

MATRIARK THEATRE PRESENTS...

URZA AND THE SONG IN THE DARK



Urza and the Song in the Dark

A girl free-falls through filtered light; A barefoot child slips silently between stalagmites evading a shadowy beast; A legendary explorer searches for a lost song.

Urza and The Song in the Dark is a children's fable set in a subterranean wonderland of complex caves, underground lakes and fantastical creatures. When a young explorer gets lost underground, a mysterious song leads her on an adventure to find her way back to the surface. On this journey, she unearths a secret trapped within the ground, fights off a dark power and comes to understand her own story.

Using old overhead projectors and live music from improvised and traditional instruments; Urza and the Song in the Dark brings to life a vibrant world of shadow and light. It tells an epic story that gently invites audiences young and old to ponder a message of sustainability and relationship to the natural world around us.

Devised for all ages, Urza and The Song in the Dark is touring in 2021/22 with support from Create NSW, Arts on Tour and Inner West Council.

About Matriark Theatre...

Matriark Theatre builds worlds made of stories, sparking imaginations and inspiring young people to unleash their creativity.

Since 2014, Matriark has found new ways to connect with young people who may not ordinarily engage with the arts by taking theatre out of the theatres and into community spaces.

The work Matriark produces is multi-disciplinary, incorporating digital media, physical theatre, animation, live music and more. Matriark is fascinated with the potential in interactive and online digital media to foster community and draw people to the arts.

We value work that is...

- INCLUSIVE: making work for any and every young person.
- ORIGINAL: championing new stories, forms, audiences.
- LOCAL: working locally, building community.
- INSPIRATIONAL: transforming creative education.
- SUSTAINABLE: modelling environmental sustainability.

"Artfully analogue, handmade, bespoke excellence in design and execution... a wonderful production which is bursting with humanist joy, the visualization of the invisible and the evocation of sung landscapes of soul."
The Sydney Arts Guide

"brilliant, funny, emotional, experiential physical theatre beyond definition!"
The Sydney Arts Guide

"A remarkably ambitious production by an exciting young theatre company..."
The Music



Touring Requirements

Theatre

Space: Small scale version can be presented in spaces as small as libraries and classrooms, Theatre version is best in a black box space (however Pros Arch can work)

Set dimensions: 5m x 5m (with flexibility for smaller stages)

Rigging: Lightweight curtain to be hung USC

Bump-in: 2/6 hrs

Bump-out: 2/3 hrs

Tour Party: 5 pp

Performers: 4 pp

Programming

First possible programming: Day 1 Evening

1 Day: Bump in & 1 show (evening)

2 Days: (pre-rig, bump in & 2 shows)

3 Days: (bump in & 2-4 shows)

Small Venue

Space: Small scale version can be presented in spaces as small as libraries and classrooms, Theatre version is best in a black box space (however Pros Arch can work)

Set dimensions: 5m x 5m (with flexibility for smaller stages)

Bump-in: 2/6 hrs

Bump-out: 2/4 hrs

Tour Party: 5 pp

Performers: 4 pp

Programming

First possible programming: Day 1 Morning

1 Day: Bump in & 2 shows

2 Days: Bump in & 4 shows

3 Days: Bump in & 6 shows

Appeal/Selling Points

Perfect for school holidays

Urza is fast paced and visual so it's a perfect activity for children during their school break. A great day trip for holiday-care groups and parents looking for a meaningful holiday experience.

Female Protagonist

Urza is a strong willed, adventurous and intelligent protagonist wrapped up in a story of mythic proportions. Parents of young girls will find a unique role model in Urza.

Inclusive

With minimal dialogue, beautiful live songs and score and magical shadow puppetry Urza is totally accessible and inclusive of audiences from culturally diverse backgrounds and those with disabilities.

Add ons

Meet the performers, meet the puppets

Matriark will open the space following the performance for young audiences to meet the performers and play with some of our puppets and projectors. We are available for formal Q&A sessions but this special moment following the show is a safe space for young people to explore their own creativity while fostering community.

Educational Add Ons...

Shadow Puppetry (120 minute workshop minimum, maximum 20 students)

Learn Matriark's unique approach to shadow puppetry, combining physical performance and shadow play to bring to life a world of your own creation. Matriark will provide projectors and materials, in this hands on exploration based on the work in Rat Symphony. A perfect companion to the show.

Commedia dell'Arte/ Playbuilding workshops (90 minute workshop - time flexible, max 70 students)

Matriark Theatre can run a number of curriculum based workshops taught by expert teachers and tested over the hundreds of workshops Matriark has run across NSW. We can flexibly run workshops tackling many aspects of the NSW schools curriculum including Commedia dell'Arte, Mask, Group Devised Performance, Puppetry, Production and Improvisation.



Marketing Assets

Assets available include:
 Hardcopy + digital show resources
 Images (Poster, postcard, digital etc.)
 Production stills
 Promotional videos

Online content platform
 Online Resources.
 Online Press Release

Crewing Requirements (Theatre)

BUMP IN		
Crew	No.	Hours
Lighting	1	4
Sound	1	2
Staging	1	2

BUMP OUT		
Crew	No.	Hours
Lighting	1	2
Staging	1	2

Lighting (Theatre)

Overview: LX pre-rig required:
 Generic LX Plans available. Venue specific lighting plans can be provided 1 month prior to booking on request. Urza flexibly fits into any venue including venues without lighting rigs. See tech specs for details on small scale versions of the show.

Positions	3 x above stage lighting bars Floor Lighting: 2x Booms 5x H Stands
Fixtures	Presenter provides: 7x Fresnel 8x 15-30 Profile 12x 25-50 PProfile 5x 500w Single Cyc Toured: 6x Par 16 birdies 2x Floods 1x Degree Pacific 1x Chauvet Wash 3x Overhead Projectors
Dimmers	32x 2.4Kw dimmers
Lighting Desk	Cues input into venue console - ETCNomad file provided.



Sound (Theatre)

Overview: The show audio consists of; live music from one on-stage musician playing synthesizer, harmonium and violin. Operator cues effects playback from QLAB.

Desk	1 x 24 channel analogue/ digital console
Source	Playback for the show is provided by Macintosh laptop with external soundcard running Q-lab (provided by Matriark Theatre). 2 x mics positioned near musician 2 x inputs from musician
Microphones	Matriark will tour 2 wireless headsets for the performers.
Speakers	FOH L Full range FOH PA Speaker FOH R Full range FOH PA Speaker Subs 1 Stage Speaker USL

Matriark to Provide

- Macintosh laptop with external soundcard running Qlab (provided by Brink).
- All instruments and live performance equipment for musician
- Wireless and Instrument Microphones

Presenter to provide:

- Complete sound system as specified above.

Images of Set

