



Welcome to the TCA newsletter, keeping you up-to-date with events and activities at The Trinity Centre

Review: At Tether's End

by Andy Hamilton

www.selfsufficientish.com

The other night I had an amazing experience; I was in a play. I don't mean I performed, I mean I was part of the play.

The play was at *At Tether's End*. Unfortunately it looks like it won't tour as it is specifically written using the space in which it was performed namely the Trinity Centre. It is set in the Old Market area of Bristol in 1869 described as "A place of vice, poverty and grim hope".

The audience gathered outside the old church drinking mulled cider. The doors of the church were slung open, mist belled out and haunting Latin choral melodies were heard increasing in volume as a funeral procession slowly proceeded out of the building. Without taking a cue, we all followed as we were now active members of the play. We walked up stairs and the true and rather tragic story of how William Pullin was driven to the murder of his best friend PC Richard Hill starts to unfold.

Sitting as if we were in the congregation of a church, we then move downstairs to celebrate the forthcoming marriage of Richard Hill. A scruffy looking bloke invites us to the Three Crowns pub claiming that he is the landlord. We walked down stairs and entered 19th Century Bristol. I was amazed at how much effort and detail had been put into the sets of this place. Everything was made from cardboard and, as the lights were low and people in costume were milling about the place, pickpocketing, begging and generally having a chit-chat in character, it really did have the feel of what it would have been like. It almost reminded me of how Dr Who does Victorian, but somehow a little more believable (I guess as there were no aliens).

The play did confuse me at times as events were going on across this small square and you were not really told where the action was going to be. You could stay in the pub, visit the doctor (who told everyone they had VD) or go to the butchers to name a few. After sinking a few pints and having my pockets picked twice I got a bit of the hang of the play and realised that you needed to listen out for clues as to where the action would be and, as in any real life event, everyone was going to leave with a different viewing of the events.

I am not an avid play goer - in fact I can count the number of plays I have seen on just over one hand. I would say however, that this was the most moving and perhaps the best I have seen. It really did move me to tears due to the extremely high standard of acting by all involved, the understated yet very appropriate music and the believability of the whole set. And it was worth seeing just to watch the vicar get carried away with his role and to have your gloves stolen by a hobbit-like street urchin.

5 Rhythms Dance

5 Rhythms Dance class is a free-style dance form which bridges the wildness and fun of clubbing with the focus of a moving meditation.

It's simple, it's powerful, it's a great workout and a fantastic way to free up the body. Each rhythm is catalytic, drawing out different energies and expanding ways of moving.

The classes are led by highly experienced and accredited teacher Bernadette Ryder every Tuesday night from 7:30pm.

For more info email Bernadette bernadette@in-rhythm.net

Upcoming Events

February

Sat 14 **Big Green Valentines Ball**

Sat 21 **Hugh Cornwell**

Sat 28 **Techadventure**

Sat 28 **Patchwork**



March

Sun 1 **Retro Flea Market**

Mar 22 **Animal Collective**

April

Sat 11 **Fight Club**

Sat 25 **DJ Stryder**

Weekly Classes

Mondays

1pm-2:30pm

Dance Fusion

6pm-10:30pm

Bristol Samba

Tuesdays

6pm-7:15pm

Yoga

7:30pm-9:30pm

5 Rhythms Dance

Wednesdays

6pm-9:30pm

Hype Dance

6pm-9:00pm

Breakdancing

Thursdays

4:30pm-9pm

Stiltwalking

For details see: www.3ca.org.uk

Trinity Exhibition

Upcoming venues for our touring exhibition about the history of the Trinity Centre and local area:

**Trinity Library - BEST Building
Easton Community Centre
Council House - College Green**



COMMUNITY CENTRE & VENUE

The former Holy Trinity Church is protected by a covenant which states that the building is to only be used for community, arts, youth and education services, shaping its most recent history.

1960s

The Holy Trinity Church closed due to dwindling congregations and lack of money. The building sat empty for a decade, falling ever further into disrepair.

1970s

The building was deconsecrated and transferred to the African-Caribbean Community Association with a 50 year lease under the management of Mr Roy de Freitas. The group carried out extensive repairs and alterations, including the installation of a second floor.



On the 1st July 1978 Trinity Community Centre was opened to the public.

1980s

In 1981 the group went into insolvency, surrounded by much controversy and by default the building was transferred to the local authority.

The 1980's was a time of change for British music and Bristol was leading the way.



Trinity on the rise as a music venue where people from all over Bristol came to dance the night away.

1990s

The building was taken on by the New Trinity Community Association in 1991. The new group began a second round of development and renovations, which included the installation of the sprung wooden floor downstairs. The Centre reopened in 1998 and played host to a wide range of international and local music events, helping to establish The Bristol Sound.



Volunteer hours, the heart of Trinity working tirelessly to transform the building. Financial problems forced Trinity to close again in 2000, shutting its doors for what seemed like the last time...

Training News

Hello from Katie, Trinity's new Training Coordinator!

I've got a background in youth work and teaching disengaged young people and I'm enjoying working at Trinity and developing the training programme.

We've got some really exciting courses for young people coming up; film making, carpentry, photography, music production, drama, creative writing and more!

We want to engage with young people who are 16-18 years old who are not in education or employment – **referrals welcome**.

I am also setting up a range of flexible learning opportunities so that everyone can access exciting affordable courses! Watch this space!

If you want to join my mailing list or refer a young person please contact me at katie@3ca.org.uk

Bristol Sound Project Update

At the end of 2007, we secured a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund Young Roots Programme to deliver 'The Bristol Sound Project'.

Throughout 2008 we ran the project, based on the history of the Trinity Centre, successfully engaging over 40 young people in creative workshops and sessions across the year.

We now have a Trinity archive featuring images and information related to the history of the centre and surrounding areas.

An exhibition has also been produced as part of the project. It is already booked to tour community venues and organisations around the city of Bristol over throughout 2009.

The project also involved the creation and production of the original theatre show *At Tethers End*. The plot was based on the true story of the murder of local policeman Richard Hill in 1869. The crime was a major event at the time and the funeral was held at Trinity. A focus group creating the show - consisting of young people and local artists - chose this story as they felt that the issues surrounding it still had a resonance within the area today. The show received much positive feedback, including that given by the descendants of William Pullin's family, who still live and work locally.

"At Tethers End was brilliant. We all enjoyed it."

P.C. Elaine Rees, commenting on show about the story of her great great great uncle, William Pullin, produced as part of the Bristol Sound Project

A Young Council of Management has also been formed from participants on the various workshops that have taken place during the course of the project. Overall, the project has helped cement Trinity within the heritage of the local area, raising our profile across the city. The high quality of workshops, the depth of research carried out and final products produced have helped provide a solid foundation on which to continue building Trinity for decades to come.

For info contact
nick@3ca.org.uk



Meetings

Council of Management
2nd Tuesday of every month
6:30pm-8:30pm

For info contact info@3ca.org.uk