

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**Tuesday 4 August 2015**

**SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE PRESENTS**

## **TREEHOUSES, TUMBLES AND TWISTS FOR THE SEPTEMBER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

Join in the fun at Sydney Opera House these school holidays with a fantastical trip to the circus and a famous treehouse reaching lofty heights from 19 September – 4 October.

**Sydney Opera House Head of Children, Families and Creative Learning Bridgette Van Leuven**, said: “Children and their families will have a wonderful time exploring their imagination these school holidays. From the sublime to the ridiculous we have the moving and inspiring circus work ***Carnival of the Animals*** set to Camille Saint-Saëns’ timeless score and the crazy treehouse boys are back with another 13 storeys of slapstick chaos in ***The 52-Storey Treehouse***. These two very different works both rejoice in the magic of imagination and are great examples of Australian storytelling for children.”

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### **THE 52-STOREY TREEHOUSE**

Australia’s most famous treetop returns with more mayhem from Andy, Terry and friends in ***The 52-Storey Treehouse*** from 20 September – 4 October. The best-selling, award-winning series by much-loved duo Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton has inspired children across Australia to let their imaginations run wild. This year the book of the same name has been awarded the Booksellers Choice Award and the Australian Book Industry Award Book of the Year, the first time a children’s book has won this prestigious award. ***The 52-Storey Treehouse*** will see ninja snails on the loose in the Playhouse, killer vegetables on the attack and a disguise-a-tron coming to the rescue of perennial mischief-makers Andy and Terry. As the Treehouse grows so too does appeal for the series with the next book instalment, ***The 65-Storey Treehouse***, to be released this month. The Treehouse is the perfect address for kids who love flying fried egg cars but distrust vegetables.

“Ideal family theatre” **The Age** on ***The 26-Storey Treehouse***

“Sure to keep you in stitches until the very end” **The Sunday Telegraph** on ***The 13-Storey Treehouse***

### **CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS**

Award-winning Brisbane circus company Circa brings one of the world’s most recognisable classical compositions to life in ***Carnival of the Animals*** from 19 September – 4 October. French composer Camille Saint-Saëns’ ***The Carnival of the Animals*** leaps, glides, prances, swims and flies through a parade of animals such as big cats, elephants, kangaroos, swans, flocks of birds and schools of fishes. The romanticism of the Saint-Saëns suite is brought to life through the inventive interpretation of nimble acrobats that embody the animals. Circa’s imaginative and lively choreography will bring a knowing smile to your face as each animal reveals themselves. ***The Carnival of the Animals*** will be familiar to audiences, many of whom will know it and the hauntingly beautiful Aquarium movement in particular from Disney’s *Fantasia 2000*, ballet scores and many Hollywood film soundtracks. With whimsical costumes and playful projections, ***Carnival of the Animals*** is the perfect show for children enamoured by circus, music and animals.

"A spellbinding and mesmerising performance... a spectacle not to be missed." **Brisbane Kids**

"A delightful and unique circus and visual theatre experience" **Australian Stage**

### **FREE CREATIVE PLAY, FAMILY PACKAGE and more...**

LEGO is back by popular demand for **Creative Play** in the Western Foyers every day of the holidays. Add your creative vision to a collaborative LEGO sculpture that will take shape over the two weeks of the school holidays.

Return to the Western Foyer to see your contribution built upon by hundreds of children as colourful blocks of imagination grow into an enormous, original artwork.

Enjoy an Opera House experience for the whole family with the **Family Package**. See *The 52-Storey Treehouse*, enjoy a harbour side lunch and take a Junior Tour backstage for a peek inside a Treehouse dressing room.

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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 the Facebook page: [Kids at the House – Sydney Opera House](#)

#### **THE 52-STOREY TREEHOUSE**

**Dates:** 20 September – 4 October

**Venue:** Playhouse, Sydney Opera House

**Website:** [www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/kath\\_2015\\_the\\_52\\_storey\\_treehouse](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/kath_2015_the_52_storey_treehouse)

#### **CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS**

**Dates:** 19 September – 4 October

**Venue:** Studio, Sydney Opera House

**Website:** [www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/kath\\_2015\\_carnival\\_animals](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/kath_2015_carnival_animals)

*Carnival of the Animals* is part of **The Balnaves Foundation Open House Program** – a new partnership between the Opera House and The Balnaves Foundation, helping to make the arts more accessible to everyone, regardless of their circumstance. The three-year program will assist up to 12,000 socially and economically disadvantaged adults and children to attend performances at the country's premier cultural venue over three years. Visit [www.sydneyoperahouse.com/balnaves](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/balnaves)

#### **FREE CREATIVE PLAY**

**Dates:** 19 September – 4 October, 10am – 4pm every day

**Venue:** Western Foyers, Sydney Opera House

**Website:** [www.sydneyoperahouse.com/kath2012/creative\\_play](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/kath2012/creative_play)

#### **FAMILY DAY PACKAGE**

**Dates:** 19 September – 4 October

**Prices:** from \$71.70

**Website:** [www.sydneyoperahouse.com/visit/family\\_package](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/visit/family_package)

#### **JUNIOR TOUR**

Become a Junior Expert with backstage access to props and costumes

**Dates:** 19 September – 4 October

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

**Website:** [www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/the\\_junior\\_tour](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/whatson/the_junior_tour)

#### **JUNIOR LUNCH**

Kids lunch options available at Opera Bar, Opera Kitchen and Western Foyers

**Dates:** 19 September – 4 October

**Prices:** \$15.50

**Website:** [www.sydneyoperahouse.com/visit/junior\\_lunch](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/visit/junior_lunch)

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**THE BALNAVES FOUNDATION  
& SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE**  
HELPING OUR COMMUNITY  
CONNECT WITH THE ARTS