

Oliver-nominated actor and former *Blue Peter* daredevil  
**PETER DUNCAN**  
stars in  
**THE DAME**  
by Katie Duncan



Photo Gordon Render

***“My armour, my war paint, the battle out there: it’s all I’ve ever known.”***

A lost world of seaside entertainment, piers and promenades are brought to life when seasoned Pantomime Dame Ronald Roy Humphrey returns to his Northern roots for the Christmas season. As the curtain falls on the last show of the day, Roy is in a wistful, melancholic mood, but as the years fall away, ghosts and memories from the past confront him with what he has spent his whole life trying to forget.

**The Dame** 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.

**The Dame** by Katie Duncan, starring Oliver-nominated Peter Duncan, directed by Award-winning Ian Talbot, transfers to the Park Theatre, London, from Wednesday 2 January 2019 to Saturday 26 January 2019 after an acclaimed run at the Edinburgh Fringe.

**Press night: Friday 4 January 2019 at 7.00pm.**

Produced by Cahoots Theatre Company and Gale Productions in association with Park Theatre.

***“By turns, jovial, tragic and vulnerable, Peter Duncan is hypnotic to watch. One of the hidden gems of the Fringe” 5 stars*** Liam Rudden, Edinburgh Evening News

***“A show of throbbing theatricality and powerful prose, written by one of Duncan’s daughters continuing in the dramatic tradition started by her grandparents. Duncan has the anger and pathos of a straight actor that can bring tears to the eyes” 5 stars*** Richard Beck, Broadway Baby

## 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*. Last year he played 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 funnymen or the baddie but not as yet 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.



Cahoots Theatre Company and Gale Productions  
in association with Park Theatre  
present

PETER DUNCAN  
in

**THE DAME**

by Katie Duncan

PARK 90  
Clifton Terrace,  
Finsbury Park,  
LONDON  
N4 3JP

Box office: 020 7870 6876

[www.parktheatre.co.uk](http://www.parktheatre.co.uk)

2 - 26 January

**Press Night: Friday 4 January at 7.00pm**

Monday - Saturday at 7.45pm

Matinees:  
Thursday & Saturday at 3.15pm

Tickets:  
Previews £14.50  
Standard £18.00  
Concessions £16.50  
Child (under 16) £13.00

Groups Buy 10 tickets  
get the 11th free

\* Telephone booking fee: 10% (capped at £2.50 per ticket)

Dementia Friendly performance £10.00  
Thursday 24 January at 1.00p

Age guidance 12+



PARK THEATRE

Park Theatre is fast becoming recognised as a powerhouse of theatre. In five years, it has enjoyed four West End transfers (including *Daytona* starring Maureen Lipman, *The Boys in the Band* starring Mark Gatiss and *Pressure* starring David Haig), two National Theatre transfers, ten national tours, two Olivier Award nominations, an Offie for Best New Play (*The Revlon Girl*) and a Theatre of the Year award from *The Stage*.

**Press enquiries**

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