

QMF Gladstone Musical Theatre Event

Outdoor and Free at Gladstone Marina Park 18 to 21 July 2013

Presented in partnership with Gladstone Regional Council

ANNOUNCING A WORKSHOP
HOSTED BY GLADSTONE REGIONAL ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM
IN THE CONCEPT, DESIGN AND FABRICATION OF OUTDOOR LIGHT SCULPTURES

THE EVENT

Through intensive research and community consultation, Queensland Music Festival will workshop, rehearse and present four performances of a large scale music theatre event on the shores of the Gladstone Marina Park, with the waterways and Spinnaker Park as the dramatic and inspiring backdrop. Through the eyes of a young protagonist the audience will be taken on a magical, musical journey as his vivid imagination conjures up stories from the past and the present, celebrating Gladstone and it's people. In the style of a journey similar to Alice Through the Looking Glass our young hero will meet some strange and curious characters that lead him on her travels through time. The park and the waterways are his playground and the citizens of the region will perform this story, told through music and pageantry. An original commissioned script and score will reveal what it means to be a community and celebrate Gladstone, all delivered with a heightened sense of theatricality and enhanced scale of presentation.

QMF returned in April, October & November 2012 to conduct a cultural audit and a "meet and greet" as part of our process of identifying local talent who could form the nucleus of a community musical theatre production. What has emerged is rich tapestry of performers, including a Taiko Drum ensemble and a German Bell Choir. Creative Producer Marguerite Pepper, veteran of major regional community projects including *The Road We're On* (Charleville, 2009) and *Behind the Cane* (Bowen, 2011) will lead a creative team that also includes experienced community theatre Director Sean Mee (*Behind the Cane*), Composer Scott Saunders (*The Greatest Show on Earth*, Longreach, 2007 and *The Road We're On*, Charleville, 2009) and writer David Burton (associate artist Queensland Theatre Company). Major partner Gladstone Regional Council sees this project as an opportunity to build social cohesion in a region experiencing considerable economic and social tensions around rapid resource sector development and large-scale investment, a significant influx of workers from interstate and overseas and environmental concerns over the increasingly busy harbour and shipping routes. This will be the largest QMF project to date, involving large-scale community involvement with potentially more than 200 community members participating in the creation, development and presentation of the project.

THE LIGHT SCULPTURES AND THE VISUAL ARTS COMMUNITY

QMF identified the richness of the Visual Arts Community in Gladstone and desire to engage with local artists. It is envisaged that up to 10 very large scale light sculptures will enhance the story-telling and bring attention to the Harbour – in an ideal work, permits permitting, these sculptures will appear as a flotilla representing Kookaburra Shells and Marine Nature. Production Designer Josh McIntosh will lead a two day workshop to tutor in designing to a concept, the concept to scale, juxtaposition of design to environment and outdoor conditions, construction techniques and materials and the technicalities of bringing these sculpture to "light and life".

2013 DATES

Friday February 22 and Saturday February 23

TIMES

10am to 3pm

VENUE

Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum

OUTCOME AND TIMELINES

Following the workshop, visual artists will be encouraged to submit designs to a QMF / Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum Selection Committee in order to select a maximum of 10 light sculptures to go to production. Josh McIntosh will mentor the artists and supervise the build throughout June and July ready for the performances later that month.

JOSH MCINTOSH

Josh has been designing for live theatre for over ten years. For Qld Music Festival, Josh has designed the epic outdoor signature events *Behind the Cane* in Bowen (2011) and *The Road We're On* in Charleville (2009). For QTC, Josh has designed *Treasure Island*, *Rabbit Hole* and design consultant for *Thom Pain*. For La Boite Theatre Company, *The Kursk* (with Critical Stages & Matrix), *The Wishing Well* (with Matrix), *The Danger Age*, *The Year Nick McGowan Came To Stay*, and *Red Cap*. For Shake & Stir, *1984*, *Animal Farm* and *Statespeare* and for deBase Productions, *Chasing the Lollyman*, *Ithaca Road* and *Popping Lead Balloons*. Josh has designed many shows for Harvest Rain Theatre Company including *Hairspray*, *The Neverending Story*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Aladdin*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Joseph And His Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Cats*, *Alice*, *Disney's Beauty And The Beast*, *Into The Woods*, *Little Shop Of Horrors*, *Twelfth Night* and *The Lion The Witch & The Wardrobe*. He also regularly designs for Imaginary Theatre, Zen Zen Zo, Toowoomba's Empire Theatre, Brisbane Festival, Strut & Fret, ACPA and many other independent companies. Josh is artistic director and writer/collaborator of Directions Musical Theatre Company, who perform and tour regularly throughout Australia and overseas. He has been awarded a Matilda Award for his body of design work (2011), Groundling Awards for his Set Design (2011) and Costume Design (2011), and has received Del Arte Awards every year since 2003.



The Light Sculpture project and workshop opportunity is supported by the Gladstone Region Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) a Queensland Government and Gladstone Regional Council partnership to support local arts and culture.

BOOKINGS CONTACT:

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