

Booking Information for Programmers



The. Magic Fish

ATMADANCE
mayuri boonham

www.atmadance.com

The. Magic Fish

A classic Indian tale retold through dance, storytelling and konnakol for young thinking minds.

Vishnu, one of India's shape-shifting Supergods, wakes up after sleeping for thousands of years to find a greedy demon called No-Knowledge has taken earth's most precious treasures for himself.

Enlisting the help of King Manu to save the essentials for life, Vishnu changes his form into something quite unexpected!

In this interactive performance, boys and girls are invited to join King Manu's adventure in a new production to enchant all children.

The Magic Fish is suitable for both indoor and outdoor spaces.

"ATMA is a company worth clocking"

Donald Hutera, Pulse Magazine



"Thanks for such a beautiful show today. Gus and I loved it!!"

Parent (The Place)

"I didn't come with a child but I found myself completely engaged, enjoying the show and laughing! The piece was performed brilliantly. The storytelling was so clear, interesting and well done." **Audience member (The Place)**

The Magic Fish

"Thank you for everything and it has been really great working with you on this project. We really enjoyed the performance."

**Pavilion Dance South West,
Commissioning Partner
(Performance at Poole Park)**



Age Suitability

5 - 9 year olds

Target Audience

Family audiences and school groups

Running time

Approximately 45 minutes

Video links

Trailer



<https://vimeo.com/183992368>
(password: magicfish)

Full length



<https://vimeo.com/184698983>
(password: magicFish2016)

Creative Team

Choreography, Direction and Performance: **Mayuri Boonham**
Composer: **Jason Singh**
Costume and Set Design: **Ana Ines Jabares-Pita**
Lighting Design: **Guy Hoare**
Dancer: **Pauline Reibell**
Live drumming, Konnakol and Actor: **Pirashanna Thevarajah**

"The feedback from audiences has been great. Towards the end when you included the young people and made the boat – that was lovely, and was well incorporated artistically and narratively into the piece!"

**GemArts, Commissioning Partner and Parent
(Performance at Masala Festival)**

Images from left to right:

The Magic Fish escaping from the river

Rocking the Magic Fish to sleep

The Magic Fish dances!

Searching for No-Knowledge's secret hiding place

The Magic Fish

"You were brilliant. We all loved the whole show. Such clever ideas and such a lovely story!"

Parent (Masala Festival)

"I just wanted to thank you for such a spectacular day. Penny keeps acting out the magic fish - a true sign of success and impact that she is still talking about it days later. Atlas danced and laughed throughout the performance."

Parent of a 5 year old and 18 month old (The Place)



Funding, Commissioning and Project Partners

The Magic Fish was created in Spring/Summer 2016. It was commissioned by The Place, GemArts and Pavilion Dance South West. Research and Development was supported by The Unicorn Theatre. Supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

Background

An initial R&D period of The Magic Fish was carried out in Spring 2016 as part of ATMA Dance's residency at The Unicorn

Theatre, a leading children's venue. Scratch performances were presented for their UpClub Family Members, followed by performance workshops in London schools. These sharings and testing of the interactive elements of the piece with the children provided us with useful feedback and observations.

Further creative development time led to three test performance dates in different settings:

1. Previews in Poole Park as part of Pavilion Dance South West's *Discover, Play, Dream: Dance!*

season of celebrating dance in everyday places.

2. Premiere of The Magic Fish at The Place's Robin Howard Dance Theatre following a one-week production week with lighting designed by Guy Hoare. These performances headlined their *Something Happening for Kids 2016 festival*.

3. Performances along the River Tyne as part of GemArts *Masala Festival*.

Audiences and Complementary Workshops

The Magic Fish is an interactive performance experience, using dance, music and storytelling to engage and inspire young thinking minds. The show is designed to be performed in both indoor and outdoor settings. The show is suitable for both family and school groups, and attracts a culturally diverse audience. The performance is accompanied by high quality promotional print, images and film and can be supplemented with dance, visual art, craft and storytelling workshops.

Although the age guidance for The Magic Fish is 5-9 years, we know that the work has engaged under 5s too so are happy to deliver relaxed performances for children of all ages.

The Magic Fish is available for booking from 2017 onwards. Please contact us to discuss and explore the best options for your venue. See back cover for our contact details.

Images, from left to right:
Storytelling to set the scene and engage young audiences
Building the boat to save the essentials for life
The Magic Fish's tail expanding
King Manu greeting his subjects

The. Magic Fish



Technical information

On the Road: 4 people (3 cast, Technical Manager).

Duration: 45 minutes.

Performance times: Piece can be performed up to twice a day, with 1.5 - 2.5 hour break between performances.

Performance area: approx. 7m wide x 7m deep minimum.

Indoor performance requirements

Get-in: one day before performance date, pre-rig if possible.

Flooring: black dance floor supplied by venue.

Seating: end on; if front row of raked seating can be removed then we like to encourage children to sit directly on floor mats close to the stage.

Two clean dressing rooms with iron and ironing board.

Outdoor performance requirements

Get-in: minimum three hours on performance site for sound-set up and sound check, spacing, setting props and organising seating.

4-6 speakers to play pre-recorded and live sounds, speaking and music.

Flooring: ideally solid staging with dance floor (provided by venue). *Please contact us to explore alternative suggestions, for instance the piece can be directly performed on grass.*

Seating: delineated seating area with mats or cushions for children to sit on with some seating behind for anyone unable to sit on the ground. Seating to be set in a semicircular configuration around the performance area.

Warm-up, dressing and rest room close to performance site with iron and ironing board.

"Amy couldn't wait to get on stage when children were invited. She was trying to practice how to do her legs like a fish afterwards! And Lyra, my 18month old, danced and bounced all the way through".

Parent (The Place)

"Brilliant show, we thoroughly enjoyed it." **Parent (The Place)**

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Contact details

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Photography: Chris Nash (stage performance at The Place & outdoor performance in Poole Park); GemArts / Anna Miller (outdoor performance in Newcastle) Design: Tom Partridge

Commissioned by The Place, GemArts and Pavilion Dance South West and supported by The Unicorn Theatre. Supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

“Children in the audience were quite enraptured by Boonham’s enchanting portrayal of Vishnu.”

Pulse Magazine review

“Thank you so much for such a fantastic show, it was lovely and the story really held their attention.” **Parent (Poole Park)**

“The number of eager volunteers arriving on stage to help with [the boat-building] illustrates the engaging nature of the show.”

Pulse Magazine review



Visual arts and crafts created by children in response to The Magic Fish story (GemArts Masala Festival)



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