



Jenny Edbrooke is a taboo-busting live artist whose work is playful, thought-provoking and unapologetic in its delight of the female body.

Sometimes saucy, sometimes downright rude but always challenging, Jenny's work can shock and amuse in equal measure as she delves deep into the female psyche to stir the conscience, challenge conceptions and break conventions.

Throughout her career she has never been afraid to take risks and experiment with new forms, to create a body of work that has been described as '*a cunning fusion of bawdy humour, live art and new age feminism*'.

Having started out with Bryony Kimmings and Alex Innes as part of the celebrated **Glass Eyed** collective, Jenny launched her solo career in 2005 with **A Play in Farnham**, followed by the highly acclaimed **The Sexy Project** (2006-2008) and **Acts of Boobiness** (2009). Her latest project, **Smalls**, will go on tour from May 2011.

Current work

2010 - 2011

Smalls

Funny, sad, moving and at times challenging, *Smalls* is an intimate performance that provides an enchanting and amusing insight into the complex world of undergarments. Audiences of five are invited to peek up Jenny's voluminous skirt made entirely of bras and knickers and explore its hidden gems and saucy secrets. Mixing sound installation with live performance, Jenny takes you on a creative journey that exposes the delights and indiscretions of our underwear.

Smalls goes on tour from May 2011 and Jenny has developed a range of workshops around the theme of underwear to run alongside ***Smalls*** or can be delivered separately. For tour dates and information about workshops go to www.jennyedbrooke.com

Previous solo work

2009

Acts of Boobiness

Continuing her exploration into 'femaleness', this installation piece celebrates the amazing array of functions of the female body and subtly investigates its roles and uses, juxtaposing social ideals from Eastern and Western cultures, past and present. Working with a pallet of familiar ingredients, everyday substances and gold leaf on classic watercolour paper, Jenny attempts to depict her emotions and the experiences of early motherhood in a language that is both universal and intensely personal. Premiered at The School Creative Centre, Rye.

Booby Paintings

Building on the success of Acts of Boobiness, Jenny used her breasts to create a series of paintings that were exhibited as part of an International Women's Day event in Hastings, 2010.

Homelands Dance Festival – Chisenhale Dance Space, London

A series of performance workshops with the East End Women's Institute, culminating in a performance at the Homelands Dance Festival, London.

2006-2007

The Sexy Project

Developed as three parts, The Sexy Project discussed personal boundaries, exploited existing social rules and habits, questioned the unanswerable and challenged conventions. The resulting artwork was riveting, intriguing, appalling, entertaining – and an opportunity for Jenny to make sense of her life as a woman in the world today.

Part one:

Stay If You Think I'm Sexy (Spring '06)

Using personal history, social expectations, universal stories and anecdotes, the personal boundaries of audience members were challenged and questioned as they were led into a makeshift boudoir to experience a performance that was as explicit and intense as it was humorous and touching. Performed at Fresh Festival, South Hill Park and Reading, and Nuff Said Festival, Lancaster

Part two:

What Goes Up - Must Come Down (Spring '07)

In this fun and liberating interactive performance Jenny contemplated the uses and abuses of the female body by presenting herself as a human coconut-shy. The audience was invited to help create a piece of art centered on her crotch.

Performed at Fresh Festival, Farnham Maltings and South Hill Park, and The National Review of Live Art, Tramway, Glasgow

Part three:

The Hole Story (Autumn '07)

Over a six-hour period Jenny interacted with text, photography, costume, sound and her eight-month-pregnant belly to deliver an array of fragmented characters, scenes and poignant memories, all combining to tell The Hole Story.

Performed at Claremont studio, Hastings

2005

A Play In Farnham

A Play In Farnham was developed as a site-specific, durational performance for the Farnham Maltings, in which Jenny used the contents of her childhood toy box to depict experiences, findings and impressions of the town of Farnham.

Business of Dreams workshop project (Hastings School of Contemporary Dance)

Jenny devised a new production for the youth group, combining dance and basic performance skills with physical theatre and spoken word.

Collaborations

Glass Eyed 2002-2009

Performer, administrator and treasurer of Glass Eyed, a live art multimedia performance company who made performance, video and VJ events. The company performed twice at the National Review of Live Art, Glasgow, and graced the stages of many festivals and theatres around the UK.

<http://www.glasseyed.com>

Residencies

BAPSE: Supported artist 2007- 2009

(The Basement, Brighton)

The Junction Theatre, Cambridge: Supported artists, Glass Eyed 2005

ArtsAdmin: Early career bursary with Glass Eyed 2004

Experience

December 2009 – Acted as ‘Dolly Angel’ the snow host at **The School Creative Centre’s** Christmas Bizarre.

February 2007 – Attended the **Anne Seagrave** New Moves winter school in Glasgow, working extensively on the use of self-identity and autobiographical material and its context within practice. The workshop resulted in participants forming a creative collective called ‘**Spitting Women**’ that supported and enabled each member to showcase and develop her practice.

2005-2007 – Worked for Hastings-based **Idolrich Puppetry** as administrator and project manager.

October 2006 – Participated in the Brighton Arts Production SE workshop with **Kira O Reilly**.

September 2006 – Assisted **Richard De Domenici** as part of the Dadao Festival, Beijing, China.

June 2006 – Week-long project with **KTO** for a large-scale outdoor multi-arts and media performance, Central Square, Krakow, Poland.

2005 – Project coordinator for **Articulate Puppetry Collective** and the **Headlines** project working with local asylum seekers and refugees.

August 2005 – Acted as Mistress of Ceremonies for **Dab Arts**, Hastings.

May 2005 – Assisted with **Gob Squad’s** performance of ‘Super Night Shot’, Cambridge.

May 2005 – Weekend workshop with **Roddy Hunter** and **Will Pollard** as part of the DIY scheme for the Live Art Development Agency.

April 2005 – Assisted **Blast Theory** with ‘Can You See Me Now’, Cambridge.

May 2004 – Assisted **Curious** with ‘On the Scent’, London.

August 2003 – Jointly taught 16 young theatre students as part of a live art summer school, Hillingdon, London.

February 2002 – Collaborated with **Phil Stanier** of Strange Names Collective to make a dream gallery of 11 installation works at the Beldham Gallery, London.

January 2002 – Collaborated with **Ballet Rambert** and South Korean dance practitioner San Kyung Kim for a showcase performance, London.

July 2001 – Worked on a week-long drama/physical theatre project with students in **Auroville**, Tamil Nadu, India.

Education

2000-2003, Brunel University, West London

BA Modern Drama - First Class honours

1996-2000, Bexhill College, East Sussex

'A' levels: Performing Arts, Psychology, Physical Education, French and Italian.

Contact

Jenny Edbrooke
Resident Artist
The School Creative Centre
New Rd, Rye
East Sussex
TN31 7LS

info@jennyedbrooke.com

www.jennyedbrooke.com

www.theschoolcreativecentre.co.uk