



Title: The Orpheus Centre Present, *The Tempest*

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The Orpheus Centre, a performing arts college for young disabled adults, are performing, *'The Tempest'*, directed by Jenny Sealey, Artistic Director of Graeae Theatre, (Britain's leading disabled-led professional theatre company and director of recent hit productions *'Reasons To Be Cheerful'* and *'The Iron Man'*). On the 14th July the show will be heading to The Rose Theatre, Kingston, as part of the acclaimed International Youth Arts Festival, which shares high calibre work from young artists, in a variety of forms, reaching a diverse and inclusive audience. Orpheus are also returning to The Linbury Studio Theatre at The Royal Opera House, for their 11th consecutive performance, on the 17th July.

'The Tempest' is a story of independence, discrimination and falling in love. Orpheus re-tell the Shakespeare story through an innovative and original piece of theatre, centered around an inner city industrial wasteland. The Story holds significance for Orpheus students, because of the resonances that exist for its young disabled people. The central themes of parental control and exclusion from mainstream society are very rich for the Orpheus artists, who are on a journey from segregated, institutionalised lives to independence.

Orpheus has produced a major performance every year for the last ten years at the Linbury Studio of the Royal Opera House, filling the venue with a fully diverse audience. These productions have consistently achieved exceptionally high artistic standards. The Orpheus approach to developing emerging artists is to place professional expectations on them. As a result, new audiences, who often say that they were cautious prior to seeing the work, have been overwhelmed by the talent and professionalism on display.

Orpheus students regularly perform in The Orpheus Barn Theatre, as well as in established arts venues, such as The Unicorn Theatre, The Yvonne Arnaud, The Royal Opera House, The Rose Theatre, Buckingham Palace and across the UK.

Tickets for *'The Tempest'* can be purchased at The Royal Opera House and The Rose Theatre Box Offices. Please visit www.roh.org.uk and www.kingston.gov.uk. Tickets are between £5 and £20.

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Notes to Editors

About The Orpheus Centre

The Orpheus Centre supports young disabled adults in their transition to independent living. Our students gain confidence and self-esteem through performing arts and learn essential skills for life. Our core values are quality, inclusion and innovation. The Orpheus Centre was founded by entertainer and musician Richard Stilgoe in his former family home in Godstone in 1998.

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