

THE NSW THEATRE OF THE DEAF

Founded in 1979 under the auspices of the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust, the NSW Theatre of the Deaf is Australia's only professional Deaf Theatre. The company is composed of both deaf and hearing actors who work together in a theatrical style which combines sign language, mime, voice, gesture, music and visual communication. It is a form which intrigues both adults and children.

The NSW Theatre of the Deaf works mainly in schools though it presents seasons for the general public as well. Our work in schools is mainly Theatre in Education with an emphasis on deaf awareness and introducing people to sign language. However, we also offer workshops in visual communication run by Nola Colefax. Schools and community groups have found these programmes very stimulating.

Our Programme for this year is:-

FIVE LITTLE WISHES

For children up to year three at school, Five Little Wishes is about the sort of wishes everybody would like to make and what happens when they are granted. Discussion and participation is an integral part of the performance.

THE COMMUNICATION SHOW

For years 4 to 8, The Communication Show is a lighthearted look at the way people communicate. It tells the tale of Joe, a depressed deaf boy, who does not see how communication affects him. He is rescued by two friends who involve him in a world of excitement and circus fantasy. By the end the

YAC ON 27/2

audience has learned a lot about the special way in which the deaf communicate and Joe is no longer depressed.

FINGER PAINTING ---STORIES FOR THE EYE

This show has great charm and appeal for just about any age group. These Stories For The Eye are from Turkey, China, Spain, Italy and the Aboriginal Dreamtime along with a special story in sign language which is also a community language. (It is the third most used language in the USA after Spanish) The stories are told in a very visual manner and are accessible to all nationalities.

WORKSHOPS

The company also offers workshops in SIGN MIME, VISUAL THEATRE and VISUAL COMMUNICATION.

NEXT WOMEN'S SEASON

The NSW Theatre of the Deaf is mounting a production for the Women and Arts Festival in October. Titled THE SILENT WORDS OF WOMEN, it is an anthology of women's poetry including deaf poets. The Season commences at Studio 228 on Thursday 28 October.

For information about any of our work and activities, please contact

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