

# SYD FEST 19



## MAN WITH THE IRON NECK

LEGS ON THE WALL | AUSTRALIA | WORLD PREMIERE SEASON



# MAN WITH THE IRON NECK

**LEGS ON THE WALL | AUSTRALIA**  
**WORLD PREMIERE SEASON**

DRAMA THEATRE  
SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE  
23–26 JANUARY  
70 mins

Written by Ursula Yovich,  
based on an original work by Josh Bond

## FEATURING

Ursula Yovich, Caleena Sansbury, Kyle Shilling,  
Tibian Wyles

## COMPANY

**Co-Director and Original Concept** Josh Bond

**Co-Director** Gavin Robins

**Writer** Ursula Yovich

**Co-Composer** Iain Grandage

**Co-Composer** Steve Francis

**Set Design** Joey Ruigrok

**AV Design** Sam James

**Lighting Design** Matt Marshall

**Costume Design** Emma Vine

**Sound Design** Michael Toisuta & Jed Silver

**Dramaturg** Steve Rodgers

**Producer** Cecily Hardy

**Associate Producer** Sophia Marinos

**Legs Artistic Director** Joshua Thomson

## CREW

**Production Manager** Mark Haslam

**Head Rigger** Andrew Bright

**Stage Manager** Anna Pidgeon

**Assistant/Swing Rigger** Chad Albinger

**Assistant Stage Manager** Letisha Ackland



This project has been assisted by the Australian Government's Major Festivals Initiative, managed by the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, in association with the Confederation of Australian International Arts Festivals Inc., commissioned by Sydney Festival, Brisbane Festival, Adelaide Festival, and Darwin Festival.



## ABOUT THE SHOW

A new work from one of Australia's leading physical theatre companies that tells the story of an Australian family – three Aboriginal kids from a small town – and how two choose to survive when one is lost.

When Ash loses his best friend Bear to suicide, he becomes obsessed with early 20th century stunt man The Great Peters – AKA 'The Man With The Iron Neck' – whose most famous stunt saw him jump off bridges with a rope tied around his neck, and live. The Great Peters embodied both life and death, but in the end what he promises is impossible.

Inspired by an original work by co-director Josh Bond, this daring and delicate show brings him together with co-director Gavin Robins and formidable writer/actor Ursula Yovich. Joined by some of Australia's best artists, they weave together text, aerial performance, and ambitious set and video design.

*This performance contains coarse language, strong adult themes and subject matter relating to suicide that some audience members may find confronting. Restricted to ages 16+. If you have been affected by any of the issues raised in the performance, the following organisations may be able to provide help and advice.*

**Lifeline** 13 11 14, [lifeline.org.au](http://lifeline.org.au)

**Kids Helpline** 1800 551 800, [kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au)

**Suicide Call Back Service** 1300 659 467,  
[suicidecallbackservice.org.au](http://suicidecallbackservice.org.au)

**Beyond Blue** 1300 22 4636, [beyondblue.org.au](http://beyondblue.org.au)

## LEGS ON THE WALL

The thriving heart of physical theatre in Australia, Legs On The Wall are known nationally and internationally for their bold exuberance and death defying acts, as they tell poignant stories with depth and humour. Celebrating and exploring the capacity of the physical body in motion, they use physical metaphor to explore stories. Narrative text-based stories, visual stories, abstract stories; all are linked by the body and its capabilities as the central vehicle for making work. Legs On The Wall create work with artists drawn from physical theatre, circus, dance, design and music.