

April 2010
PRESS RELEASE


Canolfan y Celfyddydau
Aberystwyth Arts Centre

Horse + Bamboo Theatre present
Little Leap Forward
Based on the book *Little Leap Forward* written
by Guo Yue and Clare Farrow
Written and directed by Alison Duddle
7pm Thursday 20 May

“Wouldn’t you rather be free, just for a day, than spend a lifetime in a cage?”

Horse + Bamboo Theatre present *Little Leap Forward* at Aberystwyth Arts Centre on Thursday 20th May, 7pm.

Little Leap Forward is a story about family, about friends, and the need for freedom. It’s Beijing in the summer of 1966 and the force of the Cultural Revolution is impacting on every aspect of life. We see through the eyes of Guo Yue, an eight year old school boy who plays with his friends, runs errands for his family, flies kites, and plays the flute, desperately hoping that the bird he keeps in a cage will accompany him. Through hard lessons, Yue learns that the bird can only sing when it is free.

“A bewitching show” METRO

Little Leap Forward is a thought provoking and visually stunning play about freedom and creativity, that has both charm and universal appeal in equal measure.



“this life affirming story... is beautifully realised by the small but superb cast” *Manchester Evening News*

Guo Yue is now an internationally renowned flute player.

Directed by Alison Duddle, with set design by Bob Frith, the story incorporates mask, puppetry, shadows and animation with original music by Loz Kaye. The music also includes the distinctive flute playing of Guo Yue (recorded).

This is *Little Leap Forward's* second national tour following a highly successful and critically acclaimed national tour in 2009. It is based on the original story *Little Leap Forward*, text copyright © 2008 co-written by Guo Yue and Clare Farrow, published by Barefoot Books. The show has been developed as a creative partnership with Barefoot Books Ltd and the Royal Exchange Theatre.

"This play is full of simple beauty and grace" *The Guardian*

This production is unsuitable for under 8s. Tickets for this performance are £7 (£6) Card Card £6.50 (£5.50) and 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:

Further information is available from Rachel Taylor on 01970 622894 email rst@aber.ac.uk

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