

Wednesday 05 May 2021

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For Immediate Release

Theatre Royal Plymouth Announces ‘Outstanding’ Le Navet Bete Residency

Theatre Royal Plymouth have today announced a month-long residency with Le Navet Bete from 09 June to 04 July 2021. Plymouth’s favourite funny men will be staging three performances across TRP’s stages; *The Three Musketeers*, *Treasure Island*, and as part of the Mayflower 400 commemoration programme of events and activities *400: A Comedy* commissioned by Plymouth Culture and Mayflower 400.

Adrian Vinken, CEO of Theatre Royal Plymouth said: *“What a perfect way to bring live shows back to our stages and to the heart of Plymouth this Summer! A month’s worth of local favourites Le Navet Bete’s very special award-winning comedy is just what we all need right now. It’s something to be proud of.*

“It has been an incredibly difficult year for TRP, and everyone in the creative industries, but thanks to the generosity of our supporters, and support from Arts Council England, Plymouth City Council and the Government’s Culture Recovery Fund, we are now in a position to confirm these fantastic shows will be coming to Plymouth.”

As part of their residency Le Navet Bete, who have been wowing audiences since 2008, will be premiering *400: A Comedy*. Armed with bucket loads of fun, farce and physical comedy along with a truck load of costumes to boot, Plymouth’s favourite funny men harness their impeccable powers of improvisation to tackle 400 years of history. That is until they are interrupted by an unexpected visit...

Teaming up with internationally renowned comedian Tony Hawks and their long-time collaborator, and one of UK theatre’s best comedy writers and directors, John Nicholson (Peepolykus, BBC Radio 4), expect hilarious musical numbers, questionable dance routines and some surprise special guests, in an ‘out of this world’ adventure you’ll never forget.



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Matt Freeman from Le Navet Bete said *"We're so thrilled that we're still able to premier this show for our audiences in Plymouth this year at TRP. We've got a brilliant creative team behind us including two of the UK's best comedy minds in Tony Hawks and John Nicholson so we're sure that 400: A Comedy will hit the funny bone hard!"*

Theatre Royal Plymouth are committed to bringing a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales to their stages, and with TRP set to reopen their doors on Thursday 27 May after months of forced closure, their 2021 and 2022 programme is set to be as strong as ever with something for everyone.

Tickets for all three outstanding shows from *La Navet Bete* are on sale now on the [Theatre Royal Plymouth website](#).

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For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on mediaandcommunications@theatroyal.com / 01752 230439

Le Navet Bete is a physical-comedy theatre company based in Exeter, Devon, whose spectacular and hilarious shows have wowed audiences globally since their formation in 2007. The company of five (Al Dunn, Matt Freeman, Dan Bianchi, Nick Bunt and Alex Best) first met each other whilst studying on the Theatre and Performance course at the University of Plymouth in 2003 and, since graduating, have produced fourteen indoor and three outdoor performances to huge critical acclaim and success. Their first two shows *Serendipity* and *Zemblanity*, heavily influenced by bouffon and non-narrative structures, were performed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2008 and 2009 respectively and gained multiple five-star reviews. As the company developed and grew over the following years, their inimitable style of performance became much more storytelling / narrative-driven with hit shows such as *A Christmas Carol*, *Dick Tracy*, *Dracula: The Bloody Truth* and *Aladdin* placing physical theatre, fooling and slapstick at the heart of it. With Exeter as their base, they are Associate Artists at the Exeter Northcott Theatre and Artists in Residence at the Exeter Phoenix. Making accessible work has been at the centre of Le Navet Bete's ethos right from the very beginning. This saw them diversify into outdoor performance in 2010, quickly becoming one of the

UK's most ridiculously outrageous, much-loved outdoor acts. They have since performed thousands of outdoor shows from the circus fields at Glastonbury Festival, and the beautiful gardens of the Herrenhausen Palace in Hanover, Germany, to the picturesque Plaze de Armas in Morelia, Mexico, and high up on the side of the Rock of Gibraltar. Find out more www.lenavetbete.com

Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP) is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement in Plymouth and across the region. It engages and inspires with the aim of touching lives. Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales as the South West's principal centre for performing arts.

Theatre Royal Plymouth works with partners to understand the challenges people face accessing the arts, especially vulnerable and disadvantaged people. It creates pathways that are genuinely accessible to those who might otherwise never get to engage with the arts. They collaborate to co-create and co-author work that represents the community, creating the space needed for people to tell their story in their own way.

Theatre Royal Plymouth is the UK's largest regional producing theatre. With a focus on embracing the vitality of new talent and supporting emerging and established artists. It collaborates with a range of partners to provide dynamic cultural leadership for the city of Plymouth.