

## Welcome from Smoking Apples Theatre Company and Cornerstone Arts Centre

We're absolutely delighted to be working together on our favourite festive story A Christmas Carol.

Smoking Apples created this stage adaptation of Dickens' classic story back in 2012, but it has grown and blossomed so much since then. Our first version was performed in promenade, with only 20 audience members at a time and the last version we performed, was a full stage show, performed to thousands of people. It has been and always will be a favourite of ours to perform, made even more exciting this year by the inclusion of a wonderfully talented, joyful and local Young Company cast who will play 'Team Scrooge' and 'Team Marley'.

A Christmas Carol is part of so many people's Christmas traditions and despite this classic story being over 170 years old, the magic of the Spirits and the redemption of everyone's favourite miser, Scrooge, truly is timeless.

At Smoking Apples we create all aspects of our shows, from the script to the set, the puppets to the musical arrangements.

For everyone involved it really has been a labour of our love bringing it all together and sprinkling the show with our own heartfelt memories of Christmas. We're indebted to our incredible team of cast and creatives who have given their all to this very special production.

We hope you enjoy this magical performance as much as we have enjoyed making it and bringing it to you.

Merry Christmas

**Matt, Molly and Hattie**, Co-Artistic Directors at Smoking Apples and everyone at **Cornerstone Arts Centre**

**Team Marley**



**Team Scrooge**





**Molly Freeman** is a co-artistic director of Smoking Apples and trained at Rose Bruford College. She has performed in and co-created all of their productions, including CELL, In Our Hands, Flux and A Christmas Carol. This work has seen her perform all over the UK and the rest of the world. Molly is fascinated with the anatomy of the body, and combined with a cracking story, this is the type of theatre she likes to make. Outside of the company, Molly also freelances as a puppet director/consultant, higher education facilitator and creative producer.



**Matt Lloyd** is a co-artistic director of Smoking Apples and has been so since 2010 when the company formed, following his training at Rose Bruford. He has devised and performed in all of the companies shows, including CELL, In Our Hands and Flux. Matt also designs for the company, as well as making set and puppets for other companies. He has designed the set for A Christmas Carol. Matt will be performing multiple roles within the show and is particularly looking forward to a food fight scene!



**Hattie Thomas** studied puppetry and alternative theatre in Prague as part of her degree at Rose Bruford College. She is one of the co-artistic directors of Smoking Apples, with whom she has performed in several productions, both in the UK and internationally, including Flux, Arbor the Tree, In Our Hands and CELL. In 2018 she performed in Siyanda: Protector of Plants by Theatre Rites and has created and performed Beatrice on Fire. Hattie teaches drama and puppetry, and also works as a freelance puppet maker and puppetry consultant.



**George Bellamy** is a puppeteer, actor and theatre practitioner. He trained at Rose Bruford, graduating in 2012 and first worked with Smoking Apples that same year. Since then he has taken shows to the USA and Europe, notably performing in STORM in Chicago with Walkabout and Moon Fool, and in In Our Hands in the Czech Republic as well as a UK Tour. Most recently George has performed in Hikapee's Look Up and with Smoking Apples co-created Arbor the Tree which has toured the UK extensively since 2018.



**Luke Breen** is an associate artist of Smoking Apples and trained at Rose Bruford College. Since then he has worked continually with the company as a co-creator, performer and workshop facilitator on various shows and projects including In Our Hands and Arbor the Tree. Luke utilises his skills in drama and puppetry leading workshops for children and adults with special educational needs. He is passionate about educational outreach and the therapeutic benefits that puppetry can give. Luke also co-manages a local theatre school in his home town of Deal.



**Sam Redway** is RADA Trained actor, theatre-maker and co-artistic director of Knaïve Theatre. With Knaïve he performed, dramaturged and production managed *War With The Newts*, wrote and performed *Antarctica* and co-wrote and performs *Bin Laden: The One Man Show*. He has directed *A Dead Tree Gives No Shelter*, *OSA*, *Mike Bartlett's Contractions*, *Weight*. He regularly works with non-theatre communities: *The Fall* for Ungdomskirken, Aarhus, *Macclesfield Potato Riot & The Place You Want*. He writes libretti (*Women Conduct*) and is a regular movement consultant for Laura Bowler, including *FFF* and *Antarctica*.



**Clancy Flynn** is a two-time Offie-nominated lighting designer. A New York native, they studied theatre at Trinity College Dublin before coming to the UK. Their work has toured both internationally and across the UK. Productions include: *R.E.B.E.L.* (Barbican Theatre); *Trainspotting Live* (The Vaults, UK, US and Australia Tours); *Black is the Colour of my Voice* (The Vaults and Trafalgar Studios); *How to Catch a Krampus* (Pleasance Theatre); *In the Winter Wood* (Polka Theatre); *The Yellow Wallpaper* (Omnibus Theatre); *Everywhere Bear* (UK Tour).



**Samuel Wyer** is a Theatre Designer, Puppet Maker & Illustrator. He has worked extensively with *Les Enfants Terribles* throughout the last decade exploring a distinctive style of macabre and playful visual storytelling that is visible throughout all his work. Sam has also worked for *Shotgun Carousel* creating otherworldly characters and environments for festivals and events such as *Latitude Festival* and the *Royal Academy Lates*. He has worked with *Gyre and Gimble* for a project with *Fuel Theatre*, as well as developing an exciting new *Neil Gaiman* adaptation for stage with the *National Theatre* and Director *Katy Rudd*.



**Florence Barker** trained at the *London College of music and Identity school of acting*. She has recently been in a tour of 'DNA' and has been a part of several theatre in education productions and pantomimes. She is going on to perform in 'The IT' in April.



## A Christmas Carol - Cast Creative List 2022

Company Information Devised by the Company

Script Adaptation: **Molly Freeman**

Set Design: **Matthew Lloyd**

Lighting Design: **Clancy Flynn**

Puppet Design and Make: **Sam Wyer, Matthew Lloyd and Hattie Thomas**

Production Assistant and Stage Manager: **Florence Barker**

Costume and Set Assistant: **Holly Grace Groves**

Sound Design: **George Bellamy**

Lighting Technicians and Operators: **Dominic Bray**

Producer: **Sofia Stephanou**

Marketing Assistant: **Lydia Markham**

Cast: **George Bellamy, Luke Breen, Molly Freeman, Matthew Lloyd, Sam Redway, Hattie Thomas**

Thanks to

Rose Theatre Kingston, Greenwich Theatre London, GDC Events, Nick Cordwent, Bob Phillips and Anna Cunyngham, Felicity Field, Gareth Lee.

### Cornerstone production team

**Dominic Bray** – Technical Co-ordinator for Cornerstone Arts Centre

**Mark Ashford** – Technician for Cornerstone Arts Centre

**Jessie Coller** - Young Company Manager

**Sophie Cottrell & Miniver Mortimer**– Cornerstone Arts Centre Marketing Officers

Cornerstone Arts Centre and Smoking Apples would like to say a big thank you to the fabulous team of chaperones and volunteer ushers.

Check out [cornerstone-arts.org](https://cornerstone-arts.org) or pick up a brochure from the box office for more exciting shows, workshops and classes coming up in 2023!

