

# Artsreach

## PERFORMANCES SPRING 2014

**Toller Porcorum 8 Jan**  
**Milb. St Andrew 16 Jan**  
**Sixpenny Handley 23 Jan**  
**Winfrith 24 Jan**  
**FOREST FORGE**  
**'Anne of Green Gables'**  
A train pulls into Avonlea station and deposits its one passenger – a small, smiling but lost girl. The Cuthberts are looking to adopt a boy to help on their farm; what they get is Anne, a girl with bright red pigtails, a vivid imagination and a fiery spirit. Anne turns a rural community upside down with her passionate nature, joyful honesty and infectious energy. Join Anne and a host of memorable characters in a story about family, friendship and the fun of childhood. Beautiful music and the usual Forest Forge magic and mayhem will live long in the memory... Recommended 5+  
**"Rural professional theatre at its very best"**  
THE STAGE  
[www.forestforge.co.uk](http://www.forestforge.co.uk)



**Portsmouth 11 January**  
**DALLA**



Dalla are the internationally acclaimed leading lights of Cornish traditional music and feature multi-instrumental music on fiddle, clarinets, bouzouki, mandolin, percussion, and scoots (Cornish clogs), and songs in both Cornish and English. Dalla's members are four of the foremost proponents of traditional Cornish music today. They have been on a journey from the earliest sparks of the revival in Cornish traditional music, and have an unparalleled grounding in the traditions of Cornwall.  
**"Uplifting, committed, rollicking"** ROOTS  
[www.dalla.co.uk](http://www.dalla.co.uk)

**Studland 12 January**  
**BSO RESONATE STRINGS**  
**'Winter Serenade'**  
The BSO Resonate Strings are five gifted musicians, each of whom represents one of the five string sections of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. This engaging concert will reflect the wonderful diversity of the classical string repertoire and will feature music by Handel, Bach, Vivaldi, Pachelbel and Mozart, and more contemporary pieces from Elgar, Holst and Warlock.  
[www.bsolive.com](http://www.bsolive.com)



**West Stafford 17 Jan**  
**B Bradstock 1 Mar**  
**PIP UTTON**  
**'Chaplin'**  
Pip Utton explores Chaplin's life behind the façade of his character the 'Tramp' – the creation which made him the highest paid actor of his time. Using film, Charlie is able to step in and out of the screen, before he walks off into the distance. Chaplin is a captivating exposure of the life of one of the only filmmakers to produce, direct, edit, perform in and compose the score for his own films.  
[www.pip-utton.co.uk](http://www.pip-utton.co.uk)



**Broadwindsor 17 Jan**  
**Broadmayne 18 Jan**  
**P'trenthide 19 Jan**  
**Gillingham 19 March**  
**Chetnole 27 March**  
**W Stickland 28 March**  
**Sandford Orcas 5 Apr**  
**DAVE MYNNE**  
**'Great Expectations'**  
Dickens! The sheer magic of theatre and the awesome skill of theatrical heavyweight Dave Mynne (a founder of Kneehigh) bring you a 'cast of thousands' in this skilful, one-man adaptation of Charles Dickens' epic novel. This highly-engaging production combines Dickens' profound and complex story of Pip's life, loves and legacies with some of his best-loved, rip-roaring comic characters...and all presented by one extraordinary performer. Be prepared to be scared and amazed, to cry and laugh...a lot!  
**"mesmerising and joyful...faultless"**  
EXETER FESTIVAL  
[www.mynne.com](http://www.mynne.com)



**Gillingham 22 January**  
**Chetnole 23 January**  
**Sturminster Newton 24 January**  
**Thorncombe 25 January**  
**Martinstown 26 January**  
**MIRACLE THEATRE**  
**'Tin' the Film – Preview Screening**



'Tin', originally a large scale collaboration between Miracle Theatre and English Touring Opera, featuring Ben Luxon, was a heady mix of epic theatre, multimedia magic and top-notch singing. Now, for those who missed it, the company are developing a filmed version, featuring Dudley Sutton and Jenny Agutter alongside the original cast, recreating the extraordinary world of 19th century tin-mining. These special screenings, featuring extracts from the film and behind the scenes footage, will be introduced by Miracle's artistic director Bill Scott, followed by an informal Q&A with Bill and a member of the cast.  
[www.miracletheatre.co.uk](http://www.miracletheatre.co.uk)



**Child Okeford 25 Jan**  
**Milb. St Andrew 21 Feb**  
**Broadwindsor 21 Mar**  
**COLIN THOMPSON**  
**'Turlough O'Carolan - This is Your Life'**

A newly dramatised musical show from Dorset's Colin Thompson explores the life and music of one of Ireland's musical icons, the seventeenth century blind harpist Turlough O'Carolan. O'Carolan's music straddles European 'high art' baroque styles, combined with popular folk tunes. Colin Thompson is ably supported by harpist Florence Astley and actor Barry Irwin in this innovative show which celebrates O'Carolan's achievements at the time and transports him to the present day to reflect on some of the many different interpretations of his music that have since occurred.

**Halstock 29 January**  
**Sandford Orcas 30 January**  
**Burton Bradstock 31 January**  
**Durweston 1 February**  
**Studland 2 February**  
**TOM LANGHAM'S HOT FINGERS**



Back by popular demand, Hot Fingers welcome you to an eclectic mix of vintage acoustic string music. On this journey they visit the hot jazz of 1920's New York and sophisticated 1930's Swing, including references to the king of gypsy swing, Django Reinhardt. Tom 'Spats' Langham has crooned his way around the world with bands such as the 'Pasadena Roof Orchestra' and has several times sold out venues on the Artsreach circuit. Although just a trio, the band can be seen removing three guitars, a double bass, a sousaphone, a banjo, a mandolin, two ukuleles, a clarinet, a tuba, and a pair of castanets from the band van. Fabulous entertainment!  
[www.hotfingers.co.uk](http://www.hotfingers.co.uk)

**Toller Porcorum 7 February**  
**Ibberton 8 February**  
**Powerstock 28 March**  
**Sturminster Marshall 29 March**  
**Studland 30 March**  
**LEON HUNT N-TET**



Renowned 5-string banjo player Leon Hunt has played alongside some of the world's top musicians. Joined by superb bluegrass guitarist Jason Titley, bassist/vocalist Ben Somers and Joe Hymas on Mandolin, The Leon Hunt n-tet, are a traditional bluegrass band, and present tracks from their debut album 'Farewell Blues: Remembering Earl Scruggs' - the architect of the bluegrass banjo style.  
[www.leonhuntntet.com](http://www.leonhuntntet.com)

**Shillingstone 7 February**  
**Buckland Newton 8 February**  
**Langton Matravers 26 February**  
**Melbury Osmond 27 February**  
**Bourton 28 February**  
**Thorncombe 1 March**  
**Winfrith 2 March**  
**ALISON NEIL**  
**'The Fossil Lady of Lyme'**  
Imagine the world is only 6000 years old and everything was created in six days. This was the England into which Mary Anning was born, just two hundred years ago. Then came the pioneering work of geologists, studying rocks and fossils. The accepted truths about the world were blown apart. Mary Anning played a key part in this, for example discovering the first complete fossil of a prehistoric reptile in Great Britain – at the age of twelve. In Alison Neil's one-woman play, Mary Anning tells her fascinating story, and that of "the fine clever men of science" who took most of the credit for her work.  
**"Alison Neil tells a riveting tale"** OXFORD TIMES  
[www.alisonneil.co.uk](http://www.alisonneil.co.uk)



**Marnhull 7 Feb**  
**Briantspuddle 8 Feb**  
**Shipton Gorge 9 Feb**  
**PETITES**  
**ANNONCES**  
Petites Annonces play a unique mix of gypsy jazz, those bonnes old french chansons, from Charles Trenet to Jacques Dutronc, Boris Vian or Yan et les Abeilles, all wrapped in a big slice of Punk Manouche. Led by rhythm guitarist and vocalist Jipe Gerardin, the band features twin lead guitars from Damian Moody and Pete Nicholson, with bassist Mark Pennell holding down the bottom end. Expect to hear something different avec un accent francais!  
[www.petitesannonces.co.uk](http://www.petitesannonces.co.uk)



**West Knighton 8 February**  
**KOKORO**  
**'For the End of Time'**



Kokoro, an ensemble of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, is committed to bringing contemporary music to the South West. An all British first half features three short works inspired by the English baroque master Henry Purcell, including a new composition by Kokoro's composer-in-residence, Hywel Davies, as well as Joe Duddell's 'Nightswimming'. In the second part of the concert, Kokoro performs one of the 20th C's most spiritual and visionary works. 'Quartet for the End of Time' is one of the finest achievements by the great French composer Olivier Messiaen, written whilst incarcerated in a German prisoner of war camp.  
[www.bsolive.com](http://www.bsolive.com)

**Cerne Abbas 19 February**  
**Durweston 19 February**  
**Sturminster Marshall 20 February**  
**Gillingham 20 February**  
**VALISE NOIRE**  
**'The Girl and the Shoes'**



This enchanting new fairytale will transport you from the rural countryside of France to a vibrant Paris and a world of glamour and beautiful shoes. This story of love, courage and understanding, draws upon timeless classics such as The Wizard of Oz and Cinderella. and will capture imaginations by exploring what happens when you put on magical shoes. Recommended 4+  
[www.valisenoiretheatre.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.valisenoiretheatre.blogspot.co.uk)

**N. Compton 21 Feb**  
**HAND TO MOUTH**  
**'Jack at The Beanstalk Cafe'**

Hand to Mouth Theatre present a nourishing bean-feast of stories in the Beanstalk Cafe, including the sweet and sour tale of The Old Woman in a Vinegar Bottle, and a tasty take on Jack and the Beanstalk. Watch and giggle as two full-grown adults search for the recipe for the perfect story. Using imaginatively designed shadows and puppets, and including original live music and song, this is a visually witty, musical and comical confection. Recommended 4+  
[www.handtomouth.co.uk](http://www.handtomouth.co.uk)



**Child Okeford 6 March**  
**Corfe Castle 7 March**  
**Broadmayne 8 March**  
**Portsmouth 9 March**  
**BASH STREET THEATRE**  
**'The Last Illusion'**



Inspired by the variety shows from the Victorian music halls, 'The Last Illusion' tells the story of a retired magician and his wife who look back and remember the good old days spent 'treading the boards' in the variety theatres of a bygone age. But when a theatrical agent needs a last minute replacement act for a local cabaret evening, René and Renaldo agree to come out of retirement and prepare for one last farewell performance. With music, silent comedy and illusions, this family show will take you on a poignant 'magical mystery tour' to the past - and back again.  
**"as a provider of non-verbal narrative this company has few equals"** THE CORNISHMAN  
[www.bashstreet.co.uk](http://www.bashstreet.co.uk)

**Nether Compton 12 March**  
**Wootton Fitzpaine 13 March**  
**Hinton Martel 14 March**  
**Tarrant Gunville 15 March**  
**Martinstown 16 March**  
**TIM KLIPHUIS TRIO**  
**'The Gypsy Seasons'**



Delivering "the most breathtaking instrumental show you'll hear all year" (Washington Post), this world-famous Trio are not to be missed! Dutchman Tim Kliphuis (violin) and top Scots Nigel Clark (guitar) and Roy Percy (bass) perform a profoundly musical blend of gypsy jazz, classical and folk music. Their beautiful arrangements, mesmerising improvisations and telepathic interplay have captured the hearts of audiences round the globe.  
**"Winningly playful and technically brilliant"**  
THE SCOTSMAN  
[www.timkliphuis.com](http://www.timkliphuis.com)

**Sturminster Newton 13 March**  
**LIVING SPIT**  
**'The Six Wives of Henry VIII I'**



Howard Coggins looks like Henry VIII. There's no escaping that. Stu McLoughlin doesn't really look like any of the wives, but he's going to give it a go. After their previous self-funded two-man historical drama is savaged in the press, Howard (Bristol Old Vic) and Stu (Kneehigh) are at their wits end. Then they hit upon an idea for a show that could change everything... With live original music, embroidery, barbie dolls, silly songs and historical hysteria, this promises to be an ill-researched lesson in cross-dressing Tudor history that you'll never forget. This show was an undisputed hit on the Artsreach circuit in the autumn and this is your last chance to see it! Recommended 14+  
**"Hysterically funny"** Stageman  
[www.livingspit.co.uk](http://www.livingspit.co.uk)



**Langton Matravers 19 March**  
**Sturminster Newton 22 March**  
**JAMIE SMITH'S MABON**

Jamie Smith's MABON are among the UK's foremost and finest exponents of original, fiery Celtic music. Vocals, accordion, fiddle, bouzouki, bass and drums are subtly exploited by five dynamic, accomplished musicians, working traditional forms and styles anew in songs and melodies by composer Jamie Smith. The energetic sound of jigs and reels; or a graceful mazurka, an ecstatic muñeira; a haunting Welsh-language love-song or a driving, sing-along fantasy epic – all are given the same refreshing, creative treatment as the band dances skilfully along the borders between Celtic heritage and contemporary sound.  
**"A fearsome reputation as a live band"**  
FINANCIAL TIMES  
[www.jamiesmithsmabon.com](http://www.jamiesmithsmabon.com)

**Shipton Gorge 2 Apr**  
**Piddletrenthide 4 Apr**  
**West Stafford 5 Apr**  
**Halstock 6 Apr**  
**KEPOW THEATRE**  
**'On The Edge'**



On The Edge! explores all those moments in life when we are on the edge. Falling in love, leaving home, getting a job, bungee jumping - you name it, this show explores it! Essentially a comedy, with touching moments, On The Edge premiered at the Edinburgh Festival, where it garnered 5 star reviews and had a sell out run. Kevin Tomlinson is now recognised as one of the UK's leading comic improvisers, with his last show proving a hit on the Artsreach circuit in spring 2013.  
**"Heartwarming comedy theatre that all the family can - and certainly will - enjoy!"**  
EVENING STANDARD  
[www.kepowtheatre.co.uk](http://www.kepowtheatre.co.uk)

**Sturminster Newton 12 April**  
**THEATRE ALIBI**  
**'Hammer & Tongs'**

For anyone who's ever craved the last word... Hammer & Tongs digs deep into the human compulsion to argue the toss. Two men and a woman quibble, tiptoe into tiffs, debate high-mindedly, negotiate shoals of red herrings, take offence and descend into glorious, undignified, disgraceful, bad behaviour. From farcical fisticuffs at a wedding disco to squabbling for control of the TV remote, Theatre Alibi presents a very human comedy - physical, funny, absurd, musical, moving, and absolutely bloody-minded. Theatre Alibi has a terrific reputation for new work that's imaginative, funny and touching. Recommended 14+  
**"As always with this company, the telling is an inventive delight"** THE GUARDIAN  
[www.theatrealibi.co.uk](http://www.theatrealibi.co.uk)



For reviews, videos and more information visit  
[www.artsreach.co.uk](http://www.artsreach.co.uk)