

Life&Style going out

THEATRE REVIEW A VERY OLD MAN WITH ENORMOUS WINGS ★★★★★☆

Magic realism and puppetry are natural bedmates: both come from the same imaginative space, where the mundane is transformed into the miraculous and the extraordinary can suddenly fit into your hand.

This collaboration between Little Angel Theatre and Kneehigh is based on the Gabriel García Márquez story about the old man with wings who falls from nowhere into the garden of a villager and instantly heals the woman's sick son. The man's transformative powers are seized on by the woman, who, dreaming of swimming pools and chauffeurs, charges five

tups for the sick and the curious to gawp at the creature she is convinced must be an angel, albeit one now locked up in a chicken coop. Although the production expands on this moral aspect, the narrative is a bit saggy. Instead, the glory is in the detail – in the array of rod puppet villagers, from the libidinous priest to the bank manager with the expanding stomach and in the outstanding stagecraft played out on Lyndie Wright's perspective-shifting set. Most spellbinding of all is the knobby old man, who here takes on a mysterious, crucified Christ-like aura, and who, with the smallest of gestures, projects an otherworldly mix of sorrow and wonder. **Claire Allfree** Until Jan 19, Battersea Arts Centre. www.bac.org.uk



Headline slot: Hessele Audio's Ben UFO tops the bill at Fabricive

CLUBS FABRICLIVE + LFO + BLACKOUT + SOUNDCRASH

Tomorrow night, join Hessele Audio co-founder Ben UFO for a headline slot at Fabric to celebrate the release of his **FabricLive** compilation. The superclub will be taken over by a powerful combination of electronic music's key players with Manchester's premiere underground night Hoya:Hoya relocating to room two; Ben UFO and the Hessele Audio family, Pangaea and Pearson Sound in room one; and IDM (intelligent dance music) publication and label Sonic Rooter in room three. Hoya:Hoya regulars Illium Sphere, Eclair Fifi and Jon K will join a line up of legendary and new talents that includes experimental producer Kuedo – one half of dubstep originals Vex'd – to play a live AV show. Plus there's emerging talent Call Super, while crazed techno infused selectors and Berghain residents MMM perform live.

From new talents at Fabric to one part of a duo who created the blue print for British underground electronica: **LFO** at XOYO. With more than 20 years' experience in the game, this act helped independent label Warp become a household name and it's still driven by core member Mark Bell. His awe-inspiring live LED light backdrop twinned with hard beats will guarantee a packed show. The night is hosted by esteemed electronic institution Red Bull Music Academy who have recruited former Academy member and twisted juke

producer Nightwave to play. Listen out for performances by heavy-weight techno R&S signing MPIA3 (Truss) and dark hip hop beat maker Loops Haunt.

On Saturday night, prepare to strap yourself in and get ready for some bass care of **We Fear Silence Presents: Blackout** at Cable. The night caters for those who like their drum'n'bass with a backbone: dark and grimy. Providing a pumping selection on

the night are long-standing member DJ Hazard and Dutch techstep trio Black Sun Empire who will, no doubt, showcase tracks from their From The Shadows LP. Providing the hard-hitting neurofunk are Phace, Optical and Mindscape, while Slovenian drumstep duo Telekinesis are set to slay the dance-floor with their no-messing take on 173 bpm.

At KOKO on Saturday, **Soundcrash Presents** sees the mighty Trojan and Channel One sound systems come together for a night of roots, culture and bass. Channel One's Mikey Dread and Ras Kayleb's 30-year residency on the corner of Westbourne Park Road at Notting Hill Carnival, and countless clash victories, has cemented them as one of Britain's ultimate sound systems. Channel One will toast away the winter blues alongside the iconic Trojan system kicking off the year on a positive note. As well as a live performance from Trojan, jazzy drum'n'bass pioneer LTJ Bukem, who needs no introduction, will be taking to the turntables alongside Dynamite MC playing classics such as Atlantis and cuts from his Good Looking label. **Hayley Joyes**



dancer Daniel Hay-Gordon (pictured above with Shaw), who she manipulates puppet-style so that his shadow takes the shape of an albatross.

The poem's inexorable ballad metre surges like an ocean, carrying you along. But Shaw's frequently jocular recital and Lloyd's staging don't edge into darker territory. The evening achieves an arresting simplicity without keenly bringing out the tale's contagious note of fright.

Maxie Szalwinski
Until Sun, *The Old Vic Tunnels*.
<http://oldvictunnels.com/>

THEATRE REVIEW THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER ★★★★★☆

Fiona Shaw is developing a nice sideline giving poetry recitals in evocative settings. She's performed *The Waste Land* in a staging by Deborah Warner at the crumbling Wilton's Music Hall. Here, she tackles Coleridge's great 1798 evocation of a nightmare sea voyage.

It's hard to think of a more perfect venue for a heart-of-darkness journey than the dank, cavernous Old Vic Tunnels, so it's a pity Phyllida Lloyd's production doesn't always feel an adequate response to the space.

In Coleridge's work, an ancient sea dog recounts the story of his ship's fate after he unthinkingly shoots down an albatross. The narrative poem is given a forthright telling by Shaw, looking trim in a navy sweater (there's no attempt to kit her out as the disturbing 'grey-beard loon' of the story). Her few props include an unfurled sailcloth and

HOLIDAYS TV

TIME TO GET AWAY FOR SOME SUN

You'll find hundreds of great value deals on **Holidays TV**

Canaries from **£309**pp
4★ all inclusive



Holidays TV | Channel 201 on Freeview

Prices correct as at 08/01/2013