

PURPOSELESS MOVEMENTS

"This is one brilliantly shrewd triumph of a show..."

★★★★★ The Herald



BIRDS OF PARADISE
THEATRE COMPANY

“... a warm and funny experience that achieves what all the best theatre does: open a window on other lives...”

★★★★ The Independent

Purposeless Movements

Written & Directed by Robert Softley Gale
Associate & Movement Director Rachel Drazek
Composer Scott Twynholm

2019 Cast - Lawrence Clark, Pete Edwards, Colin Young, Philip Ryan
BSL interpretation - Amy Cheskin

Nominated for two CATS awards 2015-16: Best Ensemble & Best Director
Part of Edinburgh International Festival 2019

About the show

Purposeless Movements is a visually stunning dance theatre piece that riffs on the stories of four guys with Cerebral Palsy, how it affects their lives, their gender, their masculinity and their movement.

Funny and challenging in equal measure, the show fuses music, video, movement and text as the guys tell humorous and poignant stories of their laughter, their inappropriateness and their tears – stories that ask what it is to move and be moved. How do these stories come together to shape their identities? What do they share with one another and what sets them apart? And how much of this is down to Cerebral Palsy?

When they were born the doctors called it Purposeless Movements – for them it's just how they get around.

Purposeless Movements is suitable for 14+

1 hour 10 minutes with no interval

All performances include BSL, Audio Description and Captioning

Trailer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f35Wd2p8Dug>

BSL Trailer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=swoJYSyFBvM>

Website <http://www.boptheatre.co.uk/purposeless-movements/>

Technical Summary

4 Actors | 1 British Sign Language performer | 2 Live Musicians | 3 Technical |
1 onstage Personal Assistant | 2 offstage Personal Assistants | BOP Producer

Contact for full tech spec available



“...a brilliant, brainy and beautiful piece that leaves you with generous answers as well as multiple questions.

★★★★★ The List

“Honest, gripping and emotively intimate, this is a must see. A very importance piece of theatre which educates as well as entertains.”

★★★★★ Edinburgh Guide

“... compelling deliberations on the ways in which men with disabilities negotiate their gender identity and sexuality.” **★★★★★ The Times**

“Sharp humour and glimmers of hope weave through the piece as they start to poke fun at their own disability.”

★★★★★ The Stage

““...celebrating both strength and vulnerability while taking preconceptions of disability to the edge.””

★★★★★ The Wee Review

Audiences:

"Amy's beautifully passionate BSL was a stunning counterpoint to the spoken words."

"Nothing purposeless about this beguiling & uplifting show @BOPTheatre"

"#PurposelessMovements @edintfest travels unwaveringly, unwobblingly, devastatingly - with wit, humanity, love & purpose. Exceptional work"

"I was profoundly touched by the raw beauty, emotion and intensity that was drawing me into the real life experiences"

Wraparound Options

Disability Equality Training | Exploring access through movement and creation | Residency model developing new work with local artists | **Contact for options**

Birds of Paradise Theatre Company's artistic vision is of a culture where disabled artists are recognised for the excellence of their work, celebrated for the stories that they bring to the stage and are a vital part of the artistic landscape of Scotland and beyond.

All of BOP's work designs in access provision.

BOP Theatre

Compelling, engaging and accessible live performance available for touring

BOP Development

Opportunities for the next disabled artists and theatre professionals

BOP Strategic

Working with others to address disability equality in the arts

Contact

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BIRDS OF PARADISE
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Production partners 2016 & 2019

