

A DOUBLE BILL
BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
ADAPTED + DIRECTED BY THE COMPANY

FOUR
FORTY

ROMEO & JULIET

HAMLET



LOTTERY FUNDED



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

@440THEATRE

THE PHOENIX
Theatre & Arts Centre



440 Theatre are 4 Professional actors delivering an exciting, engaging and energetic piece of theatre in 40 minutes!

We are proudly supported by **Arts Council England** and are the first ever Associate Company of **The Phoenix Theatre & Arts Centre** in Hampshire. Performing in spaces great and small, our work is playful but never lacks focus. Our stories drive our vision as well as our van!

Who are we for?

Theatres, Studio Spaces, Pubs, Garden Centres, Schools, Stately Homes, Fields, Car Parks; anywhere our audiences are willing to watch! Within 40 Minutes you will feel like you have known us forever.



The Shows on Offer

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Macbeth
Romeo & Juliet
Hamlet

Shakespeare's classic comedy and tantalising tragedy receive the 440 treatment. Initiative is king as four actors wrestle with the Bards most iconic plays. Stripping the narrative to its core we keep the essence of Shakespeare's words alive to help his magnificent stories shine at the heart of our shows. Anarchy is equally balanced with a safe and family friendly environment that keeps our audiences relaxed, engaged and safe in the knowledge they're in good hands!

Shows are available to book individually or in combination.



The Company

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440 Theatre was formed to provide live action **Shakespeare** that educates and entertains in **40 minutes flat!**

Who is this for? Students in **Key Stage 2, 3 and 4**. This however does not mean younger children in **Key Stage 1** can't enjoy the larger-than-life characters and frenzy of our performance. The shows will never include any inappropriate language or depravities making the atmosphere suitable for all.

Why do we do it? Our focus is to provide entertainment that allows both performer and audience member an equal share of control with the performance. The stories we tell include universal themes of love and hate, good and evil with the archetypal characters you'd expect to see in a Shakespeare play (with a few interesting additions!) We are offering style, delivery and most importantly camaraderie as our brand. This ultimately sets us apart from other companies who offer a similar service.

What do we offer? We offer a bitesize piece of live action theatre with no compromise in quality. The students' experience of the show gives them the tools to see how a piece of text on the page can be explored and transferred to the stage. This can be further explored in our workshops...please see below!

FOUR|FORTY|THEATRE
FOUR ACTORS | FORTY MINUTE SHAKESPEARE

A Midsummer Night's Dream & Macbeth

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440 Workshops

As well as the performance we exclusively offer schools the opportunity to book workshops to aid the students' understanding of the particular text. These sessions can be tailored to suit various abilities, subject matters and specific student needs. We find it very effective to put a group or individual in the 'director's chair' so they can fully comprehend the impact of their creative choices. We encourage creative thinking, expression and improvisation in a supportive and structured environment. We achieve this through warm up games as well as direct script work and development.

Why are these productions for you?

We understand the pressure to provide high quality entertainment at affordable prices. We believe our model provides satisfaction for students and staff meaning no one is left feeling short changed. The execution and impact of our shows are geared towards achieving both artistic and educational goals.

We are looking to develop our tour schedule into 2020 to include schools, theatres, studio spaces and outdoor venues. Alongside our corporate and festive targets we aim to share our unique brand of theatre across the UK and Channel Islands.

In the future we look to expand our portfolio of shows and continue to introduce ourselves to new venues and performance spaces.

Our aim is to create a sustainable business model that can quickly adapt to challenging territory; one that proves reliable for our clients, our performers and our audiences.

Audience reviews

"It was fantastic. Such great fun and such a talented cast!"

"I can't believe they managed to tell such a detailed story that even my children could follow. They want to come again!"

"They make so much from so little. Amazing!"



Team

Dom Gee-Burch - Director - Dom began his acting career working for outdoor touring theatre company Oddsocks Productions. His career has gone on to include extensive national and international tours as an actor and actor-musician.

440 has experience in the execution and delivery of national and rural touring. From small to medium venues, to schools and libraries, to weddings and corporate events. We work closely with our clients to create and fulfil our shared targets and expectations.



Example timetable for 1 performance and 1 workshop package*

8am Company arrive at the school. Meet with staff.

8-8.30am Complete Get In and Preset for performance.

9am Actors welcome students in the performance space.

9.15-9.55am Performance.

10-11am Workshop

11-11.15am Complete Get Out and Company depart.

*All aspects of this schedule can be tailor-made to suit your requirements from additional performances to additional workshops and Q&A sessions.

Size of the project

We perform our shows in 40 minutes (with a 5 minute leeway to allow for any contingencies or the inevitable encores!)

Size of the team

On a typical show day our team consists of four professional actors. Each team also consists of one designated company manager who can answer any questions that may arise and can help plan the performance day, making adaptations should any changes occur.

What we come with

We will arrive promptly in our vehicle accompanied by our costume and prop suitcases. We require a place where we can change out of sight and access to a private bathroom. We appreciate access to drinking water and a safe place to store valuables should we require it.

Show design

Our shows are specifically designed to be as minimalistic and efficient as possible but without lacking detail and integrity. We can fit seamlessly into most performance spaces that allow us to construct our backdrop and props table. We are always happy to work with you to find the best solution that aids the audience's enjoyment and satisfaction.

We are currently inviting schools to join our 2022/23 tour schedule of A Midsummer Night's Dream, Macbeth, Romeo & Juliet and Hamlet. We look forward to hearing about how we can complement your programme of events for your department.

enquiries: 440theatre@gmail.com