

KITE Arts Education Program @ QPAC

KITE Program at QPAC is an early childhood arts education initiative of Education Queensland supported by and located at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre. KITE delivers relevant, contemporary arts education experiences for Prep to Year Three students and teachers across Queensland.

We believe

- Children thrive when given access to a creative life.
- Schools succeed in multiple ways when teachers, students and families become part of the arts and cultural participation.
- Arts education experiences in early childhood are of particular significance as they have the power to impact positively on brain development.
- Arts education programs in schools are of particular benefit to under-resourced communities.
- Ongoing conversations with households, teachers and students provoke new thinking and practices in early phase arts delivery.

To achieve our vision we

Engage, Participate and Enable by creating and facilitating

- Performances
- Participative art projects
- Professional development services
- Partnerships

More about KITE Arts Education Program at <http://www.qpac.com.au/education/>

QUEENSLAND PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

www.qpac.com.au

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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The Honourable Rod Welford MP

Minister for Education and Training and Minister for the Arts

Director-General for Education, Training and the Arts: Rachel Hunter

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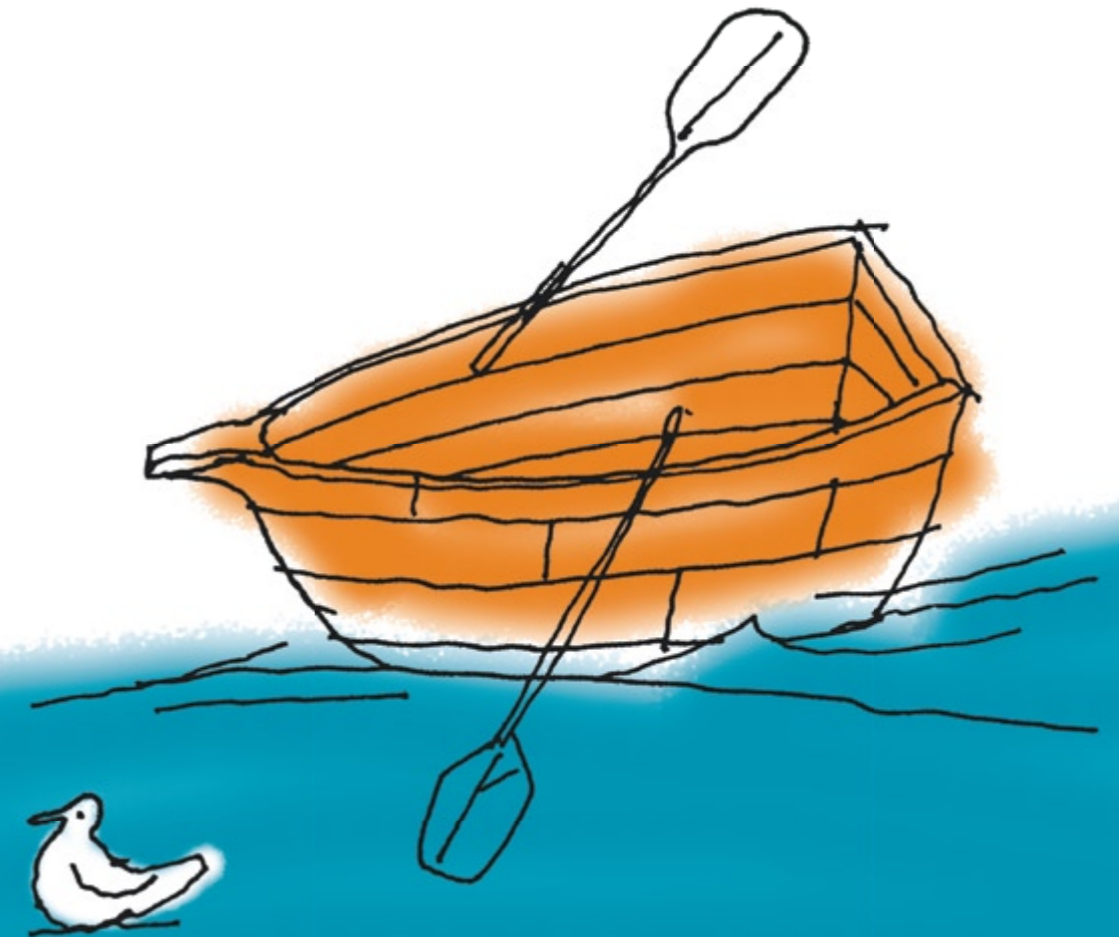
Queensland Government
Education Queensland

Funded with the assistance of
Education Queensland

KITE Arts Education Program at QPAC
presents

Boat

A boat . . . your imagination . . . a journey . . .
where will it take us?



Age this production has been created especially for children aged 4–8 years

Date and Time 23 – 27 October, 10.30am and 1.00pm daily

Venue Studio 2

Duration approximately 50 minutes

Illustration by Jonathon Oxlade

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Boat

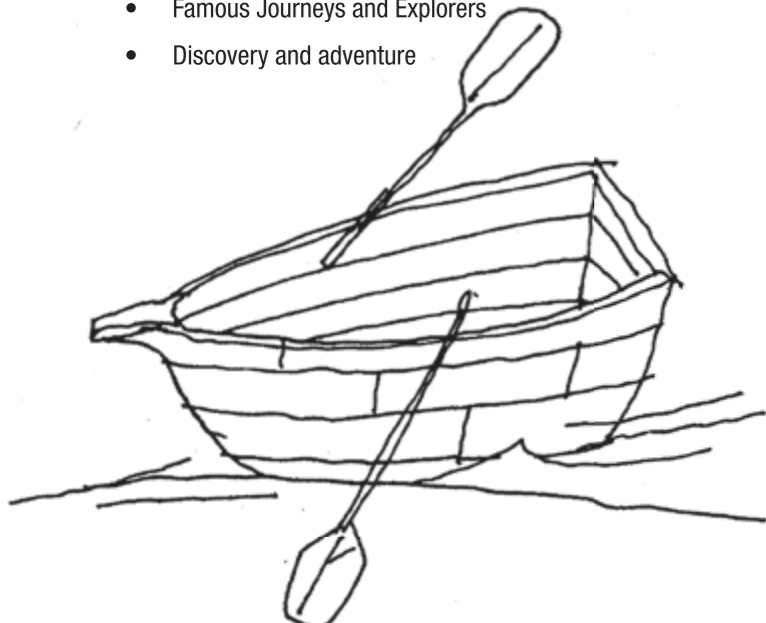
Tossing and tumbling in his cardboard boat, The Boy embarks on an epic adventure discovering and exploring enchanting landscapes; encountering challenges and learning to cope in unfamiliar territory. *Boat* presents an imagined world in which The Boy navigates threatening, frustrating and enticing islands. He draws on his skills and resourcefulness to emerge with increased knowledge about himself and the world.

An odyssey story for children told through rich imagery, sound and movement, *Boat* is inspired by the traditional hero's journey, child development theory and the lived experiences of children. The production celebrates the validity and importance of children's emotional lives and their potential in determining their present and future selves. *Boat* is a contemporary performance work that positions children as both participants in and recipients of the work. It will be performed by a rotating cast of child performers accompanied by the Kite Teacher Artists.

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Themes and Topics in *Boat*

- Family relationships
- Emotional intelligence
- Determination
- Resourcefulness
- Care and compassion
- Journeys and their purpose
- Famous Journeys and Explorers
- Discovery and adventure



Artists

Creative Producer Susan Richer

Director Wesley Enoch

Writer/Dramaturge Janis Balodis

Designer Jonathon Oxlade

Sound Composer Brett Coltery

Lighting Designer David Walters

Performers (The Boy) Leigh Stefanou, Louis Raynor, Max Radvan, Raff Ebeling

KITE Teacher Artists/Performers Natasha Budd, Adrienne Jones

Production Manager Ken Francey

Stage Manager Eloise Grace

Snorkeling People/Audience Helpers Erina Carboni, Elizabeth Millicamp, Rebecca Sherab, Daniel Santangeli

Set Construction QPAC workshop

Props Maker Jan Van Dijk

Costumes Madeline Taylor

Lighting Technician Dean Russo

Senior Audio Technician Ben Quinn

Being part of a theatre Experience: the role of the audience

Children will be immersed in a theatrical environment that is both an installation and set, theatrical and game like. The young audience and their adult companions will enter the performance space in boat sizes groups. The audience will be guided to the middle of a group of islands where they will sit. Through lighting, sound and movement, children will be able to experience the effect of being on the water whilst watching a story unfold.

At times, they will need to move to allow The Boy to undertake his journey, at times they may sway as if part of the sea and sometimes they may turn to view a different island. Each island like shape has an exquisite surprise that will be revealed through the performance as the audience travels with The Boy.

This performance experience is quite different to the usual viewing of a performance from the parameters of a seat in the dark of an auditorium. To prepare children for the Boat performance, here are some pre-show discussion ideas:

- There are people outside (Front of House) and inside the theatre who are there to help the audience feel safe and comfortable. This is a safe, friendly place to be. If we need help with anything, we can ask them.
- There are toilets close to the performance space and we're allowed to go in and out of the performance space when we need to



- It's ok to talk quietly while the performance is on
- Inside the performance space, everyone will be sitting on the floor – we're allowed to turn around to see and we'll need to move a little bit every now and then to get out of the way of a small boat
- When the performance starts, the space will get quite dark – we might want to snuggle up a bit if we feel afraid
- There is a big storm in the performance – there will be thunder and lightning – it's ok to put our hands over our eyes or ears or have a cuddle



Discussion

- Talk about the mood of each island and the feelings experienced by The Boy, eg frustration, anger, glee, boredom, happy – what are some other moments we remember and what do we think and feel about them? Talk about what the story seemed to be.
- Talk about colour and mood – which colours do we remember in the show and which mood were they associated with in the story?
- Talk about the sounds of the performance – what do we remember hearing and feeling? How did the soundscape help to tell the story?
- Talk about the visual design - how did the lighting, set and props help to tell the story?

Through such discussions, children can begin to learn the language of drama and can unpack the performance by exploring their thoughts and feelings both within and after the show.

Extend some of the Boat themes and topics with these resources:



Special thanks to:

Gabriel, Alfie and Jarryd, Tony Maher, Tony Bergin, Durack State School, Leichhardt State School and Watson Road State School

After the performance

A storyboard is a series of pictures that show important moments in a play. The show's designer is the artist who draws the storyboard. He draws the storyboard of the writer's story.

Here are some of the storyboard images for Boat drawn by Jonathon Oxlade:

Resource materials

Books

Grandfather's Journey – Allen Say
Alice in Wonderland – Lewis Carroll
Where the Wild Things Are – Maurice Sendak
Anno's Journey – Mitsumasa Anno
The Arrival – Shaun Tan
The Red Tree – Shaun Tan
Lost and Found – Oliver Jeffers
Pinocchio by Carlo Collodi (Books)

Films

Curious George *Finding Nemo*
The Rescuers *Pinocchio*

Visual Art

Please refer to these websites for paintings about Journeys
www.piantaskeys.com/images
www.commanderdare.com
www.lorettalouviers.com/assets/contemplating.jpg
The voyage, first day by Alan Oldfield