Whether you're four, forty or a few months old, Whatnot theatre's Flotsam and Jetsam Journey into the Trash Vortex' is a full-throttle family adventure guaranteed to get you in a good mood. Bring the kids or unleash your inner one for this swashbucklin' slosh bucketing plastic fantastic sensation.

1pm at the Burton Taylor on Saturday 15th April. My sister-in-law (a term that sounds so much stuffier and impersonal than its actuality) and I leave our buggies downstairs, with babes in tow and arms. One drawback to the BT is the endless stairs you have to tackle to reach the theatre. But for those who can climb, the trek is worth it. Half-way up is a bar doubling as a playroom (toys and colouring books for the littluns, drama and booze for those a lot bigger) where we wait, doodle and dally until it's time to go on in (and up another flight of stairs).

It's all very friendly. There's a very low-key, very safe vibe going on. Cushions line the front row.
Flotsam and Jetsam's Journey… is silly and irreverent, relevant and riotous. Flossie (Emma Blythe) and Jetty (Lucy Holt) jump out like from a book as a voiceover helps to set the scene and inject some underlying adult humour. The show is creative and multifaceted. It glitters like a diamond or disco ball. Theatrically and artistically playful, it sparkles and pulses with an electrical charge. It is like a vortex of ingenuity and inventiveness. And it brings everybody in.

Cap'n Flotsam (Blythe) and First-Mate Jetsam (Holt) are hopeless, harmless and larger than life. Two unlethal pirates shipwrecked on shore with only their accents, squabbles and a whole load of rubbish washed up between them. The stage is a treasure chest of trash. Bottles and cartons gleam like pearls. Film lids shine like shimmering fish. It's a social commentary on plastic pollution, with a few educative gems thrown in surreptitiously.

Whimsical and inclusive, it pulls in all members of the audience with glitzy, recyclable tentacles. Flotsam (Blythe) and Jetsam (Holt) drown the 4th wall, bringing us along into their hapless antics. Kids are encouraged to throw things on stage; we embody clouds and get rained on with water pistols. Children gleefully shove plastic into bags, in a clever competition that sets the next scene with energy and enthusiasm. It is a play that allows just that. But it also teaches, subtly, in a nice and non-obtrusive fashion. These two thrifty pirates are inspirational and the stage is an altar to things you can do with junk.

Innovative, visionary and valuable. This snappy, non-stop adventure recycles kid's theatre in a way that anyone can appreciate. Why not see Whatnot? Sans minors or with 'em, it offers a kickin' and creative kick to the afternoon, or makes a morning marvellous. Utterly elating, joyful and jubilant, Flotsam and Jetsam's Journey into the Trash Vortex is vibrant and valuable viewing (and doing) for all. Something for the kids that doesn't impel you to inanity. .