

The Last Great Hunt

Night Night



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Contents

Perth Festival acknowledges the Noongar people who continue to practise values, language, beliefs and knowledge on kwobidak boodjar.

Noongar people remain the spiritual and cultural birdiyangara of this place and we honour and respect the caretakers and custodians and the vital role Noongar people play for our community and our Festival to flourish.

We also acknowledge all First Nations people, whose contributions make our Festival culturally and artistically richer.

Our hearts are happy that you are here, on the traditional lands of Whadjuk, part of the Bibbulmun nation and its people.

Perth Festival Noongar Advisory Circle

Roma Yibiyung Winmar, Vivienne Binyarn Hansen, Richard Walley,
Carol Innes, Barry McGuire & Mitchella Waljin Hutchins

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The Last Great Hunt

Night Night

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

World Premiere

Wed 26 Feb – Sun 2 Mar

Studio Underground, State Theatre Centre of WA
Yandilup/Northbridge

Duration 55mins

Wed – Fri 7.30pm

Sat 2 & 7.30pm

Sun 6pm

Schools Thu & Fri 12pm



Tactile tour and audio description performance Thu 27 Feb

Join us after the show on Thu 27 Feb for a Q&A session. Hear directly from the artists and creators of the work.

Full lockout. Latecomers will not be admitted.

Contains strobe effects and loud noises. Recommended for ages 13+



About the show

Night Night takes you on an extraordinary adventure, blending puppets, animation and DIY digital magic to create a theatrical film made live each night.

Highly visual and playfully cinematic, *Night Night* tells the tale of Pip, a downtrodden Antarctic scientist on a quest to discover the origin of life. Haunted by visions of an albino penguin, she stumbles upon a hidden plane of existence that challenges everything she thought she knew. As her world unravels, Pip must team up with a mysterious, glowing entity to reveal the threads that bind life, death and the universe.



A note from the creators

One of our first sparks of inspiration for *Night Night* was Antarctica – a cold, barren and eerily magical place that feels both untouchable and full of possibility. A place where penguins roam, life and death sit close together and the veil between worlds is at its thinnest. A perfect setting to explore humanity, nature, why we are here and what might exist just beyond.

Yet, while the cold, harsh reality of Antarctica felt charming, we wanted to create a place that had broader possibilities than our known world; for it to be familiar but otherworldly, not putting us in any particular time or place. We arrived at our own version of an Antarctic base from a fictional country – Solset.

As a piece of visual theatre, finding the aesthetic of ‘our’ Antarctica was a tricky balance. We landed on a collage of aesthetics and forms, layering and overlapping elements to create a world that unfolds in multiple dimensions – live film, animation, found footage, puppetry, real human actors and old-school theatrics.

This blend of old and new was also present within our process. We collaborated with AI to generate assets to use as base materials, which we then shaped, manipulated, animated, cut out, collaged and puppeteered – refashioning and integrating them into our deeply human creative process.

Throughout the development of *Night Night*, we found ourselves returning to conversations about consciousness and the nature of reality. Our heroine, Pip, begins with a rational, analytical mind but is confronted with a world far bigger and stranger than she ever imagined. As she navigates the magical and inexplicable, she moves toward something deeper. Ultimately, this became a story about connection – to each other, to the natural world and, perhaps, to our true nature.

In the spirit of connection, we’d love to continue the conversation. After each performance, Arielle and Tim will remain on stage, open to questions, thoughts and responses. Theatre is a place of coming together, so we welcome your reflections.

We hope you enjoy the show.

Arielle Gray, Luke Kerridge & Tim Watts
Co-Creators & Directors of *Night Night*

Credits

Creators

Arielle Gray
Luke Kerridge
Tim Watts

Performers

Arielle Gray
Tim Watts

Co-Directors

Arielle Gray
Luke Kerridge
Tim Watts

Composer

Rachel Claudio

Animation & Tech

Tim Watts

Gadgets

Anthony Watts

Costume Construction

Lynn Ferguson

Prop Construction Assistance

Sam Knox & Maker Change Creatives

Producer

Georgia Landre-Ord

Original collaborators

Ralph McCubbin Howell &
Hannah Smith (Trick of the Light)





Biographies

About The Last Great Hunt

The Last Great Hunt is an internationally renowned, artist-led collective of five theatre makers: Gita Bezard, Adriane Daff, Jeffrey Jay Fowler, Arielle Gray and Tim Watts.

The team are creators, innovators and above else, explorers. With each new theatre experience they hunt for new ideas and new ways of connecting with their expanding audiences across Australia and the world. Joined by Director, Operations Jac Low and Producer Georgia Landré-Ord, The Last Great Hunt creates high quality, rigorous, relevant and entertaining original work. The company makes theatre on Whadjuk Noongar Boodjar, honouring the rich traditions of storytelling that have been passed down through generations. Their shows feature an eclectic variety of forms, styles and experiences and they strive to give audiences an engaging, challenging and moving night out at the theatre.

Arielle Gray Creator, Co-director & Performer

Arielle (she/her) is a performer, theatre maker, director, puppeteer, voice-over artist, improviser and founding artist of The Last Great Hunt with a passion for creating and performing in inventive, original and visual theatre.

Her many highlights as a freelancer include co-adapting and performing in *CICADA* (Barking Gecko), including at Sydney Theatre Company (Winner Best Production for Children Sydney Theatre Awards). She has performed in *Cloudstreet* (Malthouse/Black Swan/Perth Festival), *Picnic at Hanging Rock* (Malthouse/Black Swan), including a season at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh and the Barbican Centre, London, *My Robot* (Barking Gecko) and *Laika: A Staged Radio Play* (Second Chance Theatre).

For The Last Great Hunt she was the co-creator and director of *Whistleblower*, which premiered at Perth Festival and won Outstanding Direction of a Mainstage show at the Performing Arts WA Awards, and *Stay With Us*, an immersive, site-specific work performed at the Riverside Hotel. She was co-creator and performer for *Night Night*, Helpmann-nominated *Lé Nør [The Rain]*, Helpmann-nominated *New Owner*, *Telephone*, *The Advisors*, *All That Glitters*, *Falling Through Clouds* and Helpmann-nominated *It's Dark Outside*.

Luke Kerridge Creator & Co-director

Luke (he/him) is an award-winning theatre maker and director. Formerly the Artistic Director of Barking Gecko Theatre in Perth and Artistic Associate at both St Martins Youth Arts Centre in Melbourne and Shopfront Arts Co-op in Sydney, Luke has created and directed productions for leading theatre companies and youth arts organisations across Australia. His notable works include *CICADA* (Barking Gecko/Sydney Theatre Company), *The Great Un-Wondering of Wilbur Whittaker* (Barking Gecko), *HOUSE* (Barking Gecko/Perth Festival) and the Helpmann Award-winning *Bambert's Book of Lost Stories*. Luke's work has earned numerous accolades, including a Drama Victoria Award, a Green Room Award, a Sydney Theatre Award and a prestigious Helpmann Award. In 2025 Luke is embarking on a Churchill Fellowship to study leading global practices in immersive theatre for children. He will also participate in the ASSITEJ Directors Exchange in Germany as Australia's national delegate.



Tim Watts Creator, Co-director & Performer

Tim (he/him) is a performer, deviser, director, puppeteer, improviser and animator from Perth, Western Australia. He is a founding member of The Last Great Hunt and a Sidney Myer Foundation recipient. He has a passion for creating and performing original, imaginatively engaging theatrical experiences born from improvisation and experimentation.

Since graduating from Notre Dame University, Fremantle with a Bachelor of Performing Arts in 2005, he has participated in international workshops, including studying clown and physical comedy with Dell'Arte International in Blue Lake California, as well as puppetry workshops with Spare Parts Puppet Theatre in Fremantle, Western Australia, and Blind Summit in the UK. He has co-created and performed in a plethora of shows, some of which have won awards and toured all over the world, including *The Adventures of Alvin Sputnik: Deep Sea Explorer* (2009), *It's Dark Outside* (2012), *Bruce* (2014), *Monroe and Associates* (2015), *New Owner* (2016), *The Irresistible* (2017), *Stay with Us* (2018), *Lé Nør [The Rain]* (2019), *Whistleblower* (2021) and *CICADA* (2022).

Rachel Claudio Composer

Rachel (she/her) aka CLAUDIO is a Perth-born artist, composer, singer and producer, best known for her work in real-time music production – after her video interpretation of the track 'Hey Ya' surpassed 2 million views, using music technology to create and perform entirely orchestrated songs live and in real time. Much of her childhood was spent at a piano transcribing British pop and Italian operas and her adolescence was largely influenced by soul, gospel and hip hop. In 2006 she moved to Paris, France, where she began a relationship with both the French language and the world of electronic music that would ultimately see her touring as an artist in her own right, viewing her own art as an endless experiment in finding the delicate balance between control and instinct. Rachel is a freelance lecturer in Creativity at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, a composer, arranger and songwriter for major labels and a composer for film and television.

Acknowledgements

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With thanks to State Theatre Centre staff, management and board

The image features a solid yellow background with several white, torn paper strips layered on top. The strips are rectangular and have irregular, jagged edges, giving the appearance of torn paper. They are arranged in a somewhat chaotic but layered fashion, with some strips overlapping others. The overall effect is clean and modern.

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