

Participation and Workshops



LITTLE SOLDIER
PRODUCTIONS

'Little Soldier delivered a dynamic, engaging and appropriately challenging workshop for our third year students. Their rapport with them was fantastic and the students were fully immersed.'

Dr Lourdes Orozco (Lecturer in Theatre Studies - University of Leeds)



WHO ARE WE?

Little Soldier Productions was founded in 2010 to produce innovative, cross-cultural, artistic collaborations. We use physical comedy, devising techniques and live music to produce funny yet touching shows, exploiting our Spanish backgrounds and English setting to create our own individual take on both new writing and classic texts. Recent shows include *You and Me*- Argus Angel Award at Brighton Fringe Festival and part of PAM Festival in New York (2013) and *Pakita* which enjoyed runs in New York, London, Edinburgh and Madrid and toured in collaboration with Greenwich Theatre. Their new show - a comic adaptation of *Don Quijote* - is now in development with the support of Jacksons Lane.

'Little Soldier belongs to a generation of international artists who have made London their home and are progressively affecting and enriching the British theatrical landscape. They are passionate hard-working and extremely talented theatre-makers and their work and ethos remind me of Told by an Idiot and Spymonkey.'

Omar Elerian. Associate Director. The Bush Theatre.

Workshops for theatre professionals and drama students

Little Soldier are experienced in delivering high quality workshops with participants of all ages and tailored for professional performers and drama students.

- 1. Comedy and Clown – a workshop looking at the pleasure of being ridiculous in front of others.**

Through a series of games and techniques we will discover what makes us uniquely funny. We will focus on the relationship between the performer and the audience; finding the pleasure of being on stage by taking chances, sharing triumphs and failings generously for everyone's delight.

- 2. Page to stage - a workshop looking at the notion of making a comedy show from a classic novel.** Inspired by our latest show, an adaptation of the Spanish classic novel 'Don Quixote', this workshop explores the creative process involved in adapting a classic on the scale of Don Quixote through comedy.



The Team

The workshops will be delivered by Little Soldier artistic directors Merce Ribot and Patricia Rodriguez in collaboration with acclaimed actor and Told by an Idiot associate Stephen Harper; who will be joining the Don Quixote creative team.

The company's practice is inspired by many years of intensive training with incredible theatre practitioners including Philippe Gaulier, Uri Roodner, John Wright, Paul Hunter and Aitor Basauri, amongst others. They've gone on to work professionally with many of these theatre makers since.



Stephen Harper (performer) Stephen's recent work includes *The Mouse and his Child* and *Merry Wives of Windsor* at The RSC, *Mass Observation* at the Almeida with *Inspector Sands*, *War Horse* and *Theatre of Blood* with the National Theatre, *Laurel and Hardy* at the New Vic Theatre, *Only Fools No Horses* with Contemporary Clowning Projects, *Home from Home* at Polka, *1966 World Cup Final* and *Ben Hur* for BAC, *Commonnonsense* at Reykjavik City Theatre and *The Bicycle Bridge* with Rejects Revenge. He has also worked with Trestle, Hoipolloi, Brouhaha, English Shakespeare Co., Clod Ensemble, The Gate Theatre, West Yorkshire Playhouse and Sheffield Crucible. He can also be seen in the pop video *Absurd playing Gazelle Boy* and *The Man Who Falls On Bread*.



Stephen specialises in Clown, Mask, Commedia Dell Arte, Improvisation and Devising. He has worked with Told by an Idiot many times on productions including: *I'm a Fool to want you*, *Shoot me in the Heart*, *I Weep at My Piano* and *Don't Laugh It's my Life* and also runs many of their education projects.



Patricia Rodríguez (Artistic Director and Performer) Award-winning actress; she worked for various Spanish companies before undergoing a full year training with Philippe Gaulier. UK credits include: *Pakita: Stimulating Bitter and Necessary*, and *You and Me* by Little Soldier Productions. Other work includes *All Across Europe* - based on the current European financial crisis- directed by Esther Richardson for Nottingham Playhouse- due to open in 2014.

Patricia specialises in improvisation, character work, clown and devising. She has taught workshops internationally.

Mercè Ribot (Artistic Director and Performer) Trained at East 15 on the acclaimed Contemporary Theatre Course. TV Credits: *The Trip* (BBC 2) and Charlie Brooker's *Black Mirror* (Channel 4). Theatre credits: *The Bush Bazaar* (The Bush Theatre); *Discombobulated* by Publick Transport (Brewery

Theatre & UK National Tour) commissioned and developed through Bristol Ferment at Bristol Old Vic; *Kin* and *The Collision of things* by Move to Stand (Brighton Festival, Edinburgh Fringe 2013 and it will be featured at this year's Vault Festival).

Mercè specialises in physical theatre, mask, clown and devising. She has taught at East 15 Acting School and delivered educational workshops in UK and Spain.

'I really enjoyed the workshop, it was great fun. Quite a nice change to be able to play; I understood quite fully the message about really taking into account the audience.'

Workshop participant