

HOMUNCULUS
THEATRE CO. LTD

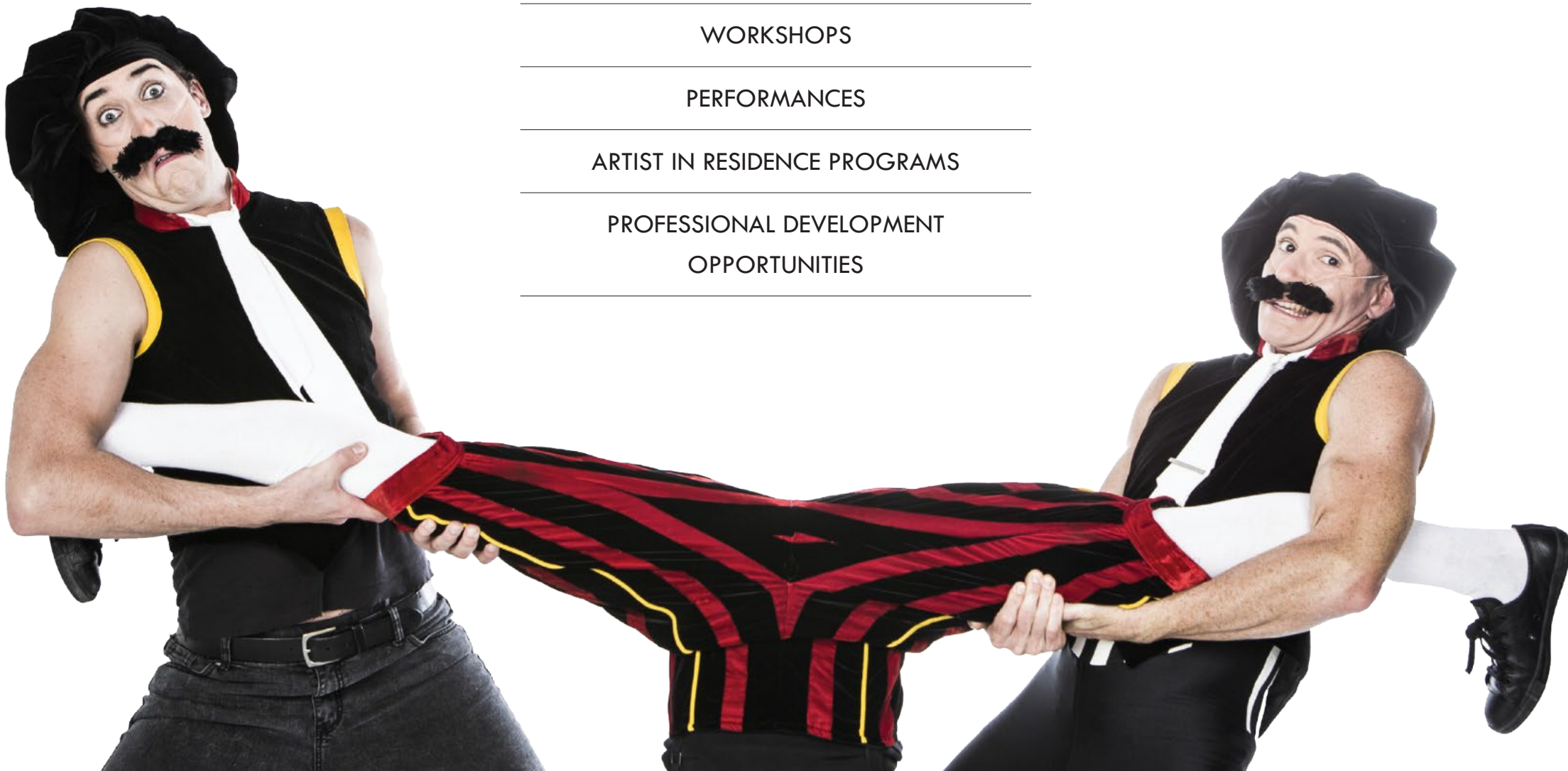
2016 IN-SCHOOL SEASON

WORKSHOPS

PERFORMANCES

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAMS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
OPPORTUNITIES



ABOUT US

Homunculus Theatre Company Ltd has been delighting and inspiring audiences across Australia and overseas for more than a decade now.

We specialise in Commedia dell'Arte, traditional and contemporary clowning, mask, physical comedy, non-verbal communication, mime, Absurdism, slapstick, stage combat, physical theatre and circus.

We offer a wide range of in-school workshops, performances, artist in residence programs, and professional development for teachers.

Our vision is to share the human beauty, humour and power of these theatrical styles with everyone, especially young people.



20 LAZZIS IN A HAT

20 Lazzis in a Hat is pure entertainment!

An exciting journey into the heart of Commedia dell'Arte – promising students non-stop fun, comedy and excitement. Audiences will discover the origins of Commedia dell'Arte and witness, first hand, its improvised nature.

The performance showcases numerous masked stock characters, hilarious burlesque and 20 of Commedia's famous traditional lazzi consisting of verbal asides on current political, social and literary topics, pratfalls and acrobatics.

The performers embody the style with their heart, body and soul; showcasing just how much energy, commitment, comedic flare and incredible technique is needed to bring this tradition to life!

Created by: *Clint Bolster*

Duration: 50 minutes and a 10 minute Q&A

Suitability: Prep to Grade 12

Essential Learnings: The Arts (Drama), SOSE (history, culture), English.

Style/Form: Commedia dell'Arte, mask, traditional and contemporary clowning, Shakespeare, melodrama, visual theatre, physical comedy, physical theatre and circus, non-verbal communication and mime, improvisation, slapstick, political satire, parody.

Themes and Contexts: Creativity, imagination, transformation, play, audience engagement and interaction, role and relationships, status, choices, and dramatic form.

Staging: An indoor venue makes for a more intimate performance.

An outdoor venue needs a minimum of one wall and a 5 x 5m space.



ABSURD ⁴

Two actors. Twelve characters. Four Absurdist plays.

An internationally renowned brother and sister comic duo give a lecture on four adaptations of four Absurdist plays.

- *Waiting For Godot* by Samuel Beckett
- *The Dumb Waiter* by Harold Pinter
- *The Chairs* by Eugène Ionesco
- *Rhinoceros* by Eugène Ionesco

Created by: *Clint Bolster* and *Lauren O'Rourke*

Duration: 50 minutes and a 10 minute Q&A

Suitability: Grades 10 to 12

Essential Learnings: The Arts (Drama), English.

Style/Form: Absurdism, contemporary clowning, physical theatre and comedy, improvisation.

Themes and Contexts: Creativity and imagination, transformation, roles and relationships, play, audience engagement and interaction.

Staging: An indoor venue makes for a more intimate performance.

An outdoor venue needs a minimum of one wall and a 5 x 5m space.



THOUGHTS HAVE FEELINGS TOO

The best performance that I've ever seen. Very entertaining. Very professional. Very talented! Most appropriate material! Great presentation! Impressive! – ST FRANCIS XAVIER, QLD

Thoughts Have Feelings Too is a gentle and funny performance that shows students how to think positively about the feelings they experience in their day-to-day lives in a primary school environment.

The students meet two clowns: Sweet Clown and the absent-minded Professor. When the clowns meet in the Professor's laboratory, they discover that thoughts and emotions are connected. Over four scenes focusing on happiness, sadness, anger and fear, the clowns discover how to recognise each emotion and find simple steps to deal with them.

Developed in close consultation with teachers and child health specialists and supporting the Health curriculum, *Thoughts Have Feelings Too* works as a tool for schools to discuss emotions in a positive and light-hearted way.

Devised by: Ben Cornfoot, Tony Kishawi and Brin Pritchard
with mental health specialists.

Directed by: Tony Kishawi

Duration: 50 minutes and a 10 minute Q&A

Suitability: Prep to Grade 7

Essential Learnings: The Arts (Drama), HPE (health, personal development), English.

Style/Form: Traditional and contemporary clowning, non-verbal communication and mime.

Themes and Contexts: Storytelling, creativity and imagination, confidence, resilience, self-esteem, self-actualisation, mental health.

Staging An indoor venue makes for a more intimate performance.
An outdoor venue needs a minimum of one wall and a 5 x 5m space.

For bookings, contact Artslink Queensland (artslinkqld.com.au)

This would have to be the best in-school production I have seen. The actors were incredibly entertaining and kept all of the students well and truly engaged. Awesome! We were crying from laughing so hard.

ST JOHN BOSCO SCHOOL, SA

Touring through

ARTSLINK
Queensland
Arts Council



THE WAITING GAME

Three clowns have been told to wait,

...on a park bench,
...at a bus stop,
...for a piece of toast,
...in a doctor's surgery,
...at the bank,
...for an elevator,
...for a flight,
...or a train,
...on the phone, on hold.

Created by: *Clint Bolster*

Duration: 50 minutes and a 10 minute Q&A

Suitability: Prep to Grade 12

Essential Learnings: The Arts (Drama), SOSE (History), English

Style/Form: Traditional and contemporary clowning, melodrama, visual theatre, physical comedy, physical theatre and circus, non-verbal communication and mime, improvisation, slapstick.

Themes and Contexts: Creativity, imagination, transformation, play, audience engagement and interaction, role and relationships, status, choices, and dramatic form.

Staging An indoor venue makes for a more intimate performance.
An outdoor venue needs a minimum of one wall and a 5 x 5m space.



LIFE? IT'S A CIRCUS!

Absolutely brilliant! The light and shade was very interesting. Students were engaged from start to finish. Extremely entertaining. Thank you very, very much! – EIDVOLD STATE HIGH SCHOOL, QLD

Through the use of high level physicality, balloons, poetry, balancing chairs, acrobatic antics and clown, these two highly experienced circus theatre performers promise to take you on a thought provoking and thoroughly entertaining journey through the ups and downs of life. An energetic theatrical adventure that will have audiences wondering, laughing, gasping, artistically and philosophically inspired and pondering the human condition!

History of Work: 2012 and 2013 Artslink/Queensland Arts Council tours of Brisbane and Queensland primary and secondary schools to critical acclaim.

Created and Performed by: *The Sault Poets (Nick Cilento and Allie Wilde)*

Duration: 50 minutes and a 10 minute Q&A

Suitability: Grades 7 to 12

Essential Learnings: The Arts (Drama), SOSE (History, literature, personal development/pastoral care), English style and form, physical theatre, circus and comedy, improvisation, balance, dance, poetry, song.

Themes and Contexts: Relationships, trust, love, friendship, loss, fear, betrayal, mistakes, empathy, consequences, choices, juggling of commitments, status, fear, courage, risk-taking, comic relief, dramatic form, creativity and imagination.

Staging: A 5m x 5m stage space with a clear overhead space of 3.5m (no obstructions).

An outdoor venue needs minimum of one wall.



Amazing performance. You were able to deliver some important messages in a mystifying performance. I would see it again. Thanks! – ST STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN COLLEGE, QLD

THE SPIRIT OF THE MASK

A fantastic introduction to Commedia and the use of the mask. Great to have the students actively involved. Very skilled performers: quick witted and experienced improvisers. Excellent production. – CASTLE HILL HIGH, NSW

The Spirit of the Mask is a unique secondary school (Grades 7 to 12) production created by renowned Commedia practitioner, Tony Kishawi. It is an interactive performance and workshop in one, designed to demonstrate the essential conventions of traditional Commedia as well as comic and mask performance. The focus of the show explores the ways these comic traditions continue to engage audiences.

Characters showcased include the Zanni, Inamorati (the lovers), Il Capitano, Il Dottore and Pantalone. Commedia conventions demonstrated include lazzi, burle, canovacci, improvisation, audience interaction, status relationships and heightened physicality.

Created by: Tony Kishawi

Duration: 50 minutes and a 10 minute Q&A

Suitability: Grades 7 to 12

Essential Learnings: The Arts (Drama), SOSE (History, culture and society, Italian), English.

Style/Form: Commedia dell'Arte, mask, physical theatre and comedy, improvisation.

Themes and Contexts: Creativity and imagination, transformation, roles and relationships, audience engagement and interaction.

Staging An indoor venue makes for a more intimate performance.

An outdoor venue needs a minimum of one wall and a 5 x 5m space.

For bookings, contact Artslink Queensland

(artslinkqld.com.au)

I thought it was an excellent introduction to Commedia dell'Arte and mask work. I saw some of my students completely transformed once they were on stage with mask on. I thought the tutors were outstanding. This was a brilliant show and I would book it again next year.

SUE PEARN, ALL HALLOWS SCHOOL, QLD

Touring through

ARTSLINK
Queensland
Arts Council



THAT'S ALL FOLKS

That's All Folks is a five star-spangled vaudeville show of yesteryear!

From the beautiful to the bizarre, this show features a powerful and charismatic cast of internationally renowned acts from around the world -Juggling, acrobalance, bell routines, slapstick, comical routines, musical chairs and more!

The actors skilfully involve the audience, improvising and interacting throughout. The performance is comprised of separate yet interlinked routines that explore different characters and situations throughout the history of theatre – looking at both the everyday and the absurd.

The scenes build to a great celebration of life! The show's main message is one of play, fun and celebration. It promises to be exhilarating and mesmerizing for audiences of all ages.

Created by: *Clint Bolster*

Duration: 50 minutes and a 10 minute Q&A

Suitability: Prep to Grade 12

Essential Learnings: The Arts (drama), SOSE (History, culture), English.

Style/Form: Vaudeville, Commedia dell'Arte, mask, traditional and contemporary clowning, melodrama, visual theatre, physical comedy, physical theatre and circus, non-verbal communication and mime, improvisation, slapstick.

Themes and Contexts: Creativity and imagination, awareness, relationships.

Staging An indoor venue makes for a more intimate performance.

An outdoor venue needs a minimum of one wall and a 5 x 5m space.



WORKSHOPS

We offer workshops tailored to unit outcomes in:

Commedia dell'Arte, traditional and contemporary clowning, mask, physical comedy, slapstick and stage combat, physical theatre and circus, visual theatre, creating theatre for young people, clowns in Shakespeare, Absurdism, non-verbal communication and mime, and playwriting and playbuilding.

We also offer unique mask workshops in trestle, Basel, Shauns, neutral, grotesque and more.

Please contact us for more details.

Homunculus's workshops were highly entertaining and all students were engaged in all the activities. The expertise they brought to the workshops was invaluable and gave students an insight into performance and clowning.

BOWEN STATE HIGH SCHOOL, QLD

There was a freedom of expression and physicalisation, and a real willingness to take risks—a joy to see in students of that age bracket. I have no hesitation recommending Homunculus as wonderful workshop facilitators and performers.

COOPER SCREEN ACADEMY, TAS

An engaging and belly laughing day that the students are still talking about!

ST MARY'S COLLEGE, QLD



ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAMS

Artist in residence programs have the potential to offer students an experience they will remember and treasure far beyond school.

Our approach is collaborative and student centred. The process is always ridiculously fun and the performance outcomes fantastic.

Options range from a day to a full semester and can be tailored to fit your requirements and timetable. Shorter residencies may involve intensive workshops over a week or several weeks. Longer residencies usually involve the collaborative development of an original work and or full scale production.

Please contact us for more details.

By the second day, the mask work had progressed from solo to the ensemble. The students had learned different ways to work within the ensemble and to be a catalyst for change. They experimented with taking control of and driving an idea and then letting the idea drive us.

The mask work really helped the students to separate their physicalisation and their facial work and to realise that voice does not have to be the dominant factor in performance. Many of these things may seem obvious but students often struggle with them.

Homunculus were able to break through barriers. This was by far the best Artist in Residence we have had in years.

PATRICA KEMPA, GUILFORD YOUNG COLLEGE, TAS



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS

Homunculus can offer teachers interactive, engaging and practical professional development programs in a range of comedic forms to support their work within the curriculum.

These unique intensives provide an invaluable opportunity to work with internationally acclaimed physical performers to extend skill in the foundations of comedy and other dramatic forms such as Commedia dell'Arte, traditional and contemporary clowning, absurdism, slapstick and stage combat, non-verbal communication and mime and physical theatre and circus.

Please contact us for more information

I recently attended a Commedia/Clown workshop run by Clint at The Game Changer Drama Australia and Drama New Zealand Conference. I can honestly say his workshop was the highlight of the entire three day conference! Clint was enthusiastic, encouraging and approachable from the moment we entered the room. It was clear that he knew his content and was excited to share his experience with us.

I was asked to participate in the Shawn mask activity which, with Clint's guidance, gave me confidence and had everyone in stitches. This also allowed me to experience what it's like to be a student and performing in front of others. I was very grateful for that opportunity. Not only did I have a great time in the workshop, I learnt valuable skills that I can add to my repertoire of skills. I am eager to have Clint come to my high school and perform for my students!

ASHLEA ROSS, MAITLAND, NSW



RESOURCES

Set of Seven Commedia Masks

Crafted by Tony Kishawi

Purchase price: \$650.00 plus GST

Free postage within Australia

Commedia dell'Arte masks as a teaching resource.

Crafted by Tony Kishawi, this set of seven Commedia dell'Arte masks are made of rubber latex, hand-painted with airbrushed acrylic and secured with an elastic strap.

The masks adapt to different face sizes.

The masks are extremely durable.

To purchase, email clint@homunculustheatre.com.au



Pulcinella

Brighella

Arlecchino

Tartaglia



Il Capitano

Pantalone

Il Dottore

BOOKING FORM

HOMUNCULUS THEATRE COMPANY LTD

IN SCHOOL PROGRAM 2016

SCHOOL DETAILS

School Name _____

Address _____

Suburb/Town _____

Postcode _____

Accounts Email _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

SCHOOL CONTACT

Name _____

Role _____

Email _____

Direct Phone Number _____

BOOKING DETAILS

Production _____

Workshop _____

Artist in Residence _____

Professional development _____

School term _____

Two preferred dates and times _____

Venue _____

Number of students attending _____

Year levels attending _____

Please return to Homunculus Theatre Company Ltd at

Fax: 07 3172 1793 *or*

email: clint@homunculustheatre.com.au

A representative will be in contact within five working days with a quote.

For more information, see www.homunculustheatre.com.au

Thank you from the team at **Homunculus Theatre Company Ltd.**

If you wish to book *Thoughts Have Feelings Too* or *The Spirit of the Mask*, please contact Artslink Queensland (artslinkqld.com.au).



CONTACT US

For all enquiries, please contact:

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