

Handa's Surprise

A Little Angel Theatre production

Adapted from the book by Eileen Browne

ON TOUR from 10th May – 14th June 2024

CREDITS

Adapted from the book by Eileen Browne.

Original adaptation and production of Handa's Surprise conceived and created by Slavka Jovanovic and Marleen Vermuelen.

Designed by Sophia Lovell Smith

Puppet design by Peter O'Rourke

Revival directed by Thierry Lawson

Performed by Rujenne Green and Hannah Akhalu

Stage Managed by Natalya Scase

In loving memory of Marleen Vermuelen



Hannah Akhalu – Performer (Handa)

Hannah Akhalu is an actor, singer and children's theatre practitioner. She graduated from East 15 Acting School in 2021 and founded Stage Keys Project in 2023; an organisation that offers Black children under 14 and their families/carers free theatre tickets. Credits include *Mangoshi in Every Leaf A Hallelujah* at Regent's Park Open Air Theatre, *Jack in Jack V Giant* at Polka Theatre and *Handa in Handa's Surprise* at Little Angel and on tour.

Rujenne Green – Performer (Akeyo)

RUJENNE GREEN trained at Mountview Academy. Her previous credits include; *Alice at the Asylum* (Theatre Lab Company), *Iz Dat U Yh?* (Initiative.dkf), *Emmeline: The Suffragette Movement* (Theatre Lab Company), *Handa's Surprise* (Little Angel Theatre), *History on the Road* (The Cockpit Theatre), *The Border* (Theatre Centre, UK Tour), *Square Rounds* (Finborough Theatre), *The Dog Beneath the Skin* (Jermyn Street Theatre), *Cookies* (Theatre Royal Haymarket), *The Halcyon* (Stephen Woolfenden) and *I stand For Us* (University of York). She is excited to be doing *Handa's Surprise* for a second time.

Natalya Scase – Stage Manager

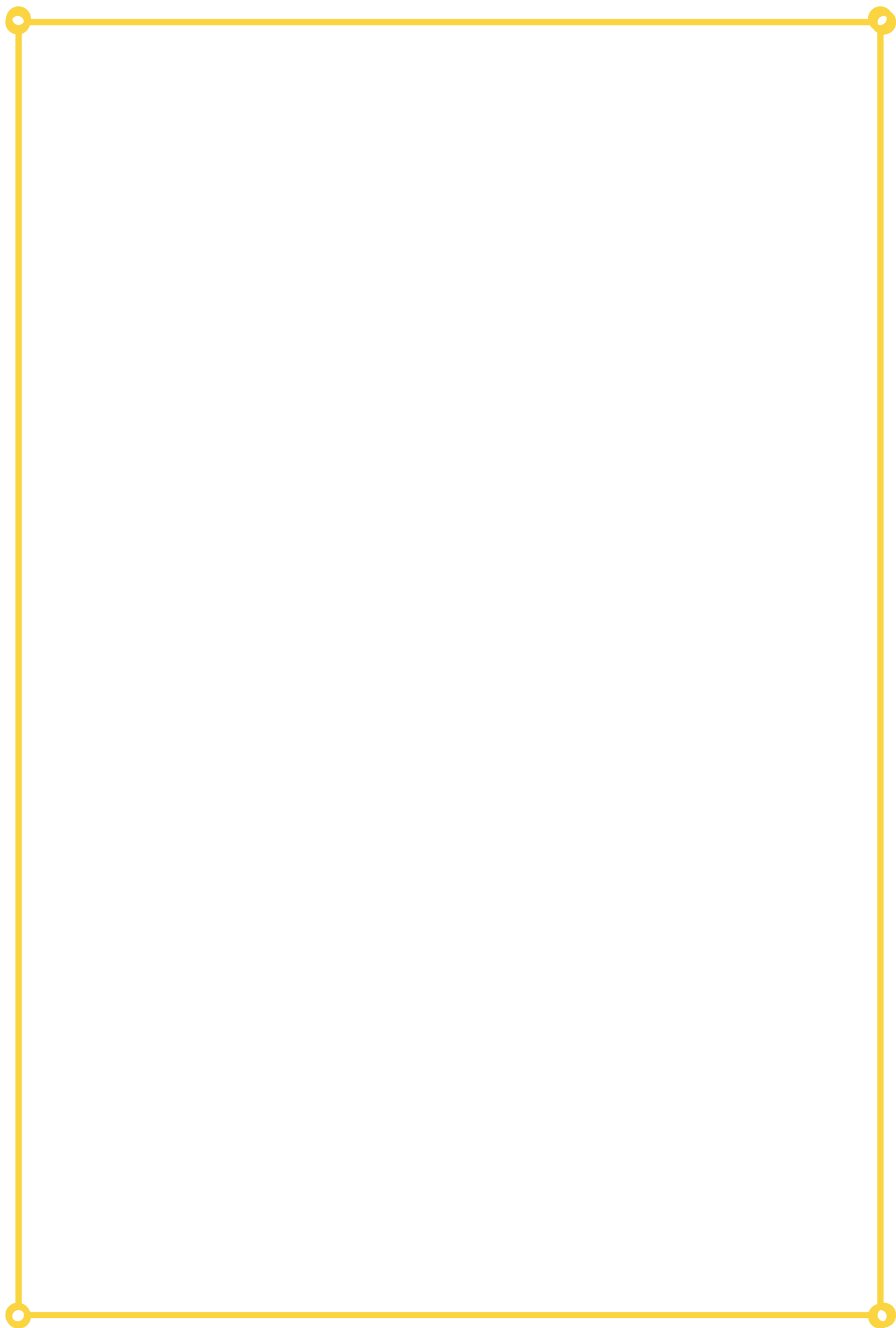
Since graduating from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama with a BA Hons in Technical Theatre, Nat has undertaken many varying job roles. Her credits include; Sound No2 on the *L.O.L Surprise Live!* (UK and European Tour), Assistant Production Manager for *Super High Resolution* (Soho Theatre); Deputy Production Manager and Tech Swing on *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (UK & Ireland Tour, The Unicorn Theatre). Nat has freelanced in many venues throughout London including; The Barbican, Hampstead Theatre, The Globe and Wilton's Music Hall and, in the future, hopes to return home to South Wales so she can continue her career there.



Were you inspired by the show?

Draw a picture about Handa's adventure and we will include it on our website and social media!





**Z-ARTS
MANCHESTER**

10 - 12 May

**STOCKWOOD DISCOVERY
CENTRE
LUTON**

17 - 18 May

**POLKA THEATRE
LONDON**

22 May - 23 June

**1532 PERFORMING ARTS
CENTRE, BRISTOL**

05 - 07 July

**LAKESIDE ARTS
NOTTINGHAM**

13 - 14 July

**JERSEY ARTS CENTRE
SAINT HELIER**

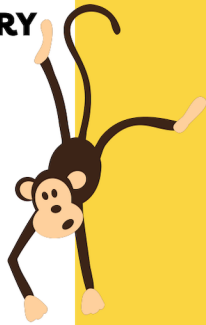
16 - 18 July

*'It's an absolute joy from
start to finish, and will
leave you smiling and
dancing your way out
through that rain with
sunshine in your heart.'*

-Everything Theatre



**LA
T** Little
Angel
Theatre
On Tour



HANDA'S SURPRISE

A Little Angel Theatre Production
**Based on the bestselling book by Eileen
Browne**

Travel to Kenya and follow in Handa's footsteps as she journeys to see her best friend Akeyo, in the next village. Handa is taking seven delicious fruits as a surprise – but seven different animals have seven very different ideas... could you resist the sweet-smelling guava? How about a ripe red mango or a tangy purple passion fruit?

A blend of physical performance, puppetry, live music and song combine to create an intimate, magical production with audience participation. Come and share in the magical tangerine surprise!

Handa's Surprise is aimed at ages 2-5.
Running time: 35 minutes



This play is based on the original book *Handa's Surprise* written and illustrated by Eileen Browne. Text and illustrations copyright © Eileen Browne 1995. Published by Walker Books Ltd, London.

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