



The Lost Grannies

by BeautifulMess

Devised for London 2015, for Touring 2015 and beyond...



The show

The Lost Grannies is an interactive tragi-comic performance; small in scale but with a big impact, as public spaces are interrupted by 2 colourful old ladies, disorientated and in need of assistance!

Arresting visual imagery, music and full-mask choreography animate the roaming grannies, tinkling their tea trolley, accosting passersby, looking for their home... or somewhere to make a new one...

Navigating busy streets, engaging incidental audiences in direction-deducing, good-old-times-remiscing, pavement-dancing, bookie-lingering interactions, the grannies proffer provocative placards: "We are lost" "Can you help us make a home?" "Is there anything we can use?"

A spot is finally settled on in which they construct an improvised and organic 'home' out of offerings gathered en route...maybe a grassy patch, some cardboard boxes, decorations to adorn their expanding-transformative-tea-trolley... anything gifted provokes an interaction.

Audience are drawn in by the nostalgically comic duo, so out of place, yet reminiscent of 'Gran', as they attempt domestic routines in public locations and charm you into helping them...

Then we can all have a nice cup of tea... maybe even share a dance.

Tackling issues of government spending cuts, care for the elderly, community support systems and aging populations, The Lost Grannies playfully raises ideas around our personal response to old people, bringing questions of preconception and overpopulation onto the streets in a dynamic, immediate way.



The Company

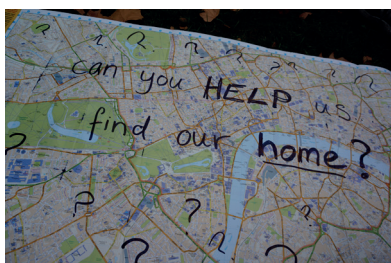
BeautifulMess instigate playful performance projects, creating multi-sensory, interactive shows outside formal spaces. We inhabit public places and reclaim discarded things, mixing bold design, high-energy physical performance and interactive images into surreal celebrations and absurd interpretations of everyday stories and real-world questions.

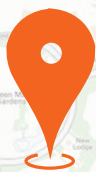
BeautifulMess received Arts Council funding (2013 & 2014) to create outdoor performance in Brixton reviewed as "fresh, uncensored theatre...truly for EVERYONE!" attracting new audiences of over 1000 with it's "magical, surreal, uplifting, comic, poignant... treat on the street!"

BeautifulMess have also been commissioned internationally (India, South Africa) to work in multiple communities creating celebratory, inclusive, site-based performance.



Explore





The creatives

Kati Francis

(Creator/ Performer// UK)

founded BeautifulMess (2013) after completing her MA at Royal Central. Her work has been called "universal and personal...delightful and moving" [Adrian Kohler, Handspring], labeling her a "strong physical-comedic actor with versatility and ingenuity, talent and skill" [Total Theatre].

Eva Parets

(Performer/ Creator// Spain/ Catalunya)

has been devising and performing in theatre, dance and film for over 10 years in Spain with many companies including ACTUA Productions and solo. She studied Meisner Technique under Javier Galit6-Cava and Dance-Theatre with Mercedes Boronat in Barcelona, pursuing projects which explore new territories, taking audiences out of their comfort zone. Eva is also the co-founder of and performer in clown company Bitxicleta which has enjoyed 8 years of success.

Isabel Castro Jung

(Artist/Designer// Spain/Germany)

trained at Stuttgart University and the Massana in Barcelona. She has made performances, designs and exhibited internationally, winning the art award " Rei en Jaume 2008 " (Spain) and the production award " Operare 2011" (Berlin). She has worked extensively as a theatre designer for Spanish companies such as M^a Antonia Oliver, Versió Àcida, Res de Res and Danat Danza, becoming a finalist in the theater prize " Escena 2010" (Mallorca).
[<http://www.isabelcastrojung.com>]



Tech specs

- Created for outdoor day time performance (not suitable for substantial rain)
- Small scale (promenade)
- Performance space: roaming preferably through busy (but not too crowded) areas, finally settling on a space in which to construct a 'home' (min 4m x 4m plus audience)
- Running time: +/- 30 min (depending on individual audiences)
- Cast: 2
- Number on tour: 3



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<http://youtu.be/OXUYmNojOSYTECH>

