

In collaboration with the Mechanics Centre Trust, at the birthplace of the TUC



BANNER THEATRE PRESENTS

SPIRIT OF 1868

Commissioned by the Mechanics Centre Trust to celebrate the founding of the TUC and 150 years of union struggle.

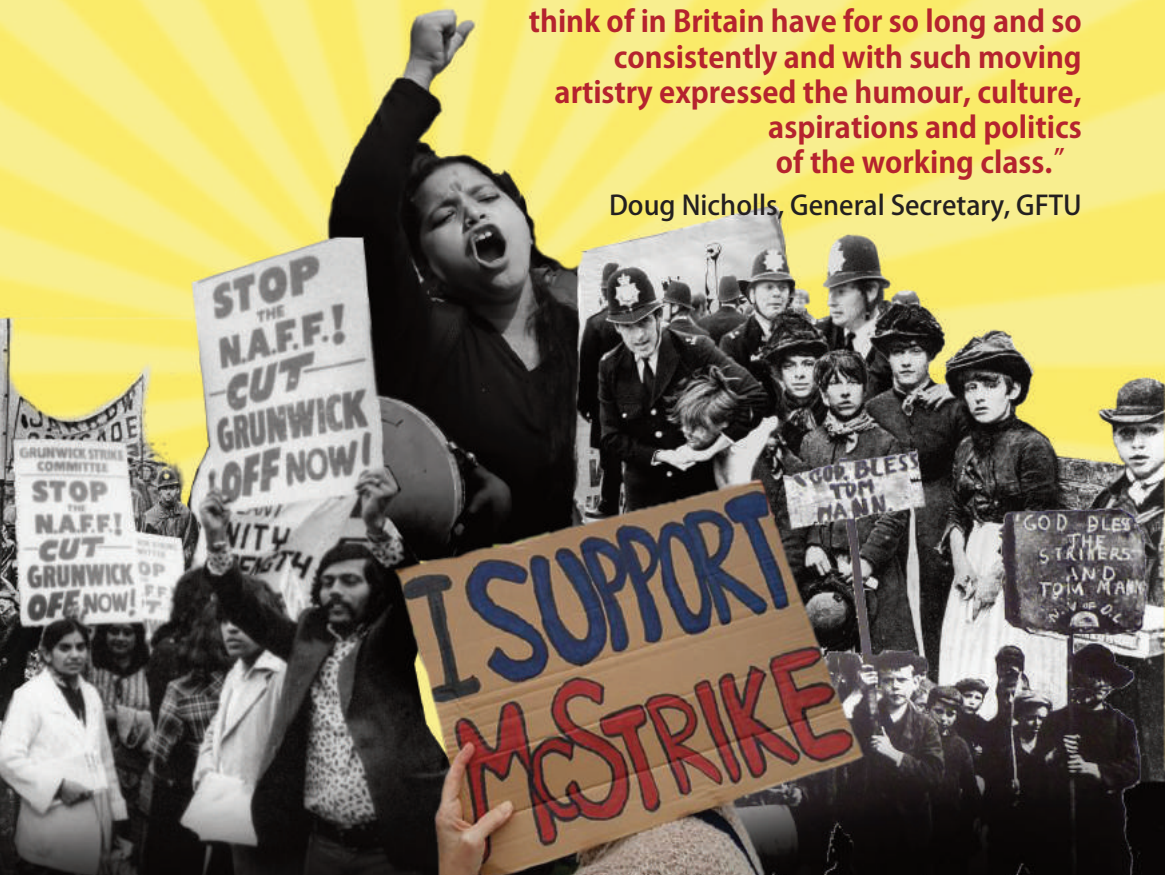
In 1868 workers were fighting for union recognition, the end of casual labour, and improvements in working conditions.

Sounds familiar?

Spirit of 1868 stages a rousing account of a century and a half of workers' continued struggle for a better world.

"No other cultural workers that I can think of in Britain have for so long and so consistently and with such moving artistry expressed the humour, culture, aspirations and politics of the working class."

Doug Nicholls, General Secretary, GFTU



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Mechanics Centre Museum of Labour
& Trades Union History Trust



BIRTHPLACE OF THE TUC
MECHANICS CENTRE 40 PRINCE STREET, MANCHESTER, M1 2BB

“Why not have a Congress of our own?”

Samuel Nicholson, President of the Manchester and Salford Trades Council, 1868

In the 150 years since the first meeting of Trades Union Congress, trade unions have led the fight for workers' rights.

SPIRIT OF 1868

Spirit of 1868 is a stirring dramatisation of some of the struggles, protests and moments of resistance that shaped our past and our present.

Exhilarating folk, blues, punk and reggae rhythms drive the stories of workers standing together in solidarity across a century and a half of strikes and picket lines.

“A brilliant mix of music, film, humour and politics. It’s a terrific way of reminding us why we need to keep angry, keep organising and keep fighting”.

Jon Berry, Secretary, St Albans TUC

For an entertaining, moving, riotous and inspiring evening, book Banner Theatre's *Spirit of 1868*.

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www.bannertheatre.co.uk

 BannerTheatre

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 www.youtube.com/user/banner111



This production has been generously supported by the Mechanics Centre Trust and our friends in the Trade Union movement.

Banner Theatre – Registered Charity Number 510316