

theatre **RE**

the nature of forgetting



“We all know that something is eternal. And it ain’t houses and it ain’t names, and it ain’t earth, and it ain’t even the stars... Everybody knows in their bones that something is eternal, and that something has to do with human beings... There is something, way down deep that’s eternal about every human being... And that’s what’s left when memory is gone.”

Thornton Wilder, Our Town

About the show



Seven years ago, the making of the *The Nature of Forgetting* started with a question: ‘what is left when memory is gone?’.

To develop the piece, we collaborated with UCL Neuroscience Professor Kate Jeffery. Research on memory and amnesia formed the basis and foundation of our explorations. In partnership with the Alzheimer’s Society we interviewed older members of the community, as well as people living with dementia and their carers, to create links between the science and real human experience.

Those of us living with dementia lose the ability to form and reconstruct memories. They struggle to think about the future. They are in the present and only in the present. Of course, this is debilitating, but could also be liberating and beautiful.

It reminds us of Emily's line in *Our Town*: '*Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it? - every, every minute?*'.

If there is one takeaway from the past few years of making, touring, refining and breathing new life into *The Nature of Forgetting* - it's to remind ourselves to be present, in the moment, and realise life as we live it.

Ultimately, our piece is not about dementia. It is about the fragility of life and that eternal 'something' we all share that is left when memory is gone.

Runs 75 minutes without interval



About Theatre Re

We are one of the UK's leading visual theatre companies. Our work combines original live music with striking visual performance to create world class, deeply moving non-verbal productions about universal human challenges and the fragility of life. We engage with audiences locally, nationally and internationally to create, share and promote life-changing theatre that is both inventive and accessible through cross-arts and cross-sector collaboration.



We are an artist-led company based at The Point in Eastleigh with a strong 11-year track record: six mid-scale productions, extensive touring in the UK (78 venues in 44 cities) and internationally (15 countries across 3 continents) - including a Broadway transfer, international licensing of our repertoire and sold-out runs at the Hong Kong Arts Festival, the Cervantino Festival (Mexico), and London International Mime Festival.

Our training programme is in high demand across the world with long-term partners such as the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. Partnerships with community organisations throughout the creation process and while on tour are central to our work.



Creative Team

Conceived & Directed by
Guillaume Pigé

Devised by the Company
Isabella / Sophie
Louise Wilcox

Emma / Mrs Denis
Eygló Belafonte

Mike
Calum Littley

Tom
Guillaume Pigé

Multi-instrumentalist /
Teacher
Alex Judd or **Henry
Webster**

Percussionist /
Schoolboy
Nathan Gregory

Composer
Alex Judd

Lighting Designer
Katherine Graham

Rehearsal Director
Eygló Belafonte

Re-lighter, Stage Manager
Josephine Tremelling

Sound Technician,
Deputy Stage Manager
Benjamin Adams

Costume & Prop Designer
Malik Ibheis

Dramaturg
A.C. Smith

Scientific Collaborator
Professor Kate Jeffery

External Curator
Andrew Visnevski

Devisers
Matthew Austin
Malik Ibheis
Chris Jones
Alex Judd
Fred McLaren
Keiran Pearson
Guillaume Pigé
Eygló Belafonte
Andres Velasquez
Louise Wilcox

Dementia UK

Dementia UK is supporting the tour of *The Nature of Forgetting* by providing specialist dementia nurses at each of the post-show discussions.

Dementia UK is the dementia specialist nurse charity. The charity's Admiral Nurses provide life-changing support for families affected by all forms of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease. If you need advice or support on living with dementia, contact the Admiral Nurse Dementia Helpline on 0800 888 6678 or email helpline@dementiauk.org. Alternatively, book a video or phone appointment at: dementiauk.org/closer-to-home, or for more information visit www.dementiauk.org.

Dementia UK host the Young Dementia Network. The Network is a collaboration between people affected by and working in the field of young onset dementia. It campaigns to create positive change and is free to join, find out more: www.youngdementianetwork.org





Training

Training and participation is a core element of our work.

We run regular open workshops for a range of individuals both in-person and online, and offer training to secondary schools, colleges, universities and independent training institutions. Our training programme of workshops and seminars is designed to support students' development in creating work, building performance skills and performing theatre theory.

We also partner with various drama schools, such as the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and East 15 to deliver term-long modules in our style of theatre. Our approach is inclusive and relevant to all, and our learning and training activities are tailored to the group we are working with, so every workshop is different.

To request more details about our training programmes please contact our Participation Producer at:
TheatreRe.Participation@gmail.com

Touring & Making

We are currently touring 3 shows in the UK and internationally: *The Nature of Forgetting*, *BIRTH* and *Bluebelle*. We have also started developing a new piece called *Looking for Poetic Theatre* (available in 2024).

Supporting

We are always developing new and exciting projects. If you enjoyed our work and want to support us, please do get in touch. Thank you for your care and generosity!

Music

The music from the show is available to purchase. Please come and see us after a performance for more details! It is also available from our website.

Contact

re.theatre@gmail.com www.theatrere.co.uk

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