

# 2022



theatre and community arts  
Impact and Activity Report  
[www.bravebolddrama.co.uk](http://www.bravebolddrama.co.uk)



# Contents

## theatre

page 3:

The Munch Mission

page 4:

The Midnight Mission

page 5:

The Discovery Lab

## commissions

page 6:

The Company of International Artists at  
Bristol Museum and Art Gallery

page 7:

Wild Words & Overstory Trail

## community arts

page 8:

hARTcliffe FUNdays

page 9:

SpringTime

page 10:

Arts Awards

## further information

page 11:

Awards and Achievements

page 12:

Costs and Values

page 13:

Collaborators and Partners



# THE MUNCH MISSION!

Playable  
art heist  
family theatre

21 shows  
May-Aug 2022

1,170 audience  
members

## OH HELP, OUR MUNCH IS MISSING!

A playable family theatre show inspired by real-life art heists of Munch's "The Scream." Audiences are enrolled as Creative Agents in the Company of International Artists, a top secret global creative agency. Working with Agents Kahlo and Dali (and many more characters besides), the audience chase leads, decipher clues and interrogate suspects as they attempt to retrieve the missing artwork.

It's a highly interactive globe-trotting adventure, full of mystery, nods to film noir and a broad streak of quirky comedy. The agents in the audience control the story by voting throughout the show and giving suggestions. Click [here](#) to see what the audiences said!

## REVIEWS

"For the audience at which this show is aimed, the pitch is damn near perfect."

"The Munch Mission is a larger-than-life production with big-hearted performances that make, bend, but never break the magic."

"...outrageous heights of precision silliness."

"The on-stage chemistry between Lawless and Simmons crackles with artistic energy."



# THE MIDNIGHT MISSION!

(SLIGHTLY SPOOKY)  
PLAYABLE ADVENTURE  
THEATRE FOR FAMILIES

11 shows  
Oct–Nov 2022

480 audience  
members

## OH HELP, A PORTRAIT IS IN PERIL!

Our second playable family theatre show inspired by real-life literary events in 1816, when Lord Byron challenged Mary Shelley and John Polidori to a ghost story writing competition.

As before, audiences are enrolled as Creative Agents in the Company of International Artists, and this time work with Agents Kahlo and Dali to investigate a haunting in Villa Diodati on the banks of Lake Geneva, where Byron, Shelley and Polidori stayed back in 1816.

If gothic literature met a game of Cluedo in a theatre!  
Click [here](#) to see what the audiences said!

## REVIEWS

"This company know exactly how to write shows for children."

"A clever, multi-layered show."

"Fun, inclusive and interactive in a way that never patronises."

"Riotous family theatre!"

"Simmons and Lawless are a hoot to watch. It's irresistible."

"Quality, innovative storytelling with highly creative staging."





## WE COME IN PEACE!

We dusted off our **Discovery Lab** spaceship for one special flight to **Bristol Improv Theatre** in September 2022. Invited to take part of a showcase of two-hander improv teams, we developed an **improvised science-fiction show** featuring our alien characters.

We asked the audience

### WHAT HAVE YOU RECENTLY DISCOVERED ABOUT SCIENCE OR THE WORLD?

then on a mind-bending outer-space adventure through portals and wormholes as the aliens attempted to apply their newly-found knowledge to solve a sudden but incredibly urgent challenge.

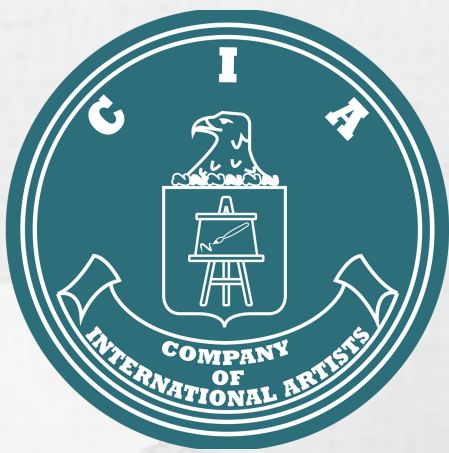
The Discovery Lab was first commissioned in 2021 by the Royal Society of Chemistry as an immersive, in-character science/theatre workshops. The workshops places children in role as Earth Experts who encounter friendly travelling aliens on an interplanetary discovery mission. The Earth Experts help the aliens learn more about Planet Earth and the children and aliens make some new science discoveries together.

Developed with support from Imogen Palmer and Bristol Improv Theatre, our Discovery Lab show will fly again next year, starting at Hartcliffe Community Centre in January 2023.

**Our spaceboots and other alien accoutrements, backstage at Bristol Improv Theatre, Sept 2022.**







# The Company of International Artists at Bristol Museum & Art Gallery



Secretly, on certain Mondays in 2022, when Bristol Museum & Art Gallery is closed to the public, a certain pair of undercover agents, namely Agents Kahlo and Dali of the top secret global creative agency known as The Company of International Artists, have been sneaking incognito into the museum.

The nature of their activity has been, until now, strictly TOP SECRET. But the embargo has recently been lifted, and we can reveal that they were...

... making brand new creative missions about Bristol Museum & Art Gallery's art collection for families & schools to enjoy!



We made a fourth mission that helps school children visiting the museum with their teachers gain an Arts Award Discover!



The first mission will be launched in February 2023!



We have made three short films designed to encourage families to explore the art galleries at Bristol Museum & Art Gallery.

There's an accompanying 'case file' for each film that families can pick up for free and take home. The case files encourage young creative agents to make their own art inspired by their visit to the galleries.



Year 10 work experience students from Merchants Academy, Withywood, assisted on one of the films.



Art made by agents will be displayed online by both The Company of International Artists & Bristol Museum & Art Gallery.



# Wild Words

AN AUDIO TRAIL CREATED WITH CHILDREN  
IN SOUTHMEAD

Wild Words was commissioned by Bristol City Council. We partnered with Mudpie Explorers, a forest school, and Southmead Development Trust to run adventurous creative sessions in Badock's Wood, Southmead.

We worked with a group of children to make and record interesting sounds which we curated into a totally free audio walk for everyone to enjoy as they walk around Badock's Wood. The Wild Words audio walk was published as part of Bristol Walk Fest in May 2022.

Listen to the walk by visiting [www.bravebolddrama.co.uk/events](http://www.bravebolddrama.co.uk/events) and choose 'Audio Walk, Southmead'

MUD PIE  
EXPLORERS



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ENGLAND**



## The Overstory Tree Trail

FESTIVAL  
OF NATURE 2022

Bristol Festival of Nature 2022 commissioned us to work with families at Bristol Beacon to create 20 hand-crafted trees which were displayed around Broadmead as The Overstory Tree Trail in the summer of 2022.



# HARTCLIFFE FUN DAYS

Free family art events at  
Hartcliffe Community Centre.  
Live performance, participatory  
workshops & take home craft kits  
every month for a year.  
Started in September 2022.

8



Drama workshop,  
Sept 2022



Musical instrument making, Nov 2022



This is Your Musical,  
Bristol Improv Theatre, Sept 2022



The Unblessed  
Soul funk band, November 2022



Songwriting workshop  
with Jack Drewry, Nov 2022



Choosing  
take-home  
craft kits



Every event so far has been 100% booked out.

Many families return every month.

Children feel confident to ask the visiting professional  
performers questions about their work.

These events celebrate many different art-forms and demystify  
how people become artists for young people in BS13.



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ENGLAND**



# SPRING TIME

9

We worked with Bristol artist Suzy Furse to create Spring Time, a multi-sensory story about a Spring day out in the countryside for people living with dementia and a carer or family member to enjoy together.

Four Spring Time sensory story kits were delivered to care homes in Hartcliffe and Weston-Super Mare, as well as to Weston Museum in the Spring of 2022, and continue to circulate these free of charge to care homes and other settings who work with older people on a flexible long-term loan arrangement.



Final year theatre students from Bristol University worked with us on placement to make the Spring Time kits and also took the lead shooting a short film that supports carers and families to confidently share this sensory story with an older person. This work contributed to their final degree.



images by Suzy Furse Illustrations



# Bronze Arts Award

10



We delivered a Bronze Arts Award course in theatre making with young people aged 14-17 from Hartcliffe & Withywood.



We watched a show & had a theatre lighting workshop at Tobacco Factory Theatres.



Students led a shadow puppetry workshop for younger children at Hartcliffe Club for Young People.



We rehearsed at Hartcliffe Club for Young People.



We discovered more about the work of local drag artist Miss Jam Tart.



# Awards & Achievements 2022

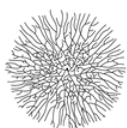
11

The Midnight Mission at The Wardrobe Theatre  
Photograph: Dougie Allward

**TRINITY**  
COLLEGE LONDON

★ Trinity Champion Centre 2022-2023

Brave Bold Drama was awarded Trinity Champion Centre status 2022/23 for our outstanding delivery of Arts Award qualifications within underserved communities.



## HYPHA STUDIOS

We became resident artists with Hypha Studios in September 2022. Hypha Studios place artists in disused spaces, and we have been given workshop and rehearsal space in the former Shoezone unit in Broadwalk Shopping Centre, Knowle.

We made The Midnight Mission entirely in the shop, and next year will be running Company of International Artists and Discovery workshops for the Knowle community there. See more about our residency [HERE](#)



## Pervasive Media Studio

We became resident artists at Pervasive Media Studios in the autumn of 2022. Through this residency we have already worked on an interdisciplinary research project called Connecting Through Culture As We Age which explores the meaningful development of creative technology for 60-75 year olds.

Our resident artists' page on the Pervasive Media Studio website is [HERE](#)





# Costs and Values

12

our core costs are

£2,800

per year

That's just to meet necessary overheads of things like accountancy, public liability insurance and tour van insurance so we can continue to exist legally as a company.

We currently receive

£324

per year from regular supporters via our Localgiving page  
The rest we have to find through sales from our online shop and getting venues to buy our shows on guaranteed fees

You can donate [HERE](#)

You can shop with us [HERE](#)



## Our values

We are committed to making theatre that appeals to all ages, never patronises and that empowers and delights the audience.

We consciously make our shows so they can tour successfully to accessible community spaces like libraries, schools and parks as well as theatres.

We are genuinely embedded in Hartcliffe & Withywood community. One of us grew up here and still lives here. We are committed to ensuring all artforms are visible and accessible especially for working class people in our community.

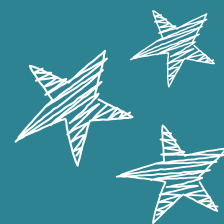
We are committed to finding powerful strategic ways to encourage the rest of Bristol to think again about Hartcliffe and Withywood.

We listen and respond to our community's needs and wishes in a way that is organic, flexible, imaginative, resourceful and fleet-of-foot.

We are committed to fair pay and conditions for freelance artists who collaborate on projects with us.

We are curious about how we can apply creative technologies to all areas of our work.

We are committed to making the arts more accessible for working class people both to work in and to enjoy.





# COLLABORATORS & PARTNERS

13



The Midnight Mission at The Wardrobe Theatre  
Photograph: Dougie Allward

## Artist Collaborators:

Natalia Chan • Jack Drewry • Jane Duffus • Lily Einhorn • Suzy Furse •  
Ruth Hill • Sophie Howard • Evan Lordan • Rebecca Plant • Jen Roxburgh  
"Miss Jam Tart" • The Unblessed • This Is Your Musical

## Partners:

Artspace Lifespace • Bristol Museum and Art Gallery •  
Bristol Festival of Nature • Bristol Improv Theatre •  
Bristol City Council • Bridge Learning Campus • Calne Town Council •  
Hypha Studios • Merchants' Academy • Mud Pie Explorers •  
Pervasive Media Studios • Southmead Development Trust • Studio Duo •  
Tobacco Factory Theatres • Weston Museum

## The Munch Mission toured to:

Hartcliffe Club for Young People • Hartcliffe Community Centre •  
Elderflower Fields Festival • Houghton Regis Hullabaloo •  
Aberystwyth Arts Centre • Windmill Hill City Farm •  
Make The Sunshine, Shepton Mallett • Oxford Playhouse • Shaftesbury  
Fringe • Quarry Theatre • Exeter Phoenix • Trebah Gardens • The  
Mowlem Theatre • Lakefest • Tetbury Goods Shed • Derby Library

## The Midnight Mission toured to:

Hartcliffe Community Centre • Everyman Cheltenham •  
Lighthouse, Poole • Gillingham Library • Cornerstone Arts Centre,  
Didcot • Chat's Palace, London • Wardrobe Theatre, Bristol

## Interns, placement & work experience students:

Amanda Anundo • Aoife Beer • Emily Cox • Klaus Isom • Clara Meyer •  
Gabriella Thompson • Roisin Rankin-McCabe • Alice Wilder