

RAPUNZEL

BY ANNIE SIDDONS

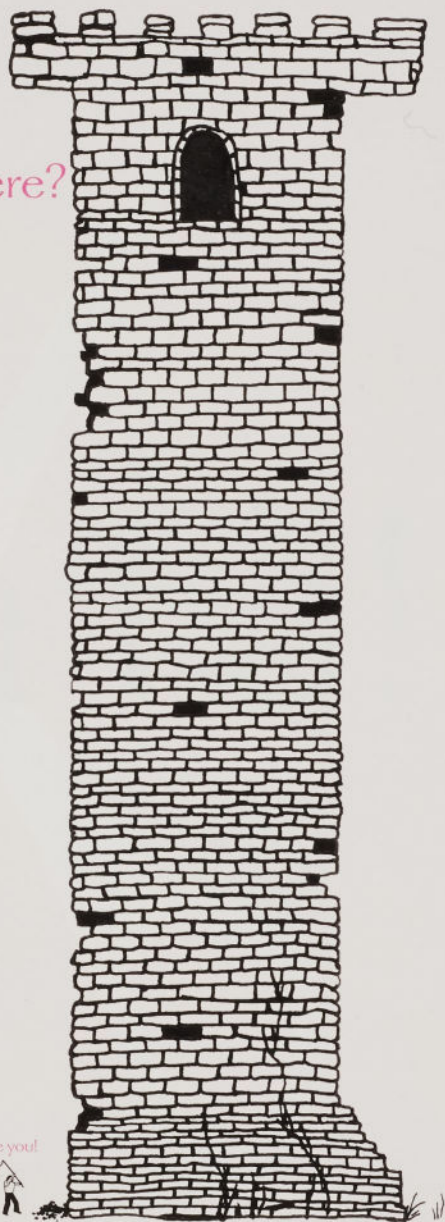


A KNEEHIGH THEATRE AND BAC
CO-PRODUCTION

Libertà!



Why do you keep me here?



Because I love you!



*Eat a meal hot with cayenne before a night of
Bacchanalian celebrating - it will curb drunkenness*

The director writes...

Kneehigh tell stories.
We believe in the power of the imagination and the live event. We are based in Cornwall in our breath-taking barns on the south coast and create theatre of humanity on an epic and tiny scale.

We work with an ever-changing ensemble of performers, musicians, technicians, artists and administrators, and are passionate about our multi-disciplined creative process. We push the boundaries of our art and our business, and strive to surprise and challenge ourselves and our audiences alike.

Human beings love stories. We love to get lost in a far off world, enthralled by the spell of a long forgotten world. Even as we become old and cracked, we still dream of the same things, we still ask the same questions, fear the same horrors; and folktales are the deepest, darkest and truest of stories. This is why they have survived centuries, generations and telling upon telling.



They hold a mirror up, not to our lives (for that watch a soap opera), but to our souls. They talk to us about the most essential and painful parts of being alive independence, freedom, loss and love. They teach us to listen to ourselves. As Schiller wrote:

“Deeper meaning resides in the fairytales told to me in my childhood than in the truth that is taught by life.”

So here's to joy and escape, fear and redemption and to giving in to the bliss of being told a great story!

It was a delicious privilege to bring Annie Siddons' magical telling of Rapunzel to life last Christmas with the BAC. BAC will always be our London home, providing fearless inspiration and unquestioning support. Thank you.

Emma Rice
Artistic Director, Kneehigh Theatre





The writer writes...

On a blueblack, icy winter's night in 2003, in an isolated house in the Mendip Hills, I began to read the story of Rapunzel to my daughters. It was a bland retelling, which I didn't think captured the horror, the passion or the intrigue of the story as I remembered it. But the image of Rapunzel's hair tumbling down like a curtain of light stayed with me and I began to wonder if I could work the story into a play.

Dismayed by the current fad for the Barbiefication of fairytales, and the sanitised tedium of many of the Disney retellings, I turned to the master of saltiness and earthiness, Italo Calvino, for his fantastic versions of hundreds of folk tales, including many variants on the Rapunzel tale. I then went further back still, to Basile, the bawdy, irreverent first collector of folk tales in Italian. I read hundreds of variants – wildly different in detail but united by

the herby name of the heroine, her va va voom, her cunning and some sort of incarceration in a tower. I wanted my Rapunzel to have the wit, the sass and the spirit of these Basile and Calvino heroines. I wanted her journey to have real growth and suffering. I wanted her to actively choose the prince, not just go with him because he happened to hop into her tower. And I wanted her to be rude flesh and blood, not some odourless, laminated dollybird, some sighing parody of femininity.

I'd seen Kneehigh's Red Shoes at the Lyric Hammersmith and had thought – that's it, that's who I have to work with - but didn't expect anything to happen when I sent the first draft to Emma Rice in 2004. Working with Kneehigh has sent me and the play on a fantastic journey. They are true wizards and consummate storytellers.

Thanks – Emma, Mike and all at Kneehigh, David Jubb/ BAC, David Farr, Simon Reade, Italo Calvino, Giambattista Basile, Bess and Claude.

Annie Siddons, Writer



Herby Wordsearch



basil, heartsease, henbane, lovage, monkshood, orach, oregano, tansy, thyme, vervain, wormwood

B	A	S	H	D	O	O	W	M	O	R	H	E	L
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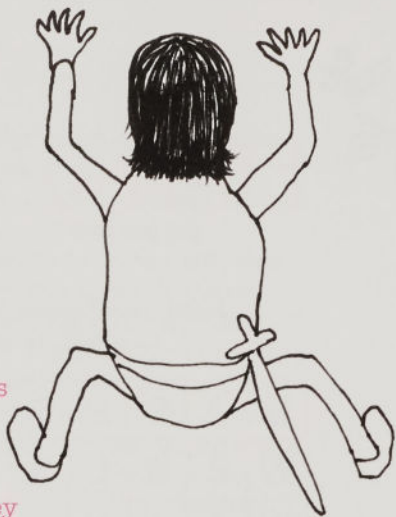


Company

Director	Emma Rice
Writer	Annie Siddons
Designer	Michael Vale
Music by	Stu Barker
Lighting Designer	Alex Wardle
Sound Designer	Dominic Bilkey
Kneehigh Producer	Paul Crewes
BAC Producer	David Jubb
Production Manager	Alex Wardle
Company Stage Manager	Amy Griffin
Technical Stage Manager	Geraldine Ramsay
Sound Engineer	Jason Barnes
Set Builder	Giles Brooks
Costume Supervisor/Maker	Susanna Wilson
Prop/Puppet Maker	Laura MacKenzie

Cast

Charlie Barnecut	Mother Gothel & Paulo (Bristol – New York)
Kate Hewitt	Prezzemolina (Bristol – New York)
Paul Hunter	Umberto & Pierluigi Ambrosi
Pieter Lawman	Patrizio
Mike Shepherd	Mother Gothel & Paulo (London & Bristol)
Edith Tankus	Rapunzel
James Traherne	The Duke of Tuscany & Shark Fantini
Alex Vann	Musician/MD
Kirsty Woodward	Prezzemolina (London & Bristol)



Biographies

Emma Rice

Director and Adapter
Emma is the Artistic Director of Kneehigh Theatre and for them has directed 'The Red Shoes', for which she won Best Director 2002 in the Barclays TMA Theatre Awards; 'The Wooden Frock' (nominated for Best Touring Production 2004, TMA Theatre Awards); 'The Bacchae' (winner of the TMA Best Touring Production 2005); 'Tristan & Yseult' (nominated for the TMA Best touring Production 2006); 'Nights at the Circus' (a Lyric Hammersmith and Bristol Old Vic production in association with Kneehigh Theatre), 'Cymbeline', in association with the Royal Shakespeare Company for the Complete Works Festival, 'A Matter of Life and Death' for the National Theatre and 'Brief Encounter' which will be showing in the West End in February. Her next project for Kneehigh will be 'Don John' in the autumn of 2008.

Basil oil rubbed on a green candle before burning will attract wealth

Annie Siddons

Writer
This is Annie's first production with Kneehigh. Other work includes 'The Passion of Jesus Christ' (Bristol Old Vic 2005) and 'Steephholm' (TV film), which was one of the winners of the Breakers BBC competition in 2004. She's currently working on a new play and a novel for older children.

Stu Barker

Musical Composer and Director
Stu has worked extensively for Kneehigh over the last thirteen years. Shows as Composer and Musical Director include: 'A Matter of Life and Death', 'Cymbeline', 'Nights at the Circus', 'Tristan & Yseult', 'The Bacchae', 'The Wooden Frock', 'Pandora's Box', 'Roger Salmon', 'The Red Shoes' and 'The Itch'. Other theatre includes 'The Odyssey' and Philip Pullman's 'Aladdin' for Bristol Old Vic; 'Clown, Cloudland and The Stones' for Travelling Light and productions for Welfare State International, Horse and Bamboo, Pentabus and Contact Theatre.



Michael Vale

Designer

Since leaving the Theatre Design Course at the Riverside Studios (now the Motley Design Course), Michael has designed the sets and costumes for over 130 theatre and opera productions both in the UK and abroad. Companies he has worked with include: The Royal Shakespeare Company; The Royal National Theatre; Manchester Royal Exchange; West Yorkshire Playhouse; The Crucible Theatre, Sheffield; Bristol Old Vic; The Royal Opera House; English National Opera; Glyndebourne Festival Opera; English Touring Opera; Almeida Opera; Antwerp de Vlaamse Opera and Los Angeles Opera. He also works as a director. Michael has previously worked with Kneehigh Theatre on 'Cymbeline', in association with the Royal Shakespeare Company for the Complete Works Festival.



Alex Wardle

Lighting Designer

Alex spent five years as production manager with Kneehigh Theatre; an exciting time which included co-productions with Northern Stage, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Bristol Old Vic, Lyric Hammersmith, BAC and the National Theatre. He now works part-time for Arup Venue Consulting, primarily on the design of technical systems in new theatres. Lighting designs for Kneehigh include 'Tristan & Yseult' outdoors and at the National Theatre, 'Rapunzel', 'The Wooden Frock', 'The Riot' and 'The Red Shoes', including tours to Australia, China, Denmark, Hungary, Lebanon, New Zealand, Norway, Syria and the USA.

Dom Bilkey

Sound Designer

Dom attended The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff and after graduating in 2004 started his professional sound career. His engineering credits include 'Jamaica Inn' (Salisbury Playhouse), 'The Bacchae', 'Tristan & Yseult'

and 'Cymbeline' (Kneehigh Theatre). Design credits include 'The Railway Children' (Sevenoaks Playhouse) 'Carry On Down the River' (New Theatre Works 'Wagstaffe the Wind-up Boy' (Kneehigh Theatre) and 'Souterrain' - Cornwall (WildWorks).

Paul Crewes

Kneehigh Producer

Prior to permanently joining Kneehigh Theatre in 2005, Paul was the producer for 'Metal' working with Jude Kelly on projects including the Olympic bid for 2012. Until July 2004 he was Producer of the West Yorkshire Playhouse in Leeds setting up over 40 productions/co-productions and planning a diverse touring programme. He has also co-produced commercial tours and West End transfers including 'Batboy' and 'Singin' in the Rain'. He has his own company, completing a successful regional tour of a new production called 'Doorman/Bouncer' in 2005. In 2006/7 Paul worked with Phoenix Dance Theatre as producer. In 2007 Paul produced for The Lowry the very successful production of

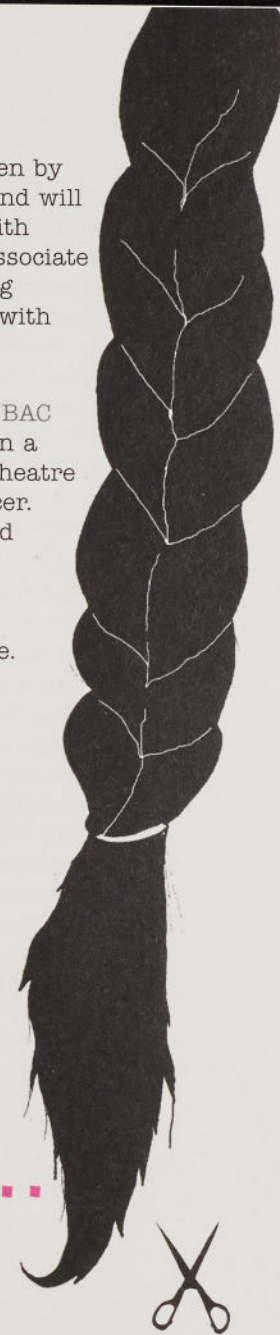
'King Cotton', written by Jimmy McGovern and will continue to work with The Lowry as an Associate Producer, developing future productions with the theatre.

David Jubb

Artistic Director of BAC

David Jubb has been a milkman, teacher, theatre director and producer. David was appointed Artistic Director of BAC in 2004. He is on the board of Kneehigh Theatre.

snip
snip
snip...



Charlie Barnecut

Charlie was a founder member of Kneehigh in 1980.

Since then he has continued to be an actor whilst running the family organic farm with his sister in Cornwall.

Work for Kneehigh includes 'The Bacchae', 'The Riot' and 'The King of Prussia'. Other work: 'Laughing Gas' for o-region and numerous plays for Radio 4 including 'Tom Jones', 'The Birds' and Scavelan-Gow a collection of Cornish stories.

Kate Hewitt

Kate has a degree in theatre arts from Goldsmiths College and has recently completed a two year course in performance at the London International School of Performing Arts. Kate first met Kneehigh through two collaborations between the company and the National Youth Theatre, performing in 'Hanging Around' (National Theatre) and playing Antigone in 'Antigone at Hells Mouth' (the Soho Theatre). Both these shows began as summer schools at the Kneehigh barns in Cornwall. This is her first job for the company.

Paul Hunter

Paul is a co-founder of Told By An Idiot and has been involved in all their work to date. He is also an Associate Artist of the Octagon Theatre Bolton. Previous work for Kneehigh includes 'The Red Shoes'. Other theatre includes: 'Under the Black Flag' (The Globe), 'The Water Engine' (Young Vic/Theatre 503), 'Playing the Victim' (TBI/Royal Court), 'The Play What I Wrote' (Wyndhams), 'Aladdin' (TBI/Lyric Hammersmith), 'Oliver Twist' (Lyric Hammersmith), 'Richard III' (English Shakespeare Company), 'Servant of Two Masters' (Sheffield Crucible). Directing includes: 'Beauty Queen Of Leenane' (Best Production Manchester Evening News Awards), 'Accidental Death Of An Anarchist' (Octagon Bolton), 'The Fireworkmakers Daughter' (TBI, Lyric Hammersmith, National Theatre Finland). TV includes: 'After You've Gone', 'Black Books', 'Absolute Power', 'Hardware', 'Tunnel Of Love', 'My Family'.

Pieter Lawman

Pieter trained at RADA. His theatre work includes 'A Matter of Life and Death' and 'Tristan & Yseult' (Kneehigh at the National Theatre), 'Rapunzel' (Kneehigh at BAC), 'The Car Cemetery' (Gate Theatre), 'Reverence: A Tale of Abelard and Heloise' (Goat and Monkey at the Southwark Playhouse), 'Much Ado About Nothing' (Shakespeare's Globe), 'Closer' (HIFA, Zimbabwe), 'Jason and the Argonauts' (Schtanhaus at Warwick Arts Centre and tour), 'Release the Beat' (Arcola), 'The Three Musketeers', 'Tartuffe', 'Head On' and 'The Canterville Ghost' (Haymarket Theatre Basingstoke). Television: 'The Inspector Lynley Mysteries' and 'Lewis'. Radio: 'OK Computer' (BBC).

Mike Shepherd

Mike started Kneehigh in 1980 and has worked almost exclusively for the company ever since. Other work includes directing and acting in 'The Riot' for the National, 'Marat Sade' (Bristol Old Vic) and 'Antigone at Hell's Mouth' for The National Youth Theatre. In the past few years he has

toured with Kneehigh to China, Hungary, Syria, Lebanon, Norway, Denmark and as part of major world festivals in Australia, New Zealand and the USA. He has recently appeared in 'The Red Shoes', 'The Wooden Frock', 'The Bacchae', 'Tristan & Yseult', 'Cymbeline' and 'A Matter of Life and Death' and directed 'Blast!'.

Edith Tankus

Edith is an alumnus of L'ecole Jacques Lecoq and Philippe Gaulier. She is co-founder and co-artistic director of Magpye Theatre where she has toured her award-winning solo shows in schools, theatres and festivals across North America. She is currently on board with International Arts Organization Circus Remedy whose mandate is to bring acclaimed circus and theatre artists to perform in poverty stricken communities all over the world. This is her first time working with Kneehigh.



Giving catnip to your cat can help create the psychic link needed for a familiar

James Traherne

James trained at Rose Bruford College. His theatre work includes 'The Thieves Carnival' (The Watermill), 'Nicholas Nickleby' (Red Shift), 'Twelfth Night' and 'The Hired Man' for Theatre By the Lake. 'Junk and Johnny Blue' (Oxford Stage Co.), 'Caledonian Road' (Almeida), 'Gulliver's Travels' (Group K at the Riverside), 'The Jungle Book' (Trinity Theatre), 'Of Mice and Men' (Snap), 'Soldiers Fortune' (Young Vic), 'The Car Cemetery' (The Gates) and 'Martin Guerre' (The Watermill). He has also toured Europe with The English Teaching Theatre. TV & Film includes 'Go Now' (BBC2), 'Jump' (ITV), 'Jenner' (ITV), 'The Bill' (ITV) and 'Supergrass'. James is also a keen singer and songwriter and has composed for Kazzum, OTTC and Theatre By The Lake. James has performed previously with Kneehigh in 'Tristan & Yseult'.

Alex Vann

Alex previously worked as a musician in Kneehigh shows: 'Tristan & Yseult' (National Theatre/Uk and international touring), 'Cymbeline', 'A Matter

Of Life And Death' (National Theatre) and 'Brief Encounter'. He has also worked as a musician in 'Fair Game's Salaam', as a composer and musician in Theatre Alibi's 'The Swell', 'Animal Tails' and 'The Freeze' and is a musician and composer in acoustic four-piece Spiro who have played at venues such as The Royal Festival Hall and The Barbican, toured internationally and released two albums. Spiro also recently composed the music to the BBC's 'Johnny Kingdom' series. Alex is also a songwriter and guitarist in rock band Submarine.

Kirsty Woodward

Kirsty graduated from the University of East Anglia in 2006, studying Drama. She was a member of the National Youth Theatre for four years performing in 'Murder in the Cathedral' (Westminster and Southwark Cathedrals), 'Faliraki The Greek Tragedy' (The Lowry), 'Hanging Around' (on the South Bank) and 'Antigone at Hell's Mouth' (Soho Theatre). Kirsty has performed with Kneehigh in 'Cymbeline', 'A Matter of Life and Death' and 'Blast!'.



Herb song

Celandine, Elcampane, Eglantine, and Vervain
Tarragon, Rosemary, Chamomile, and Cayenne
Warmed by the sun, fed by the rain
In our garden.

Balmony, Barberry, Cornsilk and Comfrey
Carraway, Centaury, Balm and Parsley.
Stretch out their shoots to the morning
And we tend them.



Kneehigh's Friends' Scheme

Kneehigh has always appreciated the loyalty of our supporters and we are always looking at ways to bring you even closer to the company.

Whether you have been a long-term supporter or have just discovered the company we warmly welcome you to the world of Kneehigh. Your membership donation helps us to continue to develop our innovative programme of work and in return you will receive exclusive invites to special events, newsletters, advanced notice of all our forthcoming productions and much more.

Please contact Kneehigh's office on 01872 267910 or office@kneehigh.co.uk to register.

Kneehigh Guardians

KNEEHIGH Guardians is Kneehigh's Corporate Friends' Scheme supporting Kneehigh's award-winning work in Cornwall and beyond. Kneehigh is a charity and your support is vital to ensure the continued development and success of our innovative programme of work. We would



be happy to talk to you and your company about the benefits the scheme offers and how we can work together to maximise the benefits for you.

For information on how to become a Kneehigh Guardian contact Kneehigh's office on 01872 267911 or email: office@kneehigh.co.uk.

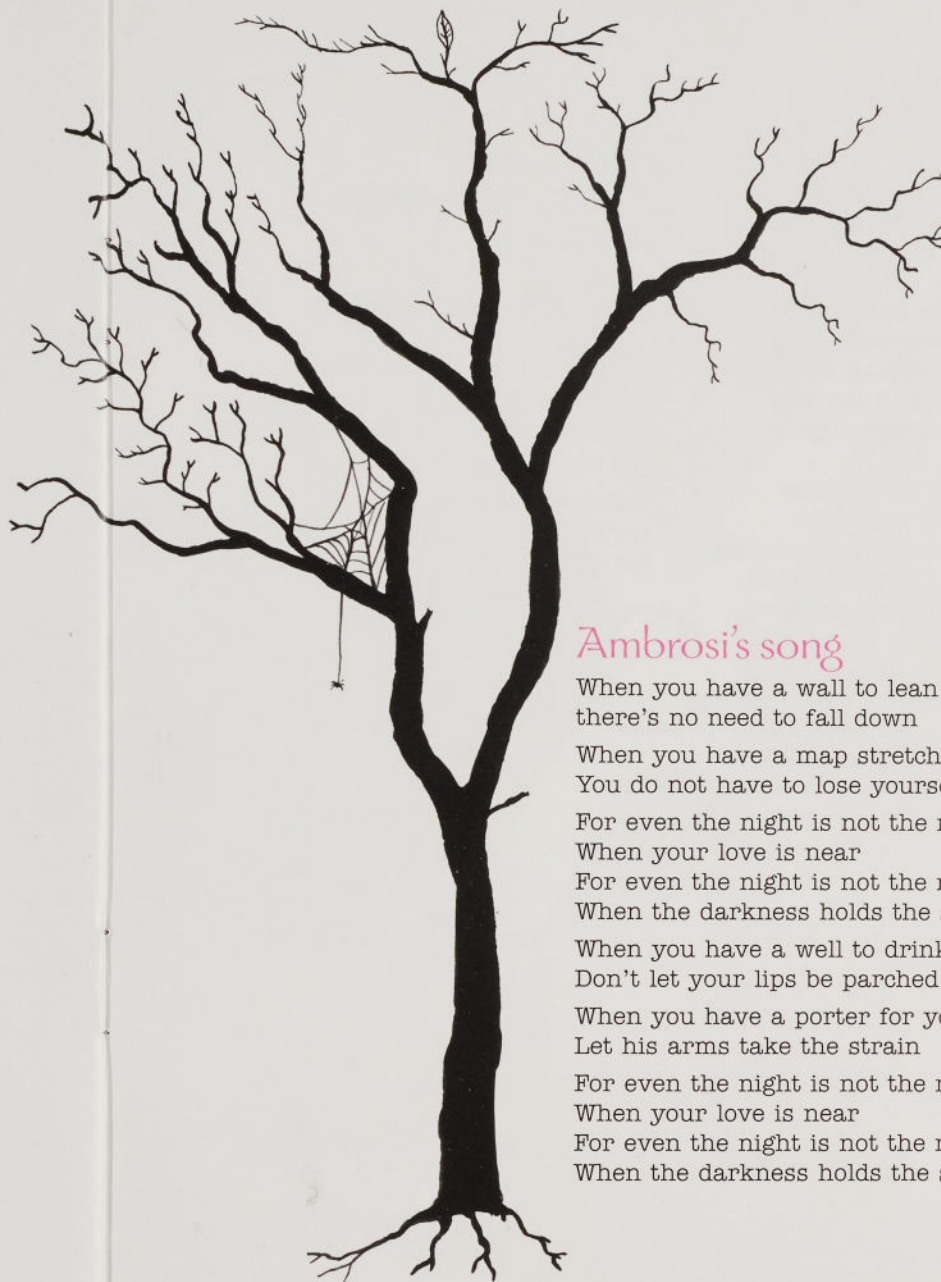
The Asylum

Kneehigh have ambitious plans for the future!

We are currently fundraising for a beautiful and flexible tent in which to tour and make our work - 'The Asylum'.

'The Asylum' will be Kneehigh's distinctive home, a world-class nomadic venue for Cornwall and the world. In this bespoke creative space we will create wonder to delight and surprise our audiences long into the future.

Look out for further information...



Ambrosi's song

When you have a wall to lean on
there's no need to fall down
When you have a map stretched out
You do not have to lose yourself
For even the night is not the night
When your love is near
For even the night is not the night
When the darkness holds the sun inside
When you have a well to drink from
Don't let your lips be parched
When you have a porter for your bag
Let his arms take the strain
For even the night is not the night
When your love is near
For even the night is not the night
When the darkness holds the sun inside



Thanks

Kneehigh would like to thank:
The Lost Gardens of Heligan,
for supplying the timber.
David Jubb and Emma Power
BAC.

Vauxhall City Farm for
supplying the performing
rabbits and helping us ensure
that they receive the best
treatment possible during
this tour.

Tizer and all at Vivienne
Westwood for 'the most
beautiful red dress' appearing
at the Queen Elizabeth Hall,
Southbank Centre and New
Victory Theatre, New York.
Alex Rodgers, Greg Piggot
and Joe White.

All at: Queen Elizabeth Hall,
Southbank Centre, London;
Circomedia, Bristol; The Lowry,
Salford; Hall For Cornwall,
Truro; Warwick Arts Centre,
Coventry; West Yorkshire
Playhouse, Leeds and
New Victory Theatre, New York.

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THE NEW VICTORY THEATER

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HELIGAN

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Coming soon!

Live on stage!

Kneehigh Theatre present

Noel Coward's
'Brief Encounter'

Fresh, witty and profoundly
moving, this acclaimed
production will be showing
in London's West End from
February 2008. Be there!

It's not the film...

Check our website
www.kneehigh.co.uk
for details



Kneehigh Theatre



ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



Illustrations: Daryl Waller
Programme design: Dave Mynne

Libertà!





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