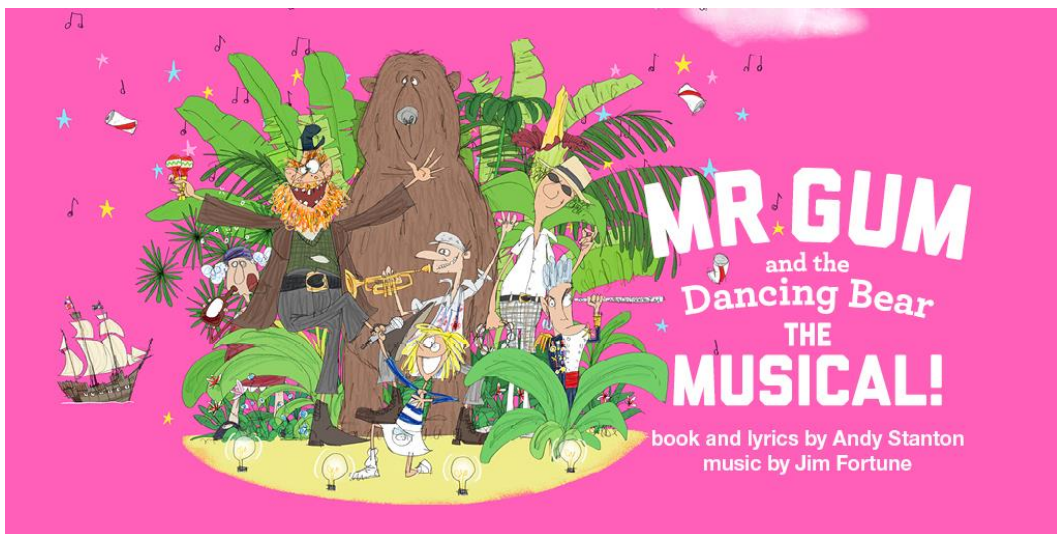


3 April 2019

### ***Mr Gum and the Dancing Bear – the Musical!***

Book and lyrics by Andy Stanton

Music by Jim Fortune



**Previews from 25 July, press night 31 July, playing in the Dorfman Theatre until 31 August**

Who likes bears? Everyone likes bears! Well, not quite everyone...Mr Gum is a complete horror who hates children, animals and fun of any kind – so when a big bear called Padlock strolls into town, trouble can't be far off. Can nine-year-old Polly and her band of misfit friends help Padlock escape the villain's evil clutches, or will Mr Gum and his gruesome butcher sidekick prevail?

Based on the hilariously anarchic, award-winning children's books, *Mr Gum and the Dancing Bear – the Musical!* promises to be an all-singing, all-dancing, occasionally-burping extravaganza for children and adults alike.

Author **Andy Stanton** creates the book and lyrics, with music by **Jim Fortune**. Directed by **Amy Hodge** with set and costume designs by **Georgia Lowe**, music director is **Tarek Merchant**, lighting design is by **Lee Curran**, choreography by **Fleur Darkin**, sound design by

**Carolyn Downing** and puppetry by **Jimmy Grimes**.

Suitable for 7yrs+ with half-price tickets for under-18s.

Free family activities with take place in the Dorfman Foyer one hour before each 2pm performance.

**Ends**

### **Notes to editors**

For images, [click here](#)

For further information, please contact Louisa Terry on 020 7452 3236 / [lterry@nationaltheatre.org.uk](mailto:lterry@nationaltheatre.org.uk)

### **About the National Theatre**

#### **The National Theatre**

The National Theatre's mission is to make world class theatre that's entertaining, challenging and inspiring – and to make it for everyone. It aims to reach the widest possible audience and to be as inclusive, diverse and national as possible with a broad range of productions that play in London, on tour around the UK, on Broadway and across the globe. The National Theatre's extensive UK-wide learning and participation programme supports young people's creative education through performance and writing programmes like Connections, New Views and Let's Play. Its major new initiative Public Acts creates extraordinary acts of theatre and community; the first Public Acts production was 2018's *Pericles*. The National Theatre extends its reach through digital programmes including NT Live, which broadcasts some of the best of British theatre to over 2,500 venues in 65 countries, and the free streaming service On Demand In Schools, used by nearly 60% of UK state secondary schools. The National Theatre invests in the future of theatre by developing talent, creating bold new work and building audiences, partnering with a range of UK theatres and theatre companies.

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