



UNDERTOW

MARKETING INFO PACK

Title

Undertow

Tag Line

A new original work exploring themes of resilience, mental health, relationships and identity.

Copy

Award winning theatre makers Shock Therapy Productions proudly present their latest work Undertow. An honest and powerful look at the hidden forces, beneath the surface that move us and determine the choices we make and the actions we take. Centering around a high school community, the show follows a group of individuals, from a range of backgrounds, all dealing with their own unique challenges. Shock Therapy draw on a range of film conventions and physical theatre techniques to push their signature style in a new direction, blurring the line between different realities. The result is storytelling that is fluid and inventive, sweeping you up in its current as the story pulls you deeper.

Quotes

"Shock Therapy Productions has birthed a new era of performance-making" - *Nothing Ever Happens in Brisbane*

"Undertow is a taut show that packs a punch in its honest and powerful exploration of the themes of resilience" – *Blue Curtains*

Presented by

Shock Therapy Productions

Written by

Sam Foster and Hayden Jones

Devised By

Sam Foster and Hayden Jones

Lighting Design

Laura Jade

Sound Design

Guy Webster

Premier

February 2020, Sunnybank Performing Arts Centre

Development

Undertow was originally developed with the support of the Sunnybank Performing Arts & Cultural Centre (SunPAC)

Research for this production was also supported by Headspace Southport

General information on 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 2015, Shock Therapy was awarded Accelerated Triennial Funding by City of Gold Coast for operational costs and to assist in the growth of the company. Shock Therapy Productions aims to 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 several works, including a number of original productions, won 4 Matilda Awards, performed at venues and Arts Festivals in both Australia and Internationally and is proudly sponsored by the City of Gold Coast Council.

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. 2015 Matilda Awards, Best Director, Sam Foster – The Pillowman. 2015 Matilda Awards, Best Supporting Actor, Tama Matheson – The Pillowman.

Award Nominations

2016 Matilda Awards, Best New Australian Work – Viral. 2016 Matilda Awards, Best Actor, Sam Foster – Viral. 2016 Matilda Awards, Best Audio Visual Design, Nathan Sibthorpe – Viral.