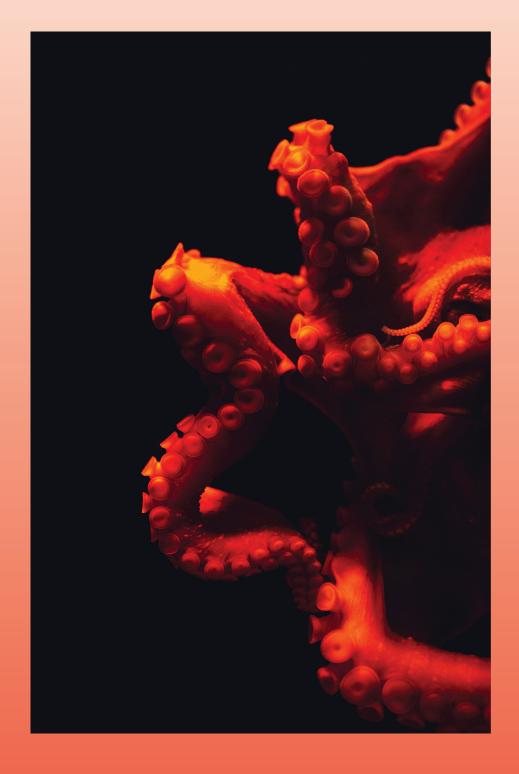
3 O'CLOCK, FLAGPOLE

BY STEVE PIRIE

PRESENTED BY
LA BOITE'S YOUNG ARTIST COMPANY







SYNOPSIS

"After school... Fight! Fight! Fight! FIGHT!"

It's the first day of a new school year for Stella Bunt, and everything is changing. New rules, new teacher, new responsibilities. And for Stella and the rest of Year 10 Biology, they have a new class pet, Squish the octopus. Stella can't explain why, but there's just something about Squish that doesn't feel right.

But when Squish goes missing and a terrifying new kid arrives at school the very next day, Stella suspects they might be connected in some way... and she and the whole school could be in danger if she doesn't find out how. And this new kid has his eyes on Stella everywhere she goes.

Can Stella warn her friends in time of a coming disaster? Or will everyone find out why some mysteries of the ocean and its creatures are better left mysteries?

3 O'Clock, Flagpole is a new magical realism work that jumps straight into the quadrangle to pull apart classroom politics, safety and a world where students must figure it out on their own - while learning fun facts about the ocean along the way.

CAST & CREATIVES

WRITER Steve Pirie

DIRECTOR Maddie Nixon

CAST Young Artist Company

RECOMMENDED FOR

Suitable for grades 7 to 12

WARNINGS

• Themes of bullying.



GURRIGULUM LINKS

FORM, STYLE & CONVENTIONS

- Magical Realism
- Theatre for Young People
- Collage Drama
- Ensemble Theatre

SENIOR SYLLABUS UNITS

Grade 11 Unit TWO: Reflect

SUBJECT MATTER

- Schoolyard Politics
- Bullying
- Victim Blaming
- Finding Your Allies
- Mother/Daughter Relationships

PURPOSE

- Empathise
- Challenge or provoke
- Educate or inform
- Empower
- Celebrate

CONTEXT

- Dramatic context
- Real context
- Sociological
- Personal
- Cultural
- Environmental





DIRECTOR

Maddie Nixon

History of the team and the work?

This will be mine and Steve's second collaboration. In 2018 we premiered Steve's Jane + Kel Go To Hell with Sharehouse Theatre Company, co-directing the work together. 3 O'Clock, Flagpole is the brainchild of Steve and I'm super excited to stage it with La Boite's Young Artist Company. It's perfect for highschool aged performers and audiences alike, and is an awesome blend of relatable schoolyard content and fantastical sci-fi/action/magical realism tropes. It's going to be epic.

Why should highschool students see this show?

Because it's made by you, about you, for you. The beauty of the Young Artist Company and RIOT programs is that we create work that is relevant for teenagers in Australia today. You can come and see the show, but also stage it in your own classroom. 3 O'Clock, Flagpole is about how to survive school when everyone and everything seems to be turning against you. How do you find your allies and how do you stand up for yourself when even your own Mum doesn't understand what's going on? Underneath the schoolyard setting is a deeper conversation about victim blaming and how we treat young women in Australia today. That's what I love about Steve's work – he'll make you laugh, cry, then laugh again.

What should audiences expect to see?

Hilarious action-packed ensemble sequences, intimate family moments, schoolyard politics and an octopus with an agenda.



PHOTO Kate Lund

DIRECTOR Maddie Nixon

WRITER Steve Pirie





BULLYING & VICTIM BLAMING

'Bullying: Facts and Figures' - Bulling. No Way.: https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/WhatIsBullying/FactsAndFigures

'What is bullying?: Violence, Harassment and Bullying Fact Sheet' - Australian Human Rights Commission:

https://www.humanrights.gov.au/our-work/commission-general/what-bullying-violence-harassment-and-bullying-fact-sheet

BullyZero.Org:

https://bullyzero.org.au/

THEATRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

'Australia Excels at Theatre for Young People' - The Guardian: https://www.theguardian.com/culture/australia-culture-blog/2013/jul/19/australia-theatre-young-people-excels

'Why Theatre for Young People Matters' – BANFF: https://www.banffcentre.ca/articles/why-theatre-young-people-matters

'How Theater for Young People Could Save the World' – Huffpost: https://www.huffpost.com/entry/world-theater-for-children-and-young-people-day_b_1343408

Read more about the Young Artist Company and RIOT programs at laboite.com.au





TICKET PRICES

Each school booking includes one complimentary teacher ticket with every 10 students.

STUDENT TICKETS \$18.00 ADDITIONAL TEACHER TICKET..... \$22.00

CURRICULUM & WORKSHOP ENQUIRIES

Visit <u>laboite.com.au/education</u> or contact Maddie Nixon our Youth & Education Producer at maddienixon@laboite.com.au or 3007 8600

SCHOOL BOOKING ENQUIRIES

 $\begin{tabular}{l} Visit \ \underline{laboite.com.au/education} \ or \ contact \ \underline{schoolbookings@laboite.com.au} \ or \ our \ Box \ Office \ at \ 3007 \ 8600 \end{tabular}$









Queensland Government La Boite Theatre Company is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland



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