

# Theresa O'Connor Performance CV & BIO

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THERESA O'CONNOR is a Performer, Puppeteer and Theatre Maker with a bachelor degree in theatre and has also trained in physical theatre and puppetry across Australia and Europe.

As a puppeteer, Theresa has performed in the national tour of *Charlie and Lola's Best Bestest Play*, and *Charlie and Lola's Extremely New Play*, which also took her to Singapore and Hong Kong. She performed as Pinocchio for the Puppets in Prague Teatroc Festival, and has also performed as roving characters in many Australian festivals, such as Baby Mimni Dinosaur for Romp and Stomp at the Melbourne Museum and as Chicken in Snuff Puppets performance of *Wedhus Gembel*. Most recently she performed with Terrapin Puppet Theatre's schools tour of *You and Me and the Space Between* and is currently filming a TV pilot for a new children's puppet show, *Monti's Quest*.

Her company Salt & Poppet Theatre creates puppet theatre works that are daring and different, combining art forms to create new and exciting work for children and adults. Theresa has been a theatre deviser and performer in the following works: *Lady Cara Bonita*, a hand carved marionette burlesque dancer; *The Sleeper and the Spindle*, a shadow puppet and stop motion work presented at MONA FOMA with Neil Gaiman; *Silver Strings*, a physical theatre and puppetry promenade work; *Remnants*, a physical comedy with foam puppets; and *Passion.Little.And.Young*, a physical theatre piece which was the winner of the Flip Top Heart Festival. Her latest work *Inside the Walls* is a giant popup book ghost story for kids! It has been performed at the State Library of Victoria, La Mama and Lemony S Theatre's Melbourne Puppetry Festival, The National Theatre in St Kilda, The Melbourne Fringe Festival and the Adelaide Fringe Festival.

Another component of Salt & Poppet Theatre is puppet workshops and performance making. Her most recent projects include: Spooky Shadow Puppet Workshops with Carclew for Kids Central, Adelaide City Library and Pembroke Primary School in Adelaide.

## **PERFORMANCE**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>PRODUCTION</b>	<b>ROLE</b>	<b>DIRECTOR</b>	<b>COMPANY</b>
2017	Melbourne Puppetry Festival	Cara Bonita	Theresa O'Connor	Salt & Poppet Theatre
2017	Inside the Walls, ADL Fringe	Izzy	Theresa O'Connor	Adelaide Fringe Festival
2016	You and Me and the Space Between		Sam Routledge	Terrapin Puppet Theatre
2015	Inside the Walls, Melb Fringe	Izzy	Theresa O'Connor	Salt & Poppet Theatre
2015	Where the Wild Things Sing	Jellyfish	Nancy Black	Summersalt Festival
2015-16	Roaming Dinosaurs	Baby Mimni		Melbourne Museum
2015	<i>Charlie and Lola's Extremely New Play</i>	Lotta	Roman Stefanski	Live Nation
2014	<i>Charlie and Lola's Extremely New Play</i>		Roman Stefanski	MEI Live, Singapore, Hong Kong
2014	<i>I Will Never Not Ever Eat a Tomato</i>	Multiple	Theresa O'Connor, Brendan Bacon, Sarah Hamilton	Entertainment Store
2014	<i>Charlie and Lola's Best Bestest Play</i>	Bat Cat	Kym Halpin	Andrew Kaye & Associates

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2013	<i>Monti's Quest</i> (TV Pilot)	Monti hands	Kurt Breitenmoser	BrightMonstor Productions
2013	<i>Romp and Stomp</i>	Baby Minmi	Dinosaur (Roving Performance)	Melbourne Museum
2013	<i>Wedhus Gembel</i>	Chicken	Andy Freer	Snuff Puppets
2012	<i>Charlie and Lola's Extremely New Play</i>	Lotta	Roman Stefanski	Sydney Opera House
2012	<i>Patient Zero</i>	Zombie	Brendan Bacon	IRL Shooter
2012	<i>What's in My Suitcase?</i>	Puppeteer	Conor Fox	Gary Friedman Productions
2011-12	<i>Charlie and Lola's Best Bestest Play</i>	Bat Cat	Roman Stefanski	MEI Live
2012	<i>Australia</i> by Neil Gaiman	Puppeteer	Theresa O'Connor	Salt & Poppet Theatre
2011	<i>The Magical Oak Tree</i>	Lucy	Gavin Macleod	The Puppet Box
2010	<i>Pinocchio</i>	Pinocchio	Dora Bouzkova	Prague TeatroToc Festival
2010	<i>Macbeth</i>	Ensemble	Scott Witt	JUTE Theatre
2009	Roving Performance	Toclette	Theresa O'Connor	Brisbane Valley Fiesta
2008	<i>Remnants</i>	Hip	Theresa O'Connor & Kate Hill	Terrapin Puppet Theatre
2008	<i>Silver Strings</i>	Leonie	Theresa O'Connor	Mudlark Theatre Inc
2008	<i>The Bridesmaid Must Die!</i>	Julia	Leigh Oswin	CentrStage
2007	<i>Dracula</i>	Chorus	Steven Mitchell Wright	Zen Zen Zo Physical Theatre
2007	<i>Come and Go</i>	Vi	Stephen Atkins	Zen Zen Zo Physical Theatre
2007	<i>Quad</i>	4	Stephen Atkins	Zen Zen Zo Physical Theatre
2006	<i>Anxious but not alarmed</i>	Jenny	Stuart Loone	One Day Productions
2006	<i>Illuminations3</i>	Ensemble	Trisha Dunn & Cat Freeman	Tasdance
2004	<i>Seth Wants A Toy</i>	Angela	Angela Driver	One Day Productions
2004	<i>The Golden Age</i>	Betsheb	Stan Gottschalk	Three River Theatre
2004	<i>Whisperings of Intuition</i>	Peaches	Angela Driver	One Day Productions
2002	<i>He Died with a Falafel in His Hand</i>	Serina	David Sheehan	FifthWall Productions
2000-03	Corporate Theatre Actor	Various	Caroline Greig	Edinburgh Fringe Festival
				Chimera & Frontline

## **THEATRE MAKING**

2015	<i>Inside the Walls</i>		<i>Deviser &amp; Performer</i>	Salt & Poppet Theatre
2014	<i>The Sleeper and the Spindle</i> by Neil Gaiman		Puppet Maker & Performer	Salt & Poppet Theatre
2013	<i>Lady Carabonita</i>		Deviser & Performer	Salt & Poppet Theatre
2013	Kalgoorlie Boulder Puppet Theatre		Teaching Artist & Director	Salt & Poppet Theatre
2011	<i>Australia</i> by Neil Gaiman		Puppet Maker	Salt & Poppet Theatre
2010	<i>Little Fish Big Fish</i>		Deviser & Director	Salt & Poppet Theatre
2010	<i>Pinocchio</i>		Collaborator	Puppets in Prague
2008	<i>Silver Strings</i>		Deviser & Director	Mudlark Theatre Inc
2008	<i>Remnants</i>		Deviser & Performer	Terrapin Puppet Theatre
2007	<i>Dracula</i>		Collaborator	Zen Zen Zo Physical Theatre
2006	<i>Get A Grip</i> (5 – 17yr olds)		Deviser & Director	Slipstream Circus
2006	<i>Illuminations3</i>		Collaborator	Tasdance
2005	<i>Passion.Little.And.Young</i>		Deviser & Performer	is Theatre
2001	<i>Wombat Stew</i> (7-9yr olds)		Director	Tasdance School of Performing Arts

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## **TEACHING**

2017	Puppetry and Devised Theatre Mentor	The Package	Red Hot Arts
2017	Pembroke Primary School	Shadow Puppets	Salt and Poppet Theatre
2017	Kid Central	Shadow Puppets	Carclew
2017	Adelaide City Library	Shadow Puppets	Salt and Poppet Theatre
2014	Moomba Festival	Bubble Wrap Puppets	Barking Spider Visual Theatre
2012	Heart of Gold Festival Puppet Making	Hand Puppets	ArtGold
2012	Creative Challenge Residency	Hand Puppets & Sculptures	Awesome Arts
2007	Tasmania Stomp	Suzuki Method & Viewpoints	Zen Zen Zo Physical Theatre
2006	Mt Cameron Youth Performing Arts Camp	Drama Teacher	Second Storey Youth Theatre
2000-01	Weekly Classes (7-10yr, 11-15yr olds)	Drama Teacher	Tasdance School of Performing Arts

## **TRAINING**

2017 Sue Buckmaster, *The Puppet Whisperer*, Theatre Rites LONDON

2014 Duda Paiva Masterclass, Institute de la Marionette, Charleville-Mezieres FRANCE

2013 Simon T Rann Masterclass Puppetry & Object Theatre, EARTH Visual & Physical Theatre, SYDNEY

2011 Puppetry for Television & Web Course, Gary Friedman Productions MELBOURNE, VIC

2010 Object Theatre: *The Actor and The Object* by Agnes Limbos at Tarumba LISBON, PORTUGAL

2010 Modern Art of Mime: Bartlomiej Ostapczuk, Gregg Goldston, Ewelina Ciszewska, WARSAW, POLAND

2010 Marionette Manipulation Technique: Renata Kubisova, Dora Bouzkova, Puppets in PRAGUE

2010 Marionette Wood Carving: Mirek Trejtnar Puppets in PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

2010 Cycas Circus – Aerial Training, CAIRNS, QLD

2009 Clowning Intensive Workshop Clare Bartholomew, MELBOURNE, VIC

2009 Tasdance Summer School – Contemporary Dance & Choreographic Techniques  
Malcolm McMillan, Emma Porteus LAUNCESTON, TAS

2008 Gesture & Character Workshops, Nicole Jobson as part of her Masters of Contemporary Arts UTAS

2008 Contemporary Dance Classes at Tasdance (Launceston) and at Expressions (Brisbane)

2007 Zen Zen Zo Physical Theatre Company Internship  
Suzuki, Viewpoints, Butoh, Meisner Techniques, Brisbane QLD

2007 Circa, and Vulcana Womens Circus – Trapeze and Tissu, Brisbane QLD

2006 Zen Zen Zo Physical Theatre; Masterclass Creative Development, Brisbane QLD

1997 - 1999 Bachelor of Performing Arts (Theatre), University of Tasmania

## **AWARDS AND GRANTS RECEIVED**

2015 Creative Victoria ArtsVic Grant, *Inside the Walls* Development

2014 Children's Literature Fellowship, State Library of Victoria

2011 Funding for Kalgoorlie Boulder Puppet Theatre Project  
Kalgoorlie Boulder Council & Country Arts Western Australia

2007 Terrapin Puppet Theatre Articulate Creative Development Program for 2008

2007 Creative Development Funding for *Silver Strings* by Theresa O'Connor  
Arts Tasmania, Tasmanian Regional Arts, Tasmania Community Fund, Launceston City Council

2006 Skills Development Funding for *Zen Zen Zo Physical Theatre Internship* Tasmanian Regional Arts

2005 Winner *is Theatre's* Flip Top Heart Performance Competition for *Passion.Little.And.Young*

## **SPECIAL SKILLS**

Puppeteer (Rod, Marionette, Shadow, Hand, Object)  
Costume and Puppet Design & Construction  
Theatre Deviser, Director, Mentor

## **REFEREES**

Roman Stefanski	Director	Ph +44 7973 656652
Brendan Bacon	Actor, Puppeteer & Director	Ph +61 417 545 949