

MEDIA RELEASE

5 July 2019

Erth's Dinosaurs stomp across regional WA

The tour bus hits the road with a primal roar for Country Arts WA and Act-Belong-Commit's latest Lotterywest Shows on the Go tour – Erth's Dinosaur Zoo.

Regional audiences across the state can look forward to a wildlife show that's sure to be more Jurassic than any they've seen before.

The hugely acclaimed Erth's Dinosaur Zoo travels WA hot on the heels of tours in the US, UK and Japan, taking audiences into a new dimension of theatre with awesome prehistoric creatures, from cute baby dinos to some of the largest carnivores and herbivores to have ever walked the planet.

Included in the roster of huge, lifelike puppets (some up to 4.5m tall!) will be the Australovenator – a home-grown Megaraptor whose name means "southern hunter". This newest addition to Erth's menagerie is the most complete meat-eating dinosaur ever unearthed in Australia.

The tour forms part of Country Arts WA's long-running Shows on the Go program, providing support and capacity-building initiatives for regional organisations to bring high-quality performing arts to local audiences.

Country Arts WA CEO Paul MacPhail says the program has continued to deliver professional, high quality performing arts to regional communities for more than 20 years.

"Lotterywest Shows on the Go continue to be such a success because it is shaped and driven by the regional communities themselves – they choose the shows to suit local tastes then present them with local volunteer support in community venues. The tour brings performances, workshops and community engagement activities which support local presenters to develop and engage their audience, creating a more sustainable regional arts sector."

The State Government, through Healthway and Lotterywest, have worked in partnership with Country Arts WA to support Shows on the Go for more than 20 years, and promote the Act-Belong-Commit message.

Healthway and Lotterywest CEO Susan Hunt PSM, said promoting the Act-Belong-Commit message through Shows on the Go, helped raise awareness about positive mental health, and reduce stigma around mental illness.

"Erth's Dinosaurs offers a great opportunity for regional Western Australians of all ages to come together," Ms Hunt said.

"It offers an opportunity for people to explore their creativity and create a sense of belonging, which are important factors in keeping mentally healthy."

For more information on Erth's Dinosaur Zoo visit www.countryartswa.asn.au/dinosaur-zoo.

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Media Contact

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Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries



COUNTRY
ARTS WA



SUPPORT MATERIAL

Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Tour Dates

Friday 2 August – Derby

6pm, Derby Civic Centre

Locally presented by Shire of Derby / West Kimberley

Monday 5 August – Broome

6pm, Broome Civic Centre

Locally presented by Shire of Broome

Thursday 8 August – Marble Bar

10am, Marble Bar Civic Centre

Locally presented by Shire of East Pilbara

Saturday 10 August – Newman

3pm, Newman Recreation Centre –
Whaleback Arena

Locally presented by Red Desert Events

Tuesday 13 August – Tom Price

6.30pm, Tom Price Recreation Centre

Locally presented by Shire of Ashburton, Rio Tinto and Nintirri Centre

Wednesday 14 August – Paraburdoo

4pm, Ashburton Hall

Locally presented by Shire of Ashburton, Rio Tinto, Karingal Neighbourhood Centre

Friday 16 August – Onlow

6pm, Lower Oval, Onslow Primary School

Locally presented by V Swans Ashburton

Monday 19 August – Pannawonica

5.30pm, Community Hall

Locally presented by Shire of Ashburton and Rio Tinto

Thursday 22 August – Cue

6.30pm, Cue Shire Hall

Locally presented by Shire of Cue

Saturday 24 August – Southern Cross

2pm, Southern Cross Community Centre

Locally presented by Shire of Yilgarn

Monday 26 August – Mukinbudin

4pm, Mukinbudin Memorial Hall

Locally presented by Mukinbudin Community Resource Centre

Wednesday 28 August – Tammin

12.30pm, Tammin Town Hall

Locally presented by Shire of Tammin

Friday 30 August – Lake Grace

12.30pm, Lake Grace Shire Hall

Locally presented by Lake Grace Artist Group & Shire of Lake Grace

Saturday 31 August – Katanning

1.30pm, Katanning Town Hall

Locally presented by Shire of Katanning

Tuesday 3 September – Harvey

12.30pm, Harvey Recreation and Cultural Centre

Locally presented by Harvey Recreation and Cultural Centre

Thursday 5 September – Ravensthorpe

5.30pm, Ravensthorpe Entertainment Centre

Locally presented by Ravensthorpe Regional Arts Council

Saturday 7 September – Esperance

5.30pm, Esperance Civic Centre

Locally presented by Esperance Civic Centre

Tuesday 10 September – Kalgoorlie

4pm, Centennial Park – Soundshell

Locally presented by Artgold

Biographies

About Erth's Dinosaur Zoo

Erth have continually created live theatre at the forefront of new performance practice. Since its beginnings in 1990, the Company has strived to provide audiences with eye popping visual experiences. Giant puppetry, stilt-walkers, inflatable environments, aerial and flying creatures. Erth is all these things and more.

Erth have built an Australia wide, an increasingly international reputation based on exceptional work. In demand for events and festivals, the Company inspires audiences with their unique and dynamic vision.

Regional Arts Community Presenting supported by Lotterywest

Country Arts WA presents professional performing arts productions throughout regional Western Australia through a variety of programs, ensuring all Western Australian communities – no matter what size, or how remote – have access to high quality performances. These shows include theatre, dance, music, circus, puppetry and comedy and provide great entertainment to local audiences and galvanise shared community experiences. Country Arts WA assists a diverse array of communities to source, promote and present professional performances by coordinating tours and providing support and advice to community groups and touring artists.

About Country Arts WA

Established in 1994, Country Arts WA is the State's only multi-arts organisation with a purely regional focus. As an independent, membership-based, not-for-profit organisation our purpose is to celebrate and strengthen a powerful regional arts sector to contribute to connected and creative regional communities.

www.countryartswa.asn.au

Performers

Jackson Eather is a performer and artist with a passion for science communication. He studied musical theatre in New York at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy and has performed with Erth as a puppeteer and host for many years touring Australia, North America, and Japan. Jackson is thrilled to be on the road again with the dinosaurs and can't wait to share them with WA! Check out Jackson's work on Instagram @jacksoneather

Mark Haslam has built major projects with Sydney Theatre Company, Marrugeku, erth Visual and Physical, Societas Raffaello Sanzio, Stalker Theatre, Animal Farm Collective, Legs on the Wall, Company B Belvoir and was the Production Manager for the original season of Muriel's Wedding the Musical. He has also created unique festival performances with artists such as Wesley Enoch, Nigel Jamieson and Shaun Gladwell. Aside from his production management, he is a director and educator exploring performance-based collaborations between non-traditional theatrical artists.

Ella Hetherington is an actor, physical performer, writer and deviser who has worked extensively in theatre and circus since graduating from Total Theatre in 2004. As an actor she has worked with all the major Western Australian theatre companies and is a regular collaborator and deviser on the independent scene. Other national and international work includes companies such as La Fura Del Baus, Erth, Legs on the Wall and in 2016 took up place as a core ensemble member of Force Majure.

Yvan Karlsson is a Director, Movement Director, Puppeteer & Dancer. He has trained with STEPS Youth Dance Company (2007-2014), Spare Parts Puppet Theatre (*First Hand Program 2015*), The Curious School of Puppetry (UK) & most recently Force Majure (*INCITE*). Recently, Yvan was one of the Perth Festival's 2019 LAB artists and is the puppet director & co-creator for Circus MAXIMA's *CATCH!*

Aidan (Jet) Min has an experienced background in puppetry having worked for 7 years in the industry for Erth Visual & Physical, Snuff Puppets, A Blanck Canvas, Trash Puppets and The Puppet Smithery. Coming from a varied background of physical performance, dance and clown.