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MEDIA RELEASE
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SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE PRESENTS

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS UNLEASHED

Wildlife will transform the Sydney Opera House these school holidays with a menagerie of dinosaurs and the king of monkeys running amok from 4 – 19 April. Head of Children, Families and Creative Learning at the Sydney Opera House, **Bridgette Van Leuven**, said: “the school holidays are a great time for discovery and the Opera House has put together an exciting program of performances and creative experiences for our young audiences. Kids can unearth the lost world of extinct Australian animals at ***Erth’s Dinosaur Zoo***; share the joy of a colourful world with ***White***; learn about ancient Chinese mythology with ***Monkey... Journey to the West***; ignite their own creativity with free ***Creative Play*** and explore life behind the curtains with a ***Junior Tour***.”

WHITE

Enter a world where everything is bright and white. Until one day a red egg appears and begins an unstoppable explosion of colour. Winner of three Edinburgh Festival awards, ***White*** is the perfect introduction to theatre for young audiences from award-winning theatre company Catherine Wheels. Following recent tours of New York and London, this acclaimed production will be in the intimate setting of the Utzon Room from 1 – 7 April.

“An utter delight no matter what your age” **The Times UK**

“Perfectly pitched, simple, clear, witty, and gorgeous” **The Scotsman**

MONKEY... JOURNEY TO THE WEST

Acrobatics, song, puppetry and martial arts combine to spectacular effect in ***Monkey... Journey to the West***. This ancient Chinese fable, made famous by cult TV show ***Monkey Magic***, will take families on a nostalgic adventure. Chinese mythology tells of The Monkey King, expelled from heaven and charged with helping monk Tripitaka in the search for hidden scriptures that promise peace for China. Join Tripitaka and unlikely heroes Monkey, Piggy and Sandy for a journey of adventure and discovery in the Playhouse from 4 – 19 April.

“Wholehearted and gorgeous... essentially a family show” **The Australian**

“Cloud surfing and Kung fu capers mixed with monkey magic” **Courier Mail**

ERTH’S DINOSAUR ZOO

Face your fears with ***Erth’s Dinosaur Zoo!*** Get up close and personal with life-size native Australian dinosaurs that roamed the country 65 million years ago. Meet friendly baby dinosaurs keen for a pat and the carnivorous Australovenator – or perhaps just wave at him from a distance. Don’t miss the chance to step back in time when they roar into the Studio from 4 – 19 April.

“Puppet-tastic” **** **Time Out**

“Technical brilliance, cultural insight and enchantment all in one go” **Sydney Morning Herald**

FREE CREATIVE PLAY, TOURS and more...

Try your hand at shadow art with free Creative Play in the Western Foyers every day of the holidays. Create living art works on large, colourful tables as computers scan your movements and project real-time art in front of your eyes. Creative Play is open every day of the school holidays and free to anyone keen to bring their imagination to the shadow table.

Ever wondered what goes on behind the curtains? Join a Junior Tour during the school holidays and become an Opera House expert. Find out how dinosaurs and monkeys prepare for the stage with a look inside cast dressing rooms for *Erth's Dinosaur Zoo* or *Monkey...Journey to the West*.

After a morning creating shadow art and touring backstage kids can take a break with a special Junior Lunch at one of the Opera House restaurants, including the newly relaunched Opera Bar.

The Sydney Opera House Kids at the House program is a year-round series of performances and creative experiences for young people. Keep up to date with Kids at the House by joining our Facebook page: [Kids at the House – Sydney Opera House](#)

WHITE

Dates: 1 – 7 April

Venue: Utzon Room, Sydney Opera House

Website: http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/kath_2015_white.aspx

MONKEY... JOURNEY TO THE WEST

Dates: 4 – 19 April

Venue: Playhouse, Sydney Opera House

Website: http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/kath_2015_monkey_journey_to_the_west.aspx

ERTH'S DINOSAUR ZOO

Dates: 4 – 19 April

Venue: Studio, Sydney Opera House

Website: http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/kath_2015_dinosaur_zoo.aspx

FREE CREATIVE PLAY

Dates: 4 – 19 April, 10am – 4pm every day

Venue: Western Foyers, Sydney Opera House

Website: http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/kath2012/creative_play.aspx

JUNIOR TOUR

Dates: 28 March – 19 April

Prices: from \$18 children, \$29.60 adults or \$95 for a family (2 adults, 2 children)

JUNIOR LUNCH

Kids lunch options available at Opera Bar, Opera Kitchen, The House Eatery by George and Theatre Bars

Dates: 28 March – 19 April

Prices: from \$7.50

Website: http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/the_junior_tour.aspx

FAMILY DAY PACKAGE

Enjoy a full day at the House with a Family Day Package. Take in a Junior Tour, see *Monkey... Journey to the West* and relax with a family lunch. Family Day Packages include discounted show tickets and a commemorative photo of your day out.

Dates: 28 March – 19 April

Website: http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/visit/family_package.aspx

FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES CONTACT:

Eli Wallis 02 9250 7834 / 0428 602 019

ewallis@sydneyoperahouse.com