

a is for

annual report
2011/2012

tutti frutti

C is for chair of trustees

Ready? Steady? Geared up, raring to go, tutti frutti set off at great pace this year and they haven't stopped moving since. It's been a grand year filled with success, hard work and even more children enjoying fantastic tutti frutti theatre.

Success with Grants for the Arts funding for a national tour of a delightful new production Hare and Tortoise and the writing project First Words; and success in becoming an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation and securing core funding until 2015. Hard work creating a new website and going through the wardrobe into the digital world and in every aspect of company life. Even more – over 20,000 children saw tutti frutti's work during the year; new relationships were forged with new venues and international connections were stimulated when Artistic Director Wendy Harris travelled to the prestigious Assitej World Congress in Malmo, Copenhagen.

Our relationship with York Theatre Royal continues to thrive and strengthen and the company produced Animal Tails in the summer there. It told the simple story of The Little Red Hen and other animal tales from around the world and included a first for the company – fresh bread rolls baked on stage! More innovatory work came through First Words, which brought together 6 writers, 6 artists and 3 partner venues. It was a project designed to

help writers from Yorkshire, Merseyside and Lancashire to create theatre for children by working with artists and specialists in theatre for young people.

Another highlight was Hare and Tortoise with carrots growing in a drawer and the seasons ticking by as Hare waited not very patiently for Tortoise to race with him, and due to popular demand and great critical acclaim, it's been touring again.

Next year brings great cause for celebration as tutti frutti begins its 21st year. I have no doubt that there are many happy years ahead for the company thanks to great story-telling, superb writing, fantastic artists, good creative collaboration and a brilliant team at its heart. Wendy, Emma and Alison are to be congratulated on making tutti frutti a great company and one to watch long into the future.

Deborah Dickinson

A is for artistic director

There were lots of new things to enjoy in 2011/12. Working with new partners Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse Theatre, the Dukes Lancaster and Sheffield Theatres we pooled our resources to support and nurture 6 writers wishing to make work specifically for children on our First Words project. Alongside this we completely redesigned our website and began to engage more fully with social networking creating lots of extra work for all concerned! We joined the York Theatre Royal ensemble for 2 weeks and created a quick adaptation of the 'Little Red Hen' story and others under the title of 'Animal Tails'. We packed the houses in the studio for 10 fun-filled performances. I was lucky to join peers at the Assitej World Congress in Malmo & Copenhagen seeing inspiring work from across the world.

In the autumn our national touring co production with York Theatre Royal was the beautiful Hare and Tortoise written by Brendan Murray. This toured nationally and finished with a successful 4 week run at Sheffield Theatres in December.

As ever, it was an action packed year where we received some lovely feedback from our audience and promoters. We continue to work with our partners and thank all those involved from our established relationship with York Theatre Royal to the new regional venues who worked with us in different ways during the year. Our funders, Arts Council England, continue to support our work and we are very pleased to be a National Portfolio Organisation from April 2012. This new status enables us to forge ahead with exciting plans for making work for children up until 2015.

Wendy Harris



P is for policy

To delight children with meaningful, imaginative, visual, story based theatre.

- To place children at the centre of the work we create
- To make delightful new theatre for children and family audiences
- To create work that has a strong visual and physical storytelling style
- To create work that is beautiful, engages the imagination of the audience and provides an intimate theatrical experience
- To create work that embraces cultural diversity in its influences, making and production
- To work collaboratively with a broad range of theatre artists to push the artistic boundaries of the work
- To tour regionally, nationally and internationally to venues, rural settings and schools
- To enable exploration and development of creative practice by bringing together artists and children in process led projects

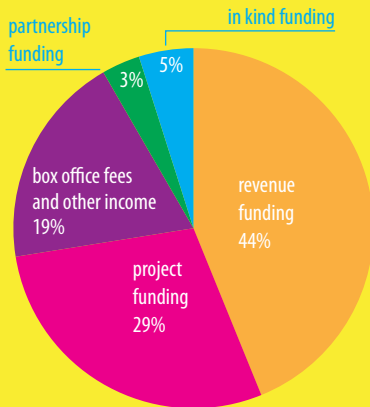


M is for money

income

revenue funding	£ 87,933
project funding	£ 57,394
box office fees and other income	£ 38,479
partnership funding	£ 6,899
in kind funding	£ 9,826

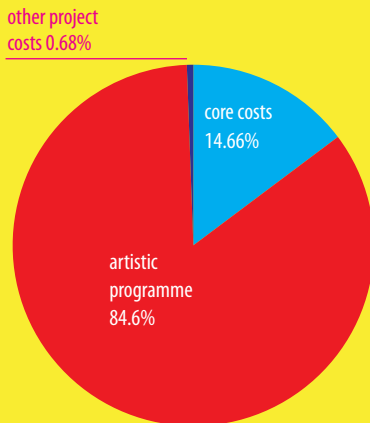
total income £ 200,531



expenditure

core costs	£ 29,428
artistic programme	£ 168,861
other project costs	£ 1,150

total expenditure £ 199,439



F is for tutti frutties

actors:

first words:

George Chalmers, James Wooldridge, Sarah Lawrie,
Mike Neary, Josh Moran, Fionnuala Dorrity, Kate Crossley,
Sam Lupton, Stewart Thomas, Julia Gwynne

animal tails:

Gordon Kane, Martin Barrass

hare and tortoise:

Luisa Guerreiro, Barnaby Southgate

writers:

Brendan Murray, Esther Wilson, Lawrence Wilson,
Cathianne Hall, Lavinia Murray, Kriss Foster, Kelly Smith

photographers:

Peter Byrne, Tristan Brady-Jacobs, Darren Andrews

web designers:

Peekaboo Design

stage manager:

Kate Stoney

production manager:

Judith Cloke (York Theatre Royal)

composer:

Dominic Sales

movement director:

Ruth Tyson-Jones

designer:

Catherine Chapman

directors (first words):

Andrew Loretto, Louie Ingham, Guy Christiansen,
Jonathan Humphreys

practitioners (first words):

Andy Manley, Marcus Romer, Ruth Tyson-Jones,
TC Howard, Dominic Sales, Chris Mellor, John Barber,
Alison Heffernan, Mike Kenny, Joe Sumsion, Sarah Ogle,
Sarah Clough, Jo Albin-Clark

digital developer:

Jane Wood

graphic design:

Swink Design, Johnny Smyth

press/PR:

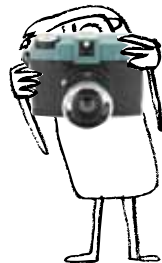
Duncan Clarke

artistic director:

Wendy Harris

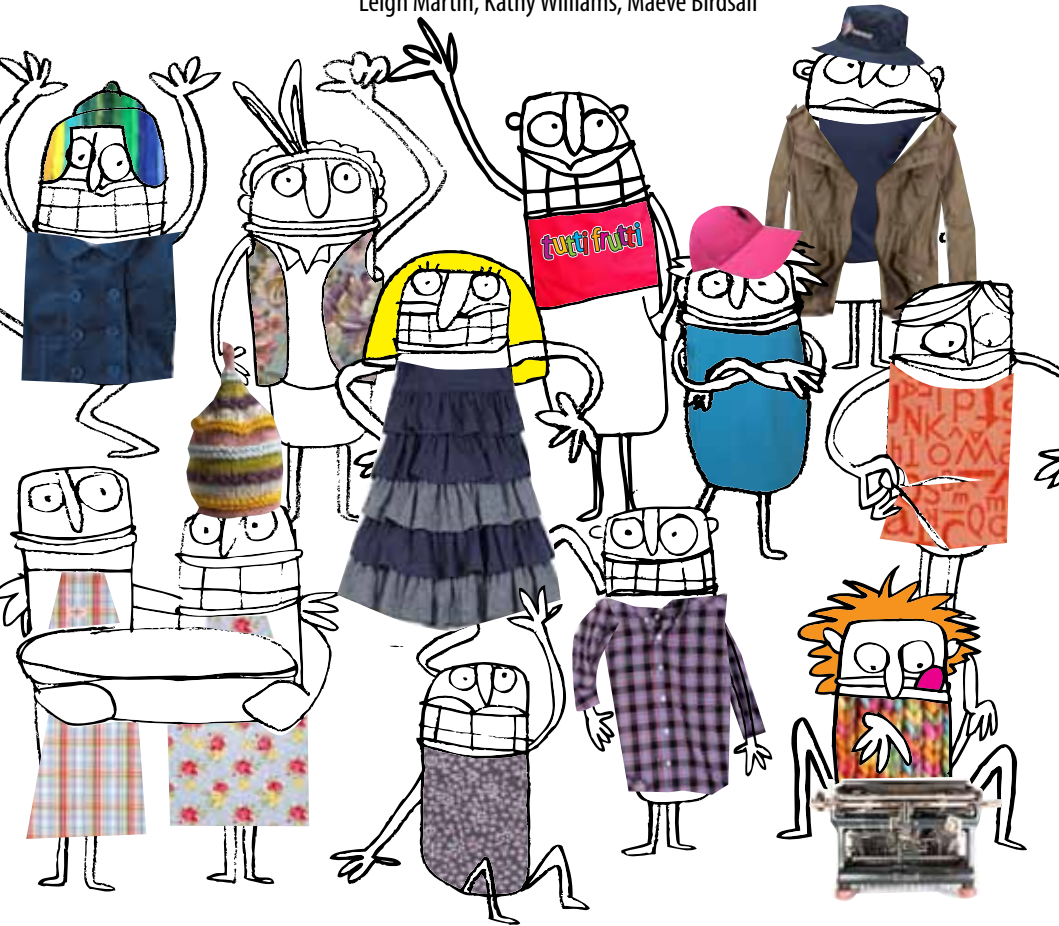
general manager:

Emma Killick



tour manager:
board of trustees:

Alison Povey
Deborah Dickinson (chair), Daniel Hadley, Annie Latham,
Leigh Martin, Kathy Williams, Maeve Birdsall





H is for hare and tortoise

We received a Grants for the Arts Award for the creation of a new national touring production for children aged 3-7 years based on the Aesop's fable The Hare and The Tortoise. Co-produced with York Theatre Royal, Hare and Tortoise toured nationally from September 2011 to January 2012.

This delightful version of Aesop's fable about opposites, time and friendship was adapted by Brendan Murray, a hugely experienced playwright for young people. Brendan created the script through a devising process working with the creative team and two actor musicians.

Design was by Catherine Chapman. Her simple, imaginative and versatile set created a beautiful context for the production.

The music was by Dominic Sales and movement by Ruth Tyson-Jones, both very experienced in young people's theatre. The great physicality of Luisa Guerrerio made the perfect Tortoise whilst the very talented musician Barnaby Southgate as the Hare added much to the live music.



Lyn Gardner, Guardian *"A beautifully crafted piece"*

The production ran for 2½ weeks at York Theatre Royal, toured nationally for 8 weeks from 9th October to 10th December 2011 and finished with a 4 week run at the Sheffield Crucible Studio Theatre.

tour

We performed at four new venues including Birmingham Rep, the Hawth, Shine and Waterside Arts Centre.

Total Number of Performances	122 (14½ weeks)
Number of venues visited	32
Total Audience	11,539

"A totally engaging performance for the whole audience whatever their age." Powys Dance

"Hare and Tortoise captivates immediately and draws children and their families into a beautiful world." The Stage

"Children and accompanying adults will love this enchanting show." York Press



W is for first words

This was a new project which provided a unique opportunity for writers to develop their writing for a young audience and to explore ideas, develop their skills and present their work at a showcase.

We were delighted to have worked with new partners Sheffield Theatres, the Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse and the Dukes Theatre Lancaster.

Each partner contacted its wider creative network to generate interest from writers to apply for the project. A total of 6 writers from the regions were selected through a rigorous selection process. Those selected were Kriss Forster, Esther Wilson, Cathianne Hall, Lavinia Murray, Lawrence Wilson and Kelly Smith.

- The First Words Lab: 3-7 May 2011
The 6 successful writers were invited to attend a week-long Lab, hosted at the Dukes Theatre Lancaster

- The First Words Development Days: 1-3 June 2011
Hosted by Sheffield Theatres, the writing ideas generated from the Lab week were developed over 3 days of workshops
- First Words Showcase: November 2011 at the Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse 'Everyword Festival'

The showcase at this prestigious event presented the writers' work, whether it was a full reading, an extract or a performance of the play. The work was presented as 'work in progress'. Through the theatre's Education and Community Department, 147 school children attended the First Words showcase. The children gave feedback on what they had seen through facilitated sessions. During the evening, the plays were read to Everyword audiences. Following an inspiring talk by Mike Kenny there was an open Q&A session with a panel of artists to explore questions around creating work for children.



This project enabled us to:

- nurture and develop 6 new writers and to develop potential writers for our sector
- build new important links with northern based theatre venues
- open new doors at the partner venues enabling them to consider how children's work is placed in their venues
- look at how we can best work with and develop writers
- bring in a broad range of theatre artists to work with us in a new way

First Words engagement will continue in 2013.



T is for thanks

Damian Cruden & Liz Wilson and all the production, marketing and education teams at York Theatre Royal for making our partnership so successful.

On First Words to Louie Ingham, Suzanne Bell, Lindsay Rodden, Andrew Loretto and all the production and education teams who supported First Words at Sheffield Theatres, The Dukes Lancaster, and the Liverpool Playhouse and Everyman Theatre.

On Hare and Tortoise to Mills and Reeve for their financial support, to Oakwood School for their help with research and to all staff at Sheffield Theatres for their support during the 4 week run there. Thanks also to Emma Forster for her support as our lead officer at Arts Council England.

tutti frutti productions
Shine, Harehills Road,
Harehills, Leeds
LS8 5HS
+44(0)113 388 0027
www.tutti-frutti.org.uk



Registered in England and Wales
Company registration No.4267423
registered charity No.1120663



MILLS & REEVE

