Simba the lion cub at Dehiwala Zoo

Pic. by Akila Jayawardena
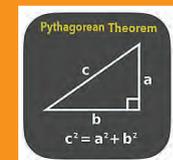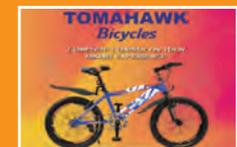
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Please log on to the Funday Times website on *www.fundaytimes.lk* or check out the Sunday Times epaper on *www.sundaytimes.lk* for additional pages of this week's Funday Times.

'Simba' the lion cub was exhibited to the public at the National Zoological Gardens in Dehiwala on August 26. The young lion cub was born in Ridiyagama Safari Park and is now a star attraction at the Dehiwala Zoo.

Pix. by Akila Jayawardena

BIS 25th Anniversary

Brisbane International School celebrated its 25th Anniversary with much flair at the Lionel Wendt Theatre in Colombo on August 10, with students presenting 'Brisbane Breeze', a variety entertainment event of traditional dance, classical and modern ballet, recitals, songs and drama.

Happy Birthday

Shwetha Anuthath
4 years on September 21

Photographs of members and non-members between 4 – 15 years, for the birthday page, should reach us at least ten days before the birthday, along with a letter from a parent giving full details.
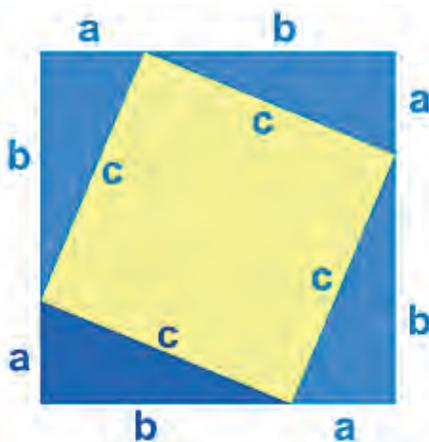
Maths in Action 76
By R. N. A. de Silva

Pythagoras – The most famous mathematician

It is claimed that we owe pure mathematics to Pythagoras, and he is sometimes called the first "true" mathematician. Pythagoras was born in Greece around 570 BC and he moved to Southern Italy around 530 BC where he established the Pythagorean Brotherhood – a school of mathematics and philosophy, where the motto was "All is number". They believed that each number has its own meaning and character. Number 1 was called a generator as it can generate all other numbers, number 2 represents matter, number 3 represents harmony, number 4 signifies four seasons, number 5 represents marriage as it is the sum of 2 and 3, number 6 represents creation; number 7 was sacred as it was the number of 7 planets. Odd numbers were considered as female and even numbers as male.

Pythagoras himself is believed to be primarily associated with the formula giving the relationship between the sides of a right-angled triangle, which is known as the Pythagoras Theorem.

Let us use a different method to demonstrate how the formula works. Consider a square of a side with length $(a + b)$ and a smaller square of side length c placed inside the big square so that the vertices of the smaller square touch the sides of the bigger square in the ratio a : b as shown below:

You can try this by drawing a square of side 7 cm in length and marking points in the ratio 3 : 4 as shown below. When you connect the points, you will have obtained a tilted square of side 5 cm.
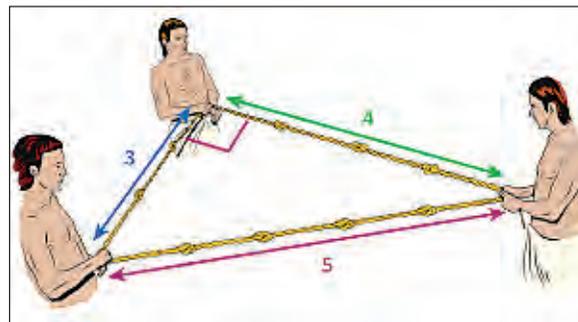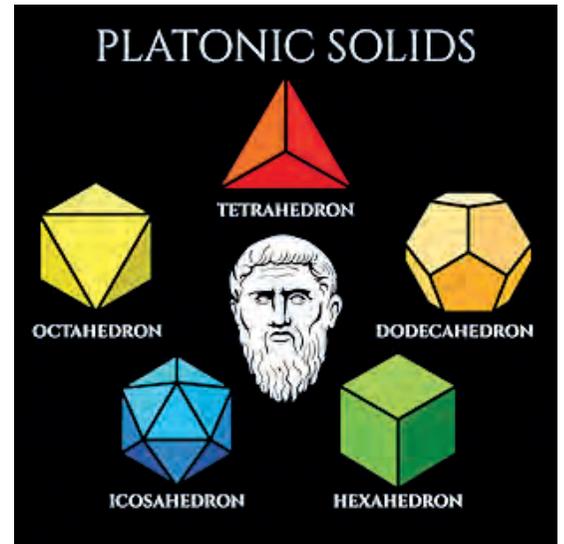
Pythagoras and his followers discovered many other mathematical properties such as 'the sum of angles in a triangle is equal to two right angles'.

The five regular solids known as platonic solids were also found by them.

Their fascination of numbers is seen with their identification of various number properties such as perfect numbers, which are numbers that are equal to the sum of their proper divisors. 6 is the first perfect number as 6 = 1 + 2 + 3. The next three are 28, 496 and 8128.

Pythagorean Theorem
$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2$$

PLATONIC SOLIDS — TETRAHEDRON, OCTAHEDRON, DODECAHEDRON, ICOSAHEDRON, HEXAHEDRON

The area of the big square
$$= (a + b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$
But it is equal to
$$c^2 + (½ ab).4 = c^2 + 2ab$$
Therefore
$$a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = c^2 + 2ab$$
which results in
$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

Math Plot - 76
Try to find the solution to the following puzzle. You may send solutions with reasoning to
rnades@gmail.com
within the next three days.
Please include your full name, date of birth, home address, contact details and the name of your school along with the solution.

**What is the next term of this number arrangement:
1248 1632 6412 8256?**

Math Plot 75 – Solution
The answer is 4.

The winner is
Ahmadh Salman of
**Salahiya Int. School, Weligama.**
Congratulations!

Tomahawk

Quiz No. 211

Questions for Tomahawk Quiz No. 211 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times print issue and e-papers of August 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2023.

All you have to do is to find the answers to the questions given. Write the answers neatly on a postcard, cut the strip 'Tomahawk Quiz No. 211' seen at the top of this page and paste it on your postcard. Please get your entries certified as your own work by a teacher or parent.

One lucky winner will receive a brand new **Tomahawk Mountain Bike** with the compliments of **Tomahawk Bicycle Mall**
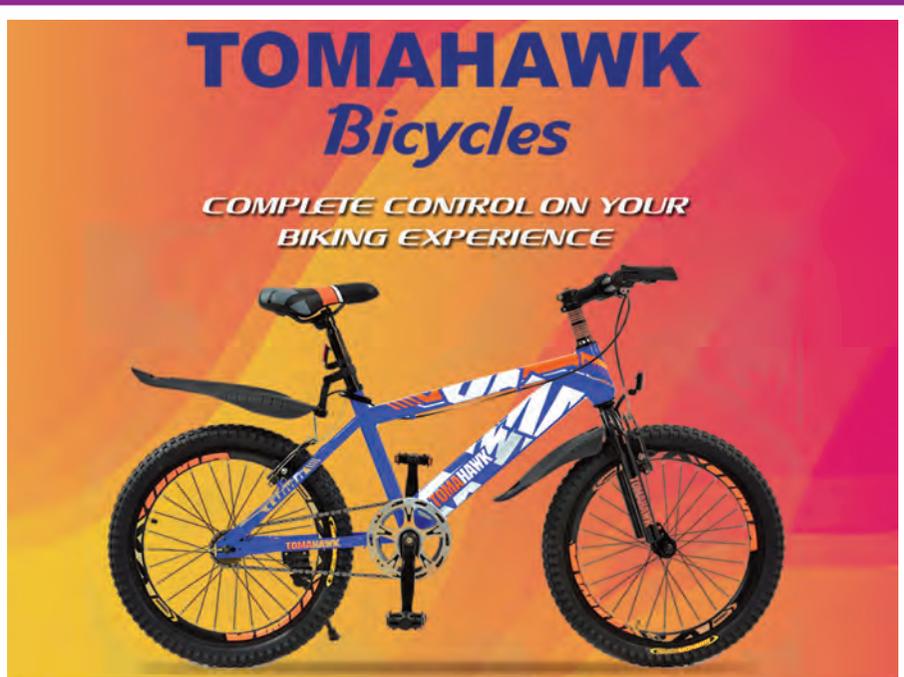
All Funday Times readers between 8 – 15 years are eligible to participate.

(Those who have already won a bicycle are not eligible to participate.)

Closing Date: September 30, 2023

Questions – Quiz No. 211

1. Name the spacecraft and the year of the first successful moon landing and the most recent moon landing.
2. Who led the first successful ascent of K2 mountain?
3. Name the first Asian woman to win an Academy Award for Best Actress and in which film?
4. What is the common name for Seastars and what category of Animals do they come under?
5. What is known as 'El Nino'?

Or fundaytimes1@gmail.com

7 – 9 AGE GROUP

Help the dog reach his food.

7 - 9 years WINNERS
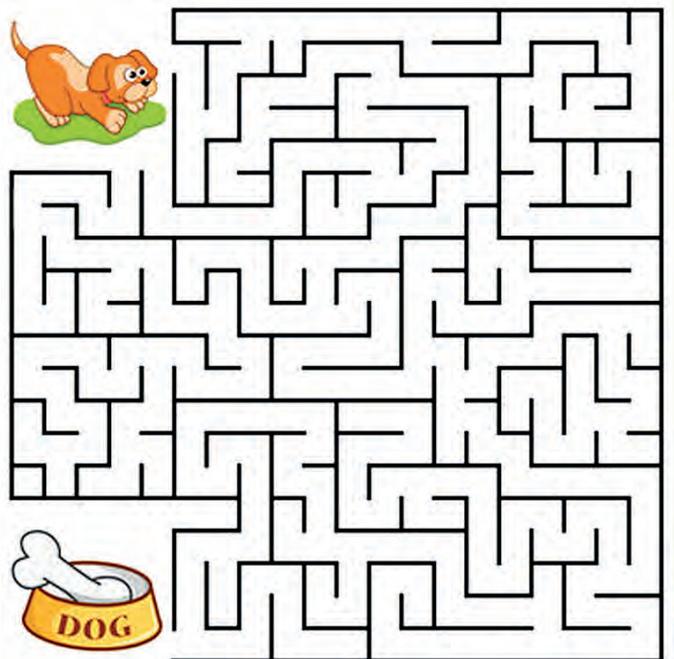
- Imeth Liyanapathirana, Mt. Lavinia
- Maryam Irshad, Colombo 2
- Yhogeeshaan Mohan, Kandy
- Nazrath Imthiyaz, Colombo 14
- Sandamini Jayasinghe, Boralesgamuwa

Winners please call Funday Times on 2479333/2479337 and arrange to collect your prizes.

Or fundaytimes1@gmail.com

SIDDHALEPA KeKulu Kinder ART COMPETITION - 2023

Application Form

Child's Full Name : ....

Date of Birth : ....

Permanent Address and Telephone Number : ....

Email Address : ....

Kindergarten Name and Address : ....

Kindergarten Principal's Name : ....

Phone Number : ....

Kindergarten Email : ....

District : ....

Kindergarten Principal's Signature : ....

1. Eligible only for children of 2 ½ to 5 years of age.
2. Competition topic is 'Our Family'.
3. Drawing can be submitted only on an A4 sheet using pastels only.
4. Should be certified by the Kindergarten Principal, that the drawing is done by the child.
5. It is mandatory to paste the application to the back of drawing.
6. Certificates are given only for drawings where application form is filled correctly.
7. The product wrappings and the drawing to be enclosed in an envelope without stapling together and sent to the following address before 30th November 2023.
8. Address: Hettigoda Industries (Pvt) Ltd., No. 33/3, Sri Dharmarama Road, Ratmalana.
9. It is important to have filled the application form correctly. If not, the drawing will be rejected.
10. Any clarifications on the competition, please call Yuresh on 077 244 0442 or Isuru on 077 261 3255.

• **It is mandatory to include a product wrapping from any of the following product categories, to partake in the competition.**

Kekulu Baby Soap

Kekulu Toothpastes

Kekulu Baby Cologne

Kekulu Toothbrush

Kekulu Baby Soap 5 in 1

नेत्ह FM 95 | 94.8
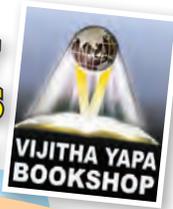**THE OFFICIAL RADIO PARTNER**

FUNDAY TIMES
OFFICIAL PRINT PARTNER

HNB
OFFICIAL BANKING PARTNER

* Important Notice – To all Kindergarten Principals, please ensure that all drawings are submitted with the correct product wrappings to the above address before 30th November, 2023.

Win super books from VIJITHA YAPA BOOKSHOP

Age: 9 years and below

Word Count: 150

Topic: My favourite storybook

Win: The Magic Finger by Roald Dahl

Every Saturday morning the Gregg Family goes off to shoot animals and birds. But the girl who lives next door hates hunting. Now it's made her so angry, she's put the Magic Finger on them all. And very strange things have begun to happen...
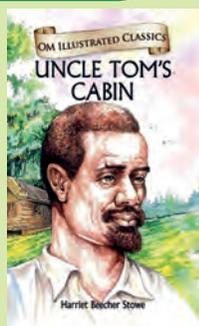
Age: 10 – 12 years

Word Count: 150 – 200

Topic: Why I like to read

Win: Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe

Uncle Tom is an elderly slave residing in a little cabin near his master's house. Tom proves to be popular, meek and obedient but Tom's master feels no qualms about selling him to a slave trader in order to pay a debt.

While living the life of slavery and exploitation, Tom sticks firmly to his beliefs and is admired even by his enemies...
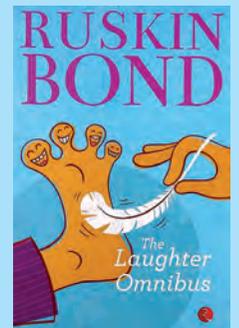
Age: 13 – 15 years

Word Count: 200 – 250

Topic: The importance of First Aid

Win: The Laughter Omnibus edited by Ruskin Bond

In this rib-tickling anthology, Ruskin Bond brings together funny stories, humorous articles and comic verse.

These hilarious encounters are guaranteed to make you smile, chuckle, snort, giggle and laugh out loud!

Write at the top of your Essay

■ Book Competition   ■ Essay Topic

mail to FUNDAY TIMES

Jokes

What happens when you tell an egg a joke?

A. It cracks up!

How do you repair a broken tomato?

A. With tomato paste.

Whats worse than finding a worm in your apple?

A. Finding half a worm!

Why did the firefly get bad grades in school?

A. He wasn't very bright.

The Bright Blue Shoes

"That will be 59.99 Sir," said the cashier smiling politely as the man rummaged through his wallet to get the correct amount.

He handed over the fresh crisp bills to the cashier who handed him the bag and turned his gaze to the customer behind him. The man walked the 50 minute walk home and quickly wiped his sweaty brow before inserting the keys into the door. The door cracked open revealing the run-down wooden interior of the house.

He excitedly made his way upstairs into his son's room. His son was turning 11 today. As he opened the door he found his son on his bed talking on his battered-down phone. He made a mental note and added a new phone to the list of things he would one day buy for his son, Oliver.

Oliver immediately looked up, and instead of greeting his father, his eyes immediately flew to the bag in his father's hands and his entire face lit up.

"Is that my gift dad?" he inquired as he made his way to his dad.

"Sure is. Happy Birthday! You know how much I love you and..."

Before he could finish his sentence, Oliver snatched the bag from his hand and muttered a quick "thanks".

"Um - I well... You're welcome."

He had gotten him the newest shoes that were in the store and that too in his favorite colour. It had cost him a lot, but he told himself he wouldn't let his son down.... At least not on his birthday...

Oliver immediately put the shoes on and walked around in them, getting used to the new feeling. He walked towards his bed and started typing excitedly onto his phone, completely ignoring his dad's presence. With that he decided to leave the room and go into his own, smaller room. He took a quick shower, not wanting to waste any water, and got into bed, tired from the day's exhaustion.

A week passed with him walking everyday to and from work, which was an hour away. Until one day, after returning home, he heated up some dinner and sat at the dining table. Before leaving the kitchen, he threw away the grocery bags and when he opened the bin, inside he found, the bright blue pair of shoes he had bought a few weeks ago.

He took the shoes and went to his son's room.

"Oli, what is this?"

Oliver looked up from his device, annoyance glimmering in his eyes.

"What dad?" he clipped out.

"What happened, I just bought you these, and... and... why are they ripped and all dirty?"

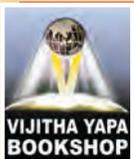"Relax dad, I was playing football and fell. They ripped, so I figured no point in keeping them."

"But..."

"And dad" Oliver interrupted, "You know I don't like you calling me Oli... my name's Oliver."

With that he closed the door and left him standing alone in the hallway.

The next morning, he tried not to think about how much the shoes had cost, he tried not to think about the bicycle he had sold to get the money, and he tried to ignore how he had to make a one hour walk to work, all for the shoes that now lay in the garbage.

Duaa Hashmi (15 years)
Colombo Int. School

The longest time in space and other records

September 13

The longest time someone has been in space

Frank Rubio has been in space for more than 355 days, breaking the record for the longest amount of time in space by a US astronaut.

Rubio has been on the International Space Station (ISS) since September 2022, beating the previous record held by another NASA astronaut, Mark Vande Hei.

Rubio is also on track to break another record in a couple of weeks' time. A Russian Soyuz space craft is not expected to return him and his crewmates, cosmonauts Sergey Prokopyev and Dmitri Petelin back to Earth until at least September 27. Which means Rubio will become the first American to spend more than a year in space – as he will have been on the ISS for at least 371 days.

Rubio and his crewmates, cosmonauts Sergey Prokopyev and Dmitri Petelin.

Breaking records wasn't part of the original mission plan. The spacecraft that carried Rubio and his crewmates had a coolant leak in December and it was decided that it would be unsafe to use for the trip back home.

Instead, Russia's federal space agency Roscosmos decided to launch an empty Soyuz craft to the space station to bring Rubio, Prokopyev and Petelin back to Earth.

More out-of-this world records...

Most consecutive days spent in space

Russian cosmonaut Valeri Polyakov still holds the all-time record for the most days spent in space in one go. He was onboard Russia's Mir space station for 437 continuous days in orbit between 1994 and 1995.
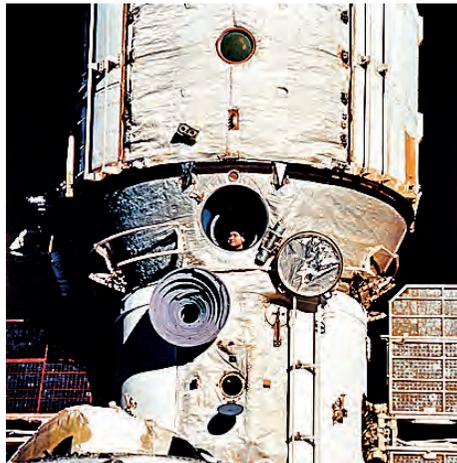

Cosmonaut Valeri Polykov looks out the window of the Russian space station Mir.

Furthest human-made object in space

The most distant human-made object in space is a probe called Voyager-1, which is currently travelling nearly 15 billion miles away from Earth.

Voyager-1 was launched by NASA along with another identical probe called Voyager-2, in 1977. The probes, which don't have a crew, had a mission to give us a closer look at the moons of Jupiter and Saturn, but since then have continued on into deep space.

Voyager-1 was also the first man-made object ever to leave our solar system. Last year NASA announced that it is powering down some of the probes' systems, although they will both keep working until 2030, when they will be left to shut down and just float through space. Both spacecraft have records showing the sounds, images and diversity of life on Earth – in case either probe is picked up by alien life-forms in the future.
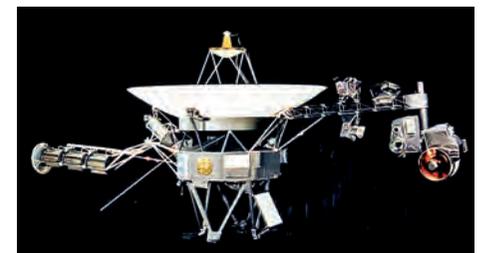
Furthest distance a person has travelled in space

The furthest a human being has ever been from Earth was during the Apollo 13 mission in 1970.

American NASA astronauts James Lovell, Fred Haise and John Swigert passed over the side of the Moon that doesn't face the Earth – sometimes referred to as the "dark" side of the Moon – 248,655 miles (400,171 km) from our home planet.

The original mission was to land two astronauts – James Lovell and Fred Haise – onto the surface of the Moon, but after an oxygen tank explosion the crew had to instead find a way to get back Earth. Using the Moon's gravity as a slingshot to propel their craft back home, the crew was able to return safely.

It's likely that future crewed missions to the Moon will beat Apollo 13's distance record. A test flight, with no one onboard, saw NASA's Orion capsule travel 270,000 miles away from Earth. That mission was part of NASA's Artemis programme which aims to return people to the Moon's surface for the first time in more than 50 years.
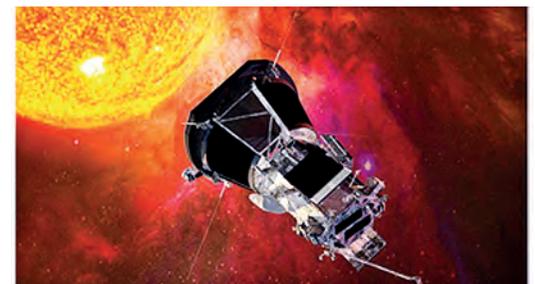

The Artemis Orion capsule broke a distance record in space in 2022.

The module that returned the crew of Apollo 13 safely back to Earth.

Fastest spacecraft speed

The fastest speed by a spacecraft is 364,660 mph which was achieved by the Parker Solar Probe in 2021.

The spacecraft also made history – becoming the first craft to 'touch' the Sun. The probe flew through the outer atmosphere of our nearest star, in the part of the Sun known as the corona. The Sun has very strong gravity, so as the probe performed its super-close flybys it accelerated to incredible speeds.

Source : CBBC Newsround

News in Pictures

September 13

Taiyuan City, China
Students take part in the traditional first writing ceremony as schools open in Shanxi province.

Bogra, Bangladesh
Fishers use an age-old technique in the algae-coloured waters of the Jamuna River.

September 12

Tafeghaghte, Morocco
A woman tries to recover some of her possessions from her home in the village of Tafeghaghte in the Atlas mountains, after a magnitude 6.8 earthquake struck central Morocco.

Derna, Libya
Storm Daniel caused devastating floods in many towns in eastern Libya, but the destruction was worst in the port city of Derna, where two dams burst and entire neighbourhoods were washed away, leaving thousands of people dead or missing.

Bangkok, Thailand
Foreign tourists dressed in rented Thai traditional costumes visit Wat Arun, or Temple of Dawn.

San Francisco, USA
Sea lions frolic at Pier 39 in northern California.

US Open 2023

September 11

Coco Gauff after winning her first Grand Slam title, the US Open, following her victory against Aryna Sabalenka.
The 19-year-old's victory made her the first American singles champion at the US Open since 2017.

Novak Djokovic after winning a record-extending 24th Grand Slam, pays tribute to his friend the late Kobe Bryant by wearing a 'Mamba Forever' shirt bearing the NBA legend's famous No 24.
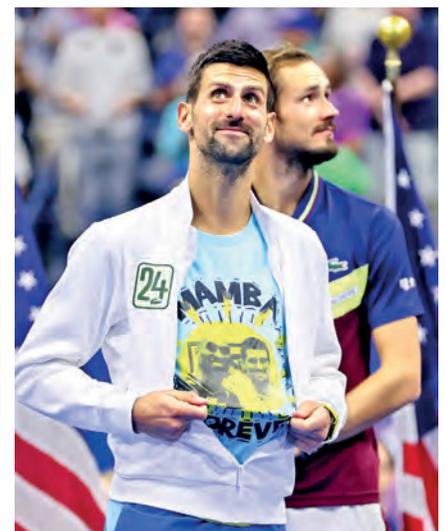

Glasgow, Scotland
Ballet dancers Claire Souet and Ishan Mahabir-Stokes pose in Kelvingrove Art Gallery before the UK premiere of 'Schachmatt' (Checkmate) by Cayetano Soto. Performed on a giant chessboard, the work is part of Scottish Ballet's contemporary double bill 'Twice-Born', which embarks on a Scotland-wide tour.

Source : The Guardian