

PRESS RELEASE

April 2014

AWARD-WINNING INSPECTOR SANDS TOUR THEIR FIRST EVER PRODUCTION FOR CHILDREN.

Following the successful 2013 tour, Inspector Sands (*Hysteria* and *If That's All There Is*) return with a new re-imagining of *Rock Pool* – a kind of crustacean *Waiting for Godot* for anyone over the age of 3.

When a big storm whips up the sea, two creatures are left stranded in a lonely rock pool...

Prawn and Crab could not be more different. They look different, act different, and when Crab gets hungry - about every 5 minutes - it's all Prawn can do to stop being eaten. But as the sun beats down and their little pool starts to drain away, they don't have long to find a way of getting on and getting home...

The production will take children to the heart of Prawn and Crab's rock pool, providing a funny, tender, exuberant and partially submerged theatre experience – best described as Samuel Beckett for kids.

Rock Pool marks the company's first foray into creating work for young people. Inspector Sands' Lucinka Eisler, who directs the production, comments:

"Rock Pool is the company's first show for this age group. We're extremely excited to have crossed over into this field. It's been a long-term ambition for Inspector Sands to create a high quality, innovative and accessible project specifically for young children and their families. In 2012, the company was fortunate to be awarded the Sprout! Commission, which enabled us to develop the show and tour it to Children's Centres. This year, we're re-developing the project for a whole new audience in studio theatres across the country."

Rock Pool opens at South Street Reading on the 10th May before commencing a five-week tour of studio theatres throughout the UK.

Trailer - <https://vimeo.com/67920882>

Inspector Sands

Lucinka Eisler

Lucinka has co-created and performed in all of Inspector Sands' shows to date. Other credits include *The Magic Flute* (Complicite/DNO/ENO) *The Pirate Project* (Lucy Foster/Improbable), *True Stories - Florence Nightingale* (BBC/Lambent), *Abiyoyo* and *The Musician of Bremen* (Southwark Playhouse) and work with *Shunt*, *Shams* and *Plasticine Men*. Directing credits include: for Inspector Sands - *Portrait of The Ordinary Festival Goer* (Southbank Centre) and *A Life in 22 Minutes* (Pulse); *Reykjavik* (Shams/Roundhouse), *Generation* and *Tartuffe* (Central School), *A Quiet Afternoon* (Riverside), and collaborations with *Prodigal Theatre*, *Actors of Dionysus* and *Shams*. As assistant director Lucinka has worked with *Rufus Norris* (National Theatre, Young Vic), *Theatre O* (Barbican) and *Di Trevis* (Royal Opera House).

Giulia Innocenti

Giulia has co-created and performed in all of Inspector Sands' shows to date. Acting credits include: *The Elephantom* (National Theatre); *The Merry Wives of Windsor/ The Mouse and His Child/ The Thirteen Midnight Challenges of Angelus Diablo* (Royal Shakespeare Company); *1000 Paper Cranes* (Catherine Wheels); *Wagner Dream* (Barbican); *Madam Butterfly* (ENO); *1984/ Low Life* (Blind Summit); *Cymbeline* (Kneehigh); *Sisters* (Headlong/Gate); *Macbeth* (New Wolsey); *Lady Macbeth* (Quebracho Theatre,

Lille) Radio: The Continuity Man (BBC Radio). Giulia trained at the Jacques Lecoq School in Paris. She will be performing in The Elephantom during its West End run this summer.

Ben Lewis

Ben has co-created all of Inspector Sands' shows to date, writing the scripts for Rock Pool, Mass Observation (at the Almeida) and A High Street Odyssey (which he also directs). Other writing credits include: Don Quixote (Oran Mor) Sue: The Second Coming (Bristol Old Vic/Soho Theatre), The Village Social (National Theatre Wales), My Name Is Sue (Total Theatre Award, Soho Theatre/UK tour); Psychobitches (Sky Arts); two radio plays, Tiny (Independent 'Pick of the Day') and Blue Sky Thinking, for BBC Radio 4. Ben was recently part of the Soho Six, a group of writers-in-residence at the Soho Theatre. Ben trained as an actor at LAMDA.

Listings Information

China Plate present

Rock Pool

Created by **Inspector Sands**

Director & Prawn | **Lucinka Eisler**

Co-creator and Crab | **Giulia Innocenti**

Writer & Associate Director | **Ben Lewis**

Designer | **Yukiko Tsukamoto**

(Design developed with Laura Hopkins)

Sound Designer | **Elena Peña**

Associate Sound Designer | **Pete Malkin**

Composer | **Tom Mills**

10th May 2014, 11am

Reading South Street Arts Centre

0118 960 6060

readingarts.com/southstreet

11th May, 12pm & 3pm

Jacksons Lane

020 8341 4421

jacksonslane.org.uk

15th – 16th May, 4.30pm (15th) / 11am & 2pm (16th)

Pegasus

01865 812 150

pegasustheatre.org.uk

17th May, 2.30pm

Farnham Maltings

01252 745444

farnhammaltings.com

18th May, 11am

Reading South Street Arts Centre

0118 960 6060

readingarts.com/southstreet

24th May, 1pm & 4pm

Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry

024 7652 4524

warwickartscentre.co.uk

25th May, 11.30am & 2.30pm

Cambridge Junction

01223 511 511
junction.co.uk

26th May, 11am & 2.30pm

mac birmingham

0121 446 3232
macbirmingham.co.uk

27th May, 2.30pm

Discover Children's Centre

020 8536 5555
discover.org.uk

30th – 31st May, 11am & 2pm

Sherman Cymru

029 2064 6900
shermancymru.co.uk

1st June, 12pm & 3pm

artsdepot

020 8369 5454
artsdepot.co.uk

4th June, 1.45pm

Spot On Rural Touring, Bleasdale Village Hall

01995 61307
spotonlancashire.co.uk

5th June, 1.30pm

Spot On Rural Touring, The Centre @ Halton

01524 811316
spotonlancashire.co.uk

6th June, 2.00pm

Spot On Rural Touring, The Marine Hall, Fleetwood

01253 887693
spotonlancashire.co.uk

7th June, 2.30pm

The Atkinson

01704 533333
theatkinson.co.uk

8th June, 11am & 2pm

Z Arts

0161 232 6089
z-arts.org

14th June, 2.30pm

Quarterhouse

01303 858500
quarterhouse.co.uk

15th June, 11.30am & 2.30pm

Brighton Dome

01273 709709
brightondome.org

Notes to editors

Inspector Sands

Inspector Sands have established themselves as one of the most exciting and innovative theatre companies in the country, touring critically acclaimed work to over 50 venues across 6 countries including China and the USA. Previous award-winning work includes *Hysteria* (Total Theatre Award) and *If That's All There Is* (Edinburgh International Festival Fringe Award), both running off-Broadway in 2011. This year, they are touring two new shows around the UK: *Rock Pool*, a crustacean Waiting For Godot for anyone over the age of 3, and *A High Street Odyssey*, a promenade audio-tour of the high street. Inspector Sands have been commissioned to create two new pieces for children by the Discover Story Centre in Stratford: *Undiscovered*, a live audio tour, and *Top Secret*, a story trail installation which will run for the next few months. They also have new work in development, including *Mass Observation* and *A Life In 22 Minutes*. For more information on Inspector Sands, visit www.inspectorsands.com

China Plate

China Plate is a non building based theatre studio that works with artists, venues, festivals and funders to make high quality, exciting new theatre that is narratively engaging and adventurous in its form.

China Plate are Ed Collier, Paul Warwick and Iain Goosey.

China Plate work with a number of the UK's most exciting and innovative artists and are currently creating work with Caroline Horton, Action Hero, Chris Thorpe, Contender Charlie, Dan Jones and Inspector Sands. The company are Associate Producers at Warwick Arts Centre, Directors of Pulse Festival and Artistic Associates at New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich. For more information on China Plate, visit www.chinaplatetheatre.com

Commissioned by Farnham Mallings and Arts Partnership Surrey in association with Take Art and supported by artsdepot, South Street Reading and Discover Children's Centre.

Rock Pool is supported by Arts Council England,

For more information and to reserve reviewer tickets please contact:

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INSPECTOR SANDS



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