



fool's
PARADISE
SPRING & SUMMER

2020



WELCOME

Our Spring/Summer 2020 brochure is quite simply full of surprise and delight and will hopefully put a smile on your face. Enjoy.

Explore the seven themes to suit your events and you can click on the links below to take you straight to the list.





LAND SEA & AIR

*Meet our well-travelled pioneers
from around the world.*

HIGH FLYERS



High Flyers resembles an early flying machine with elements of Mad Max and Leonardo da Vinci all rolled into one. Set in a future dystopia, this multi-sensory vehicle, with its own sound track and accompanied by two performers is a humorous and participatory walkabout. Available as vintage flying pilots or steampunk characters.

AROUND THE WORLD WITH PHILEAS FOGG DAY 79



The year is 1872 and it's day 79 of the journey. Our intrepid adventurers are just hours away from crossing the finish line at the Reform Club. If they can just coerce their hot air balloons to go in the right direction they stand to win a grand prize. A hilarious roam about fusing modern technology with classic adventure.

SPORTING TRACK, FIELD AND POOL LEGENDS



These absurdly athletic pool, track and field characters have already represented and won gold for their countries. Attempt a butterfly stroke with the swimmers, test your endurance against the weightlifters or dare to compete against the runners in a 100m sprint. Be the captain and pick your team! Costumes can be customised to suit any team or nation you like.

THE STORM SHIP



The Storm Ship is a steel framed theatrical structure on wheels with three masts, full sails and masterfully engineered steering. Two of the performers disembark and pull the ship around the streets until refuge is reached and the 40 minute opera and aerial show begin. A truly spectacular piece of street theatre.

THE DEEP SEA DIVERS



Two divers wearing large corroded copper helmets squirting jets of water and draped with sea-weed and crabs. Fish swim around their heads, and their backpacks play atmospheric undersea noise.

SNAP HAPPY PAPARAZZI



These short-sighted celebrity-crazed photographers are always on the lookout for a good photo opportunity of someone rich and famous going about their daily lives. The only trouble is that they get a bit confused about who's who! The two characters will interact with the audience and make them feel special and famous. Please note that no actual photos will be taken.

THE MERMAID



Steve the Frogman is looking for help. He has a fresh specimen in his mobile mermaid research lab and needs volunteers to help him to find out more about mermaid behaviour and culture. A colourful, fun and interactive walkabout that is highly mobile. The mermaid even swims in water!

THE SUBMERCYCLE AND THE FLYCYCLE



Come away with us on a journey of your wildest dreams, aboard our famous travelling machines. A story is created that will take your imagination to faraway places and amazing adventures. The Submercycle and the Flycycle can be booked as a pair or separately.





MAGICAL & MYTHICAL

Tall tales, mythological animals and a treasure chest of characters that have stories to tell.



THE LIVING LAMP POSTS



Introducing the enchanting and illuminating Living Lamp Posts. Standing at over ten feet tall, these noble and elegant lamp posts will shine a new light on your event. Let them explore their surroundings to light-up people's faces and fill them with joy.

LION FISH



Normally found lurking in the depths of the ocean, Lionel and Leona the Lion Fish have surfaced to entertain us all. Watch in awe as these two brightly-coloured sea creatures on stilts wander through the crowds, like fish out of water! New for 2020 the Lion Fish will be beautifully illuminated for evening events.

TREEMENDOUS



Bring a touch of magic to your event with our loveable lumbering Treemendous Treants. Towering over your guests these full detailed costumes are guaranteed to grab attention. With their tree-mendous tree related humour the Treants are guaranteed to be a hit.

THE DRAGON



A beautifully crafted wooden dragon which is available as a musical installation, forming the perfect centrepiece to an event. The Dragon plays music, blows bubbles and displays the joys and ingenuity of mechanical engineering. Just turn the handles to generate smiles and laughter.

MOSAIC FLOOR ART



Mosaics are the art of creating images with an assemblage of small pieces of colour. The Romans used glass, stone, and other materials to create beautiful floor art and the Greeks created beautiful pebble mosaics. Now, thanks to award winning and internationally acclaimed pavement artists Urban Canvas, you can have a go too! The mosaics can be themed to convey a story or historical character from your town or city.

THE TWO FREEDAS



These sumptuous and richly layered characters parade the streets and invite members of the public to sit for a quick portrait sketch in oil pastels and ink from one Freeda. Meanwhile, the other Freeda engages the public in conversation with the help of her beautiful puppets - the bird of paradise, the parrot and the monkey. She tells magical stories and even sings the occasional song.

HODMAN DODMANOTT AND SALLY FORTH



An extraordinary, beautiful and funny puppetry walkabout. Hodman and Sally are one of the best loved acts around. They have been delighting audiences around the world with their witty improvisation, charming characterisations, and utterly captivating interactions.

THE SUMMER LION - ROAR INTO SUMMER



Join the Maiden of Flowers as she steps out from the winter darkness bringing summer sunlight and warmth to all. Accompanied by her faithful faun and her awe-inspiring Summer Lion symbolising valour, the maiden will beckon forth those who wish to meet the very spirit of abundance, new life and celebration.





HISTORICAL & ADVENTURERS

From fictional time machines to heroic characters from history, this pioneering lot have plenty of tales to tell.



LAND GIRLS



Meet Vera and Lynn, the very British cockney girls 'doing their bit' to win the war, dispensing good cheer and the Dunkirk community spirit. With old time sing alongs, ration books and food parcels, Vera and Lynn are watching out for the yanks, bartering silk stockings and keeping those home fires burning.

EDMUND AND HILARY



These two explorers will survey your event and try to work out why they are so darn lost. Dressed in tropical kit, and covered in cobwebs and memories, they amuse and bemuse whoever they meet on their roving adventure. Edmund and Hilary is a highly entertaining and charming walkabout that always pleases the crowds.

THE ARISTOCRATS



This aristocratic Lord and Lady Pompous, straight out of the 18th Century, are all dressed up to the nines, with fabulous sculptural hairstyles, powdered faces, and gorgeous gowns. Curious to learn about the modern world they ask lots of questions and love having their photo taken.

TIME TROUBLE



Join our two bonkers boffins, Warp and Weft, on a voyage through deepest history. Meet whip-cracking Romans and morris dancing Vikings. Using a fantastic fusion of circus skills and clowning, magic and visual comedy, this family show is full of absurdly funny nonsense-mongering and toothsome tomfoolery.

EPICO THE DRAGON



Sir Aurelious Jones, the pirate knight, gathers a crowd and chooses three children from the audience to take part in this heroic show. At the end of the show there will be a once in a lifetime opportunity for all to get up close and personal with biggest, brightest & most beautiful creature ever seen. You could make friends...but only if you dare!

RAMBLING ON



Based on the premise that life is a journey, our two travellers are just passing through. They have a map, but it doesn't make much sense. They are trying to get somewhere important, but they are not entirely sure where that is. Along the way, however, these two walkabout characters have seen some incredible things and have tall tales to tell and tricks to show...

FABULOUS CONTRACTIONS!



Fabulous Contraptions! is a charming, innovative walkabout act featuring two intrepid time travellers... from the past. The Captain and the Professor glide effortlessly on their Time Machines but are simply confounded by the incredible technology all around them. They seek answers in the name of science from everyone they encounter along the way.

HIPPOCHONDRIAC



Part animal and part mechanical, Hieronymus the hippo is feeling under the weather. Fortunately, his companion doctor/mechanic is only too eager to show you what's under the bonnet to diagnose the problem. What follows is an array of puppet shows built into the troubled creature revealing the origin of his malaise.





FLORA & FAUNA

We have gathered a glorious collection of beasts, beauties and beings.

BORNEO AGAIN



Direct from the Sumatran rainforest peddles the explorer Captain Jon Voyage on his tropical tricycle, complete with looted temple fragments, jungle specimens and a stowaway. Mr Business is a banana smuggling orangutan.

Having given up the wild life, Mr Business plans to accompany the captain as his feverish wanderlust drives him ever onward.

WOODLAND FAIRY



This cheeky little woodland fairy radiates sparkle and magic wherever she goes. Loved by children and adults alike, she brings an unusual and unique skill to your event with her contact juggling that never fails to captivate, amaze and thrill.

BOB THE BUTTERFLY AND GERRY THE GERBERA



Bob and Gerry, as they are affectionately known have escaped the greenhouse and are ready to explore their new surroundings. These colourful, playful characters will mix and mingle with ease, as they flutter and flit on stilts, delighting young and old alike.

HIGHLAND HARVEST



From high in the Scottish Glens comes Hettie the Highland Cow and her friends Mr Tatters and Farmer Geddon. This charming act encourages interaction with the characters, dancing to their music and lets you celebrate the bounty of a highland harvest with all the fun of the farm.

ENCHANTED FLOWER GLOBE



Floris, the mystical flower nymph lives inside her magical and unique microclimate. She glides through events interacting with the public, sharing her world with them and encouraging them to press the big button which triggers a beautiful surprise effect. This interactive roaming act is beautifully illuminated and looks gorgeous at both daytime and evening events.

BUMBLE BEES



These adorable Bumble Bees are irresistibly cuddly and have left their sting at home to ensure they follow the summer scents! Commonly found at flower shows, festivals, fairs, and fetes everywhere and anywhere there are flowers to feed on and people to interact with.

TOPIARY BUSHES



Two huge topiary bushes nestled in gigantic terracotta pots – this is horticulture on a grand scale. Passers-by will be surprised and delighted by the mischievous garden fairies that live within. But beware, they can be over-zealous with their watering cans!

PUDDLE DUCKS



Mr and Mrs Puddle Duck are inquisitive friendly fowl who are keen to investigate every situation with their waddling charm. They love parks, ponds and high streets, nautical themed events and will curiously peck at your bags and coats whilst always being ready to quack their way out of a tricky situation.





MARVELLOUS MAKERS

Discover a host of performers who have created walkabouts and installations that help us to connect, appreciate and celebrate our wonderful planet.



THE PRINCESS



A fusion between a fairy, a bird and a princess and inspired by the people from the lost tribes of the Amazonian jungle in South America, our princess is made from all things recycled. Her hair and costume is made of cloth, with seeds that shake and create sound as she moves.

A SWEEP OF SWALLOWS



A Sweep of Swallows is a set of beautiful silk kite walkabout puppets, which can be performed singly, in pairs or ideally as a trio. Catching the wind, they create an aerial picture, bringing joy to events and height and colour to parades.



AUSTERITY PARTY TIMES



Austerity Party Times is colourful, heart-warming and 100% recycled. Hope and Joy are dressed in big, bright and beautiful costumes fashioned from bags for life and the fabric from broken umbrellas. We invite you to celebrate the good times with Hope and Joy.

WHAT THE TORTOISE TAUGHT US



Life lessons from the wisest creature on the planet. Meet Zelva, the beautiful giant Tortoise. Walk side by side with the world's oldest and most awesome reptile, help to feed her, stroke her enormous shell and be inspired by a close-up encounter with nature.

THE BEWONDERMENT MACHINE



This handmade, human-powered merry-go-round combines hand-carved animals, puppetry, and music. Accompanied by original music the Bewonderment Machine is an artist-built cycle-powered carousel, a kinetic public sculpture and a magical journey for small children.



SLOTH TIME



Wilhelmina (also known as Will) Dawdle, is obsessed with sloths and wants you to meet her best friends: Hibiscus and Gladys, giant three-toed pygmy sloths, and Dribble, a baby two-toed sloth, all from South America.

THE NUTKINS



Hide those nuts the Nutkins are on tour! Enchantingly squirrel-like and riddled with intrigue, Mr and Mrs Nutkin are set to charm the pants off children and adults alike. A perfect walkabout for any event but especially those with an environmental or animal theme.

THE WHALE - PLASTIC OCEAN SHOW



The audience are greeted by a cheerful navigator character who invites them to step inside The Whale and experience a beautiful, funny and interactive show which will highlight the impact plastic has on our environment through a series of fun learning and theatrical experiences.





FEASTS, FETES & FESTIVALS

*Brightly coloured charismatic acts
to suit all events*



BLACK EAGLES



A troupe of totally stunning acrobats from Tanzania, now based in the UK. Set to lively African music, the show progresses through a series of powerful and graceful acrobatic, circus and dance routines. A high impact, joyful show that will have people gasping in amazement.

SKELVIS AND GRISELLA



Photo Credit Danny.Lawson PA Media

Having made a remarkable recovery from the embarrassing toilet fiasco of August '77, Skeleton-Elvis is back from the dead and very much alive complete with a resurrected marriage to his glamorous rockabilly wife Grisella.

CAKE LADIES



With lashings of charisma and oozing with charm, the Cake Ladies are a stunning roaming tea party. These colourful human tables will serve you up a visual and gastronomic feast of charm and confectionery.

ANGIE MACK HULAHOOP WALKABOUTS AND WORKSHOPS



Always colourfully costumed and bright and bubbly, Angie comes armed with a large stack of hoops and some funky tunes. She will wow everyone with her impromptu hula hooping displays around your event before getting a few helpers up to show just how much fun it is.

THE POP UP BARN DANCE



Thanks to our pop up barn dance the fun can happen anywhere. The Pop Up Barn Dance bring our mobile band and a dance caller all with backpack battery amplification so we can take circle dances, square dances, jigs and reels into the great outdoors. It's the barn dance that comes to you. Available as a trio, quartet or quintet.

THE VARIETY SPECTACULAR



A satirical exploration examining the eccentricities of the collective British character through the universal language of eccentric dance, circus skills, classic song and variety skill routines, entwined with an original funky soundtrack and intimate comedy.

HOT DINNERS



Dressed in chef whites, a saxophone, sousaphone, trumpet, accordion and drums come together to play a selection of tasty ska, calypso, reggae and rock 'n' roll tunes to whet your appetite. They can perform as strolling musicians, liable to break into song to serenade a passing beauty or as static band, with full drum kit on street or stage.

DICK DANGER - DAD DANCER



When you watch this street show you will witness the world's loudest juggling routine, groan at the world's cheesiest gags and marvel as he attempts to ascend the precarious chair stack to balance on his hands high above the ground. Dick Danger attempts the impossible using skill, charm and a selection of his grooviest dance moves.





BELLS & WHISTLES

Music or larger-scale acts that will surprise and delights audiences.



OCTO



OCTO is a big visual presence. Eight giant articulated fabric fingers expand and contract with an increase or decrease of air pressure, lifting, lowering and moving the performer through the air. The OCTO structure is an extraordinary sculpture which promises a show and cultivates curiosity in the audience. Shows would be at dusk and after dark to use sound and light to maximum effect. The fingers glow and create shadows.

GHOST CARIBOU



Giant illuminated creatures, part caribou, part spirit, roam a mystical world after dark, accompanied by a wild herdsman. As the crowd gathers, they clear a space to perform their other-worldly ceremony. With music, song and shadow puppets they tell stories of lost homes, impossible migrations and seeds of hope before continuing the journey into their hauntingly beautiful dream-world of the night.

CARNIVAL RAINBOW STILTS



A fabulously charged roving show that combines playful characters with upbeat music to create a high impact performance. Seven stilted dancers in colourful carnival costumes wow audiences with their choreographed and freestyle dance moves.

THE MIRROR DIVAS



A shiny happy stilt-walking duo with art deco inspired mirrored costumes. With their fabulous mirrored outfits and skyscraper high heels, the Mirror Divas are ready to bring a touch of glamour and fun to every occasion.

SPARK!



Spark! is a mesmerising street theatre show that combines high impact drumming with kaleidoscopic lighting design. Perfect for corporate, town centre, shopping centre, Halloween, light nights, after-dark and of course Christmas celebrations where, a show that packs a stunning high-impact punch is required.

THE HEXAGON



The Hexagon is a 6-sided pop-up artwork for everyone to enjoy. It's a heady mixture of street art and social interaction, and everyone can do it. Standing 2 metres tall, the Hexagon is an invitation to play with big bold colours, providing an irresistible opportunity to help create a participatory piece of artwork on a spectacular scale. Cartoons can be themed.

THE BODYGUARDS PROTECT AND SERVE



This is a fun filled roaming interactive street theatre and dance performance which can be adapted to fit virtually any space required. The team of highly trained dancing 'bodyguards' will secure the area and humorously protect VIP members of the public as they go about their business, escorting them as they travel between shops, no-one need fear... the bodyguards are here.

THE VALENTINO'S STREET BAND



The Valentino's Street Band performs Jazz, Funk, Calypso, New Orleans, Latin and Cumbia. They play it all with verve and humour. Whether as an intimate duo or an explosive seven piece, the band provides a glamorous and exciting performance to attract and entertain everyone.



CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

The feedback we have been receiving from audiences has been wonderful, and it would never have happened without your assistance.

CALLUM AND SHANNAH, CREATIVE PRODUCERS, LIGHT NIGHT LEEDS 2019, LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

*Thank you for everything – the acts were superb!
It went better than had hoped!*

MEGAN HAMLYN, BARRATT HOMES

Thanks so much for all of your help! As ever you and your team have been fab!

JULIET HARDY STOCKTON ON TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

All the Fool's Paradise team are so efficient, I always know things will run smoothly.

NATASHA WASSTAFF, SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Just wanted to drop you a note to pass on a HUGE thank you to the wonderful performers who wowed all those who attended our Glow in the Angel event. Things couldn't have gone better; everyone was delighted with how things went.

JOHN CARMICHAEL, ANGEL LONDON

Always a pleasure working with you

LYNSEY HULME, BEAUTIFUL PRODUCTIONS

fool's
PARADISE

For more suggestions or to book any of the acts in this brochure contact us

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