JAN - MAR 2018
www.artsreach.co.uk

Drimpton 11 January
Marnhull 12 January
Briantspuddle 13 January
Studland 14 January

KATHRYN ROBERTS & SEAN LAKEMAN

Crowned winners of the BBC Radio 2 Folk Award for Best Duo 2013 and 2016, Roberts & Lakeman have an enviable reputation for their original songwriting. Their new landmark 5th album *Personae* releases a host of new characters and stories from their musical imaginations. Drawing upon British folk tradition whilst weaving in their own distinct and eclectic flavours, self-penned songs sit comfortably alongside traditional ballads to provide a hugely entertaining evening of music and song. With over 20 years of music making with the likes of Seth Lakeman, Cara Dillon, The Levellers, Kate Rusby and Show of Hands, Roberts and Lakeman have consolidated themselves as pillars of modern British folk. Early booking advised!
"It's folk music for the modern age" The Telegraph
www.kathrynrobertsandseanlakeman.com

Nether Compton 11 Jan
Portland 12 Jan
Winfrith 13 Jan

TANGRAM THEATRE
'Team Viking'

Five years ago, James's best friend Tom was diagnosed with heart cancer and given three months to live; his last wish was to be given a full Viking burial. This is the remarkable, hilarious, heart-lifting and outlandish story of how James gave his best mate the send-off he wanted. Featuring live music, side-splitting anecdotes and an actual Viking helmet, *Team Viking* is a comic ode to death and friendship, which won the Vaults Festival Origins Award and was a runaway hit at Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2016. Suitable 14+
"Equal parts sad, funny and ridiculous… a show of real courage combined with warmth and lyricism"
Three Weeks
www.tangramtheatre.com

Portesham 19 January

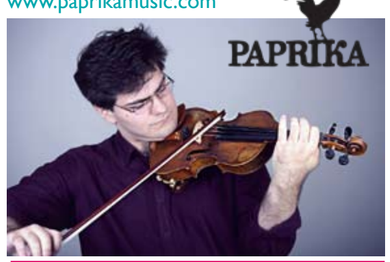
FOREST FORGE & BUMBLEFLY
'The Frog Prince'

Everyone wants to live in a castle, eat fine food and sleep in the softest, comfortablest bed, even a talking frog; but the spoilt princess really doesn't want to share. She can't see that ugliness may only be skin deep! Filled with madcap humour and a sprinkling of magic, Forest Forge and Bumblefly serve up a large portion of family fun and brilliant storytelling. What castle would be complete without a long haired maiden in a tower and a prince chopping through brambles to get inside? Many characters from familiar fairy tales, plus a couple of lesser known gems, keep the action moving, whilst memorable songs will have you singing all the way home! Suitable 4+
www.forestforgetheatre.co.uk

Powerstock 19 January
Langton Matravers 20 January
Tarrant Gunville 21 January

PAPRIKA

Paprika is the UK's leading Balkan band featuring Zivorad Nikolic (*She'Koyokh*) on accordion, Vladimir Strkalj on guitar, Marko Tesic on violin and Rastko Rasic on percussion. This electrifying group fuses together Eastern European, Balkan, Gypsy and Classical music in a whirlwind performance of frenzied virtuosity. Fiery melodies and foot-tapping rhythms are interspersed with lilting laments in a high-energy, exciting set.
"A must see" Cerys Matthews
www.paprikamusic.com



Milton Abbas 20 January

BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY BRASS
'Spring Fanfare'

The BSO Brass present an evening of musical delights, taking you on a journey through exquisite pieces of classical music by Bach and Byrd, to jazz classics such as *Oh When the Saints* and *Just a Closer Walk*. Join this quintet of Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra musicians and help herald in the Spring season with stunning majesty and groove.
www.bsolive.com

W'borne Stickland 25 Jan
Broadwindsor 26 Jan
West Stafford 27 Jan

CHARLIE BICKNELL
'Fallen Angel'

This darkly brilliant performer is back with another witty, wanton, shamelessly sexy and murderously funny show. Described as cabaret with claws, *Fallen Angel* is packed with anarchy, wit and comic ingenuity. Songs range from Tim Minchin to Meatloaf and Jacques Brel to Bizet. With a rebellious joie de vivre, acrobatic antics and accompaniment by pianist David Harrod, expect a wicked night out! Suitable 14+
"Charlie combines a gloriously dark sense of humour with an amazing voice" The Observer
www.charliebicknell.co.uk

Sixpenny Handley 25 Jan
Sandford Orcas 26 Jan
West Lulworth 27 Jan
Halstock 28 Jan *4pm*

ANONYMOUS IS A WOMAN
'Think of England'

Summer 1943. The War Office have employed Bette and Vera to travel the country hosting tea dances to boost morale amongst local communities and RAF personnel. But how will the locals react when they discover the women's real purpose: to send the young men off to fight having experienced all of life's pleasures? Following a fascinating real-life story, this brilliant drama weaves gentle innuendo and good old British embarrassment with lashings of tea and cake, the odd wartime song and a little dancing. Suitable 12+
www.aiawtc.com

Chetnole 1 Feb
W'tton Fitzpaine 2 Feb
Morden 3 Feb

BOWJANGLES
'The Quest for Excalibow'

The intrepid string quartet Bowjangles present their most magical show so far; a theatrical, musical journey through myths, folklore, legends and a portal in a cello case, in the quest to find the most priceless relic of all, a magical violin bow known as Excalibow. Expect tales of monsters, ancient gods, historical figures and characters of pure fantasy in this action packed show, full of comedy, energy, panache and almost every musical genre you can imagine; may contain traces of Abba!
www.bowjangles.org

Cranborne 2 Feb
Burton Bradstock 3 Feb
Stalbridge 4 Feb

GONZO MOOSE
'The Thing that came from Over There'

As Scott and Amundsen begin their race across Antarctica in 1912, the hapless explorer, Captain Reginald Cranston has accidentally landed on the wrong side of the continent. As he sets up base camp, a meteor crashes nearby. Deciding to investigate, Cranston and his team are unaware of the danger that awaits them, and the whole planet. What evil lurks inside the crater, and what is the horrifying fate of those who encounter the parasitic space worms? Inspired by the movies of the 1950's, this fast-paced rollicking ride mixes paranoia, suspense and hilariously gruesome deaths with comedy and thrills galore. Expect visual gags, verbal wit, giant puppetry, and a little live music!
www.gonzomoose.co.uk

Gillingham 8 Feb
Toller Porcorum 9 Feb
Corfe Castle 10 Feb

LE NAVET BETE
'Dracula: The Bloody Truth'

A theatrical and comical retelling of Bram Stoker's classic novel reveals that the events recorded in 1897 were not fiction at all, but fact. This brand new show travels across Europe from the dark and sinister Transylvanian mountains to the awkwardly charming seaside town of Whitby and into the world of the supernatural, educating us all on the perils of dealing with vampires. Packed with song, dance, shadow puppets and even some Victorian parlour tricks, Le Navet Bete promise to have the vampires back in the ground and leave audiences flying high. Suitable 8+
"side-splittingly funny and, by far, the best new comedy I've seen this year" Broadway World
www.lenavetbete.com

Fontmell Magna 8 Feb
Nether Compton 9 Feb
Shipton Gorge 10 Feb
Cerne Abb. 11 Feb *3pm*

LOUISE JORDAN
'No Petticoats Here'

Award winning singer, songwriter and musician Louise Jordan tells the stories of the inspirational women of World War One who challenged expectations. From the woman who dressed as a soldier on the Western Front to the women football players banned by the FA, the ambulance drivers running the gauntlet of enemy fire in Flanders and the so-called 'surplus million' single women; working in a time of conflict, leaving a legacy.
"Compellingly sung, with expert, often classically-inflected arrangements." rRoots
www.nopetticoatshere.co.uk

Sturminster Marshall 10 February
Durlston, Swanage 4 March

BSO TRIO OF FLUTE, VIOLA & HARP
'Impressions of Spring and Summer'

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra musicians Barbara Brown, Tom Beer and Eluned Pierce present an evening of trio music featuring Debussy, Faure, Handel and Arnold Bax in a wonderful spring concert.
www.bsolive.com

Drimpton 12 Feb
Milborne St Andrew 13 Feb

Tessa Bide
'A Strange New Space'

Amira is completely obsessed with space and dreams of becoming an Astronaut; then one night, her dreams come true. In the darkness, Amira must leave her hometown to go on an intergalactic adventure to find a safe space. Travel on a voyage into space, paralleled with Amira's real-life journey as a refugee across continents, in this stunning physical theatre show without words. Winner of the Edinburgh Fringe Primary Times children's choice award 2017. Suitable 4+
"A very special show not to be missed." Primary Times
www.tessabide.com

Beaminster 13 Feb *(relaxed)*
Durweston 14 Feb

BONE ENSEMBLE
'Where's my Igloo gone?'

Oolik is an ordinary girl who goes on an extraordinary journey to save her igloo from melting. Travel into a dazzling Arctic world of soaring snow geese, pet husky dogs, starry nights, and the kind of cold that makes your skin tingle! Through snowstorms, across oceans and into our hearts, Oolik is not the kind of girl to give up on her quest. Visual in nature and featuring enchanting live music, this fun, magical experience shows that when we work together, anything can happen! Suitable 5+
www.theboneensemble.co.uk

Blanchards Bailey
Law for Life
Blandford Dorchester Shaftesbury Weymouth
Partnering Artsreach and its audiences
www.blanchardsbailey.co.uk

Winfrith 14 Feb
Stalbridge 15 Feb
Piddletrenthide 16 Feb

ANGEL HEART THEATRE
'Snow White: The Return of Little Things'

Far, far away lies a curiously mechanical kingdom in which everything ticks but nothing laughs. It is ruled by The Queen Who Never Smiles and she is determined to control everyone and everything. Snow White must flee for her life to escape the Queen's terrible jealousy. Seeking refuge in the mysterious Wild Wood, Snow White discovers she is not the only one who refuses to live in a world without laughter. Under the trees, little steps are being taken to bring about big changes. Angel Heart celebrate their tenth anniversary by breathing new life into this timeless fairy tale, with a visually striking Steam Punk style. Suitable 4+
* Pre Show Puppet Making Workshop Available
www.angelheartheatre.com

Ibberton 17 Feb
F'mell Magna 18 Mar *4pm*

EMILY BURRIDGE & FELIX GIBBONS
'Incandescendo'

Emily Burridge on cello and Felix Gibbons on Latin percussion and Bossa guitar create a musical kaleidoscope of Jazz, World, Folk and Classical influences. In this new show, clever use of modern sampling technology enables them to expand their compositions and create exciting multi tracked pieces, spinning a web of intricate harmonies and rhythms, highlighted by some dazzling displays of improvisation. Their concert program includes arrangements of Brazilian classical and popular music, samba and choros and an array of new works for cello, percussion and guitar. Expect a memorable musical evening.
www.incandescendo.com

Drimpton 22 February
Ashmore 23 February
Hinton Martell 24 February
Milborne St Andrew 25 February

THE GRAHAMS

The Grahams are a dynamic Americana folk duo from Nashville, Tennessee, who have married their love of adventure with a desire to build on foundations laid by their musical predecessors. Their first song-crafting expedition, along the Mississippi's Great River Road, became their 2013 debut album, *Riverman's Daughter*. For its follow-up, they rode the rails and wound up recording not only a studio album, but a documentary and live album *Rattle the Hocks* on the move and in venues from Sun Studio to Amtrak's famed City of New Orleans train. Expect an evening of beautifully authentic Americana folk music.
"delivered with passion, power and beautiful harmonies" MusicRiot.co.uk
www.thegrahamsmusic.net

Halstock 23 February

TOWNSEND PRODUCTIONS
'We are the Lions, Mr Manager'

Jayaben Desai, the inspirational leader of the 1976-78 Grunwick Film Processing Factory Strike, was recently amongst those named as having the biggest impact on women's lives over the past 70 years *(Radio 4 Women's Hour Power List)*. Desai brought the issue of workplace exploitation and racism to the fore, challenged the perception of Asian women being passive and docile, and had the measure of the most brutish and charmless of her managers. She not only stood up for workers' rights and against oppression, she turned the dispute into a national movement for human rights and dignity inspiring future generations. An entertaining, engaging portrayal of social history, delivered in an energetic and comedic manner.
"Makes you laugh, think and feel…a powerful story, powerfully told" The Observer
www.townsendproductions.org.uk

Stur Newton 27 Feb

TANGLE COMPANY
'Doctor Faustus'

An unquenchable desire for fame drives the frustrated scholar Faustus to learn the magic of the dark arts. He summons the demon Mephastophilis, using him to strike a deal with Lucifer; his soul for twenty-four years of infinite power. The cost of his worldwide notoriety is infinitely high as the damned hour approaches. African Caribbean theatre company Tangle transpose this renaissance classic to our times. Music and song is interweaved with rousing performances in this unique version of Christopher Marlowe's renowned tale.
www.tangleinternational.com

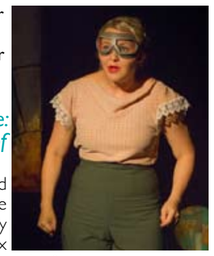
Winterborne Stickland 2 March
Wootton Fitzpaine 3 March

ADVERSE CAMBER
'Dreaming the Night Field: a legend of Wales'

A spellbinding storytelling and music performance which evokes the ancient Welsh legend of The Mabinogion. Experience a world that's bristling with life and filled with animals, people and constellations, caught in stories of creation and destruction. Thrilling, funny, powerful and poetic, *Dreaming the Night Field* features one of Wales' most engaging storytellers alongside exquisitely haunting live music. English and Welsh are artfully woven together to bring these ancient voices and living landscapes to life in an exhilarating performance. Suitable 12+
"We left the theatre spell bound" New Welsh Review
www.adversecamber.org

Melbury Osmond 8 Mar
Briantspuddle 9 Mar
Burton Bradstock 10 Mar

FLUFF PRODUCTIONS
'Agent of Influence: The Secret Life of Pamela More'



Everyone loves a good spy story, and this one will have you completely enthralled! Eager to mix with the elite, Lady Pamela, fashion columnist and socialite, is recruited by MI5 to keep notes on Wallis Simpson and Edward VIII, suspected to be colluding with the German Embassy. Pamela soon discovers that what began as an adventure is now a deadly power struggle in a world cast in the shadow of war.
"a genuinely ripping yarn, laced with intrigue…" The Stage
www.fluffproductions.co.uk

Toller Porcorum 9 Mar

JUST US DANCE THEATRE
'It's Between Us'

A thrilling and moving cabaret evening of music and dance, this exciting mixed bill of solos, duets and trios features music by British R&B singer Orin Norbert. With new choreography by award winning dance maker Joseph Toonga, themes of friendship, love and belonging are explored. Join in the dancing spirit and experience the most potent mix of current UK music and dance.
"It will blow your mind – the quality is breathtaking" NRTF Conference
www.justusdancetheatre.org

Charlton Down 10 Mar
Marnhull 24 Mar

HARBOUR VOICES
'Songs of the Sea'

Harbour Voices, a twenty-strong group of men and women, bring you a heart-warming celebration of the sea with their performance of traditional shanties and original songs recounting tales of our Dorset coast past and present. Join in the rousing choruses, hear stories of sailors and whalers, boat-builders and fisher-wives, and glimpse moments in the lives of those who risked all to make their living from the sea. Prepare to be moved, amused, intrigued and inspired by this unusual show, featuring vocal harmonies to make your heart soar, and songs that speak of our vital connection to the sea.

Shillingstone 11 Mar

RHODRI MILES
'Dylan Thomas : Clown in the Moon'

Clown in the Moon is a dramatic portrait of poet Dylan Thomas' chaotic, frequently hilarious, and all too brief life. Located in a BBC studio, it sets some of Dylan's famous broadcasts and iconic works alongside vivid reminiscences of his clownish antics in pubs, bars and parties, and his encounters with a host of eccentric and volatile women. Rhodri Miles (*Game of Thrones*) returns as Dylan Thomas after previous sell-out performances of the critically acclaimed '*Burton*' and winner of the *Best International Show Award* at the Hollywood Fringe Theatre Festival in 2010.
"Mesmeric, flawless" Broadway Baby
www.rhodrimiles.com

Cranborne 13 Mar
Langton Matravers 14 Mar
Bourton 15 Mar

RAGGED EDGE PRODUCTIONS
'The Chef Show'

Father and son Abdul and Kamal are having a busy night in their restaurant. As they struggle to deal with all of the customers 'out front' and staff in the kitchen, they also have to decide on the future of the curry house. Joining them on stage will be a local chef, offering a spicy cookery demonstration, food tasters and conversation with the cast. Expect a deliciously alternative and entertaining evening!
"a deliciously funny and occasionally dramatically-daring concoction of a play" British Theatre Guide
www.raggededgeproductions.wordpress.com

Drimpton 22 Mar
Powerstock 23 Mar
Tarrant Gunville 24 Mar
West Stafford 25 Mar

SPITZ & CO
'Gloriator'

A riotously funny show revealing just what happens when a glamorous French actress and her hapless assistant stage their version of the Hollywood blockbuster *Gladiator*. Gloria Delaneuf is well-versed in mime, mask, and the mysteries of stagecraft. Her UK tour manager Josephine Cunningham is not. Together they have created *Gloriator*, an awe-inspiring production of bravery, honour, and costumes made out of cardboard. Russell Crowe may not be available, but they are determined it will be a show you'll never forget. Wonderfully inventive, physical, and very silly, Critics' Choice Award Winner at Exeter Ignite 2014.
"Belly-achingly funny" Gloucester Citizen
www.spitzandco.com

Buck. Newton 23 Mar

FARNHAM MALTINGS
'Brave Folk'

An evening of story and song from the lands of the far, far north. *Brave Folk* is a mystical Nordic tale fizzing with humour about love, courage and knowing when to act. Set in the marshlands our hero, Yorgjin Oxo, is a carefree young man who has been taught the sounds of storms and how to sing into the rain, until one day people and places disappear and everything changes.
www.farnhammaltings.com

Martinstown 24 March

LOST DOG DANCE
'Paradise Lost'

A one man staging of Milton's epic *Paradise Lost*, and not like whatever came into your head when you read the first bit of that sentence. Combining theatre, comedy and movement, this is a journey through the story of the creation of everything; a show which brings you the highlights of this well known but often forgotten story beginning with Lucifer's rebellion and ending with Adam and Eve's expulsion from the garden of Eden. A single man plays all the characters, creates all the scenes and, despite his best efforts, falls a little short of perfection. Suitable 14+
"a virtuoso tour-de-force." The Stage
www.lostdogdance.co.uk

Image Credits: Gonzo Moose: Andre Pattenden | Le Navet Bete: Matt Austin | Tessa Bide: Paul Blakemore | Bone Ensemble: Pamela Raith | Lost Dog Dance: Zoe Manders