strange fruit 2014

About

Strange Fruit is a Melbourne-based performing arts company that produces and performs a remarkable style of work that fuses theatre, dance and circus, using a unique elevated medium. Our work is free to the viewing audience and can be enjoyed regardless of age, language or cultural background. Our five-metre high swaypoles create a large-scale visual spectacle that can play to audiences numbering thousands, while the engaging performances make the work personable and accessible.

Originally based on the image of a field of wheat swaying in the breeze, the poles' extreme strength and flexibility allow the performer to bow to impossible angles, swaying back and forth in a hypnotising dance as the audience looks up in wonder.

With a world-renowned repertoire that celebrates a wide variety of themes and stories, the company has achieved near-cult status in almost every continent across the globe. Performing regularly at festivals, special events and private functions, their sublime, hypnotic beauty is truly remarkable and must be experienced to appreciate its full effect.

Around the world

Due to the dialogue-free nature of the work and its ability to speak to people across all divides, the company's repertoire is extremely popular with international audiences.

With most of the company's work performed overseas, Strange Fruit has developed tightly synchronised logistics and a team of tour management professionals. At any one time, there can be performances taking place on three different continents. The company's dedicated group of performers, crew, touring staff, board and management have seen the company go from strength to strength since its inception in 1994.

Technical information

Each show in the repertoire has different technical requirements, but the following specifications are required before any performance can take place:

- Height clearance of 7-8 metres
- Minimum area space of approximately 14 x 14 metres (for a 4-person show)
- Clear weather conditions for outdoor performances
- Quality sound and lighting

Detailed technical specifications for each show available on request.

strange fruit **repertoire 2014**

The Field

Eight characters enact an intriguing ritual of courtship and discovery, breaking hearts and bending poles to impossible angles. The messages of love, freedom, loneliness and joy are played out and take the audience on a journey of beauty and laughter.

- Touring party of 10
- 8 performers
- 2 crew
- 40 minute show
- 2 shows per day (1 show only if bump-in on same day)

The Spheres

Creation, exultation, liberation, life, the universe. *The Spheres* take a whimsical look at physics, the miracle of birth and humanity's existential relationship to our planet. Giant, illuminated orbs of luminous beauty contain characters that gradually emerge to stand and rise above their spheres of existence. This piece is beautiful, reverent and sublime.

- Touring party of 10
- 7 performers
- 3 crew
- 40 minute show
- 2 shows per day (1 shows only if bump-in on same day)
- Evening shows or indoors under lights only
- Also available as a 4 person 20 minute version

The Three Belles

Seductive and charming, *The Three Belles* transport the audience into a dreamlike world of period charm and frivolity. Through a whirlwind of dance and movement, they transcend past, present and future as they bewitch and enchant their admirers.

- Touring party of 5
- 3 performers
- 2 crew
- 20 minute show
- 3 shows per day (2 shows only if bump-in on same day)

Absolute Pearl

A contemplation celebrating the passage from this earthly realm to the next, *Absolute Pearl* allows the audience to ascend to a dreamlike dimension that transcends the bounds of mortality. An eternal, swirling carnival of the air filled with sublime poetic wonder.

- Touring party of 9
- 6 performers
- 3 crew
- 30 minute show
- 2 shows per day (1 show only if bump-in on same day)
- Night performance preferred

Ringing the Changes

With the musical invention of renowned composer Graeme Leak, *Ringing The Changes* offers elevated dance and powerful percussive music played live on a large-scale demountable sound sculpture. The result is joyous ritual theatre; mesmeric, moving and finally intoxicating.

- Touring party of 11
- 8 performers – including conductor and 2 musicians.
- 3 crew
- 30 minute show
- 2 shows per day (1 show only if bump-in on same day)
- NB: Show features musical score played live by the performers. Two musicians can be replaced by local concert level percussionists subject to discussion

Swoon!

The timeless romantic story of boy meets girl is retold as a comic aerial spectacle. Four daredevils dance and flirt their way through a lighthearted look at love, loss, jealousy and joy. Set to a soundtrack ranging from Mozart to Swing, this piece is a lively and spirited treat for all ages.

- Touring party of 6
- 4 performers
- 2 crew
- 20 minute show
- 3 shows per day (2 shows only if bump-in on same day)

Double Happiness

Double Happiness is a poetic and virtuosic aerial display celebrating the notion of unity. Exotically themed, the work transports the audience to an imaginary realm where emperors and empresses set flight in search of love and happiness. Double Happiness was originally created for a season at Marina Bay Sands, Singapore in 2011.

- Touring party of 4
- 2 performers
- 2 crew
- 10 minute show
- 3 shows per day (2 shows only if bump-in on same day)