

Fidget Theatre in partnership with Leeds Libraries
PRESENT

PRATE BONNIE

Tour Pack



WHAT IS THE SHOW ABOUT?

PIRATE BONNIE is looking for treasure – but no ordinary treasure, for she is no ordinary Pirate. The treasures she seeks are stories, the long-lost Pirate legends of old.

Pirate Bonnie celebrates female

heroes, team-work and the treasure of a good story as she tells the tales of real-life pirates of old: Alwilda the Viking Princess, Grace O'Malley the Pirate Queen, Buccaneers Anne Bonnie and Mary Read and the most successful pirate of all time, Mistress Cheng I Sao.

TRAILER

 youtu.be/hdj5v80uJz4

DIGITAL versions of three of Pirate Bonnie's stories can be found on our website: www.fidgettheatre.com/projects/pirate-bonnie/



**“Welcome aboard, join the crew,
Let's set sail for the horizon blue
We'll hear pirate songs and pirate tales,
As the ocean breeze fills our sails!”**



WHO IS THE SHOW FOR?

THIS WELCOMING, music-filled performance is for 3–8 year-old pirates and their families.

The audience are greeted by an actor-musician in role as Bonnie and invited on board her ship to join the crew, set sail and discover treasures. Each treasure recovered is a long-lost legend of a real female pirate: Alwilda the Viking Princess, Grace O'Malley the Pirate Queen, Buccaneers Anne Bonnie

and Mary Read and Mistress Cheng I Sao.

In typical Fidget Theatre style, the show is warm and witty with original songs and friendly interaction for children and their grown-ups who become Bonnie's ship-shape crew.

The show is accessible and relevant for audiences, including those with additional needs, as we playfully explore the enduring fascination with

pirates. An imaginative and flexible set, visually appealing costume, and charming puppets support the multiple characters played by our actor-musician as she captains her crew.

Target Audiences

- Families with primary school aged children
- Primary School groups
- Fans of Horrible Histories



WHAT HAVE PEOPLE SAID ABOUT OUR WORK?



"Delightful from start to finish... a celebration of the imagination"

THE HINKLEY TIMES

"It had lots of parts where we could join in – we could be part of the show too"

AUDIENCE MEMBER, AGE 7

"This most magical production is utterly enchanting"

SHEFFIELD STAR

"Imaginative show, brilliant musicianship and loads of great interactive elements"

AUDIENCE MEMBER

"A great example of how to engage and hold an early years audience"

EMMA FORSTER, ACE

"It was very funny"

AUDIENCE MEMBER, AGE 4

"I really enjoyed it and I think other children would too"

AUDIENCE MEMBER, AGE 6

"Enchanting, clever, dazzling – top-quality children's theatre"

AUDIENCE MEMBER



WHO HAS MADE THIS SHOW?

Fidget Theatre create imaginative, contemporary theatre for family audiences. Fidget is the creative partnership of Andrea Heaton and Ruth Cooper who collaboratively write and direct Fidget's original, playful work.

Ruth Cooper WRITER/DIRECTOR

RUTH is a writer, director and theatre-maker specialising in creating new work for children and young people. Her production of 'Angel' by Kevin Dyer for Theatre Hullabaloo was described as "children's theatre at its best" by the British Theatre Guide. As Youth Programme Director for Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah directing credits included 'Dice' by Mark Catley and 'Stuck' by Mike Kenny and writing credits included 'Ruby's Walk' and 'Reunion'. Ruth established and leads the Carriageworks Young Theatre Makers (CYTM) a youth theatre dedicated to collaboratively co-creating original work. Extensive writer/director credits for CYTM include commissions for Leeds Lit Fest and 2020's remotely produced original film; 'The Never Was'. Alongside her work in theatre, Ruth is writing her first novel for children.

Andrea Heaton WRITER/DIRECTOR

ANDREA is a writer, theatre maker and performer with a wealth of varied experience creating innovative new work. In 2015 Andrea wrote and published the children's picture book 'Molly's Marvellous Moustache' and then adapted the book for performance which toured nationally with Fidget Theatre. Andrea is an experienced facilitator and 2018 led Common Chorus community writing group to create The Lonely Society. In March 2020 Andrea co-wrote and performed 'Smile Club' produced by Red Ladder Theatre which premiered at Leeds Playhouse (★★★★ Guardian). She and co-writer Adam Z Robinson are currently producing a six part audio series version of 'Smile Club' with support from Red Ladder Theatre, Leeds Playhouse and Arts Council England. Andrea has recently performed in Slung Low's short film 'The Magician'. She is lead writer of 'Taxi' (Red Ladder Theatre and Mad Dogs Dance) as part of Leeds 2023.

Emma Williams SET & COSTUME DESIGNER

EMMA is an experienced designer and key member of the Fidget team, having designed all of our shows. Her other recent work includes 'Upon The Stair' for The Book of Darkness & Light and LittleMighty (national tour), a ghost stories show with integrated BSL: 'Lyalode of Eti' (Utopia Theatre, Leeds Playhouse and Sheffield Crucible) and 'You Forgot The Mince' (Imagine If, national tour). Other productions include 'The Magic Paintbrush', 'The Elves and the Shoemakers' and 'Pinocchio', all directed by Gail MacIntyre at Leeds Yorkshire Playhouse; and 'Stuck' by Mike Kenny for Theatre Company Blah Blah Blah.

Claire-Marie Seddon MUSICAL DIRECTOR

CLAIRE-MARIE Seddon is another established part of the Fidget Ensemble, having worked with us on Jack Frost. She trained at The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Composition credits include 'The Not So Ugly Sisters' (Leeds Playhouse/ Wrongsemble), 'Connected' (Red Ladder Theatre), 'Harold and Maude' (Interplay Theatre), 'Women Of Aktion' (Bent Architect), and 'A Christmas Carol' (Frontroom Productions).

Kathleen Yore ACTOR/MUSICIAN

KATHLEEN Yore is a theatre practitioner, specialising in the making, directing and performing of puppetry, mask and clown. After gaining her first class honours degree in acting at Bretton Hall and a total theatre award for best newcomer, she founded 'Odd Doll', for which she has produced 5 ACE funded, UK touring productions. The last of which was co-commissioned by Cast for Christmas 2019 and chosen by The Childhood Trust and Chats Palace, London to play for the poorest communities in 2021. She regularly works for Red Ladder, Alive and Kicking, Pif Paf, and is artistic director for circus musical 'Rum Punch' at Alphabetti Theatre. Kathleen has trained all over the world with award winning artists including Eric Davis, Angela De Castro and Vamos. She is current puppetry tutor at University Centre Leeds and is managing the masterclass programme for Newcastle Puppetry Festival 2021. Kathleen's longest standing work, which has shaped her attitude towards the way people connect and play is as a giggle doctor for 'Theodora children's charity' in UK children's hospitals for which she specialises in imaginative improvisation and laughter therapy.



HOW DO I BOOK THE SHOW?

If you want to book Pirate Bonnie for your venues, please contact Fidget Theatre to discuss dates and a financial package.

✉ fidgettheatrecompany@gmail.com

TOURING INFORMATION

Company

- 1 performer, 1 Stage Manager

Minimum Playing Space

- 5m wide x 5m deep
- 4m height required to grid

Get In

- Minimum 3 hours (1 hour in a Library or other space)

Get Out

- Minimum 1 hour

Performance Running Time

- 55 minutes no interval

Set, Lighting and Sound

Suitable for Library spaces with no lighting or sound equipment. For theatre spaces full information will be sent out in advance of productions.

We Require

- Use of a PA suitable for the venue. Sound run from company laptop.
- Please pre-rig lighting if possible. Designs to be sent in advance.
- Get in/get out requires support of venue technician
- Touring Stage Manager will operate lighting and sound during show



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