

FIT
THEATRE

FOUND IN TRANSLATION THEATRE
PRESENTS



BRING BACK CHAINMAIL

CAN IMAGINATION HEAL THE DEEPEST WOUNDS?



DIGITAL PROGRAMME

EAST OF ENGLAND TOUR 2022



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



HARLOW PLAYHOUSE
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MERCURY



Beneficiary of the Mercury Creatives Programme 2020-2021

BRING BACK CHAINMAIL

EAST OF ENGLAND TOUR 2022

7 PM	4 - 5 OCT	HARLOW PLAYHOUSE
7:30 PM	7 OCT	SOUTHWOLD ARTS CENTRE
7:30 PM	13 OCT	SEAGULL THEATRE, LOWESTOFT
1 PM	14 OCT	SHERINGHAM LITTLE THEATRE
7 PM	15 OCT	SIR JOHN MILLS THEATRE, IPSWICH
7 PM	20 OCT	THE MALTINGS, ELY
8 PM	12 NOV	MERCURY THEATRE, COLCHESTER

CAST

James - **Tommy Campe**
Bard/Sophie - **Megan Risley**
(King) Dave - **David Sayers**
Voice of Laura - **Kate Millner**

Developed by **Found In Translation Theatre**
In collaboration with **Autism Anglia**
Supported by **Arts Council England**
through a **National Lottery Project Grant**

CREATIVE & CREW

Writer - **Tommy Campe**
Director - **Ollie Harrington**
Producer - **Rose Goodbody**
Lighting Design - **Ben Garcia**
Art Design - **Joe Eason**
Photography - **Madeline Pierce**
Sound Produced by **Michael Parker**
Set initially designed with **Lauren Flynn**
Education Producer - **Neil D'Arcy Jones**
Production Stage Manager - **Alice Winter**

Project Co-ordinator (Autism Anglia) - **Anna Rogers**
Script Advisor (Autism Anglia) - **Louise Parkinson**
Access Awareness Trainer (Autism Anglia) - **Jo Keys**
Communication Advisor - **Bethany Whitelam**
Historical Script Advisor - **Dr Deirdre Serjeantson**
Living History Advisors - **Matt Robinson**
Tom Rose
Prop Making Assistant - **Brook Trussler**
Costume Makers - **Eveline Van Camp**
Marnie Goodbod
FIT Resident Artist - **Séamus Cussen**

Running time: Approx. 70 minutes straight through (no interval)

Age guidance: Suitable for families & children aged 10+

Content warning: *Chainmail* deals with themes of parent loss and grief

Notes on Accessibility: The play is not 'about autism', but it has been developed to be more inclusive for neurodiverse audiences. All performances of *Bring Back Chainmail* are designed to be 'relaxed', which means:

- House lights will remain on at a low level over the audience throughout.
- Audience members are welcome to leave and return to show if they need.
- Actors are trained to embrace audience participation in accessible ways.

Our character Bard will use some Makaton signs in the show, too - see if you can spot them!

An Easy Read Social Story for the show will be provided at the venue or can be downloaded from our website: www.foundintranslation.com/bring-back-chainmail

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the *Bring Back Chainmail* East of England Tour!

Sometimes I still can't believe it. Found In Translation Theatre Company started off with humble beginnings - just three friends who liked making theatre, sat around a pub table, agreeing on a mission to stage some shows that embraced stories from the past. Now we find ourselves, just under six years later, presenting a play across four counties, visiting places ranging from cities to coastal towns, in the region where we all grew up.



Then I think about *Bring Back Chainmail* and I couldn't imagine it any other way. It is a story that needs to be shared, that inspires anyone still finding their place in the world, and has a charm that sparkles, with something fun for all the family.

Chainmail also has a rare but magical balance of being both a timely play and an ageless story. In a world where loss has been present in our daily lives like never before, this show tackles difficult, complex feelings in a gentle and joyful way. It celebrates difference and welcomes in audiences who have been made to feel unwelcome in theatres for far too long. Yet, at its heart *Chainmail* is about two timeless and powerful parts of life - love & imagination.

Like most medieval quests, it has been quite a journey to get to where we are today. Tommy Campe, our talented writer, first introduced me to the world of *Chainmail* by using a snippet from an early draft as an audition piece in 2019. (He got the job). Since then he has welcomed me, and so many others, into the wonderful realm of Sir James, Bard & King Dave. It is a world where everyone is welcome, so I hope you will enjoy your visit and agree the adventure has been worth every step.

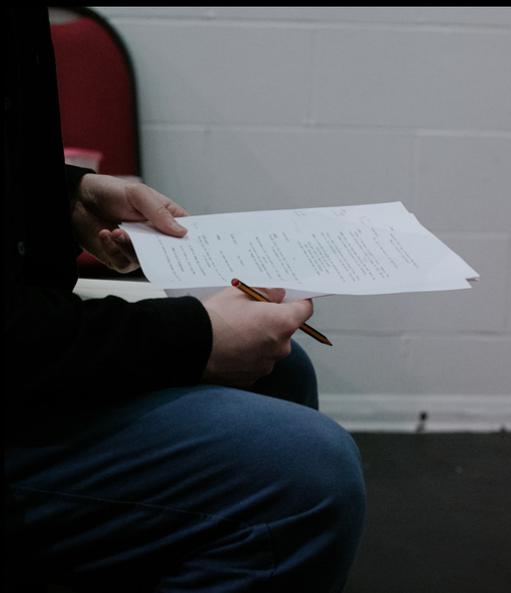
Ollie Harrington
Co-Founder & Artistic Director
Found In Translation Theatre



REHEARSAL SHOTS TAKEN AT THE HEADGATE THEATRE
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MADELINE PIERCE, EDITED BY JOE EASON



Tommy Campe, Ollie Harrington (Director), Megan Risley & David Sayers



Tommy Campe



David Sayers



Megan Risley



David Sayers, Tommy Campe & Megan Risley



Tommy Campe & Ollie Harrington (Director)



David Sayers



Megan Risley



Alice Winter (Production Stage Manager)

THE STORY BEHIND CHAINMAIL

Bring Back Chainmail started life as ten minutes of 'Squire Tom' - a medieval knight-in-training finding himself in the modern world - a solo improvisation task given to writer Tommy Campe at university.

In 2019, Tommy presented an expanded two-hander based on his 'Squire Tom' concept, now named *Bring Back Chainmail*, in a scratch evening at the Headgate Theatre, accompanied by Megan Risley.

This attracted the attention of Anthony Roberts, Director of Colchester Arts Centre, where a further developed Work-In-Progress version of *Chainmail* - now directed by Found In Translation co-founder, Ollie Harrington - was performed as part of a sold-out double bill of new work in January 2020.



An early poster for *Chainmail's* Work-In-Progress performance at Colchester Arts Centre in 2020 (Credit: Joe Eason)

However, it was working as a Support Worker for Autism Anglia, that Tommy experienced first hand the positive impact imaginative storytelling had for the emotional wellbeing of the people he was working with.

Inspired by this, Found In Translation began our collaboration with Autism Anglia, setting out to make *Bring Back Chainmail* more accessible to neurodiverse audiences.

In 2021, FIT held a two week Research & Development project at Colchester Arts Centre, funded by a grant from Arts Council England. During the R&D, Tommy & the creative team made the show alongside access consultants from Autism Anglia, finishing off with a pilot performance of a Relaxed performance & wraparound workshop at Doucecroft School.

We also consulted experts in medieval myths from Cambridge University and historical reenactors, Regia Anglorum, to fill James' world with legends of olde, heraldry, swords, shields and jousting.

As *Chainmail* now sets out on a tour of FIT's home region, we hope you will enjoy your visit to Sir James' medieval chamber, and join his quest to discover how imagination can reunite a kingdom and heal a family!



MORE ABOUT AUTISM ANGLIA



Autism Anglia is an independent charity that provides care and support to autistic children, adults, and their families in East Anglia.

Services in Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, offer personalised approaches that provide each individual with the necessary skills and strategies to enable them to realise their own strengths and abilities.

The charity also seeks to promote greater knowledge and understanding of autism through training, education, and supplying information to the public and professionals.

Find out more at: www.autism-anglia.org.uk

If you would like to support Autism Anglia directly, the *Bring Back Chainmail* company will accept donations in cash & on card on behalf of the charity after the show.



DOUCECROFT SCHOOL REVIEWS



CLICK THIS PHOTO TO WATCH

During the 2021 *Chainmail* R&D we visited Doucecroft School, Autism Anglia's specialist school in Colchester, to perform the newly relaxed version of the show.

See what some of their students thought of the play in our video on [youtube](#).

CAST & CREATIVES



TOMMY CAMPE **JAMES (& WRITER)**

Tommy Campe is an actor and writer based in Colchester.

A member of the Mercury Theatre Young Company for five years, he went on to study at University Centre Colchester and graduated in 2019 with a First Class honours degree in Acting and Creative Performance. In 2022 he completed a year of study at the renowned Ecole Phillippe Gaulier in France.

Theatre closures during the pandemic allowed him to focus more on his writing and it was during this period that *Bring Back Chainmail* developed from a short piece to a three hander play.

Tommy first worked with FIT in 2019, playing Dionysos in a short adaptation of Aristophanes' *Frogs* for the Iris Project Dionysia Fest. He also featured as the Advisor in R&Ds of *Cassandra* including a showcase at the Mercury Theatre in 2020. Other recent professional acting credits include Ben (Prince Charming) and Zork (Atom and Luna) with theatre companies 2handers and Funnelwick Limb.



MEGAN RISLEY **BARD/SOPHIE**

Megan graduated from UCC with a first class degree in Acting and Creative Performance. Having taken *young, dumb and easily offended* to the Brighton Fringe, she became largely involved in the development of *Bring Back Chainmail*, including work-in-progress performances at the Headgate Theatre in 2019 and Colchester Arts Centre in 2020.

Megan has also worked with FIT as the Watcher in an R&D showcase of *Cassandra* at the Mercury Theatre in 2020.

Megan is currently a voice actor for EOS Books, voicing two main characters in the upcoming series. She has also worked in SEND classrooms, including delivering 1-1 tutoring.



DAVID SAYERS

(KING) DAVE

David trained at The Poor School in London. Since graduating he has toured around the world in *Sherlock Holmes*, *Pygmalion* and *Around The World In 80 Days*. On home soil he has continued touring in *Vampirates*, *The Three Musketeers* and *Othello*.

Since 2016 he has worked with Illyria Theatre Company, first in *Danny The Champion Of The World* and then in *The Merchant Of Venice*, *The Tempest*, *The Wind In The Willows* and last year as 'Benedick' in *Much Ado About Nothing*.

He has also directed and acted in the productions *Frightmare* and *This Story Of Yours* with his own theatre company Time and Tide.

On screen David has been very busy starring in many short films this year. Alongside that he has recently finished filming for the Shakespeare film *Misanthropos* and the feature film *All Is Vanity* has recently been released in cinemas.

Bring Back Chainmail is his first appearance for FIT.



KATE MILLNER

VOICE OF LAURA

Actress and singer for over two decades, Kate has performed in many genres of theatre all over the UK, including Shakespeare, Theatre-In-Education, pantomime, drama and musicals.

She has appeared in TV, film and most recently has been delving into audio drama, musical and soundscape composition for At Swefn's Edge with her husband, Michael Parker.

At Swefn's Edge have collaborated with many local creatives musically, including Astraea Production (*Pretty Things*), Packing Shed (1954), Spinning Yarns Theatre Company (*Skinned*) and as co-producers with APL for *Voicebox* during the pandemic.

Recent credits include: oral storytelling with her own company, *Fallen Moon*; rehearsed readings at The Mercury Colchester, *The Nurse in R4J-Romeo & Juliet* (The Civic, Chelmsford), *Woman in Terror in the Old Library* for Packing Shed (Mercury Studio), Sarah in *The Gift & June in The Haywain* (Castle Park Theatre, Colchester). Kate has also provided voice work for *Blown Fuse In Her Shoes*, *The Multitude* (Cambridge) and for various audio books/ short stories.

Kate penned the script for the Christmas 2021 advert for In Colchester (Blank Space) and the script (adapted from an original story by Neil D'Arcy Jones), music and lyrics for the children's musical *King Coel's Curtains*, which premiered with Castle Park Theatre in 2022.

As well as performing, Kate regularly teaches at primary level and is a trained Celebrant.

OLLIE HARRINGTON

DIRECTOR

Ollie is a director from Colchester, Essex. He co-founded Found In Translation in 2016 and since then has been the company's Artistic Director. Ollie has directed all of FIT's productions, including *Leave. To Remain* which he also wrote.

Directing credits outside of FIT include: *Booming Voices* (Eastern Angles Spring Tour), *Family Minded* (Lakeside Theatre) & *Aristophanes' Clouds* (Greenwood Theatre)
Assistant Director credits include: *NHS Yarns* (Mercury Theatre / Theatre Temoin) & *Radiant Vermin* (Headgate Theatre).

Ollie is a *Direct Your Future* winner at Cervantes Theatre and was selected for the first cohort of Mercury Directors scheme at the Mercury Theatre, Colchester. He also works widely in engagement at the Mercury and was a Young Changemaker at Queen's Hornchurch.

ALICE WINTER

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Alice has worked widely across the UK as a stage manager and prop maker since graduating from the Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts in 2018.

Alice worked with FIT for the first time during the 2021 Bring Back Chainmail R&D as the Technical Stage Manager and has returned for the tour to lead Production and Stage.

Alice is particularly interested in improving disability accessibility and representation in theatre, previously working on *Sophie* (UK Tour, Hiding Place Theatre) and *Future Bodies* (co-produced by Home Theatre, Unlimited & Rashdash).

ROSE GOODBODY

PRODUCER

Rose studied Physical Theatre at Drama St Mary's, Twickenham where she specialised in production management. In 2016 she co-founded Found In Translation Theatre and since then has been the company's Executive Producer.

For FIT she also performed in three productions of *Leave. To Remain* (Camden Fringe, Etcetera Theatre, Edinburgh Fringe) and wrote *Cassandra* (Blue Elephant Theatre).

In 2020 Rose was shortlisted for the StageOne Regional Producer Placement.

MICHAEL PARKER

SOUND PRODUCER

Michael is a session musician, composer and recording engineer, played in various bands through the '80s and set up his own music production company, providing soundtracks for radio and TV commercials. In 2014, he became in-house producer for Studio 6 Music.

He is also part of At Swefn's Edge with his wife Kate Millner, a collaboration of musical and dramatic minds providing cinematic dreamscapes and sound design for TV, film, radio, gaming, audio books/drama & theatre.

BEN GARCIA

LIGHTING DESIGN

Ben Garcia is a London based lighting designer and programmer. Previous design work includes *Princess Essex* (Essex Tour), *Petal* (Omnibus Theatre) and *Confusions* (Questors Theatre). Previous programming work includes *Ravenscourt* (Hampstead Theatre), *The Prince* (Southwark Playhouse) and *Sir John in Love* (Holland Park Opera).

JOE EASON

DIGITAL ART DESIGN

Joe is a musician & visual artist from Colchester, who previously worked with FIT during the R&D stage of *Bring Back Chainmail*.

MADLINE PIERCE

PHOTOGRAPHY

Maddie is a photographer from Colchester and regular collaborator with artist Joe Eason. Maddie has taken photographs for *Bring Back Chainmail* its R&D phase.

LAUREN FLYNN

DESIGNER (2021 R&D)

Lauren has operated and designed numerous projects including the Off West End Revival of *Assassins* (Pleasance), *Worth a Flutter* (Hope Theatre), *Rabbit Hole* (Bromley Little Theatre).

Lauren previously worked with FIT on *Cassandra* (Blue Elephant Theatre) & *Leave. To Remain* (Edinburgh Fringe).

Lauren now works as a freelance Lighting Technician at the Royal Opera House.

SÉAMUS CUSSEN

FIT RESIDENT ARTIST

Séamus Cussen is a self-taught commissioning graphic artist and designer.

They started with spray paint but have moved on to creating work digitally in many forms.

Most notably they are currently working on incorporating AI to their work and design process. They create anything from theatre posters to album art, tattoos to 3D renders.

NEIL D'ARCY JONES

EDUCATION PRODUCER

Neil is a writer, director & producer for theatre, film & radio and since 2017 has run The Packing Shed Theatre Company, the region's new place for theatre-makers based in East Anglia. Packing Shed was set up to promote new writing, whether that's playwrights based in East Anglia, those who were born in the area, or those who are writing about the people and places of Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk.

In recent years he has founded & run Castle Park Theatre.

Neil has worked on *Bring Back Chainmail* since 2020, when Packing Shed co-produced the work-in-progress performance at Colchester Arts Centre. Since then he has continued to work with FIT as a producing mentor & project partner.



TOUR SUPPORTERS



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MERCURY



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Beneficiary of the Mercury Creatives Programme 2020-2021



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Found In Translation Theatre would like to give thanks to....

The whole team at our key collaborators, **Autism Anglia**, but especially **Anna Rogers** for coordinating our partnership for over the last 2 years. An extra thank you to the **staff & students of Doucecroft School** who welcomed us for a pilot workshop and performance.

Arts Council England for awarding FIT our first two National Lottery Project Grants for the *Bring Back Chainmail* R&D and Tour, respectively.

The **ERDF Mercury Creatives Programme**, a business development scheme run by the Mercury Theatre, Colchester, which FIT participated in from 2020-2021.

Our partner organisations including:

Packing Shed Theatre and **Eastern Angles Theatre Company** for guiding us through the intricacies of touring the East of England.

The Harlow Playhouse for being early champions of *Chainmail* and hosting our tech.

The Headgate Theatre for giving our rehearsals a welcoming home.

Colchester Arts Centre, where the *Chainmail* has enjoyed so many glorious moments since our 2020 work-in-progress - where better to R&D *Chainmail* than an old medieval church?

To our historical advisors during the R&D, **Dr Deirdre Serjeantson** of Sidney Sussex College (University of Cambridge) & living historians Tom & Matt from **Regia Anglorum**.

Aura Films for filming & producing two terrific *Bring Back Chainmail* trailers.

Plus, **Henry Keep** who stepped last minute to capture our visit to Doucecroft.

Lidia Crisafulli for her production shots & **Cheng Keng** for assisting our Lighting Designer.

The Red House, Colchester & its ever patient proprietors for generously accommodating FIT's people & props for many years.

Shane Whitworth, Megan Vickers, Josephine Carter & John Michael Rooke for performing in earlier iterations of *Chainmail*.

The many mentors of FIT who have advised us through making and touring *Chainmail*, including **Neil D'Arcy Jones, Anthony Roberts, Rory Davies, Ivan Cutting & Jess Baker**.

And last, but absolutely not least, **The Paper Birds**, our marvellous Mercury Creatives mentors, who inspired FIT to set ourselves goals we hadn't thought possible, then showed us how to achieve them. Jemma, Kylie, Charlotte & Justine - thank you!

ABOUT FOUND IN TRANSLATION

FIT
THEATRE

Found In Translation are a Colchester based theatre company who take inspiration from the past to tell stories which empower people today.

It is our mission to make the remote and revered feel real and recent. We believe everyone should feel empowered to explore their heritage. We put people at the centre of our stories, to make our artists' voices heard. We make theatre collaboratively, and always learn something new along the way.

Part of the first cohort of ERDF Mercury Creatives and a 2020 Artist in Residence at the Blue Elephant Theatre, we've performed locally in scratch nights at the Mercury Theatre and Colchester Arts Centre, as well as across London and at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

We also run an educational outreach programme which includes charity collaborations, creating online resources & delivering schools workshops across the UK.

Found In Translation are led by co-founders Ollie Harrington (Artistic Director) and Rose Goodbody (Executive Producer).

A SHORT HISTORY OF FIT

2016 - Oct - FIT are founded in London by Rose Goodbody, Ollie Harrington & Maddy Caulfield.

2017 - July - *Leave. To Remain* (Camden Fringe)
Maddy moves on from FIT to teach maths!

2018 - Jan - *LTR revival* (Etcetera Theatre)
June - *Cassandra* (Blue Elephant Theatre)
Aug - Edinburgh Fringe Festival with *LTR*.
Sep - FIT moves to our current home in Colchester.

2019 - Jan - First schools workshop delivered.
June - *Frogs* (Dionysia Fest, The Iris Project)

2020 - Jan - *Bring Back Chainmail Work-In-Progress* (Colchester Arts Centre)
Feb - *I Wanted to Ask R&D* (Blue Elephant Theatre)
Mar - *Cassandra Scratch* (Mercury Theatre)
Jun - FIT Theatre Resources launched

2021 - Apr - *Bring Back Chainmail R&D*

2022 - Oct - *Bring Back Chainmail* tours East Anglia



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AND MAKE SURE YOU DON'T MISS OUR NEXT OUTING!*



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