the original production of Swan Lake at Sadler's Wells and UK tour, Cinderella (West End and Los Angeles), Highland Fling, The Infernal Galop, The Percy's of Fitzrovia, Deadly Serious and Town & Country; Clara in the original production of Nutcracker! (Opera North and Sadlers Wells) and Matron/Queen Candy in 2007/08 production. She has performed on TV & Film as Clara in Nutcracker! (BBC/NVC), Rita in The Car Man (Channel 4), Rehearsal Director Swan Lake (BBC), Late Flowering Lust (BBC), Roald Dahl's Red Riding Hood (BBC), Mrs Hartley and the Growth Centre (BBC), and Storm (Aletta Collins/BBC Dance for the Camera). Choreography credits include: Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead (Sir Trevor Nunn, Chichester Festival Theatre & Theatre Royal Haymarket), Le nozze di Figaro (Martin Lloyd-Evans, Holland Park Opera), The Way of the World (Selina Cadell, Wilton's Music Hall), restaging AMP's Nutcracker! (Sadler's Wells), restaging AMP's The Infernal Galop for Images of Dance and Sarasota Ballet, Florida and A Midsummer Night's Dream with Dawn French, (Matthew Francis, Alberly Theatre). Etta was the choreographer for Kneehigh's production of The Umbrellas of Cherbourg.

Emma Rice Adaptor & Director

Emma is the Joint Artistic Director and Deputy Chief Executive of Kneehigh. For Kneehigh: The Red Shoes (2002 Theatrical Management Association [TMA] Theatre Award for Best Director), The Wooden Frock (2004 TMA Theatre Award nomination for Best Touring Production), The Bacchae (2005 TMA Theatre Award for Best Touring Production), Tristan & Yseult (2006 TMA Theatre Award nomination for Best Touring Production), Cymbeline (in association with the Royal Shakespeare Company for The Complete Works festival), A Matter of Life and Death (Royal National Theatre production in association with Kneehigh), Rapunzel (in association with Battersea Arts Centre), Brief Encounter (tour and West End; Studio 54, Broadway - a David Pugh and Dafydd Rogers Production in association with Kneehigh), and Don John (in association with the Royal Shakespeare

Company and Bristol Old Vic). Emma was nominated for the 2009 Olivier Award for Best Director for Brief Encounter, a show also nominated for two Tony Awards (2011). As well as these two new shows for this year's Asylum, Emma's latest work includes the West End production of The Umbrellas of Cherbourg.

Malcolm Rippeth Lighting Designer

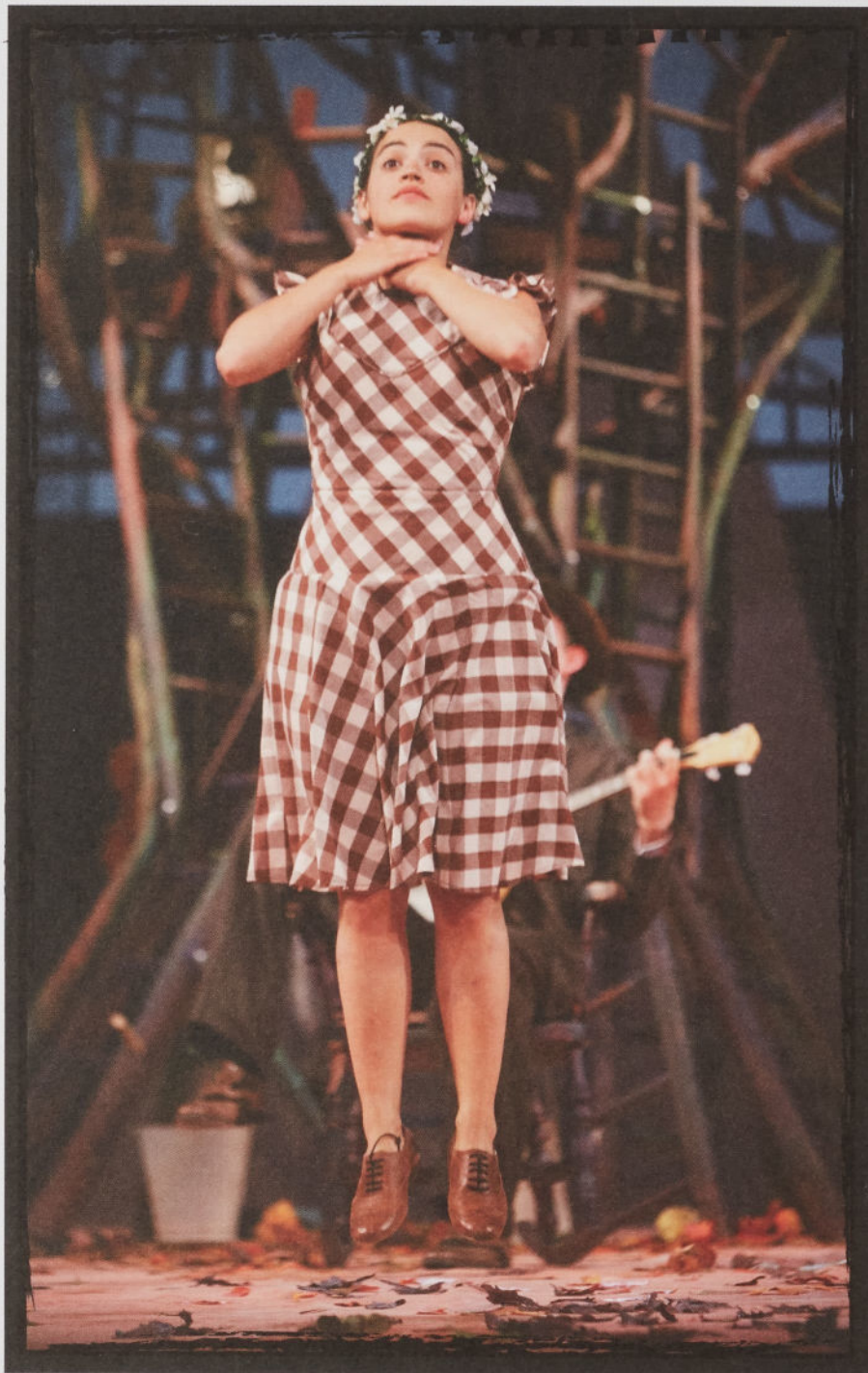
Malcolm has worked with Kneehigh since 2002, lighting The Umbrellas of Cherbourg, Brief Encounter, Midnight's Pumpkin, The Red Shoes, Blast!, The King of Prussia, Don John, Cymbeline, Nights at the Circus, The Bacchae and Pandora's Box. Elsewhere his work includes Decade (Headlong Theatre at St. Katharine's Dock); The Acid Test (Royal Court); Six Characters in Search of an Author (West End); HMS Pinafore (Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis); Calendar Girls (West End/Australia/Canada); The Field (Dublin); The Devil Inside Him (National Theatre Wales); The Winslow Boy (Kingston); His Dark Materials (Birmingham Rep); Edward Gant's Amazing Feats of Loneliness (Headlong Theatre); Crash (West Yorkshire Playhouse); The Bloody Chamber (Northern Stage); Hamlet (English Touring Theatre); Copenhagen (Edinburgh Royal Lyceum); Tutti Frutti (National Theatre of Scotland); Armida (Garsington Opera); Carmen Jones (Royal Festival Hall); Seven Deadly Sins (WNO/Diversions Dance) and Designer Body (balletLORENT). Malcolm won a 2010 OBIE as a member of the design team for Brief Encounter in New York and the 2009 Theatregoers' Choice Award for Best Lighting Designer for his work on Brief Encounter and Six Characters in Search of an Author in the West End.

Ian Ross The Musician

Ian Ross is a multi-instrumentalist with around 12 years experience as a performer and composer. He has worked for Kneehigh on several projects including Brief Encounter (musician), Don John (musician), Hansel & Gretel (musician and co-composer), The King of Prussia, 2010 (musician) and The Red Shoes, 2010 (musician). With Bristol based ska-hip-hop phenomenon Babyhead and the inimitable high tea lovelies The Zen Hussies, Ian has had extensive performance history ranging from New York fashion week to the Jazz world stage at Glastonbury festival.

Myriddin Wannell Costume Designer

Myriddin (Mydd) is a theatre designer and visual artist based in Cornwall. After graduating with a BA Hons in Theatre Design at Wimbledon School of Art, a new wind blew him to Kernow to study a second degree in Fine Art at University College Falmouth. Mydd has worked alongside Bill Mitchell as associate designer for Wildworks since the company's creation in 2005. Shows include A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings (2005), Souterrain (2006/7), The Beautiful Journey (2009) and The Memory Projector (2009). Recent productions include a two-year residency at Kensington Palace with The Enchanted Palace, and The Passion, a site-specific collaboration between Wildworks, Michael Sheen & National Theatre Wales. Enjoying site-specific collaborations, Mydd has also worked extensively as a community artist with a wide spectrum of people in the UK, France, Germany, Romania, Australia and Africa. He is Design Consultant at The Eden Project, Cornwall.



Join Us ...

Kneehigh is celebrated as a bold and big-hearted theatre company committed to creating magical, transporting, inventive and entertaining theatre for all.

We're also a registered charity, so we need and want to work with you to make even braver work – and to share it with even more people. We want to be a beacon of pleasure, welcoming people from all walks of life to be listened to, excited and delighted.

Help us to do this by joining the **Kneehigh FRIENDS** and you'll open up a treasure trove of exclusive treats...



Become a Friend

Give **£2.50** a month or **£30** a year

You'll receive regular updates and access to our website's Members Area that contains exclusive goodies, including sneak-peeks from this season.

Become an Accomplice

Give **£5** a month or **£60** a year

You'll enjoy Friends' treats, as well as priority booking for productions in our glorious theatre tent the Asylum.

Become a Champion

Give **£15** a month or **£180** a year

You'll get Accomplice benefits plus a goody bag bursting with Kneehigh whoopee. We'll invite you to special events and thank you personally in our programmes and on our website.

To Join

By phone: +44 (0)1872 267910 (09.30 – 17.00 / Monday – Friday).

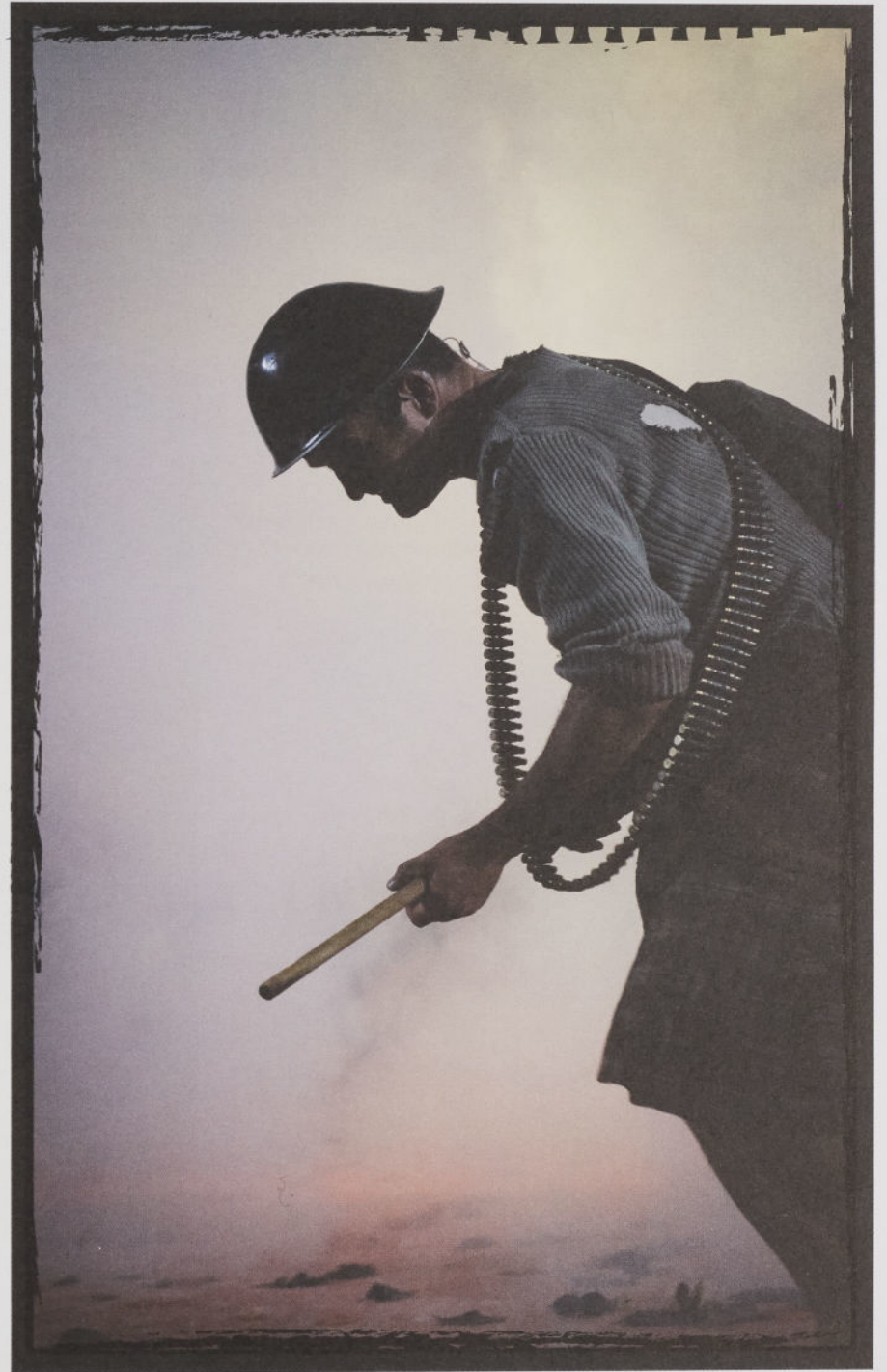
Online via our website: www.kneehigh.co.uk

We would love you to give more and become even more involved with the company by becoming a treasured member of the **Kneehigh FAMILY**. You can have cream tea with Emma Rice, join us for Opening Nights and party with the company – whilst also helping to support our community engagement scheme the **Connections Programme**.

For more information on becoming a member of the **Kneehigh FRIENDS** or the **Kneehigh FAMILY**, please contact Matt Armstrong
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THE WILD BRIDE



Kneehigh is supported by:



Supported by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

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Without the support of treasured individuals, we
wouldn't be able to make our bold and big-hearted
work and share it with our wonderful audiences.
Thanks especially to members of the Kneehigh FAMILY:

Anon	Merribel Ayres
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Guy Heath	Elizabeth Lindsay
Dave Mynne	Jane Rowse
Hayley Taylor	Karen Townshend
David Trenberth	

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Richard Toombs	Jane Turnbull
Andy Ward	Annie Williams

Kneehigh team

Chief Executive & Executive Producer
Joint Artistic Director & Deputy Chief Executive
Joint Artistic Director
General Manager
Company Stage Manager
Communications Manager
Finance Officer
Development Officer
Project Administrator
Office Administrator
Project Assistant

Paul Crewes
Emma Rice
Mike Shepherd
Charlotte Bond
Steph Curtis
Anna Mansell
Sarah Comacchio
Matt Armstrong
Liz King
Chloe Rickard
Shakera Ahad

Our board

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Peter Cox
Victoria Vyvyan
Sheila Healy
Simon Williams

Kneehigh

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Photos by Steve Tanner / Design by Dave Mynne

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