

TELLING NEW STORIES IN EXTRAORDINARY WAYS



UPSWING

ABOUT UPSWING

Upswing is a multi-award-winning UK-based contemporary circus company creating bold, visually striking productions that combine exceptional circus with powerful storytelling.

Proudly diverse and female-led, Upswing collaborates with artists and communities to tell stories that are rarely seen on our stages. Rooted in curiosity, innovation and a spirit of play, our work explores contemporary ideas in ways that are accessible, engaging and deeply human.

Each production pushes at the boundaries of what contemporary circus can be – from intimate stories to large-scale visual spectacles, we use circus to open up new ways of seeing the world and one another.

Touring nationally and internationally, Upswing creates work for theatres, festivals and public spaces. Alongside our stage productions, we bring circus into unexpected places, from libraries and parks to rooftops, care homes and digital spaces, creating moments of wonder, connection and discovery wherever audiences are found.



SHOWDOWN

Six acrobats. One winner.

Who will be the “new face of circus”?

A high-energy spectacle packed with jaw-dropping circus stunts, razor-sharp humour and an original soundtrack of UK Hip Hop, Grime, and Afrobeat - *Showdown* playfully unpacks our obsession with winning, asking what is worth sacrificing to come out on top.

Co-produced with Chamäleon Theatre Berlin.

Co-Commissioned by the Albany Deptford, New Vic Theatre, Norfolk & Norwich Festival and Lowry.

★★★★★ ***“Astounding acrobatics with emotional depth.”*** The Stage

★★★★★★ ***“Wonder and joy.”*** West End Best Friend

★★★★★★ ***“A thrilling mix of theatre and circus.”***
A Young(ish) Perspective

★★★★★★
“A spectacular experience.”
The Live Review

Show length: 70 mins

Age guidance: Created for teens & adults, though also suitable for children/families

Venue type: Midscale, indoor

Space needed: 10m wide x 6m deep x 6m high

Touring party: 10 people



THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA

A classic fairy-tale, joyfully reimagined.

Tumble, toss and turn the page in this nimble twist on Hans Christian Andersen's timeless tale.

A delightfully daft feast of mattress-springing acrobatics and visual comedy, *The Princess and the Pea* bounces to life with queen-sized charm, a towering pile of mattresses and one very pesky pea.

Co-produced with the Unicorn and New Vic Theatre.

★★★★★ ***"A jewel-bright energetically active joy of a show for tiny people."*** Everything Theatre

★★★★★ ***"Charming reworking of the familiar fairytale with thrilling circus skills."*** The Stage



Show length: 50 mins

Age guidance: Suitable for 3+

Accessibility: The show is non-verbal

Venue type: Midscale, indoor

Space needed: 10m wide x 8m deep x 6.5m high

Touring party: 8 people

Tailored engagement programmes available.

BLOOM

A magical open-air circus spectacle celebrating community and connection.

A bold and joyful expression of what we can build when we work together, *Bloom* is about growth, about finding beauty in unexpected places and what can happen when art and community entwine.

A bespoke production for Bradford 2025 UK City of Culture engaging hundreds of local performers and community choirs.



Show length: 30 mins

Age guidance: All

Venue type: Large-scale, outdoor

Get in touch to hear about our other outdoor work for large and small scale, we would love to adapt or create something to suit your spaces and stories.

BEYOND THE STAGE

- **Homemade Circus** – a circus movement programme for care homes and health settings.
- Award-winning films **Common Ground** and **Circus Flavours on Screen**.
- Bespoke outdoor and site-responsive performances.
- Event curation, production and creative consultancy.

We are committed to bringing circus to audiences in unexpected ways.

Visit upswing.org.uk to find out more.

WORK WITH US



For more information
and UK touring enquiries
please contact:

info@upswing.org.uk

For USA/Canada
enquiries please contact:

sonia@unicycleproductions.com



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