

## Gloves On 2010 Summer Tour Announced

*'It is fascinating to see how with the right skills, companies can tap right into people's lives and capture tiny moments of emotion... it is a very simple idea beautifully executed.'* **Lyn Gardner, The Guardian (on Ragroof Theatre's The Button Museum)**

You are invited to attend the night-time premiere of Gloves On at Paradise Gardens Festival:

**Sun 20 June 8.45pm Paradise Gardens**  
**Victoria Park, Crown Gate, Grove Road, London, E3**

Ragroof Theatre are delighted to announce the forthcoming tour of Gloves On, with the night-time premiere on Sunday 20 June at Paradise Gardens Festival. The show will be touring across the UK this summer to major street arts festivals, including Winchester Hat Fair and Stockton International Riverside Festival.

Set in a full size, floodlit boxing ring, Gloves On investigates the intricacies of courage and honour, ritual and spectatorship. The show explores boxing and its place in British psyche, conveying the emotional, physical and psychological challenge of a boxer's experience.

Stories of boxers collide in the ring to a pumping soundtrack with live rapping, against a backdrop of urban art. The visceral atmosphere progresses from arcane funfair to the contemporary; pounding break-beats fill the space as the fighters enter the ring to the raucous delight of the crowd. The battle commences.

### **Which side will you take?**

Ragroof Theatre create work for outdoor or unusual spaces, taking inspiration from the sites they perform in. They bring their work to the heart of the community; high streets, social centres, boxing clubs, dance halls and schools. Human experience and real people's stories are at the heart of the company's work. Ragroof's previous outdoor theatre shows include Make Do & Mend and Shall We Dance? which have toured to festivals including Watch This Space (The National Theatre), Dublin Fringe and Kirklees Mela to great acclaim.

*'Witty, moving, energetic and well executed. Ragroof Theatre captures the past without ever being sentimental.'* **The National Theatre (on Shall We Dance?)**

*'Beautifully evoked... Three female performers, gorgeous in pillar box red 40s dresses, seem to totally embody the period as they create exquisite, clear images through elegant gestural choreography. It is difficult to think how else this genuinely poignant piece could be improved.'* **Total Theatre (on Make Do & Mend)**

*"We know [boxing] can be a way of disengaging kids from gangs, carrying knives, from low-level crime and high-level antisocial behaviour"* **Tessa Jowell, Olympics Minister**

#### **Notes for editors:**

Boxing is currently experiencing a significant increase in popularity;

- Boxing has been reintroduced into the national curriculum at secondary school level.
- According to a DSCF 08/09 School Sport Survey, boxing is now available in 34% of secondary schools.
- The number of schools offering boxing on the curriculum has increased from 20 to 1931 in the last 4 yrs.
- Women boxers will compete at the London 2012 Olympic Games, a first in Olympic history.

In the past boxing lost public support and clubs are consequently often under funded and forgotten about by their community. Gloves On brings boxing clubs and their work to the forefront of public awareness.

**PRESS CONTACT:** Laura Wright (01273) 699733 info@ragrooftheatre.co.uk

**For interviews:** Ivan Fabrega 07813 812858 www.ragrooftheatre.co.uk/gloveson

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<b>Paradise Gardens</b> Victoria Park, Crown Gate, Grove Road, London, E3 <a href="http://www.paradisegardensfestival.org.uk">www.paradisegardensfestival.org.uk</a>	Sat 19 June	4.00pm	Free
	Sun 20 June	8.45pm	Free
<b>LIFT Festival</b> Site-specific to Peacock Gym Peacock Gym, Caxton Street, Newham, London E16 1JL <a href="http://www.liffest.org.uk">www.liffest.org.uk</a>	Sun 27 June	5.00pm	£6/£3
	Sun 27 June	8.00pm	£6/£3
<b>Winchester Hat Fair</b> (Venue TBC) <a href="http://www.hatfair.co.uk">www.hatfair.co.uk</a>	Fri 2 July	<i>times tbc</i>	Free
	Sat 3 July	<i>times tbc</i>	Free
	Sat 3 July	<i>times tbc</i>	Free
<b>Shoreditch Festival</b> Shoreditch Park, New North Road, Hackney, London N1 <a href="http://www.shoreditchfestival.org.uk">www.shoreditchfestival.org.uk</a>	Sat 17 July	8.45pm	Free
<b>SO Festival 2010, Skegness</b> Tower Gardens, 25 Algitha Road, Skegness PE25 2AG <a href="http://www.sofestival.org">www.sofestival.org</a>	Thurs 22 July	9.30pm	Free
<b>Stockton International Riverside Festival</b> Mill Lane School (venue TBC) <a href="http://www.sirf.co.uk">www.sirf.co.uk</a>	Thurs 29 July	4.00pm	Free
	Thurs 29 July	10.00pm	Free
	Fri 30 July	4.00pm	Free
	Fri 30 July	10.00pm	Free

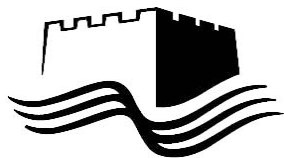
Gloves On is supported by:



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**Shoreditch  
Trust**



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City Council supported



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