Advance Program Notes

Theatre Re
The Nature of Forgetting
Wednesday, November 14, 2018, 7:30 PM

These Advance Program Notes are provided online for our patrons who like to read about performances ahead of time. Printed programs will be provided to patrons at the performances. Programs are subject to change.

Theatre Re
The Nature of Forgetting

CREATIVE TEAM
Conceived & Directed by Guillaume Pigé
Devised by the Company
Isabella/Sophie: Louise Wilcox
Emma/Mrs. Denis: Eygló Belafonte
Mike: Matthew Austin
Tom: Guillaume Pigé
Multi-instrumentalist/Teacher: Alex Judd
Percussionist/Schoolboy: Chris Jones
Composer: Alex Judd
Lighting Designer: Katherine Graham
Re-lighter, Production Manager, and Stage Manager: Josephine Tremelling
Costume and Prop Designer: Malik Ibheis
Dramaturg: A.C. Smith
Scientific Collaborator: Professor Kate Jeffery
External Curator: Andrew Visnevski

Devising Cast: Matthew Austin, Malik Ibheis, Chris Jones, Alex Judd, Fred McLaren, Keiran Pearson, Guillaume Pigé, Eygló Belafonte, Andres Velasquez, and Louise Wilcox

This evening’s performance runs 75 minutes in length, without an intermission.

Funded by Arts Council England through Grant for the Arts and co-commissioned by London International Mime Festival, the Point Easterleigh, and South Hill Park

This engagement of Theatre Re is made possible through the ArtsCONNECT program of Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.
Program Notes

“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

Our main character, Tom, is living with early onset dementia. We meet him on his 55th birthday being helped by his daughter, Sophie, as he struggles to get dressed for the party. What follows is a life-affirming journey into Tom’s weakening mind, where broken does not have to mean defeated.

To develop The Nature of Forgetting, we collaborated with Kate Jeffery, professor of neuroscience at University College London (UCL). Research on memory and amnesia formed the basis and foundation of our explorations. We also interviewed older members of the community as well as people living with dementia to create links between the science and the real human experience.

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.

Thank You


Thank you also to everyone at The Point, the Hail Mental Health Support Association, Saint Ann’s Library, Saint Ann’s Hospital Memory Service, the Haringey Older People’s Forum, the Haringey Dementia Café, the Alzheimer’s Society, and Homes for Haringey.
About Theatre Re

Established in 2009 Theatre Re is a London-based international ensemble creating thought-provoking and moving work. Its shows examine fragile human conditions in compelling, physical style, embracing mime, theatre, and live music. Close collaborations with appropriate community groups and experts in different fields including science, philosophy, and public health throughout the devising process play a crucial part in the development of its work. The name of the company comes from the prefix ‘re’. It is the ‘re’ of re-discovering and re-imagining, breathing new life into what already exists. We are an @Home company at The Point, Eastleigh (U.K.).


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

Let us know what you thought and keep in touch!
@TheatreRe #thenatureofforgetting
facebook.com/retheatre
instagram.com/theatrere

Join our mailing list to receive our monthly newsletter. For more information, please contact us at info@retheatre.com and at retheatre.com.

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Engagement Events

Tuesday, November 13, 2018
CORPOREAL MIME MASTER CLASS: FROM ACTOR TO MIME
While visiting Blacksburg, performers in Theatre Re conducted a movement-based acting class for theatre arts students at Virginia Tech.

Wednesday, November 14, 2018
SCHOOL-DAY PERFORMANCE: THEATRE RE
Theatre Re delivered a matinee performance of The Nature of Forgetting for Virginia Tech students in neuroscience, psychology, and human development, as well as students in 6th-12th grades in public, private, and homeschools from Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski counties.

Wednesday, November 14, 2018
PANEL: WHAT IS MEMORY?
What do we know about memory, and what remains a mystery? Participants explored these questions and more, led by panelists in the arts, psychology, social services, and neuroscience.

Wednesday, November 14, 2018, Following the performance
POST-PERFORMANCE Q&A
Cube
Following this evening’s performance, join members of Theatre Re for a post-performance discussion of The Nature of Forgetting. Moderated by Al Evangelist, post-master of fine arts fellow in Virginia Tech’s School of Performing Arts.

Special thanks to Rachel Diana, Al Evangelista, Tina King, Harald W. Sontheimer, and Rachel Weaver

Go Beyond

How would you describe the narrative structure of The Nature of Forgetting? How does that structure relate to the piece’s examination of memory, and use of music and movement?
In the Galleries

MULTIPLY
Thursday, October 18-Saturday, December 15, 2018
Ruth C. Horton Gallery

Collaborate. Tesselate. Multiply!

In celebration of our fifth anniversary, we invite you to join us in transforming our prime gallery space into a growing work of art that illustrates the power of collaboration. The walls and fixtures in the Ruth C. Horton Gallery will be covered in a rainbow of thousands of hexagons, one of nature and geometry's most fascinating, efficient, and useful forms. The process of transforming this space begins October 18 and continues through December 15. All ages and abilities welcome!

This exhibition is supported in part by a gift from Dr. Charles Y. Davis and Mrs. Carole C. Davis.

GALLERY HOURS
Monday-Friday, 10 AM-5:30 PM
Saturday, 10 AM-4 PM

To arrange a group tour or class visit, please contact Meggin Hicklin, exhibitions program manager, at megh79@vt.edu.