

# FLYING ATOMS

Professors Gusto and Hitch work hard in the Laboratory of Curiosity answering questions: how do birds stay in the air? Where does the moon go in the daytime? Only one thing is certain – the universe is filled with wonder and not everything is as it seems.

A playful, interactive family show wowing audiences with high-flying aerial dance, a magical soundtrack and stunning design.

**37 PERFORMANCES**

**28 WORKSHOPS**

**24 HOST VENUES**

**2833 AUDIENCE**

**1099 PARTICIPANTS**



In 2016, Powys Dance created Flying Atoms to tour to primary schools in mid-Wales. Combining aerial dance, theatre and original music with the physics curriculum to transport learners in rural communities and spark their interest in both science and dance.

76% audience members said watching the show made them want to see more dance

89% of audience members could identify a specific learning outcome.

"My favourite part was the dancing because it was new and interesting and fun"

"I loved it all. We live in a wonderland"

"Children were ALL fascinated. Wonderful looks of awe and wonder. Utterly captivated. Lots there for all abilities"

"Reinforced our science curriculum. Nothing could have been better. Would just LOVE more!"





In 2017, due to the overwhelming response from children and professionals, Powys Dance decided to develop the show for a family audience touring to venues.

- improving set & costume
- professional lighting design
- commissioning animations to integrate into performance
- performance development in response to feedback
- design of marketing materials and strategy



## EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE

Powys Dance's first appearance at the largest arts festival in the world. Hosted by fellow Welsh company Volcano we reached a diverse audience of schools and public in Leith. Making new connections, raising profile and taking the show to the streets.

"Fun for older children, educational and lots for baby to see" \*\*\*\*  
@edfringebaby

## LONDON & SOUTH EAST ENGLAND

Venues & Festivals: Flying Atoms was booked by The Exchange, Twickenham, Amey Theatre, Oxford, and Norwich & Swansea Science Festival.

Universities: Flying Atoms was booked by the outreach departments at Imperial College London and the University of Surrey.

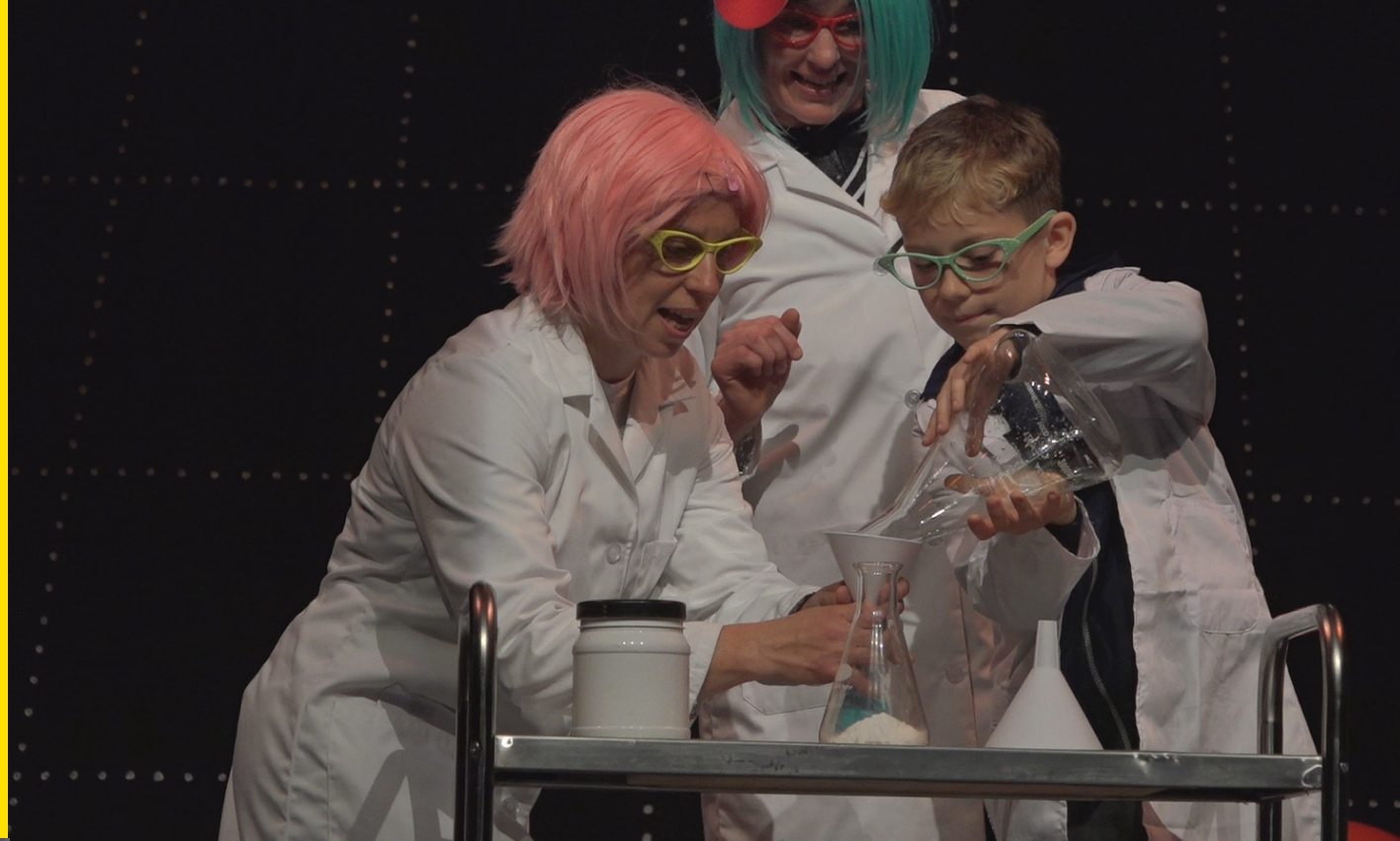
100% of our hosts would like to book Powys Dance productions again in the future.



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## DELVING INTO OUR MINDS IN THE LABORATORY OF CURIOSITY

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## AUDIENCES

"It taught me to never stop questioning. Gravity is really cool!"

"My 8 year old and I absolutely loved the show"

"Really got them thinking! Nice of you to stay at the end for meet and greet"

"I liked the fact they were teaching us using dance. It was exciting, and a different way to learn"

31% of young audience members had never seen a live dance performance before. 50% said the show made them want to see more dance and 36% said it inspired them to dance themselves

The production ignited many questions with young audiences such as are dreams made of atoms? how does the earth go round? What would happen without gravity? and what are atoms made of?

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**WONDERMENT  
ON PLANET  
EARTH**  
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## HOSTS

"An innovative inter-disciplinary approach, making science fun and accessible. We could have booked out 3 or 4 performances in the same venue."

"Powys Dance have a fab show, make sure you go see them, wonderful people to work with!"

"There are aspects of the presentation that I think will stay with us for a long time"

Flying Atoms enabled partners to extend their offer to local audiences and strengthen existing relationships. One teacher said the show "encouraged me to bring students to future activities here". Imperial College London booked the show as a way to kickstart their new remit of KS1 & 2. The University of Surrey told us they have never before seen a science communication activity that's live performance. The Exchange, Twickenham decided make Flying Atoms their first ever family show, successfully reaching a new audience.



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**WHY DOES A  
STAR NOT FALL  
FROM THE SKY?**  
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## ARTISTS

"I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to make this show - a sort of dream come true. I feel my artistic confidence grow through this experience and I'm excited for more."

"Flying Atoms was a fun project to work on; it was a good challenge for me and one that I enjoyed tackling."

Flying Atoms was produced and performed by eleven artists, ten of whom live in Wales of which seven live in Powys. The artists are at varying stages in their careers including Lisa (animator) for whom Flying Atoms was her first commission for live performance, Kirsten (performer) who was returning to performance after having a child and Lauren (producer) moving from participatory arts and new to the county.

The majority of the team were new to each other and all new to Powys Dance extending the organisation's networks and contacts; building a new team for future productions.



**HAZEL MADDOCKS  
(PERFORMER & DIRECTOR)**

**KIRSTEN MCIVER  
(PERFORMER)**

**AMANDA GRIFFKIN  
(CREATIVE PRODUCER)**

**LAUREN HUSSEIN  
(PRODUCTION MANAGER)**

**ZOE QUICK  
(SET & COSTUME DESIGNER)**

**BENJAMIN TALBOTT  
(COMPOSER)**

**BRYN DAVIES  
(VOICEOVER)**

**JANE LALLJEE  
(LIGHTING DESIGNER)**

**BETH CAUDLE  
(DRAMATURG)**

**LISA KENNEY  
(ANIMATOR)**

**STELLA PATRICK  
(MARKETING)**



We have drawn together feedback from a wide range of stakeholders and continued to develop relationships with partners who expressed an interest in supporting us to make new work.

In 2018, we will undertake a process of research and development to create a new production building on the contacts and learning achieved with Flying Atoms.

This means our new work will again combine science and dance using a cross-art form approach to reach new family audiences.

