

**stuff and
nonsense**
theatre company

Available
throughout
2024/25



The Adventures of **THE LITTLE RED HEN**

A BIG show for small people, families and groups
Easy to sell, high quality theatre co-created with children

stuff and nonsense theatre company

Family favourites Stuff and Nonsense, loved by audiences and artists alike, are restaging one of their most popular shows.

A contemporary re-telling of a familiar classic, The Adventures of The Little Red Hen is guaranteed to be popular with audiences and add some ingenuity and magic to your family programming.

Suitable for Large Studio and Mid-Scale Venues

Suitable for all the family (recommended for ages 3-10)

“A truly enchanting hour for children – and their parents” **The Stage**

Restaged with the support of **Lighthouse, Poole** and **The Lyric, Bridport**; original production supported by **Salisbury Playhouse**; **Halton Borough Council**; **Taunton Brewhouse**; **The Lyric, Bridport** with public funding by the **National Lottery** through **Arts Council England**.

For more information, contact: Tour Booker, Paula Hammond, on admin@aloadofstuffandnonsense.com or visit aloadofstuffandnonsense.co.uk



THE ADVENTURES OF THE LITTLE RED HEN

Directed by Niki McCretton

Visit the incredible world of Stuff and Nonsense.

"Who will help me plant these grains of wheat?"

"Not I" said the Pig.

"Not I" said the Rat.

"Not I" said the Cow.

"Fair enough," said the Little Red Hen, "I'll do it myself!"

Making bread is hard work, but it would be a lot easier if the lazy farmyard animals got off their reclining sofas and lent a hand! Join our plucky little hen as she finds her own way to get stuff done.

An energetic adaptation of this much-loved story, featuring a breathtaking combination of brilliant puppetry, live music and unforgettable comedy.

"Truly one of the best performances I have seen. Fully enjoyed by all 3 generations." **Audience member**

Stuff and Nonsense are well-known for their clever, captivating storytelling, ingenious stagings and ability to make us all laugh. One of the UK's most well-loved companies, they are pioneers in creating shows with and for families, and Director Niki McCretton leads the way in using child-centred collaboration to create our shows, putting children at the heart.

Invest in your children's imaginations: share the magic of live theatre and take playfulness home with you!



The Adventures of
**THE
LITTLE
RED HEN**

Audience reactions to our recent shows:

“EVERYONE (age span 8-68) was spellbound and delighted – can’t recommend this company enough”

“I have been to every Christmas show here and this was the best one yet!”

“Clearly put together with care and love and a lot of ingenuity.”
“It’s the 2nd time we’ve seen it and I cannot rate them highly enough!

The boys had a fabulous time, and the cast were amazing!! Can’t wait for next year’s!!!”

“It was fantastic. My 4 year old just adored it and was excited and enthralled throughout. Amazingly my just turned 2 year old was also completely engrossed, sitting for the full hour watching intently. I’ve never seen him so still!! Both my husband and I also enjoyed with some very funny moments.”



Technical Requirements

Full tech spec available, outline as follows:

- Show Running time: 60 minutes no interval
- Set: minimum playing space required 6m deep x 8m wide x 3.5m height to grid
- Get In: minimum 4 hours before house opens (following a pre-rig, which is essential to making this possible)
- Get Out: 2 hours
- Technician requirement from venue: x2 technicians for get in, x2 for get out, x1 technician for show op
- Pre-rig before the company’s arrival is crucial for enabling the get-in to take place within 4 hours.

Contact: technical@aloadofstuffandnonsense.com

Production shots

Credits: Mark Morreau





Artistic Team

Director	Niki McCretton
Designer	Tomasin Cuthbert
Lighting Design	Phil Mead
Production Manager	Mark Webber
Additional Music	Sarah Moody
Sound Design	Gwendolyn Scott
Performers	Maria Gray & Gareth Price-Baghurst
Producers	Jane McGibbon & Ben Vleminckx

Maria Gray - Performer

Maria trained at East 15 Drama School and Flic Circus School in Turin, Italy. Credits include; Machine in The Machine Stops York Theatre Royal/Pilot Theatre directed by Juliet Forster; Beggar in The Beggars Opera York Theatre Royal directed by Damien Cruden; Nurse/Benvolio in Romeo and Juliet OrangeTree Theatre; Full Stop Scribbled Thought/Light the Fuse Directed by Gemma Fairlie and Neil Bettles; Box Clever Theatre Company; Getting There directed by Stephan Burke; Witch in Macbeth, Juliet in Romeo and Juliet directed by Philippe Cherbonnier, Mark and the Marked directed by Kim Sykes; European Tour of Outdoor Festivals with solo show Motor Mouth created by Maria Gray. For Television: O2 Commercial directed by Rocky Morton and for Film; Irreparable directed by Martin Gooch. Maria's skills include: acrobatics, trapeze, aerial hoop, dance, puppetry, Commedia dell'Arte and mask work, climbing, yoga, writing, Italian and the ukulele.

Niki McCretton – Artistic Director

Artistic Director Niki McCretton has been producing theatre for over 30 years with a strong reputation for contemporary artistic children's theatre and writing and directing adaptations of existing stories. Niki joined forces with Stuff and Nonsense in 2008, bringing with her an incomparable array of theatre making experience, including award-winning national and international tours with Heretic, Throw me a Bone, Wormhole, Relative, Space 50, Muttnik the First Dog in Space, Hoof! and Horseplay.

Gareth Price-Baghurst - Performer

Gareth has worked as a professional actor-musician for over a decade, and toured the UK and Europe extensively since graduating from Coventry University in 2011. Gareth has worked in a variety of styles of theatre, and many theatre companies across the UK, including the Lions part, Rusticus Theatre, HandmadeTheatre, Frolicked, Thingumajig and Walk The Plank to name a few. Gareth is very passionate about live music and puppetry in theatre and co-manages his own outdoor touring theatre company 'The Fabularium' and also is a board member of the National Association of Street Artists (NASAuk) to help promote outdoor arts for everyone. Gareth has worked with Stuff and Nonsense on both this show and The Enormous Turnip.

"This is not your regular children's theatre. This is anarchic, ambitious, quietly political work, it's about bringing joy and ideas and imagination into the world, with a real passion for engaging with young people and families all over the country."

Dom Coyote, Musical Director, Pinocchio



Stuff & Nonsense, led by Niki McCretton, work alongside children, families, artists and theatres to make memorable and outstanding theatre. We place children's creativity at the heart of what we do and enabling adults to become seriously playful.

We lead the field in adaptability of artistic product and quality delivery. We work vigorously to raise the quality of work for Children & Young People, building partnerships with leading theatres and encouraging high production values.

Founded in 2001, we have created 11 artist-led, contemporary adaptations of well-known tales, which fill a gap in the market. Demand for our work is proven. Since 2010, we've delivered around 2,300 performances to over 325,000 people. Based at The Lyric Theatre Bridport, Stuff and Nonsense is an @HOME Artist at The Point, Eastleigh.

Target Audiences

- Families, including multi-generational groups
- Primary schools along with
- Groups from nurseries, playgroups, childminders, children's centres, beavers / cubs / rainbows / brownies
- S&N performs better than the industry average in attracting lower and medium engaged groups. Dormitory Dependables and Trips & Treats made up 55% of our 2019/20 attendees
- Approx 2/3 of our audiences have seen us before, and a third are new. We build loyal audiences who will return to see S&N and trust us to provide a high quality experience

Marketing Support

- Extensive Marketing Pack
- A3 & A4 posters and A5 flyers
- 1-minute video trailer
- Colour production and rehearsal images
- Puppetry workshops can be arranged and we provide ideas and templates for wrap-around activities
- S&N's Marketing Consultant can share knowledge of successful campaigns and tours

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Contact: marketing@aloadofstuffandnonsense.com

Ticket prices to be agreed with the company, guide price £12-15.

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