Bill's Attic Charity Auction Catalogue
Summary list of lots

1. Seamas Carey: Piano tuning
Seamas, musician and artist, is also a trained piano tuner. Give your piano a new lease of life.

2. Carl Grose, Kneehigh Theatre : Strange Cargo Donkey
Who doesn't need a donkey made from brushes? This is a prop designed for Bill's show in 1998.

3. Minack Theatre: Workshop on Minack Stage for 12
One hour theatre skills workshop, inspired by theTempest, led by Associate Director John Brolley.

4. Miracle Theatre: Five costumes
5 hand-woven 'Halcyon' outfits from Miracle's summer show. Clothe the whole family!.

5. Globe Theatre: A piece of!
A small section of the Globe Stage, signed by Artistic Directors Michelle Terry, Dominic Dromgoole and Sir Mark Rylance.

6. Kernow King: Dinner for two
Ed Rowe,comedian and chef, will cook dinner for two in Bill's Attic

7. Rogue Theatre: Four seasons of tickets
Rogue are offering four tickets to four shows during the next twelve months.

8. Bodinnick Farm: Get stuck in
A day's lambing with Rose Barnecut

9. Will Coleman Golden Tree: His book
A signed final copy of The Playing Places of Cornwall.

10. The Red Shoes : The Original Red Shoes and Dress.
From the brilliant Kneehigh show the dress and shoes that have toured the globe.

11. Creative Kernow : Fun Basket
From Ross Williams' Empire of Culture here in Redruth

12. o-region: Private view
Two tickets to a private preview screening of the new o-region feature film Long Way Back.

13. Hall For Cornwall: Tour
Behind the scenes tour of the new Hall For Cornwall before it opens.

14. Wyl Menmuir: Writing bundle
Inspired by Bill's Attic. plus a signed copy of his Booker longlisted novel The Many.

15. Historic Royal Palaces: Tea, tour and gossip at Kensington Palace
VIP personal backstage tour of Kensington Palace plus cake!

16. The great Bill Mitchell: A pastel
What more can we say?

17. Anna Maria Murphy: Breadmaking and writing workshop
For two.

18. National Theatre, Matt Armstrong: Tickets and tour
Back stage tour and two tickets to the show of your choice from the National Theatre's season.

18: Renske van Vroonhoven: Bill's Attic perfume
A 50ml artwork from a master perfumier. The chance to have one of four bottles in the world.

19. WildWorks: Private preview for 10 people
Be the first to experience WildWorks new project in 2020

20. Emma Rice: Her own copy of Tristan and Yseult
The book that inspired her production of Tristan and Yseult; inscribed by her.

More to come…

BiLL'S ATTiC

Auction Catalogue

As at 26 November 2019

… we're missing some images and there are more items to be confirmed but we couldn't wait to share all the details we have.

If you can not come to the evening event on 5th December at The Redruth Drapery, Cornwall, and would like to bid on an item you can!

We are accepting sealed bids. Email your bid to rose@creativekernow.org.uk.

Rose will bid up to that amount for you at the auction

Mark your bid BID CONFIDENTIAL.

LOT 1

… coming soon!

LOT 2

Kneehigh Theatre : Strange Cargo Donkey

This is Carl Grose's Donkey on which he performed in Strange Cargo, designed by Bill Mitchell in 1998. Strange Cargo, along with Carl and his donkey, went on a tour of Britain with a short stay at the National Theatre.

The production was described as a love story, funny with a whiff of scandal and a chill of terror and this prop is a typically Bill-Mitchillian mix of the banal and bizarre. This Donkey has spent over twenty years stabled at the Kneehigh Barns, gazing out across the props store, it's an iconic piece of Cornish Theatre History and a really lovely piece.

Here it is modelled by Bethany Lynn from Cornwall 365.

LOT 3

The Minack Theatre

From Tregeagle to Tristan and Yseult, many of Bill Mitchell's shows played at The Minack Theatre. It was always a special place for Kneehigh to visit and made an indelible mark on the company and its work.

The Minack is offering 2 free tickets to a performance in 2020's main season PLUS a free one hour theatre skills workshop on the Minack stage for up to 12 people working with Minack Associate Director John Brolly to create a play inspired by *The Tempest*.
They say:
'This could be for a group of any age or mix of ages - the only requirement will be that they are able to get down to our stage.'

This is a brilliant opportunity for a group to work on one of Britain's most iconic stages with one of Cornwall's most charming theatre practitioners.
(NB The Minack cannot offer free tickets to some events in 2020 due to the nature of the bookings)

LOT 4

Miracle Theatre : Five Dresses

Established in 1979, Miracle's first production was The Beginning of the World an adaptation of the Cornish Ordinalia. Miracle remains one of the South West's key arts organisations and this year 'A Perfect World' was their Summer Show. Designed and made by Jude Munden, all 5 of the wonderful hand-woven 'Halcyon' outfits from the show now up for grabs.

You will not find anything like this on offer anywhere else, a truly unique lot.This is an opportunity to clothe an entire family in stylish warm woven wear for 2020.

Here's a picture by Lyn Batten of the dresses in action at The Minack.

LOT 5

Fay Powell Thomas, Globe Theatre

When Bill Mitchell's deigns for Tristan and Yseult arrived at The Globe Theatre in London ahead of the installation of the show the Production Manager who received them was Fay Powelll Thomas.

Years before, Fay had written to Bill when she was still a student in Callington and Bill had written an eloquent response about his approach to work.

Fay was at Eden, Kneehigh and Miracle before taking up her role at The Globe.

Fay has sent us a small section of the actual Globe Stage, signed by previous Artistic Directors Michelle Terry, Dominic Dromgoole and Sir Mark Rylance.

This is accompanied by a copy of the words Bill sent to Fay when she was starting out on her career.

This lot is beautifully modelled by Emmie Kell from Cornwall Museums Partnership - thank you!

LOT 6

Dinner for two cooked by Kernow King

Edward Rowe is a Cornishman from Roche. He's also widely known as the self-proclaimed **Kernow King** and few people realise what an incredible cook he is.

Ed is offering the full weight of his culinary skills to the lucky winner of this bid providing dinner and warm company within the brand new Bill's Attic installation at Krowji, Redruth.

This is dinner for two, fit for a king, prepared by a king and to be enjoyed in the palatial surroundings of Redruth.

LOT 7

Rogue Theatre

This key will unlock a door in the woods for an incredible experience.

Four seasons of tickets … Rogue Theatre are offering the successful bidder four tickets to four shows during the next twelve months. All you need to do is carry this key with you to the woods where Rogue are performing and the door will be held open for you and three others to go inside.

LOT 8

Bodinnick Farm

Bodinnick, an arable/livestock farm, first recorded in 1281 became fully organic in April 2001, with fields that are anciently enclosed land with medieval origins. The present farmhouse dates from 1602, a tributary of the Fal River forms the eastern boundary of the farm.

The farm currently supports approximately 250 breeding ewes, 70 cattle and a family of farmers whose lives have been intertwined with Bill Mitchell's career for decades. Charlie Barnecut, Kneehigh Actor since the 1980s and his sister Rose Barnecut ex-Chair of Kneehigh's Board would like to invite the winner of this bid to a day on the farm during lambing season.

It really is as good as it sounds, fields full of lambs, friendly farmers, a beautiful setting and a deeper understanding of how creativity and culture run though everything we do in Cornwall.

LOT 9

Will Coleman Golden Tree

Will Coleman is a Cornish film-maker, author, musician and educational consultant. Will is a former director and musician with Kneehigh Theatre and founder and director of Golden Tree Productions, an organisation that develops cultural projects that promote Cornwall and its history.

Will is offering the final copy of his book The Playing Places of Cornwall and the last photo he has of himself and Bill, discussing Medieval Liturgical Drama and having a laugh.

LOT 10

The Red Shoes : The Original Red Shoes and Dress.

Bill Mitchell designed The Red Shoes in 2001 and the show marked a turning point in Kneehigh Theatre's History.

These shoes were made for the original production and are accompanied by the very dress the original Girl in the Red Shoes, Bec Applebee, wore on tour.

The Red Shoes toured Britain, Europe, China, Australia and America.

The shoes and dress may appear to be relatively impractical for day to day wear but they are about so much more than that. They are about desire, obsession and addiction; for pleasure, for meaning, for belonging. Think drugs, sex, food, or religion.

At least that's what the Director of Red Shoes Emma Rice said about them in the Australian press.

LOT 11

Creative Kernow : Fun Basket

Ross Willaims' Empire of Culture here in Redruth is offering a huge pile of Cornish creativity in a basket for one lucky bidder.

LOT 12

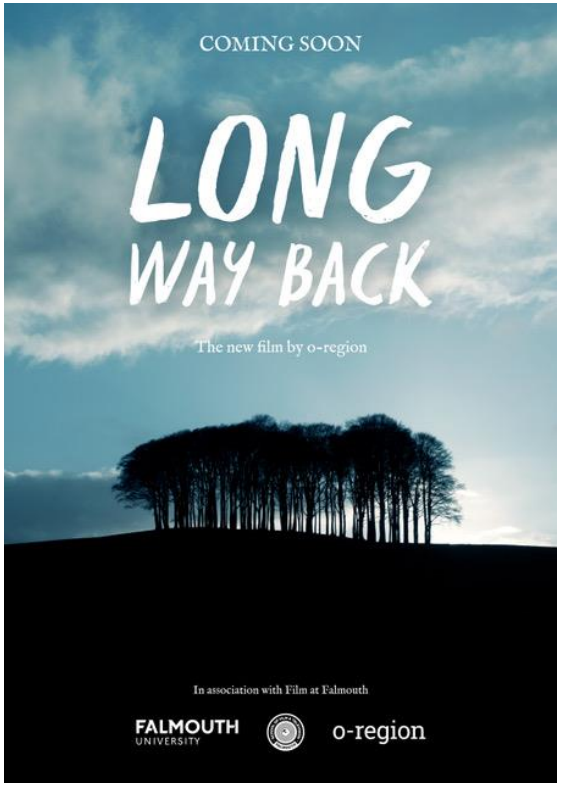
Invitation to o-region private preview

o-region are offering two tickets to a private preview screening of their new o-region feature film Long Way Back. Long Way Back is written and directed by Brett Harvey and set here in Cornwall and produced by Simon Harvey.
The film stars Tristan Sturrock, Chloe Endean, Susan Penhaligon, Esther Hall and Edward Rowe.

The film will be released in 2020 and appearing at Cornish cinemas but o-region are offering an exclusive chance to see the film in a preview screening before it goes on general release - in mid 2020.

You will have exclusive access to this Cornish Cinematic event.

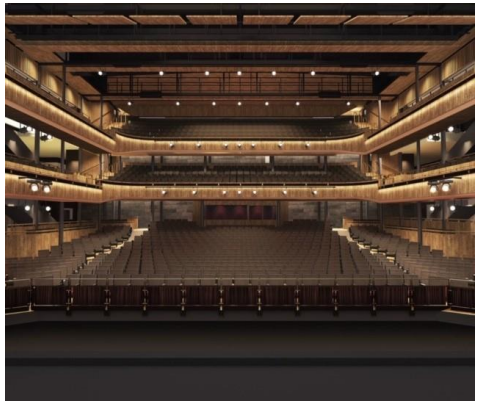
A recent commentator referred to Brett Harvey's Brown Willy as 'Bittersweet' and 'Primal' saying: Brown Willy is Cornwall's answer to Withnail & I



LOT 13

Hall For Cornwall Tour

Come and join us for an exclusive sneak peek private tour around our new building led by one of our project team. See the steel framework in place for our new three tiered auditorium, be one of the first people to stand in the centre of the new dress circle, have a look backstage and hear some of the fascinating stories we have unveiled as part of the building's rich 175 year heritage.



LOT 14

Wyl Menmuir : Writing Bundle

Wyl is offering a bundle of writing for the auction including a story he wrote inspired by Bill's Attic.
This piece takes the form of in the form of a record sleeve and sleeve notes, Wyl worked in Bill's Attic and this work is a response to the space and it's contents.
He has included a description of his approach to writing the short story.

Wyl is also giving a signed copy of his booker longlisted novel The Many.

LOT 15

A special afternoon at Kensington Palace

Bill was drawn to Kensington Palace. He was inspired by the stories of those who had called the palace home over the last three hundred years - of clever queens, of love-struck princesses, and others who wept salty tears, of a feral child and a Scottish giant, and so many more - and he wove these histories into one of his most extraordinary pieces of work - 'The Enchanted Palace'.

Joanna Marschner, senior curator and splendid storyteller, invites you to Kensington Palace for the afternoon, and will draw you into the story of Queen Victoria who was born here. This is where she spent her childhood - her activities ordered by the ferocious 'Kensington System' devised by her ambitious mother, and her mother's cunning friends. You will see her infant dresses, her toys and school books, before diving behind the scenes to the secret staircase down which she slipped on 20th June 1837, aged just eighteen, to learn that she was now Queen.

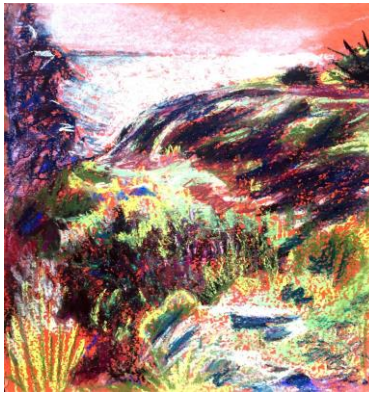
The afternoon, for four, will end with cake - a grand palace tradition!

LOT 16

Bill Mitchell Pastel

Every Friday that Bill was in Cornwall, for over 20 years, he and his friend David Kemp would spend the afternoon on the cliffs at Botallack, painting and drawing. Much of this work doesn't survive - he would paint over existing canvases. But there are a small number of experimental early pastels. Here is a sparkling example, a bright and windy day at Tregeseal.

Pastel on tan card 34cm x 35cm, framed.



LOT 17

Anna Maria Murphy : Cooking and Words

Anna Murphy is offering an afternoon of bread baking and writing for two people.

Anna is well known as a writer and 'Word Witch'.

She has worked with Kneehigh almost from the beginning. She has written shows including Tristan & Yseult (with Carl Grose), The Red Shoes, Don John, and Midnight's Pumpkin, and leads the Kneehigh Rambles programme, working with young people and communities.

You are invited to spend the afternoon with Anna cooking up lovely bread to eat and brilliant stories to tell.

LOT 18

National Theatre Tickets & Tour

Matt joined Kneehigh's administration team as a fundraiser where he worked on many of Bill Mitchell's shows.

Matt is now at the National Theatre where he is now Head of Trusts and Foundations and is offering to pull back the curtain and show the successful bidder on this lot the real stories of London's South Bank.

You will meet Matt for a back stage tour, tea in the café with all the gossip he is not allowed to share and two tickets to the show of your choice from the National Theatre's season.

LOT 19

The Attic Perfume

This September Sue led the Artists' Lock-In in Jersey and worked with the amazing artist perfumer Renske van Vroonhoven (https://atticlabperfumes.nl). Renske has created a new unique perfume, inspired by the Attic.

Here is part of the inspiration brief that Sue gave her -

- **Old books.** Bill would buy old children's encyclopedias, books of anatomy, astronomy books. He would cut them up for collage. It's a not-quite-musty smell. Maybe a bit leathery, papery.
- **New books** and magazines, particularly the smell of the ink in a brand new art book.
- **Frankincense.** Bill brought some back from Palestine and would burn it on a button of charcoal.
- **Pencil shavings.** He had an old fashioned turn-handle pencil sharpener on one of his tables. He loved to draw with soft pencils.
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There will only be four bottles made of this perfume - one for Sue, one for the Attic Collection, one kept by Renske and one for the fortunate successful bidder.

LOT 20

WildWorks Mystery Prize

You and 10 friends could be some of the first people in the world to have a brand new WildWorks experience. Following partnerships with Kensington Palace and Kasteel Gaasbeek in Belgium, we've been working with a Cornish partner to create a brand new piece of work which will appeal to all ages. It's all a bit top secret at the moment…we can tell you, perhaps surprisingly, it's indoors and more intimate than large scale but still finding the extraordinary within the everyday. We should also warn you that escaped memories create chaos!

LOT 21

Emma Rice : Tristan and Yseult

Kneehigh's Tristan & Yseult began life in Cornwall in 2003, it went to the National Theatre and a UK Tour in 2006, then embarked on a UK Tour in 2013 and US Tour 2013-15 and a run at the Globe in 2017.

It was this scintillating deconstruction of pre-Arthurian legend, designed by Bill Mitchell and directed by Emma Rice, that truly established Kneehigh as the de facto National Theatre of Cornwall.

This is Emma Rice's personal copy of the original story, inscribed by her.

It is a beautiful book in it's own right and is a real link to one of Britain's most well-loved theatre shows of the last twenty years.

Here is the book beautifully modelled by the camera shy Dav Steed from A-Side.