



## Taking Flight Theatre

**After years of charming audiences at outdoor venues and sites with their Shakespearian tales, Taking Flight Theatre Company is now preparing to perform its first tour of indoor venues, *You've Got Dragons*, at 12 venues around Wales and England**

This spring, dragons will be appearing all over Wales and England. Award- Winning Taking Flight Theatre are taking an exceptional story on tour - *You've Got Dragons* is an inclusive and accessible take on Kathryn Cave's book.

*You've Got Dragons* is a visual treat for young children, their families and carers, with enchanting live music and songs, animated creative captions, audio description and VV woven throughout ( Visual Vernacular - a mix of British Sign Language, mime and gesture).

This delightful tale follows Ben's journey to come to terms with her dragons. The audience will see her struggle to hide from them, shout at them, pretend they aren't there and even try to make them laugh.

Artistic Director Elise Davison said:

"We hope that as well as being a highly entertaining show it will also start conversations about 'dragons' and the fact that we all get them and make talking about feelings not such a taboo. Although this is not an issue based show - we hope to raise awareness of mental ill health in young children and show how talking about it can help us to realise that 'no dragon is more powerful than YOU'."

Quotes from audience members at Unity Festival 2016 Performances

"It is intergenerational...I have a little boy and I took him, along with my husband and my son's grandparents, they enjoyed it just as much as my toddler did. My son still talks of the dragons; it has really struck a chord with him. He wouldn't take his eyes off the stage, totally mesmerised by what was happening visually and understood the sophisticated themes."

"I wanted to put in writing just how impressed I was with the production... In a time when mental health issues are still proving to be tough to talk about and understand, especially for young people, theatre such as this is important viewing for young audiences."

Children and their families will also be invited to join in activities pre and post show, including creating their own tactile, light up model houses. These will also be accessible, with audio description from actors describing their costumes and tactile costume mood boards to touch.

---ENDS---

## **Notes for Editors**

### **Listings Information**

#### **TAKING FLIGHT THEATRE COMPANY**

co-production with The Met, Abertillery and supported by Creu Cymru and Arts Council of Wales.

#### **YOU'VE GOT DRAGONS**

Directed by Elise Davison

Based on the book by Kathryn Cave and devised by Elise and the original cast members

Performers: Hermone Berhane, James Williams Ward, Chloë Clarke, Axelina Heagney

Designed and built by Stacey-Jo Atkinson

Composed: Dan Lawrence

Dramaturgy: Sam Bees

#### **TOUR DATES**

24th March at 7:30pm

The Met, Abertillery

Tickets: £8

Box office: 01495 355945

[blaenaugwentvenues.com](http://blaenaugwentvenues.com)

28th March at 10am and 1pm

Blackwood Miner's Institute

Tickets: £5.50

Box office: 01495 227206

<https://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/bmi/whatson/whats-on>

31st March at 1.30pm and 3:30pm

Y Ffwrnes, Llanelli

Tickets: £9 / £7.50 / £28 ( family)/ £12.75 ( Adult and lapseat child over 18 mths)

Box Office: 0845 2263510

[https://ffwrnes.ticketsolve.com/?\\_ga=1.121369352.1097607276.1469092987#/shows/873567645](https://ffwrnes.ticketsolve.com/?_ga=1.121369352.1097607276.1469092987#/shows/873567645)

4th April at 10.30am

Barry Memorial Arts Centre

Box Office: 01446 738622

<http://www.memoartscentre.co.uk>

8th April Under1roof- Greenwich (London)

12th April at 1pm and 3pm  
Torch Theatre Milford Haven  
Tickets: £8.50/£7  
Box Office: 01646 695267  
<http://torchtheatre.co.uk/events/youve-got-dragons/>

13th+ 14th April at 6.30pm  
15th April at 2pm and 5.30pm  
Chapter, Cardiff  
Tickets: £7  
Box Office: 02920 304400  
<http://www.chapter.org/youve-got-dragons>

1st May at 10am and 2pm Wisewords Festival- Canterbury CT1 2NQ The Secret garden  
Info 01227 787787

20th May at 2pm  
Newbridge Memorial Hall  
Tickets: £7  
Box Office: 01495 243 252  
<http://www.newbridgememo.co.uk>

21<sup>st</sup> May at 5:30pm  
Swansea Centre for Deaf People, 57a Neath Road, Swansea  
Tickets: £5 / £3 / 2.50  
01792614786

24th May at 1pm  
Parc and Dare Theatre, Treorchy  
Tickets: £5  
Box Office: 08000 147 111  
<http://www.rct-arts.org/event/youve-got-dragons>

27th May at 11am and 2pm  
Theatr Brycheiniog, Brecon  
Tickets: £10/ £7  
Box Office: 01874 611 622  
<https://theatrbrycheiniog.ticketsolve.com/shows/873570743/events?locale=en-GB>

28th May Bath Spa University

Running Time: 50 minutes (no interval)  
Age guidance: 4+  
Website: [www.takingflighttheatre.co.uk](http://www.takingflighttheatre.co.uk)  
Trailers: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RN-4\\_b2zh7l&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RN-4_b2zh7l&feature=youtu.be)  
Audio Flyer- <http://ow.ly/swhT3096jjb>  
BSL Flyer- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=2&v=8qb97OigB5k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=8qb97OigB5k)

Show hashtag: #GotDragons17

Digital image links:

<http://www.takingflighttheatre.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/YGD-Poster-Back.jpg>

<http://www.takingflighttheatre.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/YGD-Poster-Front.jpg>

Taking Flight Theatre Company (TFTC) was formed by Beth House and Elise Davison in 2008. Beth met Elise whilst working on a youth theatre project in South Wales. Having worked extensively together since then on a freelance basis, they decided to make it official and set up Taking Flight Theatre Company. Our aim with this company is to work with groups of people who have traditionally been underrepresented in theatre, film and television, and to make fully accessible and integrated theatre for all ages. Taking flight Theatre Company regularly tour to some of the most gorgeous open spaces across Wales (and occasionally England) with beautifully realised Shakespearean adventures every summer. TFTC have also led on a Welsh Government initiative tackling Disability Hate Crime for the last 3 autumns- reaching over 9,000 young people in the last 3 years. TFTC also perform festival and street theatre pieces during the summer. You've Got Dragons is their first production especially developed for theatres and professional and community performance spaces.

Taking Flight Theatre Company have an integrated casting policy which goes hand in hand with their belief in creating fully accessible and integrated theatre- employing the best creative talent regardless of visible and invisible abilities. Our philosophy reaches out to performers who might traditionally have been overlooked by mainstream theatre, and as such they often employ disabled, D/deaf and sensory impaired performers, placing positive disabled role models centre stage.

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