



MEDIA RELEASE

25 March 2010

BRISBANE'S CULTURAL ICONS TO BECOME A PLAYGROUND FOR SEVEN DAYS

The 10th biennial Out of the Box festival will excite and ignite the imagination- of children from **8-14 June 2010**, with an exciting program of performances, workshops, exhibitions and free arts events especially designed for children 8 years and under.

Out of the Box Artistic Director, **Rosemary Myers** said that this is a unique and beloved festival for the city and the best week ever for young children.

“This is the time when children literally take over important cultural icons of our city and reinvent them as one big playground full of fantastic artworks. This year, we will feature an amazing array of enticing artworks that reflect the interconnected nature of the world and the human experience, “said Rosemary.

“Performances in the 2010 program include ***Pirates***, a production by the Flying Fruit Circus, Lemony Snicket’s ***The Composer is Dead*** with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and Patch Theatre Company’s ***Mr McGee and the Biting Flea***.

“We also have two fabulous works that have been especially commissioned for the festival - ***Grug***, based on the much-loved character created by Ted Prior (QPAC / Windmill), and ***On Air***, a work which explores children's fantasies of flight (QPAC / Circa / Sydney Theatre Company).

“One of the very special parts of Out of the Box is that not only do children have the chance to watch lots of art, they also have the opportunity to work with some fabulous artists to express their own creativity by participating in our workshop program.

“This year, the workshops are very diverse and offer something to appeal to everyone. ***Instant Orchestra*** is a workshop experience specifically tailored for larger school groups. Children can join with up to 100 others and learn to play an Angklung, an Indonesian percussive instrument. Another is ***Flight Deck*** with Tony Rice, an inspiring kite maker who has a massive collection from all over the world and he loves nothing more that to facilitate children in designing their own kites, which they then get to fly from the rooftop of QPAC!

“We are thrilled to also be presenting on the South Bank Cultural Forecourt, the **Amococo** Luminarium from the UK Architects of Air, a stunning installation filled with light and colour which is sure to draw large crowds, as it has wherever it has been in the world.

“There are plenty of free activities too, including art trails and **Outside of the Box** which is QPAC’s name for everything that is happening around the Cultural Centre, including roaming performers, and entertainment on two outdoor stages.

“In terms of timing, we’ve extended Out of the Box from six to seven fun-filled days and we’re running right across the Queen’s Birthday long weekend, enabling even more children, their teachers, their friends and their families to participate. We know that the arts are a great way for families to reconnect, engage, laugh and imagine together and we look forward to sharing our program which contains lots of unforgettable arts action for the very young,” said Rosemary.

QPAC Chief Executive, John Kotzas, who was Artistic Director of the inaugural Out of the Box in 1992, is also passionate about the festival.

“QPAC is a creative place that is accessible and welcoming for audiences and artists of all ages. We encourage children to experience the arts in active ways creating and participating as well as viewing.

“We are delighted to be producing Out of the Box within QPAC’s 25th Anniversary Year and to be celebrating with our Cultural Centre neighbours,” said John.

The Queensland Government supports Out of the Box with funding of \$700,000. Out of the Box is also funded by the Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Queensland Art Gallery, Queensland Museum and the State Library of Queensland.

Out of the Box acknowledges the support of Brisbane City Council and the Out of the Box Friends; Australia Post, Brisbane’s Child, South Bank Corporation and The Buzz Insurance.

In 2008, more than 50,000 people participated in Out of the Box including students from 200 schools. For full details and bookings venture to www.outoftheboxfestival.com.au

OUT OF THE BOX QPAC’S FESTIVAL FOR CHILDREN 8 YEARS AND UNDER

WHEN: Tuesday 8 June – Monday 14 June 2010 (Queen’s Birthday Holiday)
WHERE: Cultural Centre South Bank
TICKETS: Performances – Adults \$22 Children \$18
Workshops – Children \$16
Amococo – General Admission \$8.50
BOOKINGS: www.outoftheboxfestival.com.au or 136 246

Electronic Media Kit with full program details, images and artist biographies attached

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