



# THE END OF THE ROAD SHOW

**The End of the Road Show is an interactive performance about life, love and funerals – and how to talk about death in a positive and meaningful way.**

This heartfelt and thought-provoking piece of theatre blends storytelling, poetry and sound, creating an informative and empowering look at end-of-life planning that's told with warmth, wit and humanity. Expect to find comfort and catharsis, closure and celebration.

Inspired by real life discussions with over 50 participants about their experiences of death and wishes for the end of their lives, and with input from experts, The End of the Road Show examines frank and good-humored ways to make sure that the conversation about dying doesn't have to be awkward.

Supported by:



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

**N** Norwich  
Theatre

 **Norfolk**  
County Council

# AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

Which elements of The End of The Road Show had the greatest impact on you?

**The idea of leaving love behind when we die**, what an amazing thought that had never occurred to me! How little I had thought about my own death and funeral. How acting out someone's last wishes must be so soothing at such a terrible time.

**The stillness of the ceremony/ritual** and how small simple expressions can have such significant meaning

**I liked the idea of “one day we will not be here”** - the journey towards death theme, and the invitation to consider end of life issues.

**The audio clips were very powerful as extracts of real life experiences.**

The use of questions, asking the audience to consider their own lives and potential end of life experiences really made you realise the show is about all of us, individually and collectively.

**Death as the great equaliser.** Comfort in that

**The questions to the audience**, the torches, projections, my reactions in the moment.

**The importance of talking to my loved ones** about my wishes (even though I don't want to!!)

**The variety of voices** you included from all walks of life.

## What, if anything, did you find surprising about the performance?

**Surprised at how the simplest of things can have such an impact** and how a lone performer can hold an audience whilst presenting a topic many try to avoid.

**The humour -**  
I liked that.

**How informative it was.**

I liked the idea of “one day we will not be here” - the journey towards death theme, and the invitation to consider end of life issues.

**The audio clips were very powerful as extracts of real life experiences.**  
The use of questions, asking the audience to consider their own lives and potential end of life experiences really made you realise the show is about all of us, individually and collectively.

**The questions to the audience**, the torches, projections, my reactions in the moment.

**The importance of talking to my loved ones** about my wishes (even though I don't want to!!)

**The variety of voices** you included from all walks of life.

## What, if anything, did you find challenging about the performance?

**The fact that death will come** - and it maybe completely unexpected and the chaos it leaves behind.... But also some people plan their death - death by suicide.... And it's final. No going back. I knew that. But something struck in the performance of how final it really is.

**It made me think about my grandpa who passed away** and I wasn't able to say goodbye.

**Contemplating a loss of awareness** more so than a loss of being.

**I have been around death** but I can imagine that for some; thinking about their own death must have been hard

**To really consider not being here.**

**I think I might have liked to be challenged more.**

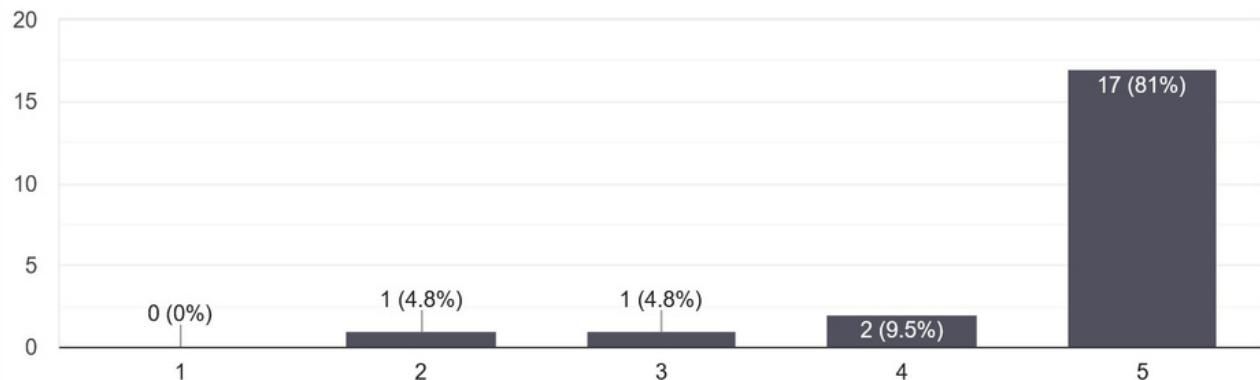
**The show addressed death of many varieties**, but the main journey it focused on was that the end of life is a slow or planned process. It was challenging for audience with experiences such as sudden deaths or suicide, for example. Some of the imagery and words used could be triggering.

**I suppose feeling that my experience was not reflected** in this beautiful thoughtful, gentle approach. I always wonder where fierce feelings are allowed.

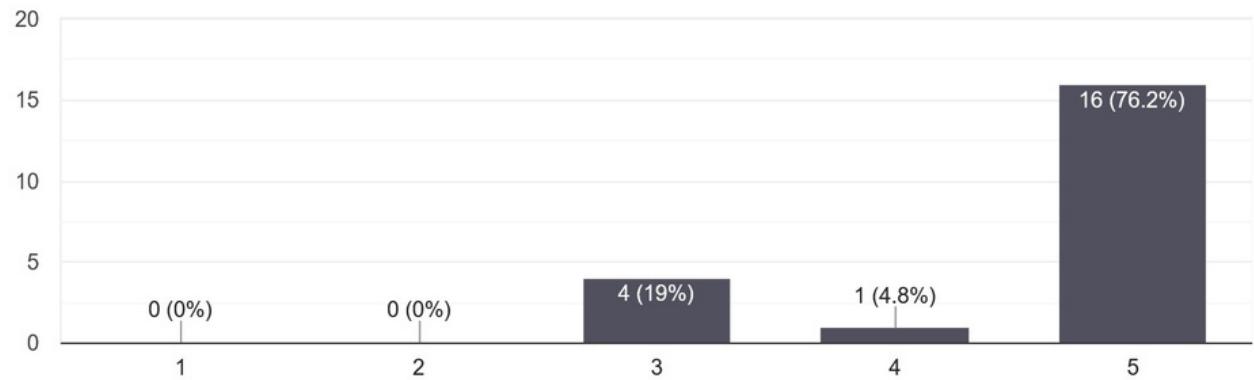
## Three words to describe The End of The Road Show...

calming tender evocative  
emotional thought-provoking  
relational fun  
alienating focusing honest  
important stimulating  
inspiring reassuring powerful  
informative sensitive entertaining  
symbolic beautiful  
poignant  
necessary real comforting  
ritualistic engaging heartfelt  
love multi-stylistic  
liberating empathetic funny  
touching enlightening thoughtful  
memorable reflective empowering  
insightful moving

## How likely is it that you would come to see another performance or event by Off The Twig Theatre?



## How likely would you be to recommend The End of the Road Show to someone else?



# Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your experience at The End of the Road Show?

**This show should be made widely available to familiarise, inspire and support people to talk about their end of life wishes**

I haven't thought about my funeral before. I started filling out the leaving gracefully workbook with my ideas when I got home. I was really inspired to explore what I wanted and to make sure I made it easier and special for my loved ones. About a year ago my dad tried to talk to me about his will and open up a conversation around his death. I cried and ran away! I couldn't feel more different about that conversation having attended the show. I text my Dad to say I was ready to talk about it and that I wanted to tell him what I wanted too. **I can see now how important this conversation is and that it is a positive and loving thing, nothing to be scared of!**

**As someone who is surrounded by death at work at a hospital often, this was refreshing.**

Really didn't know what to expect. And when inviting friends was a challenge to share the theme. But opened up a conversation between all of us. **A really powerful and thought provoking show. Told and shown in such a beautiful way.**

I've had quite a few deaths in my life, thought a lot about it, had conversations with my children, made work about my own death, in a way live with death on my shoulder as an ally to enable me to live fully, so **maybe it's a show for people who haven't thought about death yet.**

**I can imagine these conversations were incredibly heartfelt and important in the moment. I'm sure a lot of people got comfort from that. A treat to see solo shows in Norwich.**

**The beginning of a journey, a good one and important it seems**

**Thank you! A beautifully held space to explore a conversation that we really need to be having more often and with lots of different people in our lives.**