

Juliet & Romeo



Wed 10 Nov - Sat 4 Dec

Intermission Youth Theatre presents one of the most famous love stories ever written in this unique re-imagining which premieres next month in London with the support of Sir Mark Rylance and a host of Hollywood heavyweights. This tale of feuding families and doomed romance transposes the star-crossed lovers' lines – in a Shakespeare first – giving audiences a fresh lens in which to view this iconic tragedy.

Set in present-day London where the streets are tense with the global pandemic and the BLM movement, Juliet & Romeo interweaves 400-year-old verse with urban dialogue to give new relevance to the Shakespeare canon. This new production follows on from the renowned theatre company's previous critically acclaimed Shakespeare re-imaginings (Excluded, 2019) and (Othello: Remixed, 2018) and their collaborations with Shakespeare's Globe (Shakespeare's Walks and Shakespeare within the Abbey, 2018). Intermission Youth's Artistic Director Darren Raymond says: "Transposing all of Juliet's lines with Romeo's and vice versa does something really interesting to this ancient text and brings fresh insight into this story with its themes of love, revenge, relationships and what it means to be a woman in this world."

Mark Rylance, Intermission Youth's trustee comments: "There is so much dissection and political pressure around Shakespeare these days, I find it hard sometimes to connect with my old love for the plays themselves. But when I listen to the sincere vital playing of the young actors of Intermission Youth my love is reborn and I feel that old bard magic – that wonderful connection with the emotions and imagination of the genius of Shakespeare."

On this production, he adds: "The gender change is a revelation and works beautifully. Only young people can do justice to Romeo and Juliet. Prepare to be moved to laughter and tears. This is authentic stuff."

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Circus Futures & circusnext - An Evening of Contemporary Circus Films

Wed 8 Dec 7:00PM - 8:40PM

Circus Futures (UK & ROI) in collaboration with circusnext (FR/EU) presents an evening of contemporary circus films and conversations with the artists at The Chelsea Theatre

The evening will comprise a short film titled *Creating CM_30 Insights into the Creation Process* from Kolja Huneck (Munich/Rotterdam) followed by a Q&A with the artist via Zoom then a short film titled *A Spectacle of Herself* from Laura Murphy (Bristol) followed by a live Q&A with the artist.



Circus Futures is a founding member of the European circus support Platform circusnext. Kolja Huneck was shortlisted by circusnext in 2020-2021. Laura Murphy was a circusnext Laureate in 2018-2019. circusnext is a European circus label: the creators selected by a European jury stand out for their singularity and creativity. Their Contemporary circus works question us, jostle us, enchant us, move us. circusnext is also the “Europe of circus”: a platform of about thirty partners from 17 countries who gather around founding values – the identification of unique talents, support to emergence and creation, European cooperation. Details of the Platform and members can be found here: www.circusnext.eu

Creating CM_30 Insights into the Creation Process– Kolja Huneck

The video documentary by circus artist Kolja Huneck describes the creation of his show CM_30 and offers a look behind the scenes. How did the juggler come to use disks and light as working tools and what visions does he have with his first solo production? From the first ideas and research with the lamps and disks, through lockdown experiments, to scene excerpts from the finished piece, the video report includes interviews and unseen moments from the two-year creation phase. After the bilingual film has been broadcast, a virtual follow-up discussion offers the opportunity to ask questions directly to the artist.

The documentary was made possible through the support of circusnext 2020-2021 (project cofunded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union), the City of Munich, HochX - Theater & Live Art Munich, Festival PERSPECTIVES Saarbrücken.

'CM_30' is minimalistic circus, a contemplative walk through the world of colours. The solo piece by the circus artist Kolja Huneck invites you to intensely perceive a fleeting universe. Together with the audience, a synaesthetic colour bath is created between contemporary circus and installation art. Poetic juggling is the painting tool in an airy room that is acoustically filled by the compositions created by Rutger Zuydervelt. With CM_30 Kolja Huneck questions the traditional expectations towards circus and juggling and lets the boundary between audience and artist dissolve. Can a circus performance facilitate falling asleep? The title CM_30 symbolizes the size of the props, various disks and lamps, each 30cm in diameter. Photo credit Matthias Ziemer.



A Spectacle of Herself by Laura Murphy (Bristol)

Starring Laura Murphy as herself amidst the failing performance of Western civilisation, *A Spectacle of Herself* charts a cosmic voyage through performance, probing into space and outer space, and taking up space – on your screens and in your lives. Slicing herself into appropriately sized, appropriately seasoned, appropriately inappropriate portions, Laura Murphy navigates in the footsteps of spectacle maker Bridget Jones, asking is she ‘Too much?’ Is she “Not enough?” or can you love her “Just as she is?”

Following on from Laura Murphy’s debut solo *Contra*, *A Spectacle of Herself* is a performance film emerging from research into a new live work. Interrogating themes around virtuosity, autobiography, identity, and the spectacularized body, *A Spectacle of Herself* draws on Laura Murphy’s doctoral research which investigates aerial work’s potential as a critically engaged practice and its use as a vehicle for social and political propaganda.

Performed and written by Laura Murphy

Theatre Director: Ursula Martinez

Lip Sync Consultant: Dickie Beau

Art Director: Nicole A’Court-Stuart

Film Director, Edit and 1st Camera: Holly Black, Black Bark Films

2nd Camera: Aphra Evans

Sound: Jo Barker and Nicole A’Court-Stuart

Produced by Nicole A’Court-Stuart for ContraProject

Commissioned by Cologne Circus and Dance Festival and The Lowry, Salford.

Supported by Arts Council England

Funding Acknowledgements

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The Big Chrimbo Bingo Show



Thu 9th Dec 8:00PM-11PM

Timberlina & DJ Auntie Maureen return to The Chelsea Theatre to present a sensationally seasonal version of the legendary Big Bingo Show in the main house for a night of BINGO and dancing. We are also excited to welcome special guest Eve Ferret.

A riotous bingo romp like no other, expect spontaneous singalongs and impromptu dance routines, topical rants and hot yoga. With sensationally cheap prizes and a soundtrack with all your favourite power-pop, rock and show tune sing-alongs, this show will fill you with joyful belly laughs, seasonal cheer and make you feel warm and tingly.

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Dick Whittington



Sat 18th Dec - Fri 24th

A tale of adventure, love and entertainment. Jump onboard for an action-packed, fun-filled journey with Dick Whittington as he seeks his fame and fortune in the glittering streets of London, to win the heart of the beautiful Alice and become Lord Mayor of London.

Chelsea Theatre and Rah Rah Theatre Company have joined together to present an inventive and magical panto full of toe-tapping, sing-along songs and audience interaction with laugh-out-loud comedy for audiences of all ages.

Festive, feel-good fun for all.

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