



# The Intergenerational Workshop Pack

*A digital version of The Wardrobe Ensemble's Intergenerational Workshop. Created for the tour of 'The Last of the Pelican Daughters'.*



[www.thewardrobeensemble.com](http://www.thewardrobeensemble.com)  
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Hello there,

Thank you for taking the time to read this pack and engage with our show, 'The Last of the Pelican Daughters', during these strange and tumultuous times. In different circumstances we would all be standing in a circle looking at each other face to face but, alas, we must find other ways of engaging with one another. We hope you find this workshop stimulating and engaging and that it directs you towards thoughts and themes relevant to our show. Our aim is that you enjoy reading what we have included here and find the exercises and activities, fun and valuable.

To give you an insight into why we wanted to put together a pack of this nature, it might be helpful to tell you a bit about the show. For those who haven't seen it, 'The Last of the Pelican Daughters' revolves around the lives of four sisters who come back to the family home a year after their mother, Rosemary Pelican, has died, to decide what to do with the house. We see a group of people grapple with notions of inheritance, loss and justice. We see a family filled with undying love for one another, while at the same time, tearing each other apart.

This show has been a labour of love for us. It started out as a project focused on family and inheritance and it has, in large part, stayed true to that initial intention. However, it quickly became apparent that, when making a show about family, there was so much that could be said and so many themes to explore. In our very first research and development phase we invited our own family members into the rehearsal room in order to share stories and memories of our family lives with each other. This was a great opportunity for us to experience the creative potential of simply getting people together. In particular, the value of people from different walks of life, with different life experiences, coming together and having conversations focused on themes we were grappling with as a company.

It became apparent that this show could spark conversations that extended far beyond the idea of 'family'. We therefore decided to continue the conversations we were having in the rehearsal room with others, through our 'Intergenerational Sessions'. We wanted these to be a way of speaking with younger and older people alike and to collectively share our thoughts on issues like inheritance, money, grief, loss, entitlement, the difference between generations, politics etc.

This pack therefore, is a chance for you to think through some of these themes and connect with someone of a different generation. Our hope is that what we include here will stimulate you and engage you in our show. This pack is not the workshop we intended, but we hope you like it.

The Wardrobe Ensemble x

# The Workshop

This workshop is to be done between yourself and someone of a different generation. It could be someone you live with, a family member you are unable to see in person or someone you aren't related to and haven't even met yet. We would love to bring together as many strangers of different generations as possible, so if you would like us to connect you with someone new, please let us know by emailing [emily@thewardrobeensemble.com](mailto:emily@thewardrobeensemble.com).

This workshop aims to generate conversations. You and your partner do not have to stick to the plan if you don't want to. If the conversation goes off in a new direction and you completely abandon the tasks, that's fine. If it doesn't, that's fine too. Similarly, the workshop should take roughly 1 hr 30 if done in one sitting, but you may find you want to break it up and complete it over a longer period of time. It's up to you.

You may also find different ways of connecting with your partner, other than those suggested here. We will lay out each task with suggestions and you can implement them in whatever way suits your method of communication.

## Contents

- Setting up your workshop
- What you will need for your workshop
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## Setting up your workshop

For those of you who will be working with someone you have never met, we will share your details with your partner and agree a mode of communication with you both. That might be a phone call, email exchange or Skype/Zoom. For those who know their partner - we will leave this up to you to organise.

So you're ready to go, make sure you've set up your chosen method.

*For phone calls* - have your partner's number to hand and a good phone signal. You should go through the workshop one task at a time.

*For email exchanges* - you can write all your answers to the workshop in one go and then send them to your partner or do one task at a time and email back and forth.

*For Skype/Zoom* - make sure you have downloaded the appropriate software and have your partner as a contact, so you're ready to call. You should go through the workshop one task at a time.

If you need any technical assistance, please email [emily@thewardrobeensemble.com](mailto:emily@thewardrobeensemble.com)

## What you will need

- Paper and pen
- Colouring pencils/pens (optional)
- There will be one google form to open. If you'd like this sent to you in another format, do let us know.



# LET'S BEGIN!

## INTRODUCE YOURSELVES

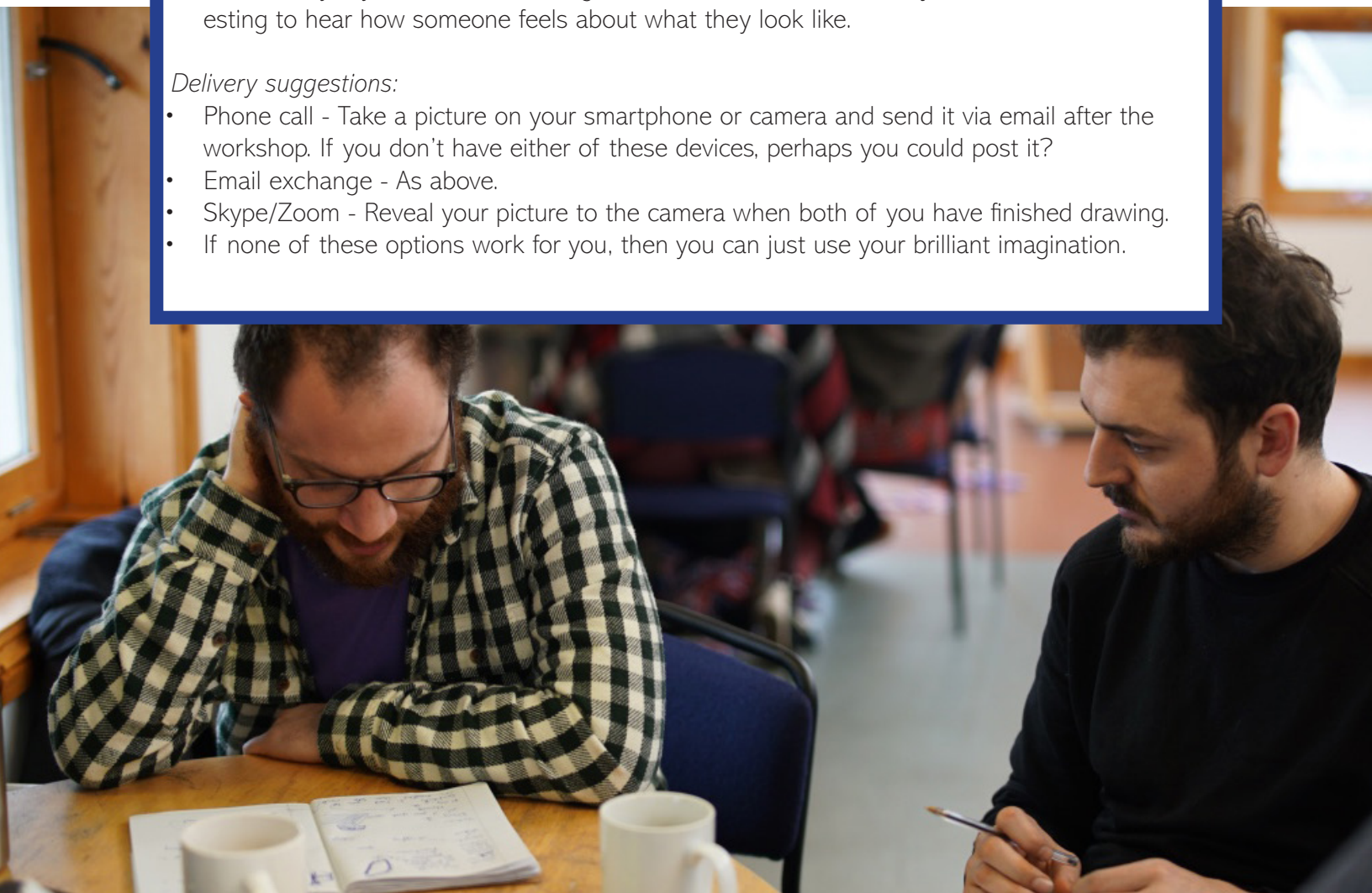
- On whatever platform you're using, write/say your full name; something you really like; something you really dislike; something that is unique/special about you. *E.g. My name is Sandra Julie Johnson; I really like climbing trees; I really dislike sweaty feet; something special about me is that I can do 5 backflips in a row.*
- Share these with each other. This should only take 5 mins.

## DRAW EACH OTHER

- Take it in turns to describe what you look like to your partner. *e.g. I have big brown eyes, a small nose, a small scar under my left eyebrow from when I tripped over my own foot and fell in a bush.*
- Based ONLY on what you say about yourself, your partner must draw you. Feel free to ask each other questions.
- Don't worry if you think the drawing is bad, don't be offended, it's just a bit of fun. It's interesting to hear how someone feels about what they look like.

### *Delivery suggestions:*

- Phone call - Take a picture on your smartphone or camera and send it via email after the workshop. If you don't have either of these devices, perhaps you could post it?
- Email exchange - As above.
- Skype/Zoom - Reveal your picture to the camera when both of you have finished drawing.
- If none of these options work for you, then you can just use your brilliant imagination.



### *NATURE*

- What can you see out of your window right now?
- Has it changed over the last few decades, years, months, weeks?
- Share your answers with your partner.

### *FOOD*

- Have you learnt anything new to cook while you've been self isolating?
- What is your favourite recipe to cook? Could you share this with someone in the next few weeks?
- Share your answers with your partner.



## BUILD A HOUSE

*Our play is set in the Pelican's family house. It is a place filled with memories and experiences that are unique to this family. We want you to create your own house together.*

- Think about a house that feels like home to you. What is it about this place that feels special or homely?
  - As a pair, you must build a house for you both to live in by deciding on its features and using the questions below. Feel free to draw your house or just talk about it.
1. What kind of house is it? An apartment block? A detached house?
  2. What colour is it?
  3. What are the windows like?
  4. What kind of doors does it have?
  5. How many rooms does it have?
  6. Is there a garden or outside space?
  7. What's special about this house?
  8. Where's the best place to play hide and seek in this house?
  9. What's your favourite thing about this house?

## THIS IS YOUR LIFE

- Think of three turning points in your life. These are moments that your journey took a different direction. These could be big or small moments.
- Share these with your partner.
- Was it easy or hard? Do you think about these moments often or not?



## QUESTIONS

- Read over the questions and statements. Choose one from the list and write/say your response to your partner.
- Swap over. Your partner must choose a new question/statement.
- Choose as many as you'd like; you don't have to choose them all.

1. If I could change something about myself it would be...
2. I would describe my character as...
3. I wish I could...
4. The biggest challenge I'm facing at the moment is...
5. My biggest achievement is...
6. I'm scared of...
7. Do you consider where you live now as home?
8. Is it possible to have more than one home?
9. How has your home changed?
10. The house I grew up in was...
11. Do you have the right to own your own house?
12. What is your most valuable asset?
13. What does 'being rich' mean to you?
14. Are you rich?
15. What is the most expensive item you've ever bought?
16. What have you inherited from your parents/carers?
17. I would describe my role in my family as...
18. My children are... OR My parents are...
19. My siblings are...
20. Is it a human right to have a child?
21. It is selfish to have more than 2 children.
22. Are you a grown up?
23. It's selfish to put a parent in a care home.
24. People are living too long. It's a drain on resources.
25. People under 30 are more disadvantaged than they have ever been.
26. How are you different now to 10 years ago?
27. What do you think about the generation below you?
28. Technology has stopped the younger generation from communicating properly.
29. Would you like to live in a different time?
30. Where do you hope to be in 10 years time?
31. If you could live forever, would you?
32. Are you scared of dying?
33. Looking to the future, I hope...
34. What is your earliest memory?
35. I would like to be remembered as...

## MUSIC

*Music plays a big part in the show and is centred around Rosemary Pelican's record collection. The sisters use the records to console themselves, to cheer each other up, and ultimately to help them remember their mother.*

- What song reminds you of home or family and why?
- What is it about that song that chimes with you?
- Discuss with your partner. You might want to listen to the song together.

### *Collaborative playlist*

- Send us the name of the song, the artist you chose and a sentence about why this song is special to you. We will collate everyone's 'Home' tracks into a playlist and send you the link after the workshop.







### *TIMELINE*

- Open this form and answer the questions: <https://forms.gle/UJEwkWPtNr4okV697>
- If it's easier for one person to open the document, that person can ask their partner the questions and put their answers into the form as well as their own.
- We will collate all the information from each participant and share this with you after the workshop.

### *DISCUSSION TIME*

- What's one thing that surprised you or particularly interested you during your conversation?
- Feel free to discuss anything that came up for you during this workshop?

The conversation you've just had is for you and your partner. However, if either of you want to share any aspect of your conversation or creations with us, we'd love to see what you've been up to. You might feel inspired to write or draw something after your workshop and we'd love to see that too. Send us an email on [thewardrobeensemble@gmail.com](mailto:thewardrobeensemble@gmail.com) or via any of our social media channels (see below).

### THOUGHTS FROM US

- Please find our written responses to the themes of the show [here](#).
- The Last of the Pelican Daughters production images [here](#).
- The Wardrobe Ensemble Family Archive [here](#).

### STAY IN TOUCH

- You can connect with us here: Email [thewardrobeensemble@gmail.com](mailto:thewardrobeensemble@gmail.com)  
[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)
- You can support the company here: [thewardrobeensemble.com](http://thewardrobeensemble.com)



Thank you for partaking in our virtual workshop. We hope you enjoyed it.

Look after yourself in these turbulent times and we hope to meet you, in person, soon.

Lots of love,

The Wardrobe Ensemble Family x