

THE OCCASION

Annual Report 2019

The Occasion is the trading name for The Occasional Cabaret Ltd.
A limited company registered in Scotland and recognised as a Scottish charity.
Company No. SC382211 Charity No. SC043059

Registered address: 1/1, 1068 Cathcart Road, Glasgow G42 9XW

www.theoccasiontheatre.com



Introduction

2019 has been another exciting year with projects happening across Scotland and England.

The year featured highly successful re-tours of:

You Are Here! - a unique show combining live performance with 360 degree, full dome, planetarium film; produced in collaboration with Winchester Science Centre, Airbus and The National Space Centre.

"It balances the wonder of the planetarium with a charming narrative. A wonderful encouragement for children to check out the power of scientific investigation."

- The List ★★★★★

and

The Monster & Mary Shelley which, with support from Arts Council England and The Golsoncott Foundation, played further performances in Scotland before touring within England.

"Catherine Gillard delivers a gorgeous, subtle and vibrant 65-minute solo performance."

- The Scotsman ★★★★★

Between the two shows, we played 51 performances to a total audience of just over 4,200 people.

2019 also saw the initial steps towards establishing **The Southside Group**, an exciting new project designed to engage learning disabled adults in theatre, plus The Occasion being engaged in setting-up Springboard, a new development that seeks to establish a theatre training programme for Scottish learning disabled/neuro-diverse adults.

The Occasion would like to thank all those who have supported our work, either by promoting our performances or by coming, as audience, to participate in, engage with and enjoy our productions.

We'd, also, like to thank all our funders; without them our work could not have achieved such a high standard.

Extracts of The Occasion's work can be seen on our Vimeo account.

The site can be accessed through the link: www.vimeo.com/theoccasion

The Occasion are full members of The Federation of Scottish Theatre.

THE MONSTER & MARY SHELLEY



Mary Shelley – the Gothic Girl who electrified the world.

Incorporating elements of music hall, melodrama, horror and teenage rebellion with a pulsing, contemporary cinematic score, **The Monster and Mary Shelley** explores various episodes of Mary's life. These include the death of her mother, in childbirth; Mary's formative experiences in Scotland; her relationship with Percy Bysshe Shelley; and the origins of her seminal novel, 'Frankenstein'. All of these incidents are seen through a 21st century perspective.

The production was first produced, with support from Creative Scotland and toured within Scotland, in 2018. 2019 saw it play a further 14 performances in 14 different venues across Scotland and England. These included arts centres and theatres in the Central Belt, Highlands, Dumfries & Galloway, Aberdeenshire, Hampshire, Dorset, Sussex and Cumbria.

The Monster and Mary Shelley is written by Stewart Ennis and performed by Catherine Gillard. Direction is by Peter Clerke, music by Richard Williams (who also live voices 'The Monster'), design by Ali Maclaurin, lighting design by Paul Froy and production management by David O'Neill.

"Catherine Gillard delivers a gorgeous, subtle and vibrant 65-minute solo performance."

- The Scotsman ★★★★★

"Stewart Ennis' captivating script sparkles, weaving the contemporary with the classical... Catherine Gillard delivers a tour de force performance as Mary. Highly recommended."

- The Reviews Hub ★★★★★

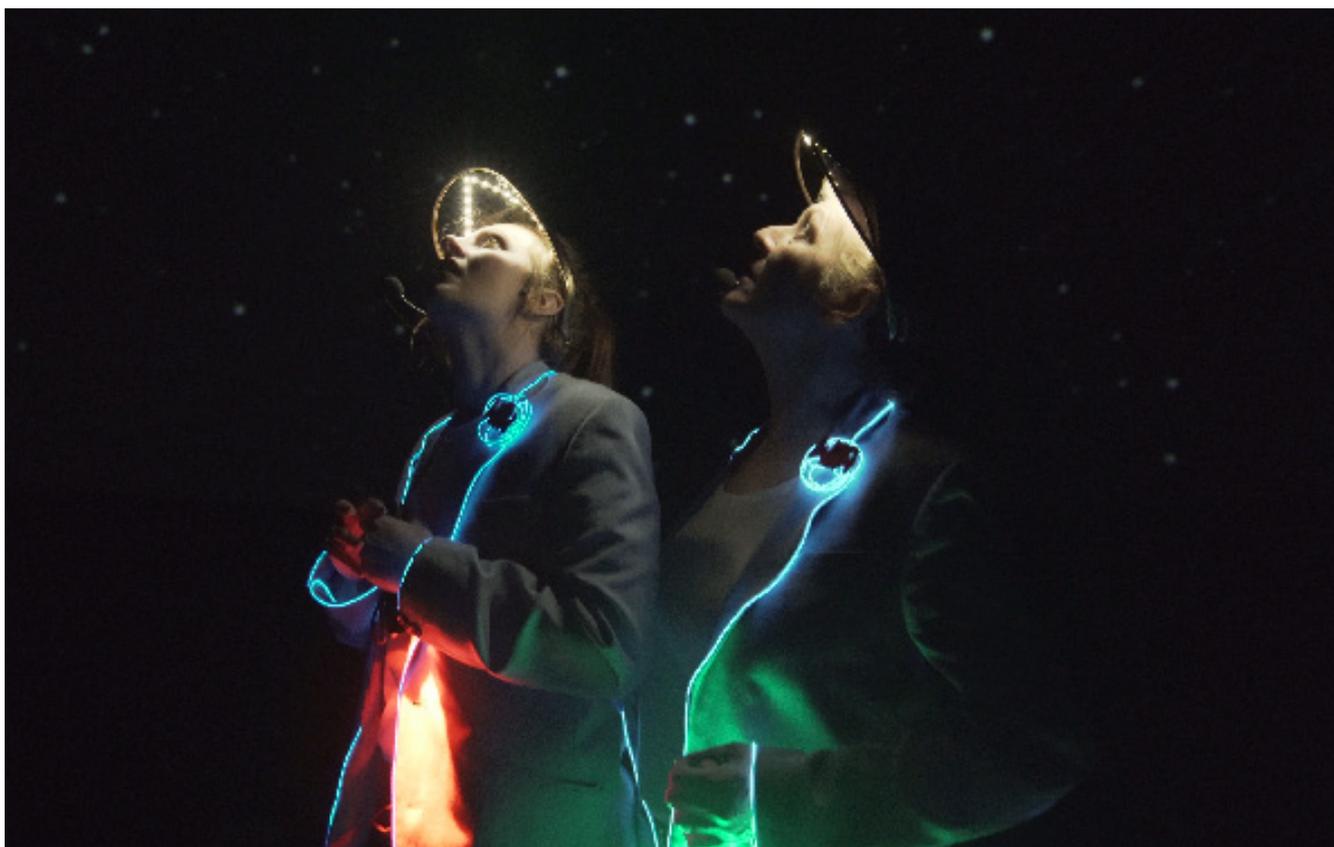
"A vivid cut-up of psychological light and shade that gets to the dark heart of the creative urge within."

- The Herald ★★★★★

"Fascinating and hilarious... a wonderfully engaging show."

- The Wee Review ★★★★★

YOU ARE HERE!



YOU ARE HERE! combines live theatre with an immersive 360° full dome planetarium experience and has been widely acknowledged as a unique and exciting development for both theatre and science audiences.

Designed for children, aged 6-9, their families and schools' audiences, the show sets out to discover 'the most incredible, remarkable, mind-blowing thing in the universe!' With Jupiter as the ultimate 'behind you' moment, a zoom through Saturn's rings, a voyage down to the surface of Mars and a starring appearance by Earth itself!

YOU ARE HERE! premiered at Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium in 2018. The 2019, 4 week tour, across February and March, involved two more weeks at Winchester Science Centre, plus a week each at Birmingham Thinktank and The National Space Centre, Leicester.

YOU ARE HERE! is a collaboration between The Occasion and Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium, supported by Arts Council England, Airbus and The National Space Centre. Written by Andy Cannon, performed by Catherine Gillard & Jemma Blythe, designed by Ali Maclaurin, music by Richard Williams and lighting design by Joe Price. Directed by Peter Clerke.

"Plenty of imaginative audience interaction and cheeky humour... it balances the wonder of the planetarium with a charming narrative. A wonderful encouragement for children to check out the power of scientific investigation."

- The List ★★★★★

"A wonderful and educational trip through the universe."

- What's Good to Do ****

OTHER NEWS



The Southside Group is a new initiative that will be offering opportunities for learning disabled adults, in Glasgow, to become involved in theatre. All will be welcome; regardless of 'ability'.

Sessions will run every Thursday (6.30-8.00) from early 2020, at Queen's Park Bowling Club, Glasgow. Working with theatre exercises and games it is anticipated that the group will, initially, offer opportunities for up to 20 members. The intention is to develop skills and increase confidence with an initial production planned for the autumn of 2020.

The Occasion also remains committed to exploring all opportunities for making and touring work within the UK and internationally.

For all further details of all The Occasion's work please go to www.theoccasiontheatre.com



For The Occasion

Co-Artistic Directors: Peter Clerke
Catherine Gillard

Board of Trustees: Gillian Shaw (Chair)
Elizabeth Baxter
Ben Walmsley
Rebecca Robinson
Peter Clerke
Catherine Gillard

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THE GOLSONCOTT FOUNDATION

