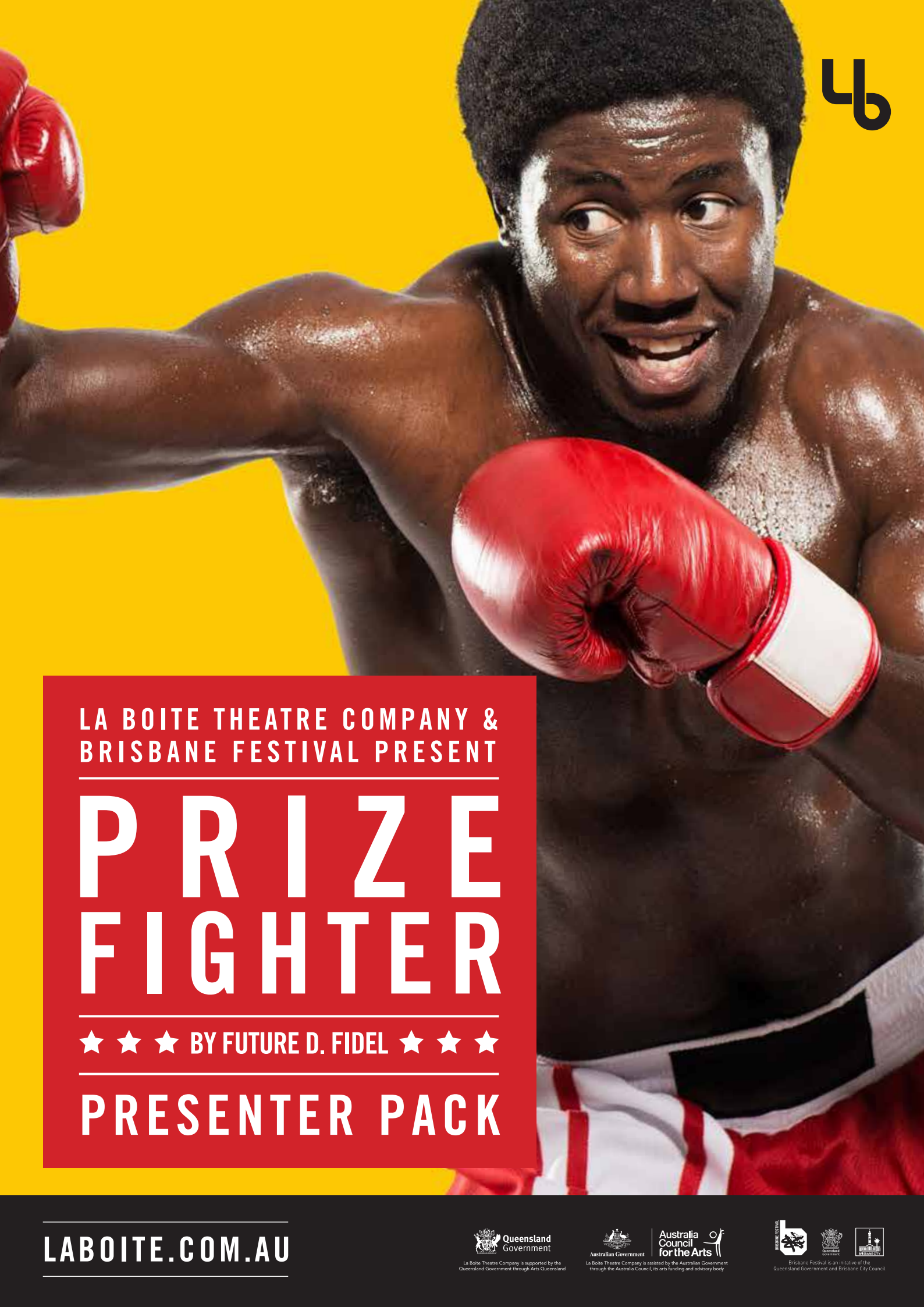


46



LA BOITE THEATRE COMPANY &  
BRISBANE FESTIVAL PRESENT

# PRIZE FIGHTER

★ ★ ★ BY FUTURE D. FIDEL ★ ★ ★

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[LABOITE.COM.AU](http://LABOITE.COM.AU)



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



Australian Government



La Boite Theatre Company is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body



Brisbane Festival is an initiative of the Queensland Government and Brisbane City Council



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## ABOUT LA BOITE

### “Theatre That Matters”

La Boite holds a unique place in the hearts and minds of artists and audiences in Brisbane. For the past nine decades La Boite has represented the adventurous and alternative. There has always been a strong focus on the development of new work and artists, and today it is no different.

The stories, ideas and voices of our city and country are many and varied and as such La Boite seeks to represent and engage in this beautiful and rich diversity; the diversity of form, of ideas, ethnicity, gender – of identity.

Theatre has the capacity to embrace difference in so many ways. We push the boundaries of form by collaborating with some extraordinary partners to stretch theatrical, physical and musical boundaries. We play with contemporary circus, opera, classical text, the theatrical and extraordinary international talents. This varied menu aims to enliven and inspire our existing audiences and draw new audiences to share in the La Boite experience.

## ABOUT BRISBANE FESTIVAL

Brisbane Festival is a major international arts festival that explodes onto the scene every September with a thrilling program of music, theatre, dance, opera, circus and major public events such as Sunsuper Riverfire.

Brisbane Festival attracts an audience of around one million people every year.

Brisbane Festival has only been annual since 2009, but in that time it's been embraced by the city and admired by the world.

## ABOUT PRIZE FIGHTER

### SYNOPSIS

A talented young boxer, Isa, is preparing for the biggest fight of his career. On the line is the national title and the promise of fame and riches beyond his wildest dreams. What unfolds is a truly Australian story and a modern-day fable of a Congolese boy orphaned by war and forced to become a child soldier by the very people who killed his family. His powerful left hook offers a new life in Australia, but his greatest obstacle is not his opponent – it's his past. Combining live-boxing and with high-octane performance style, Prize Fighter is a unique and powerful production that will blow you away.

### CREDITS

Writer **Future D Fidel**

Director **Todd MacDonald**

Dramaturg **Chris Kohn**

Designer **Bill Haycock**

Lighting Designer **David Walters**

Composer/Sound Designer **Felix Cross**

Video Designer **optikal bloc**

Movement & Fight Director **Nigel Poulton**

Design Intern **Hahnie Goldfinch**

Lighting Design Secondment **Christine Felmingham**

Stage Manager **Heather O'Keeffe**

Assistant Stage Manager **Ariana O'Brien**

Cast **Pacharo Mzembe, Gideon Mzembe, Zindzi Okenyo, Margi Brown-Ash, Kenneth Ransom & Thuso Lekwape**

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### BIOS

#### Future D. Fidel

Writer

Future Destin was born in East of Congo. After the civil war in 1996, Future along with some of his family members were forced to flee to Tanzania. In 2001, Future found out that his mother was killed in Congo. Future spent 8 years in a refugee camp called Nyarugusu. During this time, he was desperately searching for his sister. Future's sister contacted Red Cross and in 2004 they were re-united. In 2005, he joined a Kwatamaja (African) Dance Group in Australia and with this group, performed at Woodford Folk Festival and community functions etc. In 2007, Future and a group of young refugees formed the Fimbo Boys to sing and perform African modern dance. They performed at the World Refugee Day Community Festival (three years in a row). Since developing Fimbo Boys, one of his proudest achievements has been supporting many young people with a positive and empowering creative program. In 2011 Future developed and performed in *I am Here* at Brisbane Powerhouse, World Refugee Day Community Festival, Refugee Lantern Parade and Empire Theatre in Toowoomba.

#### Todd MacDonald

Director

Currently Artistic Director and CEO of La Boite Theatre Company, Todd completed acting training at NIDA in 1994 and has worked extensively across the theatre, film, television and voice over industries. Todd was the Artistic Associate at Queensland Theatre Company from 2011-2014 and has worked as associate producer and company member with David Pledgers' company NYID, touring internationally. In 1999 he co-founded the award winning venue and production company The Store Room Theatre in Melbourne. He maintains a performance practice as a director, deviser and performer and recently developed a solo performance work *The Button Event* that premiered at the 2014 Brisbane Festival.

Theatre credits include: *Prize Fighter* by Future Fidel (Dir- La Boite/Brisbane Festival 2015), *Medea* Adapted by Suzie Miller (Dir-La Boite 2015), *The Mountaintop* (Dir-QTC 2014), *Kelly* by Matthew Ryan (Dir-QTC 2012/15), *The C Word* by David Burton and Claire Christian (Dir-Metro Arts), *The Button Event* devised with Bagryana Popov (Performer-QTC 2014), *Vanya at Avoca* by Chekhov devised by Bagryana Popov (Performer- Castlemaine Festival/La Mamma 2015), *Venus in Fur* (Performer-QTC 2013), *Bare Witness* (Performer – La Mama National Tour), *Progress and Melancholy* (Performer- 45downsatirs), *Blowback*, *Training Squad and Strangeland* by David Pledger (Performer- NYID).

### PERFORMANCE SPECIFICS

#### COSTS (excludes GST)

Weekly Fee \$22,422p/wk\*

Remount \$52,857

Royalty 18%

\* Maximum 8 performances per week. Not including freight, accommodation and travel costs.

#### Not included in this budget/to be covered by venues

Accommodation

Flights

Freight

Marketing (TVC, sample press release, artwork, images provided)

#### DURATION

Act 1 – 70 mins (no interval)

#### SUITABLE VENUES

Technical Rating C – Theatres with stage size of 10m x 8m.

#### MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERFORMANCES PER WEEK

8 performances per week

#### MINIMUM BREAK BETWEEN PERFORMANCES

120 minutes

#### APRA OBLIGATIONS

Original music is used and no APRA is payable. This is covered by the royalty package.

#### TOURING PERSONNEL

The touring party consists of 8-9 people.

#### ROLE

Touring Technician

Stage Manager

Assistant Stage Manager

Cast x 6

#### PERFORMANCE HISTORY

Year	Venue	Number of performances
September 2015	Roundhouse Theatre	24

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### AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT

#### OVERVIEW

There are a range of audience engagement opportunities which can be included with the production and can explore both the working method of the artists involved in creating the production as well as the play itself. See below more detail regarding each opportunity.

#### Q&A

La Boite can provide post show Q & A's with the actors and if needed the director and writer. These are excellent tools in attracting diverse communities into the theatre and giving them a deeper understanding of the work.

#### WORKSHOPS

The cast is able to do workshops with communities, students and the general public pertaining to performing, diversity in the arts and boxing. This is also an opportunity to motivate diverse communities prior to the performance by allowing the cast and creatives to directly engage with them.

#### PRE-SHOW TRAINING

The performance itself is designed to engage with boxing gyms, fitness gyms and trainers to populate the pre-show action with members of the community from all walks of life taking part in acts of training, boxing and generally getting fit.

#### MEET THE WRITER

Engagement and Q&A opportunities with the playwright Future D. Fidel are also possible, not only is he a skilled writer but his personal story is inspiring as it is harrowing. Allowing Future to engage with your community is an excellent way of accessing new audience particularly those from African backgrounds and those that identify as refugees.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We can support and direct your organization in methods of creating larger community events that compliment Prize Fighter. For example, we partnered with a local multicultural development group to present a special night exploring African culture, food and music. This evening served to attract new audiences from within the African community of Brisbane and provide a full evening of art and entertainment that they could directly relate to. We are more than happy to share our ideas and experiences how best to go about creating an event like this in your community.



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## MARKETING

### MARKETING COPY

#### ONE LINE

Join us ringside as we transform the stage into a boxing arena and take you on a high-impact ride from Africa to Australia and back again.

#### SHORT

Join us ringside as we transform the stage into a boxing arena and take you on a high-impact ride from Africa to Australia and back again in La Boite Theatre Company and Brisbane Festival's Prize Fighter.

Talented young boxer, Isa prepares for the biggest fight of his career. On the line is the national title and the promise of fame and riches beyond his wildest dreams. What unfolds is a modern-day fable of a Congolese boy orphaned by war and forced to become a child soldier by the people who killed his family. His powerful left hook offers a new life in Australia, but his greatest obstacle is not his opponent – it's his past.

#### EXTENDED

Join us ringside as we transform the stage into a boxing arena and take you on a high-impact ride from Africa to Australia and back again in La Boite Theatre Company and Brisbane Festival's Prize Fighter.

A talented young boxer, Isa, is preparing for the biggest fight of his career. On the line is the national title and the promise of fame and riches beyond his wildest dreams. What unfolds is a modern-day fable of a Congolese boy orphaned by war and forced to become a child soldier by the very people who killed his family. His powerful left hook offers a new life in Australia, but his greatest obstacle is not his opponent – it's his past.

La Boite Artist-in-Residence Future D. Fidel writes with the undeniable force of authenticity. Fleeing the Congo as a child, he lived in a Tanzanian refugee camp for eight years before being granted refugee status in Australia. Prize Fighter is inspired by his own story and those of people he has known.

La Boite Theatre Company and Brisbane Festival are thrilled to present in the lead role one of Queensland's most talented young actors, Pacharo Mzembe (The Mountaintop, Underbelly), who brings years of boxing training to the stage.

### MARKETING SUMMARY

There are a huge range of marketing materials available for the production which have been developed by La Boite and its media partners

- Trailer (30 Sec cinema and online-ready trailer)
- Exceptional print-quality free Production and Rehearsal photography
- Poster, flyer and print advertisements
- Social media posts and campaign material
- Media release with existing review quotes

### MEDIA QUOTES

*"The most perfectly structured, brilliantly produced and best-acted new play"* - The Australian

*"Prize Fighter is, in every respect, theatre that matters."*  
- ABC Arts

*"Excellent theatre"* - ArtsHub

*"In the 65 thrilling minutes that make up Prize Fighter, Future D. Fidel manages to say more about our world and internal lives than many playwrights do in a lifetime."*  
- Daily Review

*"There are so many shows to see in the festival, but this feels like one you shouldn't miss."* - Sydney Morning Herald

*"Powerful beyond all measure"* - XS Entertainment

### AUDIENCE REVIEWS

*"It was an amazing performance - the actors were incredible, the storyline was fantastic and the script itself was excellent. All round, great."*

*"The best play I have seen at La Boite or other Brisbane venues in years. Outstanding performances, unbelievably confronting and moving. Wish I had seen it twice!!"*

*"I loved the production, direction, acting, setting. Amazing global story out of Brisbane. Perfect for La Boite."*

*"Bravo for the brave performance - theatre needs people, ideas, expression and dialogue like this. Astounding theatre."*

*"Absolutely fantastic! I went to about 12 Brisbane Festival events and it was by far the best thing I saw"*

*"It was moving, challenging, beautiful and grotesque all at the same time. I also really loved the timely exploration of refugee experiences in Australia."*

*"Really quality performances. Tough story told with compassion."*

*"Gut wrenching, slick, energised, modern, current, a cultural actor/advocate, worldly, informative, tragic, inspired."*

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### VIDEO LINKS



#### PRIZE FIGHTER TRAILER

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dR7voGzlcLo>

#### PRODUCTION IMAGES

High Res available on request. Sample images on the following page.

#### MARKETING MATERIALS

A large pack of marketing materials is available for venues and can be modified by La Boite to suit venue needs.

Including:

- Posters
- Trailer
- Extensive collection of rehearsal and production images
- Flyers
- Print advertising
- Additional merchandise

#### CONTENT WARNINGS / AUDIENCES TO AVOID

Violence, sexual references and adult themes. Haze, Smoke effects and strobe lighting in use.

#### SPONSOR OR OTHER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The production was supported by the Australia Council for the Arts, Arts Queensland and both of these funders should be acknowledged on all collateral associated with the production. Specific logo and text acknowledgements will be provided as part of the full marketing pack.

#### TEACHER'S RESOURCES

TBC

### BILLING

Prize Fighter

by Future D. Fidel

A La Boite Theatre Company and Brisbane Festival production



Brisbane Festival is an initiative of the Queensland Government and Brisbane City Council



Queensland  
Government

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



Australia  
Council  
for the Arts

La Boite Theatre Company is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body

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## PRODUCTION DETAILS

### TECHNICAL SUMMARY

#### SET TRANSPORT:

3.5T Truck.

#### SET/DRESSING/SEATING:

The set dimensions are 4500mm deep and 4500mm wide. The main set component consists of a raised rostra platform (400mm h) covered in impact rubber tiles and a white floor canvas. The playing area extends an additional 1500mm beyond the raised platform which also has a 10mm perimeter of impact rubber tiles. A Boxing bag is suspended Down Stage Prompt, and a climbable cargo net is suspended up stage Opposite Prompt and has a raised platform dressed with car tyres at its base. A Series of flats are suspended above the raised platform and are used as projection screens. Please see attached plan for details.

#### COSTUME & PROPS:

There are costumes for 6 actors. Suitable wardrobe racks will be required. The majority of props are set on stage prior to doors opening. Four tables are required side of stage for additional elements. Please See Attached documentation.

#### SPECIAL EFFECTS:

Sand Drop – manual operation by ASM/Mech.

#### LIGHTING:

Please See Attached Plan

#### AUDIO:

A good Stereo System with Subs and 2 on stage fill speakers are required.

#### VISION:

The Show uses a large degree of projection on suspended screens. We will tour with projectors and adapt the vision as required.

#### PERFORMANCE

Running time of 70 minutes (No Interval)

#### PRE RIG AND SETUP

Lighting

- Lighting as per generic plan, patch notes and focus notes.
- All lighting units to be rigged, coloured and patched as per the generic lighting plan prior to Company arriving to your venue.
- Lighting to be focused during Company Bump In.

#### BUMP IN

4 x LX  
3 x Mechs  
1 x Sound

All Personnel to assist with unloading the truck  
Will provide schedule closer to date.

#### PERFORMANCE

Stage Manager, Assistant Stage Manager, Lighting Operator

#### BUMP OUT

4 x LX, 3 x Mechs, 1 x Sound

#### DIMENSIONS

Round Setup: Minimum stage size 8m wide by 9m length with 5m height.

Thrust Setup: Minimum stage size 8m wide by 9m deep with 5m height.

Traverse Setup: Minimum 8m between seating banks and 11m wide with 5m height.

Curved Setup: Minimum 12m between ends of curve by 11m deep with 5m height.

Refer to plans for description of layouts.

#### GENERAL STORAGE

Additional tour items not in use and road cases may need to be stored in your venue during the season. An area approximately 2-3 cubic meters in the backstage area will be sufficient.

#### FLY SYSTEM

N/A

#### MASKING

Borders and Legs – Standard Rig

#### LIGHTING

Please see attached LX Generic Plan, Patch Sheets and Focus Notes. Touring plans are being finalised and will be sent through as soon as possible.

#### EFFECTS

N/A

#### AUDIO AND TALK BALK

Standard FOH System with Sub.

(All speaker rigging, cabling, amplification and system processing as required by each venue)

3 x talk back headsets (Stage Manager, Assistant Stage Manager/Mech, Lighting Operator)

N.B – Audio is operated by the Tour Stage Manager

#### QUICK CHANGE AREAS

Offstage Wings

#### DRESSING ROOMS

A minimum of 2 dressing rooms is required. These are to accommodate 4 male performers and 2 female performers. Where available, 6 individual dressing rooms should be available.

#### LAUNDRY / WARDROBE REQ

Access to washing machine, a clothes rack/horse, dryer, iron and ironing board

#### CLOTHES RACK

3 – Male Dressing Room  
2 – Female Dressing Room



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## CONTACTS

### LA BOITE THEATRE COMPANY GENERAL CONTACTS

Box Office & Administration (07) 3007 8600

Roundhouse Theatre, The Works, Level 5, 6-8 Musk Avenue,  
Kelvin Grove, QLD 4059

Postal: La Boite Theatre Company, PO Box 212,  
Kelvin Grove QLD 4059

### PRODUCING ENQUIRIES

Katherine Hoeppe, General Manager, 07 3007 8602  
(direct), 07 3007 8600 (switch), [katherine@laboite.com.au](mailto:katherine@laboite.com.au)

Glyn Roberts, Creative Producer, 07 3007 8622 (direct),  
07 3007 8600 (switch), [glyn@laboite.com.au](mailto:glyn@laboite.com.au)

### PRODUCTION ENQUIRIES

Don Mackenzie, Head of Production, 07 3007 8606,  
[don@laboite.com.au](mailto:don@laboite.com.au)

### MARKETING & PUBLICITY ENQUIRIES

Violetta Tasic, Marketing Manager, 07 3007 8603,  
[violetta@laboite.com.au](mailto:violetta@laboite.com.au)