



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rotherhithe SE16

**LONDON BUBBLE THEATRE CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR
WITH A STREET PARTY AND AN AWARD**

[London Bubble Theatre Company](#) has been animating spaces with community theatre for all, since 1972. Over the course of 50 years, Bubble's shape has shifted with the times and to weather challenges – from funding cuts to global pandemics – but the storytelling, connecting and most of all EMPOWERING people to be their authentic selves, has remained constant.

The original idea behind the Bubble, led by the Greater London Arts Association, was to set up a company that toured outer London to attract new theatre goers into the city. In 1972, founding director Glen Walford took that vision, along with a polyhedral tent, and brought Bubble to life. It began 'popping up' in parks and green spaces all over with seasons of original theatre performances for adults and children alike.

Five decades later, its mission of using theatre as a tool to foster equality and connection has never been more important, with Bubble consistently finding ways to reach people who might otherwise not have access to theatre and whose voices continue to be at risk of going unheard.

The Golden Street Party

On Saturday 3rd September 2022, Bubble launched its anniversary with a street party for friends and members. Designed as a celebration of the company as it is in 2022 and sponsored by an array of local businesses and supporters, the event showcased live theatre performances by drama groups spanning the breadth of Bubble's participatory programmes. The groups devised theatre over the summer holidays, with most of the performances created in one week or less, and performed on the bespoke Bubble 50th stage made by Rotherhithe Shed members.

Artistic Director Marie Vickers said of the celebration:

“As a small arts charity, we are extremely proud to have reached this monumental milestone! Our golden anniversary street party is about celebrating who we are in 2022; a theatre company firmly rooted in the local community, welcoming people from a wide range of backgrounds to express themselves, be creative and make theatre about the things that matter to them.”

Bubble wins Best Charity 2022

On Wednesday 21st September, the Southwark Business Excellence Awards ceremony took place, where London Bubble won the Best Charity or Social Enterprise award.

Executive Director Lucy Bradshaw said of the win:

“When so much of the work you do is less visible to the public, as ours is, it matters all the more when the spotlight shifts to us. To be awarded Best Charity by Southwark Business Awards is a highlight of our 50th year because it means that, just as the way we make theatre recognising the lesser heard stories of children, young people and older adults, the story of London Bubble is being recognised too.”

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