

January 2010
PRESS RELEASE



Kneehigh present

Hansel and Gretel

A Kneehigh Theatre and Bristol Old Vic co-production
Tuesday 9 - Saturday 13 February
Evening Performances 7.30pm Saturday Matinee 2.30pm

Into the woods with Kneehigh's Hansel and Gretel

Kneehigh Theatre present their new production, *Hansel and Gretel*, at Aberystwyth Arts Centre from Tuesday 9th to Saturday 13th February.

Kneehigh Theatre are preparing to delight children and brave adults everywhere with their special brand of wit, charm and sensational storytelling. In their new production of *Hansel and Gretel* Kneehigh re-imagine a classic fairytale – something they have done before with huge success, in productions such as *Rapunzel*, which toured the UK and New York in 2007. Director Mike Shepherd, says, “We will honour the story rather than subvert; adaptation will come through the creative team.”

This tender, tasty and terrifying re-telling of the classic tale includes lively music, rough poetry, the most amazing gadgets and gismos... and the help of some rather unlucky rabbits. There are traps and cages, dark forests and darker secrets: in short a visual and soulful feast of classic Kneehigh storytelling that is perfect for young and old. Mike says: “The show will be tender and terrifying... a celebration of human survival and our ability to find our way home.”

Based in Cornwall, Kneehigh is celebrated as one of the UK's most exciting theatre companies. For nearly 30 years, the company has created vigorous, popular and challenging theatre for audiences locally, nationally and internationally, using a multi-talented team of performers, directors, designers, sculptors, administrators, engineers, musicians and writers. Their joyful blend of anarchy and tenderness has entranced audiences with productions including *Brief Encounter*, *Don John*, *Tristan and Yseult*, *Nights At The Circus*, *Rapunzel* and *Cymbeline*.

The Kneehigh team includes writer Carl Grose, whose previous writing for Kneehigh includes the acclaimed *Tristan and Yseult*, and who, along with Stu Barker, Giles King and Craig Johnson, has performed for Kneehigh in a huge number of shows such as *Don John*, *Tristan and Yseult*, *The Red Shoes*, and *Cymbeline*; Ian Ross, who performed in *Brief Encounter* for Kneehigh and plays with Bristol-based ska-hip-hop phenomenon Babyhead; Designer Michael Vale, resident designer at the

Southbank, who's created sets for over 130 productions in the UK and abroad including Kneehigh's *Cymbeline* and *Rapunzel*; and Joanna Holden, a new face who has been on the road with Cirque du Soleil for 4 years.

Tickets for this performance are £14 (£13) Cardi Card £12 Groups £9 Family Ticket £35. All tickets to Tuesday performance and Saturday Matinee £9. Schools Matinees are on Wednesday 10th and Friday 12th at 12.30pm and tickets are £6. Tickets can be booked by contacting the Arts Centre Box Office on 01970 62 32 32 or online at www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre

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Notes to editors:

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