

THE *Magic* Garden



SHOCK THERAPY
PRODUCTIONS

THE MAGIC GARDEN INFORMATION PACK

CREATED, WRITTEN AND STARRING: SAM FOSTER AND 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 MAGIC GARDEN* WRITTEN BY SAM FOSTER AND HAYDEN JONES



SYNOPSIS

Do you believe in the power of IMAGINATION?

The Magic Garden is a fun-fuelled interactive journey of exploration and creativity for families. Join “Pat Malone”, a bush adventurer and Mythical Creature Researcher as he embarks on specialized research into Autonomous Imaginary Species, or A.I.S. These are creatures that begin in the imagination, or in the collective consciousness, and then become real, physical creatures that have a life all of their own! Now, it might sound crazy and I bet you’re wondering how it’s possible...

Along the way, you will meet mythical Australian creatures, observe them in their habitat, be mesmerised by their physicality, and laugh out loud as each has a physical encounter with Pat.

Inspired by classic family fantasy stories like “The Neverending Story” and “Alice in Wonderland”, Shock Therapy have fused Physical Theatre, Slapstick and the good old aussie yarn to create a colourful and iconic piece about the nature of reality and the power of the mind over matter.

But you have to BELIEVE!

PERFORMANCE SPECIFICS

PROMENADE/ SITE SPECIFIC SHOW

Give us a site and we will transform it into a world full of hidden magic and inter-dimensional discoveries! The audience will be led by Pat on an exploration of the site, using the power of BELIEF to find Autonomous Imaginary Species to play with and learn about. Running time 30 – 45mins

STAGE SHOW

This version of *The Magic Garden* is the same hilarious and whacky adventure, told in a traditional stage show format, designed for stages, theatres and school touring with a running time of 45minutes.



CREATURE WORKSHOP (OPTIONAL)

The Magic Garden takes a whole new twist as kids are invited to become a 'creature' too! In the creature-making workshop, kids can transform themselves into their own mythical creature, using a range of supplied materials including cardboard, rope, paper cups, fabrics and bamboo.

With the help of talented artists from Shock Therapy Productions and shaped by their imaginations, kids can make their very own set of wings, a mask, fins or a pair of claws.

Dressed as their mythical creature, kids will be invited to bring their creature to life as they participate in a Physical Theatre workshop lead by the cast of *The Magic Garden*.

Total duration for Creature Making and Physical Movement workshop:

30 – 60 minutes.

DURATION

30 – 90mins (depending on format and clients needs)

SUITABLE VENUES

Promenade site specific show: Tailored to suit the surrounds. Power required for basic audio and evening performances require power for basic lighting. Works best if there are trees and shrubbery, and some water nearby.

Stage show: 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

LICENSING AGREEMENTS

Copyright Hayden Jones and Sam Foster 2016

TOURING PERSONNEL

The touring party consists of 3–4 people.

PERFORMANCE HISTORY

YEAR 2016

VENUE Robina Town Centre

NUMBER OF PERFORMANCES 8

COST

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

TARGET AUDIENCE FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Suitable for all ages. Perfect for children and families.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY Sam Foster and Hayden Jones

ADDITIONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/SPONSORS Bleached Arts

PRODUCTION DETAILS

TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The technical requirements for *The Magic Garden* are minimal. Daytime performances don't require lighting however power is required for a simple audio set up. Evening performances will require 3 phase power for basic lighting. We are happy to negotiate technical requirements on a site by site basis.

EXAMPLE SCHEDULE

Promenade Site Specific Show:

A tour of the site will need to take place a minimum of 1 week prior to the performance, and a minimum of 1 day on-site rehearsal prior to the performance.

Stage Show:

1 hour bump in.

Crew Required:

Minimal crew required from the venue. 1 person to provide access to space, power supply, dressing rooms.

STAGING

(Not applicable for Promenade version)

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.

- 4-6 x LED pars on portable lighting trees that can be used outdoors.
- 1 x Follow spot (optional)

SOUND

- PA system.

Can be provided by the company if venue does not have access to suitable system.

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.

VIDEO FOOTAGE

THE MAGIC GARDEN TRAILER

vimeo.com/209493176

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

MARKETING

MARKETING SUMMARY

Shock Therapy Productions is a multi-award winning contemporary performance company based on the Gold Coast, Queensland. They have performed their original productions throughout Queensland and internationally.

In 2016 Shock Therapy were commissioned by Bleach Festival to create a site specific performance for all ages, to be performed at the grounds of one of the festival's major sponsors Robina Town Centre.

With backgrounds in both physical and text based theatre, Shock Therapy decided to fuse the two by making a promenade performance based around creature interactions. Inspired by great tales like Alice in Wonderland and The Neverending Story, the show evolved around the power of a child's imagination. Sam Foster and Hayden Jones then delved into quintessentially Australian folklore and the unique "aussie" sense of humour to make a unique and imaginative piece that speaks to parents as much as children.

The Magic Garden was a hit of Bleach Festival 2016 and was loved by young and old.



AUDIENCE REVIEWS

"I loved Magic Garden. Engaging, curious, funny with a dose of larrikin. Versatile and talented to the max." – Criena Gehrke, CEO Gold Coast Cultural Precinct.

MARKETING COPY

ONE LINE

"An eccentric journey of exploration and creativity for families, inspired by the great outdoors and the power of imagination."

"An all ages adventure into a wonderland of interactive performance starring some iconic Australian animal characters and an intrepid tour guide."

SHORT

The Magic Garden is a fun-fuelled interactive journey of exploration and creativity for families. Join Pat Malone, a bush adventurer and Mythical Creature Researcher as he embarks on specialized research into Autonomous Imaginary Species, or A.I.S. Along the way, you will meet mythical Australian creatures, observe them in their habitat, be mesmerised by their physicality, and share the laughs as each has a physical encounter with Pat.

EXTENDED

Do you believe in the power of IMAGINATION?

The Magic Garden is a fun-fuelled interactive journey of exploration and creativity for families. Join Pat Malone, a bush adventurer and Mythical Creature Researcher as he embarks on specialized research into Autonomous Imaginary Species, or A.I.S. These are creatures that begin in the imagination, or in the collective consciousness, and then become real, physical creatures that have a life all of their own! Now, it might sound crazy and I bet you're wondering how it's possible...

Along the way, you will meet mythical Australian creatures, observe them in their habitat, be mesmerised by their physicality, and share the laughs as each has a physical encounter with Pat.

Then *The Magic Garden* takes a whole new twist as kids are invited to become a 'creature' too!

In the creature-making workshop, kids can transform themselves into their own mythical creature, using a range of supplied materials including cardboard, rope, paper cups, fabrics and bamboo. With the help of talented artists from Shock Therapy Productions and shaped by their imaginations, it could be a set of wings, a mask, fins or a pair of claws.

Dressed as their mythical creature, kids will be invited to bring their creature to life as they participate in a physical theatre workshop alongside the cast of *The Magic Garden*.



I loved *The Magic Garden*. Engaging, curious, funny with a dose of larrikin. Versatile and talented to the max.

CRIENA GEHRKE, CEO GOLD COAST CULTURAL PRECINCT.

