

CARNIVAL OF HISTORY

Professional Acts

Rosa Productions

Rosa Productions is an arts and festival production company working around the UK on unique festivals, outdoor events with large scale community participation. The company also produces broadcast media and site-specific theatre productions. Rosa Productions has produced the Carnival of History in partnership with Leeds Castle.

Shademakers UK

Shademakers UK specialises in design, large scale installations and moving objects, and carnival art. The company is at the forefront of contemporary carnival design. They are the lead creative group for this event providing large carnival makes and costumes for the community participants as well mentoring local artists and providing the designs and materials for the community makes.

Dizzy O'Dare

Dizzy O'Dare is a leading contemporary circus and outdoor theatre company based in Kent. You can't miss them over the carnival weekend with their two madcap Victorian gentlemen in roving earth bound hot air balloons and their King Edward 11 puppet. They will also perform a 1920s themed tightrope act during our finale.

AcroJou

AcroJou is recognised as one of the leading street theatre and circus companies in the UK. Based in Kent their jesters will visit the Carnival over the weekend with a walkabout act including power-skips, acrobatic tumbling, 'acro-juggling' and hula hoop.

Master of Ceremonies is Mark Griffin from Griffin Historical

A historical expert who will provide the arena commentary for the procession finale.

Local Artists and Ambassadors

Big Fish Arts

The Sheppey Big Fish Arts Trust creates community arts and heritage events including street theatre, street band, drama and costume workshops, dramatised walks and plays based on local historic events, community opera, plays and films. Big Fish Director Chris Reed has led workshops for community groups and brings some of her regular performers to take part in the Carnival of History.

Cohesion Plus

Cohesion Plus organises culturally diverse arts events incorporating music, dance and visual arts in Kent and beyond. The organisation programmes local festivals, melas and light events and introduces diverse music into our Carnival of History. Choreographer Gurvinder Sandher is also working on movement with participant groups.

Ideas Test

Ideas Test was formed from a consortium of local arts organisations and supports the local arts community in Swale & Medway and leads a programme for artists and creative businesses. Ideas Test has supported the Carnival of History with recruitment of local community groups and stewarding.

LV21 - Päivi Seppälä “The Captain”

LV21 is a 40 metre steel-hulled lightship transformed into a floating arts and performance space moored at Gravesend on the Thames Estuary. It provides a unique environment for a wide range of creative activities and events. Artist Päivi Seppälä is the Captain has worked with diverse local communities to create costumes, floral arrangements and large props for the Leeds Castle Carnival.

The MESS Room, Wendy Daws and Christopher Sacre

The MESS Room is an innovative, creative, accessible, community hub established by award winning artists Wendy Daws and Christopher Sacre, working with diverse groups with particular emphasis on blind and visually impaired and deaf and hard of hearing people. Wendy and Chris have involved their regular groups in the Carnival of History and worked with other local community groups to create their costumes and props.

INTRA - Xtina Lamb

INTRA is a Medway based arts venue, hosting creative events, classes, activities and studios, and offering one of the best collections in Kent of specialist arts equipment accessible to the general public. Print artist Xtina Lamb has been working with local communities to create costume and printed props for the carnival.

University of Creative Arts Rochester Campus

UCA is a specialist creative arts university with five campuses delivering arts based degrees. UCA theatre design undergraduate students have made an immense contribution to this carnival dedicating months of work to this project. They have designed and made the lead banners and costumes for each century.

Volunteer Supporters

Musicians and Community Groups

- Big Fish Arts
- Blast from the Past
- Bloco Fogo Samba
- Cancionero
- Circus Performers (Gabrielle and Charlotte)
- Cranbrook Choir
- Djembe Drummers
- Four by Four Bhangra Drummers and Dancers
- Gong Scourers Morris
- Gravesham Asian Ladies Group
- Gravesham Urban Knitters
- Henry VIII and Queen with 16th century
- Home Ed Group No 2
- Island All Stars
- KAB (Kent Association of the Blind)
- Kudos Combat Lion Dancers
- Loose Women Morris
- LV21 Making More Group
- Maidstone Gurkha Nepalese Community (MGNC)
- Maidstone Home Educated group
- MCH (Medway Community Health) Singers
- MESS Room families group
- Mid Kent College
- Northfleet Active Threads
- Optivo Youth Clubs
- Peer Arts
- Rainham Majorettes
- Rethink
- RiverVoice Choir
- Square Pegs Youth Theatre
- Unravel and Unwind
- Women's Institute

Schools, Colleges and Academies

- University of Creative Arts (UCA)
- Mid Kent College
- Kent School of Dance
- Kingswood School
- Ulcombe C of E Primary School
- Platts Heath Primary School
- Leeds and Broomfield Church of England Primary School
- Temple Hill Academy
- Oakfield Primary Academy
- West Hill Primary Academy