

Marketing Pack



The Bird Show

A FLAP-TASTIC FAMILY COMEDY
BY THE LAST BAGUETTE

"FUNNY, CHARMING AND THOUGHT-PROVOKING"

★★★★
CREATIVEREVIEW.SUK



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Show Description

The Bird Show – A flap-tastic family comedy by The Last Baguette

With frolics and foraging, flitting, flying and two unusual feathery friends, this is a madcap and touching show about birds facing changes to their habitat. The Bird Show uses live music, puppetry and lots of silly bird jokes in this heart-fluttering physical comedy.

We follow Henry the Heron and Sally the House Sparrow on a zany journey to become friends while facing ecological threats to their habitat. This colourful, visual show gently explores the impact of humans on nature and asks the question - what can we do differently?

Written by award-winning playwright T.A. Woodsmith, directed by Susana Alcantud, with upcycled set and costumes by designer Bronia Housman and original music by Catherine Burke. Artwork by The Wooden Spoon Press.

★ ★ ★ "Funny, charming and thought-provoking" CreativeReviewsUK

Suitable for the whole brood including fledglings from 3+

We usually offer a meet and greet after the show for about 10 minutes, where audience members can try out the puppets, have a go on bits of the set, and meet the characters.

Audience experience: (a more informal text to describe the show to potential audience members)

The Bird Show is a fun fact-filled family comedy about a zany friendship between a Heron and a House Sparrow, and the environmental challenges they face. The show uses visual storytelling, physical comedy and puppetry and is performed by two actors and a banjo-ukulele.

Sally the House Sparrow and Henry the Heron live on a landfill site. Henry claims his previous abode was a lake in the grounds of a castle, but the dump is all Sally has ever known. One morning Henry is preparing to emigrate to more salubrious climes, when an unexpected event delays his flight plans....

This is a madcap and touching show about the challenges birds face in relation to their changing environment. The audience will laugh and care for these fierce and proud feathered friends.

We are excited to be working with designer Bronia Housman to create the set and puppets from recycled and found materials.

The total running time is 1 hour. We recommend the show for anyone age 3+, but younger children are always welcome.

Created in 2019 with support from Arts Council England, Wiltshire Council, the Joyce Fletcher Charitable Trust and the Wallace Curzon Charitable Trust. In partnership with Pound Arts, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, Fest West, Wiltshire Libraries, Rural Arts Wiltshire and compagnie Malafesta.

Workshops

We love engaging with audiences of all ages beyond the auditorium.

We are offering 2 workshops to accompany the show. These are 1-2 hours long each, and are aimed at primary school age children, but we are happy to adapt them to different ages or specific groups as required.

Recycled Rascals puppetry workshop: A puppetry workshop based on making puppets out of found materials – the workshop includes an element of performance with students invited to create and present their puppet characters at the end of the workshop.

Kooky Kharacters theatre workshop: a fun and relaxed theatre workshop. Find out about how to develop characters using animals as inspiration. Create your own scenes and stories, and learn about improvisation and physical comedy.

Participants will learn about theatre, create their own work, build confidence, make new friends and have fun!

We can also create tailored workshops on request for all ages and abilities – please just ask! We regularly run workshops on physical comedy, developing characters, improvisation and creating devised work.

THE LAST BAGUETTE - ABOUT THE COMPANY:

The Last Baguette makes fast-paced, irreverent physical comedy. We are company in residence at Pound Arts, Corsham and tour to theatres, rural touring venues and arts centres across the country. We have performed in the UK, France, Switzerland and Canada.

The company was formed from a shared love of theatre, bakery and humour in Paris by graduates of the Philippe Gaulier and Jacques Lecoq schools. We believe in the power of physical comedy and silliness to talk about important issues of our times.

We tour shows, lead the Pound's Youth theatre, run one off workshops and community projects. We are excited by the possibilities of art bringing people together and believe theatre can be catalyst for change. We are proud to work with our Paris-based sister association Malafesta to bring European artists to the UK. The theatre we make is entertaining, accessible and eccentric.

In 2017 and 2018/9 we created and toured the Arts Council supported show The Little Match Girl. We performed to sell out audiences across the southwest and midlands. While company in residence at Pound Arts we also created the Arts Council supported shows Dracula – A Terrifying Comedy, and What's the Matter? a physical comedy about physics which have toured to theatres, festivals, arts centres and schools from 2015 - 2017. These followed Shake!!! William Speare, a multilingual comedy based on "A Midsummer Night's Dream" directed by Aitor Basauri (Spymonkey), which was performed in France, Switzerland and Canada.

INDUSTRY/PRESS QUOTES

★★★★"Funny, charming and thought-provoking" CreativeReviewsUK on The Bird Show

"The energy and commitment of the company is infectious. This is unique small scale theatre with a great heart. Accessible and definitely daft... the pace never falters and the use of physical theatre ensures beautiful imagery and memorable moments." Theatre Bath on The Little Match Girl

"Dynamic, avant-garde, crazy, refreshing" Valère Gogniat, L'Express-L'Impartial, Switzerland on Shake!!! William Speare

"A fun-filled family show... This one-act wonder has it all – humour, love, spinny chairs, and a fluffy cat. It's a must-see for people of any age" Grace Spencer, Air in G on What's the Matter?

"Entertaining and enlightening" StageTalk magazine on What's the Matter?

"Expert physical comedy and storytelling from The Last Baguette. The live music and song was a real treat too... bags of humour for young and old."
Gemma Alldred, Programme Manager, Bridport Arts Centre on The Little Match Girl

"The gags roll one after another... the laughter is non-stop"
Nicole Bourbon, Reg'Arts magazine, Paris on Dracula

AUDIENCE QUOTES:

"Hilarious, silly, ridiculous, intimate, magical, beautiful, moving and so, so clever."

"Loved the production, very funny, witty, gentle and touching."

"Full of energy and creativity. Funny and clever. Absolutely fabulous"

"An enchanting blend of eccentric originality and downright silliness with poignant moments of beauty and all delivered with understated expertise."

PERFORMANCE DETAILS:

The total running time is 1 hour. We recommend the show for everyone age 3+, but younger children are always welcome.

Target Audience:

Families with Primary school age children
 School holiday and weekend audiences
 People concerned about the environment and environmental groups
 Bird watchers and ornithological groups eg RSPB or local ornithological clubs
 Members of local Wildlife Trusts
 People who manage or contribute towards local wildlife reserves
 Comic theatre audiences, particularly comic, physical or devised theatre
 Alternative, fringe theatre audiences

Selling points:

A fun show for the whole family
 Relevant and topical - gently asking questions about human impact on the environment and what we can do differently
 Filled with facts about birds
 Silly bird costumes
 Humorous and touching
 Uses visual story telling, dance, physical theatre, live music and object puppetry
 Jokes for young and old
 Meet and greet with the characters and puppets after the show
 Performances include a souvenir fact sheet about birds, how to spot them and what you can do to encourage them in your area
 Set and costumes made from recycled materials
 Colourful, fun and original aesthetic designed by Bronia Housman
 Original music composed by Catherine Burke (The Catherine Burke Band)
 Written by award winning playwright T.A. Woodsmith
 Directed by international physical comedy director Susana Alcantud

Marketing materials:

Full colour double-sided A5 flyers
 Full colour A4 and A3 posters

Media:

Show trailer: <https://youtu.be/iG7hV0YLiBY>
 Website: www.thelastbaguette.com
 Twitter: @TheLastBaguette
 Facebook: [facebook.com/last.baguette](https://www.facebook.com/last.baguette)
 Instagram: thelastbaguette

Members of the company will be available for press and radio interviews ahead of the performances. We are very happy to work with venues to support any marketing strategies in place.

COPY:**50 words**

With frolics and foraging, flitting, flying and two unusual feathery friends, this is a madcap and touching show about birds facing changes to their habitat. The Bird Show uses music, puppetry and lots of silly bird jokes in this heart-fluttering physical comedy. Ages 3+

★★★★"Funny, charming and thought-provoking" CreativeReviewsUK

100 words

With frolics and foraging, flitting, flying and two unusual feathery friends, this is a madcap and touching show about birds facing changes to their habitat. The Bird Show uses live music, puppetry and lots of silly bird jokes in this heart-fluttering physical comedy.

We follow Henry the Heron and Sally the House Sparrow on a zany journey to become friends. This colourful, visual show gently explores the impact of humans on nature and asks the question - what can we do differently?

★★★★"Funny, charming and thought-provoking" CreativeReviewsUK

Suitable for the whole brood including fledglings from 3+

150 words

With frolics and foraging, flitting, flying and two unusual feathery friends, this is a madcap and touching show about birds facing changes to their habitat. The Bird Show uses live music, puppetry and lots of silly bird jokes in this heart-fluttering physical comedy.

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EXAMPLE PRESS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Venue details: date, time, booking info

The Bird Show - A flap-tastic family comedy

Theatre company The Last Baguette are using playful family comedy to explore the impact of humans on the environment in their new production *The Bird Show*. The show uses live music, puppetry and lots of silly bird jokes in this heart-fluttering physical comedy about conservation, migration and imagination.

Perfect for fledglings age 3+ and their families, *The Bird Show* is a madcap and touching show about birds facing changes to their habitat. This colourful, visual and hopeful show gently explores the impact of humans on nature and asks the question: can we do things differently?

Sally the House Sparrow and Henry the Heron live on a landfill site. Henry claims his previous abode was a lake in the grounds of a castle, but the dump is all Sally has ever known. One morning Henry is preparing to emigrate to more salubrious climes, when an unexpected event delays his flight plans... We follow the birds on a zany journey to become friends while facing ecological threats to their habitat.

“We believe fun, dynamic theatre can be a catalyst for change” says producer Sidney Robb “and that this is a really important subject to talk about at this time”. There has been a serious decline in the numbers of many birds, including well-known and loved species such as the house sparrow. Sidney continues: “I grew up in North Wiltshire and spent wonderful hours bird watching on the Cotswold Water Park with my family. I would like to share my excitement and enthusiasm about birds.”

Formed in Paris in 2009, The Last Baguette are now company in residence at Pound Arts, Corsham and bring international theatre artists to Wiltshire to create high quality touring theatre. This show was created in partnership with Pound Arts, Wiltshire Libraries and Wiltshire Wildlife.

**** "Funny, charming and thought-provoking" CreativeReviewsUK on *The Bird Show*
 "Unique small scale theatre with a great heart" Theatre Bath on *The Little Match Girl*
 "Entertaining and enlightening" StageTalk on *What's the Matter?*
 "My 4 and 6 year olds were engaged throughout and so was I. Lots of sweet and funny moments and we especially loved the puppetry. Go see!"
 Audience member on *The Bird Show*

More info on thelastbaguette.com

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iG7hV0YLiBY>

email: thelastbaguette@gmail.com

Twitter/Facebook/Instagram: @TheLastBaguette

CONTACT:

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