**CRYING OUT LOUD**

**KF Meeting 3rd July 2015**

**Circus Evolution - Strategic Touring supported programme**

First round funding is in place until Spring 16.

Bridge funding in place from Spring 16 to Autumn 17

Next round funding – if successful, would go from Autumn 17 – Autumn 20.

* Half venues haven’t programmed circus before, half have done some circus, but not much.
* New venues get the shows on a box office split. By Year 3 they are expected to pay a fee
* COL employ an Audience Development Manager who devises bespoke audience development plan for each show for each individual venue – includes things like creating this video for New Wolsey using young local performers and local landmarks. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcY9khhyy5A>
* COL audience development manager also provides webinars and training sessions for marketeers in the venues
* Programme pays for the marketeers to go and see the shows in advance so they know how to talk about them

Current members are:  Warwick Arts Centre; Lighthouse Poole; Oxford Playhouse; New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich; Barnsley Civic; Laurence Batley Theatre, Huddersfield; SeaChange Arts, Great Yarmouth; déda, Derby and Hat Factory, Luton.

They are looking for two more venues to join the partnership.

Originally, Hull Truck was part of the network – driven by Kate Denby – but with all the changes in personnel etc. it dropped out before the programme started. Is it worth reopening the conversation about whether they would like to join for the bridge / second round?

Shows toured so far:

2014 - Pirates of the Carabina, *Flown*

2014 - Company Non Nova, *L’après-midi d’un Foehn – Version 1*.

Spring 2015 - Barely Methodical Troupe *Bromance*

To come:

Autumn 15 - *Circus Mayhem* featuring Rimski, Jon Hicks and Company BettiCombo (part of Family Friendly Arts Festival). Activity in foyers as well as main house show

Spring 16 – Circa Tsuica, *Opus 7.* Local brass players / brass band get involved in workshops beforehand and join the company on stage for the finale.

Autumn 16 – Alice Allart, *These Books are Made for Walking*. Can also have a version which goes into libraries, schools etc. as well as main house show. Also, any kind of bespoke workshop.

Future developments for the network include:

* Co-producing / commissioning UK work
* Working with National Centre for Circus Arts to recreate their Lab Time initiative in the venues

**Touring Shows**

James Thierree, Compagnie du Hanneton.

* Creating new show – 5 on stage.
* James’ style - mix of circus / illusion / dreamlike / visual stunning
* Will probably premier at Edinburgh Festival in Aug 16. Then would tour to UK from April ’17 including Saddlers Wells and then some of the larger Circus Evolution venues. Poss for New Theatre programme? Or not appropriate??

Raphaelle Boitel,

* Creating new show. 5 performers. Stripped back circus. Again, visually stunning.

BSF Schools’ Touring Circuit

* Alice Allart piece? See before
* Barely Methodical Troup, Bromance
* Racehorse Company – as well as shows, also have a van with a trampoline on its roof.
* Various others – could advise once we have more details on the venues

**Opening Out - children with autism**

Programme of work created for children with autism which goes alongside touring pieces. Workshops in schools; training for teachers so they can carry on using the same techniques; relaxed performances; training for box office staff etc.