

MEDIA RELEASE

22 March 2021

Powerhouse female circus performers set to shake up regional WA

Hitting the road this May, multi-award winning YUCK Circus are championing the female voice and having a bloody great time doing it with Regional Arts WA and Act Belong Commit's latest Lotterywest Shows on the Go tour.

Hailing from regional and remote towns across Australia, YUCK Circus are passionate about spotlighting issues facing women today while talking about gender and national identity in a humourous, fun and glittering show.

Coming hot off sold-out performances at Perth Fringe World Festival, this six strong crew of elite acrobats will reach audiences all the way from Harvey to Fitzroy Crossing with their unconventional but powerful circus performance.

YUCK Circus director and performer Georgia Deguara grew up in Broome and is excited to be taking her show to regional WA.

“Coming from a remote town I think it’s incredibly important to present the female Australian story through the lens of YUCK Circus. Throughout my life I’ve seen a negative stigma towards gender issues and by using acrobatics and a good sense of humour I hope to make the message accessible as well as a bloody good time. Expect crazy flips, cracking jokes and a fun night out with a ‘tiny’ message to think about on the way home.”

The tour forms part of Regional 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.

Regional 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 continues to be such a success because it is shaped and driven by the regional communities themselves. This is an exciting work that’s been selected by working regional presenters based on experience and knowledge about their own communities. As well as the performance the tour brings workshops and community engagement activities which support local presenters to further develop and engage their audience, creating a more sustainable regional arts sector.”

The State Government, through Healthway and Lotterywest, have worked in partnership with Regional Arts WA to support Shows on the Go for more than 20 years.

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 contributed to reducing stigma around mental illness.

“YUCK Circus offers a unique opportunity for regional communities to come together and engage in relevant, topical issues like gender equality in a creative way,” Ms Hunt said.

For more information on YUCK Circus visit <https://regionalartswa.org.au/yuck-circus/>

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Media Contact

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SUPPORT MATERIAL

YUCK Circus Tour Dates

Tuesday 4 May – Derby

6pm, Derby Recreation Centre
Locally presented by Shire of Derby/West Kimberley

Thursday 6 May – Fitzroy Crossing

6pm, Fitzroy Crossing Recreation Centre
Locally presented by Shire of Derby/West Kimberley

Saturday 8 May – Broome

7pm, Broome Civic Centre
Locally presented by Shire of Broome

Wednesday 12 May – Paraburdoo

7pm, Ashburton Hall
Locally presented by Karingal Neighbourhood Centre & Rio Tinto

Saturday 15 May - Murchison

6pm, Murchison Community Centre
Locally presented by Shire of Murchison

Wednesday 19 May - York

6pm, York Indoor Basketball Stadium
Locally presented by York Community Resource Centre Inc.

Friday 21 May - Moora

7pm, Moora Performing Arts Centre
Locally presented by Shire of Moora

Monday 24 May – Lake Grace

7.30pm, Lake Grace Shire Hall
Locally presented by Lake Grace Artists Group

Wednesday 26 May - Harvey

7pm, Harvey Recreation and Cultural Centre
Locally presented by Shire of Harvey

Regional Arts Community Presenting supported by Lotterywest

Regional 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. Regional 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 Regional Arts WA

Established in 1994, Regional Arts WA (formerly 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.regionalartswa.org.au

About YUCK Circus

YUCK Circus are a 6-strong crew of elite acrobatic gals, ready to flip off double-standards and kick art in the face. They're not lightly throwing around women's issues – they're literally throwing women.

YUCK is active in providing accessibility for the masses through dedicated artistic development and inclusive dialogues around gender and national identity. They address these topics with light and entertainment, creating a safe and engaging platform to have some uncomfortable but educated chats.

YUCK performers come from regional, remote, and isolated towns from all corners of Australia and are passionate about sharing their work and strengthening communities. They want to meet locals, affect towns and be your mates. Their careers have been founded in experiences like this and it's their company goal to keep that wheel turning.

Performers

GEORGIA DEGUARA

Growing up in the isolated coastal town of Broome, there wasn't much to do apart from join the local circus! She began training at Theatre Kimberley's Sandfly Circus at the age of 11 and hasn't stopped since. Director of all-female acrobatic group YUCK Circus and 2018 graduate of NICA; Georgia strives to create exciting work in the industry, and to use her knowledge to inspire the next generation of artists.

ELLA NORTON

Fremantle local, Ella, discovered circus when she was 11 and has been at it ever since. Specialising in spaghetti straps and diabolo she has a knack for comedy and loves nothing more than being ridiculous. Currently teaching at *WA Circus School*, she has recently created her first co-directed work, *Off Chops*.

JESSICA SMART

A drama teacher-come-athlete from Perth. When Jess isn't riding her bike across continents, she's making new circus work. Being a versatile performer, she excels with her duo trapeze act and within larger ensembles. Inspired by WA Circus Festival, Jess combines her skills to be an all-rounded artist, experienced on Australian and international soil.

KARLA SCOTT

Townsville local, Karla, was age 5 when recruited for Gymnastic Squad training for her passion of climbing footy goalposts. She trained at a high level and represented Queensland multiple times in Woman's Artistic Gymnastics, to then take up circus at NICA in 2016. She graduated from the Bachelor program in 2018 specialised in swinging trapeze, foot juggling and group acrobatics. Karla combines her gymnastics knowledge with her passion for creating new work to become a rounded artist.

HANNAH RICHARDS

Hannah was born into a gymnastics family and encouraged to be physical. She started at Spaghetti Circus at seven years of age and discovered the joys of performing and making people laugh through circus.

Having graduated from NICA at the end of 2019, specialising in skipping, adagio and group acrobatics, Hannah has begun turning her passion for circus into a career, performing with companies including A Good Catch, Radish by Night and now Yuck Circus.

BROOKE DUCKWORTH

Brooke is a dancer-come-circus artist, and a 2018 graduate NICA. Specialising in contortion, and acrobatics, she has vast experience teaching and performing dance in her hometown of Innisfail, QLD. When she isn't being thrown person to person, Brooke teaches the next generation of dancers as a coach in both Innisfail and Brisbane.