

ART-MEETS-THEATRE WORKSHOPS AT HAMILTON GALLERY

Hamilton Gallery Presents: HG Holidays: Friends, Passion & Commitment,

presented by Barking Spider Creative

This September, Hamilton Gallery invites families to be part of a series of "out-of-the-box" kids' school holiday experiences that fuse art and theatre, professionally facilitated by industry-leading performers and artists.

On Tuesday, September 19th, and Wednesday, September 20th the Gallery will play host to four thoughtfully tailored workshops for two distinct age groups - ages 2-4 and ages 5-12.

'HG Holidays: Friends, Passion & Commitment' workshops are presented in collaboration with Barking Spider Creative, a remarkable multi-art form company that creatively and theatrically interprets sites, stories, objects and collections.

Artistic Director, Penelope Bartlau said that Barking Spider's mission is to transform the ordinary into the extraordinary. "We're inviting young minds into this captivating Gallery space, creating stories about characters in the Gallery's current exhibition and encouraging children to explore their creativity, build confidence, and experience the joy of interactive performance."

This one-off collaboration is inspired by the characters and stories inherent in the Gallery's current exhibition; 'Friends: Passion & Commitment', which celebrates 50 years of the Friends of Hamilton Gallery.

Gallery Director, Joshua White, said "At Hamilton Gallery, we believe in fostering creativity and curiosity in young minds. These workshops are an extraordinary opportunity for kids to engage with art in a way we've never offered before. It's about the joy of discovery, of playing detective, of imaginative character-play and theatrical improvisation. We're excited to invite local children to experience the Gallery in an entirely new way."

During the workshops, children will be introduced to a captivating array of objects directly related to the current 'Friends: Passion & Commitment' exhibition. Guided by Barking Spider Creative's innovative approach, children will form small groups to engage in an interactive exploration of the objects, akin to an archaeological adventure. They will uncover the stories behind the objects and step into the shoes of characters inspired by these artifacts, participating in theatre improvisations that will help children relate positively to each other, grow confidence, and build self-esteem.

The 1-hour workshops will be held across four sessions over the two days in the upcoming school holidays. The schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, September 19th:
 - o Ages 5-12: 1:00 PM 2:00 PM
 - o Ages 2-4: 3:00 PM 4:00 PM
- Wednesday, September 20th:
 - o Ages 2-4: 11:00 AM 12:00 PM
 - o Ages 5-12: 1:00 PM 2:00 PM

Parents and guardians of ages 2-4 are invited to share the experience by participating in the workshops. For children aged 5-12, parents can relax with a complimentary tea or coffee and explore current exhibitions, staying to enjoy the performance at the end of the older kids' session.

Tickets are \$35 per child and can be booked online via <u>www.hamiltongallery.org</u>, by visiting the Gallery or contacting (03) 5573 0460.

--- Ends ---

IMAGES: See link for <u>images</u> and contact for photo/filming opportunities.

IMAGE LINK - Barking Spider Creative Workshops - HG Holidays - Friends Passion & Commitment



Images via Barking Spider Creative of previous workshops and via Hamilton Gallery of children engaging with art in our exhibition spaces.



ABOUT HAMILTON GALLERY:

Hamilton Gallery has been the heart of visual arts in the Southern Grampians for over 60 years. Visitors can discover touring exhibitions, curated highlights from the permanent collection and engaging public programs and events that stimulate understanding, awareness and enjoyment of visual arts. Hamilton Gallery's internationally significant 9000+ object collection boasts unique strengths in decorative arts, European, Australian and Asian Art. Alongside regular opportunities for all ages to create and learn, the gallery also has a shop stocking goods by local and national artisans. For more information see hamiltongallery.org, @hamiltongalleryvic on social media or join the mailing list.

ABOUT BARKING SPIDER CREATIVE:

Barking Spider Creative is a dynamic creative agency specializing in innovative arts-based experiences for young audiences. With a passion for engaging children's imaginations, Barking Spider Creative collaborates with institutions to create immersive and interactive workshops that inspire creativity and exploration. See <u>Barking Spider Theatre</u> for more details.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

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