

5 ANGRYMen Theatre Company



TheBELLS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION & TECHNICAL & TOURING SPECIFICATIONS

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Introduction

TheBELLS is a spectacular multi-disciplinary show that has toured the globe for across three decades. A unique plein-air theatre extravaganza combining acrobatics, public installation, street performance, dance, and music. The 'bell ropes' on which the ensemble perform are midi-witched and play the sounds of actual bells tuned to different pitches. All this allows the performers to alternate between intricate choreography, chamber music, and aerial chaos - a physically arduous task, requiring enormous discipline from the performers.

The costume design is reminiscent of the professions of an older world - post industrial revolution workers committed to doing tasks that no-one else was willing to do: the chimney sweep, the night-soil carter, the lamplighter. Although their work is menial and gruelling, they carry out their tasks with pride: their clothing is scuffed and threadbare, but any tears have been carefully patched, shoes gleam and their shirts are neatly pressed. They understand that although their work is never ending, without it, the world would cease to function.

The show, likewise, is an impossible task that the ensemble must complete. To attempt the impossible necessarily exposes the paradoxes of human nature: joy and grief, triumph and defeat, heroism and cowardice, the personal quest for power and relying on community.

TheBELLS has been performing around the world to critical and popular acclaim- including appearances at the prestigious *Aurillac Festival* in France, Australia's WOMADelaide Music Festival, and winning the gold medal prize at the *Daidogai World Cup* in Shizuoka, Japan.

Season Documentation

- TheBELLS. Full length video documentation (22.14 minutes)
 - Link: [Click here](#)
 - Footage from Feb 2024 production at Flinders, Victoria.
Filmed and edited by State of Flow.
- TheBELLS trailer (1.19 minutes):
 - Link: [Click here](#)
 - Footage from March 2018 production at WOMADelaide Festival, Australia.
Filmed and edited by Sam Roberts.

Show Length 45 minutes, no interval. Including a roving element before the beginning of the performance.

Safety & Insurance

The continued safety of all persons involved with the production is of the utmost importance. A full Risk Management Plan will be created specifically for the performance site in collaboration with THE PRESENTER.

THE COMPANY will have in place appropriate levels of insurance; including but not limited to Travel, Public Liability, Theft & Damage, Freight, and Performer Injury insurance.

Please contact the Producer / Tour Manager for copies of Certificates of Currency.

Venue requirements

Performance Venue Size Layout & Audience Capacity

TheBELLS is most suitable in the main space of an outdoor festival or in the highest foot traffic area of the town. It can be performed in any sizable clearing, town square, or open public space. It can also be performed in indoor locations with adequate height and width, such as a large shopping mall, or gallery foyer.

Min. Stage Area For construction, a pedestrian exclusion zone of 10m x 30m is required for the erection of the tower. Once *The Belltower*, our performance structure, is erected it occupies an 8m x 8m footprint. For performance space is a delineated 8 metre diameter circle which the audience may sit right up to, but not cross over over.

See Appendix A for more information on the BellTower.

Audience Capacity The show's capacity for seating is limited only by the site or venue where it is performed. We have been able to accommodate over 3,000 audience members in a single show.

PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

- At least five cubic metres of lockable storage for TheBELLS equipment and show assets that are not being used during the season. This space can also be used as a Green Room if there is sufficient space.
- 8x bollards and 1x 100m roll of hazard tape for erection of construction exclusion zone during bump-in.
- Access to general mains power: 10 amp. Three phase power is NOT required.
- A small weather-proof 3m x 3m tent is required as a control room. This must be situated no further than 20 metres from the edge of the playing space.
- Spray chalk OR a pitch rope to delineate the performance 8m circle.

Freight Requirements

The 5ANGRYMen company can supply its own performance truss tower structure - The BellTOWER - which the company can build, rig, and perform upon.

Our freight requirements to bring our unique, custom built BellTOWER are:

- 1x Pallet containing the performance truss tower as well as five performance bicycles strapped to it.
- 1x road case containing all the building equipment necessary for erecting the BellTOWER as well as all the audio equipment and shipping ropes required to perform The Bells.

Please see Appendix B for photos and dimensions of the packed freight.

If covering freight is not a possibility for the presenter, we also have a secondary scenario explored on page 10.

Touring Party

The touring party for TheBELLS is six people:

- 1x Performer / Director / Technical Manager / Workshop Facilitator
- 1x Performer / Workshop Facilitator / Crew
- 1x Stage Manager / Tech Operator / Crew
- 3x Performers / Crew

Number of Performances / Days of Work in a Row

This show can be performed twice per day. A turnaround of at least 90 minutes between performances is required.

Please note, the company cannot work more than six days in a row without a scheduled rest day. All travel days are treated as working days.

Technical Specifications

Typical Schedule

A detailed production schedule will be provided in consultation with the PRESENTER. Below is a generic schedule of a three day performance season including bump-in and bump-out.

Day 1	0900 - 0945	Arrival. Finalise structure placement with sign-off from venue management.
	0945 - 1030	Unload Shipping container / truck

	1030 -1230	Construct and erect The Belltower
	1230 - 1330	Lunch break
	1330 - 1530	Rigging ropes and audio equipment
	1530 - 1730	Additional LX / Projection / Rigging requirements installed
Day 2	0900 - 1030	Sound / Tech Rehearsal
	1030 - 1130	FOH Final preparations
	1200 - 1245	First Performance
	1245 - 1345	Lunch break
	1345 - 1430	Rope / Rigging check
	1430 - 1800	Break / Workshops
	1800 - 1845	Second performance
Day 3	0900 - 1100	Audio and ropes de-rig
	1100 - 1130	Break
	1130 - 1430	Deconstruction of The Belltower
	1430 - 1530	All equipment packed and greenroom cleared

Bump In / Out

Bump in	THE COMPANY requires five hours to unload, erect, and rig The Belltower.
	THE PRESENTER will provide technical crew for PA installation and any additional LX.
	Note: A sound check will take place on the first day of performances, approx. 2 hours before the scheduled performance time.
Bump out	THE COMPANY requires five hrs to de-rig, remove audio, and LX, deconstruct and pack The Belltower.
	THE PRESENTER will provide technical crew for bump out of PA installation and any additional LX.

Show Crew and Technical Staff

COMPANY TO PROVIDE

- 1 x Head Rigger to conduct and oversee all operations on the performance structure.
- 1 x Show Operator to operate all aspects of the show.
- 5 x Physical performers
- 1 x Technical Manager
- 1 x Stage Manager / Swing Performer
- 2 x qualified at height workers

PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

- 1 x Production Liaison to help with the site logistics, engineering permits/sign-off, permissions from local councils and other necessities that arise.
- 1 x Interpreter (if performing in a country speaking other languages than English). If possible, familiar with technical theatre terminology. Under no circumstances may the interpreter be a member of the Company working crew.
- 1 x Security Officer during performances to ensure audience members stay outside the circle; and- if programmed in outdoor space - to guard the unattended ropes and audio during non-performance times i.e. between shows and overnight.
- Technical crew for PA system installation and any additional LX / projectors as needed and discussed.

Operating Positions

The Stage Manager / Operator can be located in any op position with clear, unobstructed line of sight to the stage and situated no further than 20 metres from the edge of the playing space. The ops position must be under cover to protect gear from the elements.

Staging

Information prepared by Stephen Phillips / Advanced Rigger
Licence Number: WSV-015049022

The performance structure is extremely difficult to climb. Every effort is made to discourage any member of the public attempting this through:

- Use of signage and hazard tape when the structure is left overnight.
- The performance ropes are bound together and raised out of reach (6 metres) when unattended.
- A security presence being maintained when stage management is not in attendance.

The audience are required to remain outside of a circular exclusion line (marking chalk) at all times during the performances and any time that the ropes are 'live' - hanging down in preparation for performance.

Between double shows, the performance ropes are bound together and hoisted out of reach.

COMPANY TO PROVIDE

- 1x de-mountable aerial performance structure The Belltower (9m x 8m x 8m)
- 5 x Black bicycles
- Tools & equipment for the construction of The Belltower
- 5 x performance ropes and bungee cords.

Sound

The 'bell ropes' on which the ensemble perform are midi-switched and play the sounds of actual bells in different pitches. The performance requires 4x speaker stacks, each consisting of a sub and a mid-high cabinet, placed adjacent to each leg of the performance structure.

Speaker cable length is needed to provide mono placement of stacks as indicated. Speaker cables cannot pass through the performance space. They may be laid around the 8m radius circle or flown over the top of the rig.

The control desk needs to be situated no further than 20m from the performance circle.

PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

- PA system: 4 speaker stacks (4 Sub cabinets and 4 mid/high cabinets)
- 1 x Mixing Desk (minimum 4 channel mixing with RCA or ¼" phono inputs).
- Power and XLR cables.

COMPANY TO PROVIDE

- 1 x laptop computer for audio samples and playback
- 30m XLR multicore cable (if freight scenario is selected)
- 5 x XLR audio patch cables
- Soundcard and custom audio interface unit

Lighting

If TheBELLS is programmed at night, we require a basic lighting wash from THE PRESENTER. This wash can be rigged partially on the Bell TOWER and partially on truss or other rigging points separate to the structure. The lighting design can be one-state without direct operator control.

Presenters sometimes choose to rig additional lights/projection effects on the Belltower structure in order to create a striking light installation at night that the public or festival-goers can gather under.

See Appendix D for an example of additional lighting installation.

PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

- For performances at night, general performance wash should include as a minimum: FIVE hung lamps rigged near each rope attachment point; and FOUR lamps mounted on H-Stands and placed at the foot of each leg of the Belltower.
- Any additional lighting fixtures can be incorporated in consultation with THE COMPANY to ensure compliance with our engineering certification and suitability to The Bells performance.

Rehearsals

Before the first performance, there will be a technical/dress rehearsal on site.

Back of House Requirements

We'd prefer on-site laundry facilities to ensure costumes remain clean. If this isn't possible, the presenter must provide information about the closest laundry facilities. The company will handle all other wardrobe needs.

PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

- Lockable Dressing Room Area for up to six performers.
- Costume racks for 6 costumes
- Laundry Facilities (with iron, ironing board, washing & drying facilities for laundering costumes) or information to closest laundry facilities.
- Access to WiFi
- The greenroom area should have hot and cold running water, showers, toilets heating / fans
- Refrigerator with ample bottled drinking water

Other Uses of The Belltower

The Belltower can be used by the PRESENTER or other companies in a variety of ways including art installations and performance. Any collaboration or use of the Belltower must be discussed with the COMPANY ahead of time and appropriate inductions to the structure provided.

See Appendix F for an example of a lighting installation created and installed by Craig Walsh on The Belltower.

Weather Considerations

TheBELLS can be performed in any weather conditions - if there is an audience there, the performance will happen regardless of the elements.

The only exception to this is the case of winds exceeding 25 metres per second. An anemometer mounted on top of the Belltower which constantly monitors wind speed. Any wind-gusts that exceed 25 mps will trigger the evacuation of the performance: the Stage Manager will halt the show and announce this to all present.

Performance structure supplied by THE PRESENTER

Considerations

In some cases the Presenter may prefer to provide a performance structure for TheBELLS rather than using THE COMPANY'S Belltower. TheBELLS show can be performed on a similarly designed temporary performance structure OR an existing structure - both in consultation with THE COMPANY - since as a structure built from 400m Universal Box Truss.

Before any agreement, THE PRESENTER needs to consult with THE COMPANY to oversee the suitability of the staging.

In this scenario, the presenter will also need to supply the five performance bicycles and some additional audio cabling. The freight requirements are removed in this scenario as all of the structural elements and building equipment and tools, a portion of the audio cabling, and the bicycles. The 5ANGRYMen cast will then transport any bespoke audio equipment and shipping ropes as part of their baggage allowance.

Please see Appendix C as an example for design specifications for a Global Box-Truss option.

Other Requirements

Our freight pallet for transporting the Belltower also contains our performance bicycles. If the performance structure is being provided by THE PRESENTER, the Touring Party and the Technical Specifications on this document will remain the same but they will also need to source five Bicycles - in consultation with THE COMPANY - and the 30m XLR multicore cable.

See *Appendix D* for photos of suitable bicycles.

PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

- 1 x performance structure with the following design specifications:
 - Dimensions as supplied in the GLOBAL BOX TRUSS drawing APPENDIX C
 - Facilitate a ground performance space of at least 8 metres square.
 - Have five available rigging points to cater for the correct spacing of the performance ropes with each rigging point able to support a static load of 500kg.
 - Facilitate an independent engineer's inspection prior to rigging and performance.
- 5x Bicycles
- 30m XLR multicore cable

COMPANY TO PROVIDE

- All other items as above

Contacts

Stephen Phillips Artistic Director info@5angrymen.com + 61 405 149 850	Please contact Stephen for technical specifications, logistics, and tour scheduling requests.
Kat Carrington Co-Producer katcarrington01@gmail.com +61 424 553 277	Please contact Kat for producing, publicity, and marketing requests.

Appendix A - IMAGE. The Belltower (3D image + construction video)

Height	8.9 mts
Breadth	8.00 mts
Depth	8.00 mts
Weight	Approx 1,000kg fully rigged. Each of the four feet is equipped with a rubber pad and is approx 30cm square in surface area. Therefore, each foot exerts a downward force of approx 250kg per 30cm ²
Additional information	HIGH WIND RISK: Over 25m/s (90km/h) A wind speed over 25m/s triggers the evacuation of the area in the direct vicinity of the structure. This is a safety responsibility of the 5ANGRYMen crew.



[Click HERE for 3D image of The Belltower](#)

[Click HERE for Construction video of The Belltower](#)

Appendix B - IMAGE. The Belltower packed in freight



1x Pallet containing the performance truss tower as well as five performance bicycles strapped to it.

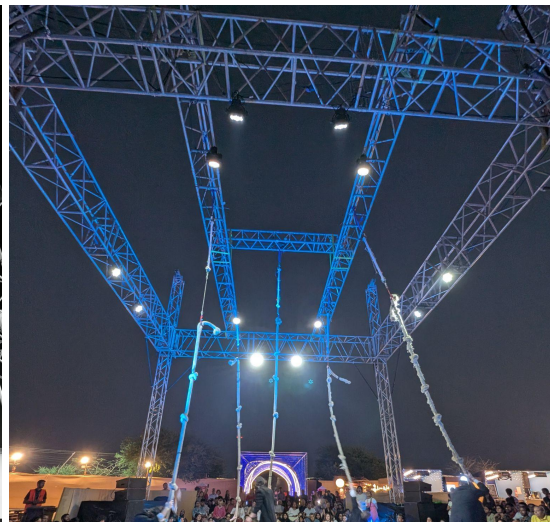
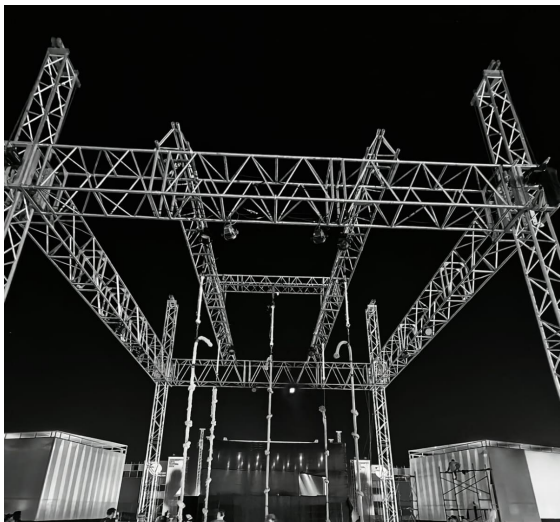
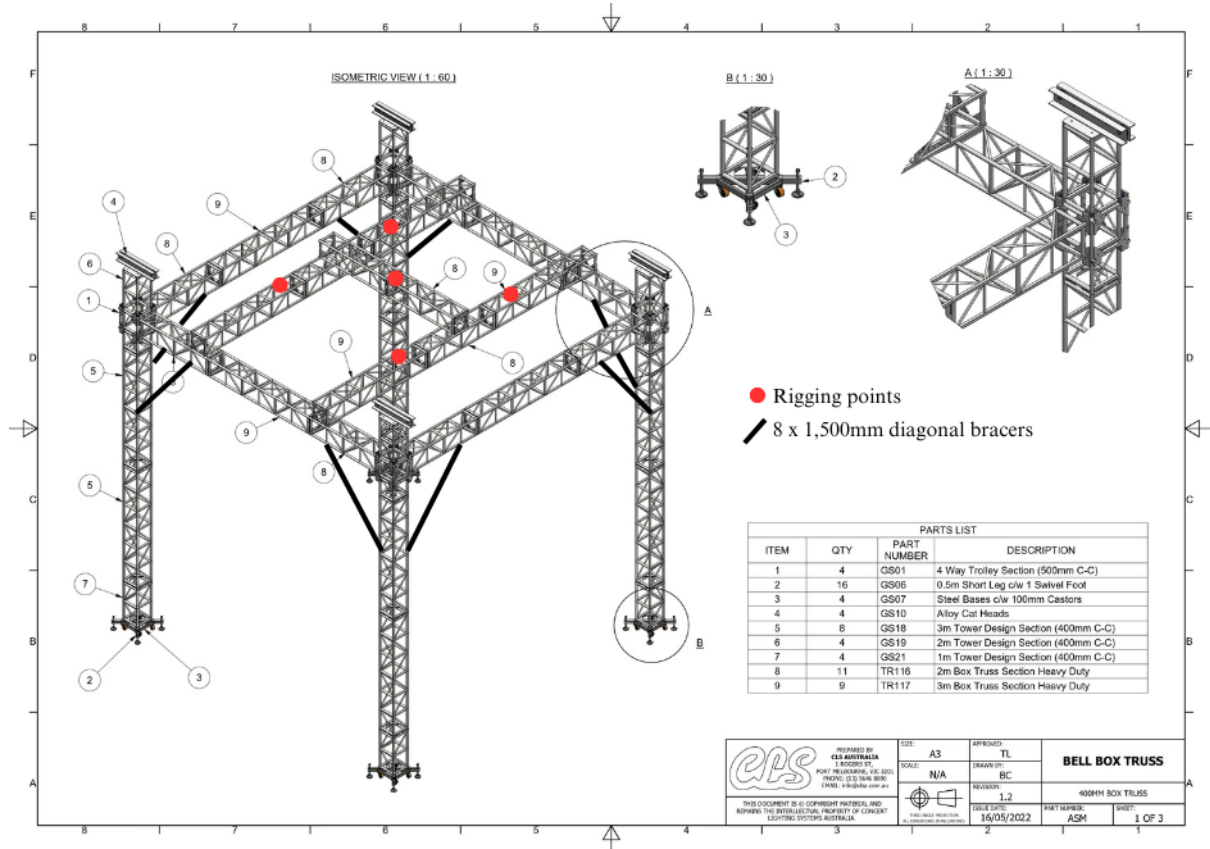
3.1m Long x 1.6m Wide x 1.4m High
Weight approx 900kg

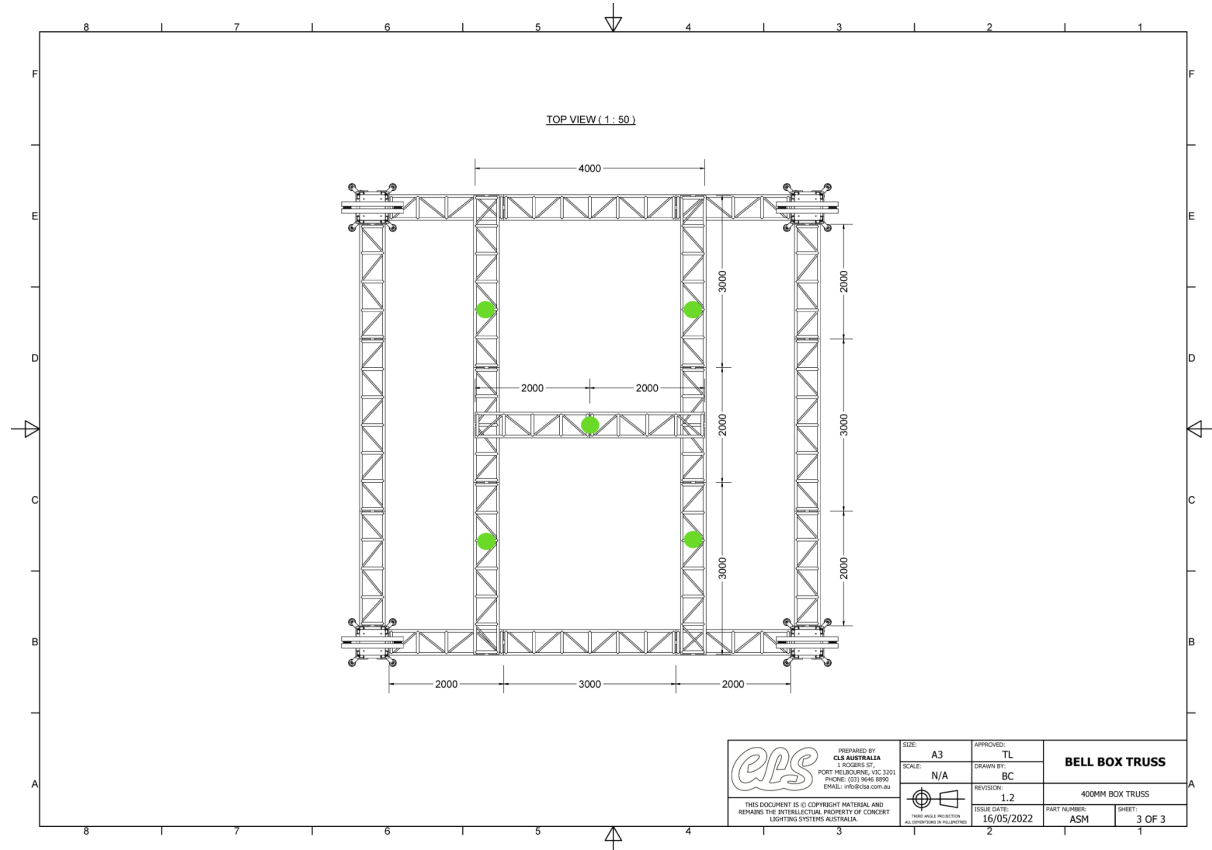
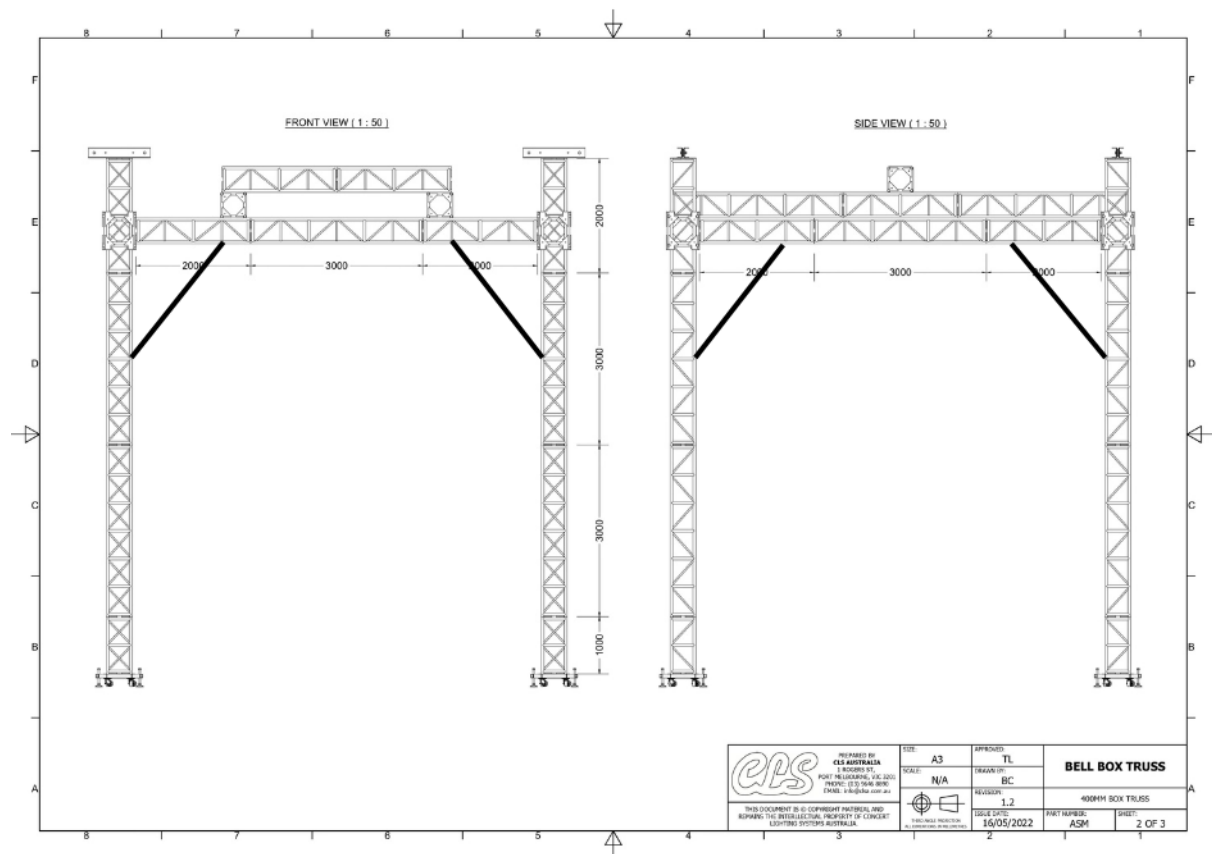


1x road case containing all the building equipment necessary for erecting the BellTOWER as well as all the audio equipment and shipping ropes required to perform The Bells.

1.5m Long x 1.0m Wide x 1.0m High
Weight: approx 300kg

Appendix C - IMAGE. Global Box Truss





A PDF version of appendix C is available [here](#).

Appendix D - IMAGE. Performance bicycle.

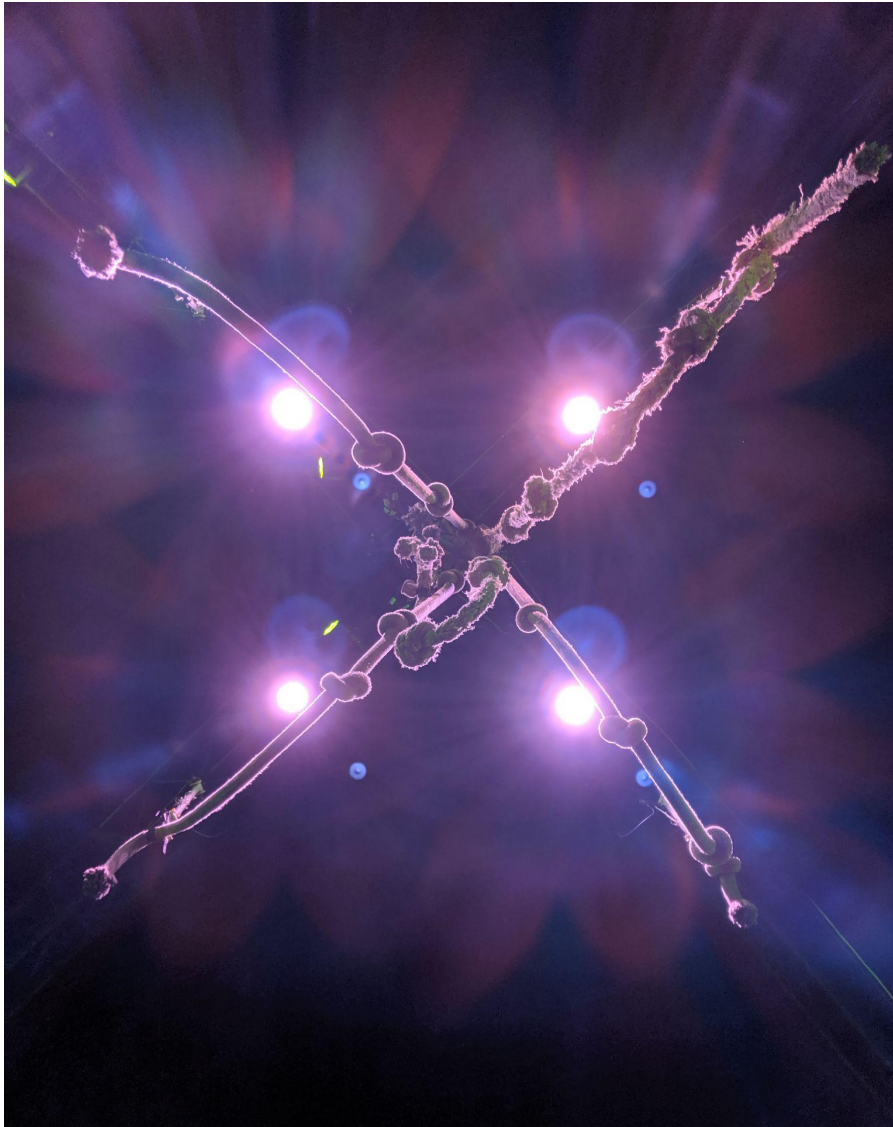


Appendix E - Production Images





Appendix F - Additional Installation Images



Lighting installation by Craig Walsh, photography by Danny Carrol.