

MEDIA RELEASE: 15 November 2021

EXPLORE A WONDERLAND OF LIGHT AND SOUND

Patch's Lighthouse

Patch Theatre

A Perth Festival Commission



Image: Matt Byrne

A magical lighthouse is set to captivate the young and the young-at-heart as part of Perth Festival 2022.

Patch's Lighthouse is a theatrical journey encouraging audiences to experiment and explore the endless wonders of light, igniting their imaginations through this elusive yet fundamental force of nature.

Designed for all ages, this house of marvels is an immersive realm of wonder and surprise activated by interactive installations, musicians, performers and grand lighting wizardry throughout a series of interconnected theatres at **The University of Western Australia**.

This **Patch Theatre** production, co-commissioned by Perth Festival, is another fantastic theatrical experience combining science, light and imagination from the South Australian company – a signature feature integral to its storytelling techniques. Founded in 1972, Patch Theatre has produced 112 unique works and performed them to over 1.85 million children worldwide.

Patch's Lighthouse takes the whole family from tiny spark to Big Bang, from pixel to landscape, from line to laser. Part installation, part scientific quest, part performance, part rave – the kind of magic that only interactive theatre can provide.

Making its debut at the 2020 Adelaide Festival, to both audience and critical acclaim, *Patch's Lighthouse* took home the 2020 Ruby Award for Best Work or Event within a Festival. Artistic Director **Geoff Cobham** is thrilled to be premiering the work to West Australian audiences, complete with atmospheric musical composition from long-time collaborator **Zoë Barry**.

'It feels incredibly special to bring *Patch's Lighthouse* to audiences at Perth Festival in 2022,' says Cobham. 'Not only will it be an utter treat to board a plane and travel across the country, but the real joy comes from sharing the magic with our Western Australian friends and watching the faces of our audience as they explore the wonder of light. One recently told me after the show; 'BEST DAY EVER!'

Perth Festival Artistic Director Iain Grandage says '*Patch's Lighthouse* will be a highlight of this year's Festival program for audiences of all ages. Patch's Artistic Director Geoff Cobham is one of Australia's finest theatrical visionaries and this beautiful work shows him at his imaginative best. It is a joy get a chance to bring this beautifully engaging work to audiences here in WA.'

WHAT: Patch's Lighthouse

WHERE: Octagon Theatre / Godroo / Crawley

WHEN: Tue 15 – Fri 18 Feb 4pm - 7.20pm. Sessions every 20mins. Last entry 6.20pm

Sat 19 & Sun 20 Feb 10am - 1.20pm & 2.50 - 6.10pm. Sessions every 20mins. Last entry 12.20 & 5.10pm

HOW MUCH: \$29

BOOKINGS AND FESTIVAL INFO: perthfestival.com.au

Click [here](#) for images. For further information, interviews or images please contact:

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Perth Festival acknowledges the Noongar people who continue to practise their values, language, beliefs and knowledge on their kwobidak boodjar. They remain the spiritual and cultural birdiyangara of this place and we honour and respect their caretakers and custodians and the vital role Noongar people play for our community and our Festival to flourish.

ABOUT PERTH FESTIVAL

Founded in 1953 by The University of Western Australia, Perth Festival is the longest running international arts festival in Australia and Western Australia's premier cultural event. The Festival has developed a worldwide reputation for excellence in its international program, the

presentation of new works and the highest quality artistic experiences for its audience. For nearly 70 years, the Festival has welcomed to Perth some of the world's greatest living artists and now connects with hundreds of thousands of people each year. Iain Grandage is the Artistic Director 2020–24.

PATCH THEATRE

Patch Theatre have been making professional theatre for 4–10-year-old children and their families from their home in South Australia since 1972. They've produced 112 unique works and performed them to over 1.85 million children around the world. That's over 40,000 children each year that they provide inspirational, design-rich theatre experiences to.

In addition to theatrical works, Patch Theatre develop interactive design led, immersive installations in non-traditional theatre spaces for the whole family. These installations are an exciting new direction for Patch and allows them to connect to a wider audience.

With a broad range of inspiration from storybooks to science and beyond, light is an integral part of their work. It plays a strong role in the way they tell stories and provide audiences with an opportunity to join them on a journey of curiosity and delight.

After premiering new works in Adelaide, Patch tours extensively in regional South Australia and nationally each year. They've performed in over 90 towns and cities around Australia, and internationally have completed over 30 tours in countries including the USA, Canada, Singapore, Korea, Japan, China, Hong Kong and New Zealand.

ARTISTIC CREDITS

Creators

Geoff Cobham, Zoë Barry, Daisy Brown, Michelle 'Maddog' Delaney, Clara Grant, Marty McBubble, Chris Petridis, Jason Sweeney, Wendy Todd & Meg Wilson

Performed by

Daisy Sanders, Ella Hetherington, Jacob Lehrer & Manjula Radha Krishnan

GEOFF COBHAM

Geoff Cobham is one of Australia's leading culture professionals with over 40 years' experience collaborating in all forms of theatre. He spent ten years as Associate Director of dance theatre Force Majeure, five years as resident designer at State Theatre Company South Australia and has worked in senior management roles at Sydney Festival, Adelaide Festival and WOMAD. Geoff founded award-winning lighting design company Bluebottle in 1998 and following a long and notable history with Patch Theatre, was appointed Artistic Director in 2018.

As Artistic Director he has created *ZOOM*, *Firefly Forest*, *Glow*, *Sea of Light* and *The Lighthouse*, together with *I Wish...* which premiered in 2021.

AWARDED

2020 – Ruby Award for Best work or event within a festival

QUOTES

‘Tangible, exciting, creative, exquisite and planned’ – Feast Magazine

‘A well-designed visual treat for the young and the young at heart.’ – InDaily

‘A completely illuminating experience.’ – Kiddo Mag

‘’ – Hi Fi Live

‘I love it! I love it! I love it!’ – Child, age 6

‘OMG. Am I in another dimension?’ – Child, age 13

SOCIAL MEDIA

Instagram: @patch_theatre

Facebook: @patchtheatre