

Call out: THE HATCHLING – Puppeteer Technician Assistant



## Puppeteer Technician Assistant - Higher Education Placement opportunity JOB PACK



### **Project:**

The Hatchling, created and produced by Trigger. As part of Wakefield Council's Our Year 2024.

The Hatchling is a ground-breaking outdoor theatrical performance that unfolds over a weekend of events leading up to an extraordinary finale, created and presented by the award-winning producers Trigger (PoliNations, TEABREAK).

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### **ABOUT THE HATCHLING**

The Hatchling is a ground-breaking outdoor theatrical performance that unfolds over a weekend of events leading up to an extraordinary finale, created and presented by the award-winning producers Trigger (PoliNations, TEABREAK).

A beautiful dragon hatches, builds herself a nest and then takes to the skies in a bid for her freedom. Along the way, she explores the city, and as she roams, she encounters a series of events from intimate interactions to city-wide performances, prepared especially for her majestic visit.

At the end of her journey our Hatchling undergoes an incredible metamorphosis, unfurls her wings, and takes flight! With a wingspan of over 20 meters, the Hatchling is the world's largest human-operated puppet to fly.

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## **ABOUT TRIGGER**

Trigger are creators and producers of unforgettable live events that interrupt daily life, reimagine public spaces and put audiences at the centre of the action. Trigger's accessible, inclusive and boundary pushing work is often large scale and outdoors. Their projects are brought to life by a team of cross-disciplinary artists and creatives, often showcasing the creativity of local communities.

[www.triggerstuff.co.uk](http://www.triggerstuff.co.uk)

## **ABOUT OUR YEAR**

### ***Our Year – Wakefield District 2024, a celebration of culture and creativity.***

The yearlong celebration is set up to be a catalyst for inward investment and offers people in the Wakefield district opportunities to get involved and experience for themselves the positive impact that culture and creativity can have on individuals and communities.

## **TIMELINE:**

### **Rehearsals, Wakefield**

30<sup>th</sup> July – 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2 days per week

### **Show, Wakefield**

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2024

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

### ROLE SUMMARY

This opportunity is only available for those in further education, and they will be supported by their education provider (university, college, HE institution) and our production and lighting team to get the best experience in a live working professional production.

We are seeking a Puppeteer Technician Assistant Intern based in Wakefield to join The Hatchling team for our 2024 presentation. The ideal candidate will be enthusiastic about puppetry and may have some experience in the theatre specifically. You'll be assisting the Puppeteer Technician, ensuring seamless integration of the puppet into the overall production alongside learning and development on a live working production.

### RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Attend the get-in (date: 30<sup>th</sup> July) in the setup of the walking puppet dragon.
- Collaborate with the Designer and Production Manager to ensure the dragon is rehearsal ready.
- Assist the Puppeteer Technician to liaise with and support Puppeteers in rehearsal, offering technical guidance as needed.
- Assist the Puppeteer Technician to conduct structural repairs based on the structural report provided by the Designer and Production Manager.
- Assist the Puppeteer Technician to ensure the walking puppet dragon is in optimal condition for rehearsals and performances.
- Assist the Puppeteer Technician in Implementing a regular maintenance schedule for the dragon puppet, kites, and streamers.
- Assist the Puppeteer Technician in handling preventative maintenance and routine repairs to sustain the longevity of the puppet and associated props.
- Assist the Puppeteer Technician in performing paint touch-ups as necessary to maintain the visual aesthetics of the dragon puppet.
- Assist the Puppeteer Technician in the maintenance of required props, ensuring they are in good working condition.
- Adhere to all reasonable health and safety rules and regulations during rehearsals and performances.

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- Maintain open communication with the Designer, Production Manager, Stage Management team, and Puppeteers to address any concerns or requirements.
- Assist the Puppeteer Technician in keeping detailed records of maintenance activities, repairs, and any changes made to the dragon puppet.
- Participate in post-show evaluations to gather feedback and insights for continuous improvement.
- Advocate and act in the best interests of Trigger.

### PERSON SPECIFICATION

- Must be based or have a base in Wakefield.
- Be in full time study or education.
- Genuine passion for the arts and theatre.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Problem-solving skills to address unforeseen costume challenges during live performances and implement quick and effective solutions.
- A creative flair for contributing ideas and suggestions to enhance the visual impact of the puppet, aligning with the artistic vision of the production.
- Ability to adapt to fast-paced live theatre environments,
- Foster a collaborative and efficient working environment.
- Keen attention to detail.

### **Apply**

This opportunity is only available for those in further education, and they will be supported by their education provider (university, college, HE institution) as part of their learning. Expenses will be covered.

Apply by sending your CV and covering letter to Kaya Firth at [festivals@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:festivals@wakefield.gov.uk)