



WITHOUTWALLS

Excellence in Outdoor Arts
2007 – 2013



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

Without Walls is a consortium of seven leading festivals, collaborating to break new ground in the creation of extraordinary outdoor work in the UK.

Working with commissioners and partners, the consortium uses its collective expertise to support artists in producing shows of the highest quality, resulting in an annual programme of new work available for touring.

Without Walls brings UK work to the attention of international programmers and potential partners, helping to ensure that Britain can compete in the flourishing international outdoor arts sector.

Consortium Members

Brighton Festival

An innovative commissioning and producing festival, Brighton continues to win critical acclaim for its ambitious and daring programme.

Ageas Salisbury International Arts Festival

The beautiful historic city of Salisbury is transformed every spring by a multi-artform festival that includes international work, new commissions and many free outdoor performances.

Greenwich+Docklands International Festival (GDIF)

London's leading festival of free outdoor arts. A celebration of extraordinary street theatre, breaking new ground with events that transform people's lives.

Norfolk & Norwich Festival

One of the UK's largest multi-art form festivals, with an international programme of events and a strong reputation for its participation and engagement work with local communities.

Mintfest

A kaleidoscope of the best outdoor performances from across the world, transforming the pretty Lakeland market town of Kendal and attracting visitors from the UK and beyond.

Stockton International Riverside Festival

Over four fantastic days Stockton plays host to the finest street theatre, circus, dance, music and pyrotechnics – large and small scale – from all over the world.

Winchester Hat Fair

Established in 1974, Hat Fair is the UK's longest running festival of outdoor arts. It presents artists from across the world over three jam-packed days in July.

Wired Aerial Theatre, *As The World Tipped*
Photo: Mark McNulty



Jo Burns,
Chair,
Without Walls

Since 2007 Without Walls has transformed the landscape for outdoor work in the UK. With investment from Arts Council England we have commissioned and supported a diverse and ambitious programme of over 60 new shows. Our aim is to build on the skills, reputation and viability of artists and companies working in the sector. Therefore, in addition to developing new work, we provide advice to artists and guidance on potential co-commissioners and bookers from across the UK and internationally. The proof of our success is that many of our productions are now touring to the world's major festivals.

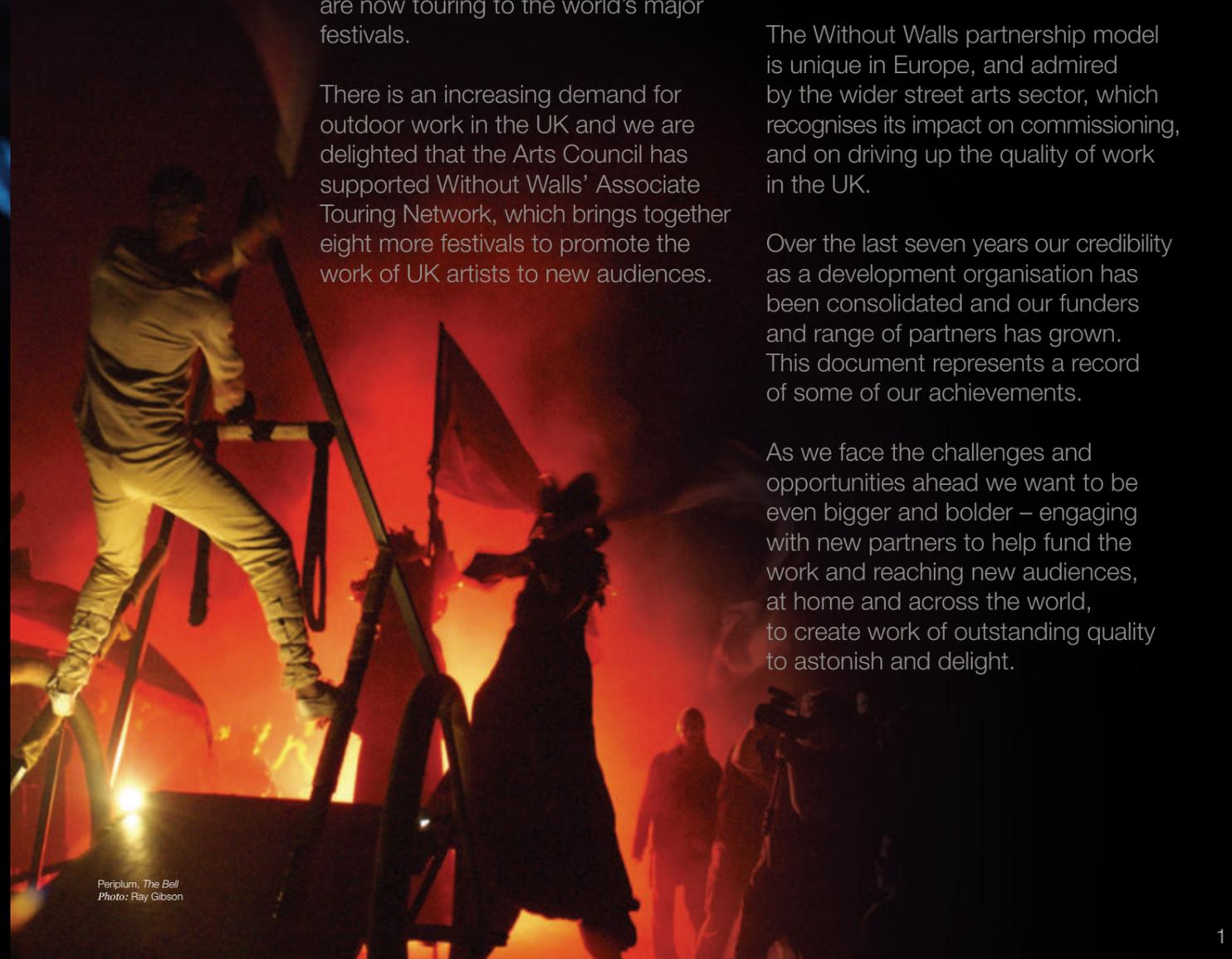
There is an increasing demand for outdoor work in the UK and we are delighted that the Arts Council has supported Without Walls' Associate Touring Network, which brings together eight more festivals to promote the work of UK artists to new audiences.

Without Walls shows range from the intimate to the epic and we work with artists across all forms of performing arts, encouraging new entrants to the sector as well as supporting established outdoor practitioners. We champion work by culturally diverse and Deaf and disabled artists, and we are proud that London's Paralympic Games opening ceremony was co-directed by one of our founder members (Bradley Hemmings - Greenwich + Docklands Festival), and Jenny Sealy (Graeae), a director whose work we have supported several times.

The Without Walls partnership model is unique in Europe, and admired by the wider street arts sector, which recognises its impact on commissioning, and on driving up the quality of work in the UK.

Over the last seven years our credibility as a development organisation has been consolidated and our funders and range of partners has grown. This document represents a record of some of our achievements.

As we face the challenges and opportunities ahead we want to be even bigger and bolder – engaging with new partners to help fund the work and reaching new audiences, at home and across the world, to create work of outstanding quality to astonish and delight.



Periplum, *The Bell*
Photo: Ray Gibson



2007

Our first season of seven new shows included the pioneering *Priscilla Queen of the Deaf World* (pictured), directed by Graeae's Jenny Sealy, and *The Vegetable Nannies* (pictured) by Plunge Boom. Creator Ben Faulks developed this idea into hit Cbeebies programme *Mr Bloom's Nursery*.

2007 shows also included;

Motionhouse – *Chaser*
 Srishti – *Quick*
 Aswarm – *Gather*
 Orkestra del Sol
 Mimbri – *The Bridge*
 Upswing – *Unwound*



Photo: M.E.N Media LTD

2008

Sputnik by Fittings Multimedia Arts was another work by Deaf and disabled artists. The 2008 season also featured the first outdoor touring show by Tavaziva Dance, *Beautiful People*, and two large scale shows; *The Bell* (pictured) by Periplum and the critically acclaimed *Full Circle* by The World Famous, commissioned with the support of the European Touring Network, In Situ.

2008 shows also included;

Wired Aerial Theatre – *Fervorosa*
 Company Fierce –
Gulliver's Boom Box
 Paschale Straiton – *The Séance*
 Motionhouse –
Underground (pictured)
 Prodigal – *Urban Playground*

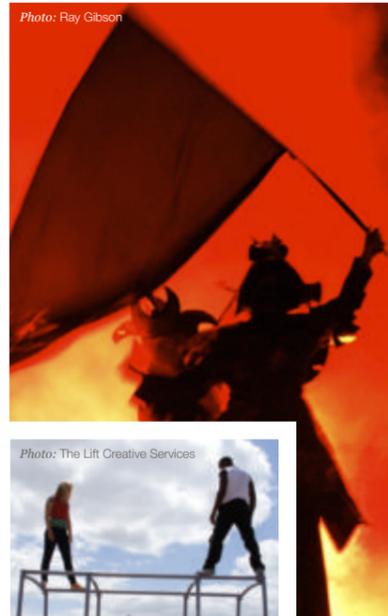


Photo: Ray Gibson

“...hugely entertaining stuff”

Lyn Gardner, *The Guardian* on *Full Circle*



Photo: The Lift Creative Services



2009

Photo: Briony Campbell



In 2009 several companies known for their engaging indoor work went outdoors, including Punchdrunk (*The House that Jack Built* - pictured) and The Ballet Boys (*Laws of Motion*). We continued to champion the work of Deaf and disabled artists such as Marc Brew (*Nocturne*) and Stop Gap (*Tracking*). No Fit State took to the country's parks encouraging people with hidden talents to run away with the circus in *Park Life*.

2009 shows also included;

The Pressure Company –
Galvonium
 Metro Boulot Dodo –
Hansel and Gretel
 Bootworks – *The Little Box of Horrors* (pictured)



Photo: Bradford Festival



2010

A vintage year for ambitious experimentations! Five companies received research and development grants, including Wired Aerial Theatre, Graeae and Whalley Range All Stars. *Metis* – *3rd Ring Out* was an experimental immersive show and Requardt and Rosenberg presented the large-scale choreographed performance *Electric Hotel* (pictured).

“Thrillingly intense... rich and rewarding”

The Guardian on *Electric Hotel*

2010 shows also included;

Pen Ultimate –
A Day on The Tiles
 Motionhouse – *Cascade*
 Kuljit Bhamra –
Chutney (pictured)
 Ragroof – *Gloves On*
 Gravity and Levity – *ReFlex*
 Wired Aerial Theatre –
Straw Dog
 Akademi – *Sufi Zen*
 Prodigal – *The Next Level*
 Luci Gorrel Barnes –
Little Lupin



Photo: Bradford Festival

2011

As *The World Tipped* – our most ambitious new commission to date – was created by Wired Aerial Theatre with director Nigel Jamieson (Sydney Olympics).

The thread of our work featuring Deaf and disabled performers continued to astound with Deaf Men Dancing (*Alive*), Candoco with Scarabeus (*Heartland*) and Graeae (*The Iron Man* - pictured).

2011 shows also included:

Red Herring –
That's The Way To Do It
 Whalley Range All Stars –
Imaginary Friends (pictured)
 Bad Taste Company – *Tribal Assembly*



2012

A further 12 companies were selected from over 270 proposals for research and development grants. Requardt and Rosenberg pushed the boundaries of large-scale outdoor theatre with the enigmatic *Motorshow*.

“...a powerful example of the unusual form of theatre Rosenberg and Requardt have made their own” *Total Theatre*

Helen Chadwick Song Theatre proved outdoor work can tackle serious subjects with a music theatre piece about land mines.

As *The World Tipped* opened the Sydney Festival (Australia) and Fira Tàrrega (Spain).

2012 shows also included:

Company Chameleon – *Push* (pictured)
 Mimbri – *Falling Up*
 Upswing – *Red Shoes*
 Tilted – *Seasaw* (pictured)
 C-12 Dance Theatre – *Trolleys*



Photo: Brian Slater

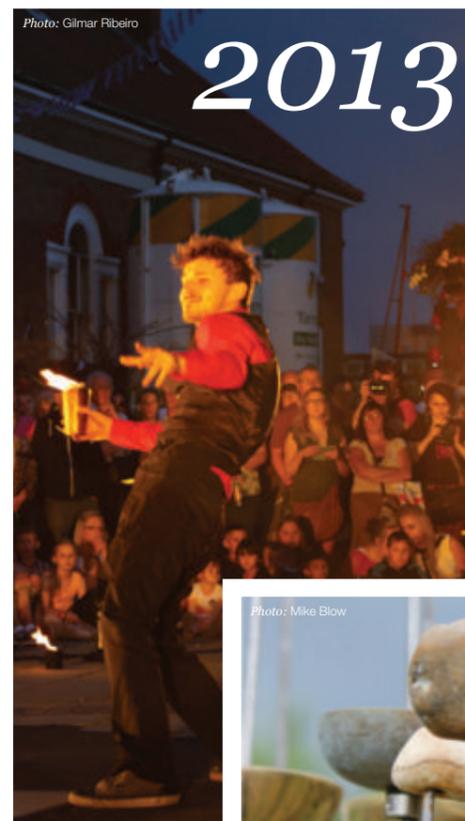


Photo: Gilmar Ribeiro

2013

The Associate Touring Network launched and five more research and development grants, for projects in 2014 and 2015, were awarded. Ten new shows were developed, included a wind powered sound installation by Oxford Contemporary Music – *Audible Forces* (pictured), our largest show of the year. Bad Taste Company (pictured) wowed audiences with *Faust* and Les Enfants Terribles reworked Aesop's fables in *Marvellous Imaginary Menagerie*.

2013 shows also included:

Candoco – *Studies for C*
 Inspector Sands –
A High Street Odyssey
 Mercurial Wrestler –
Magna Mysteria
 Motionhouse – *Captive*
 Pif-Paf – *Something to Hold*
 Rag and Bone – *Bone Yard Tales*
 Tilted – *Fragile*



Photo: Paul Naden



Photo: Mike Blow

The Without Walls story continues...

Wired Aerial Theatre *A case study*

The support of Without Walls can be transformational for a company. For *As The World Tipped* Without Walls coordinated commissioning partnerships with Liverpool City Council and TippingPoint; pooled investment from six festivals from the consortium; offered advice and support

in creating the show and harnessed interest from international festivals that translated into bookings. This enabled the company to make a huge leap in scale in creating and touring a large-scale show, the success of which is demonstrated by its continued touring success.

“...since Without Walls took an interest in our work and provided us with opportunities to create more of it, our company honestly has never looked back.”

Wendy Hesketh Ogilvie, Wired Aerial Theatre

“An epic and stunningly realised portrait of the disaster we may all be facing... This outdoor show is a lot more than mere spectacle. It does that rare thing – it makes you gulp with astonishment, but also think.” Mark Shenton, *The Stage*

Supporting Artistic Development

Without Walls supports artists to take risks and experiment with new ideas. We invest in projects at an early stage of development and offer advice to artists wanting to make outdoor work for the first time, or hoping to work in a new form, on a bigger scale or with a new technique.



Photo: JP Masclet

Wired Aerial Theatre created *Fervorosa*, their first work for Without Walls with Argentinean aerial director, Brenda Angiel.



Photo: Fiona Smith

The company worked with Henri Oguike and created *Straw Dog* – combining contemporary dance with aerial technique.

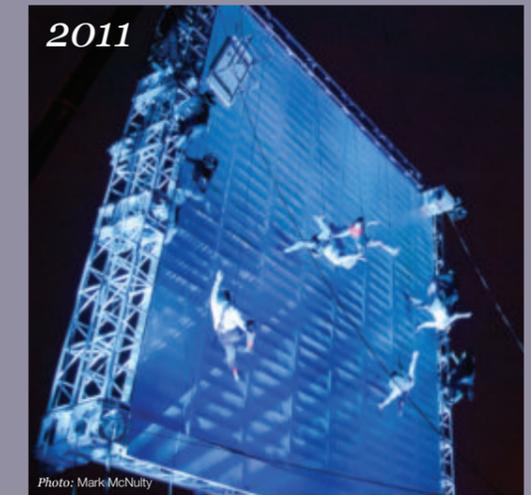


Photo: Mark McNulty

A real life disaster movie in the sky...

Wired began to develop ideas for *As The World Tipped*, a large-scale piece with internationally renowned director Nigel Jamieson.

As The World Tipped premiered in 2011 and toured to Norwich, Brighton, London, Stockton, Liverpool, Manchester and Kendal in its first year.

Photo: Steve White



Acrojou

Acrojou developed *The Wheelhouse* – a tiny travelling circular house that was inhabited by two eccentric characters. Launched in 2008, it has been performed more than 200 times at over 36 festivals in the UK and internationally.

“Without Walls has had a huge and continued impact on our work... enquiries just keep coming, from ever further afield.”

Jeni Barnard, Acrojou

Graeae Theatre Company

The Iron Man by Ted Hughes was adapted for Graeae Theatre Company by Paul Sirett. It was a Without Walls and Greenwich + Docklands International Festival commission.

Photo: Alison Baskerville



“Without Walls allowed us to visit regions which hadn’t seen our work... we got fantastic audience feedback, they were delighted to see a fully accessible show.”

Amit Sharma, Associate Director, Graeae

Company Chameleon

Push, created in 2012, toured to Without Walls festivals in 2012, and to the Associate Touring Network in 2013. It has since toured widely internationally

“Working with Without Walls has significantly raised our national and international profile... we have many future potential collaborations.”

Company Chameleon



Photo: Brian Slater

Associate Touring Network (ATN)

The Arts Council England's Strategic Touring Fund has made it possible for Without Walls to extend the reach and benefits of our programme in areas where there is low engagement with the arts. We are working with eight festivals to form an Associate Touring Network, giving diverse audiences across England access to the highest quality new work and further strengthening the outdoor touring sector.

Wired Aerial Theatre, *As The World Tipped*
Photo: Sophie Laslett



Associate Touring Network Festivals 2013

- Fuse Medway Festival
- Bradford Festival
- SO Festival, Skegness
- Summer in Southside, Birmingham Hippodrome
- Out There Festival, Great Yarmouth
- Derby Festé

In 2014 the network will be joined by *Appetite, Stoke-on-Trent* and *Blackpool Council*

Companies that toured in 2013

- Bad Taste Company – *Tribal Assembly*
- C-12 Dance Theatre – *Trolleys*
- Company Chameleon – *Push*
- Graeae – *The Iron Man*
- Helen Chadwick Song Theatre – *White Suit*
- Kuljit Bhamra – *Chutney!*
- Mimbire – *Falling Up!*
- Upswing – *Red Shoes*
- Whalley Range All Stars – *Imaginary Friends*
- Wired Aerial Theatre – *As The World Tipped*

Graeae, *The Iron Man*
Photo: Doug Southall

In Year 1 more than 35,000 people saw Without Walls shows at ATN festivals in England



C12 Dance Theatre, *Trolleys*
Photo: Simon Annett



Pag and Bone, *Bone Yard Tale*
Photo: Dave Cuttridge

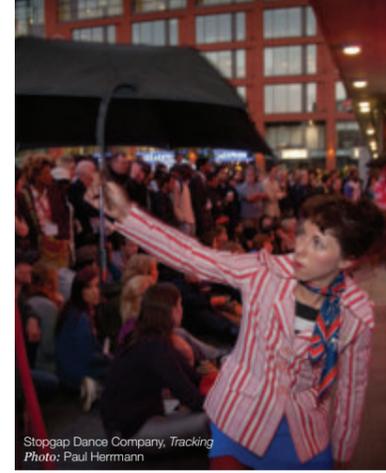
Most came to spend time with friends and family, doing something out of the ordinary



Kuljit Bhamra, *Chutney*
Photo: Dave Cuttridge

Artists are supported to keep their shows on tour for longer

The ATN is designed to take the great work created by Without Walls to audiences in hard to reach communities across England



Stopgap Dance Company, *Tracking*
Photo: Paul Herrmann

Without Walls supported each festival with their audience development plans

Many of these people had never been to an outdoor arts event



Summer in Southside, Birmingham Hippodrome 2013

“Without Walls has had a “domino effect” on interest in support for the festival. We’ve been able to say ‘we are part of this amazing thing’... and from next year the city council has pledged £250,000 over the next five years. The high quality touring programme formed the foundation for the festival... We can, over three years, be confident that there is a wealth of UK artistic talent to draw upon.”

Stephen Munn, Derby Festé

Figures taken from the initial draft findings of the Without Walls Associate Network evaluation undertaken by The Audience Agency

*Between 2007 – 2013
Without Walls has*

Produced or commissioned
61 new outdoor works

Invested in over 20 Research
and Development projects

Supported shows that have
toured to 22 countries

Supported 9 new shows by
Deaf and disabled artists

Supported 8 new shows by
culturally diverse artists

Without Walls has worked
with a wide range of partners
on the development of new
work including festivals,
local authorities, trusts and
foundations, venues
and academic partners.

*Without Walls could be
working with you...*

*Without Walls co-commissioning
partners include:*

Arts Council Scotland	Legacy Trust UK
Big in Falkirk	Liberty Festival
Birmingham Hippodrome	Liverpool City Council
Bradford Metropolitan Council	Mac
Breakin Convention	Oxford Brookes University
Contact Theatre	PRS Foundation
Creative Partnerships	Sadlers Wells
Dance City, Newcastle	SHAPE
Fierce	SO Festival Skegness
In Situ	Tees Valley Dance
Juice	TippingPoint
Junction	Totally Truro
Lanternhouse International	University of East Anglia
Latitude Festival	University of Surrey
	Watford Palace Theatre

And many more...

If you are interested in co-commissioning work,
or if you want to find out what this might involve
please contact the Without Walls management
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 Without Walls

 @WWconsortium

Front cover, main image:
Bad Taste Company, *Faust* / Photo: Gilmar Ribeiro
Front cover, left to right:
Graeae, *The Iron Man* / Photo: Andi Sapey
Tilted, *Seasaw* / Photo: Pari Naderi
Marc Brew, *Nocturne*

Back cover, left to right:
Plunge Boom, *The Vegetable Nannies* / Photo: M.E.N Media LTD
Les Enfants Terribles, *Marvellous Imaginary Menagerie* / Photo: Garry Knight
Mimbre, *Falling Up* / Photo: E. Richmond & J. Currey



“ This consortium took UK’s Outdoor Arts to the 21st century.”

Jordi Duran i Roldós, Director Artístic, Fira Tàrrega (Spain)