



THE GYPSY LODGE

an interactive experience by 6FootStories

www.6footstories.co.uk

2017 TOUR PACK





ABOUT THE SHOW

THE GYPSY LODGE is an original interactive festival experience from 6FootStories.

A travelling swap shop-cum-fortune parlour, the Lodge combines mysticism, storytelling, interactive art... and haggling!

In the world of the Gypsy Lodge there is no money - our band of travellers operate exclusively on a system of **swapping**.

Visitors to the Lodge can enjoy a variety of detailed one-on-one experiences - fortune readings, swap shop shenanigans, potato peelings - but only if they're prepared to give something in return...

The Gypsy Lodge is a brilliant addition to festivals and community events, and has been seen at BoomTown Fair, Electric Picnic, Fling! Festival and private events.

THE SWAP SHOP

“You don’t swap, you don’t get.”

Outside the Lodge, overflowing from an old wheelbarrow and sundry baskets, are all manner of trinkets and wares. See something you like? Have it. BUT you must give us something in return. Don’t have anything to hand? Never fear! You can give us a hidden talent, a secret, a song or a dance - the possibilities are endless. Just know that we drive a hard bargain, and we don’t accept money, promises or anything rotten...

The philosophy of the swap shop is central to everything that happens at the Lodge. Every activity must involve a creative exchange, and we’ve seen all sorts from our visitors - contortion displays, spoken word, Irish dancing, juggling, impromptu portraits... the list goes on.



THE FORTUNE PARLOUR

“WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR MISFORTUNE”

Step inside the hub of the Lodge, and discover the secrets of your future. Eat Baba Yakult’s mystical mash, have your palm read by Ruby Potlamp, or have a chat with young Noah, our resident mute. If you’re lucky, Noah might even give you a potato reading...

At the Lodge we are trained in traditional divination like palmistry and the tarot, as well as less orthodox methods, specially designed for the Lodge. As with the swap shop, if you want a reading you can have one, but you’ve got to swap for it!

We bear no responsibility for anyone’s misfortune, but we graciously accept the credit for any good tidings...





POTATO CORNER

We have many rules here at the Lodge, but none more sacred than this: “NO ONE LEAVES WITHOUT PEELING A POTATO!”

But it’s not all hard work. Potato Corner is a place for artistic genius - all our visitors are invited to create potato sculptures or potato paintings - the most promising works of art are then housed in our Potato Gallery!

You can even try your hand at the WORLD FAMOUS POTATO SHY - knock all three spuds off and you get a free gift from the swap shop!





“

Thanks for the lovely experience at Electric Picnic! I swapped a hoop performance for a fortune telling by Sailor, it was brilliant!”

– *Jessica, visitor at Electric Picnic ‘14*

INDUSTRY FEEDBACK

“The Gypsy Lodge was brilliant for the immersive world of BoomTown, and the 6FootStories crew are some of the best interactive performers around. Loved having them here.”

- MARTIN COAT, *Director of Theatre, BoomTown Fair*

“We loved having 6FootStories aboard our merry wagon. Punters responded really well to the piece and we’d be very happy to have them back. We shall reserve a caravan in their honour!”

- AVRIL STANLEY, *Body&Soul Festival*

“The Gypsy Lodge is a beautiful and unique experience. The swaps that happen are amazing - it’s so good for punters to be given a platform to express themselves.”

- FIONA PORRITT, *Les Enfants Terribles*





TECHNICAL INFORMATION

The Gypsy Lodge is a very flexible piece, and can be as big or compact as events allow. It can be performed as a walkabout piece out of a wheelbarrow, as an installation in a caravan, in its own small tent and can also take over small spaces in larger venues. We have built up a beautiful store of props and set dressing to transform whatever location we have into our home. The following is a rough guide.

Touring Company

3 - 6 performers, depending on budget

Transport

Small maxi-van, and 1 x car if bringing more than 3 performers

Set-Up/Take-down Time

1 day

Space Needed

If performed as installation:

4x4/5x5m tent (to be provided by event) or
alternative space e.g. caravan

Total footprint inc. backstage space: 7m x 10m

If walkabout piece:

Simply need storage space for wheelbarrow and props.

Technical Requirements

1 x 16a power feed

Fencing for backstage area

Simple outdoor lighting

Running Times

Typically runs from 12PM - 8PM daily

Estimated Footfall

Typically interact with 160+ people per day

ABOUT 6FOOTSTORIES

6FootStories is a company devoted to exploring weird and wonderful stories and experiences. It was founded by Jake Hassam and Nigel Munson after they met at the Oxford School of Drama. They strive to make bold and surreal theatre that looks at big ideas like FAITH, DEATH and DESTINY.

They have written and directed two plays - *The Number of the Beast* and *Soften the Grey* - as well as three editions of their signature new writing revue *Shattered Fragments*. They have also created a riotous three-man version of Shakespeare's bloody tragedy titled *Macbeth: A Tale of Sound & Fury*.

They also create interactive work for festivals and pop-up events, working closely with immersive theatre collective Dank Parish. Their work has been seen at venues and festivals around the country, including Theatre503, Tristan Bates Theatre, Guildford's Yvonne Arnaud, BikeShed, Edinburgh Fringe, Ventnor Fringe, Fling! Festival, Electric Picnic and BoomTown Fair.





MACBETH: A TALE OF SOUND & FURY

Our reworking of Macbeth was inspired by the Gypsy Lodge, and the two pieces can work together to maximise impact.

In Macbeth: A Tale of Sound & Fury, the story is told through the eyes of our gypsy fortune tellers, and the set is a junkyard sprawling with odds and ends from the swap shop.

We could set up the Gypsy Lodge a few days or weeks prior to our arrival with Macbeth. Who knows? The trinkets people swap might make their way into the set, and visitors' fortunes may be strangely similar to Macbeth's...

This opportunity to extend the world of Macbeth onto the streets and into the community would be a really effective way of garnering interest in the show, as well as providing us with a chance to properly connect and interact with the local audience.

PRESS FEEDBACK FOR 6FOOTSTORIES

“Hilarious and energetic... comical ingenuity... brilliantly concocted” - *WEST END WILMA*

“Fast-paced action, accomplished ensemble acting and ingenious perspective comedy” - *EVERYTHING THEATRE*

“Madcap, bohemian and altogether brilliant... wild, intriguing performances” - *THEATRE TOURIST*



“If Franz Kafka had been born a twinkly-eyed British playwright with a penchant for Monty Python, he might have produced something like 6FootStories...” - *ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PRESS*

“Near-perfect... dramatic appeal and thoughtful profundity, rich with humour” - *BROADWAY BABY*





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