

Delia. D.



The forgotten pioneer of
electronic music
meets the
twenty-first century.



TOUR PACK

The. Show.

It's 1973 and electronic music pioneer Delia Derbyshire is about to quit her job at the BBC...

It's 2023 and a group of Delia fans want to change history and stop her leaving...

A twisty-turny, time-hopping show which explores the life and work of Delia Derbyshire and how she changed the face of music. Fusing live electronic music with soundscapes, comedy and audience interaction, this fast-paced, dynamic production sets out to tear up the rulebook on storytelling and bring this extraordinary, overlooked woman to a whole new generation.



"I did all sorts of things I was told I couldn't do." Delia Derbyshire

- A play with live and original music, shedding light on an overlooked woman from British history
- Fusing fun, entertainment and comedy with serious issues, real characters and important ideas
- Aiming to inspire creativity and invention in young people, especially young women
- Interactive and fast-paced to be engaging throughout
- Adaptable to a range of spaces and audience capacities.



The. Company.



Tandem Theatre are dedicated to accessibility in the arts. They aim to improve understanding of theatre as well as developing emotional well being, skills and artistic ability. Among their many, highly successful projects they have facilitated young LGBTQ+ people to create their own music, helped unemployed adults build confidence and explored the history of suffrage with young women. Tandem are always looking to innovate: *Delia. D.* is the next step on this journey.

Katharine Armitage is an award-winning writer who has created over twenty shows in theatres across the UK. Her work prioritises fun and effective storytelling with strong emotion and vivid characters. She is passionate about accessibility in theatre and rediscovering forgotten female stories. She has also written for the BBC and Big Finish's *Doctor Who* audio dramas: a little link back to *Delia*!

Work-in-progress show performed at Contact, July 2022.

Cast	Rebecca Crankshaw Jasmin Hinds Carys Lewis Ross Thompson
Director	Frances Nutt
Writer	Katharine Armitage
Original music	Caro C
Lighting designer	Stewart Bartles
Stage manager	Ellen Kaye
Set provided by	Stockyard North
Research support	Dr. David Butler

"Proper funny"
Feedback from
young person.

The. Audience.

Target audience

- New theatre-goers
- Young women*
- Young people

*inclusive of non-binary & trans identities

Likely audience

- Electronic music fans
- Science fiction fans
- People interested in women's history, history of people from the midlands, music history.



"I have reverse adrenalin. When a deadline approaches I get slower." Delia Derbyshire

Suitability

Age: 12+ (some swearing and adult themes)

Content warnings: Flashing lights, loud sounds, references to alcoholism and emotional abuse.

"It was really fun to watch and it made me laugh :)"
Feedback from young person

Participation and outreach:

Delia only became the artist she was through having access to the arts and we believe it is vital to continue this legacy. We will therefore be aiming to work with local youth groups (especially, but not limited to, young women) who do not have regular access to theatre. Groups who sign up to the participatory aspect of the show will get**:

- Tickets to the show
- Pre-show meal
- Q&A with the creative team
- Transport to and from the theatre
- Pre-show interactive exhibit about electronic sound
- Post-show pack with further activities and resources.

We want to work in partnership with you to achieve these aims and can adapt the participatory elements as required so that we can provide a safe, exciting and welcoming environment for young people, young women and new theatre-goers.

**dependent on additional funding and local youth provision.



The. Music.

The show fuses storytelling with Delia's music and original compositions by Caro C to immerse the audience in the way Delia heard the world. During the show, an onstage musician uses live sampling to create electronic music in the moment. The aim is both to showcase the magic of electronic music-making while exposing its workings, so an audience can understand how these incredible pieces are created.

We also use interactivity through a section in which the audience are invited to make sounds which are then sampled and manipulated to create a thunderstorm, demonstrating the power of sound and encouraging the audience to feel creative and welcomed into Delia's world.

"The live looping and music making were so cool!" Feedback from audience

Described as a "sonic enchantress" (BBC Radio 3), Caro C (above) is a composer, producer and performer of atmospheric electronic music. Caro also creates music and sound for film, theatre, dance and works in podcast production including for *Sound On Sound*. Caro is the instigator and project manager of electronic music charity *Delia Derbyshire Day*. Her passion and expertise includes working as a mentor, teacher and a researcher on *Sisters with Transistors*: a feature film about women pioneers of experimental electronic music.



"The world had gone out of tune with itself."
Delia Derbyshire

Accessibility.

"Really loved seeing the life of a person who hears the world differently" Feedback from audience

The show has been written with young people in mind, especially those who do not have regular access to the arts. This has shaped the show to be fast-paced, with a continually changing scene set-up, to keep young people engaged. At the same time the show does not patronise or over-simplify: we use experimental theatrical techniques, and explore complex ideas, which our work-in-progress young audiences enjoyed tackling.

Although never officially diagnosed, Delia would (very likely) now be considered neurodiverse. The show therefore foregrounds someone who found the world difficult to navigate and understand; providing much needed representation for neurodiverse women. We never label Delia but her experiences will be familiar to many.

The music and sound will be accompanied with visual representation to make it more accessible to D/Deaf audience members. The script and sound design have been created to be inclusive of Blind/visually impaired audience members.



We want the show to be accessible as possible including the provision of wheelchair spaces (and decent, dignified access) and gender neutral toilets.

One show will be a designated relaxed performance.

We would like to work with you to provide discounted tickets for local residents and free tickets (via charities) to low-income households, refugees and people in the care system.



If you have any specific concerns or requirements for your audiences please get in touch.

Tech. Specs. & Key. Info.

Tour booking period: February - April 2025

Get in: 10am on day before first show.

Ideal run: 4 shows: 3 eve, 1 matinee, Thurs - Sat.

Get out: 3 hours after final show.

Minimum stage dimensions: 5m wide x 4m deep

Set description: 3 'stations': electronic music station (large table); kitchen station: worktop and cupboards, chair, hatstand; Delia's workshop: medium table with recording equipment.

Lighting requirements: General cover with a 6 or 9 area wash; Preferably LED or other colour changing back/and/or toplight, or 3 colour back/and/or toplight; 5 area cover from FOH SR; Overhead Spot for musician; Gobo Breakup (US Profiles); Window Gobo (Overhead); Wide Profile USL.

Sound requirements: Ideally 4.1 speakers or 2 speakers + bass/sub speaker + 2 stage monitors; 2 mic stands, cabling.

Visual requirements: Space to hang a screen, projector.

Requirements are negotiable and our designers are happy to adapt to your space so please get in touch with any limitations, concerns or questions.



Genre: Comedy, Drama, Science Fiction

Running time: 70mins (no interval)

Company size: 4 performers, 1 understudy, 1 musician, 2 SMs, 1-3 creative team (depending on location/stage of tour). Venue tech support required.

Contact. Us.



If you are interested in booking Delia. D. please get in touch with Tandem Theatre via admin@tandemtheatre.com

If you have questions about participation and outreach please contact fran@tandemtheatre.com

If you have questions about the script please contact kat@tandemtheatre.com

A filmed version of the work-in-progress show is available [HERE](#).

Please note: this tour is dependent on a successful ACE bid. Therefore all bookings must be considered provisional until funding is secured. The company will keep the venues informed on progress.

Find us online:
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i: @tandemtheatre2019
tt: @tandemtheatre

"brill, lively, engaging and fun as well as educational. I really enjoyed all of it."
Feedback from audience