

# Red Tail Entertainment LLC presents

Created by Erth-Visual & Physical, Incorporated, Sydney, Australia

#### Starring Charlie Jhaye Joe Aholt Miron Gusso Eryn Malafronte

Writer & Director **Scott Wright** Associate Director **Sharon Kerr** Designer **Steve Howarth** Specialist Puppet Design **Bryony Anderson** Composer **Phil Downing** National Tour Booking **Brad Simon Organization** National Marketing Director **C Major Marketing** Tour Manager **Steven Vick** Company Manager **Valerie Campos** Technical Director **Carlos Castillo** General Manager **Deborah Barr** 

#### PROGRAM

There will be no intermission.

#### Saturday, March 24 @ 2 PM

Zellerbach Theatre

# ABOUT THE ARTISTS

# Charlie Jhaye (Host)

Recent credits include Sheila cover in *Hair* (Midtown Arts Centre), Pamela in *Fox on the Fairway* (Cortland Rep), Mathilde Loisel/Katrina Van Tassel in *Encore!* (Chamber Theatre Productions Tour), Sally Bowles in *Cabaret* (In the Wings Productions), Juror 4 in 12 Angry *Women* (Alpha NYC), Capitan Hook in *Peter/Wendy* (Alpha NYC), Broadway's Rising Stars Concert (Broadway Summer Festival), Hedy LaRue in *How to Succeed in Business* (FAMS Theatre Company), Chaperone in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Last Call Musical Revue), Lainie in *UFO Weather* (Things that go Bump in the Night), Barbara in *The Body is a Legal Drug* (Midtown International Theatre Festival), Dotty in *Noises Off* (Drunks, Doors and Dialects), Alice in *Age of Arousal* (Drunks, Doors and Dialects) and William Shakespeare in *Shakespeare Salon* (The Dark Lady Players). CharlieJhaye.wix.com/CharlieJhaye

# Joe Aholt (Puppeteer)

Aholt studied theatre arts performance at the University of Texas Arlington. He is excited to be part of his first tour with Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live. Other theatre credits include Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing* (Fort Worth Theatre), Prince Philip in *The Lion in Winter* (Theatre Rocks!), Rhinoceros in *The Island of Doctor Moreau* (Hip Pocket Theatre) and Pee-Wee Reese in the Dallas Children's Theater's national tour of *Most Valuable Player: The Jackie Robinson Story*.

#### Eryn Malafronte (Puppeteer)

Malafronte is thrilled to be performing in Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live, reuniting her love of puppets and dinosaurs again! Her most recent credits include: *Urinetown The Musical* (Pennywise) and Chamber Theater's national tours of *Encore!!* and *Eureka!*. Wholehearted thanks to her parents, Miron, this company, and of course, her brother Brendan and Kermit the frog for getting her interested in puppets in the first place!

#### Miron Gusso (Puppeteer)

Gusso celebrates his sixth year as a T-Rex with the company. Born in Moscow, Gusso's mother introduced him to puppetry at the age of eight and he's been hooked ever since. An alumnus of the University of Connecticut's Puppetry Arts Graduate Program, Gusso has also been seen as a dinosaur on Radiolab's live show *Apocolyptical* which toured in 2013, and at Field Station: Dinosaurs (NJ). Other favorite credits include The Center for Puppetry Arts (GA) and Doc Brown at Universal Studios Japan, Osaka. mirongusso.com

# **Scott Wright** (Artistic Director)

Wright is the co-founder and Artistic Director of Erth Visual & Physical Inc. For over twenty-five years, Erth's puppetry-based theatrical productions and innovative community projects have challenged and inspired audiences across the world, driven by a founding interest in natural history, indigenous folklore, sociology and urban mythology. Wright has directed the majority of Erth's productions, which now tour year-round internationally, and have been featured in all major Australian arts festivals. Today, the company is recognized as an innovator of physical and visual theatre, and a creator of brave, unbridled work for children.

#### Sharon Kerr (Associate Director)

Kerr is Executive Director and a founding member of Erth. Originally trained as a school teacher majoring in drama, Kerr has much performance experience. Prior to helping form Erth, she spent five years in contemporary dance theatre with emphasis on improvisational movement. Puppetry became a natural extension of this. Her roles within Erth are many and varied. Contributing to creative and performance direction, Kerr continues to perform whenever she can. Kerr has also steered the company for many years as its key administrator. Some of her performance highlights include her aerial harness and flying work, memorable

amongst these are from atop the sails of the Sydney Opera House, the spire of St. Paul's Cathedral in Melbourne and from the 30th floor of the Nge Ann skyscraper in Singapore.

#### Steve Howarth (Designer)

As a founding and fulltime member of Erth Visual & Physical, Inc., Howarth designs for most of the company's productions and external commissions. From the Erth Studio/Workshop, he supervises a team of artists in creating the puppets, sets, props and costumes that are on constant tour around the globe. The puppets often take the form of the teeth-gnashing beasts and inflatable monsters that are the foundation of Dinosaur Zoo. Howarth also mentors design students from tertiary institutions and assists emerging makers in the implementation of their respective crafts.

# Bryony Anderson (Specialist Puppet Design)

Anderson is a designer, maker, artist and wannabe scientist based in the forested hills of New South Wales. Her puppets and constructions for visual performance have toured nationally and internationally with many Australian circus, puppetry, visual performance and theatre companies, and also appear in museums, festivals and documentaries. Solo exhibitions have ranged from interactive puppetry installations and handmade projection machinery to intricate illustration, all investigating a salvaged aesthetic. She has conducted community workshops in the Central Desert, rural Victoria, Western Sydney, and across the Mid North Coast of New South Wales. In 2011, she began working with her local community to seed a creative industry of skilled artisans making high caliber work from frugal resources. A three-year project was spawned and it drew in artists, composers, scientists and over 1,200 community participants, resulting in an intricately detailed forest installation made entirely from stuff that was headed to landfill. The Frugal Forest is now on tour. frugalforest. oneoffmakery.net.au

#### Phil Downing (Composer)

Downing has a distinct history working with interactive multimedia. After years spent performing music, Downing set about reinventing his means of expression through music, by creating unique and obscure musical instruments. This inspiration has led to the creation of numerous soundtracks for theatrical productions (1999–2012). Delivery of video and imagery being an obvious progression, Downing has also worked with various technologies to incorporate physical interaction (with performers and audience members) into installations and performances, utilizing technologies such as infra-red, sonar and pressure sensors, Arduino programmable circuit boards, and Kinect sensors. Working with Erth, Downing has developed systems for automated delivery of sound, light and visual effects, and has designed stand-alone sound systems for their various creature puppets. "This one's going to be a mad professor!" his grandma proclaimed upon his birth.... She was possibly correct!

#### Deborah Barr (General Manager)

Barr has worked as a production and stage manager for dance, theatre, opera and ceremonial events for numerous companies and producing entities. She worked for many years as Events Manager at the University of Texas at Austin and as a Company Manager on tour, and welcomes the opportunity to manage dinosaurs.

# Brad Simon Organization (Exclusive North American Booking)

Since 1983, The Brad Simon Organization has provided tour booking services for a diverse roster of artists and productions in a wide variety of performance venues, including performing art centers, commercial theatres, amphitheaters, arenas, festivals, fairs and theme parks. Their national and international tours have reached millions of audience members at over 1,000 commercial and non-profit venues in all 50 United States and eight provinces in Canada, plus Sydney, Australia, Singapore and other territories. They have toured 20+ productions based on top-rated television series, over 75 from regarded

book titles, as well as original theatre productions, all targeted to multi-generational family audiences. The Brad Simon Organization's longevity in the touring industry is a product of their work ethic and love for presenting live performance and meaningful theatrical experiences for audiences of all ages. www.bsoinc.com

# Red Tail Entertainment (Producer)

Founded by Phillip Drayer, Red Tail Entertainment produces a wide range of spectacular live entertainment and presents a variety of live performances by headline entertainers throughout the U.S. In addition to producing Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live, the company most recently produced the Broadway hit *A Night with Janis Joplin*. Through its subsidiary, 35 Concerts, the company presents headline entertainment at venues throughout the U.S.

# Erth Visual & Physical Inc. (Producer)

Erth is a company fueled by beautiful accidents; a team of creators, makers and performers pushing the limits of design, content and experience. For over twenty-five years, Erth's puppetry-based theatrical productions and innovative community projects have challenged and inspired audiences across the world, driven by a special interest in natural history, indigenous folklore, sociology and urban mythology. Today, the company is recognized internationally as an innovator of physical and visual theatre, and a creator of brave, unbridled work for children. Erth's work tours year-round internationally, has been featured in all major Australian arts festivals and has appeared at international events including the Sydney Olympic Games Opening Ceremony, Hong Kong Fringe, Galway Arts Festival (IR), Stockton International Riverside Festival (UK), Singapore Arts Festival, the Festival of Arts & Ideas (USA), Shanghai World Expo, the opening of the Mall of Qatar (UAE) and the Hampyeong Butterfly Festival (South Korea). Erth's studio and workshop custom builds special creations for clients that have included the Sydney Opera House, Sydney Festival, Sydney Olympic Games, Vivid Sydney, the Centenary of Federation, the Department of Communications and the Arts, Performing Lines and The Empire Strips Back, and the company has long standing creative relationships with major museums around Australia, New Zealand and the USA. In the company's ongoing push to explore boundaries and devise new work, 2017 saw the premiere of birdfoxmonster - a multi-sensorial dining experience and collaboration between Erth and Studio A, which will take place at Carriageworks, and the release of Prehistoric VR - a 360-degree virtual reality short film for children created in partnership with renowned Australian film director Samantha Lang, and based on Erth's Prehistoric Aquarium.

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its art funding and advisory body.

# Staff for Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live

General Management **Deborah Barr** National Marketing & Publicity **Catherine Major, C Major Entertainment Marketing, Inc.** Tour Manager **Steven Vick** Exclusive Tour Booking **The Brad Simon Organization** Company Manager **Valerie Campos** Tour Accountant **Katherine Belew** Technical Director **Carlos Castillo** Retail Manager **Briana Castillo** Banking **T Bank** Payroll **ADP** Graphic Design **herger3 inc. advertising & design, Cramertivity** Website Design & Interactive Marketing **Grey Ship** Photographer **Christian Waits**