

Inspired by the 1934 Runnymede Pageant and English folk plays, *The People's Pageant* is a performance artwork created by artist Estella Castle. Working collaboratively with local historians, academics, community leaders and groups, Estella assembled a range of contemporary and historic narratives, histories and myths. Performed solely by local amateur actors, the artwork has been shaped by the stories and skills of the local community, forming a new legend for Runnymede.

# THE PEOPLE'S PAGEANT



## CHAPTER ONE

### THE SEALING OF THE MAGNA CARTA

The Barons and King John attempt to seal the Magna Carta. **Visit** St Mary's Priory, the Ankerwycke Yew and the Runnymede Meadows at Runnymede and Ankerwyke, National Trust. **See** the four remaining copies of the Magna Carta at Lincoln Castle, Salisbury Cathedral and the British Library.

## CHAPTER TWO

### THE COIN COUNTERFEITER

A cat and mouse game of chase between William Chaloner, coiner and confidence trickster, and the Master of the Royal Mint, Sir Isaac Newton, takes both men from London to Egham. **Learn more** At The Newton Project, an online resource run by Oxford University [www.newtonproject.ox.ac.uk](http://www.newtonproject.ox.ac.uk) **Read** *Newton and the Counterfeiter* by Thomas Levenson

## CHAPTER THREE

### THE EGHAM RACES

A fun day out at the Egham Races turns to debauchery and disorder. **Learn more** At the

Egham Museum and visit the Runnymede Meadow at the Runnymede and Ankerwyke National Trust.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### THE LAST FATAL DUEL IN ENGLAND

An argument leads two French revolutionaries, Lt. Frederic Constant Courmet and Emmanuel Barthélemy (both immortalised in a novel by Victor Hugo) to a dual ending in one man's death. **Visit** The Barley Mow pub, Englefield Green where Frederic Courmet died, and his grave at St. John's Church cemetery, Egham **Read** *Les Misérables* by Victor Hugo

## CHAPTER FIVE

### THE DIGGERS

A contemporary eco group naming themselves after the Diggers movement invoke the Magna Carta, creating parallels to the original Diggers or True Levellers of the mid 1600s. **Explore** Sites of significance using the Surrey Diggers Trail [www.diggerstrail.org.uk](http://www.diggerstrail.org.uk)

Above image, preparations during rehearsal

Director, Sacha Plaige, has used elements of clowning throughout her direction. This playful addition to the performance mimics the confusion that word-of-mouth and hearsay creates in interpreting history. Listen out for composer Alexander Ling's soundscapes. Each scene contains atmospheric sounds recorded on site, such as the branches in the wind at the Ankerwyke Yew. Costumes were inspired by *toiles*; the initial version of a garment made to test the pattern, made in simple calico fabric. The sets used in the performance were influenced by the pastoral scenes found in English chinaware and children's toy theatre sets.



Cast members behind the scenes during rehearsal. Photographs by Simon Rankin

*The World Turned Upside Down* is performed by Frances Scott, Louise Loft and Michael Dunnigan with kind permission by the composer Leon Rosselson.

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#### CAST

Graham Collier  
Janine Jones  
Jenny Rose  
Kay Frier  
Linda Russell  
Mark Batty  
Neil James  
Nick Farr  
Rhona Pennack  
Sarah Slater  
Shannon Saise-Marshall  
Sonia Duggan  
Tony Frier

#### ARTIST

Estella Castle

#### DIRECTOR + MOVEMENT DIRECTOR

Sacha Plaige

#### ADVISORS

The National Trust, Sarah Corn and Emeritus Professor Justin Champion

#### COMPOSER + ARRANGEMENT

Alexander Ling

#### COSTUMES

Samantha Whetton & Amy Ward

#### PROP SEAMSTRESS

Rhona Pennack

#### SET BUILDER

Joshua Young, Home Wrk Design

#### SET PAINTING + PROPS ASSISTANT

Mark Batty

#### GRAPHICS + PRINT

Samantha Whetton,  
Studio Design Print Bind

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