

ROSS BROWNING'S

FUNKY FANS



2009 Rotary Award - Vocational Excellence.

2005 Frater Award NSW DET - consistently receiving outstanding evaluations from teachers.

Funky Fins! with Ross Browning

Script by Ross Browning and Garth Frost. Puppets designed and created by Garth Frost

THE PERFORMANCE

SHARKS, Mysterious, Majestic and Misunderstood: – Much of what we know about Sharks is fuelled by sensational media reports and Hollywood movies. Dispelling shark myths and introducing mysterious, unfamiliar sharks; this fast moving production aims to show the importance of our fragile marine environment.

The coolest show in or out of the water! With the help of Funky's marine-dwelling friends including MC Hammerhead, Scott The Amazing Grey Sock, The Clam Sisters, the flirtatious Angel Shark and the Whale Shark. The audience will follow the adventures of 'Funky' the great white shark, in his endeavours to outsmart 'Roc' the shark hunter.

Key Learning Areas: Creative & Practical Arts, Science & Technology, Music, HSIE.

Themes: Sharks, Marine, Ecology, Animal Welfare, Fragile Marine Environments.

Bump in Bump out time: 60 minutes in / 35 minutes out.

Space required: 4 metres x 5 metres plus access to one power point.

THE PERFORMER

With over 25 years experience as the creator of educational performances for young people in film, television, theatre, museums and schools, Ross Browning is an accomplished actor, writer, jazz pianist, composer and of course, Australia's leading puppet master.

Ross has studied acting at NIDA and jazz piano at Sydney Conservatorium of Music and Mt. Hood University, Oregon USA.

Ross has played leading puppet characters such as: 'Blinky Bill' in the ABC TV series "The New Adventures of Blinky Bill", 'Audrey II' in David Atkins Production of "Little Shop Of Horrors", 'Co Co' and 'The Major' on FOXTEL's "Fun House" programme. Ross has also been commissioned to write and perform original shows for the Australian Museum and The Earth Exchange Mining Museum. Guest performer at the Australian & International Science Festivals held in Canberra and New Zealand 1999–2002.

COMMENTS :

"Wonderful to see information given in such an exciting way! Kept the students enthralled with music, animation and information!"

– Longreach SS Qld

"Fantastic! – Children responded enthusiastically to puppets & music! A wonderful approach to transmitting information about sharks"

– Longreach SS Qld

"A most enjoyable presentation. Couldn't help but laugh throughout. We were particularly impressed by the amazing puppets."

– Sacred Heart Cunnamulla Qld

"Very pleasing that the children were not only entertained and introduced to puppetry so cleverly, but that they LEARNT & had attitudes challenged... GREAT!"

– St. Augustine's Primary Qld

"Performance grabbed children's attention from the beginning. Performance moved quickly. Music was great as were the puppets. Participation great! Ross did a wonderful job to hold the interest of all the children. Teachers are using it as a part of a theme – both water and puppets."

– St. Killians Bendigo Victoria

"Highly Satisfied. Brilliant! The performance was perfectly timed, at the right level and kept the children entertained throughout. The educational value was very good, covering many of our KLA areas – particularly the Arts, Science and SOSE. Gave the students an invaluable insight into how Drama and Music can enhance educational knowledge. An extremely clever way to teach educational values and concepts."

– Montpellier Primary Victoria

NSW DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GAZETTE:

"A quality show presented by a very talented puppeteer. "Funky Fins", originally commissioned by The Australian Museum, has an environmental/science theme and is informative as well as thoroughly entertaining. Variation in presenting acts sustained interest and elicited a very enthusiastic response from both infants and primary children. A terrific presentation!"

SEASONS AND TOURS – Over 500 performances so far!

- Australian Museum, Sydney NSW, 1994 & 2001.
- Australian Science Festival, Canberra, 1999 - 2002.
- Dunedin International Science Festival, New Zealand, 2000.
- Hamilton Science Festival, New Zealand, 2000.
- Queensland Arts Council, 1999 & 2000.
- Underwater World, Mooloolaba, Queensland, 1994.
- Victorian Arts Council, 1995 & 1999.
- Ocean World (Manly, Sydney) 1998.

OTHER SHOWS AVAILABLE

