

Stuff and
Nonsense
Theatre Company
presents
with
SALISBURY
PLAYHOUSE

The Little Red Hen

An early learning classic!

Touring Autumn 2011

Middle Scale

Suitable for 3 – 7 yr olds and their families

"A truly enchanting hour for children - and their parents" The Stage

"Who will help me plant these grains of wheat?"

"Not I said the Pig."

"Not I said the Rat."

"Not I said the Cow."

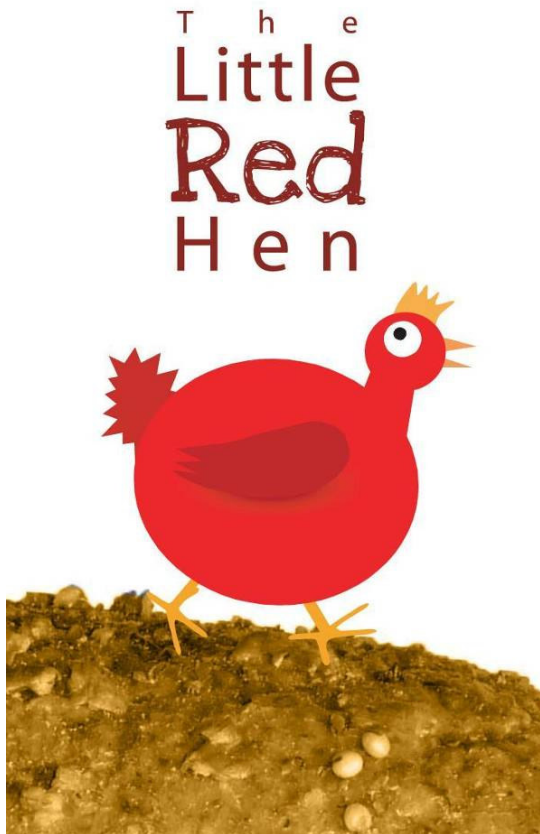
"Fair enough," said the Little Red Hen, "I'll do it myself!"

Making bread is hard work, but it would be a lot easier if the lazy farm yard animals got off their reclining sofas and lent a hand!

This ingenious adaptation of the nursery school favourite, features a host of animal puppets, sing-along songs and madcap comic routines. It's a real treat for the whole family.

55 minutes with no interval. This show contains no scary bits whatsoever!

Building on the success and multiple **sell-out** performances to studio theatres across the UK in 2008/09, the re-worked and 'scaled-up' version of **The Little Red Hen** is an ideal family audience offer for larger theatres.



Available for weekend/holiday performance runs and perfect for weekday nursery and schools matinees.

"The puppets were delightful – simply yet effectively manipulated." Graeme Phillips, Unity Theatre

"A remarkable performance that brings together puppetry, mime and a great deal of imagination"
BBC Website

"Kids of all ages are hanging over the backs of the seats in front of them laughing and participating...mesmerising"
Venue Magazine



the brewhouse
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thebrindley

SALISBURY
PLAYHOUSE

For further information, availability and bookings contact:

Claire Morton, Morton Bates Arts Services T: 020 7724 1616 E: claire@mortonbates.com

To date **The Little Red Hen** has toured to main houses at: *Yeovil Octagon, Exeter Northcott, Winchester Theatre Royal, Doncaster Civic Theatre, Taliesin Arts Centre, The Maltings - Berwick Upon Tweed, artsdepot – London, Grand Pavilion Porthcawl, Aberystwyth Arts Centre, The Riverfront – Newport, including full/split weeks at The Brindley, Nuffield Theatre Southampton and the egg – Theatre Royal Bath, amongst others.*

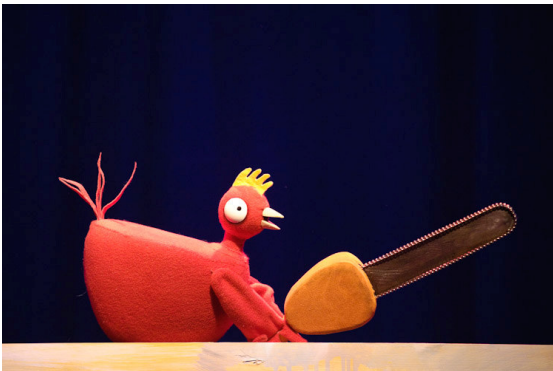
Credits

Director/music	Marc Parrett (Stuff and Nonsense, Bristol Old Vic, Travelling Light, Aardman Animations)
Producer	Niki McCretton
Designer	Tomasin Cuthbert
Lighting Design	Phil Mead
Production Manager	Adam Hooper
Musician	Sarah Moody (Kneehigh, Travelling Light)
Sound Design	Gwen Scott
Performers (original cast)	Helen Day and Adam Fuller Frances Merriman and Adam Fuller



The Company

Since 2001 **Stuff and Nonsense Theatre Company** have been creating fun-filled, thought provoking, mischievous, inventive and dynamic theatre productions for young children and their parents. **The Little Red Hen** is their most successful show to date and follows in the footsteps of *Dragon's Teeth and Other Tales, Across the Deep Blue Sea* and *The Breathtaking Story of Dusty the Vacuum Cleaner Boy*.



The Little Red Hen is a co-production with Salisbury Playhouse, with support from Halton Borough Council and The Brewhouse Theatre and Arts Centre for the 2010 restaging. It previously received tour funding from the Arts Council of England.

The Little Red Hen has been adapted by internationally respected children's theatre maker Marc Parrett with additional scenes devised by the company and Niki McCretton. Marc and Niki are affiliated artists to the Merlin Theatre Frome

You can watch a clip from the original production on You Tube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtKrDyCaYKk>

Or go to the **frankandmoritz** channel and find it there: <http://www.youtube.com/frankandmoritz>

Marketing information:

Supported by: a full marketing pack (containing copy, images, draft press releases and PR ideas, box office information and biographical notes), A3 and larger posters, A5 flyers, bookmark design available to venues and a dedicated marketing point of contact for venues.

Technical Outline:

We come with a Technical Manager and two actors/performers. We require 2 members of venue technical staff (1 senior LX and 1 sound) to work alongside our team.

Pre-rig is required before our arrival plus a minimum 4 hours get in. Without pre-rig, get-in time increases. For full technical details and a specification contact hooperadam@hotmail.com

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The Little Red Hen

What People Say:



“There was a queue all the way through the theatre, down the stairs and out into the street... How often does that happen at 11 o'clock on a Sunday morning in a theatre?

It was great to be part of an audience who were up for the show even before the curtain went up... Told with song, rhyme, physical theatre, puppetry, drama and music, the hour-long performance was filled with energy, ideas and humour enthused by Bristol-based director Marc Parrett. Frances Merriman was a bundle of pent-up poultry power as she flapped about the farmyard, while Adam Fuller played it straight as her kindly partner and provided the live music...

...Aimed at children aged three and above, the auditorium rocked with the sound of excited toddlers shouting out to the performers... There was always something for the children to react to.

Crackerjack rating: 8 / 10”

Harry Mottram, Crackerjack Review

“These are the strongest tickets sales for any Saturday children’s performance in the past 15 years (possibly longer!).

I think this is in part due to the strong title – we find that parents like to bring their children to see stories that they know, plus the reputation that Stuff and Nonsense have built up over the years and the excellent quality of the marketing resources provided.

The Little Red Hen is a lovely story told with humour, clarity and charm. The live music, the beautiful set and puppets worked beautifully. Children and parents loved it.”

Paula Hammond, Director, Merlin Theatre Frome



“This production was selected to fill the December, pre-Xmas slot for 2 – 6 yr olds in the Drum Theatre (175 seats) in 2008 and did very well for us. The title appealed to groups from nurseries, schools (reception & Year 1) and families, especially grandparents with grandchildren.

I already knew Marc’s excellent puppet and movement direction skills from his work with Travelling Light and had also seen the entertaining Stuff and Nonsense production, ‘The Dragon’s Tail’. The company is dedicated and professional and clearly intent on producing and developing good work.

In ‘Little Red Hen’ the combination of story-telling, humour and clarity, puppets, visual invention and music worked a treat and the show was not only very well received but also generated excellent word of mouth.”

David Prescott, Artistic Associate, Theatre Royal Plymouth



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