



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**For immediate use**

**'Tis the season to be jolly!**

Cumbernauld Theatre Trust is delighted to announce details of not one, but two festive productions this year as we welcome our audiences into our new venue, Lanternhouse.

This year audiences will have the opportunity to see the premieres of two wonderfully entertaining and engaging shows made especially for all the family: Robin Hood is recommended for everyone over 5 years old and Hibernata is recommended for the little ones aged 2 – 5 years.

CEO Sarah Price said: "We will be making this year's festive season extra special for our audiences by creating two theatrical productions that will bring joy and laughter to our community. Both shows promise originality, heartfelt emotion and a sprinkle of festive magic... it's just what we need to relax and have fun."

**Cumbernauld Theatre Company presents**

**Robin Hood**

An out-of-this-world Christmas show that you don't want to miss!

Written by Eve Nicol and directed by Fiona Mackinnon

**1 December – 28 December 2021 (various times)**

Robin Hood is a very funny, vibrant, and heart-warming adventure suitable for everyone age 5 years old and older.

There is something strange happening in Robin's neighbourhood. Freaky storms, eerie events and bizarre bureaucrats keep getting in the way of the perfect school holiday for Robin and her gang. But one mysterious new arrival in their forest hideout might just turn things around.

# CUMBERNAULD THEATRE AT LANERNHOUSE

This Robin Hood would never be seen in tights and together Robin and her band offer a fresh take on a favourite fable, that will be both familiar and surprising.

Eve Nicol, writer of Robin Hood said: "When dreaming up a festive story for families coming to the new theatre, I wanted to celebrate treasured memories from my own childhood - the fun of playing outside with my cousins in Cumbernauld.

Often our games revolved around recreating favourite US movies and cartoons. I've written a Christmas show with the kind of heroes those freedom seeking kids related to - more Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles than Prince Charming!

Audiences can expect a show made especially for Cumbernauld this Christmas as we indulge in how good it is to celebrate in person with one another again. You will be in for a wild, fabulous, and furiously silly time."

Full of synth-sational music, twists, turns and extra-terrestrial encounters, this Robin Hood is a fresh new take on the classic tale of freedom, friendship, and rebellion.

## **Cast and Creative team**

Robin - Julia Murray

LJ - Amy Helena

Tuck - Rosalind McAndrew

Scarlett - Chiara Sparkes

Sarge - Lauren Ellis- Steele

Director - Fiona Mackinnon

Writer - Eve Nicol

Creative Producer - Cat Sheridan

Technical Production Manager - Matt Nevans

Designer - Alisa Kalyanova

Lighting Designer - Benny Goodman

Composers - Novasound; Lauren Gilmour & Audrey Tait

Assistant Director - Amy McCombes (FST Bursary Recipient)

Design Assistant - Fraser Lappin

Associate LX Designer and Programmer - Oliver McNally

Stage Manager - Rachel Pryde

Deputy Stage Manager - Nina Madriz

BSL Consultant - Jamie Rea

Head Scenic Artist - Chloe Hurrel

Wardrobe Assistant - Claire Sharp

Puppet Maker - Leah Kurzepa

2 of 6



Robin Hood has a running time of 1:30 hours approx. including interval.

The 2.30pm performance of Robin Hood on Saturday 4 December will be a relaxed performance. The 2.30pm performance of Robin Hood on Saturday 11 December will be a BSL (British Sign Language) signed and audio described performance.

This year we will also be hosting two socially distanced performances of Robin Hood for people who would prefer to attend a performance with a reduced capacity: the 7.00pm performance of Robin Hood on Wednesday 22 December will be a socially distanced performance. The 2.30pm performance of Robin Hood on Monday 27 December will be a socially distanced performance.

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## **Hibernate**

a co-production between Cumbernauld Theatre and the multi award-winning visual theatre company, Tortoise in a Nutshell.

### **4 – 22 December 2021 (various times)**

A joyous, romp-filled adventure to catapult you from the dreamy, quiet lands of silent snoozing to the bright, fun-filled great outdoors.

Rustle, rustle, rustle  
Snuffle, snuffle, snuffle  
Not a sound to be heard  
All is quiet  
Cosy and warm...  
BANG CRASH BANG

What was that? A small, old mouse valiantly attempts to create the perfect place to snuggle down for a long winter's nap. With a magical mound to lay their head, they are ready to hide away from the world outside...until a rambunctious squirrel absentmindedly stumbles into their serene sleeping abode. Hibernate is about re-emerging into the world and discovering relationships you did not know you needed, about finding hope and joy through connection with someone from an entirely different world from your own.



Tortoise in a Nutshell are no stranger to working with Cumbernauld Theatre Company and in North Lanarkshire, having been Cumbernauld Theatre Trust's first company in residence in 2012.

Arran Howie and Alex Bird, Co-Directors of Tortoise in a Nutshell said: "Eight years ago we were Cumbernauld Theatre's first ever company in residence, and during this time we created our award-winning production *Feral*, which has since toured around the world. We are delighted to be working with the theatre again to create *Hibernate* in their brand-new space. The theatre and team have always been so supportive of our work, and we're excited to be sharing this new festive story with audiences this Christmas."

Hibernate is suitable for everyone from 2 – 5 years (Nursery – P1), their friends and families.

Running time: 35 mins with an optional additional 15 minutes of guided play at the end of each performance (50 minutes in total).

The 10.45am performance of Hibernate on Saturday 4 December will be a relaxed performance. The 10.45am performance of Hibernate on Saturday 11 December will be a BSL (British Sign Language) signed and audio described performance.

### **Cast and Creative Team**

Performers - Jess Innes and Charles Donnelly

Directing and Assistant Designing - Alex Bird

Design and Assistant Director - Arran Howie

Dramaturg/Associate Director - Matt Addicott

Composer - Jim Harbourne

Lighting Designer - Michaela Fee

Producer - Li Kennedy

For details of the dates and times for each production, and to book your tickets for Robin Hood and Hibernate, go online at [www.lanternhousearts.org](http://www.lanternhousearts.org) or visit or telephone our Box Office: 01236 732887.

Season's greetings

/Ends

Registered Office: Cumbernauld Theatre Trust, Lanternhouse, South Kildrum Ring Road, Cumbernauld, North Lanarkshire, G67 2UF



## **Notes to Editors**

### **Cumbernauld Theatre Trust**

Cumbernauld Theatre Trust is a performing arts charity that produces and presents professional theatre, music, dance, and comedy experiences for a community of 50,000 Cumbernauld residents and 100,000 North Lanarkshire population.

Cumbernauld Theatre Trust opened the doors of its new home, Lanternhouse, in October 2021.

Lanternhouse is located in the heart of Cumbernauld, on the Cumbernauld Academy campus.

Established in 1963, Cumbernauld Theatre is the only professional independent arts organisation in Cumbernauld and North Lanarkshire and serves a vital social, cultural, and economic purpose in a community that is economically disadvantaged, with widespread material poverty and deprivation, low academic attainment and poor-quality built environment.

As an established, professional producing theatre, we are both community-led and community conscious with activity that responds to the needs of the local community, yet we deliver outputs that achieve national and international recognition.

We aim for our work to have relevance and resonate with our audiences and participants to achieve deep and lasting impact and change. This work is informed by place, by the opportunities our new arts centre provides and by a desire to deliver affordable access to culture for everyone at all life-stages.

Cumbernauld Theatre Trust is a key part of the infrastructure of Scotland's performing arts and is a Regularly Funded Organisation (RFO) within the Creative Scotland portfolio. We receive investment in support of our work from a range of sources including Creative Scotland and North Lanarkshire Council, Weston Culture Fund and Scottish Government's Empowering Communities Programme – Investing in Communities Fund.

Cumbernauld Theatre Trust is also supported by Screen Scotland, Equity Charitable Trust, Foyle Foundation, The Levensat Trust, The Trades House of Glasgow Commonwealth Fund, Land Trust, Robert Barr's Charitable Trust, Hugh Fraser Foundation and Patersons Quarries, our Friends, and donors.



Lanternhouse is a privately-owned property built through Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) investment and is jointly operated by North Lanarkshire Council (NLC) and Cumbernauld Theatre Trust. The construction of Lanternhouse was financed via the SFT-managed hub community infrastructure programme for local authorities in support of the Scottish Government's National Infrastructure Mission to drive inclusive economic growth and build resilient places. For more information visit <https://www.scottishfuturestrust.org.uk/>.

**Creative Scotland** is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here. We distribute funding provided by the Scottish Government and The National Lottery. Further information at [creativescotland.com](http://creativescotland.com).

**Scottish Government's Empowering Communities Programme** – Investing in Communities Fund supports a range of activity through a staged funding approach and aims to encourage a more holistic response in tackling poverty, inequality and rural disadvantage. It does this by recognising that such approaches to the design of projects and services, which are informed by lived experience and are person centred, can deliver multiple positive outcomes.

**The Weston Culture Fund** award supports the artistic and creative development of the company's live performance, community arts and engagement programmes in its new home and their accessibility to the community of Cumbernauld and North Lanarkshire. The Weston Culture Fund was created in response to Covid-19 and aims to support the cultural sector to restart its work, refresh activities and re-engage audiences following Covid-19 closures.

**Further information and contact details:**

For review tickets, further enquiries and images please contact Sally Wilson, Marketing and Communications for Cumbernauld Theatre Trust:

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