

LAStheatre – ‘A Christmas Carol’ Production Information Pack



This document has the basic information for LAStheatre's family production of ‘A Christmas Carol’. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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“It was an absolute joy to work with LAStheatre on the R&D for Mrs Lovewright and, subsequently, A Christmas Carol, our 2018 Xmas show. Both projects combined fabulous design with clever use of light, projection, puppetry and physical action to produce compelling storytelling and an immediate rapport with audiences young and old. The company is extremely friendly and professional; they deliver on time and on budget with great skill and creativity – making sparse resources go a long way with imaginative use of props, quick changes, catchy songs and incredibly talented performers.”

- Cheryl Pierce, Folkestone Quarterhouse Director

The Company



LAS is a word in the Irish language. It means to ignite, turn on or set alight.

LAS theatre specialises in creating theatrical experiences; ranging from ambitious theatrical productions to interactive installations and festival spectacles.

Since 2013 over a quarter of a million people have seen our shows. These productions have explored what it means to be human through a zombie apocalypse, transformed Victorian medical records into an interactive ward round and imagined our changing environment in the year 2050.

Our work has been described as 'spellbinding' (Manchester Evening News), 'powerful' (The Scotsman), 'atmospheric' (The Herald), 'fascinating' (BBC) and 'thrillingly immediate' (FT). Whether we are creating work for an adult or family audience, our aim is to ignite conversation and set imaginations alight.

AWARDS

BEST STEM PROJECT – N.C.C.P.E. Engage Awards
 BEST EXPERIENTIAL EVENT – Scottish Event Awards
 CHAIRMAN'S AWARDS (for innovation) – Scottish Event Awards

The Show

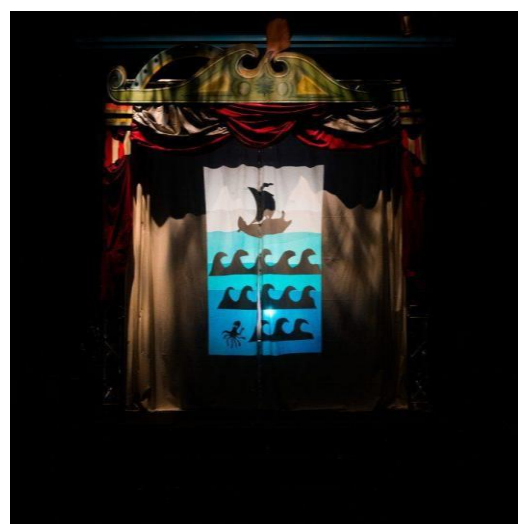


This fast paced, 3-person, comic take on this well-loved tale features original songs, beautiful shadow puppetry and visitations from some very silly ghosts. The show is played out on a giant seaside themed Victorian toy theatre, providing lots of fun with 2D props.

Commissioned by the Folkestone Quarterhouse in 2018, LAStheatre's version of this classic retains much of the political commentary that Dickens intended in a playful and thought-provoking production for all the family.

'A Christmas Carol' lightly raises awareness of the rich-poor divide with a focus on the spirit of Christmas as a time for kindness and sharing. In December 2018, the production raised £1,424 for Folkestone homelessness charity the Rainbow Centre through post-show charity buckets held by ushers in the front of house.

Please find a short promotional video to the show [here](#). Full recording available on request.



Response (*Folkestone Quarterhouse, December 2018*)

'A very clever presentation of an old favourite. You brought it up to date and the humour was brilliant and very imaginative'

'So clever and well adapted. Fast paced, understandable, great acting and singing. Very charismatic actors. Thanks so much, it was great!'

'Excellent show. Re-booking more tickets!'

'Great fun for all the family'

'Very inventive! Loved the shadow puppetry and originality, the songs and the seaside theme!'

'Absolutely fantastic entertainment with a message for young and old. I haven't enjoyed a Christmas show this much EVER!'

85% of our audience who filled in a feedback form rated the show as 'Excellent' with the remaining 15% rating it as 'Very Good'

Education and Outreach

LAS theatre place young people at the heart of our work, running schools and community workshops during our R&D process to encompass the young person's voice into our productions. We would be thrilled to offer post show Q & A Sessions as well as school and community group workshops looking at the themes of the play upon request.

Target Audience

This is a family show for children and adults alike. However, with a couple of dark moments, we recommended a guide age range of 6+. Previous audiences have included the annual Christmas Pantomime crowd, families with young children, school groups, seniors, and families of adults.

Marketing

We plan to reach our target audiences through:

Video - online trailers for the show

Website - general company information, news and blog updates

Print - targeted distribution of flyers & posters

Social Media - updates with photos, videos & blogs from the rehearsal process, advertising, press & reviews. We have had great success with 'insta story takeovers' at our host venues.

Media - online listings, local & national publications

Venues & Mailing Lists - using audience databases

Targeted emails to - schools, educators, creatives, professionals & supporters

We would be particularly interested in partnering with a local charity as it stems from the themes in the show and we believe this kind of local integration is also helpful for word of mouth publicity.

'A Christmas Carol' Company

No: 4

Three actors in the company and a stage manager to operate the show.

Technical Information

We provide:

SFX: Laptop with sound effects, a mic with stand and pop screen (wired)

LX: 4 x shadow puppetry handheld lights (wired - 15amp plugs)

Set, Props & Costume: All

We require:

Get In/Out: 4 hours plus pre rig. 2.5 hours to get out.

Tech: Venue technician to pre-rig LX

Theatre Support: Theatre crew to help during get in/get out

SFX: 3 wireless head mics and receivers, DI Box connected to desk, 5m 1/4 jack cable, mini jack to PA (for QLab)

LX: Warm & cold wash - stage segmented in 1/6ths. 6 parcans for backlight (LED if possible), 5 profiles for specials DSC, USC, DSL, DSR and Top Light DSC. 4 booms on tanktraps - 2 Fresnels on each. XLR input to desk DSL for mic

STAGE: We require a minimum playing space of 5m (d) x 4m (h) x 5m (w)

A Christmas Carol has previously run as a sit in production, however as we adjusting our set and design in order to tour the show, our requirements are becoming more flexible to reduce the time needed for get in/out and in order to work with the available materials in each venue.

We can try to be flexible to the lighting rig at your venue to fit our design if required.

Our preference would be to use a rostra provided by the venue set on legs at no higher than 30cm.



LAStheatre Online

www.lastheatre.com

Twitter @LAStheatre

Instagram lastheatre

Facebook lastheatre

'A Christmas Carol' Creative Team:

Writer/Director: Barra Collins

Composer: Joseph Hardy

Set and Costume Design: Cherry Truluck & Alberta Jones

Puppetry Design: Jess Mabel Jones

Original Lighting Design: Josh How

Producer: Liz Bate

Photography: Lou Johnson Photography

Film: Buckle Up Films

The making of 'A Christmas Carol' has been supported by The Quarterhouse Folkestone and The Old Vic (London).