



HOMUNCULUS
THEATRE CO.



**IN
SCHOOL
SEASON**



www.homunculustheatre.com.au

About Us

Homunculus has been delighting, educating and inspiring student audiences across Australia and New Zealand for 20 years. The company offers a wide range of Australian curriculum-linked primary and secondary in-school workshops, performances, artist-in-residence programs, show-doctoring and professional development for teachers. Homunculus also offers roving and street theatre performances and performance outcome projects for school fetes/events and regional community projects.

We Specialise In

- Commedia Dell'Arte
- Traditional & Contemporary Clowning
- Contemporary Circus
- Full-Face Non-Verbal Mask Theatre
- Absurdism, Melodrama, Political Satire & Brecht
- Shakespeare & Clowns In Shakespeare
- Non-Verbal Communication & Mime
- Slapstick & Stage Combat
- Physical Theatre

Our mission is to nurture a love of and life-long engagement with live performance. We seek to achieve this by sharing these theatrical forms' power, beauty, craft and Humour with young people worldwide. We strongly believe access to live performing arts contributes significantly to social-emotional skills development. It builds resilience, compassion, understanding of diversity, empathy, focus, problem-solving and communication skills, common, sanity and well-being.

"I laughed until I cried!"

★★★★★ -Bantley Park College, QLD





Clint Bolster – Artistic Director


CLINT BOLSTER

is a Clown, Physical Actor, Mask Theatre Specialist, Stilt Performer & Trainer and Teaching Artist from Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. With 20 years of experience committed to developing new works and training extensively, Clint regularly performs in Australia and internationally in the United Kingdom, Europe, Singapore, Hong Kong and Japan.

Clint's repertoire of original performance works of:

Homunculus Theatre Company	:	www.homunculustheatre.com.au
Manoeuvre Roving Stilt Performers	:	www.manoeuvrestiltperformers.com
The Mask Family	:	www.themaskfamily.com
HIGH TEA with BOOFF	:	www.highteawithbooff.com
Bolster & Lee	:	www.bolsterandlee.com
The Lost Balloon	:	www.thelostballoon.com

are highly active throughout Australia, New Zealand & Asia and have extensive annual programming in regional Australia, particularly in the community, cultural and education sectors. He has developed an incredibly reliable and robust local and international network. His unique and innovative creations are represented by over 70 international production houses and arts agencies worldwide and have amassed a live global audience in the millions. He was also recently accepted into the Cirque Du Soleil database of Clowns, is in the 2022/2023 Australian Tour of Slavas' Snow Show; is a proud Queensland Member and Mentor for The Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance, and is a Board Member for Indel-Ability Arts.



"In an age where clowns reveal our hidden self, Clint Bolster's clown is both sharp and insightful, yet aware of the provocations designed to unlock insights. His clown/s invite us to unite as we focus on the particular, the unusual, and the rare. A great performer, teacher and human, Clint brings all of himself and leaves us with a unique insight about ourselves after seeing the world through the tears and the fears of a clown, which always provokes laughter from places rarely observed in our daily life. BOOFF, like Clint's other clowns, is a masterwork that will leave you feeling uncomfortably settled. In a world of clowns where leadership is no barrier to success, it is good to see the clown within ourselves and invite them into our midst so that we may learn their masterfully mischievous mannerisms. (PS: Clowns learn by observing us.)."



20 Lazzis in a Hat - Created By: Clint Bolster

20 Lazzis in a Hat is pure entertainment! An exciting journey into the heart of Commedia dell'Arte - promising students non-stop fun, comedy and excitement.

20 Lazzis in a Hat is pure entertainment! An exciting journey into the heart of Commedia dell'Arte – promising students non-stop fun, comedy and excitement. Audiences will discover the origins of Commedia dell'Arte and witness its improvised nature. The performance showcases numerous masked stock characters, hilarious Burle and 20

of Commedia's famous traditional lazzi consisting of verbal asides on current political, social and literary topics, pratfalls and acrobatics. The performers embody the style with their heart, body and soul, showcasing how much energy, commitment, comedic flare, and incredible technique are needed to bring this tradition to life!

Learning Areas: The Arts (Drama), Strands: Developing an understanding of practices. Responding to and interpreting artworks.

Style / Form

Commedia dell'Arte, Mask, Traditional and Contemporary Clowning, Shakespeare, Melodrama, Visual Theatre, Physical Comedy, Physical Theatre and Circus, Non-verbal Communication and Mime, Improvisation, Slapstick, Political Satire, Parody.

Themes and Contexts

Creativity, Imagination, Transformation, Play, Audience engagement and interaction, Role and Relationships, Status, Choices & Dramatic Form, Mistakes, Empathy, Consequences, Choices, Juggling of commitments, Status, Fear, Courage, Risk-taking, Comic relief, Dramatic form, Creativity and imagination.

Staging Requirements

- An indoor venue guarantees a better and more intimate performance.
- Outdoor venue need minimum of one wall.
- 5x5m wide space (no power outlet is required).

"Homunculus Theatre was a wonderful experience for our students. It's rare that such a well organised and skilfully crafted show makes it out to our remote school. The show itself was thoroughly entertaining and enjoyed by all age groups from Prep to Year 6. The workshop following the show was engaging and catered for all of our students and their ability levels. I would recommend Homunculus Theatre to any school in Australia. "



Absurd 4

Devised by: Clint Bolster and Lauren O'Rourke.
Directed by: Clint Bolster

Two Actors. Twelve Characters. Four Absurdist Plays.

Claude and Tina, an internationally acclaimed comedy duo from The United Kingdom Theatre For The Absurd Academy, are facilitating a lecture on four adaptations of 4 absurdist plays.

- Waiting For Godot by Samuel Beckett.
- The Chairs by Eugène Ionesco.
- The Dumb Waiter by Harold Pinter.
- Rhinoceros by Eugène Ionesco.

Duration
50mins + 10mins Q&A



Suitability
Grades 10 - 12



Available Terms
Term 1-4



Essential Learnings: The Arts (Drama), English

Style/Form

- Absurdism.
- Contemporary Clowning.
- Physical Theatre and Comedy.
- Improvisation.

Themes and Contexts

- Creativity and Imagination.
- Transformation.
- Roles and Relationships.
- Play, Audience Engagement and Interaction.

Staging Requirements

- An indoor venue guarantees a better and more intimate performance.
- Outdoor venue need minimum of one wall.
- 5x5m wide space (no power outlet is required).

"Thank you to Homunculus Theatre Co., Clint Bolster and Lauren who came this week to perform a show that demonstrated the post-WWII Theatre movement known as Absurdism. Both of you are brilliant clowns! Thanks for the black humour and physical gags too! The Classes 8-12 laughed heartily and enjoyed 'Mandarin' becoming part of the show along with Brendan Hook and Jan Baker-Finch who had starring cameos acting out a scene from an Absurdist drama, The Chairs. However, it was Kai Haywood-Livingstone, armed with his trusty beanie, who stole the show as he improvised with Lauren a scene from Rhinoceros! Well done Kai! What a great dramapacked day of experiences!"



Thoughts Have Feelings Too

Directed By: Tony Kishawi - **Devised by:** Ben Cornfoot, Tony Kishawi and Brin Pritchard in collaboration with Mental Health specialists



Duration
50mins + 10mins Q&A



Suitability
Grades P - 7



Available Terms
Term 1-4

Thoughts Have Feelings Too is a gentle and funny performance that shows students how to think positively about the feelings they experience in their day-to-day lives in a primary school environment. The students meet two clowns: Sweet 'Clown' and the absent-minded 'Professor'. When the two clowns meet in the Professor's laboratory, they discover that thoughts and emotions are connected. Over four scenes focusing on happiness, sadness, anger and fear, the clowns discover how to recognise each emotion and find simple steps to deal with them. Supporting the Health Curriculum, which

Thoughts Have Feelings Too is a gentle and funny performance that shows students how to think positively about the feelings they experience in their day-to-day lives in a primary school environment.

promotes positive self-talk and interaction, Thoughts Have Feelings Too works as a tool for schools to discuss emotions positively and positively and lightheartedly. Developed in close consultation with teachers and child health specialists, Thoughts Have Feelings Too premiered for the opening of Mental Health Week celebrations in Brisbane in 2008. Thoughts Have Feelings Too has toured extensively with Queensland Arts Council in 2009 and 2010 throughout Regional Queensland and Brisbane to sell-out performances!

Essential Learnings: The Arts (Drama), HPE (Health , Personal Development) English.

Style/Form

- Traditional and Contemporary Clowning
- Non-Verbal Communication and Mime

Themes and Contexts

- Storytelling
- Creativity and Imagination
- Confidence, Resilience
- Self-Esteem

Staging Requirements

- An indoor venue guarantees a better and more intimate performance.
- Outdoor venue need minimum of one wall.
- 5x5m wide space (no power outlet is required).

The best performance that I've ever seen—very entertaining. Very professional. Very talented! Most appropriate material! Great presentation! Impressive!"

★★★★★ - St Francis Xavier, QLD



Life? It's A Circus!

Created & Performed By:
The Sault Poets (Nick Cliento and Wilde)



Duration
50mins + 10mins Q&A



Suitability
Grades P - 12



Available Terms
Term 1-4

An energetic theatrical adventure that will have audiences wondering, laughing, gasping, artistically and philosophically inspired and pondering the human condition!

An energetic theatrical adventure that will have audiences wondering, laughing, gasping, artistically and philosophically inspired and pondering the human condition!

Through high-level physicality, balloons, poetry, balancing chairs, acrobatic antics and clowns, these two highly experienced circus theatre performers promise to take you on a thought-provoking and thoroughly entertaining journey through the ups and downs of life.

History of Work: 2012 and 2013 Artslink/Queensland Arts Council tours of Queensland and Brisbane Primary and Secondary to critical acclaim.

Essential Learnings: The Arts (Drama), SOSE (History, Literature, Personal Development/Pastoral Care), English.

Style/Form

Physical Theatre, Circus and Comedy, Improvisation, Balance, Dance, Poetry, Song, Physical Theatre, Circus & Comedy, Improvisation, Balance, Dance, Poetry, Song

Themes and Contexts

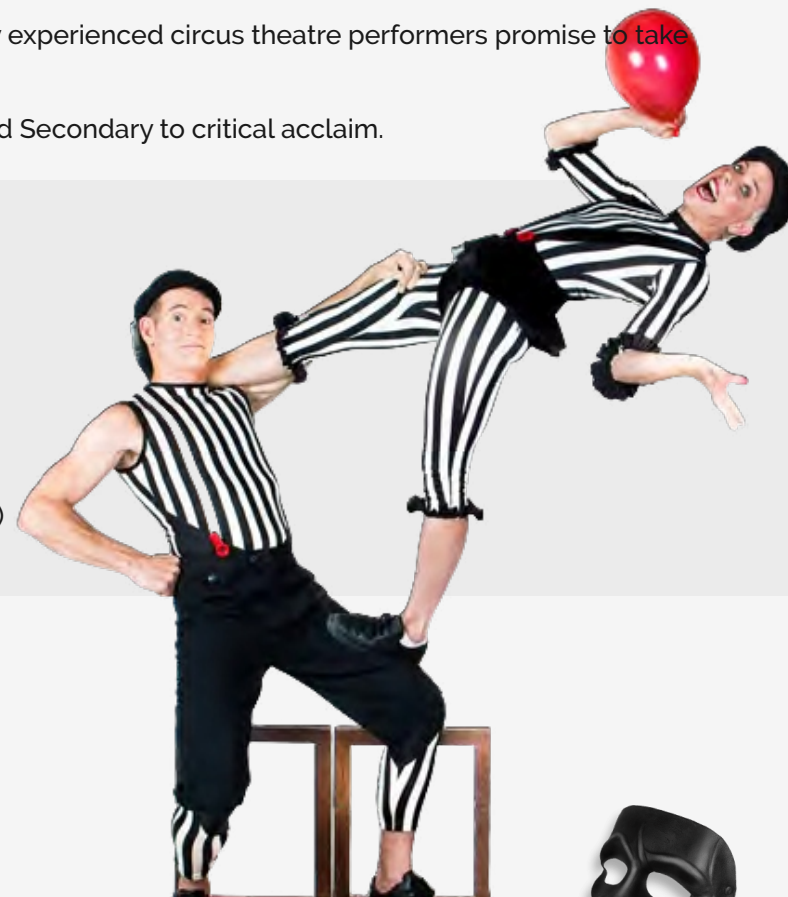
Relationships, Trust, Love, Friendship, Loss, Fear, Betrayal

Staging Requirements

- A 5m x 5m stage space with a clear overhead space of 3.5m (no obstructions)
- Outdoor venue need minimum of one wall
- 5x5m wide space (no power outlet is required)

Absolutely brilliant! The light and shade was very interesting... Students were engaged from start to finish. Extremely entertaining. Thank you very, very much!

★★★★★ - Eidvold SHS, QLD



The Spirit Of The Mask

Devised by: Clint Bolster, Ben Cornfoot and Tony Kishawi

Directed by: Clint Bolster and Tony Kishawi



Duration
50mins + 10mins Q&A



Suitability
Grades 7-12 to 5-12



Available Terms
Term 1-4

The Spirit of the Mask is a unique secondary school (7-12) production created by renowned Commedia practitioner Tony Kishawi.

The Spirit of the Mask is a unique secondary school (7-12) to (5-12) production created by renowned Commedia practitioner Tony Kishawi.

It is an interactive performance and workshop in one, designed to demonstrate the essential conventions of traditional Commedia and comic and mask performance. The show's focus explores how these funny traditions continue to engage audiences.

Characters showcased and explored include the Zanni, the Lovers (Inamorati), Il Capitano, Il Dottore and Pantalone. Commedia conventions demonstrated include lazzi, Burle, canovacci, improvisation, audience interaction, status relationships and heightened physicality.

Essential Learnings: The Arts (Drama), SOSE, History, Culture and society, Italian, English.

Style/Form

Commedia dell'Arte, Mask, Physical Theatre and Comedy, Improvisation.

Themes and Contexts

Creativity and Imagination, Transformation, Roles and Relationships, Audience Engagement and Interaction.

Staging Requirements

- An indoor venue guarantees a better and more intimate performance
- Outdoor venue need minimum of one wall
- 5x5m wide space (no power outlet is required)

“

"A fantastic introduction to Commedia and the use of the mask. Great to have the students actively involved. Very skilled performers: quick witted and experienced improvisors. Excellent production."

★★★★★ - Castle Hill High, NSW



Workshops

We offer workshops tailored to unit outcomes in:

Commedia dell'Arte, Traditional and Contemporary Clowning, Mask, Physical Comedy, Slapstick and Stage Combat. Physical Theatre and Circus, Visual Theatre. Creating Theatre For Young People. Clowns In Shakespeare, Absurdism. Non-verbal Communication and Mime, Brecht, Epic Theatre, Play writing and Play building.

We also offer unique mask workshops in Trestle Baset, Shauns, Neutral, Grotesque and more. **Please Contact us for more details.**

“Clint established a contagious energy from the very beginning that had the students dramatically engaged from the moment they entered the workshop. He tailored the activities to inspire, involve and challenge around 40 students of all different learning and physical abilities. It was inspiring to witness students flourish with confidence and feel a sense of ownership or pride in what they had achieved dramatically and more importantly, what they had discovered about themselves within the workshop. This workshop not only extended on what students are studying in class, but based on the immediate feedback from students, it will be an hour and a half that they will cherish in their memories for many years to come.”

★★★★★ - **Samanda Sankowsky, Drama Teacher, Cavendish Road SHS**

“There was a freedom of expression and physicalisation, and a real willingness to take risks-a joy to see in students of that age bracket. I have no hesitation recommending Homunculus as wonderful workshop facilitators and performers.


★★★★★ - **Lauren Cossettini, Curriculum Drama Co-ordinator - Sheldon College, QLD**

“The Satire workshop that Clint from Homunculus ran with my Year 11 Drama students was just brilliant!! The activities he lead them through were engaging, useful and heaps of fun. The students were incredibly positive about the experience and have learnt a lot of new ideas and strategies to use in their own work. We will definitely be wanting to work with Homunculus again!”

★★★★★ - **Cass O'Donnell, Arts Faculty, Runcorn State High School, QLD**



Artist In Residence Programs

 Available Terms
Term 1-4

Artist In Residence Programs have the potential to offer students an experience they will remember and treasure far beyond school.

Our approach is collaborative and student centered. The process is always ridiculously fun and the performance outcomes fantastic. Options range from a day to a full semester and can be tailored to fit your requirements and timetable. Shorter term residencies may involve intensive workshops

over a week or several weeks. Longer term residencies usually involve the collaborative development of an original work and/or full scale production.

Please contact us for more details.

“By the second day, the mask work had progressed from solo to the ensemble. The students had learned different ways to work within the ensemble and to be a catalyst for change. They experimented with taking control of and driving an idea and then letting the idea drive us.

“The mask work really helped the students to separate their physicalisation and their facial work and to realise that voice does not have to be the dominant factor in performance. Many of these things may seem obvious but students often struggle with them.

“Homunculus were able to break through barriers. This was by far the best Artist in Residence we have had in years.

★★★★★ -Patrica Kemp. Guilford Young College TAS



Professional Development For Teachers



Available Terms
Term 1-4

Homunculus can offer teachers interactive, engaging and practical professional development programs in a range of comedic forms to support their work within the curriculum.

These unique intensives provide an invaluable opportunity to work with internationally acclaimed Physical Performers to extend skill in the foundations of Comedy and other Dramatic forms such as Commedia dell'Arte, Mask, Traditional and Contemporary Clowning, Absurdism, Slapstick and Stage Combat, Non-Verbal Communication and Mime and Physical Theatre and Circus.

Please contact us for more details.

“

I recently attended a Commedia/Clown workshop run by Clint at The Game Changer Drama Australia and Drama New Zealand Conference. I can honestly say his workshop was the highlight of the entire three-day conference! Clint was enthusiastic, encouraging and approachable from the moment we entered the room. It was clear that he knew his content and was excited to share his experience with us.

“

I was asked to participate in the Shawn mask activity which, with Clint's guidance, gave me confidence and had everyone in stitches. This also allowed me to experience what it's like to be a student and performing in front of others. I was very grateful for that opportunity. Not only did I have a great time in the workshop, I learnt valuable skills that I can add to my repertoire of skills. I am eager to have Clint come to my high school and perform for my students!"

★★★★★ -Ashlea Ross, Maitland, NSW



Resilience Training Through Laughter

Directed and Devised By: Clint Bolster

Beginning Resilience through Laughter in 2021, Clint Bolster has reached thousands of young people across Australia. Over 50 schools have enjoyed the Resilience Through Laughter program, with many repeating bookings year on year in response to the transformational effects for their students. These resources are designed to support you as a creative arts teacher, to get the most out of Clint's visit, and build resilience for your students.. through laughter.

These workshops are all about connection - connecting you to your students and community. They will enhance curiosity, bolster confidence and inspire collaboration. Welcome to the program. We know you will love the workshops.

<https://vimeo.com/675279590>

“

“Clint has been tutoring in my Performing Skills Unit at QUT for the past seven years, and the students have found him to be one of the best tutors they have ever experienced. He is an extremely dedicated and professional teacher with a wealth of industry knowledge. Not all practitioners can teach: Clint is an exception to this rule! “Unique and memorable experiences that will make you laugh out loud and connect directly to the heart.”

★★★★★ -Caroline Heim-Queensland University Of Technology



Resources

Leather Look - \$750 + GST Free postage within Australia.

Set of Seven Masks (Coloured) - \$750 + GST - Free postage within Australia.

Character Masks - \$1500 + GST - Free postage within Australia.

Textbook - \$100 + GST - Free postage within Australia.

Commedia dell'Arte masks as a teaching resource.

Crafted by Tony Kishawi, this set of seven Commedia dell'Arte masks are made of rubber latex, hand-painted with airbrushed acrylic and secured with an elastic strap.

The masks adapt to different face sizes. The masks are extremely durable.

To purchase, email: clint@homunculustheatre.com.au



Roving Acts & Installation:

THE MASK FAMILY are a suite of full-face, non-verbal, accessible, inclusive and magical roving mask theatre acts that connect directly to your audience. They are a heart-warming exploration of the joy of human interaction and the incredible power of how a simple act of kindness, and authentic connection, can transform a person's life. Highly visual, interactive, non-intrusive and non-language dependent, this unique roving theatre transcends age, language and culture barriers. – www.themaskfamily.com



MANOEUVRE is Queensland's elite non-verbal roving stilt performance company providing acts for 32 years to School Fetes', Product Launches, Shopping Centres, Community Events, Festivals, Parades, Weddings, Nightclubs and Corporate Events to over 50 million audience members, across 15 countries. – www.manoeuvrestiltperformers.com



HIGH TEA with BOOFF is a work of installation clown theatre. The show tours with its venue – a richly detailed lounge room replete with custom-made furniture, bespoke chandeliers, shared stories and piping hot tea. The work deploys auto-biographical storytelling and narrative-driven clowning. – www.highteawithbooff.com



Annie and Clint became creative collaborators in 2004, and with their strong rapport have continued to develop characters to play together ever since. From crazy male duos and siblings of all sorts, to mother and son teams and a variety of clowns, these two talents have paired their uniquely funny souls with considerable skills to great effect. – www.bolsterandlee.com



Contact Us

For any enquiries, Please Contact!



Clint Bolster

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MEAA



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