

touring Scotland and the North West of England. Jane co-founded Feisty Bru Theatre Company with Debbie Graham in 1994 and will be appearing at the Gilded Balloon in 5.01 during this year's Fringe Festival. Previous work with Tragic Carpet includes 'Island on the Edge of the world' and 'Heart of a Dog'. Jane is also an Arts worker in schools, youth clubs and adult education centres in Knowsley and Liverpool.

John Moore *Composer*

John was born in Leicester and studied music at Bretton Hall under Keith Swallow.

This is John's fourth collaboration with Tragic Carpet having composed and recorded original scores for 'Nosteratu', 'Island on the Edge of the World' and 'Heart of a Dog'. He is also resident composer for Tragic Carpet's sister organisation First Bite Theatre in Education company. John has worked as accompanist for the World Festival Choir and at the Haymarket, Leicester, and as Musical Director for Molecule Theatre of Science, News Revue and The Entire Company. John is also in demand as an arranger whilst for something completely

different he is keyboard player for The Supremes on their UK tour!

Freda O Byrne *Director*

Freda was born in Ireland and trained at Middlesex Polytechnic and with Pierre Blyland, Frankie Armstrong, and John Wright. She is a founder member and artistic director of both Tragic Carpet Theatre Company and its sister organisation First Bite Theatre in Education Company. Credits include: Babi Yar, Nosteratu, Island on the Edge of the world, Heart of a Dog, all for Tragic Carpet the entire programme for First Bite 1988-95, for Court Theatre Training company, The Bedbug, M. Blue Angel, Nosteratu, Lily's Last Sin, For Liceo Cappece, Maglia, Italy and RAI TV the King Lear Project. Freda is also a part time lecturer at Middlesex University where she specialises in the arts and artists of the Soviet Revolutionary era, and a trainer for the Independent Theatre Council.

Phil Smith *Writer*

Phil has written scripts for over sixty productions with companies that include TNT,

St Petersburg Comedy Theatre, TAMS Munich (these in collaboration with Paul Stebbings) Dr Fosters, Avon Touring, Gog Theatre, Bush Telegraph TIE and Solent Peoples Theatre. He wrote the script for Tragic Carpet's production of Bulgakov's Heart of a Dog. Forthcoming productions include adaptations of David Copperfield and Moby Dick for TNT and The Great Gatsby for the American drama Group in Europe, lyrics for Stroud Community Choir and Band's oratorio Shingle Street, the script for the Olney Community Play and Mrs Mandelstam's Memory for Essentially Theatre.

Sarah Weltman *Technical Manager*

Sarah trained in Performance Technology at the Sandown College of Performing Arts in Liverpool and also has a Library and Information Systems degree from Liverpool John Moore's University. She has just completed working on the national tour of Ann Dalton's musical premiere of Dickens' David Copperfield. Other recent work includes lighting designer and chief electrician for Liverpool based Robber's Dog Productions Frank Farmers Pants which will

tour this Autumn and the Brouhaha International Festival. She is also technical manager for Feisty Bru Theatre Company. This is her second collaboration with Tragic Carpet.

Tragic Carpet would like to thank the following friends and organisations for their support and encouragement: The Tobermory Centre, Mary Norton, Sheena Walker, Trish Haworth, Gordon Maclean, Duncan McGillip, The Dawn Treader, Tobermory for the rehearsal creeds, Pam Appleby, Lochton, John Chapple of Kilchoan, Judith on Iona, First bite Theatre in Education Company, Steve Nutter, Tony Pinchuck, Mr J Gilchrist and Mr Dinning at Scottish Life, Carol Gourlay, Elaine Baker, Kathy O'Brien at London Arts board, Trevor and Barbara Pattinson, Ann Johnson, Sandown College of the Performing Arts, Friends of Tragic Carpet, Vaughan Aston and staff at Southwark Arts, Keith Lawrence at the British Council, Shireen Seow at City University and Singapore.

Programme design:
Jason Fletcher 0171 706 8376

Please add my name to **tragic carpet's** mailing list.

Name
Address

Postcode

Tragic Carpet
18 The Hamlet
Champion Hill
London SE5 8AW

A **tragic carpet**
production

from an original idea by
Mary Norton Scherbatskoy
The Tobermory Centre

FISH OR MAN



Supported by
scottish life

FISH or MAN

The Company

Director Freda O'Byrne

Composer John Moore

Writer Phil Smith

Technical Manager and

Lighting Design

Sarah Weltman

Performers Sandra Hall,

Debbie Graham,

Jane McGinnes

Research Residency

Freda O'Byrne,

Rebecca Kilbey

Tragic Carpet: a green baize cloth which in 17th century theatre was spread on the stage before the performance of a tragedy to save the actors from dirtying their clothes when dying on dusty boards. It continued in use into the 19th century and is frequently referred to in theatrical letters and memoirs.

Tragic Carpet is supported by The Scottish Life Assurance Company. This production is also supported by Scottish Widows and Scottish Mutual Life Companies. KLP Manchester, Propeller Inc. Tragic Carpet may be contacted at 18 The Hamlet, Champion Hill, London SE5 8AW, 0171 733 1435.

Fish or Man? is a new play and explores man's relationship with a marine coastal environment set against an

epic backdrop of the history of the isles of Mull and Iona from millions of years BC to the

present day. The piece focuses on scientific fact, history, myth and legend, oral history and traditional and original music.

Originally commissioned and coordinated by The Tobermory Centre, Fish or Man? was researched on the Isle of Mull and northern Coastal Argyll in partnership with First Bite Theatre in Education Company, the people of Mull and the West

Coast of Scotland including: Trish Haworth, Gordon Maclean and Dramattack!

Ross of Mull, Fiona Reid and the children of Ulva Ferry

Primary School, Mary

Cameron, Jackie Chapple and

the children of Kilchoan

Primary School, Sheena

Walker, Bunty McIver and

The Tob Posse Youth Drama

Group, Tricia Slater and the

Oban Youth and Community

Drama Group, Val Leckie

and the Astronauts

Community Arts Group,

Duncan McGill of Tobermory,

and Richard Fairbairns and

staff at the Hebridean Whale

and Dolphin Trust.

The Company

Debbie Graham Performer

Debbie trained at Bristol University and Footline Circus School and also with Giselle Enterprises, Nina Findburgh and at the Actors Centre, London.

She has toured as an aerialist for Snapdragon Circus hanging from ropes, trapezes and a 300 foot crane. Debbie co-founded Feisty Bru Theatre Company with Jane McGinnes in 1994 performing 5.01, a new

play by Debbie Oates, and The BQ255 to audiences in Liverpool and the North West of England. Feisty Bru are presenting 5.01 at this year's Fringe Festival. Debbie wrote and directed Angels and Amazons for Ra-Ra-Zoo and her film/TV credits include MAT (Canadian feature), 10x10 (BBC2). This is Debbie's third tour with Tragic Carpet.

Sandra Hall Performer

Sandra has a diverse training from Paris to Java and has performed for Geese Theatre Company, Red Earth, Theatre Foundry, Midland Arts Centre, Birmingham, Show of Strength and Fourlight Theatre Company. She is a founder member of Funding Pending Live Arts (also known as Sybil Twirl's) which creates multi-media installation events for non-traditional venues from art galleries to raves. Funding Pending's current show The Dead Johnson Incredible Day Out is currently touring nationally. TV credits include: The Bill, Driving Ambition (BBC), Lupo's World, S.W.A.L.K. (Channel 4). Sandra also enjoys singing and playing in bands!

Jane McGinnes Performer

Jane trained at Liverpool Everyman's Acting Out course and with Pierre Byland, John Wright, Frankie Armstrong, Phillipe Gaulier, and Monika Pagreux. She was a member of First Bite Theatre in Education Company for three years

Rebecca Kilbey Research and Arts Worker

Rebecca was born and brought up in Edinburgh. She trained at Middlesex Polytechnic and after graduating in 1988 she co-founded Tragic Carpet's sister organisation First Bite Theatre in Education Company. She is now administrative manager for First Bite and Youth Theatre Director for the four youth theatre programmes that First Bite runs in Edinburgh.

Youth theatre directing credits include: The Stinky Pink Frock Shock, The Crucible, Our Day Out, Hawatha, Alice in Wonderland and The Desperate Journey. Rebecca worked on the research phase of Fish or Man? with Tragic Carpet on the island of Mull. Her hobbies included walking, cinema, dance, and reading.

Tragic Carpet is a movement based professional theatre company with a growing reputation for producing high quality, innovative visual theatre. The Company uses an eclectic mix of performance styles to create its work.

"Ensemble theatre at its very best"