



CREATIVE TEAM BIOS

SCOTT WRIGHT – DIRECTOR / WRITER

Scott is the Artistic Director and co-founder of Erth Visual & Physical, Inc., which began in 1990. He trained as a dancer and choreographer in Victoria in southeast Australia, and is a multi-skilled artist incorporating puppetry (one of his greatest loves), movement, acting, aerial, stilts and pyrotechnics. Currently he is working renowned Italian director Chiara Guidi and has just finished production on Erth's latest show "Prehistoric Aquarium" in which the audience is submerged in a theatrical ancient underwater environment, witnessing the thrills and spills of aquatic life. Scott has also produced work based upon the last thylacine (the largest known carnivorous marsupial of modern times) kept in Australian captivity. Some of Scott's personal interests include the survival of indigenous folklore, exploring how ancient stories can be retrieved and presented to new audiences, which has taken him into remote communities throughout Australia. He is also fiercely active in not only making work that is inclusive for children with and/or without disability but also making work with adults with disability as collaborators.

GEMMA PEPPER – EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Gemma works across a diverse spectrum of creative projects; including community cultural development, theatre, festivals, new media and policy/program development. She is an experience producer and creative producer. As well as undertaking a range of project-based producing roles, she has worked as Associate Producer for physical theatre companies Stalker and Marrugeku and has an ongoing producing relationship with Perth-based Side Pony Productions. Gemma worked as the Creative Producer for the Enlighten festival of Canberra 2011 – 2014 and is currently Erth's Executive Producer based in Sydney.

SHARON KERR – ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Sharon is Executive Director and a founding member of Erth. Originally trained as a school teacher majoring in drama, Sharon has much performance experience. Prior to helping form Erth, she spent five years in contemporary dance theater with emphasis on improvisational movement. Puppetry became a natural extension of this. Her roles within Erth are many and varied. Contributing to creative and performance direction, Sharon continues to perform whenever she can. Sharon has also steered the company for many years as its key administrator. Some of her performance highlights include her aerial harness and flying work memorable amongst these are from atop the sails of the Sydney Opera House, the spire of St. Paul's Cathedral in Melbourne and from the 30th floor of the Nge Ann skyscraper in Singapore.

STEVE HOWARTH - DESIGNER

As Head of Design and a founding and full time member of Erth Visual & Physical, Inc., Steve designs for most of the company's productions and external commissions. From the Erth studio/workshop he supervises a team of artists in the creation of the puppets, sets, props, costumes and the associated elements that are on constant tour around the globe. Over the last twenty years in this principal role, he has worked with a wide variety of people, organizations and across numerous media. He oversees the daily production of giant, teeth-gnashing dinosaurs and inflatable monsters that spring from traditional fine arts and textiles work. Steve also mentors design students from tertiary institutions and assists emerging artists in the implementation of their respective crafts.

BRYONY ANDERSON – SPECIALIST PUPPET DESIGN

Bryony is a designer, maker, artist and wannabe scientist based in the forested hills of NSW. Her puppets and constructions for visual performance have toured nationally and internationally with many Australian circus, puppetry, visual performance and theatre companies, as well as appearing in museums, festivals and documentaries. Solo exhibitions have ranged from interactive puppetry installations and handmade projection machinery to intricate illustration, all investigating a salvaged aesthetic. She has conducted community workshops in the Central Desert, rural Victoria, Western Sydney, and across the Mid North Coast of NSW. In 2011 she began working with her local community to seed a creative industry of skilled artisans making high caliber work from frugal resources. A three-year project was spawned that drew in artists, composers, scientists and over 1200 community participants, and resulted in an intricately detailed forest installation made entirely from stuff that was headed to landfill. The Frugal Forest is now on tour. frugalforest.oneoffmakery.net.au

PHIL DOWNING – COMPOSER

Phil has a distinct history working with interactive multimedia. After years spent performing music, Phil set about reinventing his means of expression through music, by creating unique and obscure musical instruments. This inspiration has led to the creation of numerous soundtracks for theatrical productions (1999–2012). Delivery of video and imagery being an obvious progression, Phil has also worked with various technologies to incorporate physical interaction (with performers and audience members) into installations and performances, utilizing technologies such as infra-red, sonar and pressure sensors, Arduino programmable circuit boards and Kinect sensors. Working with Erth, Phil has developed systems for automated delivery of sound, light and visual effects, and has designed stand-alone sound systems for their various creature puppets. "This one's going to be a mad professor!" his grandma proclaimed upon his birth....She was possibly correct!

RED TAIL ENTERTAINMENT – PRODUCER

Founded by Phillip Drayer produces a wide range of spectacular live entertainment and presents a variety of live performances by headline entertainers throughout the U.S. In addition to producing *Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live*, the company most recently produced the Broadway hit...*A Night with Janis Joplin*. Through its subsidiary, 35 Concerts, the company presents headline entertainment at venues throughout the U.S.