

# TOTAL THEATRE

## EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE SUPPLEMENT 2006

TOTALTHEATRE.ORG.UK

The TOTAL THEATRE AWARDS are a project of Total Theatre Network, which is an organisation revenue funded by Arts Council England to celebrate and promote physical and visual performance.

TOTAL THEATRE MAGAZINE is the leading national magazine for physical and visual performance, published quarterly by Total Theatre Network and available in print by subscription or at specialist outlets, and by multi-access online subscription via Ingenta Connect.

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CENTRAL SCHOOL OF  
SPEECH AND DRAMA  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



## TOTAL THEATRE AWARDS FOR PHYSICAL + VISUAL PEFERORMANCE

Here we go again! TOTAL THEATRE AWARDS, first presented in 1997, are now a well-established event at the EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE, honouring the best in physical and visual theatre and performance.

TOTAL THEATRE AWARDS 2006 are the seventh awards presented at The Fringe, and are this year generously sponsored by both CENTRAL SCHOOL OF SPEECH AND DRAMA (who are new sponsors for 2006) and the UNIVERSITY OF WINCHESTER (who are continuing their ongoing support for the Awards).

TOTAL THEATRE AWARDS are given to professional artists/companies presenting work at The Fringe. We will be considering a variety of different sorts of physical and visual theatre/performance work, which could include physical & devised theatre, live art, visual performance, mime, clown, street arts, circus arts, new variety, dance-theatre and puppet-theatre.

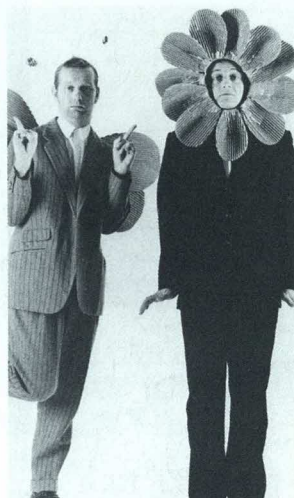
What the awarded artists will have in common is a belief in (and demonstration of) the power of movement-based or image-led theatre/performance to communicate, entertain and inspire audiences – cutting across boundaries of nationality or language. This does not exclude the use of spoken text – but we would, in this case, be looking for work in which any spoken text is only one of the elements of a 'total theatre' production.

In this special supplement to TOTAL THEATRE MAGAZINE, you can learn more about past TOTAL THEATRE AWARD winners, read our recommendations for this year and find out where to go to see some of the scintillating variety of physical and visual theatre shows on offer at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2006.

See you in Edinburgh!

*Dorothy Max Prior*  
Editor

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THE RIGHT SIZE – DO YOU COME HERE OFTEN?  
MOST INNOVATIVE PRODUCTION/ OVERALL WINNER AT THE FIRST TOTAL THEATRE AWARDS IN 1997

## TOTAL THEATRE AWARDS 2006

TOTAL THEATRE AWARDS 2006 nominations received before 1 August will be assessed by at least one of our team of advisors/reviewers. We will also be accepting Wild Card nominations up until 15 August. Entry forms can be requested by email from [awards@totaltheatre.org.uk](mailto:awards@totaltheatre.org.uk) or they can be downloaded from [www.totaltheatre.org.uk](http://www.totaltheatre.org.uk).

### LONGLIST ANNOUNCEMENT

The Awards Nominations Longlist will be announced on Wednesday 16 August 2006. This list will be publicised widely and available to view on the Total Theatre website.

### NOMINATIONS SHORTLIST

Following a meeting of the Judging Advisory Panel, a shortlist of at least twelve nominated shows will be decided on and announced on Weds 23 Aug.

### ANNOUNCING THE WINNERS OF THE TOTAL THEATRE AWARDS 2006

The Total Theatre Awards 2006 will be announced and presented at a ceremony on the morning of Thursday 24 August at The Assembly Rooms.

Six Total Theatre Awards will be made to the artists/companies presenting shows deemed to be the best examples of physical and visual theatre/performance at the Fringe 2006.

These will include two special Awards: a Total Theatre Award for Innovation, given in association with Central School of Speech and Drama, and a Total Theatre Award for Significant Contribution to Physical and Visual Theatre/Performance, given in association with University of Winchester.



# CENTRAL SCHOOL OF SPEECH AND DRAMA

## Alumni:

Judi Dench  
Harold Pinter  
Laurence Olivier  
Cameron Mackintosh  
Julie Christie  
Zoe Wanamaker  
Gael García Bernal  
Kathleen Turner  
Peggy Ashcroft  
Vanessa Redgrave  
Deepak Verma  
Deborah Warner  
James Nesbitt  
Michael Grandage  
...inter alios

Central School of Speech and Drama congratulates its students and alumni taking part in the Edinburgh and Fringe Festivals 2006.

Central is at the forefront of drama education and research in the UK. It offers a wide range of drama-related specialist courses that address vocational practices and the creation of contemporary work. Come to Central to take a course in Physical and Visual Theatre, Performance Arts, Advanced Theatre Practice, Movement Studies, Music Theatre, Performance Practices and Research, or choose from a number of other courses. You can also undertake doctoral research in performance using some of the best facilities available to any UK drama specialist.

For information about any courses call 0870 389 1391, or visit [www.cssd.ac.uk](http://www.cssd.ac.uk). Alternatively you can come to an open event for MAs and PhDs on 19 Oct or 1 Feb; or for BAs on 26 Sept or 2 Nov.

Central School of Speech and Drama sponsors the Total Theatre Awards 2006, and is presenting the Total Theatre Award for Innovation.

CENTRAL SCHOOL OF  
SPEECH AND DRAMA  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

1906-2006: 100 years of excellence in training for theatre

Photo by Peter Cook

UDI GRUDI - OVO

GAMARJOBAT

CHOTTO OKKI - AND EVEN MY GOLDFISH

HOI POLLO! / HUGH HUGHES

# THE NAM

SEVEN TOTAL THEATRE AWARDS  
NINE YEARS. 43 RECIPIENTS. ON  
THEM ALL. NAME-DROPPING TR  
ELLINGSWORTH DOES THE POLI

Previous Total Theatre Awards winners range far outside the boundaries of any one artform, and perhaps the most important function of the Awards is to recognise work which, because of its unusual genre or lack of a genre, might otherwise go unnoticed. Artforms eligible for the Awards include physical and visual theatre, live art, circus and street arts, dance theatre, puppetry (Shona Reppe won in 2002 for her children's show, *Cinderella*) mime, mask, and improv. Consistently eccentric improviser, actor,



SHONA REPPE PUPPETS - CINDERELLA

writer Ken Campbell compered at the 1999 ceremony and was surprised to find himself a joint-winner of a Lifetime Achievement Award along with Nola Rae. In these unusual or borderline genres, so often poorly funded, it is particularly impressive to see artists with real staying power, and in 2006 Total Theatre will continue to acknowledge those who endure with the Total Theatre Award for Outstanding Contribution to Physical and Visual Theatre, sponsored by The University of Winchester.

Contemporary circus is another artform that might otherwise be neglected. The allegedly 'very hairy' wild men of circus, Acrobat, won the Let's Get Physical Award back in 1997, and Rodrigo Matheus and Deborah Pope, together No Ordinary Angels, bagged an Award in 1999 for their show based on the seven famous sins, *Deadly*. 2002 winners Company F/Z have been creating innovative contemporary circus for about as long as the Total Theatre Awards have existed. Their show *Throat* has since toured to New Haven festival, the Harbour Front Festival in Toronto, Beijing, Mozambique and Brasilia, among other locations, as well as extensively in the UK. Artistic Director John Paul Zaccarini reckons that the Award helps persuade people to take a chance and see something new, and that it helps especially 'in places like Taunton'.

In 2000, the British company Spymonkey won an Award for *Stiff* - Undertaking Undertaking, a blackly comic piece set in a funeral parlour. Cal McCrystal, Director of the show, feels the Awards 'fill an enormous gap in

CHOPPELOGIC - PARAMOUR

CONCRETE TEMPLE THEATRE - THE ACROBAT

THE PAPER BIRDS - ACCIDENTALLY WAITING TO HAPPEN

MISS HIGH LEG KICK'S FASHION BUS





# E GAME

## CEREMONIES IN THE ARTICLE TO CITE TICK-PONY JOHN TIC THING

Edinburgh', as the kind of physical comedy the company produces isn't recognised by (the former) Perrier Award. In the last four years Spymonkey have gained incredible momentum, receiving an Arts Council grant, touring exotically with the help of the British Council, making a major appearance at the Brighton Festival, and being commissioned to do the funny bits in Cirque du Soleil's Las Vegas adult cabaret, Zumanity.



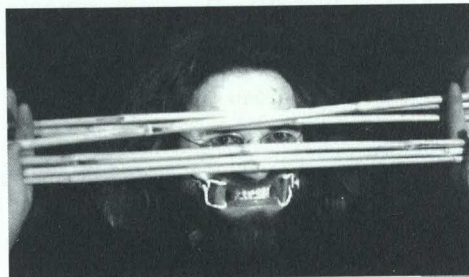
DUCKIE - C'EST VAUXHALL

**DUCKIE** are another success story. Their sleaze-art cabaret show C'est Vauxhall won a Total Theatre Award in 2003, and transferred to the Barbican, where it also won the much less prestigious Olivier Award. Asked about winning a Total Theatre Award, Duckie Producer Simon Casson was careful to insert at least two double-entendres/vulgarities in every sentence, and is for this reason mostly unquotable, although he did say that the Award was a 'boost', a 'total boost', and that it 'keeps your [CENSORED] up'. Duckie performers Amy Lamé and Miss High Leg Kick (Francesca Baglione) both have their own shows at Edinburgh (see the listings), and the full-strength company will be inviting the public to have a classy Christmas lunch with them in December as part of the Barbican's bite06 season. Just as impressive are the Right Size, who nine years ago won an Award for Do You Come Here Often, and have since gone stratospheric, performing their Morecambe and Wise tribute The Play What I Wrote at the West End, and their new show Ducktastic at the Albery.

Not every company makes it big, but winning a Total Theatre Award can help practitioners by giving them encouragement and recognition. When metro-boulot-dodo took their show Reunion to the Fringe in 1999, it was a make or break situation, and it was the Award for Best Newcomer that persuaded them to keep touring, especially as it came after a particularly uncomplimentary review which put Reunion on a Page of Shame. The company is currently working on its Four Seasons cycle of pieces, and the next installation, Autumn, will launch in Leicester in September; they still call the Award their 'main achievement'.

An Award can also be the extra backing companies need to get bookings for their shows. Karen Glossop, one half of Wishbone Theatre, thinks that when their show Scapegoat was programmed for the London International Mime Festival, it was 'really down to the Total Theatre Award'. In 2005 LIMF programmed Award-winners Andrew Dawson and Gecko, and has in the past showcased companies recognised by Total Theatre: Compagnie Fiat Lux, Ariel Teatr, Ridiculusmus, BlackSKYwhite, and the only company to have ever won two Total Theatre Awards, Derevo, who are spoken of by other practitioners with a sort of terror and awe. They're back in Edinburgh this year with their show Ketzal.

A large slice of Total Theatre Award winners are from overseas. In 2003, Germany's Fabrik Company received an Award for Pandora 88, performed by Sven Till and Wolfgang Hoffman, artistic director for the twice Award-winning, relentlessly Total festival-within-a-festival, Aurora Nova. Past Award-winners to have appeared at Aurora include dance theatre group Déjà Donné, Spanish multi-media company Nats Nus, and surreal, ludicrous Russian theatre of engineering group Akhe.

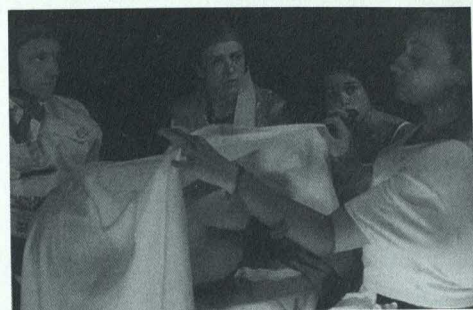


AKHE - WHITE CABIN

The work supported by Total Theatre is well-suited to performance outside its country of origin. Station House Opera have taken their Award-winner Roadmetal, Sweetbread to Greece, Mexico and Los Angeles. Dreamthinkspeak, 2005 winners for Don't Look Back, recently returned from Ljubljana, Slovenia and are gearing up for a full overseas tour. The company is also working on a site-responsive piece for proscenium arch theatres, due Spring 2007, and has mysterious long term plans for a project involving 'very large public buildings'....

Both Dreamthinkspeak and Station House Opera produce site-responsive work that adapts to its performance space. Another company to work in this vein are 2000 winners Shunt, a collective of artists who met on the Central School of Speech and Drama's Advanced Theatre Practice MA. Winning a Total Theatre Award helped Shunt get a grant from NESTA (the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts), which in turn got them their current space in the vaults beneath London Bridge. They've produced several large-scale pieces over the last few years, and in September the company plans to launch the Shunt Lounge, which will open the Shunt bar three days a week, on a membership basis, to provide an informal and convivial forum for conversation, works-in-progress, film showings, debate and absinthe. Total Theatre will continue to support companies making unusual work with The Total Theatre Award for Innovation, sponsored by the Central School of Speech and Drama.

Running out of space; 17 winners left to



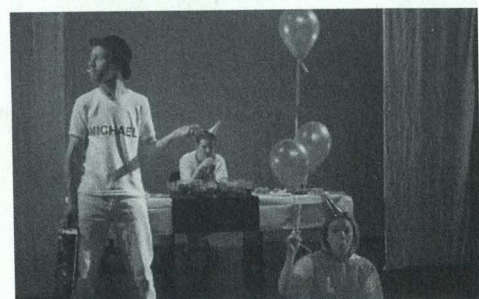
SHUNT - BALLAD OF BOBBY FRANCOIS

cite. Gymnastic paragraph. Materiali Resistenti Dance Factory won in 2003 for their show Waterwall. In 1999 an Award went to another H<sub>2</sub>O-related show, The Water Carriers, by Le Theatre Talipot, who take their name from the Talipot palm-tree, a close palm-relative of which, Corypha utan, is cultivated at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, the site for Theatrum Botanicum's 2002 Award-winner, Go-Go: The Boy With Magic Feet, which was acted by young performers, as was the Young Vic Company's Arabian Nights (Best Use of Design, 1999). Kazuko Hohki is another Award-winner to have adapted a well-known tale, her show Evidence for the Existence of Borrowers winning



KAZUKO HOHKI

an Award in 2005. Additionally, Kazuko was once in a pop group called the Frank Chickens; pop songs were used extensively in Anonymous Society's Jacques Brel (1999, Best Overall Production), and in Eddie Ladd's Club Luz (2003 winner), which was a multi-media performance, as was 27, by Fecund Theatre (1997), which was written by John Keates, who is an extra vowel away from being the nineteenth-century poet. In 2000, the Lorca-inspired piece Poet in New York won an Award; it was by American company Pig Iron, who are name-related to 2005 winners Grid Iron (who put on a play in an airport in Edinburgh, which is the city where you will find the TT Award-winning Pleasance and (now defunct) Continental Shifts venues), and who trained with mime-physical theatre guru Jacques Lecoq in Paris, which cues a run of Lecoq-trained winners: Blow Up Theatre, Monika Pagneux, Stephen Berkoff (who adapted Kafka's The Trial in 1971, which is also the title of the piece for which K486 won an Award nine years ago), and allows a mention of Lecoq-inspired Y2K winners Generally Better Productions (now called Theatre O), who make 43.



METRO-BOULOT-DODO - REUNION

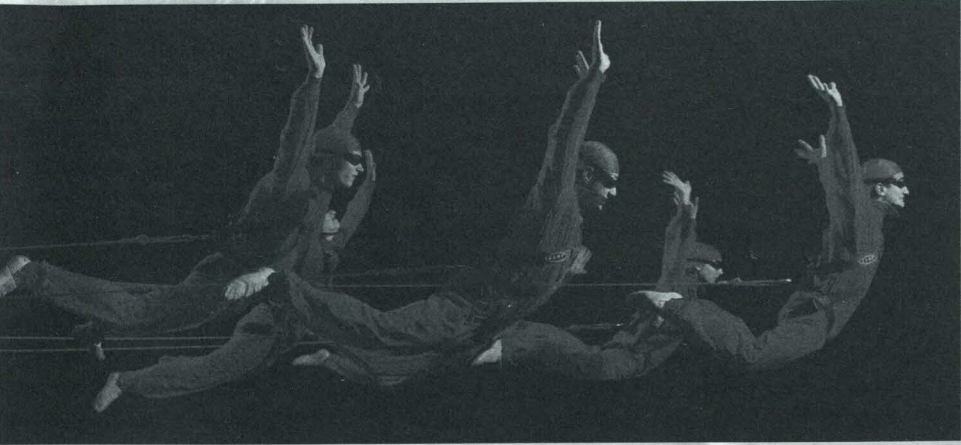


# GETTING AN EYEFUL

THERE'S PHYSICAL AND VISUAL THEATRE APLENTY AT THE FRINGE 2006. TOTAL THEATRE'S EDITOR DOROTHY MAX PRIOR OFFERS A GUIDED TOUR AROUND SOME OF EDINBURGH'S MORE ENTERPRISING VENUES

In recent years, there has been much discussion about the Fringe and how companies who might be eligible for Total Theatre Awards, presenting predominantly image-led or movement-based work, fit into the Fringe's quick turn-around (get 'em in, get on with it, get 'em out) ethos. Answer: in many cases, they don't. Work that needs decent floor space, or which needs extended get-in-time, or a specific site outside of the regular venue options, can be difficult to programme.

Luckily, there are enterprising producers and programmers out there



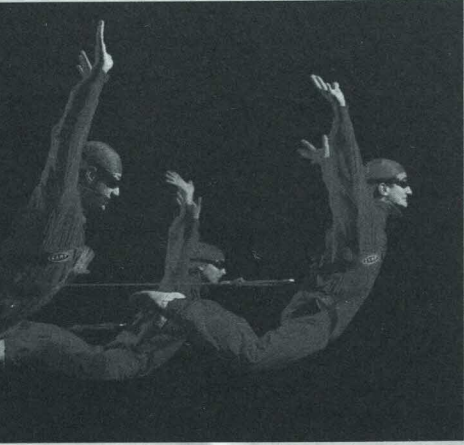
programme of visual theatre and dance from around the world, although this year there is more work from the British and Irish Isles than there has been in the past. Artistic director Wolfgang Hoffman has spent the last two years in Dublin, so it is hardly surprising to see two renowned Irish companies in the programme: Barabba's **HAIRDRESSER IN THE HOUSE** is 'a real haircutting salon with one foot in reality and one in a magical realm.' Want to be in a show? Need a haircut? Feeling lucky? This is your chance... Coisceim Dance's **KNOTS** is a rather different kettle of fish. Directed by Liam Steel (of DV8), it mixes brutal, high-octane choreography with insightful writings from psychoanalyst R.D. Lang. Despite programming two international events (the Dublin Fringe and Aurora Nova), Wolfgang Hoffman continues to work as a feet-on-the-floor director. His work can be seen in Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company's **RESONANCE**, described as 'a poignantly witty play of movement poetry about the incompatibilities of a real life relationship.'

Another one to look out for at Aurora Nova is Inspector Sands and Stamping Ground Theatre's **HYSTERIA**. Seen in development at The Nightingale Theatre in Brighton, this looks to be an excellent and extremely funny piece of physical theatre that plays on the boundaries



between hilarity, bathos and discomfort. Also dealing in the delicate balance of mirth and madness is Norway's Jo Strømgren Kompani. Women in isolation going bats seems to be a recurring theme in their work: last year we encountered three demented nurses stranded in a military hospital; this year, in **THE CONVENT**, we meet three nuns living in a remote Alpine valley. 'Quirky choreography

lady shopper, overfriendly weirdo – in a unique collection of performances.' Also on the bus are: Ben and Holly's **TABLE FOR TWO**, a gastronomic Live Art event; Breathe's **CROSSED WIRES**, in which the Breathe girls entice you to pick up the phone and connect... but to whom?; Charlie Murphy's **KISS-IN-BURGH**, a sexy pseudo-dental snog-fest; Chris Dobrowski's **LANDSCAPE, SEASCAPE, SKYSCAPE, ESCAPE** in which Chris tells of his attempts to escape art school; and David Leddy **REEKIE**, Sonic art meets sex and tourism and routemaster buses. Another Escalator East artist is Darren



Johnston [aka Array] – but you won't find him on the bus... for the second year running, he'll be performing at Aurora Nova. Last year we witnessed the love-it-or-hate-it Rensa, which brought together visual and aural media into an experiential sensory overload. He's back with **OUTRÉ** an after-dark, bizarre and twisted cabaret featuring extraordinary collaborations between music (from Warp records artists), live arts and contemporary cinema. Collaborating artists include Jamie Lidell, Pablo Fiasco and Christian Vogel.

Aurora Nova at St Stephen's has become a byword for quality physical and visual theatre on the Fringe. St Stephen's is a beautiful space – a church in Edinburgh New Town with the floor space and height needed for physical or image-led performance. Aurora Nova is a mini-festival within the Fringe, a curated



who take up the Fringe challenge...

The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh always feature a big outdoor show. This year it's Children of the Sea and Plain's **FINDING MARINA** which promises music, dance, tales from the heart of Asia, and a magical torchlit promenade under the stars.

NoFit State Circus were shortlisted for a Total Theatre Award in 2005, and they return this year with **IMMORTAL**, a feel-good contemporary circus extravaganza sited in their own splendid silver super-tent. 'It's been a long wait for a UK contemporary circus company to hit the jackpot with a highly successful touring show – but NoFit State have done just that' *Total Theatre on the 2005 show*.

If a groovy space-age circus tent doesn't do it for you – try the bus. Escalator East to Edinburgh, the Arts Council England East's enterprising programming initiative, brings us **DR ROBERT'S MAGIC BUS**, which aims to 'restore the true spirit of the Fringe' (whatever that might be) in the form of a unique venue on a Routemaster double-decker, dedicated to live art and unusual performance events. Expect performance art, walks, drama... and kissing. Look out for **MISS HIGH LEG KICK'S FASHION BUS**, which issues daily invites to join the lovely leggy lady and her friends for a spectacular fashion show onboard. We are promised 'All your favourite passengers – naughty teenager,

piece of Grotowski-inspired 'poor theatre': no set, no fancy props or lighting – just wonderful physical performance, music, song and text spoken in a multitude of languages. 'A company to look out for' said Total Theatre – and we'll be looking forward to **PAST HALF REMEMBERED** at the Pleasance Courtyard with eager anticipation. Another odd and interesting-looking show is a collaboration between visual theatre company Hoipolloi (previously shortlisted for a Total Theatre Award for My Uncle Arly) and performance artist Hugh Hughes: using slides, film projection and Powerpoint – yes really – **FLOATING** tells the



little-known story of how, on 1 April 1982, the Isle of Anglesey floated away from the Welsh mainland. Then there's People Can Run with their follow-up to the highly successful Aruba, **FISH STORY**, which is billed as 'an uproarious, biting and true-ish tale of the dangerously bored and the extraordinarily deceitful.'

C-Venues is another enterprising venue (or rather a group of venues dotted around central Edinburgh) which has always programmed a good number of physical and visual theatre productions. Offerings this year include These Colours' **NOSFERATU – A TALE OF HORRORS** which promises dynamic movement, slapstick comedy and vibrant sounds. Staying with the Gothic theme, there's also Guildbury's **FRANKENSTEIN**, a physical theatre retelling of Mary Shelley's classic tale. Another re-worked classic is at C Too: Eyeball Theatre's **THE TEMPEST** claims to be 'rude, lewd, dark and dangerous', and features acrobats, puppets, and circus tricks.

Other good places to seek out physical and visual performance include the Gilded Balloon Teviot (try the Karola Gajda/Peta Lily collaboration **MY POLISH ROOTS AND OTHER VEGETABLES** – video, animation and beetroot soup.); Smirnoff Underbelly (how



about Impetuous Kinship's **LITTLE GIRL WHO WAS TOO FOND OF MATCHES**, 'rash, reckless interdisciplinary performance'); and The Assembly Rooms (book in for the adults-only

**JIM HENSON'S PUPPET IMPROV** and expect comedic improvisation and the anarchy of live puppet performance. It's surprising what puppets can get away with that people can't.) Physical and visual theatre creeps in all over Edinburgh. Go to Rocket @ Demarco



Roxy Art House and you'll find Magico Theatre Company's **STRUWWELPETER – IN ENGLISH!** Heinrich Hoffman's classic cautionary tales brought to life (we presume offering something different to Improbable's famous version, Shockheaded Peter?). Over at Sweet ECA there's Ningyo Circus! With **THE CRIME OF MISS DEBUKO OHYAMA**, a fat woman's revenge tragedy from Japan describing itself as 'a circus nightmare' and (at the more ethereal end of movement-based performance), at Roman Eagle Lodge you'll find Arty Physical Intelligence LLP who present **THE ART OF DISAPPEARANCE**, an 'enchanting men of dance, theatre and storytelling.' If it's burlesque and vaudeville you're after, try **THE VAUDEVILLE CABARET CLUB** at The Bongo Club which boasts 'circus music, theatre, comedy, burlesque and sideshows.'

And talking of burlesque... any feature on Edinburgh venues would be incomplete without a mention of the glorious mirrored and gilded, wooden Spiegeltent, which tours the world's festivals with a full programme of music, cabaret, variety and burlesque. Highlights for this year include **MIKELANGELO AND THE BLACK SEA GENTLEMEN** in which immaculately dressed gentlemen tango and polka through a nightmarish but hilarious cabaret noir and **JOEY ARIAS AND ELIOT DOUGLAS'S STRANGE FRUIT** featuring the Grande Dame of the NY drag scene. Not to be missed is Spiegeltent's in-house variety show **LA CLIQUE**, returning to Edinburgh with a wonderful new selection of sassy, sexy and in some cases surreal acts.

So as you can see, there's physical and visual performance galore at this year's Fringe – circus, physical comedy, burlesque, visual theatre, puppetry, performance art – so plenty to keep our team of reviewers, assessors and judges busy in the search for the winners of the Total Theatre Awards 2006.

ANYONE CAN NOMINATE A SHOW AS A TOTAL THEATRE AWARDS WILD CARD ENTRY! GO TO WWW.TOTALTHEATRE.ORG.UK FOR INFORMATION ON ELIGIBILITY AND A NOMINATIONS FORM.

## TOTAL TIPS FOR THE TOP

WE'LL BE LOOKING OUT FOR THE BEST IN PHYSICAL AND VISUAL PERFORMANCE AT THE FRINGE – HERE ARE SOME OF THE SHOWS WE WILL BE SEEING

**SPYMONKEY**  
**SPYMONKEY - COOPED**  
Assembly @ George Street  
Direct from Las Vegas, Fringe favourites and previous Total Theatre Award winners Spymonkey return with a new extended version of their deliciously demented pulp gothic thriller. Directed by physical comedy maestro Cal McCrystal. Essential viewing.

**NIE (NEW INTERNATIONAL ENCOUNTER)**  
**PAST HALF REMEMBERED**  
Pleasance Courtyard  
A madcap journey through the epic sweep of Russian history. The Reds and the Whites do battle, the Germans invade, tea is served from a samovar and there is a very big wedding. 'Great sensitivity and humour...filling the space with physical, visual and verbal content...all elements in this well-produced piece of storytelling take us to a satisfying end' *Total Theatre on A Long Journey Home*

**TALL STORIES IN ASSOCIATION WITH NETWORK OF STUFF**  
**THEM WITH TAILS**  
Assembly @ George Street  
Three unlikely tales... and one impossible one! Anything can happen in this hilarious show for kids of all ages, a collaboration between two top physical/devised theatre companies – it's never the same twice.

**TRICICLE THEATRE**  
**SIT**  
Pleasance Courtyard  
The history of the chair as you've never seen before – unless you saw them at the London International Mime Festival last year! Barcelona's seminal physical theatre company comes to The Fringe.

**UDI GRUDI**  
**OVO**  
George Square Theatre  
A miraculous world fashioned out of a rubbish tip inhabited by three vulture-like eccentrics. Clothes, animals, friends and musical instruments are some of the unimaginable and ingenious transformations created in a new show from the Brazilian masters of fabrication.

**NIKI MCCRETTON**  
**MUTNIK THE FIRST DOG IN SPACE**  
The Pleasance  
A stray dog is captured and taken to the Russian Space Centre to become an astronaut and go where 'no dog has gone before!' An incredible true story! Associate Artist at Lighthouse Theatre Niki McCretton will be performing her physical theatre piece 'for children over three and childish adults' at The Pleasance from 2-28 Aug daily at 11.25am. 'McCretton is a rare performer with an adorable presence...superb' *Total Theatre on previous show Relative*

**VOODOO VAUDEVILLE**  
**SKIN OF THE MOON**  
Assembly Rooms  
Led by Voodoo's founder, new variety veteran Chris Cresswell, a stellar cast of five will sing, dance and clown their way through a time travelling tale of forbidden love in a sensational, sexy blend of vaudeville theatre, comedy and film. Expect to encounter finished B-movie characters, burlesque theatricals, wicked wit, the notorious puppet oracle Baby Warhol and a sprinkling of audience participation in this charmingly outrageous and twisted Victorian romp through the mists of time.

**CHOPPED ONKEY**  
**PARANOUR**  
Pleasance Courtyard  
On an island of paper, two humorous, awkwardly human characters tear hearts from envelopes, and smudge the ink of other lives. The two actors performing several characters create an inter-weaving, multi-layered narrative as stories tumble from their lips and topple into each other like leaves dropping from trees... a company to look out for! *Total Theatre*

**KOMEDIA ENTERTAINMENT**  
**GAMARIJOBAT (GA-MA-IO-BAT)**  
Gilded Balloon Teviot  
Hilarious award winning Japanese duo back with a brand new show. A moving story of cops and robbers, love and loss. Without a word, Gamarijobat leave their audiences speechless with laughter. 'Fantastically slick and seductive...visual gags and interactions with the audience toppling into each other with frantic energy' *Total Theatre on A Shut Up Comedy from Japan*

**SPIEGELTENT/LA CLIQUE**  
**LA CLIQUE**  
The Spiegel Garden  
Celebrating the danger, sensuality and pure unadulterated pleasure that a night in the theatre should be! 'Superb, no postmodern pussyfooting here: La Clique is hard-core sassy and slick contemporary Burlesque at its best' *Total Theatre*

**MUMMENSCHANZ FOUNDATION & MZA**  
**MUMMENSCHANZ 3X11**  
George Square Theatre  
Blends mask-play, mime and puppetry into fantastical-shapes. 'beautiful, frequently funny...a magical experience, vociferously enjoyed by its audience of all ages' *Total Theatre*

**SHAMS THEATRE**  
**THE GARDEN**  
Pleasance Dome  
Lecoq trained Jonathan Young's acclaimed (and revamped) solo show The Garden is a powerful story of shell-shock, lost love and the power of memory. The Garden combines stunning video projections with imaginatively simple staging and physical comedy: 'Young tackled well his difficult task of creating convincing multiple character' *Total Theatre*

**PRECARIOUS DANCE THEATRE**  
**JUNCTION 8**  
C-Venues  
Perhaps the only show at Edinburgh where you can witness a pregnant mother birthing a virtual foetus, a disillusioned janitor seeking solace down a projected lavatory, and an overweight waitress receiving cosmetic modifications through 3D human animation. Dynamic, thoughtful and funny, the show is a modern metaphor for life in the fast lane.

**TANGRAM THEATRE COMPANY**  
**CRUNCH!**  
Pleasance Courtyard  
A show about apples. From Adam and Eve to Isaac Newton, from William Tell to the Big Apple, from Snow White to Apple Mac, this critically acclaimed Lecoq trained company takes its audience on a journey of fruit discovery, love stories and nutritional facts! Daily, excepting 15 August.

**TALE ON FIRE**  
**SING A STORM OF BLACKBIRDS**  
Venue 45  
Two brothers escape the chaos of war-torn Kosovo for the dreaming spires of Oxford. As two worlds collide, will young love survive the gathering storm? Vibrant new writing, physical theatre and an original score. 3-19 August and 21-26 August.

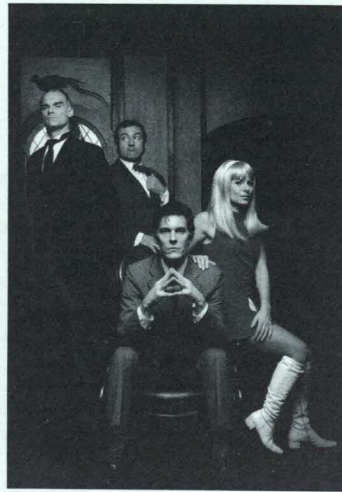
**THE SOLVENTS**  
**THE COSMIC FAMILY**  
Underbelly Belly Laugh  
A spiritual group has infiltrated the Edinburgh Fringe disguised as a theatre company. Devised by The Solvents (www.thesolvents.net), who have emerged from Dartington College of Arts, The Cosmic Family show offers a dark satirical window into new age evangelism, personal makeover shows, and corporate sell.

**CHOTTO OKUL**  
**AND EVEN MY GOLDFISH**  
C central  
Drawing on the company's extensive experience in dance, visual theatre and comedy, And Even My Goldfish is a fast-paced and bizarre insight into one man's mind unsettled in time. Comfort is found only in the memories that have become stained upon him. However, as he soon realises, clinging to the past can become an incredibly dangerous thing...

**IF YOU DON'T GO ANYWHERE ELSE GO TO...**

**AURORA NOVA AT ST STEPHEN'S**  
**VARIOUS ARTISTS**  
The place to be for physical and visual performance – see above for show details.

**DR ROBERT'S MAGIC BUS / ESCALATOR EAST TO EDINBURGH**  
**VARIOUS ARTISTS**  
Looks to be the most unusual venue for The Fringe 2006 – wacky live art and more... see above for participating artists.



**TAKE A CHANCE ON ME**  
**STILL MORE POSSIBILITIES – A FURTHER SELECTION OF PHYSICAL AND DEVISED THEATRE, CIRCUS, VISUAL PERFORMANCE, PUPPETRY, NEW VARIETY AND MORE**

**ARCHES THEATRE COMPANY/AL SEED**  
**THE FACTORY**  
Smirnoff Baby Belly  
Al Seed (Hoax Productions) uses clown, dance, stand-up and an explosive electro soundtrack in a brutal, hilarious tale about war, greed, torture and you.

**CONCRETE TEMPLE THEATRE**  
**THE ACROBAT**  
Pleasance Courtyard  
A surreal journey, an army of record players and a dancing suit.

**CRIME PROVOCATEUR INTERNATIONAL**  
**ACT AND PUNISHMENT**  
C central  
Fusion of physical and psychological theatre. You know the story.

**AGITO THEATRE**  
**METAMORPHOSIS**  
The Zoo  
Adaptation demonstrating Berkoff's convention defying theatre.

**APRICOT THEATRE**  
**THE TWYNTH TEG**  
Smirnoff Underbelly  
Peek into the wayward world of folklore and stolen babies.

**COMPANY OF ANGELS**  
**VIRGINS**  
Assembly @ George Street  
Explores the minefield of teenage sexuality.

**DONNA RUTHERFORD**  
**OCONE OCONE (A SORROW FROM BEFORE THAT'S STILL WITH YOU)**  
Venue 13  
Solo performance and video. Music and dance.

**EDUCATED GUESS**  
**ACT WITHOUT WORDS I AND II**  
Zoo Southside  
The sincerest expression of the human psyche without a single utterance of a word.

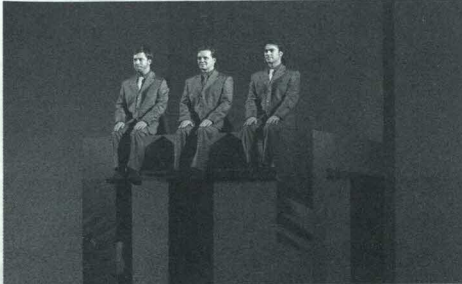
**FOUND OBJECTS**  
**STAGGERED SPACES**  
Greyfriars Kirk House  
Genre-defying show about shoes.

**NEXT ON THEATRE**  
**PAINTERS**  
Smirnoff Underbelly  
Clowning and acrobatics on a building site.

**PLUCK**  
**PLUCK – THE SPECIALISTS**  
Pleasance Courtyard  
Mozart meets Marx Brothers. Directed by Cal McCrystal.

is supported by a confident relationship with ext, and the dark, more sadistic aspects of the narrative are deftly shot through with wicked humour.' Total Theatre on The Hospital  
One of the highlights at Aurora Nova will undoubtedly be **KETZAL** from Russian physical theatre maestros Derevo. Total Theatre reviewer Miriam King saw the show in Italy in 2005 and was 'lost and found at the same time in images that are both raw and sublime.' From Russia to the Czech Republic: Farm in the Cave's **SLAVI/ SONG OF AN EMIGRANT** is a 'gushing torrent of polyphonic songs punctuated by raw physicality' which 'creates the frenzied dream of an anonymous Slovak migrant who has just returned home.' There is also a new show from Renegade, whose last show Rumble was their take on Romeo and Juliet. **STREET LIFE** pushes their mix of streetdance, live music and digital graffiti further than ever. Add to this The Patron Company's **KATAKLO** (mind boggling acrobatics and gravity defying stunts),

Cie Didier Thérón's **EN FORME** (an absurd, funny dance show inspired by Kafka's writings and drawings), COCOONDANCE's **LOVERS AND OTHER STRANGERS** (mind games and close body contact) and Joao Garcia Miguel's **ESPECIAL NADA** (the TV show that Warhol never made), and you have a programme



that promises to further enhance Aurora Nova's reputation as the place to be.

Aurora Nova St Stephen's is dedicated to physical and visual performance, but there are other venues that offer a programme strong in 'total theatre' work. Pleasance Edinburgh is not one but a cluster of venues (programming up to 160 shows a day), most of these circling a courtyard-cum-beer garden that is a prime social space for the festival. Physical theatre companies who have found a home here over the past twenty-one years include Frantic Assembly, the Decraux-inspired Theatre de L'Ange Fou, Catalan experimenters La Fura Dels Baus, Derevo, mask supremos Trestle Theatre Company, fabulous devised theatre company Kneehigh, and theatre-clown-comedy kings Peepolykus. The Pleasance's commitment to physical theatre in general – and physical comedy in particular – is in evidence in the 2006 programme which includes Shams Theatre's **THE GARDEN**, Niki McCretton's **MUTNIK THE FIRST DOG IN SPACE**, and – also on a space theme – **STAR TRIP**, the new show from Spanish 'physical comedy gurus' LLana. There's also NIE (New International Encounter), whose Long Journey Home (2003) was a wonderful

**THE PAPER BIRDS**  
**ACCIDENTALLY WAITING TO HAPPEN**  
Pleasance Courtyard  
Live music, movement and whispers.

**THE PERFORMANCE CORPORATION**  
**DR LEDBETTER'S EXPERIMENT**  
Tavarse 5: Medical Faculty  
Fiendishly gothic field-trip; headphones provided.

**THE STICKING PLACE**  
**IN PURSUIT OF CARDENIO**  
Smirnoff Underbelly  
Ken Campbell heads a cast performing Shakespeare's lost play - Cardenio.

**APHIDS IN ASSOCIATION WITH GILDED BALLOON**  
**A QUARRELLING PAIR**  
Gilded Balloon Teviot  
Triptych of small puppet plays inspired by avant-garde writer Jane Bowles.

**C PRESENTS...**  
**THE MIDNIGHT CAROUSEL**  
C central  
A late-night whirl of cabaret, burlesque and other dark doings.

**FLIP THEATRE**  
**LOVE ME, DOROTHY!**  
Rocket @ Demarco Roxy Art House  
It's a play. It's a cabaret. It's a play within a cabaret.

**FREAKS IN THE BOX**  
**THE FREAKS IN THE BOX VARIETY CABARET SPECTACULAR**  
C central  
Mimes! Clowns! Daredevils! Vampires! Dummies! Comics!

**HIGH PRIESTS OF HUNK**  
**AMERICAN VAUDEVILLE**  
Pleasance Dome  
A crate, a curtain, a tuba – vaudeville!

**POWDER ROOM PRODUCTIONS**  
**THE POWDER ROOM**  
C central  
A delicious Burlesque mix of lust and corruption.

**ROCKET @ DEMARCO ROXY ART HOUSE**  
**ONE NIGHT AT THE CARAVAN CLUB...**  
Corner House  
Relax in the most bohemian rendezvous of 1920's London.

**THE CAVE OF THE GOLDEN CALF**  
Dial Lounge  
A cave of wondrous burlesque and vaudeville performers.

**MORE PROMOTIONS & MZA**  
**A MIDSUMMERNIGHTS TREE**  
Belgrave Crescent Gardens  
A leaf-canopied circus fantasy at sunset, with music and fire.

**GENNADY GUTGARTS (UKRAINE)**  
**ANTIPIGALLION AND OTHERS**  
C central  
Bodies of real-life models become tools for transferring paint.

**IN BETWEEN BUTO DANCE COMPANY**  
**SOMETHING IN BETWEEN**  
St Cuthbert's Parish Church  
Buto dance inspired by In praise of Folly by Erasmus of Rotterdam.

**BODYART**  
**AN HOUR ABOUT AN HOUR**  
Acoustic Music Centre @ St Brides  
Blunt text, diverse movement and breathtaking photographs.

**MYOSUNG IN ASSOCIATION WITH SOULGANG CO. (KOREA)**  
**MYOSUNG- STREETDANCE**  
Assembly @ George Street  
Mixes hip-hop, street acrobatics and classical Korean dance.

**NEEL DE JONG**  
**INNER LANDSCAPES**  
Rocket @ Demarco Roxy Art House  
European expressionistic dance. Avant-garde...

**RANDOM TANGENTS**  
**OPEN YET SPECIFIC**  
Sweet ECA  
Dance theatre interprets conversation.

**THEATRE OF OPEN CREATION (POLAND)**  
**SO SIMPLE**  
C  
Dance of two souls, torn and mute.

**ZOO NATION**  
**INTO THE HOODS**  
E4 Underbelly  
Hip Hop dance theatre at its best.

**4 NOELS**  
**ROCK RIDERS**  
Assembly @ George Street  
Physical comedy delivered at break-neck speed.

**FOOL**  
**SMIRNOFF UNDERBELLY**  
Four men disguised as twelve thousand props.

**GILDED BALLOON PRODUCTIONS**  
**HAPPY HOUR IN IT TAKES 3**  
**DIRECTED BY VIRGINIA SCOTT**  
Gilded Balloon Teviot  
Physical comedy about three misfit buddies on the road-trip of their lives.

**GREENE SHOOTS THEATRE**  
**THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR**  
C  
Physical theatre adaptation of Gogol's rich and sparkling comedy.

**IN THE RED THEATRE PRODUCTIONS**  
**PAINT THE TOWN**  
The Zoo  
Unnerving physical theatre; be wary.

**KUDOS**  
**CORPUS VARIORUM - OR THE EMBODIMENT OF STORIES**  
C central  
Dark tale traversing the blurred edges of urban myth and real life.

**NOVARASA**  
**WHEN WE WERE GODS**  
Hill Street Theatre  
Gods give up their powers to become ordinary people.

**SACCORSO CLOWN**  
**STRANGE GAMES**  
C  
Metaphysical comedy, created by Vladimir Olshansky.

**TEATR LIČEŃI**  
**THE FAMILY - SEMIANYKI**  
Assembly @ St George's West  
The craziest, funniest family you've ever seen.

**TRILLION DOLLAR COMPANY GBR & MZA**  
**CAESAR TWINS**  
Pleasance Courtyard  
Gymnastic theatre from the body-beautiful boy stars of La Clique.





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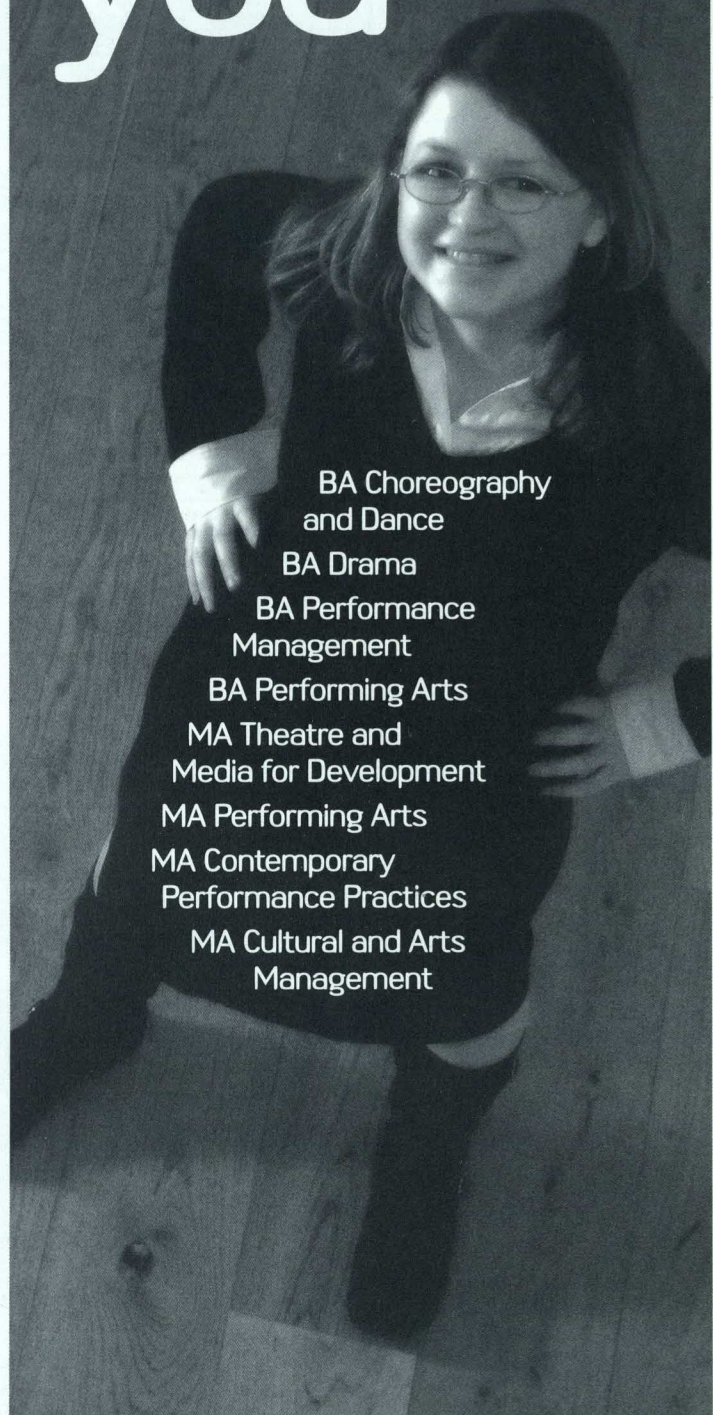
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