



NEWS RELEASE March 2016

What the critics have said about Creative Cow productions:

'All performances are first class' – British Theatre Guide

'Strong and energetic ensemble' – The Stage

'Stunningly clever' – Remotegoat

'Focused, subtle, resourceful and coherent production' Plays International Magazine

'The hugely talented and inventive Creative Cow continues to promote and present top notch theatre around the UK' – WhatsOnStage

An intoxicating and adventurous dash around the world in Graham Greene's *Travels with my Aunt*

On UK tour 22 March – 11 June and marking the 25th anniversary of Greene's death

Vibrant and innovative theatre company Creative Cow is touring an adaptation of Graham Greene's most entertaining of books 'Travels With My Aunt'. Described by Greene as 'the only book I have ever written for the fun of it', the play takes its audience on a whirlwind tour, plotting one very ordinary man's extraordinary journey of self-discovery.

The unlikely hero of the play – Henry – leads a quiet, risk-free and dull, bachelor life, effectively retired from work, life and the world. Until, that is, his eccentric Aunt Augusta persuades him to travel with her to Brighton and Paris, then on to Istanbul and across the world to Paraguay. Through her he joins a shifty twilight society of pot-smoking hippies, war criminals, men from the CIA and hard core art smugglers. He puts his colourless and predictable life behind him as he finds himself changing beyond recognition.

Tour dates and details:

22 - 26 March Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne (7.45pm, Wednesday & Saturday Matinee 2.30pm. Prices: Tues - Thurs evening £15.50 £18 £20, Fri & Sat evening £15.50 £19.50 £21.50, Wednesday & Saturday Matinee £16 all seats. *Prices inclusive of £1 per ticket booking fee. Concessions*)

28 - 2 April Theatre Royal, Winchester (Mon – Sat 7.30pm, Matinée Thurs 1.30pm, Matinée Sat 2.30pm. Prices: Tickets £24, Concessions)

5 - 9 April Salisbury Playhouse (7.30pm. Matinees on Thursday & Saturday at 2.15pm. Tickets £25.00 - £9.50

14 - 16 April Churchill Theatre, Bromley (7.30 pm with Saturday matinee 2.30pm. Prices: Adults: £25*, £20*, £15. Concessions. *A £2.50 per ticket booking fee applies)

19 - 23 April Yvonne Arnaud, Guildford : (7.45pm 19, 20 and 21 April, 8pm 22 and 23 April. Matinee Thursday 21st at 2.30pm, Saturday 23rd at 2.30pm. Prices: From £19.00 - £30.50 *Ticket prices include £1 Restoration Levy and £1 Booking Fee*)

28 - 30 April Poole Lighthouse (Thurs - Sat 7.45 pm with Thurs and Sat matinee 2.30pm. Prices: Thurs & Sat Matinee £17.75 (£16 + £1.75 Booking Fee). Fri & Sat Eve £20.75 (£19 + £1.75 Booking Fee). Concessions

2 - 4 May Buxton Opera House (7.30pm, matinee 4 May 2.30pm. Visit <http://www.buxtonoperahouse.org.uk/> for ticket prices and info.

5 - 7 May Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds (7.30pm, with matinee 7 May 3pm.. Visit <http://www.theatreroyal.org/shows/travels-with-my-aunt/> for ticket prices and info.

10 -14 May Exeter Northcott Theatre (7.30pm, matinee Weds 2.30pm and Saturday 2.30pm. Tickets A £24.50 B £21.50 C £19 D £16. Wed Green matinee: £14.50 *. Sat matinee: £16.50. Concs: £2 Off. Student Standby: £8. Groups 10+ get 11th ticket FREE. Post Show Talk: Thu 12 May. *Support the environment and use Public Transport to attend this discounted midweek matinee show. All transactions are subject to a £2 booking fee.

17 - 21 May Malvern Theatres (7.30pm, Wed and Sat matinees at 2.30pm. Price: £12.88-£27.44 (including 12% booking fee). Venue: Festival Theatre

w/c 6 June Cambridge Arts Theatre (Monday - Saturday, 7.45pm and Saturday 2.30pm, Thursday, 2.30pm. Price: £18/£23/£28/£33. *All tickets prices include a £3 per-ticket booking fee)

Creative Cow chose to tour *Travels with my Aunt* to mark this year's 25th anniversary of Graham Greene's death. Just four actors will represent 20 colourful characters - each playing a part in retired, rather boring, suburban bank manager Henry Pulling's great transformation.

The storyline of *Travels with my Aunt* not only mirrors Greene's own real life obsession with travelling, often to the most dangerous spots on the planet, but also takes the reader on a whirlwind tour of the fictional world created by Greene in his seventeen previous novels. Other aspects of Greene's life; his secret service work, his brushes with criminals, his constant itinerancy, among others, are all represented in the story. Unlike Greene's other works which are inextricably concerned with the future of the soul and the afterlife, *Travels with My Aunt* explores the here and now.

Says actor and co-founder member of Creative Cow Theatre Company, Katherine Senior; 'We love the way *Travels with my Aunt* traces two voyages in parallel – one a physical cross-continental journey by plane, train and boat and the other a mind-blowing, eye-opening journey of self-discovery. Henry couldn't be more different from Greene himself, who was adventurous, risk-loving and unconventional - but can we perhaps see some similarities by the end? It's a great pleasure to be touring this work by one of our favourite authors in this anniversary year.'

Creative Cow is a touring theatre company created in the farm yards of Devon in 2007 by founders Amanda Knott, Matthew Parish and Katherine Senior. Their aim has always been to present the most exciting, daring and fun night out possible, touring the length and breadth of the country and performing in spaces ranging from the very large to the most intimate. The company's huge successes to date have included Shakespeare's *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Brandon Thomas's *Charley's Aunt*, Dickens' *Hard Times*, Harold Pinter's *The Lover*, John Osborne's *Look Back in Anger*, Sheridan's *The Rivals* and Oliver Goldsmith's *She Stoops to Conquer*. For Christmas 2015, Creative Cow presented a magical new adaptation of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.

Travels with my Aunt is produced by Creative Cow in association with Malvern Theatres, adapted for stage by Giles Havergal and directed by Amanda Knott. A taster of what's to come can be watched on YouTube by going to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DM3W06fe3PQ>

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For further press information, images and interviews, contact:

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Notes to Editors:

Creative Cow is a professional touring theatre company founded in 2007 by three professional theatre practitioners: two professional actors and a skilled artistic director. The company is called **Creative Cow** because it was conceived on a cattle farm in Devon where productions are managed and rehearsed before touring. <https://www.creativecow.co.uk/>

Graham Greene (2 October 1904 – 3 April 1991) was an English novelist and author regarded by some as one of the great writers of the 20th century. Combining literary acclaim with widespread popularity, Greene acquired a reputation early in his lifetime as a major writer, both of serious Catholic novels, and of thrillers (or "entertainments" as he termed them). He was shortlisted, in 1967, for the [Nobel Prize for Literature](#). Through 67 years of writings, which included over 25 novels, he explored the ambivalent moral and political issues of the modern world, often through a Catholic perspective. Greene had a hunger to escape the ordinary and his need for adventure led him to travel widely, visiting many of the world's least safe countries.