

# COWLRO PHOBIA



TWO CLOWNS TRAPPED  
IN A CARDBOARD WORLD

Opposable  
Thumb  
THEATRE

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# COULROPHOBIA

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## TWO CLOWNS TRAPPED IN A CARDBOARD WORLD...

Dik and Adam are Clowns! They couldn't fight their way out of a paper bag, let alone a surreal cardboard world. Why are they there and what are they supposed to be doing? They know something sinister is afoot (wearing really big shoes...) and they need to get out before it's too late. Join them on a ridiculous, anarchic, often hysterical and sometimes terrifying quest for freedom.

An 80-minute show featuring slapstick, mime, puppetry and a LOT of cardboard. Contains disappointing nudity and some language better suited to those aged 14+.



Photograph by Adam Laity

## NORWAY AND THE ARTS COUNCIL

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Coulrophobia is a co-production funded by Nordland Visual Theatre, Norway and the Arts Council of England.



Photograph by Adam Laity

## THE SHOW

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Coulrophobia is a high energy, anarchic, roller coaster of a clown / puppet show that has been performed throughout the UK and Europe. It has been a sell-out hit at puppet festivals in Portugal, Holland, Norway, Czech Republic, Germany, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Belgium, Romania, Finland and the UK.

The show is in English, but the language is very simple and easy to understand for foreign audiences and the story is extremely visual and understandable. One of the reasons that Coulrophobia has proved so popular is the gentle way Adam & Dik persuade members of the audience to participate and join in with the action on stage, be it drinking delicious cocktails, having a romantic meal for two or having a gunfight in the desert.



Photograph by Minna Hatinen

# TRAILERS

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## TEASER

<https://vimeo.com/user109298440/coulrophobiatrailer>

## TOURING SHOW

<https://youtu.be/IC2McMfSkh4>

Filmed at Tobacco Factory Theatre, Bristol. 2016.  
\*note. The large puppet of Adam scenes 1:08-1:12 have been cut from the show.



Photograph by Minna Hatinen

# REVIEWS

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The Wee Review, Edinburgh ★★★★★

“ If you get a chance to catch this performance in the flesh’ ‘mixes silly slapstick with acute cognizance, peppered by flashes the sinister and brought to life by two performers at the peak of their clowning powers ”

B27/7 ★★★★★

“ enough subversive humour to please the most cynical of theatregoers. Top class clowning ”



Photograph from At.Tension Festival

Stage Talk Magazine ★★★★★

“ non-stop riot of a show... a complete pleasure to watch as it moves seamlessly from the sinister to the touching, to the outright hilarious ”

Loud-Word Online

“ It’s impossible not to laugh. My cheeks ached when I left the theatre ”

Total Theatre

“ Not Creepy-weird, but meta-theatrical-weird.

An endlessly watchable double act, manifesting all the unhealthily intense affection and antagonism of a codependent relationship. It’s sublimely entertaining. ”



Photograph by Adam Laity

## BOX OFFICE INFO

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**The Company** ~ Opposable Thumb Theatre

**Title** ~ Coulrophobia

**Duration** ~ 80 minutes. No interval.

**Age suitability** ~ 14+

## WHO WILL LIKE IT?

- ~ Anyone with a willingness to enter into a world of hysteria and mayhem!
- ~ Past Pickled Image audiences
- ~ General adult audiences, including those new to theatre
- ~ School/college parties of ages 14 and over
- ~ Puppetry, clown, mime and theatre audiences
- ~ Students of puppetry, art, animation, drama and GCSE / A Level theatre studies

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Director** John Nicholson (Peepolykus)

**Performers** Dik Downey (formerly Pickled Image) and Adam Blake (co-founder of Open Attic Theatre)

**Concept and Script** Dik Downey, Adam Blake and John Nicholson

**Puppet Makers** Dik Downey and Emma Powell

**Set Design** Dik Downey and Emma Powell

**Props and Objects** Emma Powell

**Composer and Sound Design** Simon Preston

**Costume Designer** Linda Anneveld

**Wig Maker** Debbie Hard

**Light Design and Technical Solutions**

Jan Erik Skarby, Marianne Thallaug Wedset and Onela Keal

**Technician** Chris Collier

**PR Design** Onela Keal

**Film Maker and Photographer** Adam Laity (Black Cat Films)

**Producers** Pickled Image



Photograph by Adam Laity

## SOCIAL MEDIA

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**Instagram** dik\_downey

**Twitter** @DikDowney / @OTT\_Theatre

**Facebook** Opposable Thumb Theatre

**Please use** #coulrophobia – to promote the show

## PUBLICITY IMAGES

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<http://www.opposablethumbtheatre.com/coulrophobia>

Click on the link above to download publicity images from the Opposable Thumb Theatre Website.

Scroll to the bottom of the website page, then select the 'DOWNLOAD MEDIA PACK' button and voila!



Photograph by Minna Hatinen

## CONTACT

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**Email** ~ opposablethumbtheatre@gmail.com

# PUBLICITY IMAGES

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Photograph by Adam Laity



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Photograph by Adam Laity



Photograph by Minna Hatinen



Photograph by Onela Keal



Photograph from Manipulate Festival



Photograph by Adam Laity



Photograph by Trine Paulsen



Photograph by Adam Laity



Photograph by Adam Laity



Photograph from At.Tension Festival



Photograph from At.Tension Festival