

Making Climate Conscious Performance

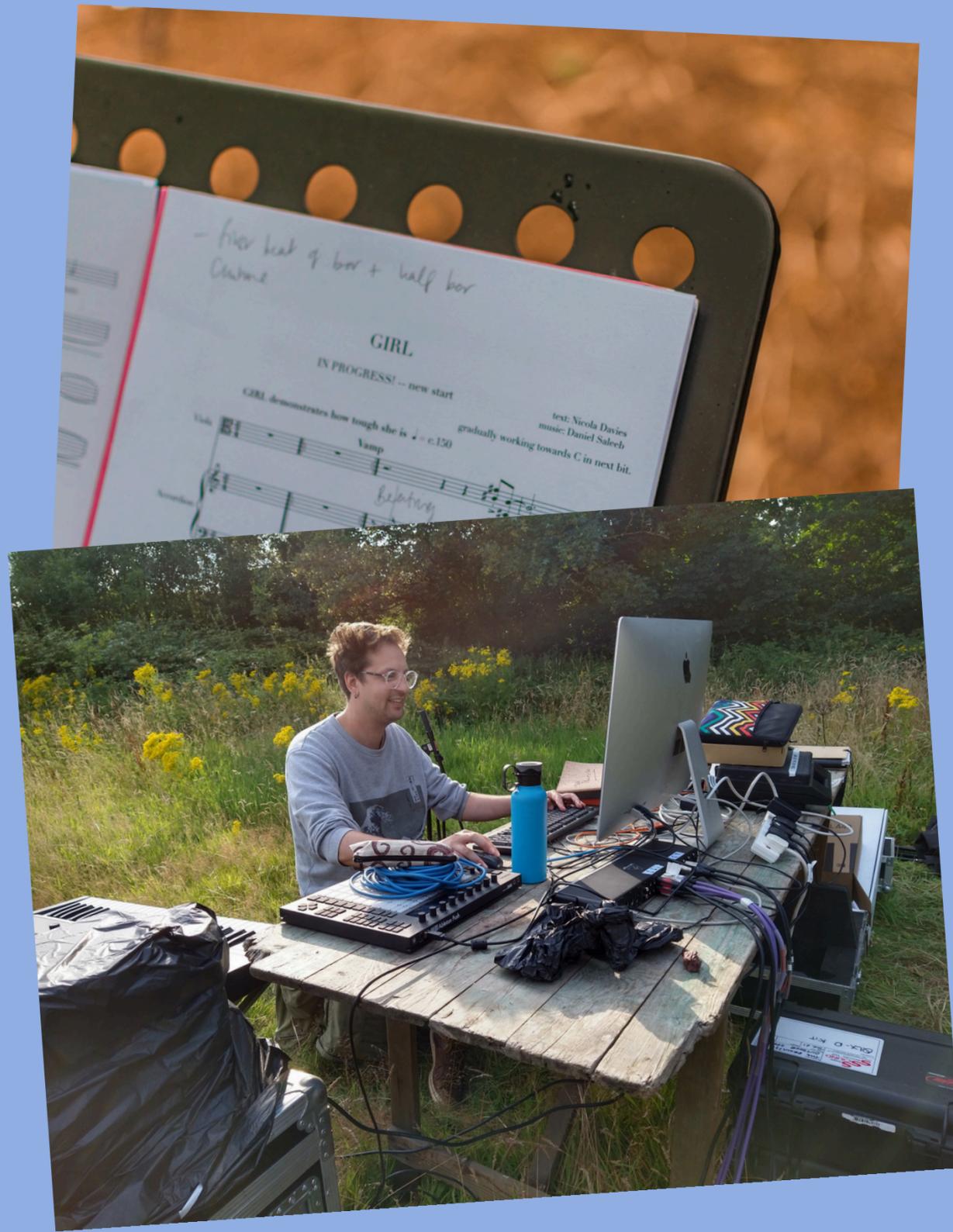
Lucy Bradley, Freelance Director



What is Climate Conscious Performance?

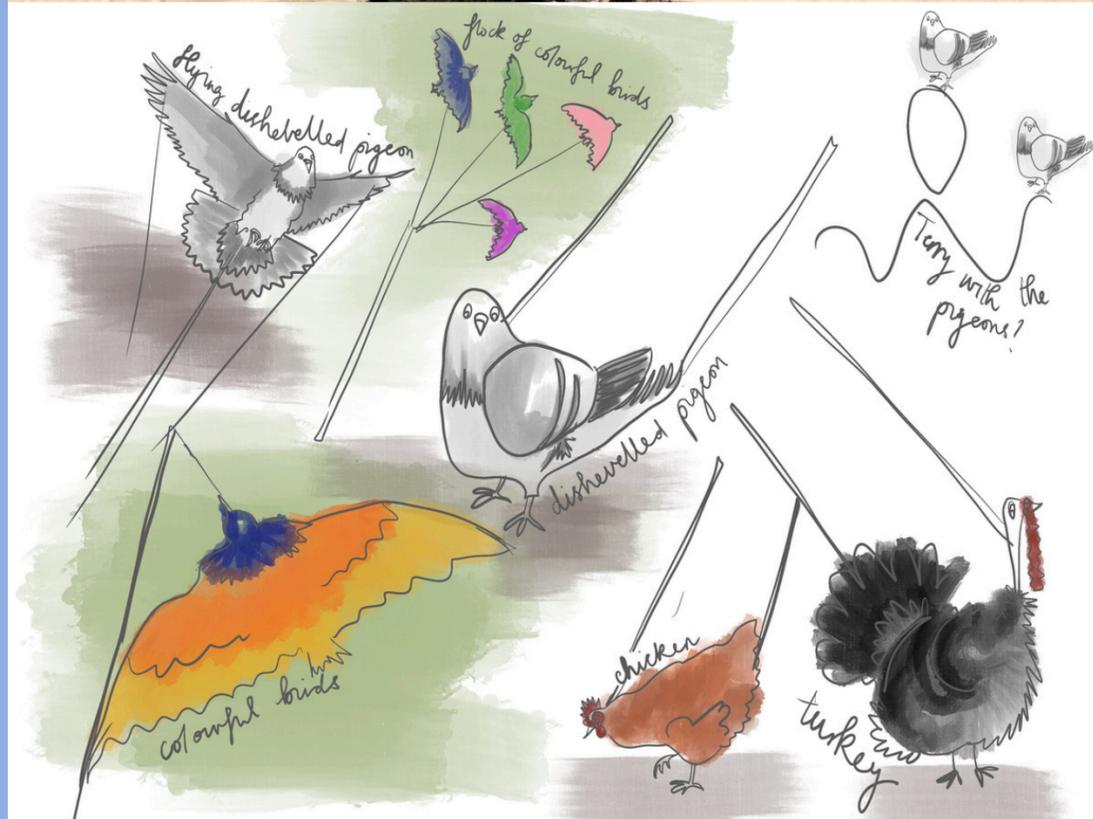


Climate Conscious Performance

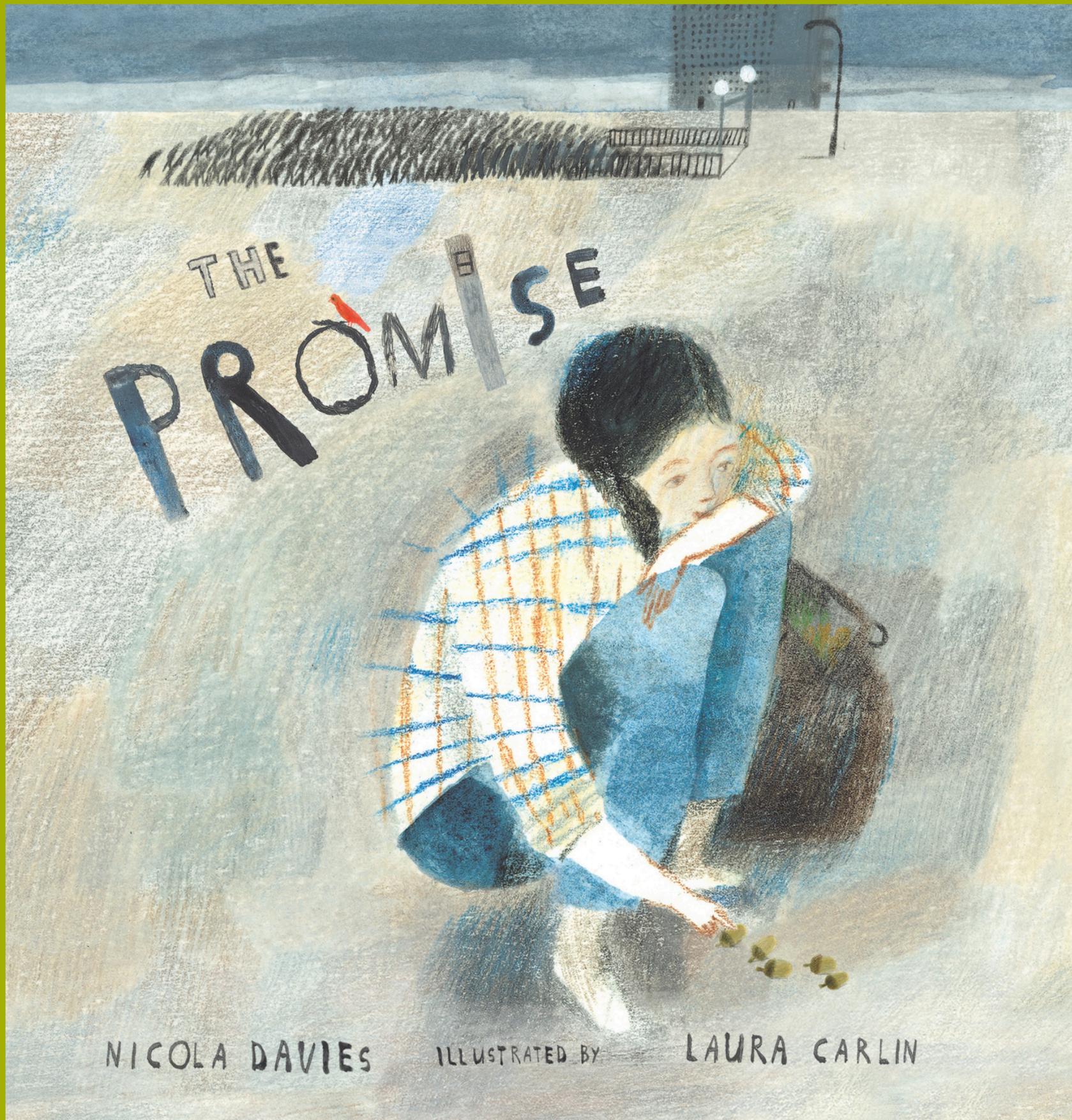


- It embeds **climate positive decision** making from the very outset of the project.
- It **considers the resources** that are involved in making the piece of performance at every stage from commissioning to evaluation.
- It follows the **Theatre Green Book**.
- It offers a **holistic approach** to projects, not just focussed on design.
- It prioritises the **wellbeing** of all involved
- It **allows time** and is not rushed

Climate Conscious Performance



- It **empowers** every member of the project from producers, creatives, musicians, communities and audiences to take climate action.
- It is **Inclusive** and aims to engage all kinds of people in all kinds of ways
- It is **Collaborative**, develops new partnerships and ways of working
- It **leaves some kind of legacy** and aims to share its learning
- It is **reflective**, and constantly evolving
- It is part of the **solution** not part of the problem
- It is really making a **difference**, not a tick box exercise, or greenwashing



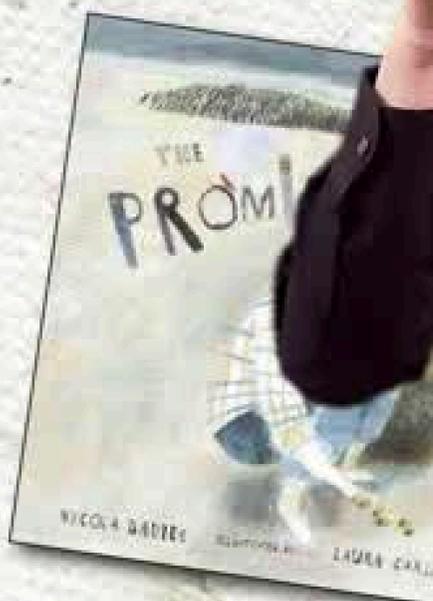
Case Study

The Promise

A new outdoor Opera for
families

by Nicola Davies and
Daniel Saleeb

THE PROMISE



BASED ON THE BOOK **THE PROMISE**
BY NICOLA DAVIES AND LAURA CARLIN.
ILLUSTRATED BY WALKER BOOKS LTD., LONDON

♪ Plant a seed



The Promise in numbers



Total performances

16

Regions toured to

5

BSL interpreted performances

10

Total audience number

1468

Workshops with d/Deaf & SEN Schools or
community groups

7

Planting events taken place so far

16

Trees planted so far

>200

Number of professionals involved

41



Audience feedback

“It was fantastic, it transported me into the world and made me feel welcomed in”

“I was surprised how engaged my children were by the opera, it's the first time they've seen an opera so I wasn't sure what to expect.”

“The integrated BSL and thought around inclusivity was fantastic and seamless.”

“I was really proud to be able to bring my children here. It felt wonderful to share this artform with them and for them to be valued and recognised as an audience.”

“Engaging, intergenerational, high quality music theatre”



Planting activity

'Green spread through the city...'

Thank you for a wonderful day! A fantastic mix of fun, silliness, the wonder of nature, music and meaning. What a brilliant experience!
Teacher, Seven Mills primary London



'like a song'



So what was different about

We met Theatre Green Book to Intermediate level

Our set and puppet designs were made using reclaimed and repurposed materials, our costumes were largely sourced 2nd hand

On tour we travelled by train and our crew and production toured in an Electric vehicle

The process was slow and we made space for reflection

We developed an equitable company wide fee

Many of our performances were free or 'pay what you can'

We ate vegan

We worked inclusively - many of our creative team and performers were d/Deaf, neurodivergent and visually impaired

Artists were given space to develop climate focussed work

We performed in spaces where Opera isn't normally - in city parks, next to housing estates, in town greens, so that people could encounter the art form for the first time

The Promise?



***Plant the
seed***

and

***let it
grow***

The Promise is a story about the climate crisis, told in a way that responds to the climate crisis, its reason for being was to be part of the solution, to inspire and make change



The work we did to inspire children, community groups and audiences, was as important as the production we made, as was the planting work that followed.

“Climate crisis stories are important to be told, and accessible ones like **The Promise**, created for children are even more so.”
Audience member





“at the heart of our work is the need for those around us to be able to imagine a better world....If we can imagine it, it is so much more likely that we will put our energy into making it a reality.”

Rob Hopkins, ‘From what is to what if’

