

AMANIMAL

By Rifleman Productions
Produced by SHOW PONY



Directors	Malia Johnston Emma Willis
Performance & Choreography	Ross McCormack Paul Young
Producer	SHOW PONY (Adrienne Roberts)
Performer & Composition	Eden Mulholland
Set Design	John Verryt
AV Design	Rowan Pierce

*We've become close: really, really close.
And I don't want to be negative, but if I had to, I would kill you.*

Amanimal is the third major collaboration between Johnston and theatre director Emma Willis, and continues their work with Eden Mulholland (music), Rowan Pierce (video design) and John Verryt (set). Featuring two of New Zealand's most experienced and engaging contemporary dancers, Ross McCormack and Paul Young, *Amanimal* is a witty look at animals, men and the worlds they build and break apart.

Amanimal premiered at Q Theatre in February 2013 as part of the Auckland Fringe Festival. Later in 2013 the work will go through further development before being ready for presentation later this year.

Winner of 2 Auckland Fringe Awards:

Best Production, Dance

Best Performance, Dance (Ross McCormack)

BIOGRAPHIES

Rifleman Productions

Rifleman Productions is the production company of New Zealand based choreographer and director Malia Johnston. The company creates, supports and promotes professional contemporary dance and dancers, and has a reputation for producing sophisticated new dance theatre work. The company has produced several major works, including *body / fight / time*, *Amanimal* (their most recent work, premiering in Feb 2013), *Miniatures*, *Terrain* and *Dark Tourists*. Rifleman engages in quality contemporary dance theatre practice and performance that reflects our unique cultural perspective as New Zealand artists and believes that the future for independent choreographers lies away from the traditional dance company model. We aim to create engaging work for a wide range of audiences and foster relationships with other artists. It is a particular interest of Rifleman to promote and widen the public's experience of dance through presenting portable and innovative work that challenges traditional ideas about what dance is and can be.

Malia Johnston | Co-Director

As well as being the Creative Director for Rifleman Productions through which she creates her contemporary work Malia is the current Artistic Director and principal choreographer for the World of Wearable Art Awards and has been their principal Choreographer and Stage Director since 2001. Malia returned from Hong Kong in February where she staged WOW's first international debut at the Hong Kong Arts Festival. Malia mentors and guest tutors choreography and technique at New Zealand School of Dance and Unitec (Auckland), she presents work for each school for their Graduation performances regularly. Malia has had a close choreographic relationship with, and is regularly commissioned by Footnote Dance Co, she has been choreographing works on this company since 1999. Her latest work commissioned by Footnote will be performed in 2012 for their *Made in New Zealand* season. She also made a new work *Purlieu* on the company that toured to Shanghai for the New Zealand National Day performance as part of the 2010 World Expo in China and has 11 other prior commissions with the company. Malia has also had a significant performance and choreographic relationship with Touch Compass Dance Co including making works *Ten of Hearts*, *Infinite Sides*, *Spoke* and *The Big the Bad and the Beautiful*. Malia's work has been toured extensively through New Zealand.

Emma Willis | Co-Director

Emma is a professional theatre-maker and theatre academic with an interest in the collaborative practices, site specific work, and the interface of dance and theatre. Her research interests include contemporary theatre, performance theories, theatre and ethics, memorial practices, travel and performative representations of the body (particularly in relation to illness and health). Emma has most recently collaborated as co-director and dramaturge with Malia Johnston on dance-theatre projects *Dark Tourists* (2007-2008), *body / fight / time* (2011), and *Two Little Dickie Birds* (forthcoming). She has directed a number of new New Zealand theatre works, both devised and scripted, in Auckland and Wellington, including *The Swimming Lessons* and *Never Never* by Jackie van Beek; and *Milk* (Best Theatre Work 1998 Wellington Fringe Festival), *Flood* (Most Original Production 2000 Chapman Tripp Theatre Awards), *Fever and A Perfect Plan* (nominated for 3 awards at the 2002 Chapman Tripp Awards). Additionally she has worked as a script consultant for Auckland Theatre Company and as a freelance script assessor for Playmarket. Emma has written and directed two radio plays for Radio New Zealand, *The Fat Man* (adaptation of a Maurice Gee novel) 2003; and *Milk* completed in 2005. Emma Willis teaches theatre studies full-time at Massey University, Wellington. She is a B.A. graduate of Victoria University of Wellington, with an M.A. and PhD. in Drama Studies from the University of Auckland. Emma has trained in theatre with Christian Penny, John Downie, Philip Mann, Min Tanaka and Enrique Pardo.

Adrienne Roberts | Producer

Adrienne is a Wellington based theatre and dance producer who specializes in producing bold, innovative and original work with a strong New Zealand voice. She trained at Victoria University of Wellington's Theatre and Media Studies programmes, and University of Leeds, United Kingdom. She is a founding member of award-winning collective Three Spoon Theatre receiving awards for her marketing campaigns for *March of the Meeklings: an Apocalyptic Romp*, and 2009 New Zealand Fringe's *A Most Outrageous Humbug*, a devised work based on Edgar Allan Poe's life and short stories. Adrienne has a long standing relationship with BATS and their annual STAB Festival, having worked on one of the festivals shows every year since 2009, with the last two years as producer (*Tinderbox* by The Playground Collective, *Flatland* by Interrupt Collective) and other key Wellington theatres Downstage (*Live at Six*, 2012) and Circa Theatre (*The Lead Wait*, 2011). Since committing to work fulltime as a producer in late 2011 she has worked on over a dozen shows throughout New Zealand. In late 2012 she founded production company SHOW PONY, one of the two recipient producer companies of the Creative New Zealand Producer Pilot Programme fund.

TOURING DETAILS

Technical arrangements concerning the show should be made by agreement with the following contacts

ADRIANNE ROBERTS, Producer: Adrienne@showponynz.com, 021 222 8212

MALIA JOHNSTON, Co-Director: mali@xtra.co.nz, 021 520 170

ROWAN PIERCE, AV designer: rowanpierce@hotmail.com, 021 797 511

Touring Party

3 Performers

1 Producer (to attend opening night performance)

1 Production Manager / tech operator

TOTAL = 5

SET requirements

The show is ideally suited to a theatre venue (150-400 seater), end-on configuration.

To be provided by the Festival / venue

- Diagrams and blue prints of the space as soon as possible to determine layout
- Pack-in and –out crew to install and remove the set

Production will provide:

- All props, costuming and set pieces
- Set floor/wall = 8m x 8m (white linoleum)

TECHNICAL requirements

To be provided by the Festival / venue

AV plan can be obtained from AV designer Rowan Pierce (details above)

- 4k projector, rigged above seating block

LIGHTING requirements

To be provided by the Festival / venue

LX plan can be obtained from late 2013

SOUND requirements

To be provided by the Festival / venue

- Regular theatre venue PA system
- 2 mics, cables and mic stands (black)
- Mixing desk

Production will provide

- Guitars, looping pedals, computer to record music live and onstage

SCHEDULE

Pack in: 4 hours including / Pack out: 2 hours

Performance is approx 55 minutes in length (minimum turn around is 1 hour between shows)

Performers can do two shows per day

Performers happy to participate in discussions after performances with the audience or school groups (included

in fee)

TRANSPORT requirements

To be provided by the Festival

- Return travel from Wellington, Christchurch New Zealand and Melbourne Australia for 5 pax and set freight
- Equipment fits inside 1 car, and linoleum must be freighted

ACCOMMODATION requirements

To be provided by the Festival / venue

- Separate rooms for 5 pax
- Per diems of \$50 each per day
- 3+ star accommodation with self-catering amenities

DRESSING ROOM requirements

To be provided by the Festival / venue

- Clean dressing rooms equipped with lighted mirrors, racks and hangers for costumes, and access to toilets
- Separate male and female dressing rooms large enough to fit 3 pax each
- Access to the dressing rooms during tech times and not less than 2 hours prior to all performances

PHOTO CALLS, VIDEO SHOOTS, AND PUBLIC ACCESS

Video and photo shoots must be approved by the Production prior to arrival. Public access to the performance area during rehearsals or technical time must also be approved prior to arrival.

Marketing stills from previous seasons are available to the Festival with the appropriate photographer/designer credit.

AMENDMENTS

Both the presenting partner and the Production must approve amendments to the rider. This is a technical rider and does not constitute the full understanding of the engagement between the presenting partner and the Production.

PRODUCER CONTACT DETAILS

Adrienne Roberts / Producer, SHOW PONY

E. adrienne@showponynz.com

P. +64 21 222 8212 / +64 4 830 0937

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

PERFORMANCE DATES

27 Feb – 2 March 2013 Q Theatre (Loft), Auckland

REVIEWS in chronological order

2013

<http://www.theatreview.org.nz/reviews/review.php?id=5585>

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/raewyn-whyte/news/article.cfm?a_id=807&objectid=10868384

VIDEO

A full version of *Amanimal* will shortly be available. To request footage please ask the Producer above.

IMAGERY

Visit the Show Pony Facebook page to access upcoming imagery of *Amanimal*. Select 'Photos' and from there will be an album of stills.

<http://www.facebook.com/showponynz>

TOURING POSSIBILITIES – *TIME-TRAVELLER*

Time Traveller (working title) is a new work planned for development in 2013, funding dependant, by the same creative team behind *Amanimal* – Malia Johnston, Emma Willis, Eden Mulholland, Rowan Pierce, John Verryt. It will be produced by SHOW PONY and feature four performers, some of whom will also be performers in *Amanimal* and/or *Terrain*. The concept is to create a four-person work that can double bill with *Amanimal* and will be a creative compliment to it. The overall vision is that Rifleman will have three small-scale works – *Terrain*, *Amanimal* and *Time Traveller* – that can be toured in repertory and which will require only four performers and minimal crew.