



LA MAMA

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# THE 2023 MELBOURNE FESTIVAL OF PUPPETRY

27 JUNE - 2 JULY



Hilarious roving puppets, sushi therapy, a stunning tale about a fire spirit... yes the puppets are here! This incredible festival will light up your winter evenings and transform your school holidays.

It brings you a rich, colourful, diverse program where you see puppets both tiny and huge roaming the streets of Carlton; where the show might have you solving a mystery, gathering around a 'campfire' or immersed in an intimate theatre experience with Korean music, puppetry and crochet; where the kids can do a treasure hunt around the festival precinct or a puppet workshop...and where all kids tickets are just \$15!

In the adult program, shows include the incredible ventriloquism of Showko, an adults-only sci-fi puppet burlesque and a raucous puppet slam featuring a new generation of puppetry artists. The professional development series kicks off with a talk by Sonny Tilders, of *Walking with Dinosaurs* and *King Kong* fame. Other workshops include an exploration of 3D digital technology in puppet making and a deep dive into the creation and manipulation of the marionette.

Sarah Kriegler of LemonyS Puppet Theatre is an award winning director, puppeteer and writer, who believes that puppetry facilitates the ultimate suspension of disbelief. 'When you see an actor take a bow at the end of the show, it reminds the audience that they saw someone playing a character. But a puppet is made to be one specific character and that has a powerful effect on the audience.' There are hundreds of small puppet companies operating across Australia. 'They're doing amazing work, but most of us never get the chance to see it.' This festival brings this incredible work to Melbourne audiences. 'It showcases the diversity of puppetry as a form' Kriegler says. 'We are presenting an example of almost all the different forms of puppetry.'

For photos and interviews, contact  
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With thanks to our supporters:



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