

# Frantic Assembly

## Who are Frantic Assembly?

Frantic Assembly are an internationally renowned theatre company. The company was founded in 1994 by Scott Graham, Steven Hoggett and Vicki Middleton. At the time they were students at Swansea University, studying English Literature and Geography. They were untrained in any aspect of theatre or dance but they were willing to learn. They were inspired and encouraged to create their own theatre company. They have since said that 'This reckless and terrifying leap was the best thing we ever did.' As soon as the company learned something they tried to teach it and pass it on. This simple starting point of encouragement, learning and training has been at the heart of the company ever since.

## The Aim

Frantic Assembly creates thrilling, energetic and unforgettable theatre. The company attracts new and young audiences with work that reflects contemporary culture. Vivid and dynamic, Frantic Assembly's unique physical style combines movement, design, music and text.



## The Company

Frantic assembly are a company who use movement as an integral part of their practice. They can be seen as sitting under the wide and varied umbrella of physical theatre, though it is certainly not a term they themselves use to define their work. Frantic assembly are known for working from a starting place of text and through a collaborative devising process develop the ways in which they will present a text.

The artistic director of the company does not come into the rehearsal process with a clear vision of the production, rather a few images, a list of song titles, descriptions of various physical images, quotations and text extracts. From this starting place the company works together to create moments within the production where movement may be used to express more

## DRAMATIC CONVENTIONS

- ◆ Replacing text with movement sequences to engage the audience and make them think about the performance.
- ◆ High energy movement sequences.
- ◆ Total theatre—light, sound, set and costume surprising and engaging the audience
- ◆ Creative adaptation

## Productions

Frantic's collection of work is vast and covers everything from devised work to Shakespeare and even interpretations of books and novels. An example of this would be their adaptation of Mark Haddon's bestselling book 'The Curious incident of the dog in the night time'.