

Carnesky Productions Ltd present
**CARNESKY'S
SHOWWOMXN
SIDESHOW
SPECTACULAR**

LAUNCHED IN
**THE BARTHOLEMUEW
FAIR LONDON 2023**
TOURED AND DEVELOPED FOR
BRIGHTON FESTIVAL 2024

**AVAILABLE FOR
TOURING FROM
SPRING 2025**

carnesky.com

Fancy Chance



SPECTACLE, DANGER, RESISTANCE, APPLIQUE, APPARATIONS...
CARNESKY'S SHOWWOMXN SIDESHOW SPECTACULAR
WILL CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ABOUT WOMEN IN
SHOWBUSINESS – FOREVER.



Hannah Finn &
Tasha Rushbrooke



A spectacular new large scale promenade show from Olivier award-winning performance maker **Marisa Carnesky** (*Carnesky's Ghost Train*) featuring over 33 unique Showwomen from the world of new cabaret, circus and live art.

A ground breaking herstorical show, gathering many of the UK's key artists in the world of contemporary and popular performance, this is a cast of highly skilled and truly diverse women. Together they reclaim lost stories from fairground and circus through a new feminist lens. Celebrating performers who may have been marginalised and overlooked, the work fuses entertainment heritage with cutting edge live art. The amazing cast, with attitude and agency, bring all the thrills and the danger, with death-defying stunts and jaw dropping performances. Now its time for the women to run the show!



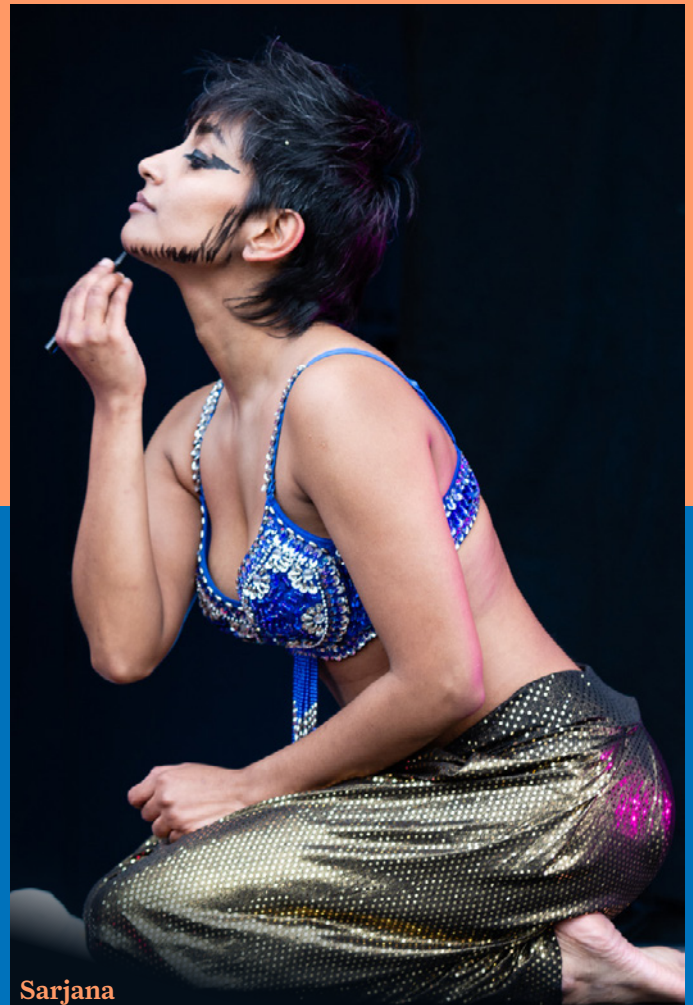
H Plewis & Rhyannon Styles



Kaajel Patel



Katherine Arnold



Sarjana



Jay Yule



Jackie Le

Suitable for outdoor green field sites, large indoor heritage sites, or urban city sites, the show comprises of a series of performance installations on elevated hand-painted sideshow stages. There is also a storytelling and spoken word stage that brings the heritage of diverse women entertainers to life. The sideshows and storytelling run simultaneously until they are paused for an amazing all women professional wrestling match. The grand finale sees the audience directed to a mind blowing aerial show.



Livia Kojo Alour



Missy Macabre



Elf Lyons



Jackie Le



Vicky Butterfly



Suri Sumatra

The entire experience can be staged for up to 8 hours of performance a day, a non stop performance promenade. The cast includes hair hanger/comedienne **Fancy Chance**, Hoola Hooping Guinness world record holder **Symone**, western skills and fire performer **Lucifire**, Polari prize nominee spoken word poet **Livia Kojo Alour**, breakthrough actor and performance artist **Tallulah Haddon**, rising comedy star **Elf Lyons**, 'Sports Woman of the Year' winning wrestler and campaigner **Claire Heafford**, Eva Greens body double 'Dumbo' aerial superstar **Katherine Arnold**, contemporary Bollywood Cabaret Performer **Kaajel Patel**, magician Laura London and drag king **Molly Beth Morossa**.



Betti The Wrestler



Meg Hodgson



Lalla Morte



Hannah Finn & Tasha Rushbrooke



Mysti Vine



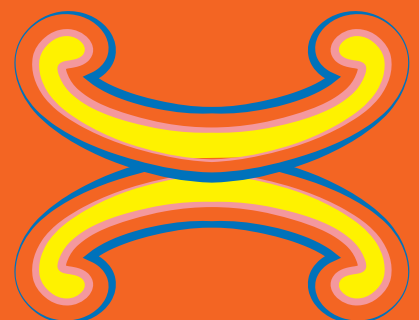
Tallulah Haddon

CARNESKY'S SHOWWOMXN SIDESHOW SPECTACULAR asks 'What happens when the Showgirl grows up? The untold herstory of extraordinary working-class entertainment from feminist and activist perspectives. The show explores the legacy of archival forgotten and marginalised diverse women entertainers and compares them to the lived experiences of exceptional performers today. Interweaving live action, storytelling and archival imagery to create a dreamlike landscape, mixing highly skilled circus with strange and emotive performers. The show channels entertainment heritage to create visions of new matriarchal performance futures.



Claire Heafford & Alex Windsor

Performers like 1940's body magic star **Koringa**, 1930's pioneer clown **Lulu Adams**, 1950s female dare-devil **Florence Shufflebottom**, 1950's African American wrestling champion **Ethel Johnson** and 1880's teeth hanging aerialist superstar **Miss La La** have inspired an exploration of lesser-known stories of extraordinary women in variety performance from a century ago.



OTHERNESS IS HER'S



Molly Beth Morossa



Jackie Le



Ella The Great



Vicky Butterfly

Featuring specially commissioned fairground artworks above each stage that feature Marisa Carnesky's original feminist slogans – hand painted by Brighton pier muralist **Dave Pop**, costumes by London based cabaret costumiers **The House of Flying Stitches** and music by **David Knight** (Unicazurn, Lydia Lunch). Full cast includes specialist circus sideshow stunt performers **Lucifire** and **Missy Macabre**, contemporary clowns **Elf Lyons**, **Meg Hodgson** and **Ella The Great**, spoken word poet **Livia Kojo Alour**, queer cabaret star **Sarjana**, performance artists **Marisa Carnesky**, **Jay Yule**, **Tallulah Haddon**, **Molly Beth Morossa**, **Haitch Plewis** and **Rhyannon Styles**, circus artists contortionists and hand balancers **Hannah Finn** and **Tasha Rushbrooke**, hoola hoop, pole and skate performers **Symone** and **Chi Chi Revolver**, aerialists **Fancy Chance**, **Katherine Arnold**, **Jackie Le**, **Becki Renn** and **Andrew Rios**, burlesque, dance and magic performers **Vicki Butterfly**, **Kaajel Patel**, **Mysti Vine**, **Laura London**, **Suri Sumatra** and wrestling stars **Claire Heafford**, **Kanji**, **Millie Mckenzie** and **Charlie Evans**.



Symone

***These skills, and the women who have performed them,
deserve their time centre stage.***

THE GUARDIAN

preview on the stage version of Showwomen

***Formidable, feminist, satirical, and spectacular,
this is a show which appreciates the corporeal
and spiritual in tandem.***

★★★★★

BROADWAY BABY on Showwomen

A perfect cast of master performers

★★★★★

TO DO LIST LONDON on Showwomen

Powerful and Affecting Honesty

★★★★★

HERALD SCOTLAND on Incredible Bleeding Woman

Deliciously tongue in cheek

★★★★★

THE GUARDIAN on Incredible Bleeding Woman

The Queen of Spectacle

★★★★★

THE TIMES on Carnesky's Ghost Train

The most magical ride you'll ever experience

★★★★★

THE GUARDIAN on Carnesky's Ghost Train



Symone, Missy Macabre & Jackie Le

SELECTED BIOS. – full bios available on request.

Writer/Director/Performer

Marisa Carnesky is a British performance artist and Showwoman. She is best known for her critically acclaimed immersive theatre ride *Carnesky's Ghost Train* which ran for over a decade and more recently her touring company show *Dr Carnesky's Incredible Bleeding Woman*. She uses spectacular entertainment forms, including fairground devices and stage illusion to explore themes of contemporary ritual, women in entertainment history, feminism and cultural identity. She founded Carnesky Productions in 1999. She has designed and is leading a new BA in Popular and Contemporary Performance with Rose Bruford College and the Tramshed in Woolwich that launches in September 2022. She holds a PhD from Middlesex University.

[Instagram](#) / [Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#)

Assistant Director/Performer

Fancy Chance aka **Veronica Thompson**

Hailing from the school of cabaret, neo-burlesque and live-art, Fancy Chance is one of the few performers in the world actively performing hair hanging outside of a three-ring circus. She has created, directed and produced her solo show *Flights of Fancy* partially supported by the Arts Council England, has been a collaborator and participant/performer in the all-female cast of Florentina Holzinger's award winning experimental dance theatre productions *TANZ* and *SANCTA*. She is an original cast member of *Dr. Carnesky's Incredible Bleeding Woman* and *Carnesky's Ghost Train*. She has done various seasons of her Loie Fuller tribute hair hang act with La Soiree, La Clique, Bernie's Little Death Club and Quality Novelty. She was crowned Alternative Miss World in 2009.



Script Collaboration/ Writer/Performer

Livia Kojo Alour is an internationally recognised variety artist, sword swallower, singer, poet and exhibited artist. Her practice encompasses theatre live art, circus & burlesque. She is one of 4 black sword swallows worldwide, was voted 'Most Influential Performer in Europe' and was the first sword swallower to perform at the legendary Burlesque Hall of Fame in Las Vegas. She performs across a variety of contexts including international burlesque festivals, TEDx talks and arts festivals. Most recently has developed a one woman show called *Black Sheep* which recently played at the *Certain Blacks Presents Shipbuilding* season at Rich Mix. She is also a resident performer at PROUD Embankment in London.

Visual Artist

Dave Pop! was born in Swansea in 1969, he studied Fine Art at Coventry University and moved to Brighton in the early 90's. Dave has previously exhibited in the Theatre Royal with a Rocky Horror theme, painted a large mural on Brighton Palace pier, collaborated with Jeremy Hoyer on a range of jewelry, as well as other exhibitions around Brighton.

Costume Designers and Makers

The House of Flying Stiches

Costumiers and milliners Louise McCormack & Yuan Li make bespoke outfits for Cabaret, Circus, Theatre, Burlesque in the UK and beyond from their unique studios in West London.

Soundtrack

David Knight

During the 1980s Knight was guitarist and co-songwriter with highly influential art-pop maverick Danielle Dax, and contributed wall-of-rock guitars to the malign poetry of Karl Blake in Shock Headed Peters. He has collaborated with Lydia Lunch and is part of the experimental duet UnicaZürn with Stephen Thrower. He also works as Arkkon, a solo project concentrating on brooding electro-minimalist music. He has made multiple soundtracks for the shows of Marisa Carnesky since 1999.

**Budgets and Tech Specs
available and tailored
by request.**

**Marketing, Social
media and PR strategies
tailored to each event.**

**Additional workshop
package available on
request tailored to
local promoter.**



Marisa Carnesky

**For all enquiries email:
carneskyproductionsinfo@gmail.com**