



**SUNDERLAND
STAGES**

What's on
Spring 2015

Bonded Warehouse

University of Sunderland Students' Union (Panns Bank)
Low St, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, SR1 2RQ

Sometimes We Play
in association with LittleMighty presents

We Can Be Heroes

Fri 1 May, 7.30pm
£8.50; £6 conc; £5 students

Teenagers Patrick and Mark spend their days dodging school bullies, reading comic books and dreaming of escape from their small town home. Then they meet Mr Smith - a real-life super hero, with his own costume and canine sidekick.

But as they come into conflict with a group of older boys, will he be able to save them from the gang's clutches?

A charming story with live music, about being young again, facing your fears, and becoming a superhero.



All performances can be booked online at
www.sunderlandstages.co.uk

2



North Shore

University of Sunderland Students' Union
(St Peter's Campus) Charles Street, Sunderland, SR6 0AN

Middle Child Theatre presents

Weekend Rockstars

and Guest Band TBC
Fri 29 May, 7.30pm
£8.50; £6 conc; £5 students

Terry's having a bad week. He's lost his job, his girlfriend is off to Uni in London and he's just killed his dealer's cat.

'Weekend Rockstars' tells the story of Terry's week from hell through theatre, film, songs and a live band on stage - made in the North and proud of it, an energetic, funny and emotional new show.

The second half of the night sees a special guest band play a one-off gig for Sunderland Stages, topping off a brilliant evening of live music and theatre.

Middle Child presents

Not Quite a Pub Quiz

at The Dun Cow on Thur 21 May, 8pm

A pub quiz with a difference featuring live sketches, comedy and music, and of course prizes! See page 11 for more info!

3

The Royalty Theatre

25 The Royalty, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, SR2 7PP

Open Clasp Theatre Company
in collaboration with Frantic Assembly presents

Jumping Puddles

Wed 25 Feb, 7.30pm

£8.50; £6 conc; £5 students

Two sisters at war suddenly find their world turned upside down; a funny and moving story about Grace and Anna, sisters fast-tracked to adulthood as they discover it's hard being a girl but harder still when faced with the harsh reality and fragility of life.

This play from local company Open Clasp highlights some of the issues young women are experiencing today, and was directly informed by 162 young women from the North East and Liverpool.

Can't make the date?

This show is also being performed at Arts Centre Washington on Thur 26 Feb



4

Half Moon presents a Floods of Ink production

Up in the Attic

Sat 28 Feb, 2pm

£6; £20 family (admits 4)

For ages 3-6 and their families

Enchanting music and puppetry for ages 3 to 6.

Overcome your fear of the dark on a magical journey of discovery and adventure.

Join three children on an unforgettable bedtime adventure: a journey through the attic at the top of an old house.

As the children work together to unravel a mystery, they meet a wolf, a crab, a whale and a goose - and when they finally open the dusty suitcase in the far corner of the attic, they realise that there really is no need to be frightened of the dark ever again.



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5

Arts Centre Washington

Biddick Lane, Fatfield, Washington, NE38 8AB

Open Clasp Theatre Company
in collaboration with Frantic Assembly presents

Jumping Puddles

Thur 26 Feb, 7.30pm

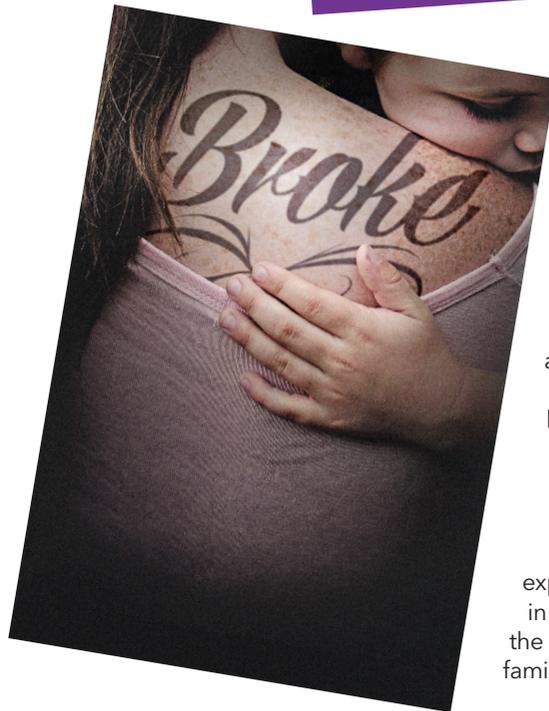
£8.50; £6 conc; £5 students

Two sisters at war suddenly find their world turned upside down; a funny and moving story about Grace and Anna, sisters fast-tracked to adulthood as they discover it's hard being a girl but harder still when faced with the harsh reality and fragility of life.



Can't make the date?

This show is also being performed
at The Royalty Theatre on Wed 25 Feb



The Paper Birds Theatre
Company presents

Broke

Thur 12 Mar, 7.30pm

£8.50; £6 conc; £5 students

Question: Sally is British and broke. If Britain owes over £900 billion in national debt and Sally has been on minimum wage for most of her working life with the interest on her debt being equal to her monthly outgoings, then who is more broke, Britain or Sally?

Broke uses real life stories to explore what it means to be broke in this heartfelt and urgent look at the debt of a nation from displaced families and gambling addictions to beans on toast.

Theatre Ad Infinitum presents

Odyssey

Thur 26 Mar, 7.30pm

£8.50; £6 conc; £5 students

Odyssey follows the Greek warrior Odysseus in his relentless attempt to get home so he can see his wife and son again before he dies. Up against the Gods, hurricanes, nymphs and ferocious one-eyed monsters; whatever hardship he endures, Odysseus' tough heart won't give in. But after twenty year's away from home will everything be as he left it...?

One actor. One hour. One man's epic quest to reunite with his family and seek his bloody revenge.

A solo performance that will ignite the imagination and awaken the senses...

Edinburgh Festivals Magazine ★★★★★

"Talent like this is breath taking, if you only see one show - this is it"



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Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens

Borough Rd, Sunderland, SR1 1PP

Mimika Theatre presents

Landscapes

Sat 31 Jan, 10.30am, 12noon, 2pm, 3.30pm

£6; £20 family (admits 4)

For ages 3-11 and their families

Take a magical journey through four different worlds and meet the animals that live there in this amazing performance full of visual effects and stunningly lifelike puppets - all set inside Mimika's amazing special performance tent.

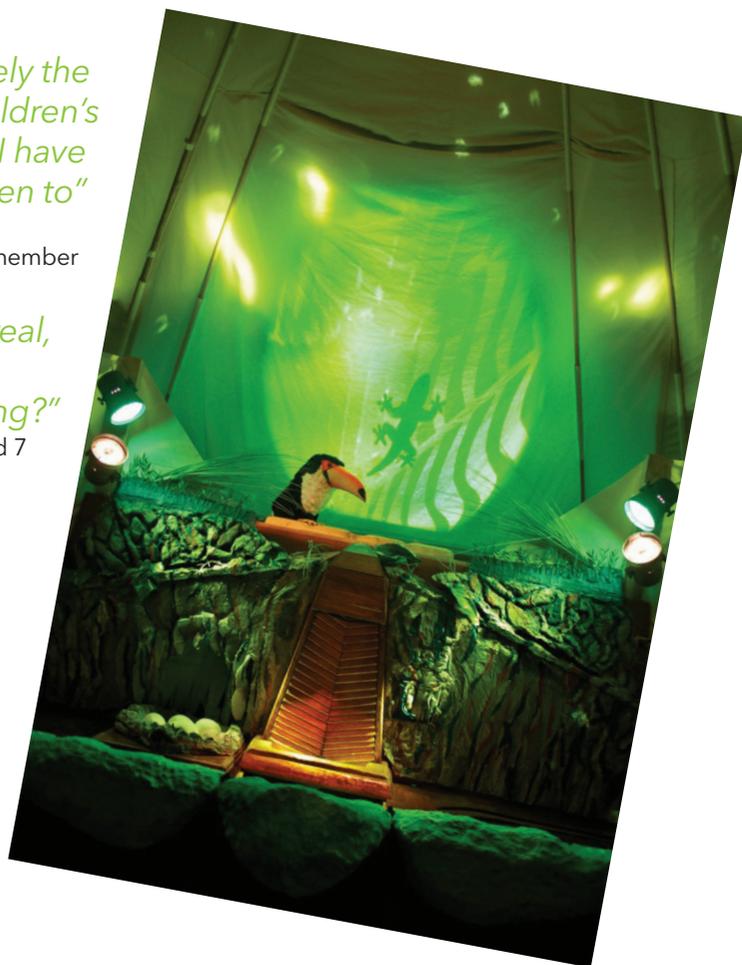
Meet meerkats, penguins, apes, and crocodiles, then venture to the depths of the ocean with the most colourful of fish! A special experience for audiences of 25 people at a time.

"definitely the best children's theatre I have ever been to"

Parent and audience member

"Is this real, or am I dreaming?"

Haley, aged 7



8

Sunderland City Library and Arts Centre

Fawcett Street, Sunderland, SR1 1RE

Word Pepper Theatre in association with Half Moon and Apples and Snakes presents

Pop-Up Flashback

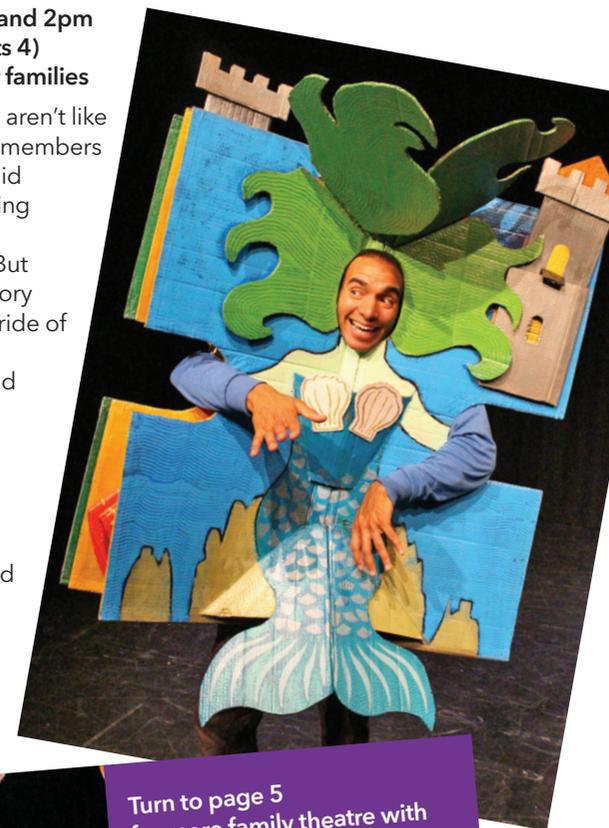
Tues 7 Apr, 11.30am and 2pm

£6; £20 family (admits 4)

For ages 5+ and their families

Sebastian's memories aren't like everyone else's. He remembers troll kings and mermaid queens, deep sea diving super heroes and city smashing dinosaurs. But there's only one memory that takes particular pride of place. It is of the very special gift that his Dad bought him.....

Enter an imaginative world of memories through poetry and incredible pop-up books in this funny and heart-warming adventure of complicated families and growing up.



Turn to page 5 for more family theatre with **Up In The Attic** at The Royalty Theatre on Sat 28 Feb

All performances can be booked online at www.sunderlandstages.co.uk

9

Roker Seafront

This performance takes place on location inside a minibus - see website for exact location

Third Angel presents **Cape Wrath**

Tues 21 Apr, 6pm & 8pm
£8.50; £6 conc; £5 students

"After he retired, my Grandad went on a trip from the Midlands up to Cape Wrath, the most north-westerly point of his native Scotland. He sat, looked at the sea, and thought about his life. Then he got up and went home. Over 20 years later, I got on a coach and followed in his footsteps. This is what I learned."

Told to an audience of just 14 at a time in a stationary minibus, by master storyteller Alexander Kelly; a heartfelt, moving, compellingly intimate story.



Sunderland College

Visual and Performing Arts Building, Bede Campus, Durham Road, Sunderland, SR3 4AH

Birmingham Repertory Theatre presents **Back Down**

Tues 28 Apr, 7.30pm
£8.50; £6 conc; £5 students

Luke, Zia and Tommy have known each other for forever. With Luke about to leave for university it's time for one last adventure together, they set off on a camping trip to conquer Snowdon. But when their jaunt takes an unexpected turn they are forced to face up to the reality of why they needed the trip in the first place.

A beautiful and funny play about friendship, loyalty and growing up.



Independent

27/28 Holmeside,
Sunderland, SR1 3JE

Stella Productions presents **The Rise and Fall of a Northern Star**

Fri 15 May, 7.30pm
£8.50; £6 conc; £5 students

Sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll - Tracy Star wanted it all! Seeking to escape the drudgery of her day-to-day life in 1980s Manchester, she sought to make something of herself in the burgeoning male dominated Madchester music scene.

Comedy, tragedy, music and pacy dialogue tell this cautionary tale of a rock and roll wannabe - a unique insight into the darker aspects of the music business.



The Dun Cow

9 High Street West,
Sunderland, SR1 3HA

Middle Child Theatre present **Not Quite a Pub Quiz**

Thur 21 May, 8pm
£3

The ultimate interactive pub quiz! See theatre company MIDDLE CHILD bring you theatrical performances, comedy, picture puzzles, riddles, hilarious sketches, live music and so much more. Watch what's going on and try to answer their questions, it's not as easy as you think!

Just like an everyday pub quiz, with a little extra, enter a team and compete for a variety of prizes.



See Middle Child again, performing
Weekend Rockstars
on Fri 28 May, see page 3 for more info

All performances can be booked online at
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Sunderland Stages is bringing live performances to hidden, unexpected and favourite venues across the city of Sunderland



Quick look events:

Sat 31 Jan	Landscapes >FAMILY SHOW 😊	Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens
Wed 25 Feb	Jumping Puddles	The Royalty Theatre
Thur 26 Feb	Jumping Puddles	Arts Centre Washington
Sat 28 Feb	Up In The Attic >FAMILY SHOW 😊	The Royalty Theatre
Thur 12 Mar	Broke	Arts Centre Washington
Thur 26 Mar	Odyssey	Arts Centre Washington
Tues 7 Apr	Pop Up Flashback >FAMILY SHOW 😊	Sunderland City Library
Tues 21 Apr	Cape Wrath	Roker Seafront
Tues 28 Apr	Back Down	Sunderland College
Fri 1 May	We Can Be Heroes	Bonded Warehouse
Fri 15 May	The Rise and Fall of a Northern Star	Independent
Thur 21 May	Not Quite a Pub Quiz	The Dun Cow
Fri 29 May	Weekend Rockstars and guest band TBC	North Shore

Book online at

www.sunderlandstages.co.uk

For running times, age guidance, updates, pictures, videos and more info go to www.sunderlandstages.co.uk, find us on Facebook , and follow us on Twitter  @sunstages

If you would like to receive updates about the Sunderland Stages performances e-mail acw@sunderland.gov.uk



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Sunderland