

Thessaloniki | International Residency | Photo: Chris Keenan



THE OTHER WAY WORKS

The Other Way Works creates daring and remarkable theatre that draws the audience into the very heart of the experience.



07/08

INTRODUCTION

April 2007 - March 2008 was a year of change for The Other Way Works. In August 2007 Jane Packman stepped down as co-Artistic Director, and left the Company to pursue her own projects.

I took on the role of sole Artistic Director of the Company at this point, and the Company continued to build on its strengths throughout this period. Development began on a major new production *Black Tonic* in January 2008, which will carry the Company into 2009 and possibly beyond.

I continued to spread the word about the Company, talking to a group of trainee Arts Workshop Leaders on Birmingham City Council's Flying Start Scheme in January 2008. I also attended two

key industry showcases: the Decibel Showcase in Birmingham and Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

As a further boost to our profile, our production *I am Waiting* (2006) featured in the exhibition *Collaborators: UK Design For Performance*, which ran at the V&A in London from November 2007-August 2008.

A summary of performances, participatory and international projects follows. For more information on any of these, please follow the links or take a look at our website www.theotherwayworks.co.uk.

Katie Day
Artistic Director



PERFORMANCES 07/08

IN THE SHADOW

A new performance inspired by the people of Birmingham, April 2007
Annie, a chatty litter-picking character, took audience members on an amble around Centenary Square in Birmingham City Centre, where they encountered several desperate characters who drew them into their lives for a few brief moments. Audience members observed that our characters blended surprisingly convincingly into the real world of the square, where reality was often stranger than fiction.

Funded by Birmingham City Council

MAYFLY

Our light and sound show in a tent flew off to The Green Man festival in the Brecon Beacons, and Upstaging Nature in London during August 2007.

CALL GIRLS

In December 2007 we aired our first performance of Call Girls, an interactive cabaret piece using mobile phones, at PILOT 13 at the Custard Factory Theatre in Birmingham.

BLACK TONIC

In January 2008 some early R&D took place on our new project designed to be performed in hotels, culminating in a performance sharing at Malmaison Hotel Birmingham. In collaboration with the Company, writer Clare Duffy has created an original and engaging short story which will form the narrative basis of the production.

Funded by Arts Council England, Birmingham City Council & The Sir Barry Jackson Trust, supported by *mac* & Malmaison.



07/08 INTERNATIONAL

IETM

In November 2007 Katie attended the [IETM](#) Meeting in Ghent, Belgium. As well as seeing some inspiring Belgian performance work, and networking with producers and artists from across Europe, she moderated a Meeting Group session on 'One-to-One Theatre'.

BLACK TONIC - RESIDENCY

Katie and other members of the Company embarked on an International Residency in Thessaloniki, Greece in February 2008. Collaborating with our Greek Scenographers Alexandra Boussoulega and Rania Yfantidou, we developed elements of Black Tonic. Funded by a Birmingham City Council International Development Grant

Associate Artist Katherine Maxwell-Cook takes up the story:

"We spent five days working in Thessaloniki focusing on the aesthetic of Black Tonic and shooting loads of footage for the video installations. Using images drawn from Claire Duffy's short story and music from Mark Day's soundscape, we created installations in different hotel rooms around the city. Chris Keenan worked his usual filming magic shooting everything from locals playing late night cards in a back street bar to stray dogs roaming freely to lift doors opening and closing. An army of mini hotel shampoo bottles walking out over a zebra crossing was my first dabble into stop frame animation and a lot of fun. It was a fantastic week of sharing skills, working cross culturally and getting more of a feel for the story."



CITYSCAPE

In keeping with Architecture Week 2007's theme: 'How Green Is Our Space?' we worked with visual artist Lorna Rose and pupils from Chandos Primary School in Birmingham, and let our imaginations lead the way as we built a 3D city from scratch using recycled materials, which was displayed throughout Architecture Week in June 2007 at Moor Street Station in central Birmingham.

As part of Cityscape The Other Way Works created a special performance for children, inspired by the children's own stories, which was performed inside the 3D city. Performers brought the new city to life with a host of friendly characters to meet, including a taxi-

driving tap-dancing robot and a 'gridmonster', and lots of songs to join in with.

Funded by Arts Council England. Supported by Chandos Primary School, Creative Partnerships, Architecture Week, and Chiltern Railways.

ENCOUNTERS

With Breathe and mac, The Other Way Works co-organised and took part in the Encounters Week in November 2007. The professional development workshops explored intimate performance - performance for an audience of one, and were facilitated by Amanda Hadingue from Stan's Cafe.

Funded by Arts Council England



FUNDERS

Birmingham City Council - Arts Team Project Grant
Birmingham City Council - International Development Grant
Arts Council England - Grants for the Arts
The Sir Barry Jackson Trust

PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

mac, Birmingham
PILOT Nights, Birmingham
Creative Partnerships, Birmingham
Chandos Primary School, Highgate, Birmingham
Upstaging Nature, London
China Plate
Chiltern Railways at Moor Street Station
Aristotle University, Thessaloniki, Greece