

Told by an Idiot

'One of the jewels of left-field British theatre'

THE GUARDIAN

'No one else is making theatre as creatively and ambitiously as Told by an Idiot. They are a unique phenomenon – intelligent, ingenious and genuinely popular'

SIMON ARMITAGE (POET LAUREATE)

Our Values

Our company values are the beating heart of our organisation:

- Revel in the live experience
- Innovate and provoke
- Find laughter in unlikely places
- Include anyone

Our Mission

Told by an Idiot explores the human condition through work that is ambitious but never pretentious, experimental but always accessible and we avoid boredom at all costs. We are fascinated by the space between laughter and pain, and we consistently experiment with what theatre and film can be and who gets to make it. In doing so, our work blurs the line between maker, participant and audience. We nurture the skills and talents of emerging artists, and our work excludes no one. It stimulates and challenges people across the world and we remain committed to making theatre, and film, for anyone who breathes.

Our Vision

"I am a working-class Birmingham boy (Father an electrician, Mother a dinner lady) who had no access to theatre and the arts, and I felt excluded from that world for many years. For me to reach a position of influence in the cultural sector has been quite a journey, and I see it as my duty to open doors to the disadvantaged that follow. It is imperative that I give them access and opportunities to realise their potential and reach positions of power" Paul Hunter, Told by an Idiot's Artistic Director

At Told by an Idiot we have a burning desire and responsibility to make change happen. It is crucial that we use our public subsidy to give voice to those on the periphery of the story. Told by an idiot operates on the edge of chaos in a constant quest for exploration, and consistently opens the door to risk in order to deliver the best work by continuing to develop and change. Our vision is to ensure we make a major contribution to the national and international reputation and reach of the cultural sector in England by creating risk-taking, dynamic and critically acclaimed new work which consistently reflects ambition, quality, inclusivity and relevance.

Told by an Idiot Films

Film has been the single biggest influence on the work of Told by an Idiot for the last three decades. Our shows have been influenced and inspired by some of the worlds greatest filmmakers including Charlie Chaplin, Federico Fellini, Luis Buñuel, Spike Lee, Jane Campion, Ernst Lubitsch, Alfred Hitchcock, Céline Sciamma, Emir Kusturica and Alejandro Jodorowsky among many others.

The development of our aesthetic has been provoked by the visual storytelling of the movies, and if cinema is the place of dreams, for us theatre is its own robust world of make believe. A place where nothing is as it seems and the only rule is don't be boring.

