

house
southeast
theatre network

February 2023



PitchUp

**CAMBRIDGE
JUNCTION**

Helping theatre-makers
and venues start conversations

WELCOME

house is an initiative aimed at better connecting theatre-makers, venues, and audiences across the South East of England. It is delivered by Farnham Maltings and funded by Arts Council England.

We want to make it easier for theatre-makers and venues to form the kind of alliances that help artists to create their best work, buildings to unlock their creative potential, and audiences to connect with new theatre. Pitch Up is our regular platform for starting those conversations and it's always been a key feature that theatre-makers and venues pitch alongside each other, creating a spirit of openness and common purpose.

We'd like to thank Cambridge Junction who have helped us shape and prepare this event.

Enjoy your day and we hope you leave inspired.

Katy, Mark, Meghan & Jonathon
house Theatre team



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



CAMBRIDGE JUNCTION



Cambridge Junction is the welcoming home of original arts, entertainment, and creativity. Sharing the power of live performance since 1990.

It is a creative hub for people and ideas where audiences and artists explore, experience and are inspired by art, entertainment and learning. We are a centre for talent development of contemporary performance for the East of England, supported by Arts Council England.

Cambridge Junction recognises the need to support Cambridge and the East of England's creative ecology as a focus, as well as maintaining Cambridge and Cambridge Junction's reputation with nationally significant companies, through a structured but adaptable programme of entry points for artists at all levels.

Matt Burnam, Artistic Director

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@CambJunction



ALAN SEIGLOW

The Resurrection of Joy

Autobiographical Theatre

ABOUT THE COMPANY

ALAN SEIGLOW is an emerging artist; this is his first solo show and work for theatre. During the 2020 lockdown he joined The Outsiders, an online writing group that gives voice to the unheard, and first performed his words with them at the Bournemouth Emerging Arts Festival in 2021. Since then, he's joined the Troop Network and has shared words at Scratch nights at Cambridge Junction.

In 2022 he won the Stobbs New Ideas Award and is being supported by Cambridge Junction to produce new work. Alan is currently a resident artist with Metal Culture: Peterborough, for Spring 2023.

Pitcher

Alan Seiglow (he/him)

aseiglow@gmail.com

A son reflects on the life of his mother, telling the unsung story of a working-class everywoman whose gentle strength and sacrifices steered her family through the darkest of times, and ultimately saved them.

The Resurrection of Joy is about me mum, her life, and her unwavering belief that change is possible. Its about me learning from mum that it's never too late to forgive and let go of the past...and live.

A tale of love, of triumph over tragedy, told through a collection of stories, songs, and poetry as a celebration of the women who have shaped and influenced my life. It's told with humour, pathos, a few drinks and maybe even a little bit of dancing.

Alan is looking to develop new relationships and partnerships with venues to support his work with seed commissions & residency space, as well as opportunities to workshop.

He is also interested in opportunities to share further work in progress and try out material with new audiences. Partners who would be happy to be written into an ACE application for R&D would be much appreciated.

MAX PERCY + FRIENDS

This Is Not A Show About Hong Kong

Physical Theatre

This is not a physical theatre piece about the disappearance of a city and its people.

It's not about the effects of censorship brought by the National Security Bill, nor is it about the loss of freedom in the Special Administrative Region.

This is a show about that deep, sinking, helpless feeling that we can't quite put into words.

Everything is fine.

Max Percy + Friends are not here.

This show won New Diorama Theatre and Underbelly's Untapped Award 2022, and Scotsman's Fringe First Award, with a sold-out run in Edinburgh Fringe.

They are really proud of it, and are seeking to tour this further, and also want to make new work building on this show's success, so would love conversations about that too.

Pitchers

Max Percy (he/him)

Natalie Chan (she/her)

Maxpercy@gmail.com

natalieyuenyuechan@gmail.com



@MaxPandFriends
max-percy.com



ABOUT THE COMPANY

MAX PERCY + FRIENDS make bold theatrical experiences fusing choreography, technology, architecture and new writing. They want to tell captivating stories and humanise complex social issues.

They are passionate about human rights and influencing positive social change as well as amplifying underrepresented voices.

The lead artist, Max's work is influenced by intersectional queer-Asian identity whilst experimenting with ambitious theatrical forms. He trained at the London Russian Ballet School and East15 Acting School.

The company's producer, Natalie's independent producing credits includes *Best of Enemies* by James Graham in the West End.



Credit: Dylan Tate

ABOUT THE COMPANY

OFTHEJACKEL make visual theatre shows for audiences of all ages.

They specialise in making work for hearing and D/deaf audiences alike. Their shows are physical, playful, and deeply accessible.

Their work has been described as:

"Madcap Brilliance... Sheer Comedic Joy" ***** Broadway Baby

"Excellent Cartoonish Physicality"

**** Theatre Bubble

"A strangely uplifting take on the millennial dilemma, using physicality to give an alternative take on the story – Jack Kelly is superb."

***** Mind The Blog

Pitcher

Jack Kelly (he/him)

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@ofthejackeL

ofthejackel.co.uk

OFTHEJACKEL

Splat!

Family Theatre / Physical Comedy

Splat! is a physical comedy about Art and Creativity for ages 3-7. Set in an artist's studio the show follows two aspiring artists one dedicated and serious the other erratic and messy. The two characters attempt to complete their masterpieces whilst antagonising each other in the process. They take a journey through the history of visual art experiencing the techniques of the great masters and movements before eventually realising that to achieve anything they must embrace their opposites and work together.

The show explores themes of collaboration, play, dedication, spontaneity and letting go.

It has toured the UK in 2021-22 to theatres and locations including The Lyric Hammersmith, Trafalgar Square, Arts Depot, Attenborough Arts, Waterside Arts Manchester and Yvonne Arnaud Guildford.

Secondary Pitch: Plant

Plant is a tender comic celebration of the natural world, abundance and sharing for ages 3-6. A squirrel hides a nut from a nosy pigeon inadvertently planting a tree in the process. They squabble through the seasons until a tree emerges providing enough nuts for everyone.

SO...WHAT'S THE STORY?

(JUSTINE DE MIERRE)

The Mermaid's Song And Other Wild Women Tales

Solo storytelling / music performance

The Mermaid's Song and other Wild Women Tales is a show that surprises audiences with just how good storytelling is when it's passionately and expertly delivered. The Mermaid's song is an epic tale of love, loss, betrayal, sex and friendship that audiences say is enchanting, comic, moving and challenging.

Secondary Pitch: Darklove

Darklove is a raucous celebration of love that is dark, deranged or just downright odd! This playful show treats audiences to original songs, sing-along covers, dark irreverent poetry, chilling new tales and original twists on classics - linked together with laughs, audience participation and an occasional shiver down your spine!

These shows have been performed at festivals, arts centres, theatres and even candlelit pubs, and work just as well for large auditoriums as they do for small or unusual venues.

Justine is keen to start conversations about how I can take these shows to their next level.



ABOUT THE ARTIST

JUSTINE DE MIERRE is a freelance live performer with over 25 years experience in making, performing and facilitating live performance across artforms including theatre, storytelling and music. Justine was founder and Artistic Director of Ladder to the Moon interactive theatre company, and Artistic Director of The East Anglian Storytelling Festival until 2018. She has told stories at events and venues across the country and most recently at The International Storytelling Festival in Marrakech. As a neurodivergent woman Justine's work both reflects and is inspired by that experience and the theme of 'otherness' runs through all her work, celebrating its joys and illuminating its challenges.

Pitcher

Justine De Mierre (she/her)
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[sowhatsthestory.co.uk](https://www.sowhatsthestory.co.uk)



ARTS OUTBURST

Let's Get Physical

Comedy / Family

ABOUT THE COMPANY

ARTS OUTBURST (formerly Impetuous Kinship) is a combined arts organisation based in Thurrock, Essex at the Thameside Theatre. In April 2023 they become an Arts Council England NPO.

Established in 2004, they have been a part of East to Edinburgh and won various awards for our theatre productions and projects. Productions including *The Little Girl who was too fond of matches* and *The Lost Thing*.

They produce and create a wide range of projects across art forms from international theatre tours to outdoor arts festivals and everything in between.

Pitcher

Daryl Branch (he/him)

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@artsoutburst

artsoutburst.co.uk

Let's Get Physical - Arts Outburst are looking for partners and co-commissioners to come on board to be a part of the R&D of a new play about the people, places and communities that participate in fitness classes. Expect lots of comedy, audience participation and a pumping soundtrack. They would like to develop this piece using workshops with participants and instructors to uncover the stories that can be found. They will then commission a writer to write the first draft and workshop the script with actors, with a sharing of the work at the end.

Secondary Pitch: The Snow Queen

Arts Outburst will be devising a new production of the Hans Christian Anderson classic *The Snow Queen* for Christmas 2023 to play in our studio theatre. It is aimed at Early years audiences. This will then be available for touring. Directed and devised by Marcia Carr. They are looking for venues to tour this to and potential co-producers.

WELLS MALTINGS

Wells Maltings aim to bring the very best cultural experiences to their town. They actively encourage artists and theatre makers to talk to them about establishing solid relationships for the benefits of their audiences – so if you are a performer or touring theatre company, please get in touch.

Simon Daykin | simon@wellsmaltings.org.uk
wellsmaltings.org.uk | [@WellsMaltings](https://www.instagram.com/WellsMaltings)



THEATRE ROYAL BURY ST EDMUNDS

Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds is a proud producing theatre, staging 3 in-house productions each year. They work with some of the UK's best talent to create distinctive, beautifully-staged plays, which then tour across the country.

Zoe Fox | Zoe@theatreroyal.org
theatreroyal.org | [@TheatreRoyalBSE](https://www.instagram.com/TheatreRoyalBSE)



DISABILITY CONSULTANCY FOR CREATIVE CHANGE

DC4CC is a disability-led research project that aims to take vital steps in changing the landscape for D/deaf and Disabled professionals in the performance sector.



Liz Counsell & Linda Rocco |
hello@lizcounsell.com

THE GARAGE TRUST

The Garage, located in Norwich, is a hub for performing arts, a creative playground – from first steps to professionals. They work with local and national partners to provide high quality performing arts programming, participation, education and training for all ages.



Adam Taylor | adam.taylor@thegarage.org.uk
thegarage.org.uk | [@_TheGarage](https://www.instagram.com/_TheGarage)

JUMPED UP THEATRE

Jumped Up has been producing events in Peterborough around the UK since 1993, bringing touring and homegrown productions into a variety of community spaces. They strive to inspire, engage, and empower the communities they work with.



Kate Hall | kate@jumpeduptheatre.com
jumpeduptheatre.com |
[@JumpedUpTheatre](https://www.instagram.com/JumpedUpTheatre)

SANSKRUIT DANCE

Magical Honey

Children & Families

(Suitable for Ages 5-11 years)

"Impactful storytelling and mesmerising music. But, of course the dancers were magical." – Audience feedback

Join Maya's world of *Magical Honey* with dance, magic, storytelling and live music.

Young Maya loves to draw and read and harnesses her own magic with the help of the celestial being Saraswati. Together they explore the mystical world around them where they discover dancing peacocks, flowers appearing as if from nowhere, and the buzzing sound of imaginary bees. But behold, her foe Miss. Tusra! The evil headmonster, oops, headteacher believes that no one should enjoy art.

Maya now needs your help and a little bit of magic to combat Miss. Tusra and restore the beauty of her enchanting world. Can you help her?

Pitcher

Rae Lee

raelbow@gmail.com



@SanskruitCambridge
sanskriti.org.uk



ABOUT THE COMPANY

SANSKRUIT DANCE is an award-winning dance school and professional dance company. Krishna Zivraj-Nair is a Bharatanatyam dance artist, teacher and choreographer and is also their artistic director.

Supported by Arts Council England, the company creates dance theatre for children and families including *Apple 'N' Spice* and *Magical Honey*. *Magical Honey* has received the Stobb's New Idea Award from Cambridge Junction in 2022.

Creating dance work for young audiences that can be showcased in a variety of venues fits well with Sanskruti's vision to make Indian dance accessible; our motto is *"Anyone can see our work anywhere!"*



WISE RAM THEATRE

Decommissioned Theatre

It's the worst thing when you feel like you're carrying this weight alone and people look at you and they're like "stop carrying it then"

Gwen has learnt to look after herself and cope on her own, she's doing fine and she's not looking back. Of course, then you have to look to the future, and the future is "worse, much worse than you think". When her PhD brings her back to the village she grew up in and she reconnects with her ex Elis, avoiding both her past and the future becomes increasingly difficult.

Gwen watches Elis guide a class of ten year olds to become 'ethical, informed citizens', burning with the knowledge that there is no escape - in 30 years time the village they all call home will be gone.

Inspired by the true story of Fairbourne in Wales, *Decommissioned* is a funny and confronting play about how we're meant to care for children, fall in love and stay sane while tackling the climate catastrophe.

Secondary Pitch: The Light Princess

The Light Princess is a Victorian fairy tale which has a striking resonance with our times as we face the climate crisis. They've received support from the Applause Rural Touring network to develop a piece of outdoor theatre for younger audience exploring climate anxiety through this funny, weird and heartfelt story.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

WISE RAM THEATRE is a new neurodiversity theatre company exploring thorny subjects with humour, genre and heart. The company also runs monthly workshops on Staging the Climate Crisis with VAULT Creative Arts.

Pitchers

Molly Anne Sweeney
Sofia Bagge

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@wiseramtheatre
wiseramtheatre.co.uk

CASSON & FRIENDS

The Allotment Project

Dance Theatre

The Allotment Project is a new documentary dance theatre work for rural/theatre/outdoor settings that explores allotments and the communities around them! Interviews from allotment owners & community gardeners are combined with compelling movement, to create a human, humorous & heart-warming performance that celebrates the joy of growing plants, food, and relationships.

Secondary Pitch: Arcade

Arcade is a new interactive performance with dance 'games' that animate public spaces (parks, high streets, festivals), bringing them to life with movement & play! *Arcade* encourages playful, accessible & joyful participation, re-connecting communities & people of all ages with the childlike joy of play - and each other!

Pitcher

Tim Casson (he/him)

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cassonandfriends.com



Credit: Alisa Boanta

ABOUT THE COMPANY

Established in 2012, **CASSON & FRIENDS** are a UK based record breaking dance theatre company, creating #PeoplePoweredPerformance - unique performances & projects that are accessible, interactive & joyful.

The company work with a diverse range of collaborators, from filmmakers and musicians to computer programmers and psychologists, but most often collaborate with local communities and the wider public, inviting them to co-create & engage with dance in exciting & accessible ways.

C&F create for theatre, rural touring, outdoor, public space, off-site, unusual and online contexts. The company has presented work extensively, touring the UK and internationally to over 10 countries.



EMMA SPEARING

WHOLE

Solo, autobiographical theatre and engagement project

"My sister smells of wood smoke, warm earth, oranges, and dust... We buried you in a wood, underneath an oak tree. There are bluebells there in April"

ABOUT THE COMPANY

EMMA SPEARING is an award-winning theatre-maker, writer, and mother originally from London based in Essex. She makes autobiographical work blended with mythology, ritual, and the supernatural. Trained at East 15 Acting School, she has been performing professionally for 10 years at venues and festivals including: Cambridge Junction, Colchester Arts Centre, Arcola Theatre, Shunt Lounge, Fairfield Halls, Pleasance and Vault Festival.

Whole will be Emma's debut play as a writer/performer.

Pitchers

Emma Spearing (she/her) - Artist
Zoe Gibbons (she/her) - Producer

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WHOLE is a solo show about two people - one will be on stage, the other isn't.

In some parts of the world people believe that twins share a soul, so how can you live as a twin, alone? A response to the experiences of losing my twin sister in 2014, Whole is a raw, messy, and tender love story. It's a wound splashed in whisky, surrounded by ghosts. It's a brutal wander through the shadows of a bluebell wood at dusk with a map of a life written across two bodies.

Using autobiographical storytelling, immersive soundscapes, song and striking visual imagery, Whole is an exploration of complex grief, identity, and belief systems.

Emma is looking to meet with other local artists and connect with venues to complete the final stage of development for the show before taking the project out on tour.

Recipient of the Stobbs New Ideas Fund.
Supported Arts Council England, Metal and Cambridge Junction.

COLLUSION

The Multitude

A playable interactive installation

Developed by artist Jamie Gledhill and Collusion, *The Multitude* is a 20-minute playable story for two humans that features interactive projections of their own bodies. No previous experience is necessary, or even possible.

The brave heroes must do the bidding of the four elemental spirits of nature to gain their help. However, not all the elementals are impressed with humankind's recent behaviour and may need some persuasion to help.

The quest is yours should you care to accept it: can you raise the Multitude and save us all?

Pitcher

Rich Hall

info@collusion.org.uk



@InCollusion
collusion.org.uk



ABOUT THE COMPANY

COLLUSION creates and produces new public artworks - their own and associated artists' projects, that explore the creative use of technologies and the impact of emerging technology on society. Their activities support artists' talent development and place-making to deliver dynamic, imaginative new experiences for the public.

Jamie Gledhill is an East Anglia based artist working at the intersection of storytelling, audio-visual experimentation and interaction design. He holds an MA in Moving Image and Sound from Norwich University of the Arts and a BA in Arts Management from the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts.

BABYLON ARTS

Babylon Arts' mission is to develop creativity and connect communities across the fens and beyond with arts and culture.

Florence Rose |
florence.rose@babylonarts.org.uk
rebekah.nicolas@hertfordshir
@BabylonArtsEly

The logo for Babylon Arts, featuring the word "Babylon" in a pink, rounded font and "ARTS" in a larger, bold, pink, sans-serif font.

MERCURY THEATRE

The Mercury in Colchester supports the development of ground-breaking, east-based theatre makers. By providing time and space for researching, exploring and testing ideas, they aim to nurture and grow the innovators of tomorrow.

Dilek Latif | dilek.latif@mercurytheatre.co.uk
mercurytheatre.co.uk | @MercuryTheatre

The logo for Mercury Theatre, featuring the word "MERCURY" in a bold, green, sans-serif font.

CREATIVE ARTS EAST

Creative Arts East is an arts and community development charity committed to bringing the very best arts and culture to rural and under-engaged audiences across Norfolk, Suffolk and the wider eastern region.

Zoe Fletcher | Zoe@creativeartseast.co.uk
creativeartseast.co.uk | @CreativArtsEast

The logo for Creative Arts East, featuring a stylized red figure with arms raised and a star above its head, followed by the word "creative" in a red, lowercase, serif font and "ARTS EAST" in a black, uppercase, sans-serif font.

OUT THERE ARTS

Out There Arts is an independent arts development charity based in Great Yarmouth, but collaborates with artists worldwide. They are dedicated to delivering outstanding opportunities for artists and communities through supporting, hosting, and delivering circus and street arts projects and events.

Joe Macintosh |

Joe@outtherearts.org.uk

outtherearts.org.uk | [@outtherearts](https://www.instagram.com/outtherearts)



THE CORN HALL

The Corn Hall is a thriving arts venue offering a wide range of quality entertainment. The Corn Hall's popularity with audiences from across the region has resulted in it being shortlisted in the Norfolk Arts Awards People's Choice Best Venue category for the last three years.

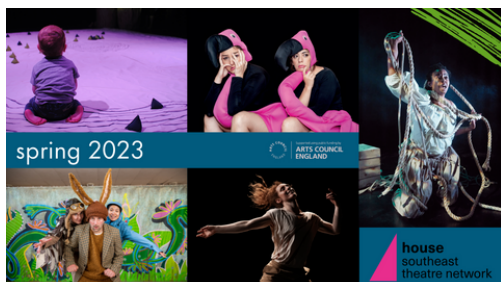
Angela Sykes |

angela.sykes@thecornhall.co.uk

thecornhall.co.uk | [@DissCornHall](https://www.instagram.com/DissCornHall)



house in 2023



spring 2023 tours

Unbroken, by Nikki Rummer

Meet Me A Tree,

by HurlyBurly Theatre

SOLD, by Kuumba Nia Arts

Nothing Happens (Twice),

by Little Soldier Productions

Animals!, by Dens & Signals

outdoor summer 2023 tours

Look Mum, No Hands!

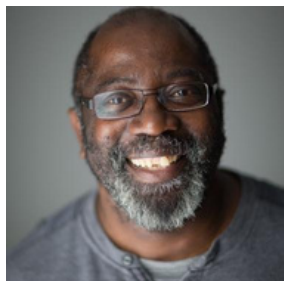
by Daryl & Co

BOX, by Inverted Theatre



Find out more about house tours at housetheatre.org.uk/whats-on

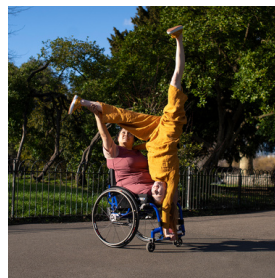
training & professional development



23 Feb: Understanding
& Challenging Racism:
Moving towards an
anti-racism stance



24 Apr: Developing a
strategy for care,
communication, and
managing backlash



24 May: Access &
Inclusion...It's just good
customer service!

Find out more about our training & bursary programme at
housetheatre.org.uk/events-and-support

Save the dates!

house venues regional meet-ups

April & May 2023

AMA Conference: Audiences at the Heart

12-13 July, Leeds

house venue bursary applications opens 27 March 2023

Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2023: Join the house programmers delegation

14 -18 August

house delegation applications open in March 2023

Pitch Up: Portsmouth

18 October, Portsmouth Guildhall; artist applications opens May

venue network day: *ARE WE RELEVANT?*

November 2023, London TBC

Find out more about these opportunities at
housetheatre.org.uk/events-and-support

GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK

Please let us know your thoughts on the day and the format of the event. This will help us improve the nature of our events to make them as beneficial for all attendees.



Use the QR code to access a short 5 minute survey.

info@housetheatre.org.uk



@housetheatre
www.housetheatre.org.uk

 **house**
southeast
theatre network
farnham maltings

PITCH UP

Schedule

11:15 **Arrivals and refreshments**

11:30 **Welcome and Cambridge Junction's Keynote Speech**

11:45 **Artist Pitches:**

Alan Seiglow, The Resurrection of Joy

Max Percy + Friends, This Is Not A Show About Hong Kong

OfTheJackel, Splat!

So...What's the Story?, The Mermaid's Song

Arts Outburst, Let's Get Physical

12:10 **Venue Pitches:**

Wells Maltings

Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds

Disability Consultancy for Creative Change

The Garage Trust

Jumped Up Theatre

12:30 **Break with lunch & refreshments**

13:30 **Artist Pitches:**

Sanskruit Dance, Magical Honey

Wise Ram Theatre, Decommissioned

Casson & Friends, The Allotment Project

Emma Spearing, Whole

Collusion, The Multitude

14:00 **Venue Pitches:**

Babylon Arts

Mercury Theatre

Creative Arts East

Out There Arts

The Corn Hall

14:30 **Closing comment**

14:35 **Refreshments and networking**

The logo for 'PitchUp' is displayed in a stylized, bold, sans-serif font. The word 'Pitch' is in a dark blue color, and 'Up' is in a lighter blue color. The logo is set against a light blue background that resembles a speech bubble or a stylized 'P' shape.