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THE KASPAR HAUSER EXPERIMENT

TOUR PACK
AUTUMN
2024



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



INTERPLAY
NATIONAL SENSOY THEATRE



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL



Who is Kaspar?

It's 1828 and a [redacted] strange boy calling himself 'Kaspar Hauser' appears [redacted] in the town square claiming [redacted] to have been held prisoner in a darkened cell for 17 years.

But who is he really? [redacted] Conman? [redacted] Orphan? Or an abducted prince caught in the middle of a political game?

You are invited to the court of Nuremberg to witness key testimonies [redacted] from those who know him best, hear the conspiracies and [redacted] rumours that surround him and watch Kaspar try to uncover the facts.

The riddle of this true story has fascinated and intrigued people for [redacted] centuries, inspiring books, films and music.

[redacted] This important story confronts how we care for those most in need [redacted] and sheds light on how society can all too easily corrupt the purest of souls.

In this brand-new [redacted] adaptation, Animikii Theatre bring [redacted] the mystery to life through [redacted] fearless imagination, text, movement, and song.

ABOUT ANIMIKII

our theatre & training

Animikii Theatre is a Manchester based theatre company making original theatre inspired by existing stories. Animikii was created in 2014 by Adam Davies and Henry McGrath. We create worlds that physically and viscerally take our audiences to the edge of new experiences. **Each production differs from the last while holding onto essential characteristics: highly visual, intensely visceral, emotionally cathartic.** Audiences step into original worlds and are invited to share in an experience with the characters. Our 'Body First' philosophy of making creates a body first and visceral experience for the audience.



WHO IS IT FOR

This five strong actor-musician led play with songs is for those that enjoy seeing something a little different. **It is an unconventional and experimental devised piece and merges many forms including physical theatre, live music and beautiful haunting folk song. It has moments of audience interaction and direct address adding to the sense of each show being unique and making audiences feel an active part of the plot.** The piece has also been created with accessibility as a core consideration including integrated audio description. Previous partners have included Mind The Gap and Totally Inclusive People and the development of the piece has been supported by Arts Council England

Sometimes compared to Frankenstein and Pygmalion, the plot is interpreted differently by each audience member as the piece does not aim to give a conclusive message but instead a joint experience of being left with yet more questions. Questions about Kaspar, the other characters in the piece, our own ideas and concepts of identity and belonging, family and community. **Especially important in current times where identity is at the forefront of much political discussion; and despite readily available technologies keeping us more connected than ever – many of us are grappling with severe loneliness. These are the themes that make this new original play from Animikii Theatre so vital.**

WHY AND HOW WE'VE MADE THIS SHOW

The story is as relevant today as it was 200 years ago. It's clear from our extensive research that Kaspar may have lived with learning difficulties, so in our telling of the story we wanted to confront how as a society and as individuals we care for those most vulnerable. As a neurodiverse-led theatre company, we're always searching for new and imaginative ways to articulate the struggle of the 'outsider' and to explore their place in society.

We worked with an Access Champion to build the sensorial world of the play, develop touch tours and playday workshops aimed at learning disabled participants in order to give the play a unique point of view from the perspective of those who are at a minority in modern society. Watch our 2 short videos from our April 2021 R&D on how we created a sensory show: [Working in New Ways](#) and [Working with New People](#)

The piece was devised over a number of years from 2019-2023 - you can hear more about the process via The Space Chats Podcast interview with artistic director Adam Davies [here](#)



“CRAFTED WITH ELEGANCE”

– Adventures In Theatreland

[Link to full review](#)



“A WONDER TO BEHOLD”

– London Pub Theatres

[Link to full review](#)



“A REMARKABLE THEATRICAL EXPERIENCE”

– Broadway Baby

[Link to full review](#)

REVIEWS & AWARDS

“Their harmonies are superb as are the solo pieces...with rich imagination Animikii Theatre brings to life the riddle / enigma of Kaspar Hauser.”

Received both an OFFCOMM commendation and nominated for IDEA (Immersive/Devised/Experimental/Atypical) Production OFFIES award for ‘Performance’ category for the 2024 awards.

[Watch our current THE KASPAR HAUSER EXPERIMENT trailer here](#)

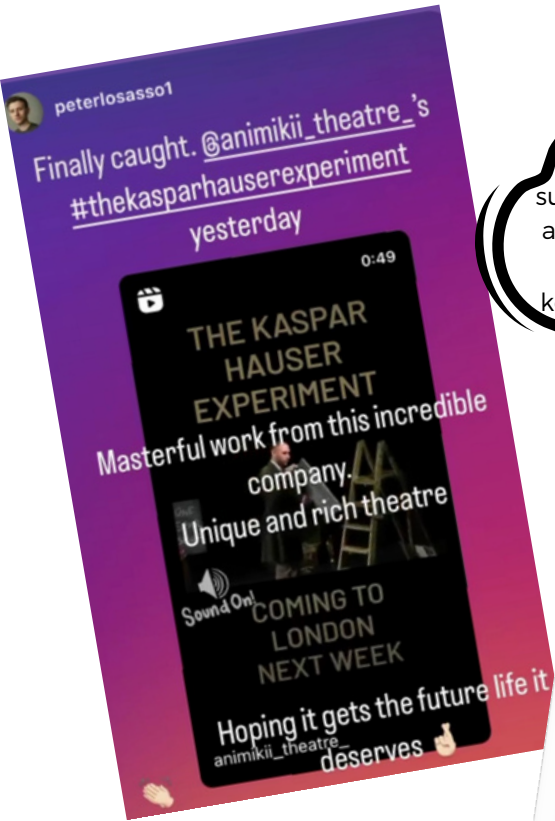
NOMINATION

OFFIES

PERFORMANCE
(IDEA PRODUCTION)



AUDIENCE RESPONSES



A great show that constantly surprises, with wonderfully energetic and touching performances. **This is a work that stays with you** and keeps you thinking long after you've left the theatre.

Challenging for the audience in the right way. **Contained rare quality in both the performances and the production.** It's bittersweet in that I'm lucky to have seen it in such an intimate setting, but it deserved to be in front of an audience of hundreds.

Absolutely fantastic. **Gorgeous singing.**

94.1% audiences gave the show a 4 or 5 star review in feedback surveys



73% average Audience capacity across 2023 Tour



Beautifully orchestrated; **a really special piece of theatre.** The talent of the cast were what made it, they were just extraordinary. Really **sensational acting** choices and portrayal of emotion



WORKSHOPS

PHYSICAL THEATRE & DEVSING WORKSHOPS

For local performing arts students, local community groups and those wanting to try something new. We can cater our physical theatre workshops for a range of experiences and backgrounds.

We have a variety of workshops that will introduce participants to the making & devising process, physical theatre and offer insights into a range of techniques, with fun and imaginative active ways to explore the theatre making practices used in the creation of the play. We are open to conversations to adapt to include elements specific to an educational organisations current syllabus or course focus.

Hosting workshops for local FE or HE students has historically been a great accompaniment to booking an Animikii production often guaranteeing a large group booking to our performance(s) at your venue

“Charles created such a welcoming and freeing room in the workshop and Kaspar was beautiful. I’m really passionate about this kind of work. I know devising as an ensemble brings unique challenges but Kaspar is evidence of how rich the results can be”

PLAY DAY WORKSHOPS

Bringing theatre makers and learning disabled groups together in a safe space to play and create, giving those from different backgrounds the chance to meet and work together; building understanding, cohesive learning and collaboration. We'll use fun and imaginative ways to explore theatre making practices used in the making of the play, and share techniques and insights into the sensorial world of Kaspar Hauser in advance of the participants attending the performance.

“There was no pressure to do anything, it was so relaxed and welcoming, we all took part, and all found something to take away from the workshop”

[PLAYDAY WORKSHOP REVIEW](#)

Both of these workshops can be offered alongside bookings of The Kaspar Hauser Experiment. Fee to be discussed at time of booking.



TOURING INFO

PRICING

The company are ideally looking for a guarantee against a split - cost to be negotiated

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE

Get-In time: 12pm

Get-Out time: 10.30pm

DIMENSIONS

Ideal playing in Thrust
Ideal size of 6m wide x 7.5m depth
(flexible)

The company welcome conversations about adapting to required playing space



TECH REQUIREMENTS

Touring with Stage & Production Manager
All sound produced by actors on stage

TOUR DATES

Sep - Nov 2024

THE COMPANY

Touring company of 5 actors & Stage Manager

THE PLAY

Length; 2 hours (with 15 min interval)

Suitable for 16+

"ANIMIKII BRING BOLD, ORIGINAL, PHYSICAL STORIES TO LIFE ON STAGE WITH A STRONG ETHOS AND A REAL FOCUS ON ONGOING LEARNING AND TRAINING. THEY ARE ALWAYS PASSIONATE AND COMMITTED AND THAT COMES THROUGH CLEARLY IN THEIR WORK"

- MATTHEW EAMES, SENIOR PROGRAMMER/PRODUCER, THE LOWRY

MARKETING

We provide high quality video and audio content including promotional videos of various lengths, social media specific 'teaser' videos, production and rehearsal photography as well as Kaspar Hauser Experiment specific illustration and design assets, show copy and print assets

We can also provide audio described & captioned trailer & introductory notes for blind and visually impaired audiences and are interested in having further conversations about how we can best support each venue's marketing campaign for local audience engagement

CONTACT

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THE
KASPAR
HAUSER
EXPERIMENT
Who is Kaspar?

