

CHESTER  
MYSTERY  
PLAYS  
2023

Passion Trust  
Conference

23 October 2023



Chris Walton  
Business & Project Manager  
CMP 2023



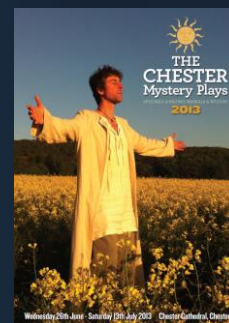
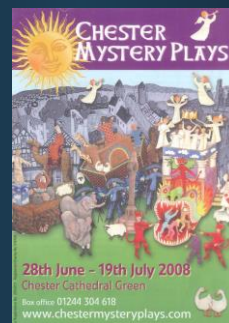
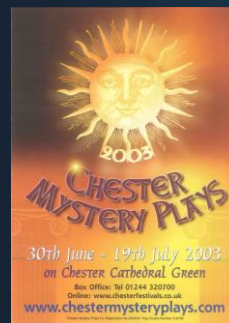
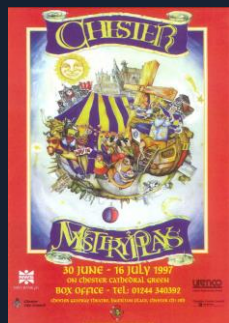
# Chester Mystery Plays 2023

- History
- Timeline
- Engaging Team and Volunteers
- Costs
- Fundraising
- Advertising & Marketing
- Questions?



# History

- Written by Monastic Scholars in 14C
- Performed by monks, then the Guilds (Mysteries)
- Banned by the church in 16C
- Chester has most complete collection
- Revived in 1951
- Performed every 5 years thereafter
- Chester Mystery Plays Ltd formed in 1985





# Timeline

- 2018 – Planning for 2023 begins
- 2020/1 – Key Appointments
- Bi-Monthly Board Meetings
- 6 October 2022 – Official Launch
- November – Auditions
- January 2023 – Rehearsals Begin
- 13 May – Reading of the Banns
- 12 June – Get In Begins
- 28 June to 15 July – Performances
- 22 July – Clear of Cathedral



# Engaging Team and Volunteers

- Professional Creative Team
  - John Young
  - Matt Baker
  - Jess Curtis
  - Aaron J Dootson
  - Kieran Lucas
- Professional Back Stage Management
- Previous participation
- Launch Event
- Website
- Social Media
- Press, Radio and Television



# Costs

- Professional Fees
- Venue Hire
- Set Building
- Stadium Seating
- Lighting
- Sound
- Costumes
- Props
- Rehearsal Space
- And....

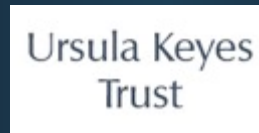


# Fundraising

- Arts Council
- Earl of Chester Fund
- Marjory Boddy Trust
- Ursula Keyes Trust
- Megan Gwynne-Jones Trust
- Granada Foundation
- Golsoncott Foundation
- Zoom Zoom Trust
- Spacehive Crowdfunding
- CWAC Continued support, plus gift from Councillors' funds
- Sister Gwen Appleton Trust
- Private Donations
- Advertising



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**





# Advertising & Marketing

- Banners
- Posters
- Leaflets
- Promo Video
- Word of Mouth
- Programme Advertising
- AA Signs







250 Performers  
19 Shows  
7721 Tickets Sold



BROADWAY WORLD



THE CHESTER CHRONICLE



THEATRE REVIEWS NORTH



THE STAGE

# CHESTER MYSTERY PLAYS 2023



NORTH WEST END



REVIEWS HUB



NORTHERN SOUL



THE OBSERVER

**“SPECTACULAR. PASSIONATE AND EPIC.”**

REVIEWS HUB

