

Oliver Award nominated actor and former 'Blue Peter' daredevil Peter Duncan stars in the critically acclaimed 'THE DAME' on tour across the UK in 2020



Oliver Award nominated former 'Blue Peter' daredevil Peter Duncan stars as an old school panto dame in 'The Dame', written by his daughter, Katie Duncan, and inspired by their family's long history in panto and vaudeville.

Peter Duncan in 'The Dame'
photo Robert Workman

A lost world of seaside entertainment, piers and promenades is vividly brought to life when seasoned pantomime dame Ronald Roy Humphrey returns to his Northern childhood roots. As the curtain falls on the last show, Roy is eager to regale and entertain, but as the years begin to fall away his mood becomes wistful and melancholic - when the ghosts and memories from the past confront him with what he has spent his whole life trying to forget.

'The Dame', which tours the UK from January 2020, takes us on a journey inside an entertainer's mind to expose the fragile creature beneath the make-up, bluster and bravado. However many masks we wear, the truth will always be revealed.

Peter Duncan was nominated Best Male Performance in a Play in the Off West End Awards in a critically acclaimed sold-out season at London's Park Theatre. Katie Duncan was nominated Most Promising New Playwright.

Directed by award-winning Ian Talbot, Artistic Director of Regent's Park Open Air Theatre for over 20 years.

The 2020 UK tour launches at Bath's Ustinov Studio on Friday 24 January and includes Radlett Theatre (26 Jan), Millgate Theatre, Saddleworth (15 Feb), Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds (19 & 20 Feb), Chesterfield's Pomegranate Theatre (23 Feb), and Anvil Arts, Bastingstoke (5 March).

Produced by Here's One I Made Earlier in association with Cahoots Theatre Company.

Dropbox link to 10 high res production photos

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/0wyxq4f0t1ghuzm/AABWdxyn9ssZU_YCPbgiUSxra?dl=0

Photos by Robert Workman



PETER DUNCAN

Actor, presenter, documentary maker, former Chief Scout and one time 'Blue Peter' daredevil. Peter has a TV, film and theatre career that spans four decades.

A self confessed adventurer he is never happier than when in the thick of it such as competing live in 'Tumble' on prime time TV or walking the tightrope in his one man show. He is perhaps best known for his daredevil approach to life when he first joined the 'Blue Peter' team in 1980. He wore his action man label easily, running in the first London Marathon in just over three hours (his last one in 2012 was much slower). He fought a sumo wrestler in Japan, cleaned the clock face of Big Ben and wore his green and white check suit whenever he could.

In 1985 he went on to make 'Duncan Dares', a series that played on his adventurous image with stunts such driving across the Irish Sea in a VW Beetle and as James Bond's stuntman.

He produced a six-part series called 'Travel Bug' for CBBC in which he, his partner Annie and their four children backpacked their way around the world. In the two follow up series their adventure travels were seen in 'Chinese Breakaway' and 'Arthur's Trip to India'. Other TV credits include a 26-part slapstick comedy series 'Demolition Dad' for Five and Channel 4's 'The Games'. He narrowly lost 'Celebrity Total Wipeout' by one second.

Peter began his career on stage joining Laurence Olivier's National Theatre and spent the 70's working exclusively as actor. He became a well known face on TV where his work included Play for Today, 'Sons and Lovers', 'Renoir My Father', 'Warship, Fathers and Families', 'Sam, Fallen Hero', 'Survivors', 'King Cinder, Oranges and Lemons', 'The Flockton Flyer' and 'Space 1999'.

His feature film credits include 'Stardust', 'Quilp', 'The Lifetaker' and a famous cameo in 'Flash Gordon', when was he killed by a tree monster.

After his 'Blue Peter' days he began to appear in musical theatre roles such as 'Barnum', Bill Snibson in 'Me and My Girl' and as Charlie Chaplin in 'The Little Tramp'. In 1995 he was nominated for an Olivier Award as Best Actor in a musical playing Denry Machin in 'The Card'. His other theatre work includes Alan Ayckbourn's 'Things We Do for Love', Stan Laurel in a production of 'Laurel and Hardy' and in a season at the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park playing Macduff in 'Macbeth' and 'Fantastic Mr Fox'. In 2013 he took on the role of Charlie Peace, the Victorian criminal for Nottingham Playhouse and more recently toured in 'Birdsong' playing Jack Firebrace and Wilbur in 'Hairspray' and as Sam Phillips in 'Million Dollar Quartet'.

Peter produces and directs many pantomimes and has worked extensively for children's theatre. He often appears in panto too playing the hero, the funnyman or the baddie - and this year in Poole, his first time as the dame.

He is a patron of Action for Children's Arts, Youth Music Theatre and Neighbourhood Midwives. He also possesses a Gold 'Blue Peter' badge awarded for his volunteer work as leader of the UK's half a million Scouts.

★★★★★ 5 stars for Peter Duncan's "powerful and moving performance"

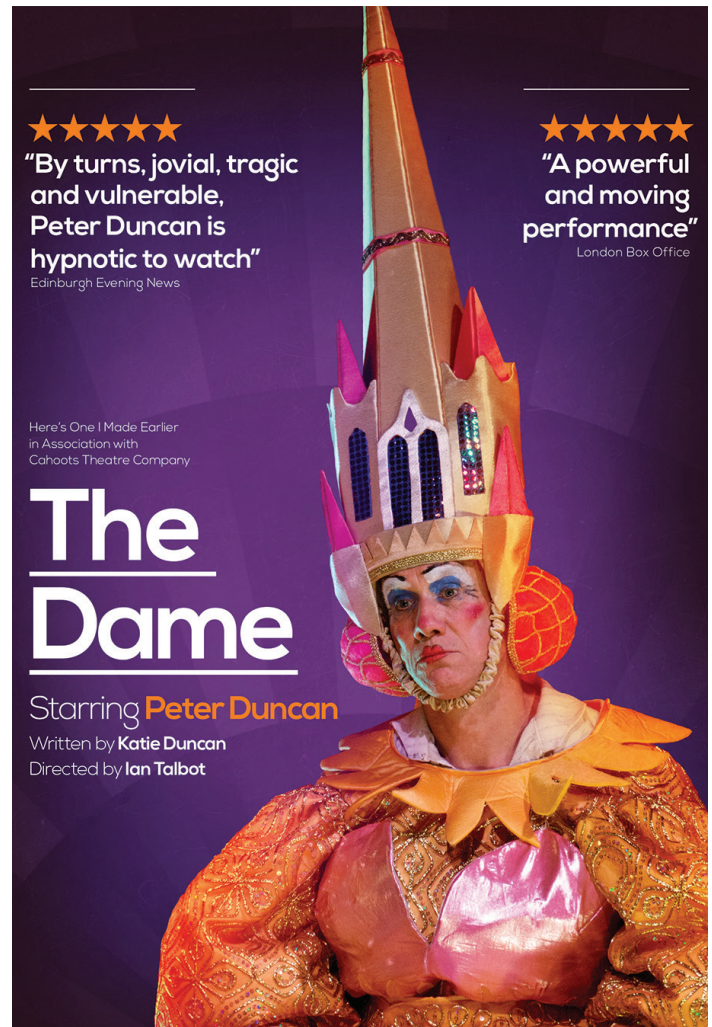
London Box Office

★★★★★ "Peter Duncan gives a stunning performance, The Dame is a clever, well written and brilliantly performed piece"

LondonTheatre1

★★★★★ "magnificent, exceptionally mature & powerful" one-man play The Dame - "at its heart is a moving & mesmerizing performance by Peter Duncan"

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2020 UK TOUR DATES

Friday 24 January
BATH
Ustinov Studio

Sunday 26 January
RADLETT
Radlett Theatre

Saturday 15 February
SADDLEWORTH
Millgate Theatre

Wednesday 19 February
& Thursday 20 February
BURY ST EDMUNDS
Theatre Royal

Sunday 23 February
CHESTERFIELD
Pomegranate Theatre,

Thursday 5 March
BASINGSTOKE
Anvil Arts