

ADRIEN



TOUR PACK 2018



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ADRIFT



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INTRODUCTION

Adrift is the culmination of an exciting story. Initially conceived by writer **Beverley Hancock-Smith** many years ago as part of Action Transport Theatre's *Ten Tiny Plays* — a collection of bold pieces of micro-theatre for young people — it has now been developed into an evocative piece of touring theatre.

Adrift is a **Big Imaginations** commissioned work for audiences aged 8+. It has been developed through Action Transport Theatre's close partnership with a local school, **St. Bernard's RC Primary School** in our hometown of Ellesmere Port. The whole school community at St. Bernard's has been involved in developing the show and, uniquely, the school has jointly commissioned the further writing of *Adrift* as an hour long play for young audiences.

Adrift was shared in October 2017 as part of the **Big Imaginations Festival of Theatre for Children and Young People** (at Unity Theatre, Liverpool and Z-arts, Manchester). It has also been performed at Ignite Teaching Alliance **Global Learning Day**.

Performed by skilled performers from Spain and Brazil —trained in Gaulier and corporeal mime — and set in a poetic and fantastical world, the show uses ATT's trademark physical comedy and clowning to underpin a poignant and timely story of two children escaping conflict.

It is a story of loss, bravery, imagination and hope.

ADRIFT



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SHOW INFORMATION

Company / credit	Action Transport Theatre and St. Bernard's RC Primary School present
Written by	Beverley Hancock-Smith
Directed by	Nina Hajjiyanni
Age guide	8+ (KS2) and family audiences
Running time	65 minutes (no interval)

Medium copy (100 words)	<p>Two children are in a boat. One is rowing. One is fishing. Their talk is light-hearted: of catching a fish, a fish so big it will capsize the boat; of whales who will pull the boat; of mermaids who sing haunting melodies; and of land. A land with thick grass, green leaves, endless blue skies. A beautiful land. A safe land. Above all... a safe land.</p> <p><i>Adrift</i> is a poignant and important play from acclaimed children's theatre company Action Transport Theatre. Following the story of two children adrift at sea fleeing conflict, it is a celebration of the resilience and imagination of childhood.</p>
Short copy (60 words)	<p>Two children are in a boat. One is rowing. One is fishing. They dream about a land, a beautiful land that's waiting for them. A safe land.</p> <p><i>Adrift</i> is a poignant and important play from acclaimed children's theatre company Action Transport Theatre. Told from the perspective of two children adrift at sea fleeing conflict, it is a celebration of the resilience and imagination of childhood.</p>

Link to production photos	Production photos on Google Drive
Link to trailer video	Coming soon
Photo/video credits	Sam Ryley



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CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM

Writer — Beverley Hancock-Smith

Bev is a Leicester-based writer and lecturer. Her previous plays include *Voices*, a verbatim radio play written and performed by inmates of HMP Leicester, *Into the Blue* for the Arcola Theatre, and *Best Before*, *Call Girls* and *Preggars* for Attic Theatre Company. Her play *Dead End Job* won Most Promising New Writer at the Liverpool Everyman Theatre Write Now Festival. Bev first began working with Action Transport as a young writer in 2000.

Director — Nina Hajjiyani

Nina Hajjiyani is Artistic Director of Action Transport Theatre, and a celebrated director and theatre-maker. Her work at ATT has included *Little Red and the Big Bad Wolf*, *StatiK*, *Happily Ever After* and many pioneering, site-specific plays created with local young people.

Designer — Lois Maskell

Lois has worked as a set and costume designer since 2005 with collaborations including National Museums Liverpool, Royal Exchange Manchester and the cult BBC comedy, *The Mighty Boosh*. Lois lectures in Theatre and Performance Design at Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts (LIPA).

Composer — Patrick Dineen

Liverpool-based composer and sound designer Patrick Dineen has created the 'signature sound' of many of Action Transport Theatre's plays including *Little Red and the Big Bad Wolf* and *Happily Ever After*. He has also composed for National Theatre Wales, The Lowry, Northern Stage and various BBC, ITV and Channel 4 productions.

Co-producers — St. Bernard's RC Primary School

St. Bernard's RC Primary School in Ellesmere Port is a key educational partner of Action Transport Theatre, and a lead school in the Ignite Teaching School Alliance. Staff and pupils across the school have fed into the development of *Adrift*.

Performers:

Kalib — Vini Carvalho

Originally from Brazil, Vini trained in corporeal mime with Thomas Leabhart, and now works as a physical performer, choreographer, director, mime and movement teacher. He is the artistic director of Fool's Cap Theatre.

Mariam — Carmen Arquelladas

Originally from Spain, Carmen trained in physical theatre with Gaulier in Paris and John Wright in the UK. She is an international performer and artist who has been working in theatre companies for more than 11 years as co-director, actress, and designer for both costume and set. She is co-founder of award-winning, Liverpool-based Teatro Pomodoro.

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SELLING THE SHOW

Themes

- Childhood, imagination, resilience
- Refugee crisis, displacement, conflict

Key selling points

- The play was uniquely co-commissioned by, and developed in partnership with, a local primary school.
- It utilises clowning and physical theatre and is a new, high quality play for young audiences

Potential audiences

- Schools KS2 audiences
- Drama and performing arts students
- Local refugee/migrant groups
- Children and family audiences

Sample press release and schools letter available. Please email Adam Kirkup: marketing@actiontransporttheatre.org

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TECH SPEC

- **Number of performers:** 2
- **Number in touring company:** 3 (2 performers, 1 stage manager)
- **Touring availability:** Sept–Oct 2018; national touring from Autumn 2019
- **Scale of venue:** small scale
- **Space needed:** 5m x 5m
- **Tech required:** lights, sounds, projector
- **Set:** boat and hung paper 'waves'



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CONTACT DETAILS

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