



PRESS RELEASE

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NEW DIGITAL ARCHIVE LAUNCHED

Dr Tony Lidington and Promenade Promotions (Prom-Prom) Ltd are delighted to announce the launch of a brand new resource for the study of contemporary street performance and seaside entertainment: the website www.pierrotters.co.uk

From 1983 to 2009 The Pierrotters were the only contemporary professional pierrot troupe, and the first for 50 years, to provide outdoor promenade performances in the UK. This website makes the company's entire archive available digitally for the first time. The site is open access, and its development has been funded by Arts Council England.

The creation of The Pierrotters was born out of the performance practice and historical research interests of Dr Tony Lidington, now an Associate Drama Lecturer at the University of Exeter and the Artistic Director of Promenade Promotions.

Since The Pierrotters hung up their white satin and pom poms in 2009, Tony's work has continued to focus on traditional British seaside entertainments and itinerant performers: from a flea circus to a travelling showman's booth, from Punch & Judy performances to a Raree Man's travelling peep show, Tony and his company Prom-Prom continue to provide entertainment to a huge range of diverse audiences up and down the country every summer, as well as providing a meeting point for historical research and contemporary drama practice.

Alongside performance work, teaching commitments and research projects, Promenade Promotions also maintains the website www.seasidefollies.co.uk which is home to the largest archive of material relating to seaside pierrot troupes and concert parties in the UK. Like the brand new Pierrotters website, Seaside Follies is open access and was originally developed with support from Venue Cymru and Heritage Lottery Fund Wales. Seaside Follies includes material from the personal collections of Dr. Tony Lidington, Max Tyler, John Pertwee, Michael Rouse and Alan Upton as well as materials from Clacton & District Local History Society, Llandudno Museum Services and the University of Exeter Archives, special collections.

For further information, quotes, and interviews, please contact:

Dr Tony Lidington

info@prom-prom.com

01626 862 175