

"Seaside Follies - Reviving the Pierrots"

Margot Catlin, Jane Smith & Dr Tony Lidington

This exhibition is the culmination of a year's work researching the history and context of seaside pierrot troupes and concert parties in Llandudno. We have worked alongside Venue Cymru, Bangor University, local archives, museums and historians, as well as regional professional, emerging and young artists, to explore the history and practice of the seaside pierrot troupes and in the process, developing the research & performance skills of the participants.

This exhibition is an amalgamation of their research and that of Dr Tony Lidington from 'Promenade Promotions': Tony has spent 35 years collecting information and artefacts about British pierrot troupes & concert parties. He is the leading academic authority on the subject, as well as performing for 27 years as the Reverend Uncle Tacko! of 'The Pierrotters' – the last professional seaside pierrot troupe, which he founded in 1983.

This exhibition is a tribute to the 100 years of British seaside entertainment represented by the pierrots.



The Pierrotters', Southport, 1983



Will Catlin's (centre) 'Favourite Pierrots', 1905



The Jollies' rehearsing



Trainee pierrots, Venue Cymru

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