

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL

EDUCATION UPDATE

SPRING/SUMMER/AUTUMN 2005

Welcome to the Theatre Royal's Education Newsletter which has details of all productions that may be of interest to you and your students in the coming months. If you wish to receive any of the educational resource packs or be involved in the production-related activities please contact the Education Department for more information.

Jason Raper, Education Manager

DANCE ~ English Youth Ballet
George Piper Dances,
Rambert Dance Company

DRAMA ~ The Woman in Black
The History Boys
Shakespeare 4 Kidz

FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN ~
The Gruffalo
The Jungle Book
The Wind in the Willows

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THE GARAGE ~
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Risk Assessment



Photo of *The History Boys* (the cast from the original company) Ivan Kyrnd
See inside for further details of this production

Contact Details

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DANCE

ENGLISH YOUTH BALLET ~ The Nutcracker

Tuesday 28th – Wednesday 29th June

A dazzling, colourful and appealing interpretation of the famous *Nutcracker* ballet, featuring an impressive cast of up to 100 young dancers. The policy of English Youth Ballet is to perform full-length productions of classical ballet in the regional theatres of the UK, and to give young dancers outside London an opportunity to perform within a professional setting.

 Concessions: Under 18s Special Price, Group Rates

ENGLISH YOUTH BALLET ~ The Nutcracker Dress Rehearsal

Tuesday 28th June @ 1.30pm

This dress rehearsal is open to school groups only, at the cost of £3.00 per ticket. Please book your tickets through the Box Office.

ENGLISH YOUTH BALLET ~ Post-Dress Rehearsal Q&A Session

Tuesday 28th June, In the Auditorium

There is also a Q&A event immediately after the performance. If you are interested in attending this event please contact the Theatre Royal Education department to receive further details and to book your place.



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GEORGE PIPER DANCES (THE BALLET BOYZ) ~ NAKED

Friday 15th – Saturday 16th July

The Ballet Boyz' latest creation is a story of love, betrayal and revenge using a contemporary dance language developed with award-winning choreographer Russell Maliphant. Not suitable for those aged under 14 years old



Concessions: Under 25s Special Price, Group Rates

GEORGE PIPER DANCES ~ In-School Workshops

Available Thursday 7th – Friday 22nd July

This is an opportunity for schools to host a repertoire-based contemporary dance workshop. Students will gain a practical insight into the work of the Company by learning and further developing a section of choreography in an enjoyable, creative and educational workshop. They are designed to feed into core National Curriculum priorities and can be adapted as required. Access to the work of George Piper Dances through these activities aims to nurture the existing skills of participants, regardless of ability, develop self-confidence and promotes wider understanding and appreciation of the art form. Teachers will be provided with a Resource Pack containing supporting information and publicity.

Workshops Offered:

- **Naked:** The focus of this workshop is the theme of conflict and participants will explore partner work and weight-taking utilising a contemporary dance language informed by martial art techniques. This workshop is suitable for participants from 14 years and can be adapted for students studying GCSE, BTEC and AS/A Level Dance.
- **Torsion and Critical Mass** workshops can be adapted for upper primary age children upwards. There is no upper age limit.
- **Peace Process**, a 5 day dance and film residency particularly suitable for introducing boys to dance.

Workshop requirements:

- Maximum of 30 participants in any one session
- A hall or gym space preferably with a sprung or semi-sprung floor
- CD player, video player and monitor

Workshop Costs:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • 2 hour repertoire-linked dance workshop: | £220 (includes a Resource Pack) |
| • Full day workshop: | £400 |
| • 5 day dance/film residency: | Fee depends on the length and complexity |

All costs are exclusive of VAT. Travel and accommodation (when necessary) is an additional cost for workshops outside London.

To book a workshop at your school please contact the Theatre Royal Education Department or email George Piper Dances at flour@gp dances.com for further details.

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RAMBERT DANCE COMPANY ~

Wednesday 12th – Friday 14th October

The company will be performing three dances *Constant Speed* (commissioned by the Institute of Physics), *Dark Elegies* (performed to Mahler's Kindertotenlieder) and the pure modern dance of *Swamp* (by Michael Clark).



Concessions: Schools discount, Group Rates

RAMBERT DANCE COMPANY ~ Pre-Performance Talk

Thursday 13th October 6.30pm – 7.00pm, The Town Close Room

Discover more about Rambert Dance Company and the work being performed.

This event is free to ticket holders but you must book in advance through the Box Office as places are very limited. However there are some tickets held exclusively for School groups.

RAMBERT DANCE COMPANY ~ In-School Workshops

Available from Monday 10th – Friday 14th October

In connection with the tour Rambert Dance Company is offering a programme of education activities to support dance work in schools and colleges. They are suitable for people aged 10 and over and are particularly relevant for:

- students studying GCSE or A-Level Dance
- students studying Performing Arts or Expressive Arts

Workshops are led by one of Rambert Dance Company's Animateurs, a professional dancer and teacher. Sessions are tailored to suit your group's experience and requirements and include:

- a contemporary dance warm-up
- sequences from one of the works in the Rambert repertoire
- a creative session exploring the choreographic process

Two Hour Workshops are available whilst the Day of Dance is more intensive and allows greater scope for the participants' own choreographic ideas to be developed.

When you book a workshop you will receive a voucher which entitles you and your group to a ticket discount for a Rambert Dance Company evening performance at the Theatre Royal. You will receive an extra £2 off the price of a ticket for each workshop participant, in addition to any group discount the theatre offers.

Costs:

Two Hour Workshop	£140 + VAT
Day of Dance	£240 + VAT

For information about workshops for schools, in-service sessions for teachers and educational resources please visit www.rambert.org.uk, email education@rambert.org.uk or call Rambert Education on 020 8630 0615. Alternatively contact the Theatre Royal's Education Department for further details.

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DRAMA

Jacqueline Wilson's MIDNIGHT ~

Wednesday 27th – Saturday 30th July

Midnight is the story of Violet, who spends her time writing unsent letters to her favourite author Casper Dream and escaping into a fantasy world of fairies. Her problems include her controlling brother Will and the recently revealed secret of his adoption, as well as a pompous dad who seeks to control her mild mum.



Concessions: Under 18s Special Price, Group Rates

MIDNIGHT ~ Free Teachers' Resource Pack

This useful resource pack for teachers has been written mainly for use with 9 – 13 year olds and follows National Curriculum guidelines for Key Stages 2 and 3. It is anticipated that pre-show or follow-up work will mainly take place in English/Drama and PHSE sessions and therefore the pack focuses on these areas.

Visit their website at www.watershedtheatre.com/midnight where a downloadable Education Pack is available.

MIDNIGHT ~ In-School Workshops

Available Monday 25th – Saturday 30th July

Although this production is at the beginning of the Summer Holidays there are a range of workshops available. Please visit their website to view the different workshops on offer or alternatively contact the Theatre Royal's Education Department.



Images taken from the Watershed Theatre website

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THE WOMAN IN BLACK ~

Tuesday 20th – Saturday 24th September

Now in its seventeenth year in the West End, this gripping and exciting piece of theatre returns to Norwich. Based on a novel by Susan Hill it tells the tale of a obsessed lawyer who believes a curse has been cast over him and his family by the Woman in Black. He engages a young actor to help him tell his terrifying story and as they journey further into his darkest memories, the line between make believe and reality begins to merge and they find themselves caught up in world where they would rather not be. Excellent live theatre inspired by film noir will leave students talking about it long after the journey is over.



Concessions: Schods discount, Under 18s Special Price, Group Rates

THE WOMAN IN BLACK ~ Free Education Pack

This useful resource pack for teachers includes background material, analysis of the adaptation process and practical approaches to storytelling relating to this particular production.

Visit their website at www.thewomaninblack.com where a downloadable Education Pack is available.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK ~ Post-Matinee Q&A Session

Thursday 22nd September, In the Auditorium

There is also a Q&A event immediately after the matinee performance. If you are interested in attending this event please contact the Theatre Royal Education Department to receive further details and to book your place.



Images taken from *The Woman in Black* website

www.thewomaninblack.com

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THE HISTORY BOYS~

Tuesday 25th – Saturday 29th October

Alan Bennett's new play of staff room rivalry and the anarchy of adolescence provokes questions about history and how you teach it and the purpose of education itself. Olivier Award 2005 for Best Play, Director and numerous others including Critics Circle Award. *Please note that this production contains some strong language and verbal references of a sexual nature.* This play is considered suitable for those aged 14 and over.



Concessions: Under 18s Special Price, Group Rates

THE HISTORY BOYS ~ Free Education Pack

This useful resource pack for teachers includes background material, character analysis, work topics of History, Poetry and Hope and Failure.

Visit their website at www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/?id=7785 where a downloadable Education Pack is available.

THE HISTORY BOYS ~ In-School Workshops

In-school workshops, based on the production, will be available to school bookers. These can be booked to take place prior to or after seeing the show. If you are interested in receiving further details about these workshops please contact the Theatre Royal's Education Department. These workshops are considered suitable for those aged 16 and over.



Photo of *The History Boys* (the cast from the original company) Ivan Kynd

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SHAKESPEARE 4 KIDZ ~ Romeo and Juliet

Monday 21st November 10.30am & 1.30pm

A mystical, magical, mysterious, musical romantic comedy of revenge, a father's love for his daughter and the misuse of power.



CONCESSIONS: One teacher free with every ten tickets booked. If tickets are booked and paid for by the 1st October 05 the children's ticket prices are reduced to £7.50.

SHAKESPEARE 4 KIDZ ~ In-School Junior Shakespeare Workshops

Available 14th – 18th November

Each workshop lasts for two hours and is run by two actors with teaching knowledge and experience. The aim of the workshop is to progress through the entire play examining the plot and the relevant characters. The students take part in physical performance as well as discussion and are encouraged to contribute ideas throughout. Up to 40 children act out the story of the play meeting the characters and thinking through the twists and turns of the plot for themselves, discovering character's motivations for their actions and words.

There are some physical exercises where the whole group is active as well as periods when pupils play specific roles within the play. Here discussions on what is happening and what the characters feel are encouraged. Each workshop production includes simple costumes, props and sound, including music from the Shakespeare 4 Kidz version of the play.

Cost:	1 workshop	£295.00
	2 workshops	£550.00 (on the same day)
	3 workshops (or more)	Price on application

A 25% deposit is required to secure a workshop booking, with the balance payable by the date of the workshop. Full details of all workshops are available by contacting the Shakespeare 4 Kidz Education Department.

N.B. If you have booked tickets to see this production then your affiliated workshop will be discounted.

SHAKESPEARE 4 KIDZ ~ Free Teachers' Packs

Teachers' Packs available to download online from their website www.shakespeare4kidz.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Shakespeare 4 Kidz (UK) Ltd 42 Station Road East, Oxted, Surrey, RH8 0PG

Tel: (01883) 723444

Fax: (01883) 730384

e-mail: education@shakespeare4kidz.com

website: www.shakespeare4kidz.com

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FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

THE JUNGLE BOOK ~

Wednesday 1st – Saturday 4th June

The world's first major stage production of Rudyard Kipling's classic story, produced by Birmingham Stage Company. It follows their acclaimed and successful production, seen at Norwich Theatre Royal, of *James and the Giant Peach*.

Suitable for 4–8 year olds



Concessions: Under 18s Special Price, Group Rates

THE JUNGLE BOOK ~ Free Education Pack

This pack gives teachers some follow-up suggestions following the performance of *The Jungle Book*. To receive a copy, please contact the Theatre Royal Education Department prior to your visit so that you may take a copy back to school with you on the day.

THE JUNGLE BOOK ~ In-School Workshops

Available Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June

The company is offering Drama Workshops designed specifically around your chosen topic or theme. There are also Page To Stage workshops, which bring your favourite book and characters to life.

To find out more about what the company can offer or talk about your own particular needs, contact Ellen Mills at Birmingham Stage Company's London office on 0207 437 3391 or visit their website

www.birminghamstage.net.



CHILDREN'S SHOWS

Did you know that you can pre-book a large ice-cream order and have it made up ready for collection at the beginning of the interval? The Box Office will send you details of stock and prices with your group booking.

PACKED LUNCHES

If it is necessary for your group to eat a packed meal at the Theatre Royal, please contact the Duty Manager beforehand on 01603 598540....we can supply very large plastic bags for your rubbish!



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THE GRUFFALO ~

Thursday 16th – Saturday 18th June

Mouse can scare hungry animals away with tall stories of the terrifying Gruffalo, but what happens when he comes face to face with the very creature he imagined? Songs, laughs and scary fun for children aged 3 and up and their adults...



Discount tickets available for groups of 4 or more and 10 or more.

THE GRUFFALO ~ In-School Workshops

Available from Monday 13th – Friday 18th June

One-hour workshops are available for the 3-6 year old age range for groups of up to 25 children. These are storytelling workshops and look at the physical theatre skills used to create visual stories – how to create a story in pictures, how to create a character physically, etc. You can book a workshop prior to or after seeing the show.

There are also two-hour workshops, one-day workshops and weeklong physical theatre residencies available. Weeklong residencies lead towards a performance at the end of the week.

Cost of a one-hour workshop is £150 plus travel and accommodation costs where applicable. For further details of all workshops or to book any of these workshops please contact the Theatre Royal's Education Department.

THE GRUFFALO ~ Free Education Pack

This small pack gives teachers some follow-up suggestions following the performance of *The Gruffalo*. To receive a copy, please contact the Theatre Royal Education Department prior to your visit so that you may take a copy back to school with you on the day.

Alternatively visit their website at www.tallstories.org.uk where more information on the production company can be found.

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS ~

Wednesday 3rd – Saturday 6th August

This production, based on the novel by Kenneth Grahame, is performed by a cast of over 120 local young people who are members of the Youth Theatre Company, drawn from the 500 plus students taking part each year in the Theatre Royal's Theatre Arts Courses at The Garage.
Suitable for those aged 5 and up.



Concessions: Under 3's free

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MUSICALS

BLOOD BROTHERS ~

Monday 29th August – Saturday 10th September

A welcome return of the international hit musical by Willy Russell. A story set in his hometown of Liverpool where twin boys are separated at birth and then reunited by a cruel twist of fate and a mother's haunting secret. A must-see!



Concessions: Under 18s Special Price, Group Rates, Schools Discount Matinee Only

BLOOD BROTHERS ~ Free Education Pack

This pack should be of use to teachers when discussing the show and some of the themes in the text with your students. To receive a copy, please contact the Theatre Royal Education Department prior to your visit in order that a copy may be emailed to you.

BLOOD BROTHERS ~ Post-Matinee Q&A Session

Wednesday 7th September, In the Auditorium

There is also a Q&A event immediately after the performance. If you are interested in attending this event please contact the Theatre Royal Education Department to receive further details and to book your place.

BLOOD BROTHERS ~ In-School Workshops

Available Monday 29th August – Friday 9th September

The Company have offered the opportunity of work for schools throughout the region and are open to suggestions from local teachers interested in their education work. If you would like to discuss what format, structure, context and content you would like your workshop to include please call the Theatre Royal's Education Department for further details.

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OPERA

CARL ROSA COMPANY present THE MERRY WIDOW ~

Tuesday 7th – Saturday 11th June

Set in the decadent dance halls of Maxims and the Moulin Rouge with Franz Lehar's passionate score, soaring voices, sensuous waltzes and glittering Parisian couture, Carl Rosa present this new production.



Concessions: Schools discount, Under 18s Special Price, Group Rates

CARL ROSA COMPANY ~ Pre-Performance Talk

Friday 10th June 6.00pm – 6.30pm, The Town Close Room

Discover more about Carl Rosa and the work being performed.

This event is free to ticket holders but you must book in advance through the Box Office as places are limited.

CARL ROSA COMPANY ~ Post-Matinee Schools Q&A Session

Thursday 9th June, In the Auditorium

This event, a half an hour Q&A with members of the Carl Rosa Company, is strictly for school bookings. If you have booked or are going to book tickets for the matinee and wish to attend this event please contact the Theatre Royal Education Department to reserve your places.

CARL ROSA COMPANY ~ In-School Workshops

Available on Wednesday 8th and Friday 10th June

3-hour workshops either in the morning or in the afternoon, aimed at 11 – 18 year olds, are available from Carl Rosa Company. These sessions are designed for groups of up to 30 students and will explore the themes of class, society and moral dilemmas faced by all young people in the changing world of pre-First World War Central Europe. Set against the background of a passionate love story and the Parisian elegance of the Moulin Rouge, *The Merry Widow* is the precursor to the modern musical. The workshops are led by singers and performers of the Carl Rosa Company.

Price of a 3-hour workshop: £300

The company is also happy to arrange 1-hour or 1½-hour workshop for under 11's.

Please contact Suzanna Rosenthal at the Carl Rosa Company on 0207 613 0777 for further information or to book a workshop.

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THE GARAGE

ANDACTION ~ Digital filmmaking for beginners

Calling all young budding filmmakers! A ten-week course in digital film making from scratch will soon be taking place at The Garage.

The course is for 8-16 year olds, split into two groups of 8-12 years and 13-16 years. Each young person will work to create a short film with the possibility of their film being shown at young people's film festivals across Europe and in the UK.

The participants will be guided through the whole process from having an idea, getting a structure and then actually making a short film. Each person taking part will have hands-on experience of every aspect of making a film from creating a storyboard through to directing a scene, and acting in front of the camera. Each person will also have hands-on experience of framing shots, learning about continuity as well as the development of a script and characters.

The course will cost £40.00 per participant and a workbook and all materials needed will be provided. For more information please contact The Garage on 01603 283 382.

PERFORMANCE AT THE GARAGE ~

As well as hosting many different creative arts training courses, The Garage is also a performance venue. The Garage, along with Norwich Playhouse, was recently the regional host for the National Theatre's Shell Connections youth theatre festival. From the 12th-15th April we were taken over by 14 performances, 12 schools, groups and colleges, 24 volunteers and hundreds of audience members!

Shell Connections is one of the world's largest celebrations of Youth Theatre. Produced by the National Theatre, Connections was established twelve years ago in response to a widespread demand for challenging new plays for young people to perform.

Nine brand new plays and one new musical made up the Shell Connections 2005 portfolio. All performances were watched and marked by representatives from the National Theatre and the lucky winners were Whizz Kids, Cambridge with their performance of Mugged who will get to perform at The National Theatre later this year. If you would like to find out more about taking part in Shell Connections 2006 please go to www.shellconnections.org

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The Garage's 120-seat auditorium is also available to hire, which leads to a varied programme of performances from schools, colleges, professional touring companies and local theatre groups. Coming up:

VISCERAL THEATRE ~ Only in the Woods – a midsummer night's dream Thursday 9th – Saturday 11th June at 8.00pm

Tickets £4.50/£3.50 conc. from Norwich Arts Centre Box Office (01603 660 352)

Expect physical theatre, film projections, a loud music soundtrack and live percussion. Expect fairies as Shakespeare wrote of them: stealing, fighting and "misleading night wanderers, laughing at their harm". All brave night wanderers welcome!

Keep an eye on our website for further performances, at www.thegarage.org.uk

STUDIO THEATRE COMPANY ~ The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Production of Hamlet Wednesday 20th – Friday 22nd July at 7.30pm

Tickets £6/£5 conc from Theatre Royal Box Office (01603 63 00 00)

The intrepid ladies of the FAHETGDS are back with more Shakespeare- done only as they can. Despite their best efforts, disasters abound, as half the cast are stuck in traffic, the leading lady's husband seems to be having an affair and someone has done something unmentionable to the tea urn.

Keep an eye on our website for further performances, at www.thegarage.org.uk

ONGOING CLASSES ~ WORKSHOPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

This term we will continue to offer free places on many arts courses at The Garage for residents of the North Earham, Larkman and Marlpit area. Through the organisations that work in the building we are able to offer places in many areas including drama, dance, thai-bo and public speaking. To enrol on the sponsored award place scheme please contact Christina or Gill on 01603 283 382. A full list of places can be found on our website at www.thegarage.org.uk

For more information on any of the activities and performances that take place at The Garage please visit our website at www.thegarage.org.uk, where you can also sign up for our mailing list. Alternatively you can telephone 01603 283 382, email info@thegarage.org.uk or drop in and see us at 14 Chapel Field North, Norwich, NR2 1NY

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THEATRE ROYAL BACKSTAGE TOURS ~

The Theatre Royal currently runs backstage tours for school groups at a cost of £2.50 per head. The students are taken backstage to see how the technicians work with the equipment, including lighting where they may get the chance to operate the follow spots! We will try to tailor your tour to your needs if, for example, you are staging your own show and want to look at specific areas of the theatre. There is also a worksheet available to take back to the classroom. If your group has a particular interest in one aspect of the theatre e.g. marketing, it is also sometimes possible to arrange a discussion session after the tour.

BACKSTAGE TECHNICAL ASSISTANT WORK EXPERIENCE ~

We run a very popular Work Experience scheme here at the theatre, where students can spend a week with our resident Stage Manager and his crew learning about all the backstage technical aspects of running a theatre. We get many enquiries a long way in advance. If you are interested in work experience here at the theatre for one of your students please let us know as soon as you are aware of your work experience placement dates and we will try and accommodate you. Unfortunately we are only able to take one placement per week in our technical department.

Occasionally, we also take work experience students in the Marketing and Hospitality Departments, although dates for these are harder to arrange as it depends what production is showing and what work is being undertaken at any one time.

Unfortunately many schools run their Work Experience Schemes at the same time and therefore we have to turn down a lot of students who wish to experience work at the theatre. If you would like one of your students to be placed here please try and organise this as early as possible to avoid disappointment. Please bear in mind that the Theatre Royal will not book a Work Experience Placement without a named student.

To book a Work Experience Placement call the Education Department on 01603 598523

RISK ASSESSMENTS ~

Whether you are bringing a school group to the Theatre Royal to see a production, to attend a workshop or to have a Backstage tour of the theatre the Theatre Royal has very clear risk assessments in place. The Theatre Royal is also on the list of CF1 Providers as required by Norfolk County Council.

If you require a Risk Assessment please contact the Education Department who will be more than happy to supply you with the correct documentation. Alternatively you can arrange to come to the Theatre Royal prior to your school visit and walk around the building with a Theatre Royal employee in order for you to create your own risk assessment.