

# THE NATURE OF FORGETTING



theatre  
**RE**

*“We all know that something is eternal. And it ain’t houses and it ain’t names, and it ain’t earth, and it ain’t even the stars... Everybody knows in their bones that something is eternal, and that something has to do with human beings... There is something, way down deep that’s eternal about every human being... And that’s what’s left when memory is gone.”*

*Thornton Wilder, Our Town*

# ABOUT THE SHOW

Back in 2015, the making of the *The Nature of Forgetting* started with a question: 'what is left when memory is gone?'.

To develop the piece, we collaborated with UCL Neuroscience Professor Kate Jeffery. Research on memory and amnesia formed the basis and foundation of our explorations. In partnership with the Alzheimer's Society we interviewed older members of the community, as well as people living with dementia and their carers, to create links between the science and real human experience.



Those of us living with dementia lose the ability to form and reconstruct memories. They struggle to think about the future. They are in the present and only in the present. Of course, this is debilitating, but could also be liberating and beautiful.

It reminds us of Emily's line in *Our Town*: '*Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it? - every, every minute?*'.

If there is one takeaway from the past few years of making, touring, refining and breathing new life into *The Nature of Forgetting* - it's to remind ourselves to be present, in the moment, and realise life as we live it.

Ultimately, our piece is not about dementia. It is about the fragility of life and that eternal 'something' we all share that is left when memory is gone.

**Runs 75 minutes without interval**



# ABOUT THEATRE RE

We are 'one of the UK's most admired physical theatre companies' (The Scotsman). Our work combines original live music with striking visual performance to create world class, deeply moving non-verbal productions about universal human challenges and the fragility of life. We engage with audiences locally, nationally and internationally to create, share and promote life-changing theatre that is both inventive and accessible through cross-arts and cross-sector collaboration.



We are an artist-led company based at The Point in Eastleigh with a strong 14-year track record: seven mid-scale productions, extensive touring in the UK (85 venues in 50 cities) and internationally (17 countries across 3 continents) – including a Broadway transfer, international licensing of our repertoire and sold-out runs at the Hong Kong Arts Festival, the Cervantino Festival (Mexico), and London International Mime Festival.

Our training programme is in high demand across the world with long-term partners such the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. Partnerships with community organisations throughout the creation process and while on tour are central to our work.



# CREATIVE TEAM

Conceived & Directed by

**Guillaume Pigé**

Devised by the Company

Isabella / Sophie

**Luna Tosin**

Emma / Mrs Denis

**Claudia Marciano**

Mike

**Calum Littley**

Tom

**Guillaume Pigé**

Multi-instrumentalist /

Teacher

**Henry Webster**

or **Alex Judd**

Percussionist /

Schoolboy

**Nathan Gregory**

Composer

**Alex Judd**

Lighting Designer

**Katherine Graham**

Re-lighter,

Stage Manager

**Ross Hayward**

Sound Technician,

Production Manager

**Benjamin Adams**

Costume & Prop Designer

**Malik Ibheis**

Dramaturg

**A.C. Smith**

Scientific Collaborator

**Professor Kate Jeffery**

External Curator

**Andrew Visnevski**

Devisers

**Matthew Austin**

**Malik Ibheis**

**Chris Jones**

**Alex Judd**

**Fred McLaren**

**Keiran Pearson**

**Guillaume Pigé**

**Eygló Belafonte**

**Andres Velasquez**

**Louise Wilcox**



Dementia UK and The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) are supporting the tour of *The Nature of Forgetting*.

## DEMENTIA UK

Dementia UK is the specialist dementia nursing charity. The charity's Admiral Nurses provide life-changing support for families affected by all forms of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease. If you need advice or support on living with dementia, contact the Admiral Nurse Dementia Helpline on 0800 888 6678 or email [helpline@dementiauk.org](mailto:helpline@dementiauk.org). Alternatively, book a video or phone appointment at: [dementiauk.org/book](https://dementiauk.org/book)

Dementia UK host the Young Dementia Network. The Network is a collaboration between people affected by and working in the field of young onset dementia. It campaigns to create positive change and is free to join, find out more: [youngdementianetwork.org](https://youngdementianetwork.org)

# JOIN DEMENTIA RESEARCH

Join Dementia Research is run by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) in partnership with Alzheimer Scotland, Alzheimer's Research UK and Alzheimer's Society. The service enables people to register their interest in participating in dementia research whether: they have the condition; are the carer of someone with dementia or are just interested in improving outcomes in this area. Once registered individuals are matched to suitable studies they can see what dementia research is taking place, both in their local area and across the UK. The service connects researchers with people who want to participate in studies. Volunteers will receive an email notification about studies they can take part in and can choose whether or not they want to take part. For more information visit [joindementiaresearch.nihr.ac.uk](http://joindementiaresearch.nihr.ac.uk)





# TRAINING

Training and participation is a core element of our work.

We run regular open workshops for a range of individuals both in-person and online, and offer training to secondary schools, colleges, universities and independent training institutions. Our training programme of workshops and seminars is designed to support students' development in creating work, building performance skills and performing theatre theory.

We also partner with various drama schools, such as the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and Rose Bruford College to deliver term-long modules in our style of theatre. Our approach is inclusive and relevant to all, and our learning and training activities are tailored to the group we are working with, so every workshop is different.

To request more details about our training programmes please contact our Participation Producer at: [TheatreRe.Participation@gmail.com](mailto:TheatreRe.Participation@gmail.com)

# TOURING & MAKING

We are currently touring 4 shows in the UK and internationally: *The Nature of Forgetting*, *BIRTH*, *Bluebelle* and *Moments*.

# SUPPORTING

We are always developing new and exciting projects. If you enjoyed our work and want to support us, please do get in touch. Thank you for your care and generosity!

# MUSIC

The music from the show is available to purchase. Please come and see us after a performance for more details! It is also available from our website.

# CONTACT

[re.theatre@gmail.com](mailto:re.theatre@gmail.com) [www.theatrere.co.uk](http://www.theatrere.co.uk)

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