

## Tour Information

# Theatre for One

## UK's Ensemble of Theatre for One Person



### Street theatre with a difference

**Theatre for One** is an innovative idea developed in the UK by Lempen Puppet Theatre Company in which audience members interact with a performer on a one-to-one basis and the story is short and simple.

The performance has an element of intrigue for surrounding public as they see the external view of: looking through a periscope into a man's apparently pregnant belly; a person with their head inside a lion's mouth; a giant ear or a diver's helmet. Inside the pregnant belly we see a disco dancing baby, inside the lion's head we find out the secret of his last dinner. There is a surprise inside each and the waiting public watches the individual reactions of each audience, waiting with curiosity for their own exclusive performance.

### BACKGROUND / COMPANIES / ARTISTS

**Lempen Puppet Theatre** has been making high quality puppet theatre for family audiences for 30 years, touring extensively throughout the UK and Europe to festivals, theatres and schools. The Theatre for One concept came to them in 2005 and since then they have been making and performing this unusual street theatre form as part of their artistic activity. Focusing on quirky and humorous ideas which offer something to alter the perspective of the viewer Lempen use this form to make theatre that is playful, moving and inspiring. [www.lempen.co.uk](http://www.lempen.co.uk)

**Horse + Bamboo** has been making and touring visual theatre for nearly 40 years. Working with an aesthetic based around beautifully carved puppets, handmade masks and music.

The Boo is the company venue in Pennine Lancashire and also acts as a hub for presenting other renowned puppetry companies and story-tellers. [www.horseandbamboo.org](http://www.horseandbamboo.org)

Theatre for One

18 Airedale Terrace, Skipton, BD23 2BA

T: 01756 797 149 / E: [lempen@lempen.co.uk](mailto:lempen@lempen.co.uk) / W: [www.lempen.co.uk/theatreforone.html](http://www.lempen.co.uk/theatreforone.html)

**Without Walls** is a consortium of leading UK outdoor arts festivals and organisations, collaborating to break new ground in the creation of extraordinary outdoor work in the UK. For more information on the work of Without Walls, please visit [www.withoutwalls.uk.com](http://www.withoutwalls.uk.com)

In 2017 **Without Walls** commissioned **Horse + Bamboo** to work with local artists in running a Theatre for One residency. The Artistic lead running the residency was **Lempen Puppet Theatre Company**.

This Theatre for One ensemble represents a consortium of artists combining Lempen's own productions, the successful outcome of the residency, and other colleagues making this form of Theatre for One.

## **TECHNICAL AND SHOW INFORMATION**

### **Running Time:**

Each short performance lasts approx. 3 minutes. Each performed to only one person at a time (plus curious onlookers!). The shows are usually performed as an ensemble of between 2 and 5 pieces at the same time and each piece can play up to three hours in any one day. Typically this would be played in rotation over a performing day to allow for performer breaks.

### **Get In / Get Out:**

1 hour get in after unload at site  
1 hour get out

### **Touring company:**

2 - 5 performers + 1 steward if needed

### **Optimum performance area :**

Each of the pieces will require approx. 2m x 2m, and can be configured in a line, in a circle or as appropriate to the space. The pieces should be sited close together giving a critical mass and allowing the steward to give information, manage queues and onlooking audience.

### **Technicals:**

Self-sufficient (tours with all necessary LX and sound equipment).



*"A simple idea, the best ones often are, created with such loving care and attention to detail that you just have to smile. Sometimes three minutes is all that's needed!"*

Dorothy Max Prior, Animations Online

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**Theatre for One** is available for touring.  
For further information and to discuss availability and scheduling please  
**contact:**  
**Liz or Daniel Lempen**  
**lempen@lempen.co.uk / 01756 797 149**

## THE SHOWS

Not all shows will be available for all festivals, but we curate an appropriate package of shows depending on balance of pieces and performers available for your dates.

### **THE MOUSE HOUSE** (Ages 2+)

Take a seat and wait for the door to open... watch and see what the magical mouse is making!

### **DAN'S BABY** (Ages 5+)

An in-utero private view of the World's first pregnant man. Watch the cute, but rather strange baby as it moves around in the belly.

### **THE LIGHTHOUSE** (Ages 5+)

Rodney the Rod never let anything get away, look into the lighthouse to discover his fate.

### **RIVERBED DIVE** (Ages 7+)

Enjoy a calming journey amidst a busy town centre. Dive to the riverbed without getting wet and find out who lives there...

### **CUCKOO** (Ages 6+)

Pop your head into the dolls house and experience three minutes of insanity, playfulness and bewilderment. Using puppetry, comical sounds and movement, I present a truly unforgettable and slightly mad theatre experience.

### **EAR TODAY - GONE TOMORROW** (Ages 6+)

A front row seat! Now in you peer. What jams inside the inner ear? A 3-minute audio-visual journey for both young and old into a giant ear canal.

### **THE POETREE** (Ages 6+)

Enjoy the poetic wisdom of the Poetree. What seed will you sew? What chapter will you write?

### **THE BELLY BUG** (Ages 6+)

Have a look down the "Belescope" and see the habitat and habits of the belly bug. Enjoy the dance of life!

### **DARWIN'S WORKSHOP** (Ages 6+)

From the workshop of the school of Charles Darwin we have a time travelling box that is connected to the roots of the tree of life. Now we can discover the origin of species. Let's look at the modern puppet!

### **RACHEL'S EXPERIMENT (Ages 7+)**

"The little girl Rachel is the smallest in her family and tired of not being heard. On her little kitchen table, she does some experiments to take revenge."

### **DR FRANKENSTEIN (Ages 6+)**

Come and join Dr Frankenstein at his work table and watch him at work. Unsurprisingly he's creating a new life!

### **IN THE BELLY OF THE BEAST (Ages 6+)**

Are you brave enough to peer deep inside the belly of this beast?? Place your head between this snoozing lion's jaws and discover what's inside – just try not to wake him up.

### **GRANDMA GOOSEBERRY'S GARDEN (Ages 4+)**

Beyond the rainbow and under the gooseberry bush meet the inhabitants of Granny's Garden and find out what surprise is in store for Granny.

### **THE TRANSMOGRIFIER (Ages 7+)**

The lovable eccentric scientist Dr Ingve Zotterman would like to take a tickly sample from your hand and place it in her wonderful haliflection transmogrifier. She then invites you to watch the adventures your bacteria get up to inside the machine!

All shows are of a high quality and bookings are dependent on availability of individual performers.



## **PRICES**

For up to date prices please contact us.

