

HIGH TEA WITH BOOFF

AN IMMERSIVE AND INTERACTIVE WORK OF CLOWN THEATRE



Created, Performed & Co-written by **Clint Bolster**
Directed & Co-written by **Damien Cassidy**
Designed by **Josh McIntosh**

Produced by  **ClusterArts**

PRODUCTION OVERVIEW

HIGH TEA with BOOFF is a work of installation clown theatre. The show tours with its own venue – a richly detailed, Tim Burton-esque lounge room replete with custom made furniture, bespoke chandeliers, shared stories and piping hot tea. The work deploys auto-biographical story-telling and narrative-driven clowning. It has been created to service the festival, community and corporate markets.



The production is housed within an air-conditioned custom-built 20ft shipping container that expands to create a 6m x 5m venue. The unit is a high-cube style container – with extra height than standard – that has been richly transformed. Welcomed by our eloquent and other-worldly host, audiences enter the space in accordance with any local social distancing measures.

Anchored in shared stories, the audience experience is akin to a visit with your favourite aunt – a surreal tea-party that's partly scripted and partly improvised. As a character, BOOFF resonates with the work of artists like Julian Clary and Dame Edna Everage, a larger-than-life persona in whose company all people are equal and all are equally worthy of reverence or ribaldry.

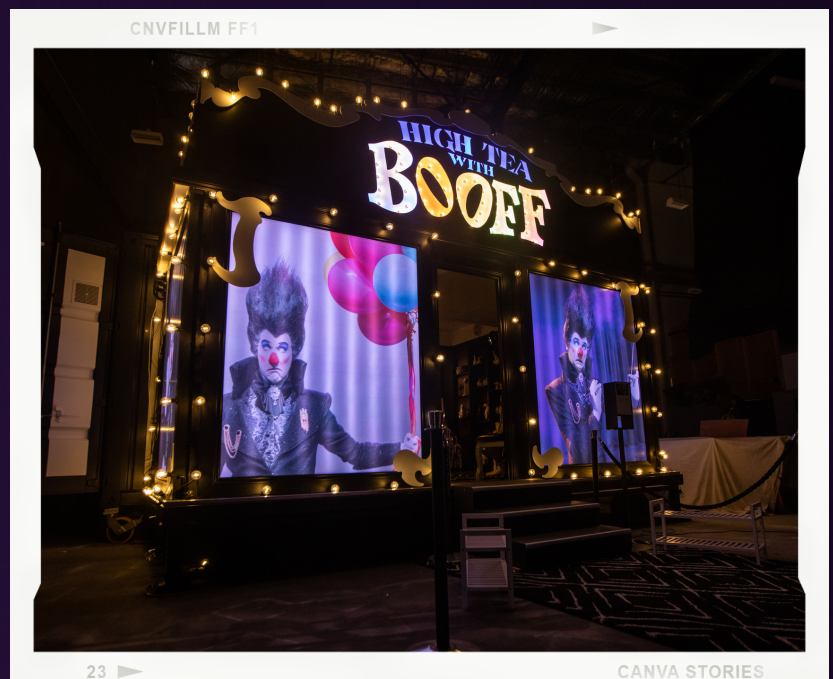
[VIDEO of audience vox pop HERE!](#)

"If you were to enter this beautiful parlour from the chaos of a summer festival, you would be instantly transported to another world entirely. In this Booff has done that most perfect of magic theatre tricks, he has made the outside go away and the inside somewhere else... Every detail complete, every element perfectly manifest. High Tea with Booff ought to be the most coveted invitation of any budding socialites dance card."



Nadia Jade (AUS)

Nothing Ever Happens in Brisbane



THE CREATIVE TEAM

The creative team are an internationally recognised artistic powerhouse. The company ethos is to create world-class theatre in Queensland with Queensland artists; to tour globally and engage new audiences; and in all things to demonstrate resilience, bravery and vitality.

CLINT BOLSTER

CREATOR & CO-WRITER & PERFORMER

Clint Bolster is a clown, physical actor, mask theatre specialist, stilt performer and trainer and teaching artist from Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. With over 17 years 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 owns and manages three companies that each produce a busy annual program of performances, tours and education programs across Australia and around the world. Homunculus Theatre (in-schools programs), Manoeuvre (roving stilt acts), and The Mask Family (richly detailed full-face roving mask characters).

As well as in-theatre tours, Clint's companies are highly active in the community, cultural and education sectors. He was recently accepted into the Cirque du Soleil database of potential clowns for future productions and is a proud Queensland member and mentor for The Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance, and board member for Indel-Ability Arts. Clint 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 played to global audiences in the millions.



"Clint Bolster's detailed and beguiling performance of BOOFF is sublimely breathtaking."
Ian Billings, Comedian & Author (UK)

DAMIEN CASSIDY

DIRECTOR & CO-WRITER

Damien Cassidy is a broadly experienced writer, director and producer based in Brisbane working across festivals, contemporary music, theatre, cabaret and film. He has a background in communications and literature and is drawn to projects and collaborations that engage and extend cultural and historical conversations.



He has delivered some of the most successful arts and cultural programs in Australia, having held senior communications and producing roles for Brisbane Festival, the World Science Festival, World Theatre Festival, Brisbane Powerhouse and Queensland Theatre Company. He is the recipient of two Matilda Awards for excellence in the performing arts.

JOSH MCINTOSH

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Josh McIntosh is an award-winning designer whose work has been seen on stages across Australia.

Josh has worked extensively with major Queensland cultural organisations including Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Queensland Ballet, Opera Queensland and Queensland Theatre Company.



His design skills are augmented by his strong grounding as a builder, maker and engineer. He has designed several successful national touring productions including stage adaptations of *A Christmas Carol* and *Animal Farm* for Shake & Stir. Josh is the recipient of three Matilda Awards for excellence in the performing arts.

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Lighting Designer Jason Glenwright

Sound Designer Guy Webster

Videographer Tnee Dyer

Photographers Justin Ma and Barbara Lowing

Make-up Artist Julieanne Edwards

Costume Design Clint Bolster & Josh McIntosh

Costume Maker Joanne Fraher

Script Testing Penny Everingham

TECHNICAL

CONTAINER DIMENSIONS

When closed up for transit or storage the unit is an internationally standard high-cube 20ft shipper. Dimensions: L-6058; D-2438; H-2896

When open in show mode the depth increases and dimensions are: L-6058; D-4364; H-2896. Unit weight is approximately 3.5 tonnes.

Detailed unit plans can be provided upon request.

BUMP-IN OVERVIEW

The company production manager **MUST** be present onsite when the container arrives for site installation. A minimum of 16 hours is required between company/unit arrival and first performance. An exact bump-in schedule will be drafted with presenters on a case-by-case basis.

SITE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum floor area required for the unit is 10m x 10m. The site area must be flat, stable ground. The site area can not be at risk of flooding in the event of rain. Unit travels with sets of chocks.

An egress corridor of 1.2m must be maintained 360° around the unit for technical access. The front of the venue where the audience enter requires 3m clear egress for front of house elements such as signage and bollards. Unless agreed by the company, the unit can not be directly abutted to another structure.

WEATHER

The unit can not operate in wind speeds higher than 70km/h. If heavy rain or storms are forecast, the venue may have to close for the duration of the weather event.

POWER

Presenter to provide two dedicated 15 amp circuits for venue operations. The unit has internal power, lighting and air conditioning systems. Detailed unit plans can be provided upon request.

CREW REQUIREMENTS

Bump-in: 4 x mechs for four hours
Bump-out: 4 x mechs for two hours

FREIGHT

Presenter to arrange and pay. The shipping container tours out of Brisbane, Queensland unless otherwise advised. The Company logistics partner is Roadpro Event Services based in Archefield, Qld and presenters can be put in touch with RoadPro for freight movements within Australia.

CARNET

Touring party to provide.

SECURITY

Presenter to provide 24hr security throughout the period that the unit is onsite.

PROPS and CONSUMABLES

Presenter to provide tea, as well as biscuits or cake for the season. This has, in the past, been done via a local partnership with a provider in the host city.

TOURING

TOURING PARTY

Three company members tour with the show:

- Performer
- Production Manager
- Producer / Company Manager

FEE

Company fee can be advised upon request and will be dependent on the duration and location of the proposed presentation.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Presenters have some flexibility as to how show times are scheduled depending on other venue and festival activities. The optimal performance duration of *HIGH TEA WITH BOOFF* is 25 minutes. The company requires minimum 20 minutes between shows for turn-around.

TRAVEL & FLIGHTS

Presenter to provide. For **international** flights, premium economy seats are required for Clint Bolster due to his height of 197cm.

For **domestic** Australian flights, exit row seats in economy are sufficient. Standard non exit row economy seats for domestic Australian flights are not sufficient for Clint. Standard economy seats are fine for other company members.

VISAS

Presenter to arrange and pay for company visas and travel insurances.

ACCOMMODATION

Presenter to provide. Minimum 3.5-star accommodation for all company members.

Company members can be housed in shared accommodation, subject to mutual agreement. All company accommodation must include laundry facilities. Accommodation location is ideally within 2km or 15 minute walk to the venue.

FRONT OF HOUSE

Presenter to provide. Most performance seasons can be serviced with one FOH staff during activation times.

DRESSING ROOMS

One secure dressing room is required for the duration all show calls. The room must have a full size wardrobe mirror and a make-up mirror with ample lighting. Either in-theatre laundry or accommodation-based laundry facilities are required for all bookings.

CALL TIMES

A minimum two-hour hair & make-up call is required for any BOOFF performance, media call, promotional booking or other event. A secure dressing room with full size wardrobe mirror and a make-up mirror with ample lighting is required for all calls.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



BOOFF has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council its arts funding and advisory body and the Queensland Government through the Arts Queensland Showcase Program.

SPECIAL THANKS TO



Dr. Caroline Heim, Telstra, SunPAC, Camp Hill Antique Centre, EC Venue, Roadpro Event Services for logistical support and Jack Morton for assistance in sourcing our production venue.



Produced by

www.clusterarts.com

Contact:

Rob Tannion, Producer

rob@clusterarts.com

0439 831 892