



TheBELLS

by 5ANGRYMen

📍 Australia

WOMAdelaide Festival, Australia
Photo by Sam Roberts



5ANGRYMen

Formed in the 90's, 5ANGRYMen - Theatre Company quickly became renowned for their innovative and extraordinary stage design, and physically arduous performances. Their flagship show *TheBELLS* has been performed around the world to critical and popular acclaim- including appearances at the prestigious *Aurillac Festival* in France, Australia's prestigious *WOMADelaide* music festival, and winning the gold medal prize at Asia's largest street performance festival *Daidogai World Cup* in Shizuoka Japan.

Teréga Festival, Spain
Courtesy of Tarrega Festival

TheBELLS

A unique, outdoor theatrical extravaganza combining Theatre, Public Installation, Acrobatics, Street Performance, Dance and Music, places the ensemble at the beginning of an impossible theatrical task that must be completed at whatever cost.

The 45 minute performance demands enormous endurance and discipline from the performers.



Wagga Wagga, Australia
Photo by Brigitte Golasch



At its heart, TheBELLS is a task.

The nature of the show seems elusive, however the figures attack their work in a manic, unwavering belief, the results are at once comic, triumphant, tragic and absurd. To attempt the impossible necessarily exposes the paradoxes of human nature: joy & grief, triumph & defeat, heroism & cowardice, the personal quest for power & relying on community.

These are the universal themes which have entranced audiences globally; regardless of cultural background, language or belief system- human beings recognise what it is to have a task to do. And an intrinsic understanding of what it means to work together to achieve... something.

No matter what... The bells MUST be rung!

Click [HERE](#) to see trailer.

Roving

verb

gerund or present participle: roving

1. travel constantly without a fixed destination; wander.

Evoking images of the travelling circus families of yesteryear who would arrive in each town for their performance, TheBELLS performers, riding five black vintage bicycles, rove among the general public in the immediate area.

This does not come across as being aggressive or confrontational with the general public, but rather, it's about creating friendly rapport with the people nearby and inviting them to gather toward TheBELLTOWER for the coming performance.

WOMAdelaide Festival, Australia

Photo by Sam Roberts

Campanology

noun

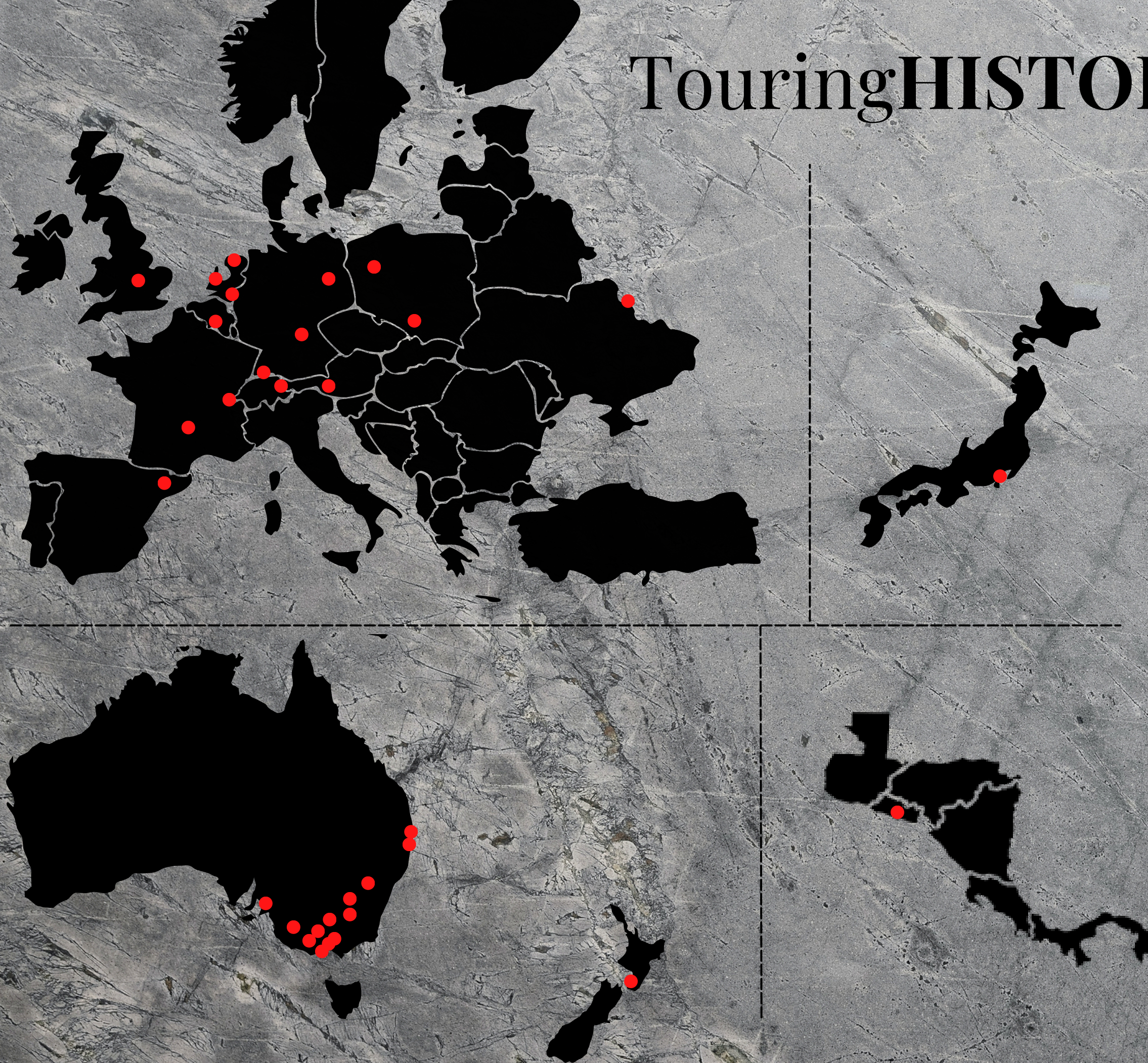
The art or practise of bell-ringing.

TheBELLS performance is very much a musical work. Hanging from TheBELLTOWER are five enormous ropes. Attached with a combination of bungee cords and a custom designed audio switching system- it transforms into a gigantic musical instrument. This allows the performers to shift between complex musical pieces, precise choreography and aerial chaos.



WOMAdelaide Festival, Australia
Photo by Sam Roberts

TouringHISTORY



1995	•	Kracow Theatrical Reminiscences. Poland
1996	•	Aurillac Theatre Festival. France
1998	•	Theatre Op de Markt. Belgium
	•	Stockton International Festival. United Kingdom
	•	Straat Theater Festival. Netherlands
	•	Strassen Theater Festival. Austria
	•	Malta Festival. Malta
	•	Arena Festival. Germany
1999	•	De Spiegelten Festival. Netherlands
	•	Sirkus Ljourert Festival. Netherlands
	•	Basel Theater Festival. Switzerland
	•	Zuercher Theater Spektakel. Switzerland
	•	Chateau de Clermont Festival. France
	•	Theatre Der Welt Festival. Germany
	•	Fira de Theatre Festival al Carer. Spain
2001	•	International Chekhov Theatre Festival. Russia
	•	Daidogei World Cup. Japan
2004	•	Wellington Festival. New Zealand
2006	•	Commonwealth Games Festival. Australia
2016	•	Festival of Tall Ships. Australia
2017	•	Marong Festival. Australia
	•	Acland Street Fest. Australia
2018	•	White Night Festival - Melbourne
	•	White Night Festival - Ballarat
2019	•	WOMADelaide. Australia
	•	Splendour in The Grass. Australia
	•	H.O.T.A. - Calling Home Fest. Australia
2020	•	Wagga Wagga Civic Activation. Australia
	•	inland Sea of Sound Festival. Australia
	•	Upstream Festival. Albury, Australia
2021	•	Melbourne International Comedy Festival. Australia
2022	•	Bendigo Easter Fair. Australia
	•	Stallwell Civic Activation. Australia
	•	White Night Festival - Shepparton
	•	Be Bold Festival. Australia
2023	•	Migration Festival. San Salvador, El Salvador.

MediaREVIEWS

'When they finish their performance, the 5ANGRYMen depart as quickly and fleetingly as they appeared. They hop on their pushbikes and leave, their hands bleeding and blistered, their jackets soaked with sweat. There is no talk about a curtain call, the eyes of the audience members are full of tears...'

Irina Miagkova | "Theatre" September issue, Moscow / 2000

'Was it acrobatics? Was it alternative theatre? Was it music? TheBELLS at Federation Square was all three. Five actors exhausting themselves by performing aerial feats while singing, acting and tolling bells, not to be missed.'

The Age | Melbourne, Australia / 2018

'This heart-stopping performance featured the unusual combination of musical bell-tolling and gravity-defying acrobatics to the delight of crowds.'

Sydney Morning Herald | Melbourne, Australia / 2018



WOMADelaide Festival, Australia
Photo by Sam Roberts



AudienceENGAGEMENT

noun

the active and positive response of a group of people towards a live presentation.

TheBELLS is an engaging experience for the whole family. It has been performed across the globe, across different languages and cultures, and has proven success in bringing community together.

TheBELLTOWER can be made available for workshops and supervised free play, bringing the community even more into the world of The Bells.

Always in public spaces, always for everyone.



TheHUB

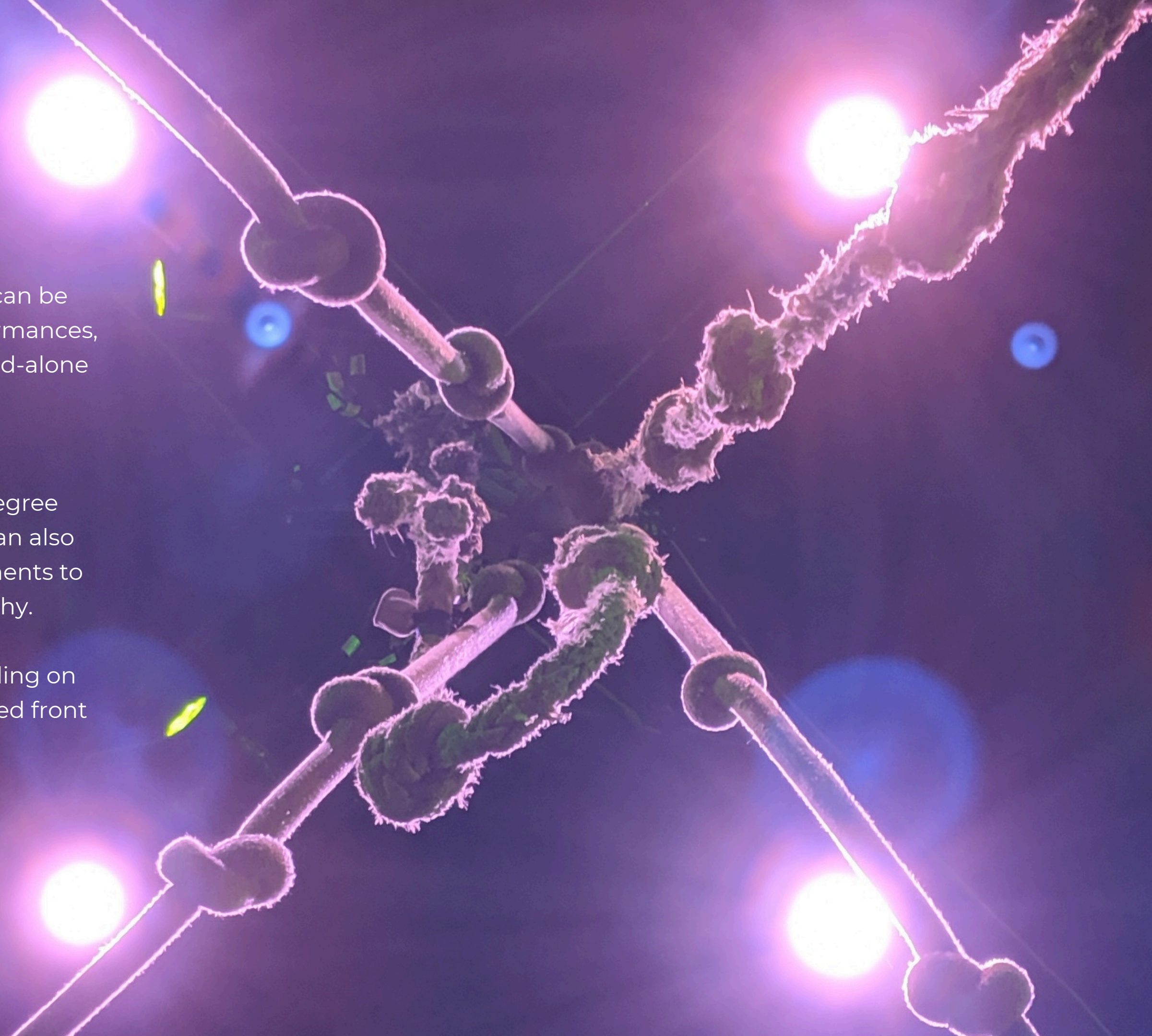
noun

The effective centre of an activity, region, or network.

The aerial rig that frames and supports TheBELLS can be utilised as a hub-space for a diverse range of performances, workshops, community engagement and as a stand-alone installation.

A wonderful frame that highlights and focuses any performance within its circumference, has a 360 degree component that allows for maximal visibility and can also be transposed within a range of different environments to add an element of natural and/or urban scenography.

Imagine it in a forest clearing, atop a helipad, standing on an island in the middle of a body of water or featured front and centre in the city centre or town-square



TheHUB Installation

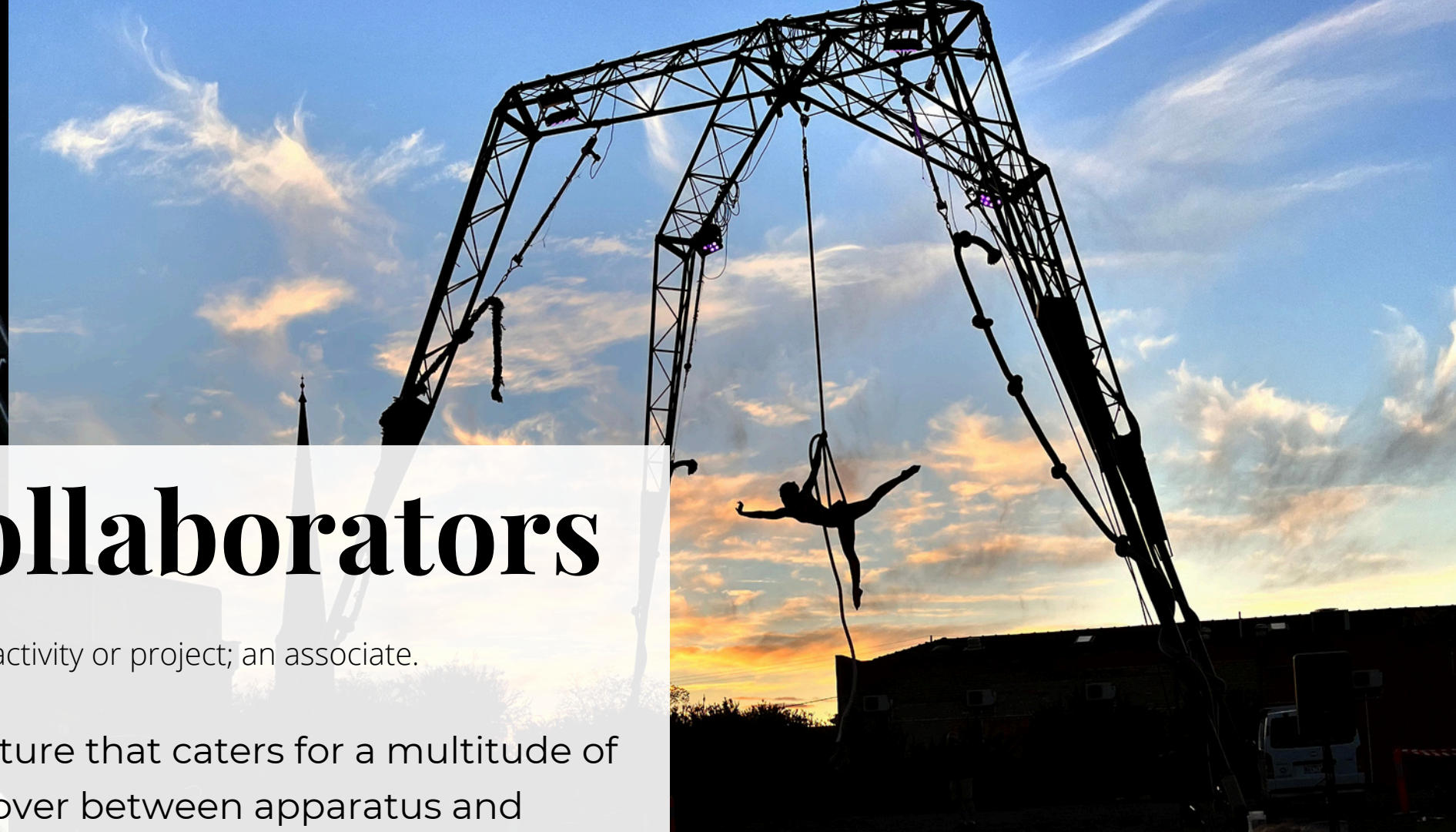
noun

a three-dimensional visual artwork, often created for a specific place (in situ) and designed to change the perception of space.

TheBELLTOWER is a powerful architectural presence in its own right and creates a striking new landmark for events and festival precincts. The ensemble are also the crew that built and riggs the performance structure, no additional crew required.

The black colour and slimline profile of the structure means that it becomes virtually invisible after dark. This makes it an ideal canvas for a lighting designers and projection artists to present their work.

This can then manifest as an exciting, new addition to the urban landscape; drawing attention to a particular festival precinct or specific public space, while serving the practical benefit of creating a well lit 'safe space' for people to gather throughout the night hours.



TheHUB Collaborators

noun

a group of people who works jointly on an activity or project; an associate.

TheBELLTOWER is a single structure that caters for a multitude of aerial acts. Once rigged, changeover between apparatus and performances is very straightforward and the load-bearing capacity means up to five aerial acts can perform simultaneously.

Likewise the audio system that is used by TheBELLS may also be used for spoken word, live bands or DJ performances. Indeed, an entire programme of events can be curated.



The Actor's Ensemble Practice

WorkshopSERIES

Our company training model has been developed across a number of years and is primarily a hybrid of two key proponents of both Eastern and Western actor training methodologies: Suzuki Method for Actor's Training & Meyerhold's Biomechanics Étude Studies.

We have developed our company training system into training programme that can be delivered either as an extended masterclass format across a week, or as a month long unit to fit in with the physical theatre training curriculum of modern training institutions.

Our preferred international touring model is to deliver a workshop series before performing one of our shows. This enables us to connect with the communities in which we perform; and be able to meet the performers from multiple disciplines and backgrounds, to form new collaborative networks and, ultimately to incorporate local artists into our touring performances.

Click [HERE](#) to see a trailer of the workshop held in El Salvador in 2023, and in India in 2024.



Contact

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