



FUN THÉÂTRE BULLETIN



4th March 2023 | Edition 06 | Newsletter

Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of the *Fun Théâtre Bulletin* - the newsletter of Fun Théâtre Communautaire (FTC).

Well, what a year 2022 was for Fun Théâtre and, with 2023 now well underway, things have not slowed down for us at all! In this bumper edition you can find out a little bit more about what has been going on, and all the plans for our wonderful dual language pantomime, “Cendrillon/Cinderella” that will be performed at the end of March 2023.

In all the excitement around the pantomime, it is important not forget to congratulate all the Fun Théâtre members who were involved in the fantastic performances of “Un Déménagement Coloré” and “Les Bonnes Manières / Table Manners”. All performances were supported by other FTC members and friends, and the audiences helped to bring the best out of the actors on stage. A very special aspect of these performances were the sub-titles in the alternative language, so well done to Graham Follett and Marie Vilain who managed these so well.

There is so much that goes into these events and everyone’s contribution is essential and important. On stage, behind the scenes, and supporting at home! When Cinderella walks on stage for the first time in three weeks’ time it will be the culmination of an enormous effort by the whole of our association...oh yes it will!!! We very much look forward to seeing you all there.

And remember if you have any suggestions or an article for possible inclusion in a future edition of the *Bulletin*, please send an email to: hello@funtheatre.fr

Dates for your diary

“Cendrillon”
“Cinderella”

Written by Graham Follett

A Pantomime in French and English for everyone

Venue : Salle Multiculturelle
Passais La Conception

Friday 24th March 2023 19h45

Saturday 25th March 2023 19h45

Sunday 26th March 2023 15h00

Pantomime Rehearsals January – March 2023
Tuesdays & Thursdays 19h30

Characters are called as necessary by our directors, Jae de Wylde Minshall and Graham Follett, plus occasional Saturdays.

Various dates & locations during March 2023

Pop-up Box Offices to buy pantomime tickets in person – watch Facebook/website & emails for details.

We hope to add some social events to this calendar to help us all stay in touch with each other. If you have an idea or can host an event, please contact: hello@funtheatre.fr

Cendrillon / Cinderella

Preparations for our brand new, dual language pantomime are now well underway. Here you will find a quick recap of what has happened so far, information about who is involved in this production, both on stage and behind the scenes, and how you can buy tickets for friends and family to share in the fun!



Bonjour Tout le Monde – a Letter from Graham

Well, I promised myself I wouldn't start off yet another piece by saying how busy Fun Theatre is right now. But...

There is certainly a big buzz at the moment. We are just weeks away from the pantomime performances, with a lot still to do, but so much achieved so far. There is a rehearsal tonight (of course), and apart from anything else I am really looking forward to driving through Passais and seeing our pantomime banner displayed in the village centre. We really have moved on as an organisation over the last few years.

Most of you reading this will be involved with the pantomime and will already know how well it is all progressing. Rehearsals have been very good, helped enormously by being able to get on to the stage earlier than expected. Everybody has put in a lot of work on their characters and the enthusiasm for what they are doing is palpable.

But there is also a great deal going on off stage. Every day of the week. The set is nearing completion - but still some work to do, the costumes are almost sorted - but still some work to do, the sound and lighting systems are being worked on and the sound effects being designed, the dances are choreographed, but still in rehearsal... you get the picture.

Ticket sales are underway, and the publicity machine is in motion. But we need everybody's support and input on this. The target is to get 750 people in to see this show - just 80 more than in 2019. This should be readily achievable, but it won't happen by magic (which does not of course apply to Cinderella's dress change).

Graham

Pantomime Tickets

There is a large number of people involved with this project, and everyone would love to share this fun performance with as many people as possible in the audience – both English and French speaking. There is no need to be bilingual to enjoy this pantomime, all performances are accessible to everyone.

So, where to get your tickets:

- Visit our website www.funtheatre.fr for a link to Helloasso to buy tickets online.
- To buy tickets in person you can also go to:
 - ✦ Tabac at Passais
 - ✦ Tourist Office at Domfront
- Pop-up Box Offices at various locations during March 2023 – watch the website or our Facebook page for details of these events as they happen.

We strongly recommend buying your tickets in advance as there may be no tickets left to buy on the door, on the days of the performances. See you there!



Cendrillon / Cinderella

Cast list:

The Fauché Household:

Cinderella / Cendrillon : Tamzin French

Buttons : Liliane Corbeau - Cinderella's best friend /
Le meilleur ami de Cendrillon

Villanelle : Tony French - Ugly Sister / laide soeur

Vanité : Didier Roll - Ugly Sister / laide soeur

Baron Fauché : John Barnes - Cinderella's dad/Le papa
de Cendrillon

Cruella : Béatrice Mancel - Baroness Fauché

Minnie : Betsy Rawlinson – Mouse / Souris

Millie : Héloïse Hamelin – Mouse / Souris

Missie : Phoebe Gaydon – Mouse / Souris

Jamie Olive Oil : Roger Burge - The Cook / Le cuisinier

Parris : Alex Beech - Junior Dance Leader/Chef de danse

Fairy Godmother : Martine Thibaud - Marraine la fée

Fairy Fée : Tina Young - Fairy Godmother's assistant /
assistante de marraine la fée

The Royal Household:

Prince Charmant : Laura Boutilly

King Al : Martyn Crowe - The prince's father / Le père
du prince

Queen Mel : Kit Stephens - The prince's mother / La
mère du prince

Dandini : Kate Greenwood - Charmant's friend and
confidant / L'ami et confident de Charmant

Benjamin Bourgeois : Luc Jardin - Senior Dance
Director / Directeur de danse

Raymond Noir : Christophe Hamelin - Palace Chef /
Cuisinier du palais

Mary Merry : Cathy Daniels - Palace Chef / Cuisinier
du palais

Bruce Foresight : Chris Donaldson - Master of
Ceremonies / Maître des cérémonies

The Shakespearians :

Wanda : Gail White - Witch / Une sorcière

Wacila : Véro Sorin - Witch / Une sorcière

Wendy : Bex Devall - Witch / Une sorcière

Purdey : Noémie Sorin - The witches' familiar (cat) / Le
familier des sorcières (chat)

William Shakespeare : Steve Shaw - As himself / comme
lui-même

Molière : Céline Anquetil - Shakespeare's friend and
agent/ L'agent littéraire de Shakespeare et amie

The Mechanicals / Un groupe d'acteurs :

Tom Snout (Wall) : Ellis Metselaar

Robin Starveling (Moonshine) : Jo Molloy

Snug the joiner : Katie Phythian

Peter Quince : Debra Rojahn

Nick Bottom : Colin Hiscox

Francis Flute (Thisbe) : Dominique Morel Gillot

The Bob Building Company :

Bon Bob : Marie-Claire Lebosse Gayraud - Builder/
Maçon

Bye Bob : Kate Needs - Builder / Maçon

Bee Bob : Laurence Sauvage - Builder / Maçon

Boss Bob: Cathy Daniels - The Boss / Le patron

The Band : Chris, Pete, Karen and Anna

The Junior dance troupe : Danse Moderne

The Senior dance troupe : Gorrion Danse

Behind the scenes

And to complement our fabulous cast we also have an amazing team of volunteers working behind the scenes to ensure that this production looks and sounds superb!

Directors: Graham Follett and Jae de Wylde Minshall have been working tirelessly to ensure that all the actors (including first timers as well as seasoned performers) know exactly what to do to make the most of their characters.

Costumes: Rosa Follett has undertaken to co-ordinate the enormous task of finding appropriate costumes for a cast of nearly 40 actors, aided by many other volunteers sourcing, donating, and making, the items required.

Props: alongside his role of Villanelle, Tony French is gathering many of the props required.

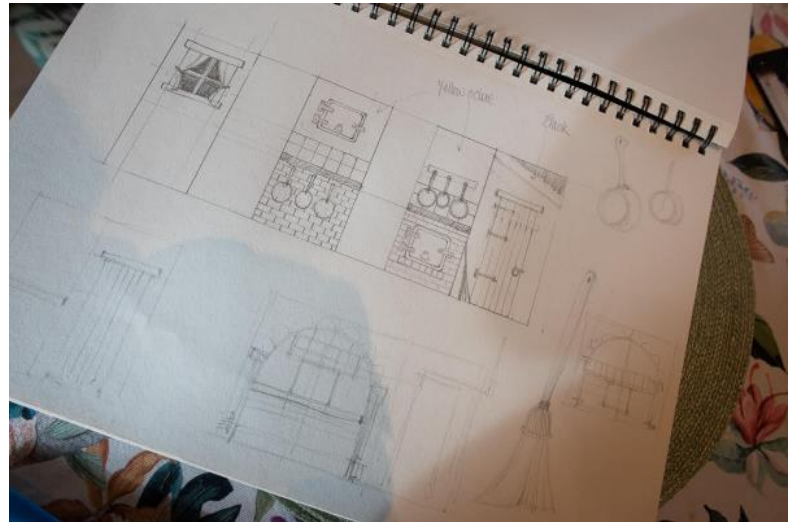
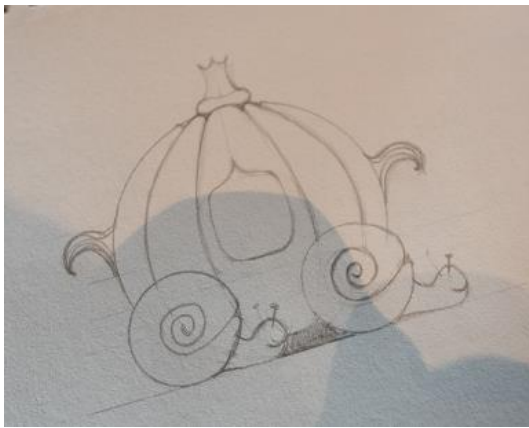
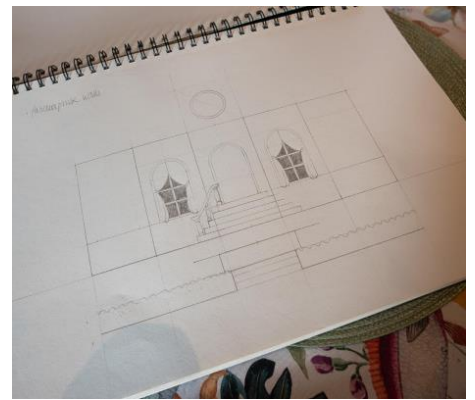
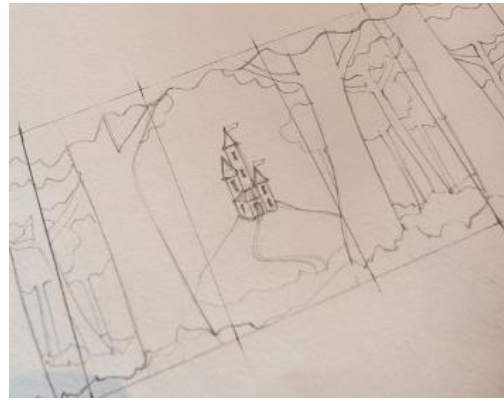
Light and Sound: Peter Daniels is busy bringing together the equipment already owned by Fun Théâtre with as much additional equipment as he can borrow to ensure that this spectacle looks and sounds as good as possible.

Set design: Martin Minshall is designing and creating a beautiful set – see more about this on the next page!

The Band: Chris and Karen will be coming from the UK to join the Normandie based musicians to ensure that the musical atmosphere is perfect.

Dancers: Gorrion Danse and Danse Moderne de Domfront are also busy rehearsing to add another dimension to the panto.





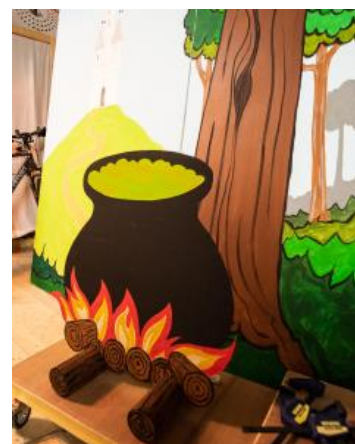
Introducing Martin Minshall who is designing the set for Cendrillon/Cinderella

Martin, known affectionately by friends and family as ‘Fixit Duck’, has turned his hand to pretty much everything including set design for theatrical performances such as Cabaret, Barnum, Mr Cinders, Gorrion Danse’s Wizard of Oz and Fun Théâtre’s first panto, Sleeping Beauty.

Martin taught Art and Design at Marlborough and was Director of Creative Arts at Oakham in Rutland. With a background in glass, ceramics and bronze work, Martin is also a named public sculptor for Rutland and Leicestershire, where his huge sculptural mural is on bold display.

Although Martin’s training at Birmingham University was deeply rooted in three-dimensional art, his overriding interests encompass all forms of art and design and he loves designing and creating play sets for Gorrion Danse and Fun Théâtre, pursuing his passions in his retirement in deepest rural France.

Jae de Wylde Minshall



OTHER NEWS...

Téléthon: 4th December 2022

Fun Théâtre played its part in the Passais Villages Téléthon activities, with two performances of “Un Déménagement Coloré”, a specially written, short dual language play, in English and French, which was highly amusing and well received by the people who visited the Téléthon. Congratulations to all involved. Overall, Passais Villages was able to donate 1300€ to the national Téléthon appeal.



« Les Bonnes Manières /

Table Manners » November 2022



AGM & Pantomime Launch:

10th December 2022

EGM: 25th February 2023

These two important meetings in the running of our association have taken place as planned and the minutes have been circulated.

AGM/EGM key points:

- Attended by over 30 members of our association plus some invited guests.
- We achieved our aim to present a play in French when we performed “Les Bonnes Manières” in November 2022
- Fun Theatre Juniors established in summer 2022
- Subvention of 300€ received from the Conseil Municipal was used to purchase lights for use on stage
- Fun Théâtre Bulletin established as the newsletter for the association
- Financial report from Richard Biddlecombe, Treasurer, shows a promising financial situation
- Report on FTC activities show that we are thriving
- Richard Biddlecombe to retire as Treasurer; the post will be taken on by John Barnes
- Martyn Crowe, Vice President emphasised the importance of networking and sharing the workload

Your Officers are:

President: Graham Follett

Vice-president: Martyn Crowe

Treasurer: Richard Biddlecombe/John Barnes

Secretary: Véronique Reinaudo-Sorin

Membership secretary: Joan Peagam

Communications officer: Cathy Daniels

For staying in touch:

Emails: Public: contact@funtheatre.fr

Members: hello@funtheatre.fr

Juniors: juniors@funtheatre.fr

Membership: finance@funtheatre.fr

Facebook: join our page [Fun Theatre Communautaire](#)

Website: www.funtheatre.fr lots of information and details of how to buy tickets to be found here

This newsletter was compiled by Cathy. If there is something you would like to know more about, if you have an article you would like to submit for possible inclusion in the *Bulletin* or you have ideas that you would like to be passed on to the executive officers please email: hello@funtheatre.fr (in English or in French)