

## CARDBOARD CITIZENS present



A forum theatre play by award-winning writer Kate Tempest

**Running Time** Approx 2 hours (1 hour play, 1 hour Forum) with a 15 minute interval

**Synopsis** Glasshouse is a story about family and how hard it can be to keep loving. Three short interwoven stories take you into the minds of three members of the same family – fragile as any of us, people who have given up on their dreams. They fail to stay together and struggle to survive apart. Framed by Kate Tempest's haunting poetry, the plays draws us into a dark and gritty London illuminated by moments of unexpected tenderness.

All but one of the actors have experienced homelessness. The show has been carefully researched and written in collaboration with Cardboard Citizens' homeless members, reflecting the struggles and hardships of those who are living on the margins of modern Britain - from the cuts and changes to benefits, to those who are struggling to find work and pay their rent.

### **What does the Forum involve?**

Following the performance of the play, an experienced Cardboard Citizens practitioner facilitates a Forum, inviting audience members to reflect on the stories they have seen, and identify moments where, were they in the main character's shoes, they might have done something different. The audience then choose specific scenes to be replayed, and are supported to intervene, take on the main character's role, and try alternative courses of action on stage. By doing so, they become 'spect-actors', empowered to make decisions and move the story towards a more positive outcome.

## About Cardboard Citizens

Cardboard Citizens is an award-winning theatre company and one of the world's leading practitioners of Forum Theatre. We use performing arts to change the lives of homeless people by giving them opportunities to volunteer and work on our theatre productions. We have toured across hostels, day centres and prisons for the past 20 years, bringing theatre to the most marginalised in society. Through bold and immersive theatre, we break down conventional divisions between audiences and performers.

## Press Quotes

*"Cardboard Citizens is a theatre company that must surely rank as being amongst the most genuinely life-changing in the UK."* **What's On Stage**

"Hot property" **The Independent**

"An electrifying script filled with sharp observations on life" **The Telegraph**

"It's got the daring sweep of Complicite's Mnemonic and is almost as suspenseful as it is richly, hauntingly elegiac." **Sunday Times**

"A wonderful show, filled with engrossing, chameleonic performances"  
**Sabotage**

"Tempest's writing oscillates between dynamic poetry that's full of vividly phrased acute observation and dialogue that's just as spot-on." **The Guardian**

'Cardboard Citizens provoke incredibly lively debate in audiences.' - **Naseem Khan, The Independent**