



blueApple
changing lives through
performing arts

Pinocchio



Robot graphic created by Sletchřab / Cyborgin

blueApple
presents

Pinocchio



Welcome to Blue Apple's winter 2020 production

What a year. What a challenging and difficult year in which our cast has had to learn new skills and draw on reserves of patience and goodwill like never before. My mantra for 2020 has been 'everything is different, but nothing has changed' as we continued to find new ways to carry on doing what we did before; telling stories and giving our cast chance to step into the limelight.

Very early on in our process the cast and company decided to put the 'classic' tale of the wooden-puppet-boy to one side and to look at

how technology shines a light on what it means to be human (our theme for winter '20 and summer '21). Tablets, PCs & smartphones saved so many from crushing isolation when the pandemic hit that it felt like they were the heroes of the day.

Blue Apple remains undaunted by pandemics; this year has made us more expansive even as our physical limitations shrunk. We have developed and strengthened international links and this piece will be seen by audiences in far flung places. It feels like we'll never quite go back to normal - what we are learning through this and other digital projects will remain and enhance theatrical experiences for the future.

I'm so proud of how our cast have coped over the year which will soon be behind us. They deserve a decent Christmas and, as soon as possible, a vaccine as a present...a real shot in the arm for the coming year.

Richard Conlon, Blue Apple Artistic Director

A message to the audience from Blue Apple's performers



"Putting together Pinocchia has meant a lot to me. I have loved playing Eva."

Katy Francis



"An audience might find it a challenge having a robot instead of a puppet."

Laurie Morris



"It's amazing that an audience abroad, such as in America will be able to see how creative we can be."

Anna Brisbane



"For me to go live with this will be a huge step up and a huge challenge – it will be very enjoyable and very appealing to the audience. I will miss being on stage, it feels different."

Ros Davies



"In a confined space rather than on a big stage, it hinders our ability to move about but on the positive side, what the audience will hopefully get out of this is some understanding of how hard we worked and how much we enjoyed putting together this piece together."

Sam Dace



"I think the audience will find it interesting to see that we have been able to put a whole new show together online and hopefully they will enjoy it as much as if it had been in person. It will be a very different experience for them."

James Benfield

The Cast

Frank: Sam Dace
Verity: Ros Davies
Eva (voice): Katy Francis
Eva (moves): James Elsworthy
Allotment Holders: Kym Nash
Ali Sinclair-Wilson
Alice Peck
Paul Smith
Tom Hatchett
James Benfield
James Spencer
Neil White
Lucy Parrot
David Hunt
Anna Brisbane
Neil Bennet
Lawrie Morris
Tommy Jessop
Frank's Neighbours: Lucy Thomas
Daniel Austin
Joseph Guerrier
Jonny Ling
George Collingwood

Frank's Anxiety Dream: Andy Canning
Joseph Jeffrey
Helen Burns
Theatre Personal Address: George Collingwood

Volunteers: Michelle Pluck
Rachel Collins
Chris Pearce
Mary Richards
Clare Talks
Cat Randall
Sorcha Young
Sue Dashper
Henry Davies
Arthur Ferencei
Kai Marshall
Oscar Vogel
Harry Wilson
Henry Chipperfield
'Nature Boy': Sung by Paul Smith
Danced by Tommy Jessop

Makaton Interpretation: Joseph Guerrier

The Creative Team

Art Direction and Eva Puppet: Polly Perry
Technical Creatives: Samuel Morley
Django Pinter
Video Technician: Carl Martin
Video Editing: Laura Walton
Music: Kate Mellors

Thanks to

Geraldine Janowiak & Debra Guess for kind permission to use 'Nature Boy'.



About Blue Apple

Together we are transforming lives through the arts

Blue Apple makes a huge difference to the lives of people with learning disabilities. We believe people with learning disabilities should be treated equally and fairly both in the arts and beyond. Our mission is to challenge prejudices through high-quality and inclusive artistic practices, enabling learning disabled people to achieve excellence in all levels of their life.

Our performers are coached by professionals to reach their full potential to perform innovative drama, dance, singing and film. Our evidence-based research shows us that through Blue Apple classes and productions, our talented performers gain confidence; increase their fitness levels; develop friendships and their whole mental health and wellbeing is transformed.

Thanks to the generous support of individuals, local organisations, trusts and foundations – we can continue to transform lives through pioneering theatre.



Blue Apple is recruiting a new chair

Could you help develop an ambitious new strategy for Blue Apple?

We are looking for a new Chair of Trustees to lead the board during an exciting new phase of development. The current Chair, Georgiana Robertson, is retiring after six years leading the board through a period of unprecedented growth. Visit blueappletheatre.com/news-1#chair to find out more.

I want to help

There are many ways you can get involved with Blue Apple to help make a difference in the lives of people with learning disabilities.

Make a difference with a donation

To make a donation or become a regular donor through our Friends scheme, you can visit: blueappletheatre.com/donate

Leave a legacy

The legacy support of generous individuals will help to ensure Blue Apple can continue to make a difference to some of the most disadvantaged people in our society for a long time. Find out more by emailing finance@blueappletheatre.com

Become a corporate partner

Blue Apple welcomes sponsorship for our productions and for our education programme – please contact us via admin@blueappletheatre.com if you would like to pledge your support.

Volunteer

Volunteers play a crucial role in all that we do at Blue Apple. From helping our members with their lines on and off stage, to providing a friendly face or listening ear at group rehearsals. Please contact us via admin@blueappletheatre.com if you would like to offer your help.

Keep in touch

Receive our monthly ebulletin direct to your inbox for all our latest news. Send your details to admin@blueappletheatre.com

Follow us on socials

Like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, Instagram and Linked In. Plus subscribe to our YouTube channel.

Thank you!

The past year's achievements would not have been possible without the support of our volunteers and friends. The Trustees extend their sincere thanks to our Patrons Alan Lovell and Sally Phillips, and to all those individuals who have supported the charity either financially or by giving their time and expertise over the past year.

A special thank you to the University of Winchester, where Blue Apple resides as Artists in Residence.

The charity is dependent on the generosity and support of numerous organisations, without which the day to day running of Blue Apple Theatre would not be possible:



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