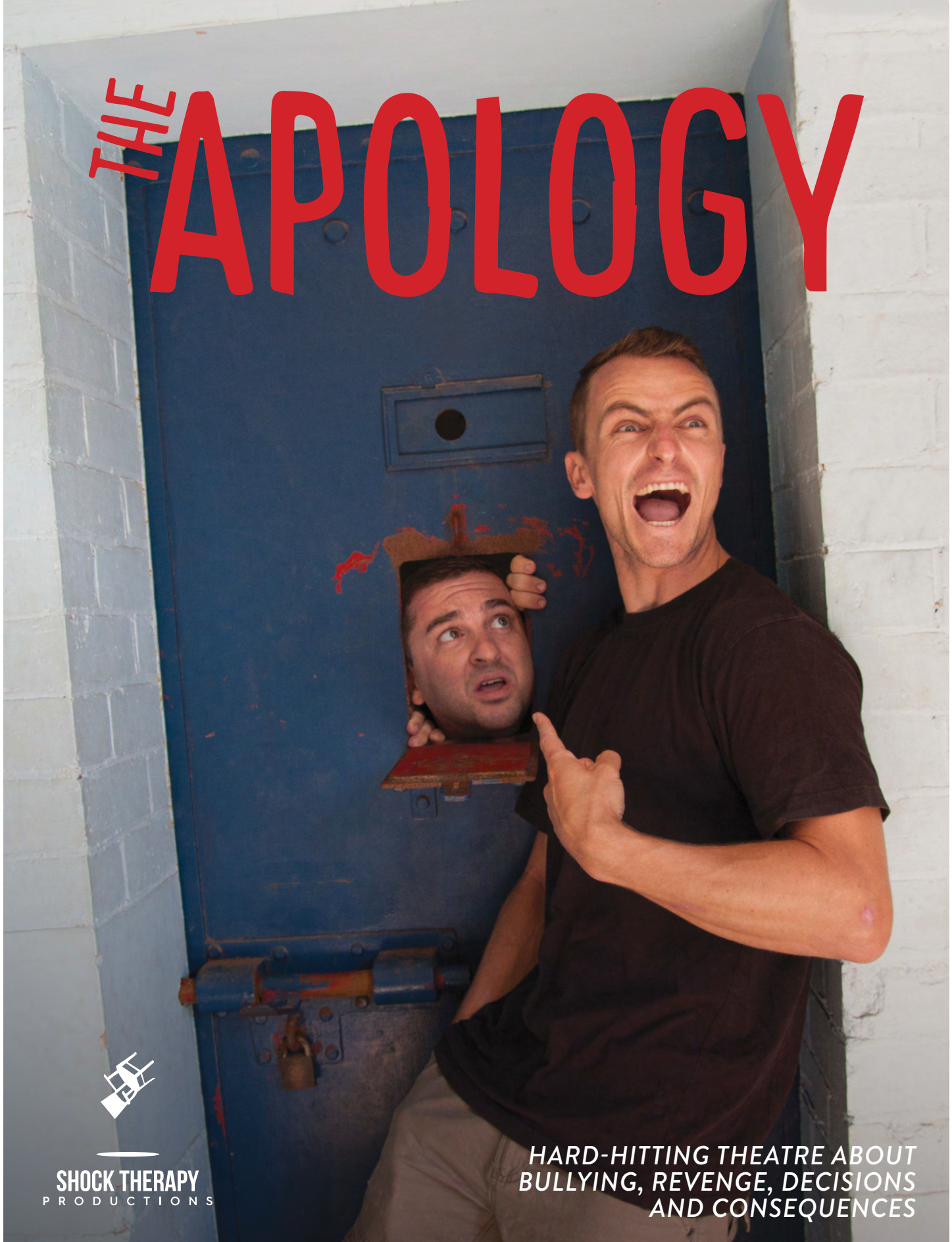


THE APOLOGY



SHOCK THERAPY
PRODUCTIONS

HARD-HITTING THEATRE ABOUT
BULLYING, REVENGE, DECISIONS
AND CONSEQUENCES

THE APOLOGY INFORMATION PACK

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY: STEFO NANTSOU
PERFORMED BY: SAM FOSTER & HAYDEN JONES



SHOCK THERAPY PRODUCTIONS

ABOUT THE COMPANY

Shock Therapy Productions was founded in 2015 by Sam Foster and Hayden Jones and has quickly established itself as one of the leading performing arts companies based on the Gold Coast. In this year, the company was awarded Accelerated Triennial Funding by City of Gold Coast for operational costs and to assist in the growth of the company. In 2018 this funding was renewed for a further 3 years.

Shock Therapy Productions aims to deliver Transformative Arts Experiences, and tell stories that are meaningful, thought-provoking, dynamic and entertaining, celebrating both the confronting and cathartic nature of performance.

Working across theatre, film and live events, Shock Therapy Productions aims to establish itself as a leading company in the delivery of high quality, relevant, multidisciplinary performance and a leader in the Arts and Culture Sector on the Gold Coast as well as Nationally and Internationally.

The company has produced a rapidly expanding catalogue of works, including a number of original productions, won 5 Matilda Awards, performed at venues and Arts Festivals in both Australia and Internationally and is proudly sponsored by the City of Gold Coast Council.

FOR ALL ENQUIRIES AND BOOKINGS

E: education@shocktherapyproductions.com.au
www.shocktherapyproductions.com.au

AWARD WINS

2017 MATILDA AWARDS
Best Independent Production
– *The Forwards*

2016 MATILDA AWARDS
Best Independent Production
– *Viral*

2015 MATILDA AWARDS
Best Independent Production
– *The Pillowman*

Best Director, Sam Foster
– *The Pillowman*

Best Supporting Actor, Tama Matheson
– *The Pillowman*

AWARD NOMINATIONS

2021 MATILDA AWARDS
Best New Australian Work
– *Undertow*

Best Independent Production
– *Undertow*

Best Sound Design
– *Undertow*

2017 MATILDA AWARDS
Best Actor, Sam Foster
– *The Forwards*

Best Actress, Ellen Bailey
– *The Forwards*

2016 MATILDA AWARDS
Best New Australian Work
– *Viral*

Best Actor, Sam Foster
– *Viral*

Best Audio Visual Design, Nathan Sibthorpe
– *Viral*



MEET THE CREATORS

HAYDEN JONES - ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Hayden is a performer and contemporary performance maker, working across a range of forms including theatre, installation, immersive experiences and cross art-form collaborations. He has worked as an Actor, Director, Writer, Producer and workshop facilitator, for some of Australia's most recognised and innovative arts organisations. He is a co-founder of Shock Therapy Productions.

Hayden also has an extensive background working in Youth Theatre, Children's Theatre and Theatre-in-Education, writing and directing shows for young people, and touring nation-wide performing and teaching workshops.

SAM FOSTER - ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Sam is a storyteller, performer and theatre maker. He is an award-winning Actor, Director, Writer, Producer, Stunt Performer and Stunt Rigger as well as being a Physical Theatre Performer, Movement Director and workshop facilitator. He is the co-owner and co-founder of Shock Therapy Productions.

Sam works in theatre, film and large-scale events and has worked for a number of companies and festivals throughout his career. His career has taken him to New York, London, Namibia, South Africa, Denmark, Norway and India as well as all over Australia.



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SHOCK THERAPY PRODUCTIONS

PRESENTS: *THE APOLOGY* WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY: STEFO NANTSOU

SYNOPSIS

Inspired by a true story of a high school student who “took revenge” on a classmate who was bullying him after his father advised him to “fight back”, *The Apology* is a searingly honest look at the repercussions of taking revenge and the long term effects that bullying can have.

Ray Bones is being hassled by ‘the Eneme’. When a year-nine excursion to the Boggo Road Goal goes awry, Ray’s dad encourages him to pick his moment and fight back. *The Apology* ricochets through a five year period where the bruises of bullying refuse to heal. Told from an unbiased perspective, this powerful production forces students to decide if the punishment fits the crime.

The Apology is performed by two actors (Sam Foster and Hayden Jones), who play 18 different characters in total, without ever leaving the stage or changing costume. Fuelled with intensity, *The Apology* fuses physical theatre techniques, multiple role-sharing and live music into a visceral and dynamic piece of theatre. *The Apology* is an example of Zeal Theatre’s signature style of doing as much as possible with as little as possible.



PERFORMANCE SPECIFICS

DURATION

60 mins (No Interval)

SUITABLE VENUES

This show is suitable for most venues. Minimum stage dimensions are 5m wide x 5m deep x 3m high. Access to power outlet required.

Maximum number of performances per week:

10 performances

Minimum break between performances:

60 minutes

COST

Subject to negotiation. Contact Shock Therapy Productions to discuss your needs and budget.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Suitable for all ages 13+

PERFORMANCE HISTORY

YEAR	VENUE	NUMBER OF PERFORMANCES
2006 – 2009	Various school venues throughout Qld (Qld Arts Council Tour)	400+
2008	Metro Arts	10
2010 – 2011	Various school venues in Qld (QAC tour) – remounted version	100+
2014 – 2015	Artslink Qld tour – Various school venues	50+
2015	Anywhere Theatre Festival – Boggo Road Gaol	4
2015 – Current	Zeal Theatre Qld tour – Various schools	100+

LICENSING AGREEMENTS

Copyright Zeal Theatre, 2004

TOURING PERSONNEL

The touring party consists of 2 people.

SAM FOSTER Performer/Producer

HAYDEN JONES Performer/Producer

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PERFORMED BY: Sam Foster and Hayden Jones

DIRECTED AND WRITTEN BY: Stefo Nantsou

PUBLISHED BY: Playlab (2009)

PRODUCTION DETAILS

STAGING

MINIMUM STAGE DIMENSIONS

5m wide x 5m deep x 3m high

SHOCK THERAPY TO SUPPLY

All set, props and costumes.

VENUE TO SUPPLY

Access to 240V power supply.

LIGHTING

Subject to time of performance and venue specification. *The Apology* can be performed with house lights only or a general wash stage, subject to the lighting available in the venue. Shock Therapy Productions can also provide lighting for certain venues if necessary.

SOUND

All sound equipment will be provided by Shock Therapy Productions.

AV

There are no AV requirements for this show.

WARDROBE

SHOCK THERAPY TO SUPPLY

All costumes

VENUE TO SUPPLY

Access to dressing rooms pre and post show.

FREIGHT NOTES

The show will be transported by van to and from the venue. All set, costume and props will arrive at the venue and can be loaded into the venue via the loading dock or main theatre entrance.

CRITICAL ISSUES

There are no critical issues for this production.

MARKETING

MARKETING COPY

ONE LINE

“Hard-hitting theatre about bullying, revenge, decisions and consequences”

“Powerful study of teenage violence and the effects of long term bullying”

SHORT

“Inspired by a true story of a high school student who “took revenge” on a classmate who was bullying him after his father advised him to “fight back”, *The Apology* is a searingly honest look at the repercussions of taking revenge and the long term effects that bullying can have.

Ray Bones is being hassled by ‘the Eneme’. When a year-nine excursion to the Boggo Road Goal goes awry, Ray’s dad encourages him to fight back. *The Apology* ricochets through a five-year period where the bruises of bullying refuse to heal.

EXTENDED

“Inspired by a true story of a high school student who “took revenge” on a classmate who was bullying him after his father advised him to “fight back”, *The Apology* is a searingly honest look at the repercussions of taking revenge and the long term effects that bullying can have.

Ray Bones is being hassled by ‘the Eneme’. When a year-nine excursion to the Boggo Road Goal goes awry, Ray’s dad encourages him to pick his moment and fight back. *The Apology* ricochets through a five-year period where the bruises of bullying refuse to heal. Told from an unbiased perspective, this powerful production explores bullying, mateship, alcohol fuelled violence, revenge, decision-making, consequences and family dynamics.

Two actors, Sam Foster and Hayden Jones, play 18 different characters, skilfully changing between each one, without ever leaving the stage or changing costume. Fuelled with intensity, *The Apology* fuses physical theatre techniques, multiple role-sharing and live music into a visceral and dynamic piece of theatre. *The Apology* is an example of Zeal Theatre’s signature style of doing as much as possible with as little as possible.

The Apology was published by Playlab in 2009 and is on Education Queensland’s Recommended Reading List.

MARKETING SUMMARY

Zeal Theatre has a long history and a well-established reputation as a schools touring company. Zeal Qld has toured schools extensively throughout Qld over a 9-year period since 2005. In light of this fact, any marketing should include a focus on the schools sector.

Another selling point for *The Apology* is the unique and hard-hitting style of theatre that Zeal has become known for. Two actors on stage, playing 18 characters, a simple set, live music and a powerful and thought-provoking story.

The Apology has also been converted to Danish and was produced in Denmark by Theatre Neo in 2006. The original version of the play premiering at the Newcastle Showroom in February 2005 and was performed by Zeal Theatre founding members, Stefo Nantsou and Rob Dillely.

Zeal Theatre has been touring their shows Worldwide and creating theatre for 25 years. Several Zeal shows have been translated to other languages and continue to be produced by companies throughout Europe, North America and Asia.

The show has been performed over 500 times in Qld and has toured extensively throughout the state and continues to receive rave reviews from audiences.

MEDIA QUOTES

“The most powerful play from the acclaimed Zeal Theatre” – Lowdown Magazine

AUDIENCE REVIEWS

“*The Apology* was an amazing show and the students have had nothing but great things to say about the performance. So thankful we got to view it. The boys are fantastic, wonderful actors which is great for our drama students to see” - Cannon Hill Anglican College

“Wonderful Performance! Student Comments: never a dull moment, strong clear message, related to it, made you think. Great acting, students loved it & were captivated the whole performance” – Wallumbilla State School

COLLEAGUE RECOMMENDATIONS

VERONICA NEAVE

Email: veronicanave@hotmail.com

Phone: 0448853141

PAUL BISHOP

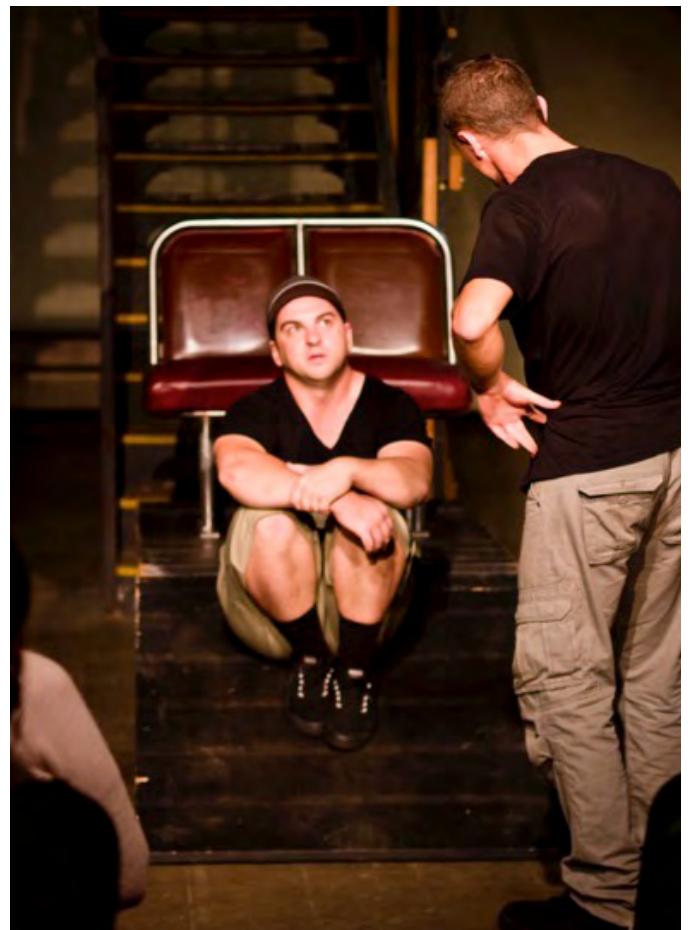
Email: paulbishop@me.com

Phone: 0412692690

GAVIN ROBINS

Email: gavinrobins@me.com

Phone: 0402066949





The most powerful play from the acclaimed Zeal Theatre.

- LOWDOWN MAGAZINE

