

## Flying Fruit Fly Circus - JUNK Creative Team Biographies

### Jodie Farrugia - Artistic Director

Currently the Artistic Director for the Flying Fruit Fly Circus, Jodie has directed & choreographed works for Legs on The Wall, Circus Oz, QL2 Youth Dance Company, Contact Dance Company (Europe) Tasdance, Acrobat, Flying Fruit Fly Circus, NICA, The Australian Choreographic Centre, Circus Monoxide, Deakin University & The Victorian College of the Arts.

As an independent theatre maker Jodie has created & toured several works throughout Australia, Asia & Europe. Jodie has been awarded the 2009 Helpmann Award for Best Production for Children (The Promise FFFC), a Green Room Award for Emerging Artist in Dance, the Canberra Critics Award, the Drovers Award for Artistic Excellence & the Dance Australia Critics Choice Award. Jodie has created a number of successful works for the FFFC over the past 10 years including: Skipping on Stars (National Australian Tour), Circus Girl (National and Regional Australian tour) The Promise (National Tour), Control Alt Delete (Regional Australian tour) and most recently Circus Under My Bed (Sydney Opera House, Arts Centre Melbourne, Canberra Theatre & international tour to Istanbul) Circus Under My Bed received a Helpmann nomination for best visual & physical theatre production for 2014 & a Sydney Theatre nomination for Best Production for Children. Her strong creative history with the company, circus trainers, creative team & young artist at the FFFC & her skills & sensitivities to performance making will allow her to conduct a process that will push the company into new & exciting territories.

### Jacob Williams – Director of Puppetry

Jacob Williams is a graduate of Victoria College of the Arts Drama School in Animateuring. He is the co director of Lemony S Puppet Theatre with Sarah Krugler (Dramturge on JUNK) creating a number of award winning shows including: The Cautionary Tale of Barry Von Peabody and The Scarlet St Theatre, The Liechtenstein Nursing Home Massacre and Apples and Ladders. Most recently, Jacob was 'Kong Captain' for 'King Kong – Live on Stage' awarded A Helpmann Award for 'Outstanding Theatrical Achievement' and a Green Room Award for 'Best Ensemble'. Jacob has also worked as a puppet director for the FFFC production The Promise developing a strong collaborative connection with Jodie & the creative team.

### Bec Matthews – Sound Designer

Bec is a percussionist, drummer, performer, composer, teacher, musical director and noise maker. She is a graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts where she studied orchestral percussion. Bec toured as a permanent member of the Circus Oz ensemble from 2010 to 2014, swinging in the air from Arnhem Land to New York she is the drummer who hits every mark and marks every hit. Bec was previously the Musical Director for the Women's Circus and has been an integral performer and collaborator with mutli-award winning act Yana Alana and Tha Paranas since their first show in 2007. Bec is co creator of the most recent Yana Alana offering, *Tears Before Bedtime*, which was commissioned by Theatre works and presented at the Festival of Live Art in 2014. She was Musical Director for the Melbourne Workers Theatre commissioned work *Every Angel is Terrible* in 2009-2010. Bec has worked playing live film scores with George Dreyfus and Silent Box and has toured with Musica Viva percussion ensemble *WOOF!* at schools across Victoria. She was a member of infamous Melbourne band The Spoils from 2009 to 2011 and toured to New Caledonia with Lou Bennett and the Sweet Cheeks in 2008. Bec is currently drummer for Anya Anastasia's world premier of *Torte e Mort* and is musical director for Yana Alana's new show *Covered*. She is currently a sessional teacher at the Victorian College of the Arts drama school and Melbourne Theatre Company, specialising in rhythm and sound as a tool for devising theatre and interpreting text. Alongside Bec's career as a musician and theatre maker she is also a highly regarded percussion teacher, community music facilitator and mentor. She uses traditional instruments, found objects and the body in her teaching practice and believes that music can be found everywhere and created by anyone. Bec has over 12 years experience teaching in schools and in community contexts. She has brought her dynamic and imaginative style of teaching to schools throughout Victoria, including 10 years at the Peninsula School where she was Head of Percussion. Bec is a strong believer in the potential for personal development and building community through arts education and

participation. She uses percussion as a vehicle to express a greater message about resilience, self- belief, determination and an opportunity to laugh and be present in the body. It is this approach she takes with her as she teaches from schools to regional camps, from the annual border music camp in Albury to remote Aboriginal communities, gaining trust in all whom she teaches, igniting a passion for those just learning and re inspiring those who have been learning for years.

### **Joey Ruigrok- Set Design.**

Joey Ruigrok van der Werven is a freelance designer and director for visual and physical theatre. The worlds he creates are a mix of performance, structures, lights, sounds, machinery and sensory elements like water and fire. Joey makes a style of theatre that can express real meaning and poetry through the animation of the “material” and interaction between characters and their environments. He has designed and build for Stalker, Marrugeku, Legs on the Wall, Gravity Feed, Kantanka, Urban Theatre Projects, Shopfront Theatre, Erth, Performance Space and on many independent works, such as: designer and co-writer of “*Dream Masons*”, a family spectacle on the façade of Salamanca Arts Centre in Hobart; director of his own “*Volta*”, a designer driven performance event at Carriage Works, direction and design of *The Lunchbox* for IHOS opera; designer and co-writer of “*FireWater*”, a large scale spectacle in Sydney Harbour; director and designer of “*The Elwick Bark*”, a community sculpture for Glenorchy City Council, designer of *The 2012 Perth International Festival Garden*. In 2009 Joey received a 2-year Theatre Board Fellowship on self-devised image and spectacle performance making in Australia. He brings a wealth of experience in designing for circus & physical theatre

### **Sian James Holland: Lighting Designer**

Sian James-Holland is a Sydney based lighting designer whose career has seen her design for productions across Australia, in Asia & throughout North America. Sian is a graduate of WAAPA & HKAPA. Previous work include *The Flying Fruit Fly Circus: Control Alt Delete*, *Crunch*, *Pirates*, *Beach Party*, *Get Smarter*, *Ctrl Alt Del and Circus Under My Bed* (helpmann nomination for best visual and physical teatre production 2014.). Darlinghurst Theatre Company: *Ordinary Days* and *Reasons to be Pretty*. The Banft Centre (Banft Canada): *Turn of the screw* and *Hold me neighbour in the storm*. NIDA Expo 2012, *The Ham Funeral* (New Theatre), *The Lonesome West* (Bsharp). Assistant LD- *Every Breath* and Lighting Realiser *Death of a Salesman* (Belvoir). Tour re lighter *CATS the Musical* China and Korea. Lighting design consultant fo *The English National Ballet* (2012), Barry Humphries and The Australia Chamber Orchestra Weimer Cabaret (2013) Sian guest lectures in lighting design at ACPE & mentors lighting design at NIDA. Sian’s most recent work includes Light design for MONKEY (Theatre of Image) *Henry V* (Bell Shakespeare) Sian brings a wealth of knowledge & experience in the technical limitations & requirements of lighting design for circus, her long history & experience designing for the FFFC & working with Director Jodie Farrugia has allowed her to create innovative techniques in lighting circus without compromising the skills & performers safety.

### **Sarah Kriegler –Dramaturge**

Sarah Kriegler is an award winning puppeteer, director & writer for visual theatre. She trained at the V.C.A, School of Drama (Animateuring), & is the co director of Lemony S Puppet Theatre. With Lemony S, Sarah has created & directed many works including the award winning *Foxy’s House of Horror*, *One Night The Dog and Apples and Ladders*. Sarah currently is Artistic Associate of Chamber Made Opera. Sarah was also part of the creative team on the FFFC production *The Promise* as co puppet director & performer. Sarah brings to this project a strong connection with all artists involved in JUNK. As a visual theatre writer & director she has developed strong skills in dramaturgy for interdisciplinary visual theatre.

[CLICK TO RETURN](#)

[TO EVENT PAGE](#)