

YORKSHIRE TRIOS

4 WRITERS | 4 ACTORS | 5 DIRECTORS

4 SHORT PERFORMANCES

1 EXCITING SHOWCASE



WELCOME

Our 2021 showcase of Yorkshire Trios marked the first live, in person performance in York, since what was then the latest Covid restrictions. At the time, many local performing arts professionals were feeling disconnected from their artistry and were extremely anxious about the future of their careers. So we listened to their concerns and created a series of micro-commissions to form new collaborative trios of an actor, writer and director from which original work could be produced. One of the 2021 Yorkshire Trios creatives described it as 'A total lifeline; a lighthouse in a stormy sea'. Since then we have formally supported a further 44 local creatives with mentoring in such areas as job applications and funding bid writing.

We've always wanted to be an approachable company where creatives can hang their hat. We really believe in investing in the local cultural ecology, so this iteration of Yorkshire Trios sits alongside our professional development programme, Opening Doors, and our Company Coaching provision which is giving 5 arts-based companies quarterly business and peer mentoring. After receiving over 4 times the amount of applications as commissions available, we have assembled the next band of Yorkshire Trios (and a quartet) who bring you this showcase tonight. It was really encouraging and humbling to read people's honest reflections on what Yorkshire Trios could do for them within the application process. Some who had never been able to showcase their work in their hometown, others who had faced challenges in creating a professional network or establishing their careers on their own terms, and others who really respected our work and wanted to align their practice with our values. We are so excited to now share with you their fantastic work!

We've provided the stimulus of 'Top of The Hill' to our Trios, not only because it then provides an overall theme to this evenings performances, but also because it brings a bit of the NDB1 ethos into the process. As a team we often talk about what it is like for us at the 'top of the hill'; what it looks like when we are at our best, and that's really what we want to instil in our Trios. We want to celebrate each of them and applaud the incredible talent in our local area. So thank you for joining us and helping in achieving this!

FOR NEXT DOOR BUT ONE

Leadership Team: Matt Harper-Hardcastle, Kate Veysey, El Stannage, Joshua Goodman, Anna Johnston.

Stage Management: Jane Williamson.

Photography and Film: James Drury and Paul Gowland

Thanks to: Arts Council England and York Theatre Royal

ANORAK

Thomas (no relation to 'The Tank Engine') loves trains. His whole life has been spent chasing trains, and always chasing after him was his partner – Charlie. Charlie did not like trains, but loved Thomas. Thomas sits alone in his camping chair, on the top of his and Charlie's favourite hill, looking down on the valley below, waiting for a train to pass that never seems to arrive. With little to write about in his journal, he spends this time reflecting on his life with Charlie – and working out how to overcome his newfound grief. Thomas achieves a new understanding of grief, and how to keep living in the absence of our loved ones.

TRIO 1

JULES RISINGHAM



Jules is a creative practitioner and scriptwriter born and bred in Yorkshire. She loves working within community groups, helping everyone find their confidence and sparkle through the arts! She has previously worked with lots of young people, charities, and organisations to create magical theatre alongside service users. Her focus is to make theatre a place for everyone, and that's one of the (many) reasons why Jules is excited to be working with NDB1 on this project. She is thrilled to be a part of Yorkshire Trios!

WRITER

BAILEY DOWLER



Bailey is an Actor, Director and Dance Practitioner. After graduating, Bailey took further training into screen acting and has since worked with OJProductions, BBC and Warner Bros. As well as directing and teaching dance, Bailey has had dance collaborations with Blackbird North Films and Vista Film Productions. Recently, he has dived back onto the stage working alongside RSC First Encounters and is excited to continue his stage journey by working on Yorkshire Trios. Training credits include: The Actors Institute, Yorkshire Academy of Film and Television Acting and LAMDA.

ACTOR

TEMPEST WISDOM



Tempest originally hails from the United States, where they have had the pleasure of writing, directing, performing and teaching for several years. They received their Bachelor's in Theater and Performance Studies from the University of Chicago in 2018, and in 2021 relocated to York to pursue their Master's in Theatre-making. Now they're here to stay! Tempest specializes in clown and comedy work, with the majority of their training stemming from the Italian tradition of Commedia dell'Arte. In addition to Yorkshire Trios, their current projects include assisting with the Youth Theatre programme at York Theatre Royal and producing bimonthly "karaoke" Shakespeare readings at Micklegate Social

DIRECTOR

TOAST

After giving birth, the midwife brings you toast; simple, medium cut, white Hovis that's done a quick dip in the toaster, barely browned, overly buttered but the best thing Becky's ever tasted. If only she knew what was coming... she'd have asked for the full loaf. Following a year-long struggle with post-natal depression, Becky and her son set off on their first walk together; they are going to the top of the hill; a place Becky would often walk alone before becoming "Mum".

SARAH RUMFITT



Sarah loves living in the beautiful city of York; a place she's called home for over 10 years. She is a Northerner through and through and proud of her roots, growing up on a council estate in Washington; a place Geordies and Mackems live side by side, where football rivalries are rife and "curry, fried rice and chips" is a favorite family dish.

Sarah is a Mum, Dramatherapist and founding Director of Night Light Theatre CIC. At the heart of her work is a social justice agenda; a dedication to promoting hope through highlighting the strength and resilience of people. Since becoming mum, Sarah is on a mission to find her own voice within her work, launching it out of the shadows and into the spotlight

WRITER

NICOLA HOLLIDAY



Hailing from the seaside town of Scarborough, Nicola cut her teeth in the performance space performing in local concert bands with her trusty Yamaha trumpet, singing in family pubs and treading the boards with local youth theatre 'Rounders' at the Stephen Joseph Theatre. Since then Nicola spent 12 years in London studying and working as a professional singer, attaining a BMUs in Popular Music Performance from the London College of Music. Nicola is now a professional Actor and Singer based in York with her young family and can often be seen in local productions and as a regular performer at Nola's Jazz nights. Nicola is thoroughly excited to have become a member of the NDB1 family!

ACTOR

KATE BRAMLEY



Kate is a theatre director and writer best known for her work with Hull Truck Theatre (with Sir John Godber) Nonsense Room (site-specific, Scotland) and Badapple Theatre Company. In 2022 she was commissioned by York Theatre Royal to write and direct a short piece 'The Three Allotmenters' for their Green Shoots performances.

Kate co-founded Badapple Theatre in 1998 and leads their inspiring 'Theatre on Your Doorstep' project where non-theatre spaces enjoy a complete experience installed at their local community venues. She is well known for her distinctive comedic 'magic-realism' style that often mixes theatre with puppetry, music, film, circus and even live-baking!

DIRECTOR

CONNIE PEEL



Connie is a theatre director, performer and voice actor. Since graduating from the University of York in 2022, she has directed at the Edinburgh Fringe, performed in Leeds and London and has been a Youth Theatre Assistant and Mentor with York Theatre Royal. She is so thrilled to be co-directing as part of Yorkshire Trios and to learn and collaborate with other incredible creatives from the York community. Connie is looking forward to putting her stamp and passion onto some exciting new writing and working with Next Door But One!

DIRECTOR

TRIO 3

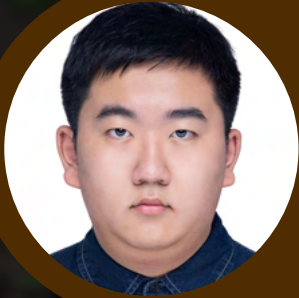
OUTLIVING

Alex has come back to the top of the hill. 5 years ago, this was a battlefield; the place she defended with her comrades for 3 months. She starts looking back in time... Discovering the long-lost memories and secrets hidden in the past.



TRIO 3

YIXIA JIANG



Yixia Jiang is currently a master degree student at University of York, majoring in Theatre-Making. Originally based in Hangzhou, China, he has been writing play texts for 7 years, obsessed with all kinds of storytelling. Yixia is always willing to improve and make modifications to his written works in collaboration with others; always striving to do better. This is why he wanted to be a part of Yorkshire Trios and work with Next Door But One.

WRITER

CLAIRE MORLEY



Claire is an actor from York who graduated from ALRA North Drama School in 2021, after working in Education. Most recently, Claire has played Hilly in The Chatterleys (BBC Radio 4), the title role in Macbeth (NTC), and Titania in Hoglet Theatre's A Midsummer Night's Mischief! Claire has also been involved in projects and rehearsed readings with 1623 Theatre Company, Live Theatre, and Stephen Joseph Theatre, and is looking forward to now joining the NDB1 team on this creative collaboration!

ACTOR

JACOB WARD



Jacob Ward is an actor and director from York. He trained at the Oxford School of Drama and has performed and directed across the country. Recently he has directed: The Real Thing (York Theatre Royal) last April, A Fool Fooled (York Shakespeare Festival) and created an interactive immersive performance of The War of the Roses with Viridian FX and York Creatives (Holy Trinity Church). He loved Next Door But 1's She Was Walking Home and is excited to be working on Trios with them. Enjoy!

DIRECTOR

RUNNING UP THAT HILL

Esther is lost. Esther hates running but loves Kate Bush. They know all the facts about Kate Bush. Kate Bush drinks milk before recording and knows Lenny Henry. Esther is running and Kate's voice seems to help. Hill running is the worst and one (bastard) hill has them (almost) beat. This is the story of what Esther is running from and what they are running towards. Running up that hill is presently painful but it's a different kind of pain from the past; besides, running up that hill might finally give Esther a clear view...

TRIO 4

PAUL BIRCH



Paul's work as a playwright includes *Legacy* (York Theatre Royal), *Cross Words* (York Theatre Royal/Bristol Old Vic/Birmingham Rep/Polka/Plymouth Theatre Royal) *Objects of Terror* (York Theatre Royal/Out of Character) *Filled with Phantoms* (Cheltenham Everyman & Sixth Sense Theatre Company), *TimeChange*, *Signs And Blunders*, *A Christmas Cracker* (Riding Lights Theatre Company), *Voices of Reason*, *Less Than Human*, *In/Significant*, *In/Hospitable*, *Medical Monstrosities*, *Retail Therapy*, *Disturbing Shakespeare* (Out Of Character). His audio adaptation of *Baron Munchausen*, *The Barren Author*, ran for two series with Richard O'Brien in the lead and was nominated for an off-West End ('Offie') theatre award. The production of his audio adaptation of *Passport To Oblivion* won Best Drama at the New York Radio Awards in 2020. He regularly collaborates with York Explore Libraries and Archives; and has written three community audio dramas. His *Passion Play*, *The Narrow Road*, originally commissioned by Riding Lights and York Minster is being revived for a National Tour at Easter 2024.

WRITER

LIVY POTTER



Livy is a York based actor and writer. She began acting in 2016 at her local community theatre, Ilkley Playhouse, and has since performed across the UK, including the Minack Theatre on the cliffs of Porthcurno in Cornwall. Passionate about providing creative opportunities for all, she became Chair of York Settlement Community Players in 2021. Recently, she performed a rehearsed reading of a new one-person play, *Our Ben*, at the Stephen Joseph Theatre in Scarborough, and acted alongside a community cast of over 100 in York Theatre Royal's *Sovereign*, in which she played Tamasin Reedbourne. In March 2023, she performed Gary Owen's one-woman monologue, *Iphigenia in Splott*, at Theatre@41 with Black Treacle Theatre.

ACTOR

HARRI MARSHALL



Harri is a deaf director based in York and has been working in this dirty business that we call show since 2012. She has received training from Graeae, the Young Vic, the Regional Young Directors Scheme as well as the Bristol Old Vic. Harri has an affinity for contemporary theatre including genres like new writing, adaptation and verbatim. She is an advocate for Deaf and disabled creatives and is a self-proclaimed proactive busy body!

DIRECTOR

ABOUT NDB1

WHERE EVERY STORY MATTERS

Next Door But One (NDB1) are an award-winning LGBTQ+ and disability-led theatre company based in York, promoting creative skills and encouraging community cohesion, particularly with those who face barriers to accessing theatre.

Our established programme focuses on workshops and performances for and with cohorts of the community with disabilities, mental ill health, those experiencing bereavement, unpaid carers, girls and women from lower socioeconomic backgrounds, and individuals from the LGBTQ+ community. Our activity ranges from workshops to touring performances, training programmes and professional development opportunities. Our partners currently include The Snappy Trust, Camphill Village Trust, Converge, York Carers Centre, IDAS and Clifton Green Primary School. Our mission is to connect people to their creativity and community through the theatre we make and the stories we tell. Our vision is for the arts to play an integral role in unleashing the true potential of every community; to tell every story, to hear every voice and champion the contribution every person makes. Through theatre we can show a world where everything is possible!

In 2023 we joined Arts Council England's Investment Programme as a National Portfolio Organisation, became a Visit York Tourism Award Winner in 'Resilience and Innovation', and recently won the award for 'Outstanding Talent' in the York Mix Hero Awards.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

WWW.NEXTDOORBUTONE.CO.UK