



## ARCOLA YOUTH THEATRE @ HINDLE HOUSE

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"Oh must we fight this silly war?,  
To kill and die is such a bore."

Arcola Youth Theatre and Hindle House children production a triumph...



Complicitè like in construction, drawing on the magic of the theatre of the absurd, the culmination of a unique collaboration between Arcola Youth Theatre and youngster's from the Arcola streets Hindle House estate, this weekend saw two sparkling performances delivered with a confidence and panache that belied the age of the performers.

The adaptation of 8 poems by Shel Silverstein into sketches performed by eight children, drawn together under the direction of the Arcola's Mel Cook and Stephan Baratte, saw large numbers of residents from the estate attending the performance's at the theatre, many for the first time.

They were treated to a thrilling production, conceived and put together by the Theatre's Youth wing working in concert with the estate's Friendly Playgroup, after a series and Drama and Costume, Set & Prop design workshops.

Based on Silverstein darkly humorous works, like 'Someone Ate the Baby', the project tapped into the children's immense energy and fired their imagination. Frances Newman, a local resident and one of the artists who organised the workshops, said that the project had made many of the children feel that now, for the first time, the Theatre was a local resource that is something that they can participate in and be part of.

Stephan Baratte for the theatre went on to add that he hoped the collaboration was the beginning of a long and fruitful relationship with the streets local youth, saying in a rather sardonic and humorous tone 'all we need to do now is get further funding'.

We would be grateful if the Gazette would consider a small piece on the project in the next edition. For further information either call Stephan at the Theatre or email Frances @ francesjayne@hotmail.com.