Scarabeus Aerial Theatre DEPTHS OF MY MIND Touring 2018

Stunning and moving! - @hattydaze

If only every teenager could see it - @hjhewitt

Immersive theatre to absorb the mind at any age - @LJClash

...sublime genius - @seamusmccauley

Compulsory for parents and teachers of teens - @MerylORourke

You'll have a great time whether you're standing, sitting or lying on the floor - Alan Fitter, LondonTheatre1

It is moving, provocative and pushes the boundaries of theatrical experience - Pauline Flannery, Plays to See

> An intimate and layered spectacle - Donald Hutera, londondance.com

CREATIVE TEAM

Artistic Directors:

Choreographer: Video artist: Technical director/rigger: Performers: Daniela Essart and Peter Glanville Lindsey Butcher Mark Morreau Søren Nielsen Rachel Brennan, Antonio Harris, Hauk Pattison, Willow Vidal-Hall

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORS

Dr Becky Inkster, Professor Ian Goodyer, Professor Ed Bullmore and Professor Peter Jones, Neuroscience in Psychiatry Network (<u>www.nspn.org.uk</u>)

COMPANY CONTACTS

Lise Smith, General Manager <u>lise@scarabeus.co.uk</u>, +44 9784 801656 For bookings, contracting and marketing info

Søren Nielsen, Technical Director soren@scarabeus.co.uk, +44 797 497 8783 For technical, production and rigging info

ONLINE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: <u>scarabeusaerial</u> Twitter: <u>scarabeusaerial</u> YouTube: <u>scarabeusaerial</u> Instagram: <u>scarabeusaerial</u>

Please see <u>bit.ly/DOMMAssetPack</u> for a full asset pack with images, marketing copy and a technical rider



ABOUT THE SHOW

A mind-blowing immersive theatre show combining breathtaking aerial skills, a pulsating soundtrack and stunning projections, **DEPTHS OF MY MIND** brings to life the latest developments in neuroimaging connected to the teenage brain. Suspended above the audience on moving transparent platforms, the performers take us into a world where nothing is solid, and explore how it feels to be growing up, changing and searching for somewhere to belong.

Created in consultation with young people aged 12-25, this thrilling show is inspired by the U-Change study led by scientists from the Neuroscience in Psychiatry Network (www.nspn.org.uk)

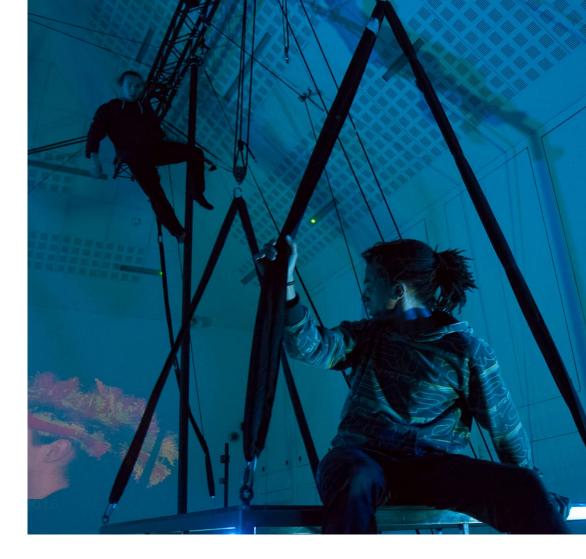
Join the renowned Scarabeus and a talented cast of aerialists, actors and dancers for this unforgettable theatrical journey into your brain.

FEEDBACK FROM THE 2016 TOUR

"I found it insanely emotional, seeing others express what I find so difficult. Everyone should see it!" - young audience member

"This is a great example of taking the work out and finding another dimension for the expression of what the brain and mind is."

- Professor Ian Goodyer, NSPN



AUTUMN 2018 TOUR (October - November 2018) Quarterhouse, Folkestone *(Normal? Festival of the Brain)* The Lowry, Salford South Holland Centre, Spalding Circomedia, Bristol The Black-E, Liverpool Jackson's Lane, London

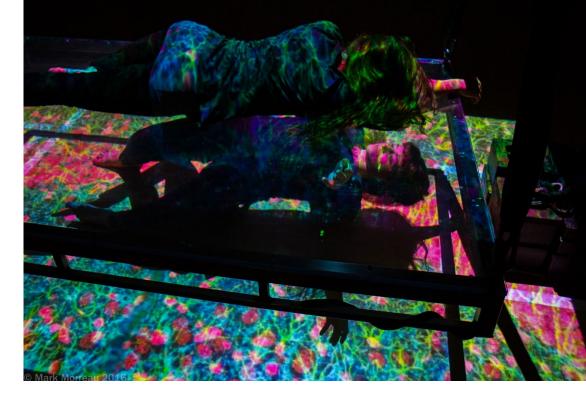
WHAT HAPPENS IN THE SHOW

DEPTHS OF MY MIND is presented on an innovative set comprising four custom-made transparent plexiglass platforms, which will at different times in the performance be used to represent a place of sanctuary or a state of isolation from the other characters.

The suspended transparent platforms are raised, lowered and tilted during the performance, creating a choice of points of view for the audience who are immersed and enveloped in this shifting world where nothing seems to be solid. Performers are able to run up and against the transparent surface (as in parkour or free running) to come together in combat, or work together in sympathy.

The show also uses projections of slides and animations of MRI brain images and other neuroscientific data projected onto platforms and the walls, to show the underlying neurological processes at work as we see the relationships and behaviour of the four characters unfold, and to take the audience into the brains of our characters while the action is happening in front of their eyes.

Working with neuroscience as a stimulus has been a rewarding challenge for Artistic Director Daniela Essart. The project has involved understanding and translating the U-Change study findings into artistic performance, understanding what matters to young people, and creating text and a visual narrative out of scientific data, all of which has been a fresh and inspiring creative challenge.



"The platforms are movable," says Artistic Director Daniela Essart, "to reflect the instability of teenagers' lives. And because they are see-through, it means the audience can gaze at the performers and vice versa.

"We have dream sequences onto which we project colourful, almost psychedelic images of the brain [see photo above by Mark Morreau] with different colours representing different chemicals inside the brain; during the production questions are vocalized and projected onto a screen in order to create a narrative. I expect there will be adults in the audience who will be reminded of their own teenage years."

"We have a dream team of highly skilled cast of aerialists, actors and dancers for this tour," adds Daniela.

ABOUT SCARABEUS AERIAL THEATRE

Scarabeus was founded in 1988 by Daniela Essart and Søren Nielsen. We have a 29-year track record of producing pioneering aerial theatre shows with strong artistic content and bold execution. We were instrumental in bringing aerial dance theatre to the UK, and have been praised for our innovative site-specific and outdoor touring productions.

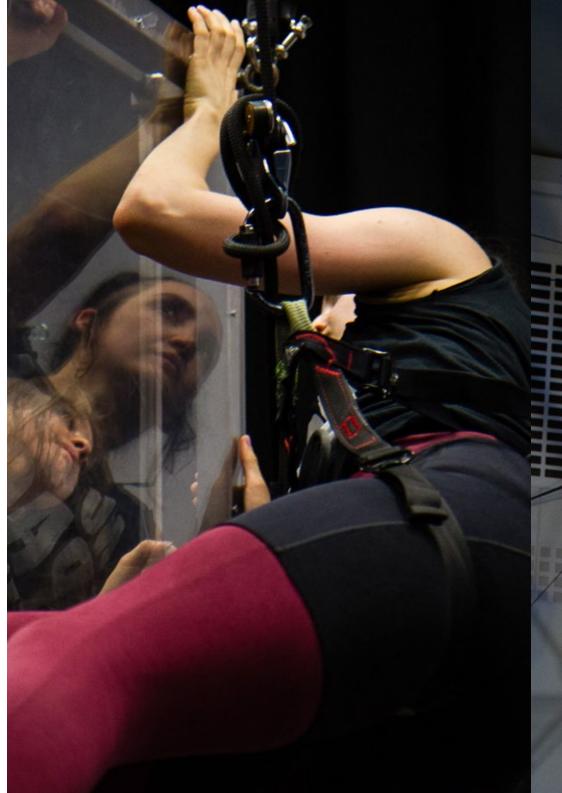
We use aerial theatre as a medium to sensitively discuss pressing social issues, creating poetic and visually stunning performances to provoke debate and new thinking around challenging and sometimes overlooked groups and topics. Our most recent work - a trilogy of performances created in collaboration with young people - explores contemporary issues central to our lives today including personal identity, teenage emotional development, and the effects of displacement experienced by refugees.

Our vision

- to create transformative theatre accessible to a wide range of audiences including those who do not often attend the theatre;
- to instigate cultural change by creating dialogue, encouraging an active sense of place and community.

Our mission

- to be artistically adventurous, push boundaries and nurture to creativity and innovation;
- to challenge and connect with our audiences through bold, inspiring aerial performances that interpret urgent contemporary issues.





PRAISE FOR DEPTHS OF MY MIND

A wonderful show, very spectacular and inventive. I could see how focused the young people were throughout. - Segun Lee-French

Atmospheric as soon as you walk in. - young audience member

Incredibly memorable, and up there with the most exceptional I have seen. - Chris Jewell

It gave a voice to things we don't necessarily speak about. - young audience member

...beautiful and powerful imagery, excellent skills and really talented performers. - Pam Vision

The most visually artistic performance I have seen. - young audience member

PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS SCARABEUS SHOWS

Polished, visually stunning and with a unique sense of poetry.

- Greenwich and Docklands International Festival

Performers great, really enjoyed seeing them in action - Julia Carruthers, Warwich Arts Centre

Mark Morreau 2016

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Minimum space requirements: 12m x 15m, minimum height of 5.5m from rigging points to floor. Seating fully retracted or removed. Rigging points are required over most of the performance area; we also need anchor points in the floor (we can install or create these if required).

Smaller spaces can work but we will need to visit to confirm. A SITE VISIT IS PARAMOUNT EARLY IN THE **PROCESS.** Please see company contacts on page 1.

Running time: 1 hour (no interval) Get-in: one day before the performance Get-out: on day of performance (strike time two hours)

Audio requirements: PA suitable for the venue size. We will supply music on mp3. There is a small amount of spoken text in the performance.

A full lighting plan will be sent in advance. Please note we require one projector rigged by the venue and 2 x HDMI cables; we will supply a second projector and GoPro camera.

On the road: 9 people: 4 performers, 2 riggers, 1 CSM, 1 LX and Artistic Director **Audience numbers:** Around 100-150 per show depending on size of space

Please see <u>bit.ly/DOMMtechrider</u> for more information.



MARKETING AND AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT

Scarabeus provides marketing support for the tour targeted at young adult audiences in particular. Marketing support we can provide includes:

- printed leaflets and posters
- audience freesheets
- a digital trailer and dedicated tour website for online info
- digital insights including rehearsal and "behind the scenes" videos for use on social media
- Facebook, Twitter and Instagram posts and reposts

Company members are available for interviews and photocalls with local media for preview features. Please contact our General Manager to arrange (see page 1).

EDUCATION AND WRAPAROUND

Scarabeus offers a full programme of wraparound and engagement activity including workshops (half-day, full-day and longer residencies); curtain-raiser performances; open rehearsals and in-depth discussions on the theme of the show.

Company and creative team members are available for preand post-show talks and audience Q&As. Please contact the General Manager to arrange.

For further marketing information please see bit.ly/DOMMmarketing





WITH THANKS TO OUR TOURING PARTNERS:

DEPTHS OF MY MIND was originally produced in association with Polka Theatre, as part of the Brainwaves Festival 2016

---Supported by: Wellcome Trust Arts Council England

with additional support from: Gulbenkian The Point **Forest Arts Centre** National Centre for Circus Arts **Islington Council**

All images: Mark Morreau

Supported using public funding by



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