

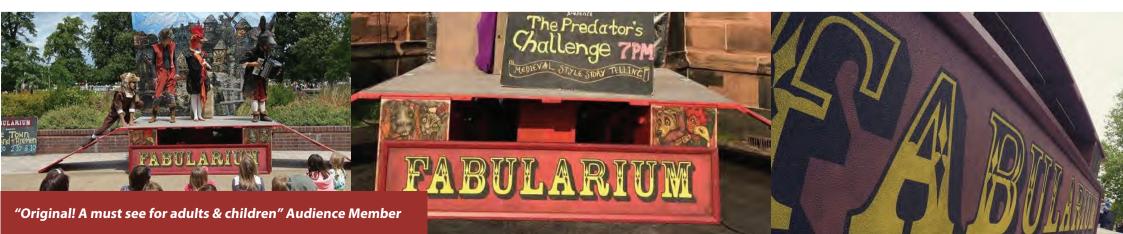


# **Creative outline**

The Town Band of Bremen is a new outdoor family show about four fellow animals who all share a passion for music; featuring storytelling, live music, mask work, puppetry, and a medieval cart that can be processed through town centres, community parks, and festivals.

Meet the amazing-yet-mismatched musical family who are journeying to play the gig of a lifetime in the land of the free, to become The Town Band of Bremen. After a dreadful robbery that left their Master penniless and without the means to tend to his animals, the band are now travelling from place to place upon their old trusty cart, sharing stories and singing songs, with many a mishap along the way!

The cart can be situated on any flat area that is an appropriately sized performance space.



**The Fabularium** was established in 2010 and consists of Freelance Musicians, Acrobats, Storytellers and the odd Puppet. They have worked on outdoor events, carnivals and processions for over 4 years. The company has produced work annually for the Coventry Mysteries Festival, presenting a series of performances ranging from stories told upon our very own medieval pageant wagon, to our street walkabout acts.

**Company managers Gareth Price-Baghurst and Joshua Patel**, both freelance actor-musicians specialising in outdoor theatre for family audiences, they are working closely with associate director Glenn Noble, Former Director of Spike Theatre, to produce new original work adapted from classic folklore.

Both Gareth and Joshua have extensive training in their artistic field, having both graduated from Coventry University and both musicians with a passion for outdoor performance. Gareth has worked closely with companies such as Stuff and Nonsense and Wooden Spoons Theatre which has gained him valuable experience in touring, outdoor performing and business management.

Previous companies Joshua has worked with include Teatr Biuro Podrozy, Frantic Assembly, the Lions part, the KILN Ensemble, Slingshot Effect Ltd, and ACLE, building his experience in physical, outdoor and devising performance.



Through The Fabularium they have both worked closely with the Lions part artistic director Sonia Ritter, and Strangeface artistic director Russell Dean.



### How audiences engage with the work

As people shop in town, enjoy a picnic in the park, or wander around the festival grounds, they would be surprised by the sound of music, singing and hearty cheers coming from a group of players pulling a medieval cart. The players invites the public to process with them, to sing along and come to a theatrical event like no other. Upon arrival the company build the cart for the public to see, encouraging them to be part of the festivities.

The Town Band of Bremen is both highly engaging and interactive, delivering a tale through storytelling to the audience as well as singing and sharing the merriment. We want a strong connection with the audience, so as to entertain and engulf them within the story, and so the band of animals often play on the reactions of the audience to involve them more.

## **Performance history**

The Fabularium has presented a number of shows for the Coventry Mysteries Festival, including The Ship of Fools and Reynard the Fox, which toured to three venues in Coventry. Following this, the company presented The Carnival of Animals and The Tale of Fulke Fitz Waryn, two static shows accompanied by multiple walkabout acts taking place around Coventry City Centre, including stilt-walking trees, animal character vignettes, and a naughty flock of sheep, to list a few.

The Town Band of Bremen was first piloted in October 2014, performed in Borough Market in London, as part of the October Plenty Festival, Boston town centre, as part of Transported by Creative People and Places, and The Herbert Art Gallery in Coventry. The company has gone on to perform The Town Band of Bremen and other productions in Elmfield Erupts in Stourbridge, Priory Tales in Birkenhead, Lost Village Festival, Just So Festival, Cloudspotting Festival, Ramsbottom Festival, Overly Hall School, and The RSC in Stratford, as part of PILOT Sites.



**The Fabularium** is entirely self-contained and managed by the company.

The cart is situated on four wheels with a turnable front axel, allowing the cart to process on most terrains. It can be pulled and processed throughout public spaces, on roads, through town centres, into parks, where the performers can interact as they process and attract interest and followers from the public.

**Site** - The Fabularium is best suited to flat paved areas, grass, public squares. It can be processed in to position and does not require any technical support.

Size - 3 metres long, 7 metres wide, 4 metres high

Get-in time from arrival - 45mins-1 hour

Get-out time - 45 mins

Number of shows per day - Maximum of 3 shows (Although additional walkabouts can be included)

Audience capacity - 100- 400 per day

Crew / Front of house - 4 performers and all stage managing is operated within the company

Total in team on tour - 4

**Lighting** - During the day no lighting is required: However for evening shows, lighting would need to be provided by the event organisers.

Insurance - The Fabularium is fully risk assessed and has public liability insurance to the value of £5 million

Accessibility - The show is has been designed to fit into accessible public spaces so that it is available to everyone. Due to access for the cart, processional routes are designated only along pedestrianised areas and closed roads. Our actors are highly skilled at tailoring performances to individual audience members and can take specific access needs into account.

#### Links

Website - coming soon!

Trailer - https://vimeo.com/112483113

Facebook - The Fabularium

Twitter - @fabularium

#### Fee

Please contact us for information

Our daily rate includes 2 -3 performances a day and we offer discounts for longer runs (ie more than a single day). Accommodation for 4 people is required for overnight stays.

### **Contact Information**

For Bookings please contact Lou Lomas (Tour Producer)

Contact phone no: 07879257818

E-mail address: Fabularium2014@gmail.com

#### Referees

Sonia Ritter – the Lions Part

Email: soniaritter@outlook.com

Number: 07736150225

Kate Thomas - Arts development officer, Transported

Email: TransportedKate@litc.org.uk

Number: 07436162004

**Elmfield Erupts** 

**Cloudspotting Festival** 

track record

**October Plenty Festival** 

**Little Learners** 

**Overly Hall** 

**RSC Stratford - Pilot Sites** 

Coventry Mysteries festival 2010 –

**Herbert Art Gallery** 

**Priory Tales in Birkenhead** 

**Lions part** 

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Lost Village Festival

**Transported - Boston** 

**Ramsbottom Festival** 

**Ellen Terry Theatre**