



# LASER BEAK MAN

Media Kit (for work in development)



a new visual theatre work for young people and families  
by the Dead Puppet Society  
based on the artwork of Tim Sharp  
with music and lyrics by Sam Cromack (Ball Park Music)

**Contact:** Nicholas Paine (Producer)  
**E:** [nicholas@deadpuppetsociety.com.au](mailto:nicholas@deadpuppetsociety.com.au)  
**T:** +61 449 899 862 / +1 (646) 752-3252  
**W:** [www.deadpuppetsociety.com.au](http://www.deadpuppetsociety.com.au)

*Power City is the most beautiful city in the world, clean, pure – perfect; but not by accident. Local hero Laser Beak Man works hard to keep it that way. Drawing energy from the underground Magna Crystals that power the City, his beak has the ability to shoot lasers that turn bad to good.*

*That is until Peter Bartman, evil genius, and Laser Beak Man's estranged childhood friend, steals the Magna Crystals using the Thriller Driller. Robbed of his super powers, Laser Beak Man must find a way to stop his oldest nemesis from destroying Power City.*

*In a story jam packed with the trademark humor and visual puns that come from his literal interpretation of language, Laser Beak Man is a new visual theater work under development by the Dead Puppet Society that explodes with colour and energy.*

## **BACKGROUND**

Tim Sharp, the creator of Laser Beak Man, was diagnosed with Autism when he was three years old. Doctors explained to his mother Judy that he would never speak and told her to put him away and forget about him. But Judy was determined to find a way to communicate with her son and introduced him to drawing. When he was eleven, Tim invented Laser Beak Man who allowed him to express his great sense of humor and intelligence as well as his quirky way of looking at the world. Since that time, Tim has become a globally recognised artist, receiving multiple awards and extensive media coverage both in Australia and overseas. In 2012 a short film about Tim was shown at the Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art in New York City, he has exhibited work at the Sydney Opera House, The National Museum of Australia, and in Washington DC and New York. At just 25 years of age he has twice been named as a finalist for the Young Australian of the Year.

## **CREATIVE TEAM**

Writers: David Morton and Nicholas Paine based on original artwork by Tim Sharp

Director and Co-Designer: David Morton

Creative Producer: Nicholas Paine

Music and lyrics: Samuel Cromack (Ball Park Music)

Co-Designer: Jonathon Oxlade

Animation Designer: Pete Foley

Lighting Designer: Jason Glenwright

Sound Designer: Tony Brumpton

Dramaturg: Louise Gough

## **COMPANY BIO**

The Dead Puppet Society is Queensland's premiere visual theatre company based between Brisbane and New York City. They are currently in residence at The New Victory Theater to develop LASER BEAK MAN (2014-2016). They are also the company in residence at Queensland Theatre Company where they are developing THE WIDER EARTH (2014-2016), initially developed at St. Ann's Warehouse (2013-2014). Prior to this, the Society was mentored by Handspring Puppet Company (WAR HORSE) in South Africa which resulted in the creation of ARGUS (Brisbane Powerhouse 2013/National Tour 2015). Previous works include THE HARBINGER (La Boite Indie 2011/La Boite Theatre Company 2012/National Tour with Critical Stages 2014), THE TIMELY DEATH OF VICTORY BLOTT (Metro Arts 2010) and LITTLE GREY WOLF (UNDER THE RADAR, Brisbane Festival 2009/The Garden of Unearthly Delights, Adelaide Fringe 2010). The Society has received several awards from The Jim Henson Foundation for the creation of new work.

## REHEARSAL VIDEO

Reading at The New Victory Theater – Draft 5.1

<https://vimeo.com/131475390>

Password: blacksheep

## PREVIOUS MEDIA

Write up on Dead Puppet Society in the Sydney Morning Herald: <http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/the-dead-puppet-society-all-hands-on-deck-in-a-puppet-show-with-no-strings-attached-20150609-ghjnm.html>

ARGUS:

“Delightful characters and a story to win hearts all over the world.” (XS Entertainment)

“A unique world of fantasy and illusion.” (4Change)

“It’s a testament to the power of imagination throughout.” (Australian Stage)

THE HARBINGER:

“The Harbinger weaves a beautiful, gothic and delicate narrative through a rich and visual form of storytelling.” (ArtsHub)

“Like children being led through a new picture book, we were treated to imagination, magic and wonder.” (Stage Whispers)

“It’s all about ways of telling a story, part Grimm, part apocalyptic fable, part fairytale, with overtones of classical myth, plenty of millennial angst, and torment about the fragility of words and social upheaval... It’s an engrossing and very moving theatrical triumph.” (A Little Gossip)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Laser Beak Man is produced by Dead Puppet Society in association with Tim Sharp, in partnership with The New Victory Theater, Brisbane Festival, Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Sydney Opera House and Arts Centre Melbourne. This project is supported by Creative Sparks, a joint initiative of Brisbane City Council and the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, and assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body. Funding support for this project has been provided by The Jim Henson Foundation.

## ARTIST INFO

TIM SHARP

Tim’s story is now available in bookshops throughout Australia:

<https://www.allenandunwin.com/browse/books/general-books/biography-autobiography/A-Double-Shot-of-Happiness-Judy-Sharp-9781760112561>

‘Meet Laser Beak Man’ a video made with Virgin Mobile Australia:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8YEL--1XYIA>

Watch Tim’s talk at TEDxSydney 2014 :

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=78VbeiAbcYI&list=PLj20gVTjwM8qiOY9emUhDtmROcm9aBtl>

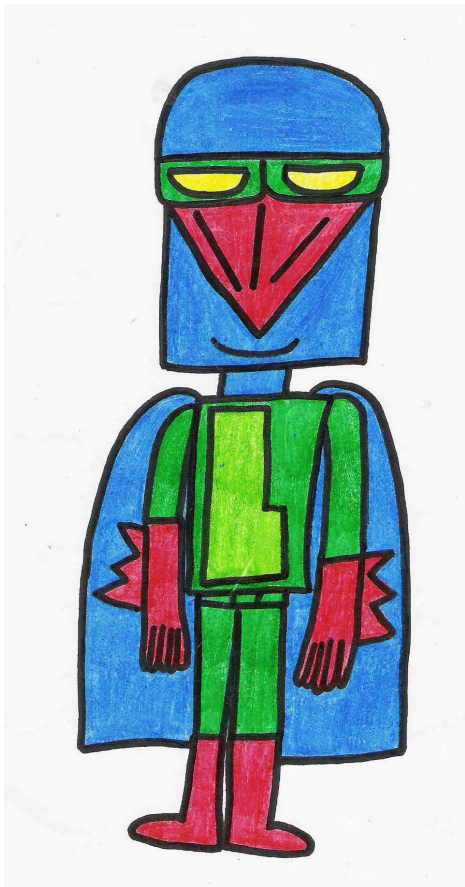
SAM CROMACK (Ball Park Music)

<http://ballparkmusic.com/home>

JONATHON OXLADE

<http://jonathonoxlade.com>

CHARACTERS (by Tim Sharp)



Laser Beak Man



Evil Emily



Peter Bartman



The Government



Amazing Grace



Chicken and Chicks



The Black Sheep



Boar

FEATURED ARTWORKS (by Tim Sharp)



Sweet Dreams



Black Mail



Armed and Dangerous



Rein Deer



The Seven Cs



The Lonely Island



Twinkle Toes



Grow Up



Feeling Crabby



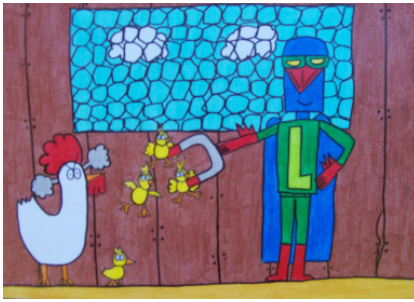
The Road to Happiness



Look on the Bright Side



Hitting the Big Time



Chick Magnet



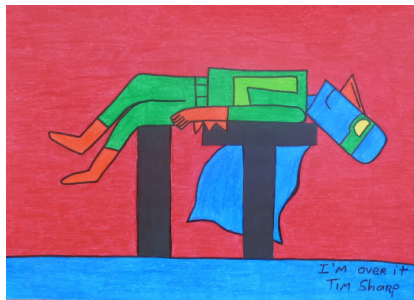
The Barbie Queue



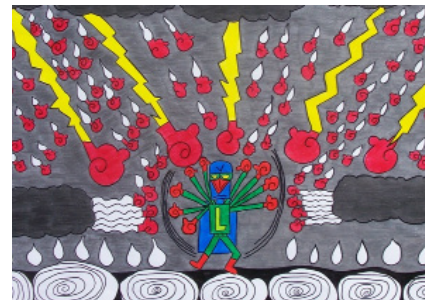
Sun Flowers



Don't Leave Me



I'm Over It



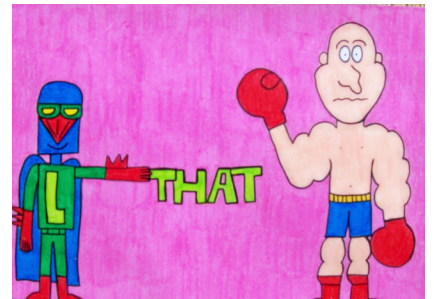
The Storm Hits



This is a Stick Up



A Bright Idea



Take That



Joy to the World



Going Clubbing



A Double Shot of Happiness

# PUPPET PROTOTYPE PICTURES

