

Flying Heart Workshops for School Incursions

Flying Heart Productions offers a diverse range of quality workshops in the performing arts. We can run a single workshop for a class group or co-ordinate a day programme with a variety of workshops for the whole school. Similarly we can do a one off experience or run a series of classes with a performance outcome.



“The Tourists” street theatre project with Maleny High School, QLD

Our workshops have many cross overs and they seed into each other so we have provided some explanation at the bottom of the document for teachers interested in engaging us over a period of time or running a day programme to consider the learning pathways they will use. For example the object manipulation skills of juggling leads into puppetry and object theatre as we begin to explore the juggling potential of everyday objects and investigate ways to create a juggling routine and the element of story comes into play.



Street theatre project with youth in Denmark, WA

Flying Heart Productions has a wealth of experience and resources to utilise and we can adapt to suit your needs so don't hesitate to make special requests or ask about an aspect of the performing arts you don't see but have in interest in!

OUR WORKSHOPS

PHYSICAL THEATRE/DRAMA TRAINING



This workshop is designed to provide movement based theatre training. Participants will learn how to increase their physical awareness, use the body as an instrument, improve improvisational skills, develop as an ensemble and devise performance material.

We draw on a wide range of performance resources ranging from physical theatre exercises and drama games to mime and movement improvisation.



The workshop can be run either as a one off introducing students to physical theatre or working on a specific element of theatre making or as a series directing the content of the work for a specific performance outcome. Consultation is welcome for performance projects and artist in residencies.

***Images from Leisa Shelton master-class produced by Flying Heart Productions in January 09**



CLOWNING



Clowning is one of the pillars of modern actor training and is taught in all reputable theatre schools.

Clowning develops generosity and creativity in a students acting as the clown has a direct relationship to the audience and they work laterally. Clown is also very beneficial in developing physicality in students as they have strong physical characterisation and communicate a great deal non-verbally.

For younger students clown helps them understand the elements of comedy such as timing and clocking, discover physicality through creating clown character and learn dramatic structure through performing comic skits; for older students the process of undoing themselves to access the creativity and spontaneity of the clown within is very beneficial.

Through games and theatre exercises the workshop will lead participants through this process and impart starting points to develop character and routines.



OBJECT PLAY



This workshop takes participants on a creative journey in object manipulation.

The workshop starts with a demonstration and explanation of object manipulation; ala juggling. It breaks down juggling into its essential elements showing the audience the mechanics of the art form.

Participants will then begin to master 3 ball juggling through a variety of games and exercises and create a one ball juggling routine; this is followed with exploring the dynamics of balancing with simple sticks and ordinary cloth.

The workshop then adds ideas from clowning and puppetry to the mix and participants get to find ways to transform everyday objects into imaginative props.

Finally the students get to have a free play on a variety of traditional circus props such as devil sticks, diabolos etc.

The outcomes of this fast paced and engaging workshop will have participants mastering basic juggling skills, fusing juggling and imagination, exploring performance presentation and inspiring personal creativity.

The workshop has been designed so that most props used are things that participants can access at home at no cost. This is so that after the workshop participants are able to continue developing these skills without needing specialised equipment.



Finding the **Imaginative play in all objects!**

BODY AND FOUND OBJECT PERCUSSION



Forget learning the violin or the piano!

Learn to play the greatest and most portable instrument – you!

In this workshop students learn how to create music from their bodies and the things they find around them!

From the thorax to the thighs, from the teapot to the television aerial, from the tongue to the toes, from the broom to the basin, music is everywhere just waiting to be played!



This workshop is a fantastic opportunity to explore the musical potential of the body and everyday objects while learning rhythms from around the globe.



LEARNING PATHWAYS

The workshops have some common threads and can be structured to guide the process of building the skills and concepts in each discipline in such a way that they feed into each other. In each workshop there is the use of everyday objects; in object play it is the manipulation of the object, in body percussion it is to use the object to create sound and rhythm, in puppetry it is the transformation of the object through imagination and the drama and physical theatre brings them all together to tell a story.

As a starting point we get the students prepare themselves with physical theatre exercises and drama games to get them into their bodies, build sensitive to their partners and their environment and to forge the connection between body and imagination. The students are continually referred back to this during other workshops to help maintain their awareness and as they begin to create short pieces for presentation new elements of theatre making are provided to enable them to self-devise.

How the workshops feed into each other:

- Object play, this prepares students on the rudiments of manipulating objects and increases their tactile awareness.
- Body Percussion, transforming an object into a musical instrument requires physical technical skill of handling an object which students have gathered from juggling and now they delve into the objects rhythmic potential which also begins to give the student an imaginative relationship to it as each different sound endows the object with a quality. In addition a relationship is being forged between the actor and the object with the interaction of voice, body percussion with the objects sounds and qualities.
- Puppetry/Object Theatre, Through object manipulation and percussion exploration the students bring physical and rhythmic awareness of objects; the manipulation skills gives them more dexterity in articulating objects into character, qualities and emotional states and the percussion enables them to find their rhythmic state which is essential in creating character and dynamics in narrative.
- Clown, clowns live in an elastic reality therefore they could start out having a meal but then end up having the salt shaker attack them or have a wild jam with the knives and forks then juggle the plates; so all the other disciplines feed into this and the more the merrier. Clown in turn feeds back to the other disciplines as well as it demands an intense use of the imagination as they work laterally and try to not get to the point narratively speaking, so are always looking for “the game” with any object or situation.

Of course this is not prescriptive in any way as it most times is not practical, but it outlines some of the teaching processes for a better understanding of what we do and of our interests in theatre making.

WORKSHOP COSTS AND NEEDS

Tutor fees are as follows:

- One off workshop - \$165.00 per tutor for the first hour, \$110.00 per tutor per hour after
- Consecutive workshops, minimum of three - \$110.00 per tutor per hour
- Full day - \$825.00 per tutor

*** We are open to negotiation if there are budget restraints.**

Student numbers:

- Maximum of 10 students for one tutor
- Maximum of 30 students for two tutors

Venue requirements:

Open indoor space preferred i.e. hall, and a high roof is essential for object manipulation, either carpet or wooden floors preferred. Undercover and outdoor areas can be okay depending on the quality of the ground area and the level of distraction around. Access to power is appreciated but not necessary.

We do hope you find our workshops interesting and exciting and we look forward to coming to your school soon!



Theatre and stilt project with students from Maleny Primary School, QLD