

# oogly boogly

## booking information

an event for babies and their grown-ups

### WHAT IS oogly boogly ?

**Oogly Boogly** was created and developed in 2002 by Tom Morris (Associate Director, Royal National Theatre) and Guy Dartnell (Time Out award winning solo performer and Improbable collaborator). **Oogly Boogly** asks the question: **What happens when a 12 – 18 month year old is let loose in a soft, safe space with someone who follows and reflects their every sound, move and mood?**

**Oogly Boogly** is a celebration of innocent being. It invites the very young and their parents/carers into a neutral space, free from toys or distractions, where performers follow and amplify the children's activity while the adults observe. **Oogly Boogly** is an event, a performance and a game. It is made by and with toddlers of 12 - 18 months and four performers, and takes place in a soft inflatable tent.

A new meeting place between the worlds of baby and grown ups is discovered – an event that is improvisatory and utterly unpredictable for everyone involved.

### AGE RANGE

The 12 – 18 months age range has been carefully selected to involve children who are mobile (walking or crawling), and on the edge of verbal language. For this reason we ask presenters to respect the specificity of the age range, and not to book children in, including siblings, who fall outside it.

We are currently discussing the possibilities of opening up **Oogly Boogly** to people on the edge of language, whatever their age, including those with additional needs.

### AVAILABLE FOR BOOKING

**Touring** Throughout 2008 and 2009. We're interested in finding a variety of different kinds of venues, spaces and events to visit, and support promoters who target children that would not normally have access to the arts.

**Set** **Oogly Boogly** is performed inside a colourful & safe inflatable made by Architects of Air. This includes a Welcome Tent for buggies, shoes and coats and any toys to be left, and a Play Area. See Technical Requirements for dimensions.

**Programming** **Oogly Boogly** can be performed 3 times per day and each performance lasts for 45 minutes. We usually perform at 10.00am, 11.30am and 2.00pm, although times of sessions can be varied according to venue requirements.

**UK touring** - **Oogly Boogly** is available for touring for any period of time, either in the same venue, or as part of a small tour or consortium. Please contact us to discuss your requirements.

**International touring** - When touring internationally, we always look for other potential touring venues in the surrounding region/countries to share the costs of the show. We would be pleased to discuss this with you.

**Production & Technical** Technical Specification attached.  
Please Note: Height Of Inflatable 5.3m, Floor Area Needed 15 X 9m.

**Site visit** - A site visit from our Production Manager will be required in most circumstances and is crucial for indoor venues.

**Get In and Get Out times** - If a site visit has taken place, and any additional lighting requirements are prepared (for indoor performances), then there is a 2 hour set-up and 2 hour strike time. If the structure is able to remain in the space overnight (indoor venues only), the set-up and strike times (excluding initial get in and final get out) are reduced to 1 hour.

**Staff requirements** - Two technical staff must be provided by the venue/presenter to help **Oogly Boogly** technical staff each time the inflatable is set up or taken down.

**Performances** Each session is for up to 8 babies at a time, with 4 performers, and lasts about 45 minutes. Each child can bring up to 2 adults with them. Parents or Carers stay with their child at all times, and are free to leave and re-enter the tent during the session if they wish.

**Marketing** We will produce high quality print materials and photographs for Oogly Boogly. We are keen to work closely with marketing and/or local Early Years networks as appropriate, exploring press and marketing approaches

### PREVIOUS DATES

Since the summer of 2003 **Oogly Boogly** has toured nationally and internationally, to Arts Festivals and theatres and to venues linked to Early Years such as Sure Start groups:

The Place Theatre with Crying Out Loud (London)  
Hay on Wye Literary Festival (UK)  
Springdance Festival (Holland)  
Fierce Festival (Birmingham)  
Malmo Festival (Sweden)  
Melbourne International Arts Festival (Australia)  
Belfast International Arts Festival (Northern Ireland)  
British Dance Edition, Leeds (UK)  
Peterborough Sure Start Strategic Partnerships (UK)  
Connect Festival, Lilian Baylis Theatre, London (UK)  
Woking Dance Festival (UK)  
Centre National De La Danse (France)  
Companhia Nacional De Bailado at Teatro Camões (Portugal)

Recent workshops and talks include: Nottdance Festival, Southwark Council Parents Conference, Waltham Forest Early Years Conference and Sightlines Body Language Symposium.

### FEES

The fee for the show will vary according to circumstances at each venue. To discuss the budget, please contact us.

### CONTACT DETAILS

**Oogly Boogly** is produced by **Schtanhaus**

Jo Evans, Schtanhaus  
4th Floor, 43 The Aldwych, London, WC2B 4DN  
tel. +44 (0)20 7240 4087  
fax 0844 870 0267  
www.ooglyboogly.org.uk | www.schtanhaus.co.uk  
e-mail: info@ooglyboogly.org.uk or jo@schtanhaus.co.uk

# oogly boogly **technical specification**

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**Oogly Boogly** is performed in two linked but separate inflatable structures designed and made by Architects of Air – please see photographs below. The structures are fully flame-proofed, accessible, and in accordance with UK safety standards and regulations.

On grass, the structure is secured by 11 steel pins (length approx 500mm). Where pinning is not possible weights should be provided by the venue: 125kg is required for each of 11 anchors, a total of 1,375kg. The structure can be used in winds up to 40 km/h. No pinning or weights are required for indoor venues.



## **SITE**

Although **Oogly Boogly** can be set up indoors or outdoors, an outside space is preferable. The minimum area required is 9m x 15m. The ideal surface is firm, flat, dry ground, clear of sharp objects. On tarmac surfaces, the structure will be erected on a tarpaulin (provided by us). The ground must be reasonably drained and not liable to flooding.

The site should be quiet to allow the performers to work with all sounds made by the children.

The ideal ambient temperature is 16 – 18°C. If temperatures are likely to rise or fall more than 2 degrees from this, heating / air conditioning should be provided by the venue. If this is necessary, please contact our Production Manager for further details.



## **POWER**

A 240V, 13A power supply within 20m of the site is required. **Oogly Boogly** provide all other cable and adaptors for UK touring. **For international touring the venue/festival should provide adaptors.**

## **LIGHTING**

When erected outdoors, **Oogly Boogly** needs no additional lighting. In indoor spaces we will require 35 x Source 4, 36deg, 750W or equivalent. Four floor par cans must be provided by the venue. Lighting must be discussed with our Production Manager before the event.

## **SAFETY**

The host venue is responsible for ensuring the security of the structure throughout our stay. Barriers may be required if the structure is to be placed in a public area or children's playground. This should be discussed with our Production Manager.

## **OTHER FACILITIES**

**Warm Up Space** - a clean, warm, quiet studio / space is required for the artists to warm up and down from sessions. A wooden floor is preferred.

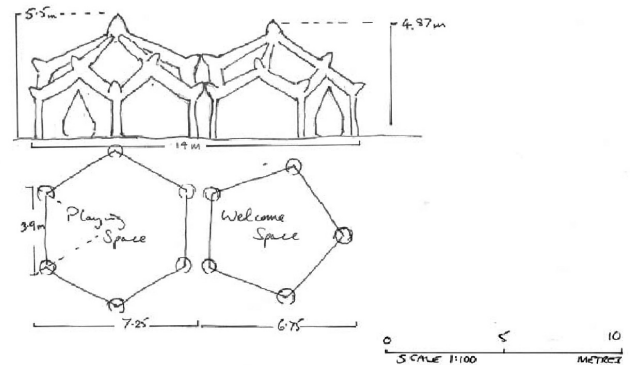
**Wardrobe** - facilities should include washing machine, dryer, iron and ironing board.

**Dressing Rooms** - warm, clean, secure dressing room facilities for seven people, with access to toilets and running water.

**Parking** - a secure parking space for a long wheelbase van.

**Access** - our technicians must have good access from the van to the performance space to load in heavy structures.

*Oogly Boogly - Dimensions*



## **COMPANY**

7 people tour with Oogly Boogly: 4 Performers - male and female; 1 Staff Director; 1 Production Manager; 1 Architects of Air Technician

## **VENUE STAFF**

Minimum of 2 Technicians during fit-up (2 hours from scratch), rehearsals and get-out (also 2 hours), plus 1 - 2 Ushers to welcome parents and children for each session with our Staff Director

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creative team

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## TOM MORRIS (DIRECTOR)

Tom, former Artistic Director of BAC, is now based at the Royal National Theatre as Associate Director. Tom is a writer, director, producer and broadcaster. His writing includes Ben Hur and Jason and the Argonauts and World Cup Final all with Carl Heap, and The Wooden Frock with Emma Rice. His directing work includes Disembodied Music (1999) Unsung with Guy Dartnell, Passions (2001), Macbeth, with Corin Redgrave (2000), Othello Music (1999) and Sophocles' Oedipus Tyrannos (1998). Tom produced and developed Jerry Springer The Opera at BAC and is a regular contributor and occasional presenter on Radio 4's Saturday Review. His recent work includes Nights at the Circus for the Lyric Hammersmith and Corum Boy, Matters of Life or Death and War Horse for the National Theatre. Tom's production company Schtanhaus now produce **Oogly Boogly**.

[www.nationaltheatre.org.uk](http://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk) | [www.schtanhaus.co.uk](http://www.schtanhaus.co.uk)



## GUY DARTNELL (PERFORMER)

Guy Dartnell is an award winning director and performance artist whose work spans the realms of theatre, music, dance, circus and film. Apart from **Oogly Boogly** he has collaborated on and instigated a number of inter-disciplinary projects – Slick & Sloppy, Extase and Physically Sound. He has made four solo shows, Unsung, Bottle, Travels With My Virginit, which he is currently developing for film, and the Time Out Live Award winning Would Say Something. A long time associate artist with IMPROBABLE his work with them includes Lifegame, Coma, Animo, Spirit (ROYAL COURT co-production), and 70 Hill Lane, which won, among other international awards, a New York OBIE Outstanding Achievement Award. He is an internationally acclaimed teacher, a BAC and Merlin Theatre affiliated artist, and his diverse work as a performer includes improvising with THE COMEDY STORE PLAYERS and singing in The Sound House for composer/director Meredith Monk.

[www.guydartnell.org.uk](http://www.guydartnell.org.uk)



## EMMA GLADSTONE (CREATIVE PRODUCER)

Emma Gladstone is a Producer at Sadler's Wells, currently programming and producing a range of work including site specific and off-site productions, dance film, work for younger audiences, and directing the Jerwood Studio at Sadler's Wells research programme. In 2005 she produced the international festival Dance Screen Brighton (IMZ/South East Dance), preceded by Dance Film Academy (BBC/Arts Council England). For three years Emma ran production company Crying Out Loud with colleague Rachel Clare, with whom **Oogly Boogly** was first presented in 2003. While Associate Director at The Place Theatre (1997 – 2002) Emma launched OffSpring, a dance programme for young audiences, part of a continuing fascination in presenting work that can be read and appreciated by people of differing ages. Emma danced for 20 years, including with Arlene Phillips, as a co-founder and Director of Adventures in Motion Pictures with Matthew Bourne, and The Cholmondeleys with choreographer Lea Anderson.

[www.sadlerswells.com](http://www.sadlerswells.com)

## ARCHITECTS OF AIR (SET DESIGN)

Architects of Air build and tour 'luminaria' - monumental installations designed to immerse the visitor in the beauty of colour and light. Since 1992 the luminaria have enchanted more than a million visitors in 34 countries around the world. In 2006 the spectrum of locations ranged from a centre for people with special needs in the Netherlands to the inauguration of the National Museum of Singapore. [www.architects-of-air.com](http://www.architects-of-air.com)



Performers associated with **Oogly Boogly** include Sinead Rushe, Carly Annable, Frank Bock, Martin Gent, Wendy Houstoun, Hannah Ringham, Sheron Wray, Marie Fitzpatrick, Ansuman Biswas, Rachel Henson, Melly Still, Jayne Sekonya, Eeva Maria Mutka and Barnaby Stone. A minimum of four artists take part in each show.

## Credits

Directed by Tom Morris

Created and developed by Tom Morris and Guy Dartnell

Set design	Alan Parkinson
Set creation	Architects of Air
Music	Triology and Lin Fu Chan
Performers	Various, see above
Production Manager	Steve Wald
Producer	Schtanhaus

Supported and developed by Your Imagination, BAC and Crying Out Loud. Commissioned by Crying Out Loud.

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comments/education

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## Parents 2003 – 2008

### MELBOURNE

'More?' Imogen, 18 months, at end of the performance

A unique first experience of body, sound and senses fun. Something we enjoyed and can take home too! Many thanks – a wonderful relaxed atmosphere.

### UK

Thank you to you all, it's wonderful to see all the children building trust with adults and all performing together. Fantastic.

As a nanny and a mother I have been to many baby groups, but nothing like this, as relaxing and different and original, and the children really seemed to respond.

Tremendous ease and truth. Really interesting and beautiful!

Thank you – a more perfect entertainment could not be imagined. Hurrah!

'What a marvellous celebration of the joys of learning to move and interact'

'Well done for creating this and being so sensitive to what stimulates and amuses this age group!'

### SWEDEN

Alfie absolutely loved it, found it very funny. It was great to see him playing leader for change instead of copying his older brother. She did things we have never seen before! Keep it up! Beautiful.

## Press

### The Age, Melbourne Oct 2005

'One of the most moving and exhilarating shows of the festival is Oogly Boogly, a show for eight babies and their carers...Oogly Boogly's skill and simplicity reminds us of the starting point of the imagination and takes advantage of the instinct to create before trying too hard takes over'

### Göteborgsposten, Sweden August 2005

The soft tent, created by Architects of Air, offers a calm and safe environment. No toys, cups or beakers are allowed inside. The parents stay discreet at the edges as the babies and four dancers gather in the centre. The children's spontaneous moves generate the choreography as the dancers imitate and follow. The children are free to decide if and when they want to participate, and the grown ups show a lot of respect.'

### Dance Theatre Journal 2004

Fascinating duets and trios come out of the process and even in periods when activity is subsided, attention was turned towards quiet gestures with subtle interactions'

### Time Out Critics Choice 2003

Babies and toddlers call the shots at this universal event

## Early Years Professionals

### Jenny Spratt, Head Of Early Years And Childcare Services Peterborough Sure Start Strategic Partnership

We are looking forward to future performances of Oogly Boogly and to deepening our understanding, through follow up training, of the impact that this way of working has on our youngest children"

### Professor Tina Bruce, Roehampton University

This was a show to remember and treasure – where the arts and the spirit meet child development. Some important pioneer work has begun. 'Oogly Boogly' is an experience that would benefit every child who is on the edge of language. It links very powerfully with what is known through internationally agreed research evidence, about the development of communication and language.

### Helen White, Director CAT Youth Theatre, Creative Arts Team City University of New York

I think this is a wonderful concept. We've been improving our relationships with babies and toddlers all over the place! My whole family now plays it with my niece.

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## Oogly Boogly Workshops

A range of workshops is available to tie in with performances of **Oogly Boogly**, please contact us for further details (e-mail [info@ooglyboogly.org.uk](mailto:info@ooglyboogly.org.uk) or telephone Jo Evans at Schtanhaus on 020 7240 4087).

### 1 Adult and toddler workshop (off site)

Led by Guy Dartnell (& the company). 1 x 4 hour Adult workshop followed by 1 x 3 hour workshop on site at e.g. Nursery, when Guy + 1 – 2 performers from company come to do an **Oogly Boogly** session on site with 12 – 18 month old children of those involved with the earlier workshop. 4 – 6 participants. Preference for Sessions to be done on separate days. £450 + VAT plus travel, accomm and per diems.

### 2 Adult and toddler workshop (in Oogly Boogly inflatable)

Led by Guy Dartnell & a member the cast. This is a workshop for students and professionals interested in exploring the Oogly Boogly approach to working with infants. 1 x 4 hour Adult workshop followed by 1 x 1 hour **Oogly Boogly** session in the **Oogly Boogly** tent with 12 – 18 month olds provided by participating venue. 4 – 6 participants. Only linked to **Oogly Boogly** run at venue/festival. £250 per day + VAT plus travel, accomm and per diems. Participating venue / festival needs to provide approximately six 12 – 18 month olds.

### 3 Workshop for Professionals

voice(e)motion with Guy Dartnell. Workshop for professional artists and student of performing arts exploring the fusion of voice, movement, emotion and improvisation. This is an exciting and emotionally challenging workshop and would be of interest to artists across a range of disciplines. It explores some processes that also lie behind the practise employed in Oogly Boogly, but is essentially concerning adult artistic expression & an interest in working with or using the process with children is not essential 8 – 10 participants. Participants must be aged over 18. £250 per day/ £1000 per five days + VAT, travel, accomm and per diems. Space Requirements: a workshop space (sprung floor preferred, no carpets; a space where making large amounts of sound is not going to be a problem).