

Bash Street Theatre Co.



# The Lion Tamer

a silent-movie circus show for all ages





# The Lion Tamer

a silent-movie circus show for all ages

THE LION TAMER is one of a trilogy of silent movie shows from the award-winning Bash Street Theatre Co.

Inspired by the comic genius of Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin, it has been specially designed to tour village halls and small-scale theatres.

It's a melodrama full of action, pathos and silent comedy, combining circus skills, slapstick humour and live piano music to recreate a black-and-white movie from the golden age of the silver screen.

A 'two-bit' circus has arrived in town. It's run by a crooked showman and his long-suffering assistant, and they are running out of acts. So when a down-at-heel traveller arrives looking for work, he is given an audition. But he takes on more than he bargained for when he is persuaded to become a last-minute replacement for ... The Lion Tamer!

THE LION TAMER is inspired by the 1928 Charlie Chaplin film 'The Circus' and follows in the style of our two successful silent-movie street theatre productions, CLIFFHANGER! and THE STRONGMAN.

# Bash Street Theatre Co.

Based in Penzance, Cornwall, Bash Street Theatre has built an international reputation for inventive, fast-moving street theatre shows.

Since our first performance, in Morlaix, France in 1991, we have created more than 20 different shows and toured extensively throughout the UK and Europe, with performances in France, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Scandanavia, Poland, Romania, the Czech Republic, Austria, Hungary, Bulgaria, Italy, Portugal and Spain where, in 2006, we won the 'Best Street Theatre' award at the prestigious Tàrrega Theatre Festival, with our black-and-white movie show CLIFFHANGER!

We have also performed in Israel, Japan, Hong Kong, Macau, South Korea and Egypt.

Bash Street Theatre is a small independent company run by partners, Simon Pullum and JoJo Pickering, who founded the company 25 years ago. During this time our aim has been to combine circus skills and live music to develop a non-verbal, theatrical performance style that is accessible to all ages, cultures and backgrounds.



## Production Information

THE LION TAMER was first developed in 2009 with a production grant from FEAST and a touring grant from Arts Council England. It is being revised in 2017 for further rural touring.

### Artistic Directors

Simon Pullum and JoJo Pickering

### Directed by

David Twomlow

### Produced by

Simon Pullum and JoJo Pickering

### Music composed by

Julian Gaskell and Seamas Carey

### Designer

Helen Tiley

### Performers

Simon Pullum, JoJo Pickering and Russell Hurd

### Musician

Lochlann Pickering



## TOUR LIST 2012

### February

- 23 Botcheston Village Hall, Leicestershire
- 24 Thurgaton Village Hall, Notts
- 25 St Paul's Baptist Church Hall, Skegness
- 26 Woodhouse Eaves Village Hall, Leicestershire
- 29 Thomas Cranmer Centre, Main Street, Aslockton, Notts

### March

- 1 Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcestershire
- 2 Alfrick and Lulsley Village Hall, Worcestershire
- 3 Edingale Village Hall, Staffordshire
- 4 Bedworth Arts Centre, Warwick

## TOUR LIST 2011

### March

- 4 West Lulworth Village Hall, West Lulworth, Dorset
- 5 The Exchange, Sturminster, Newton, Dorset
- 8 Adamsdown Primary School, Adamsdown, Cardiff, Wales
- 9 Derwendeg Primary School, Hengoed, Caerphilly, Wales
- 10 Bryn Bach Primary School, Tredegar, Blaenau, Gwent, Wales
- 11 Soar Chapel, Merthyr Tydfil, Gwent, Wales
- 12 Coed Cae Community Centre, Ebbw Vale, Gwent, Wales
- 25 Ruan Minor Village Hall, Cornwall
- 26 Carleen Village Hall, Cornwall

### April

- 7 Cape Cornwall School, Cornwall
- 8 St Mary's Town Hall, Isles of Scilly
- 30 Veryan Parish Hall, Cornwall

### October

- 8 SpArC, Bishops Castle, Shropshire
- 15 The Burrell Theatre, Truro
- 21 Exeter Northcott Theatre, Exeter
- 22 Exeter Northcott Theatre, Exeter
- 29 The Landmark Theatre, Ilfracombe

### November

- 12 The Poly, Falmouth
- 22 Waun Wen Community Centre, Porth, Wales
- 23 Barry Island Community Centre, Wales
- 25 Frosterley Village Hall, Durham
- 26 Bowes & Gilmonby Parish Hall, Durham
- 27 The Glasshouse, Wrexham, Wales



## TOUR LIST 2010

### February

- 6 Sterts Arts Centre, Upton Cross, Cornwall
- 13 North Hill Village Hall, Cornwall
- 20 Epworth Hall, Helston, Cornwall
- 21 Tremayne Hall, Mylor, Cornwall
- 26 Nancegollan Village Hall, Cornwall
- 27 Dobwalls Memorial Hall, Cornwall

### March

- 6 Maker with Rame Community Hall, Cornwall
- 9 White Rose Primary School, New Tredegar, Caerphilly, Gwent Wales
- 10 De Valence Pavilion, Tenby, Pembrokeshire Wales
- 11 Gilfach Goch Community Centre, Mid Glamorgan Wales
- 12 Edith Bankes Memorial Hall, Northop, Mold, Clwyd Wales
- 13 Carrog Village Hall, Neuadd Carrog, Corwen, Denbighshire Wales

## TOUR LIST 2009

### November

- 13 Lelant Village Hall, Cornwall
- 14 The Dracaena Centre, Falmouth, Cornwall
- 26 St Norbert's School, Crowle, North Lincs
- 27 Wootton Village Hall, North Lincs
- 28 Scawby Village Hall, North Lincs

### December

- 4 Sterts Arts Centre, Upton Cross, Cornwall
- 5 Leedstown Village Hall, Cornwall
- 19 Acorn Arts Centre, Penzance, Cornwall
- 20 Acorn Arts Centre, Penzance, Cornwall



## Team Profile

### Simon Pullum

*Company director, writer, producer and performer*

Simon trained as a journalist before joining Cornwall Theatre Company in 1982, performing and touring throughout the UK. In 1986 he co-founded Jo's Jungle Band, street theatre group, developing musical and circus skills.

Since founding Bash Street Theatre with JoJo Pickering in 1991, Simon has written, co-produced and performed in over 20 different Bash Street shows at festivals throughout the UK, Europe, and the Far East.

His skills include tightrope walking, unicycling, juggling and stiltwalking.



### JoJo Pickering

*Producer, performer and company director*

JoJo is one of the two founding partners of Bash Street Theatre and is jointly responsible for managing, as well as performing with the company. JoJo travelled with her parents as a child and sailed around the world before the age of six, after which she settled in Spain and later in America. She moved to Cornwall in 1986.

Her artistic background is in dance, studying contemporary jazz ballet under Deloris Perlmutter and Charles Organ.

She has a degree with the Open University as well as a certificate and a diploma in business management, and has recently completed an MBA.



## Team Profile

### **Lochlann Pickering**

#### *Musician*

Lochlann first started performing with Bash Street Theatre as a stiltwalker in THE CREATURES, and also as a magician in THE LAST ILLUSION.

THE LION TAMER is his second show as musician for the company, having also provided the piano accompaniment for the latest version of our silent movie show CLIFFHANGER! Lochlann plays accordion, and his other skills include magic, juggling, unicycling, drawing and film making.

### **Russell Hurd**

#### *Performer*

Russell Hurd, comedian, acrobat, stiltwalker and juggler, joined Bash Street Co in 1996, having trained with Fool Time (now Circomedia) in Bristol, and Zippo's Circus. He was a founder member of Cap'n Bob's Circus, which toured the UK, Ireland and Europe in the early 1990s.

He has also performed with the Juggling Tutus, and Two's Up street theatre companies.





## Team Profile

### **Helen Tiley**

#### *Designer*

Helen Tiley, from Redruth, Cornwall, has designed costumes and scenery for several Bash Street shows, including THE STATION and the award-winning CLIFFHANGER!

Helen studied at Falmouth School of Art, where she gained a BA honours degree in Studio Ceramics. She specialises in ceramic sculpture with a distinctive fairground and circus theme.

Her work has been exhibited at Somerset House, and the Designers' Guild in London, as well as other venues throughout the UK, including Bath, Wrexham and Falmouth.

### **David Twomlow**

#### *Production Director*

David Twomlow has worked in theatre for 30 years as a performer, musician and director. In 1988 he founded the Theatre of Fruit puppet company.

He has worked extensively on the street theatre and festival circuit and has toured internationally to festivals and venues ranging from the World Trade Centre in New York to Puckelpop in Belgium and every major UK festival.

David also plays bagpipes with Cornish folk band, Bagas Degol,





## Other Information

## Promotional Information

The promoter is responsible for all advertising and publicity for the performance. The company will supply the following publicity materials:

- 50 A4 colour posters with space to overprint.
- 300 A5 leaflets with space to overprint.
- Text + photos, downloadable from the company website - [www.bashstreet.co.uk](http://www.bashstreet.co.uk) <Promoter's Info>.
- Username and password will be provided at confirmation of contract.

The use of photos is free only to advertise the specific performance, with the photographer credited. Any further use (including posters) must be agreed upon separately in advance.

THE LION TAMER is suitable for all ages, using live music and written signs that can be translated into any language.

## **Basic Technical Requirements**

- Performance fee plus travel, accommodation and subsistence.
- Performing area of 6m x 6m, with a height of at least 4m.
- Access for unloading, and free parking facilities (7m long vehicle), free of restrictions, close to the venue.
- Access to mains electricity power supply two hours before and after the performance.
- Performance time 90 minutes (including an interval of 20 minutes).
- Get-in time is 3 hours.
- Get-out time is 2 hours.
- We have public liability insurance (Indemnity £5,000,000).
- The following documents can be downloaded from the Promoter's Info page on the website.
  - \*A comprehensive technical details document
  - \*Risk Assessment
  - \*Public Liability Insurance Certificate

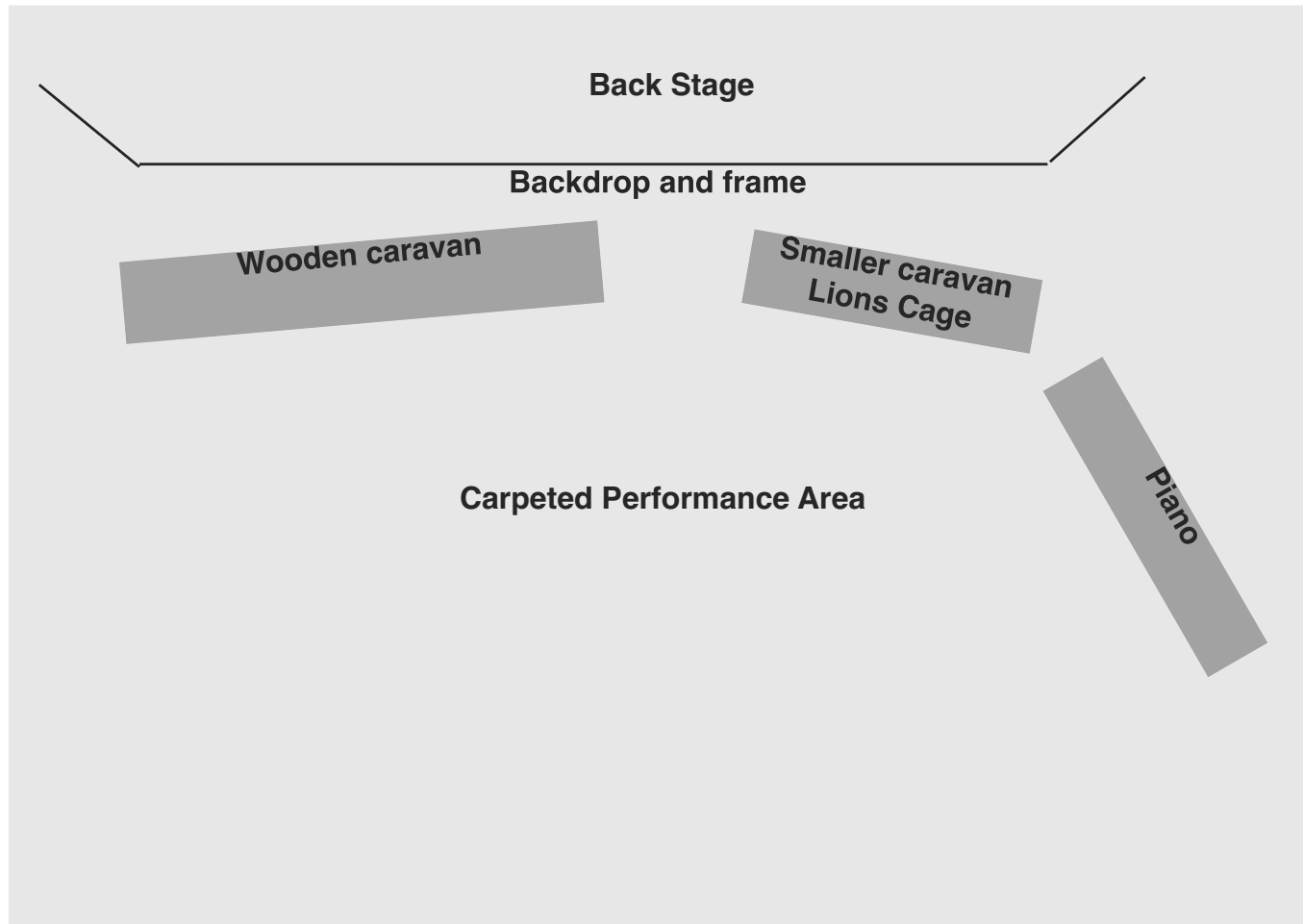
## **Description of Set**

THE LION TAMER set consists of a fabric backcloth made to look like the outside of a circus tent. This is supported on a frame built from aluminium scaffold poles fixed with Kee Klamps (there are no fixings to the ground).

The floor covering comprises a black 6m x 6m carpet. The show properties include a piano (a fake upright with electric keyboard) and a wooden caravan and trailer (both of these are assembled on stage before the performance).

The performance area stipulated in the technical requirements includes the area of the theatrical set, the performance area in front of the set, and the backstage area.

# Floor plan of Lion Tamer set



6 meters

6 meters

## Contact Details

**Bash Street Theatre**  
***Simon Pullum / JoJo Pickering***

35 Belgravia Street, Penzance  
England TR18 2BL  
Tel: +44 (0)1736 360795  
[www.bashstreet.co.uk](http://www.bashstreet.co.uk)  
[office@bashstreet.co.uk](mailto:office@bashstreet.co.uk)

Roz am Poullou  
29690 Locmaria Berrien, France  
Tel: 0033 (0)2 98 99 80 32