Jo Fong & George Orange

THE REST OF OUR LIVES

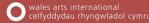
"One of the most joyful, celebratory and hilarious experiences of my life"

Audience Member



PROMOTERS PACK 2025/26

















"This. Was. Amazing. Haven't had that much fun at a show in a long time. Beautiful, spectacular and really fucking funny. I laughed, I cried, and somehow I won the grand prize. I would highly recommend a night of dance, circus and games with Jo Fong and George Orange." - Duncan Hallis, Artistic Director at Big Loop Theatre Company and Festival Director at Cardiff Fringe Theatre Festival

Jo and George have performed The Rest of Our Lives at dance festivals, theatre festivals, inclusive festivals, arts festivals, ageless and comedy festivals.

From 2023 many performances have included integrated British Sign Language interpretation with Katie Fenwick.

Overseas. our first integrated live translated performances in Ho Chi Minh City and Hà Nội were supported by British Council and Wales Arts International.

Winner of an Offie Award 2025. Nominated for a UK Theatre Award 2023.

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Photos by: Emily Wang, Sara Teresa, Craig Kirkwood, Paul Fuller

ABOUT THE SHOW

Join Jo and George for a joyful evening of dance, circus and games.

The struggle is real.

We're only at the beginning of the end.

But we're all still here.

Jo is an old dancer, George an old clown. They are international artists with 100 years of life experience between them. They've reached the mid-way point, and now they're looking at the rest of their lives and wondering, what next?

Armed with a soundtrack of floor-fillers, a book of raffle tickets and a sprinkling of eco-friendly glitter. Join them as they negotiate middle-life together with humour, tenderness and outlandish optimism.

Specially commissioned by the Rural Touring Dance Initiative with funding from Arts Council Wales.

Age recommendation: 14+. Contains middle-aged themes and strong language.



What Happens?

The performance is multi genre.

Jo and George's performance and making backgrounds are in dance, theatre, live art, circus, clown, comedy, cabaret, street theatre... and more. Where their collaboration is most felt is its relationship with an audience. The idea we are all part of this predicament about The Rest of Our Lives, that there is some worth in approaching this Together.

The Rest of Our Lives is like medicine. A series of sketches, dance, circus, clown, stand up, arrested moments of life and death, games and ideas about getting older and importantly How To Be Alive? It is fueled on the idea that life is short, that there is loss, and as the show rolls, deviates and suspends the room begins to connect people. The experience becomes increasingly participatory and in the last throws audiences find themselves in a full on disco Dancing for their lives.

The contemporary physical performance showcases seasoned award-winning performers who are excellent in their individual crafts, together they're not afraid to take Performative Risk. The Rest of Our Lives is sensational in all senses of the word, it's about the body and chemistry of being together, the stuff that has been so lacking during COVID, the murk of middle-age, memory loss, dementia, costs, crises, strikes, housing, interest rates, oppression, arts (the disappearing of)...



Duration:

80 mins (no interval)

The concept of the show is about spending time together. We, together with the audience, notice time more, plus there's more tracks at the end to have a really good boogie and our very important QUIZ gets back into the scheme of things, more homegrown prizes, it is the How do we go from here....? part of the show.

A PERFORMANCE FOR A VARIETY OF SPACES

The Rest of Our Lives is a two-hander designed for village halls and studio theatres. Yet we have also performed in Dance Halls, Council buildings, giant theatres and a school Gym.

Performance space is adaptable to different size stages and halls.

Audience are seated on three sides forming a performance arena in the centre. In some spaces we have had a raised second row on the sides, this is for sightlines. If your space has raked seating, we usually seat audiences in the first 5/6 rows.

Preferred floor - wooden (not concrete or carpeted).

Unallocated seating.

Capacity: 120 (This is an artistic decision, that helps to make sure every audience member feels like they are part of this experience)

Previous Touring includes:

Ho Chi Minh City and Hà Nội, supported by the British Council and Wales arts International

House Southeast Theatre Network

Summerhall, Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2022 - These performances were supported by Wales Arts International as part of the Wales in Edinburgh Showcase.

Ageless Festival, Yorkshire Dance

Machynlleth Comedy Festival

The Place Theatre, London

Chapter Arts Centre

Countless village halls across England and Wales supported by Rural Touring Dance Initiative and Night Out.



Performances in 2025:

For a full list of upcoming performances click here.

ACCESS

We have worked with British Sign Language Interpreter Katie Fenwick to create a version of the show with integrated interpretation. Katie is well regarded in the d/Deaf community and has a large following her expertise includes music gigs and live theatre.

Pre-show information is available for audiences here.



AMBITIONS FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES

We're interested in community building that happens in new ways and with a focus on diversifying audiences.

We've been delighted with how the show has landed with people in village halls, arts centres, festivals and theatres. We're finding a warmth and necessary sense of coming together that fits this time. We're based in south Wales and can travel. George owns a van and we have managed to get around pretty well.

A focus on us coming to your local communities. So far, the huge work on diversifying audiences at arts events has a long way to go... to date, with each performance and as a small team of Queer and mixed ethnic heritage people, we do our best to bring new people to arts events, so far we have had some success.



INTERNATIONAL

We consider the climate crisis in our planning and prefer less carbon intensive transport where possible. For international touring, we are four people on the road and freight is three large bags in addition to our personal baggage.

We successfully presented the show in Viet Nam with live translation, working with a local translator and integrating them into the performance. The process for this can work as follows:

- An initial Zoom conversation with a selected local translator who will help with translating written texts and selected lyrics used in the show prior to arrival.
- On arrival we work with a selected local translator for two half days min to anchor the performance.
- The translated performance is part projected, part on a text box, with some dialogue spoken by Jo and George in the local language plus live translation performed by the local translator as a third performer.

Depending on the language these extra pre-performance rehearsals could happen in the UK working with a British bilingual person, but of course working with someone local means nuance of that particular place can be integrated into the performance.



WORKSHOPS

Jo and George are exceptional facilitators, both currently lead workshops for any age and level of experience or ability. Both are highly experienced in leading workshops designed for older participants and for people with different needs, disability and learning difficulties. Click here and here for more information and images.

Example workshops:

Jo Fong: A 2 hour movement workshop for adults who love to move.

George Orange: Clown / mime. A 1.5 hour workshop for young people or people with learning disabilities.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Min. performance space (width x depth): 6m x 9m (our show is adaptable, let's chat)

Get-in: 5 hours (then 2 hour break before the show) / Get-out: 1 hour

Essential:

- Amazing sound system. We travel with a mini mixing desk which plugs into yours, the performers operate sound from the stage.
- Simple Lighting 11/12 cues (we try to travel with our own technician if this is not possible the show can be operated by in house staff). Warm open state, four specials.

More technical information can be found:

- <u>here</u> for studio theatres, or
- <u>here</u> for community venues and village halls



COSTS

Contact our producer Jo Mackie for a conversation: joannamackie91@gmail.com

We pay our artists and technicians, provide print and marketing tools and work hard to help tell potential local audiences on social media. d/Deaf accessible interpreted performances have additional costs.

Plus - We live in south Wales, so there are additional travel, per diem and accommodation costs. We are three on the road Jo, George and one technician.

Accommodation required: 3 single rooms (2 performers, 1 technician). As a company we are happy to stay with supporters of your theatre or arts centre.

Please note: due to allergies we cannot stay where there is a CAT!



FURTHER INFORMATION

jofong.com/portfolios/therestofourlives/

MARKETING LINKS

<u>Trailer</u>

Lead image (credit Catriona James)

Additional images

Marketing pack (including copy for your venue website)

Sample press release

Digital Assets

facebook.com/TheRestOfOurLives

#TheRestOfOurLives

Jo

twitter.com/JoFong

George

instagram.com/georgeorange/



REVIEWS AND AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

Offie Performance Award winner 2025

UK Theatre Awards 2023 nominee for Achievement in Dance

"Life is too short not to live like this." – The Scotsman

"Fong and Orange have found a blueprint for happily living the rest of our lives." – The Guardian

"whatever your age, it will make you very happy indeed" - Lyn Gardner, Stagedoor

"If there is one thing you do this year, it's go and see The Rest of Our Lives." – <u>Get</u> the Chance

"We are included in their movement, in their questions and their joys, in ways that feel completely loving and unthreatening." – <u>Broadway Baby</u>

"What a glorious way to start the day." – <u>UKTW</u>

"a shared human experience that made me leave happier and truer to myself than when I arrived" – Everything Theatre

"Jo and George honour everything beautiful about humanity" – <u>A Youngish</u> Perspective

"ludicrous and surprisingly moving" – Tom Boulton

"Its tenderness, hilarity, sadness, beauty and joy blew us away. It reached deep in our hearts to make them sing, and will stay with us a long time. It's a rare and special show that should be seen by everyone."

"One of the most joyful, celebratory and hilarious experiences of my life"

"Utterly wonderful, moving and hilarious, and quite simply restored my faith in humanity"

"Stunning. Thank you for bringing that experience - to call it comedy, apart from it being beyond funny, is to reduce it from the stratospheric immersion that it is."

"Your work makes my life better"

"Quite possibly one of the best things I've ever experienced. Bravo."

"Literally up there in my top five life experiences! Such brilliant stuff."

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Jo Fong lives in Wales and her creative work reflects the need in these times for people to come together. Her artistic practice is an evolving, collaborative approach which puts ideas around belonging or forming community in the forefront. As a director, choreographer and performer recent presentations include An Invitation..., Belonging for Hull Year of Culture, Bridge for Xintiandi Festival Shanghai, and Ways of Being Together for Cardiff Dance Festival 2017 and CAN Festival, London 2020. How Shall We

Begin Again? at the Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff. Jo and artist Sonia Hughes' created Neither Here Nor There which toured to international and UK Festivals, the live art performance will be re-staged in 2026 for a festival in Portugal. Other projects include What Will People Need? The Sun's Come Out, Come Rain or Shine and To Tell You The Truth, for Dublin Theatre Festival. And their most recent project is called Nettles: How to Disagree? It was performed at OFFTA in Montreal 2025 and will be restaged this November in Cardiff. More... A Brief History of Difference with Das Clarks, Marathon of Intimacies with artist Anushiye Yarnell, Jo contributed to Luke Hereford's Grandmother's Closet. Jo is currently contributing to an International Dance Research Project called IcoDaCo. jofong.com



George Orange is a performance artist, circus performer, outdoor theatre maker, former mascot, ex drag performer, creator of Mary Bijou Cabaret, circus director, and physical theatre teacher. But most of all, and without a doubt, he is a clown. He continues touring his one man show, Man On The Moon, against all medical advice. Last summer he did 50 outdoor performances in England, Wales and Germany. A couple of years ago he followed his boyhood dream of achieving an academic something. George is now a

master of directing circus, George Orange MA, he's an achiever, he also achieved British Citizenship. Next dreams include leading a research circus lab and initiating a graduate circus performance company. George is a lecturer at Circomedia in Bristol. georgeorange.com



CONTACTS

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