

The Gramophones Theatre Company

# AIDY THE AWESOME PROGRAMME

An aerial theatre adventure!



Nottingham Soroptimist Trust  
providing training, education and financial hardship grants  
for women and girls in Nottinghamshire  
registered charity number 1130951



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**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



# THE CAST

## Aidy - Farrell Cox

Farrell Cox is a Physical theatre actress and aerialist. Training at East 15 Acting School, Dell Arte International school, California and with renowned clown Philippe Gaulier. Theatre Credits: Wild (How it ended) Rigoletto (Glyndebourne opera), Don Quixote (The RSC), Hive City Legacy (Hot Brown Honey), Alice's Adventures Underground (Les Enfants Terribles), The Exploded Circus (Mimbre), The Tree (Highly Sprung), Tarzanna (The Gramophones) and Penquin! Elephant (Goblin Theatre). Other credits: LASTheatre, Samsung, HBO, London 2012 Olympic ceremonies, Charles Chipperfield Circus and You me bum bum train.



## Granny - Deborah Sanderson

After graduating from Bretton Hall College, Deborah worked in theatre in education and outdoor theatre. Then she discovered aerial circus and after months of press ups and sit ups she trained as a trapeze artist and performed freelance before setting up her own company Urban Angels Circus in 2002.

She collaborates with numerous artists; video, textiles, photographers to make performances that vary in scale from one-woman pieces to epic outdoor shows on her unique curved aerial structures.

As a freelance circus performer, researcher, teacher and director she has worked in contemporary and tradition circus throughout Europe and beyond including a season at Cirque de France in the Caribbean. Deborah is a proud mum, grandma and likes her silver hair. When she was a little girl she wanted to be a librarian.



# THE CAST

## Ron De Chocolate- Kathryn Hanke

Kathryn is an actor and former sketch comedian based in Leeds. Touring for 9 years with sketch troupe The Dog-Eared Collective, she gained a Stage Must See, Sunday Times Critics Choice and four stars from Chortle. Since going solo as a stage performer, she has toured theatre shows with Highly Sprung and Imagineer Productions (Coventry) Maison Foo (Derby) Fidget Theatre (Leeds) and Mind The Gap (Bradford). She also regularly works for immersive theatre companies including Vortex Creates, Sneaky Experience, Bakehouse Factory and the Bureau of Silly Ideas.

Alongside performing, Kathryn writes and improvises her own comedy, having written some material for radio (BBC Radio Scotland, 2016) and also short film (Tadah Media, 2017). Her own 4min comic short Reverse Darwinism (produced by Chocolate Bear films) won 3 awards at independent film festivals in 2019, and is available to view on Amazon Prime. She is now developing it into a one woman theatre show, and most recently performed an excerpt for Attenborough Arts Centre's Unexpected Tales season, which was live-streamed from the venue in December.



## Musician / Charlie / Sarah Fox - Hazel Monaghan

Hazel is an actor and musician from Nottingham. After training at The Television Workshop, she studied English at Swansea University and Literature & Translation at Université d'Aix Marseille. Hazel began her career in film and TV, and has spent the last few years in theatres or on tour, most recently with The Three Inch Fools, MishMash Productions and Nottingham Playhouse. Otherwise, she's usually climbing, reading or writing family musicals with a particular focus on climate issues and developing green theatre-making practices.



# ***CREATIVE TEAM***

**Devised by The Gramophones Theatre Company**

**Directors:** Ria Ashcroft and Hannah Stone

**Producers:** Hannah Stone, Ria Ashcroft & Tilly Branson

**Design:** Irene Jade

**Music and Lyrcis:** Darren Clark

**Aerial Choreography:** Gwen Hales /Ria Ashcroft

**Stage Management:** Jade Ayres

**Lighting Design:** Alexandra Stafford

**Filmed and Edited by:** Rachel Bunce

**Participation:** Kath Akers

**Outreach:** Orla O'Connor

**Rig Design:** Jonathan Graham

**Rig developed by:** Tom Dixon

**Rigger:** Claire Crook

**Commissioned by:** Curve Theatre

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**Thanks to:** Nottingham Playhouse, Circus Hub, New Wolsey Theatre, Core

# ABOUT THE GRAMOPHONES



We are an established female led company run by Co-Artistic Directors Hannah Stone and Ria Ashcroft. We create contemporary, playful, high quality shows that put women centre stage. We tell stories that are rooted in the community, inspired by women's voices and reach far and wide.

The Gramophones have toured extensively to venues across the UK. Our show End to End received 4 and 5 star reviews at the Edinburgh Fringe.

★★★★★ Three Weeks      ★★★★★ Broadway Baby  
★★★★★ Edfringe Review      ★★★★★ Fringe Biscuit  
★★★★★ Brighton Fringe Review

In 2016 we were commissioned by Derby Festé to make Tarzanna, an aerial theatre show for families which toured extensively and toured again in October 2021.

Last year we developed an audio experience for an adult and child to experience together in a green space of their choosing.

"It was really really good. My child had 100% total focus, like complete focus, eyes screwed tightly shut for that section. AND we will be doing it again"

# ***MORE ABOUT THE SHOW***

We worked with girls and grannies to develop the story ideas- running workshops in person and then over Zoom!



“Children’s media and books are packed with gender stereotypes: princesses waiting for Prince Charming, fairies dressed in pink, and heroic characters that are almost invariably male” (The Guardian) We are keen to explore stories in which girls are protagonists in alternative feisty, funny and strong roles.

We want to break down the princess archetype and offer young girls different role models to aspire to. According to a study published in the American periodical Science, by the time they are six, girls already think that they are less capable than boys. We would like to get our audiences thinking differently.

# CONTACT US


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