

# Rosy in the Mix by Chocolate Films Transcript

0:00 Audio

[Music]

0:13 Emma Underhill

So UP Projects is a small, nonprofit public art agency and we specialise in taking unusual and high-quality arts and to as broad an audience as possible, often going into urban parks and busy public spaces. *Portavilion* is an ongoing programme that we began in 2008 with the idea of taking contemporary pavilion structures to London's public parks. And this year, we invited round raumlabor Berlin who are a German-based art and architecture practice to design a new inflatable event space.

0:49 Matthias Rick

Emma wanted to have big space with different atmospheres, could the stage, you know, and we had this idea to this simple bubble sphere to build three of this and to merge them. So this is a - this is a new invention here and then to using a caravan.

1:07 Emma Underhill

We used an old 1970s caravan which has been customised for the base the *Rosy the Ballerina*. Rosy is an extraordinary structure specially made out of very low-tech materials, and it's literally just supported by air.

1:25 Audio

[Music]

1:44 Synthia Griffin

We hosted *Rosy the Ballerina* at Tate on the Turbine Hall bridge, and thought it'd be a really excellent opportunity to bring into another part of the borough. And that's for Burgess Park to the mix Festival, which is a festival for young people in Southwark. It's really interesting to see you know how the young people that have come to the mix today will actually engage with some of the activities that we've got on offer. [Cheering] It's an interesting opportunity to get outside of the gallery and to actually work in a different kind of environment. And, you know, parks and green spaces have, you know, traditionally been used for people to kind of informally enjoy an afternoon and actually working with artists in this space means

that we can actually enrich that experience and develop it. And already actually, we've been talking to a few people and they you know, their first question is, what is it?

**2:45 Audience Member**

Well, it looks like a tortoise, a bit.

**2:50 Audience Member**

I looks like a spider web.

**2:52 Audience Member**

It looks a bit weird.

**2:55 Audience Member**

I really like the way that there's lots of different bubbles.

**2:58 Audience Member**

I didn't really expect it to be called *Rosy the Ballerina* because he didn't really remind me of a ballerina.

**3:07 Matthias Rick**

We invented this kind of story about Rosie. This girl with a sad story, which was it's her dream to be a ballerina, but it was not possible and bubble is a symbol of this dream.

**3:22 Emma Underhill**

She has really become almost like a character. When you're inside, you're very aware of your outdoor surroundings, and the same when you're out in the park, you can see what's happening inside.

**3:36 Audience Member**

I actually feel like I'm outside, because it's like really warm like, outside. And it's like, it's like you're on the roof of something.

### **3:48 Audience Member**

From inside here, obviously, inside there's no greenery but I can actually see the greenery outside.

### **3:54 Synthia Griffin**

I actually feel like I'm inside. But I can see I can have, you can actually see that there's shadows from outside. So, you feel like you're inside but you're also outside at the same time. [Music] We're working with two artists who are called Juneau Projects.

### **4:19 Bed Sadler**

I suppose the thing that we've always been interested in is ideas of nature, and technology, and how those two things kind of collide. In everyday life really,

### **4:31 Synthia Griffin**

They tend to work outside of gallery spaces as well. So they're interested in green spaces. And given that we're bringing *Rosy the Ballerina*, which is a sort of inside outside structure to the festival today, we thought they could respond in a really interesting way.

### **4:45 Philip Duckworth**

Our work often involves sort of participatory elements. And we kind of really liked the experience of kind of working with different people. We've sort of worked with everyone from Cub Scouts to soul singers, and paid assassins and highland warriors, yeah. A lot of the artwork that we do relates to sound or music in some way. And we've been building our own homemade instruments for a few years now, using very simple electronics that allow us to make quite sort of sculptural looking instruments, they can be kind of any shape. In this case, we'll be using cardboard primarily. So people can make kind of traditional instrument shapes, sort of guitars or drums, or they could make anything they wanted really, those will have small electronic sensors inside them. So when they tap or pluck their instrument, depending on where they put the sensor that will trigger a sound. Working inside a structure like this, I think might sort of reflect on what the people will make.

### **6:01 Audience Member**

I made a guitar.

**6:03 Audience Member**

I have been playing the piano.

**6:06 Audience Member**

I've been making a drum.

**6:11 Audience Member**

I've just put some sticky tape on it to make it colourful.

**6:17 Audience Member**

Well, these are the strings that were supposed to strum, but they've got the electric here. And then you've got to have a special bit where you have to plug it in.

**6:29 Audience Member**

I was trying to draw guitar and then it came out of sunglasses, so then I thought what can I do out of sunglasses? And then I did the eyes, and the sunglasses, and then I did the reflection, and then I thought that that's not really an instrument. So I had to put a keyboard in the middle. And then we just went on stage.

**6:44 Speaker**

The keyboard sunglasses with the carton of juice instrument, that the first time we've seen that. I think we were awarded the trophy wisely.

**7:01 Philip Duckworth**

Working on Rosie has been quite an interesting challenge. Actually, I think the structure itself certainly drew a lot of attention and people were just coming in to see what it was and then maybe stuck around to sort of join in with the activities.

**7:12 Emma Underhill**

Parks have such a kind of diverse range of people visiting them. But they may not necessarily be people who would go to a gallery or a theatre because they feel that perhaps that's not for them.

**7:23 Synthia Griffin**

Rosy provides a really interesting opportunity to kind of connect with these green spaces across London and actually working with artists mean that we can work beyond the walls of the gallery we can engage with maybe an audience that might not traditionally come to the gallery.

**7:39 Emma Underhill**

It's a much less intimidating way to kind of engage with the work and I think that really kind of breaks down those barriers.