



Touring from October 2017

The Devil's Violin creates and performs music and storytelling shows that receive standing ovations, evoke passionate responses from its audiences and illicit glowing reviews from arts professionals. With funding from Arts Councils of England and Wales, they present a new production for 2017

STOLEN

***No guards met him at the palace.
He made his way through a great pair of gates.
Through chambers that echoed with his footsteps.
He came to a hall thick with fog - was that a statue?
No, not a statue but the King himself.
The King of this country, as still and grey
as the stone his throne was made from.***

Daniel Morden transports you to the Land of No Return, his storytelling served by the hypnotic string accompaniment of Sarah Moody and Oliver Wilson-Dickson.

The ensemble will take you on an epic journey, through a dreamlike land where you will encounter a king turned to stone, an old woman living in the claw of a giant cockerel and a glass man filled with wasps.

The essence of all cinema, theatre and literature is a gripping tale well told. By weaving traditional stories into an epic narrative the Devil's Violin return us to that essence. This is a tale of lost loves, bravery, and above all else, hope.

Suitable for anyone over 10.

Helen Edwards - Tour Producer, The Devil's Violin

+44 (0) 7746 080586 helencedwards88@gmail.com

www.thedevilsviolin.co.uk



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru
Arts Council of Wales

REVIEWS OF OUR WORK

"We hear stories within stories, like Chinese boxes, laced with tears and laughter. The paradox is that these magical tales are really our humdrum lives, wrapped in imagination and mystery."

Avril Silk

"The words safe and solid don't often spark the kind of energy and magic this company create. You could hear a pin drop all the way through the showing (of The Forbidden Door), like the air was all onstage with them. The music is divine and the storytelling mesmerising." **Emma Bettridge, Bristol Old Vic Ferment Producer**

A scintillating combination of music, sound and story **The Times**

...The Devil's Violin raises the art of storytelling to sublime heights. The virtuoso melodies on strings and accordion lay down an acoustic pathway for Daniel Morden's deep old stories to travel along unimpeded, sweeping the audience in their wake. This is masterful, theatrical storytelling delivered with great feeling for the dramatic pause, the dark imagery evoking all shades of emotion from horror to joy, while the songs and stories continue to resonate deeply in the bones of the listener long afterwards.

Venue Magazine

Their hauntingly beautiful and original music enhances the stories and seem to combine with the words so that it becomes almost impossible to separate the words and music. A truly delightful evening.

The Public Reviews

...the words and the music compliment each other perfectly...and it is highly recommended that you catch it while you can.

Daily Info, Oxford

One of the most stunning experiences I have ever had in a theatre.

Audience feedback

Wonderful, beautifully crafted and shaped. Even better than the last show, music is perfect balance with storytelling and all of an equal excellent high standard, wonderful.

Audience feedback

A quality act; Wonderful storytelling. A magical evening.

Promoter feedback

Excellent storytelling with suspense that impacted on the audience together with the excellent selection of music. They [the audience] were enthralled and captivated by the stories and music. **Promoter feedback**

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THE COMPANY

Sarah Moody *Cello* Oliver Wilson-Dickson *Violin* Daniel Morden *Storyteller*

Lighting Matt Graham

BIOGRAPHIES

Daniel Morden is one of the leading exponents in the art of storytelling. For 25 years he has delighted audiences all over the world with his performances including the Vancouver, Oslo and Yukon story telling festivals, The Hay, Beyond The Border, Bath and Cheltenham festivals and at venues such as The Barbican, The National Theatre and The British Museum. He has also worked on television and radio, has won awards and published books for both children and adults.

Sarah Moody is a multi instrumentalist who has worked for over ten years as a musician, music director and composer with theatre companies such as Kneehigh, Wildworks, London Bubble, Theatre Royal Bath and Travelling Light. She has co-founded a music project with children in Uganda and is presently researching alternative ways of introducing music to very young children.

Oliver Wilson-Dickson is well known as a fiddle player with the folk groups Jamie Smith's Mabon and ALAW. Described by R2 magazine as '*an expressive and exceptional fiddler*' he also regularly collaborates with storyteller Daniel Morden. As a session musician, Oliver has contributed to many recordings from Cartoons for the BBC and a BAFTA award winning film soundtrack to CDs for Warner International. As a composer he has written music for stage productions and BBC Radio drama. He also plays in the house band on the Welsh TV show Noson Lawen. *'an expressive and exceptional fiddler'* - Rock 'n' Reel

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PREVIOUS WORK BY THE DEVIL'S VIOLIN

<http://www.thedevilsviolin.co.uk/shows/past/>

The Forbidden Door, 2015

'a master weaver of tales spinning a magical thread of narrative.' **The Bristol Post**

A Love Like Salt, 2012

Hauntingly beautiful... a truly delightful evening. **WhatsOnStage**

The Singing Bones, 2008

The Singing Bones is an enchantment, a work that walks the line between life and death, between what we are and what we might become; which recognises with the power of voice and the power of music, that there is magic everywhere.

Erica Wagner, Times Literary Supplement

The Devil's Violin, 2006

In the hands of The Devil's Violin Company, storytelling comes alive and is cracking, high-quality entertainment... their act is perhaps the Angela Carter of storytelling... intriguing, engaging and even better than Mum used to tell 'em.
The Stage

MARKETING INFORMATION

The Forbidden Door has a strong appeal for the following types of audience:

- Roots/acoustic/world music audiences
- Storytelling audiences
- Literature readings/performance poetry audiences
- Theatre audiences
- Performance arts students
- **Age Restriction 10+**

TDV can provide the following to help in the marketing of the show:

- A dedicated marketing contact
- Sample Press Release
- Press Photos
- Support with direct marketing
- Audio clip
- Video trailer (<https://youtu.be/p0CLFbIBsqA>)
- A5, A4 and A3 professional print
- Website www.thedevilsviolin.co.uk
- Mailing list
- Twitter @devilsviolinco
- www.facebook.com/thedevilsviolin

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SHOW DETAILS

A full detailed spec is available on request.

Sound:

Where possible TDVC perform acoustically, otherwise the company will discuss the sound requirements for the show and the use of a PA.

Lighting:

The show has a simple lighting design with a full cue sheet.

Performance Space:

The performance space should be:

- A black box where possible;
- Minimum Performance Size – 4.5m depth x 3.5m width. In certain spaces an additional raised area (riser) at the back of the performance space may be appropriate;
- Chairs should be arranged in rows and, if appropriate, in a semi circle around the performance area, **not** in cabaret style with tables; and
- Any back drop or decoration needs to be minimal, plain and unobtrusive.

Additional Information

- Show Running Time – 45 minutes, interval, 40 minutes (tbc)
- Merchandising: CDs and Books sold by performers after the show and during interval
- Get In Time: 4.5 hours prior to doors opening
- Get Out Time: 1 hour max
- Dressing Room: Please provide a secure area for performers to change in and leave personal belongings.
- Hospitality: Where possible the performers appreciate a Vegetarian meal at least 2 1/2 hours before the show starts as well as tea and coffee. Please also ensure that there is drinking water available in the dressing room/changing area.
- Crew Required: 1 to operate lights and sound

For details of performance fees and to discuss booking this show please contact:

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