



# THE STRONGMAN



## A brand-new, street theatre show

The Strongman was developed in 2012, funded by Arts Council England and commissioned and supported by:

Devizes International Street Festival  
Le Fourneau – Centre National des Arts de la Rue, Brest  
Mintfest, Kendal  
National Theatre 'Watch this Space', London  
SO Festival, Skegness  
Waterford Spraoi, Ireland



*The*  
**STRONGMAN**

**New for 2012**



# THE STRONGMAN

With silent comedy, circus skills, live music and a little bit of magic, THE STRONGMAN is a brand new, street theatre show from the award-winning Bash Street Theatre Co.

Inspired by Charlie Chaplin's 1928 film 'The Circus', THE STRONGMAN tells a story of intrigue and jealousy, with a big helping of comedy and musical 'joie de vivre'.

Set in the 1920s, the story involves a travelling circus that has just lost its headline act. The Strongman has died, and if his assistant doesn't find a replacement she will be forced to leave the circus...





Will she find a Strongman  
in time?

And will he be able to  
face up to the money-  
grabbing Circus Boss?

# Bash Street Theatre

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

Since our first performance, in Morlaix, France in 1991, we have created 20 different productions and toured to major festivals throughout the UK and Europe, as well as in Japan, Hong Kong, Israel, China and South Korea.

Bash Street is a small independent company run by partners, Simon Pullum and JoJo Pickering, who founded the company 21 years ago. We have a core company of four performers, but we also work with other performers, directors and artists on a project-by-project basis.







## **Production Information**

THE STRONGMAN was developed in 2012 with a grant from Arts Council England and support from six commissioners.

**Artistic Directors** Simon Pullum and JoJo Pickering

**Directed by** Fabrice Bisson, with assistance from Russell Hurd and David Twomlow

**Written by** Simon Pullum

**Produced by** Simon Pullum and JoJo Pickering

**Music composed by** Seamas Carey

**Designer** Helen Tiley

**Performers** Simon Pullum, JoJo Pickering, Alan Conlon, Seamas Carey

**Year of creation** 2012

**Preferred performance time is early evening, at dusk.**

# 2012 TOUR

## JUNE

- 2-3 Masca Theatre Festival, Bucharest, Romania
- 6-10 Tete-a-Tete Festival, Rastatt, Germany
- 22-24 Tattershall Castle, Lincolnshire, UK
- 26-29 Tattershall Castle, Lincolnshire, UK
- 30 SO Festival, Skegness, Lincolnshire, UK

## JULY

- 1 SO Festival, Skegness, Lincolnshire, UK
- 5 Hagen, Germany
- 7 Villers Cotterets, France
- 11-12 Heppenheim, Germany
- 14-18 Tollwood Festival, Germany
- 21 Treport, France
- 23 Sutton, London, UK

## AUGUST

- 4-5 Waterford Spraoi, Rep of Ireland
- 7-8 Watch This Space Festival, National Theatre, London, UK
- 9 Les Jeudis du Port, Brest, France
- 11 Lewisham, London, UK
- 12 Victoria Park, London, UK
- 18 Hounslow, London, UK
- 23 Camden, London, UK
- 25 Waltham Forest, London, UK
- 26 Greenwich, London, UK
- 27 Devizes International Street Festival, UK
- 28 Penlee Park Open Air Theatre, Penzance, UK

## SEPTEMBER

- 1-2 Mintfest 2012, Kendal, Cumbria, UK





## Team Profile

### Simon Pullum

*Company director, writer, producer and performer*

Simon Pullum 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 20 different Bash Street shows at festivals throughout the UK, Europe, and the Far East. His skills include tightrope walking, unicycling, juggling, stiltwalk walking, violin and saxophone.

*French speaker*



### 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. She teamed up with Simon to perform at the Festival des Arts dans la Rue at Morlaix in France, and Bash Street Co was formed.

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, and moved to Cornwall in 1986. Her artistic back ground 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 is currently studying to complete her MBA.

*French and Spanish speaker*







## **Alan Conlon**

### *Performer*

Alan worked for four years in computer technology in his home town of Sligo in Ireland before moving to Bristol in 2008 to train in physical theatre and acrobatics at Circomedia. He has since worked as a performer with Cirque Bijou, Above and Beyond, Boom! Circus, Thrice Three Muses, Red Hands Flying Trapeze and his own company, Daft Antics. He is also a regular instructor with Circomedia's young people's programme City Circus, in Bristol.

## **Seamas Carey**

### *Musician / Composer*

Silent movie pianist, cafe accordionist, bandleader, singer and composer, Seamas was born and raised in Cornwall. He first performed on stage at the age of 14, he has since worked with The Busketeers, Underdog, Kneehigh Theatre, Rogue Theatre, Shanty Theatre, Captain Skalet, and many more.

Seamas has recorded several CDs and also plays the double bass.



## **Helen Tiley**

### *Artistic Designer*

Helen Tiley, who lives in Redruth, Cornwall, has designed costumes and scenery for several Bash Street shows, including CLIFFHANGER, THE STATION and THE LION TAMER.

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.

## **Russel Hurd**

### *Assistant Director*

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.







**Other  
Information**

## Basic Technical Requirements

- Performance fee, plus travel, accommodation and subsistence.
- Preferred performance time is early evening, at dusk.
- Level performing area of 12m x 8m, with a height of at least 6m.
- Access to performing area for unloading, and parking facilities beside the set.
- Access to mains electricity power supply two hours before and after the performance.
- 18m of safety barriers to be supplied by the promoter.
- At least one steward to be supplied by the promoter.
- Show running time 50-55 minutes approx.
- Get-in time is 3 hours.
- Get-out time is 90 minutes.
- We have public liability insurance (Indemnity £5,000,000)





## Description of Set and Show

THE STRONGMAN is an outdoor theatre show involving three performers and one musician. The show contains a series of acrobatic and comic routines, accompanied by live music played on electric keyboard with related PA equipment.

The set consists of two circus caravans (each 2m wide x 2m high x 1m deep), situated in front of a wooden fence backdrop. There is a fake wooden piano (with electric piano inside) stage right. The fence is supported by aluminium scaffold poles, fixed with Kee Klamps. Hardboard flats are secured to this to form a backdrop. This structure is tied in and secured to the two circus caravans in front. One half of the caravan on stage left is lifted during the performance to form a tower. The caravan on stage right has a falling front panel. Both caravans are built from wood and dismantled into flat sections. Between the caravans is a lamp post fixed to the backdrop.

The performance area stipulated in the technical requirements includes the area of the theatrical set, the performance area in front of the set, backstage area and the audience safety zone, but not parking for the company vehicle (7 m x 3m).

- The ground width of the set is 4m.
- The ground depth of the set is 3m.
- The total height of the set when fully extended 4m.



DANCERS

JUGGLERS

ACROBATS

CURIOSITIES

THE SMALLEST SHOW ON EARTH!

FAT LADY

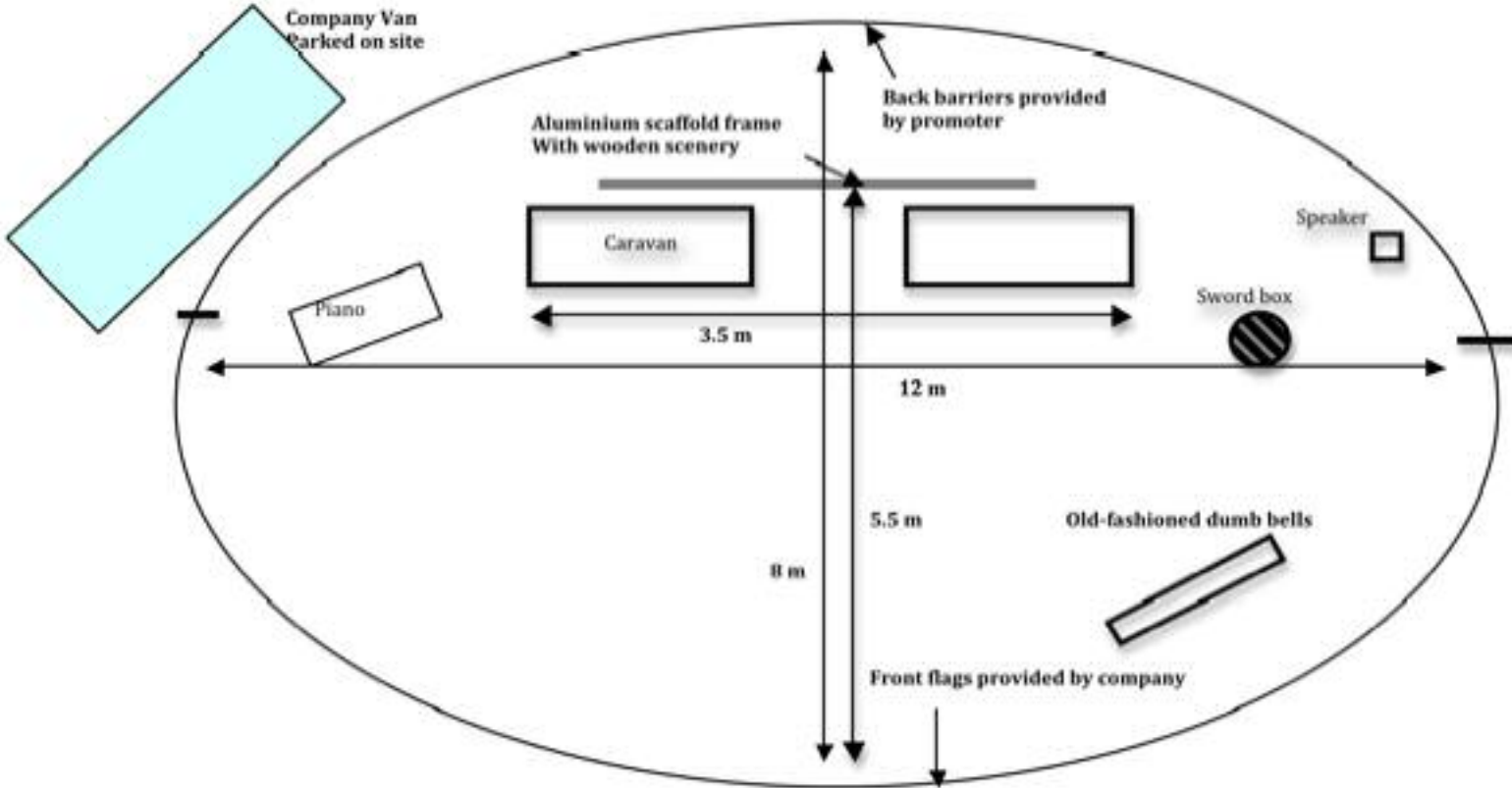
DANCERS

STRONGMAN!

STRONGMAN



# Floor Plan



## Contact Details

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