

A collaboration between Oily Cart (UK)
and Polyglot Theatre (AUS)

When the World Turns

Join us in a living, breathing, sensory adventure

Oily Cart

polyglot
theatre is child's play

Audience Booklet

You are Here... (and we're very glad you are)

Welcome to **When the World Turns**

This show took us four years to grow. It is a collaboration across time and space, made with award-winning Australian theatre company, Polyglot.

The initial seed was a conversation about access to nature and wildness, with a family who have a disabled child. This led us to Eco-scenographer (mixing ecology, sustainability and theatre design) Dr Tanja Beer, and the idea of 'biophilia', which means humans' fundamental need for nature.

When the World Turns brings theatre and nature together, weaving biophilic patterns (like 'presence of water' and 'risk and refuge') into the design so that hopefully you all leave feeling more relaxed, refreshed and connected. When you can't access nature, these design tips can be used wherever you are to help you regulate and feel more connected to the world around you.

Here, you can be yourself, and be together. It's okay to move around, make noise, leave and come back in, **it won't disrupt the show** – this world is made for you.

In this booklet, you'll find a **visual guide** of what's going to happen in the show, and some ideas for **sensory activities** to try at home or in school afterwards.

When the World Turns continues to evolve and grow, with different offshoots touring to different countries (the show has just been at a festival in New York!). We're so happy to welcome you to this performance. You are the most important part of Oily Cart's eco-system.

The world turns, the world breathes, the world is different now **you** are here.

The Oily Cart team x

When the World Turns Visual Guide



I am coming to **When the World Turns.**



The show is about this poem:

Rooted in our ecosystem
Unseen life surrounds us
Ripples make great waves
Together we will weather storms
World breathes, world turns



It will last for **1 hour.**



I can **make noise** at any time in the show.



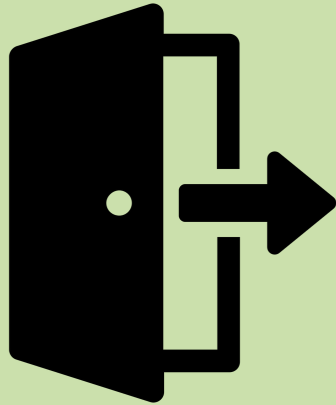
If I need **help**, I can ask for it using my eyes, signs, sounds, words or movements.



The cast will **interact** with me and the adult I am with.



I am allowed to say or sign 'No' if I do not want something near me.



I can **leave** at any time and **come back** when I am ready.



If I need a quiet space, I can go to the **Quiet Room** in the theatre.



If I am enjoying the show but the sound is a bit too loud, **I can use ear defenders.**



The show will happen under a **canopy**, surrounded by plants.



I can **enter early to settle** into the space.



I will meet **Kim**.



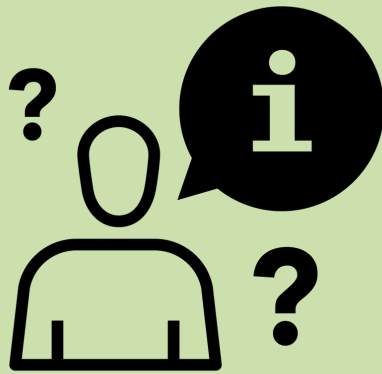
I will meet **Ed**.



I will meet **Nisha**.



The performers will bring a **map** for me to feel. The adult with me will have it throughout the show.



Inside the space, there will be **people who can help** me during the show.



Laide can help me.



Rebecca can help me.



Inside the space, there will be **many plants**.



Plants are living beings, and we touch them with **gentle hands**.



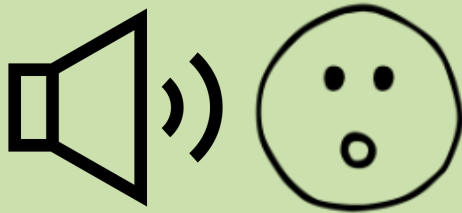
There will be baskets that have rough things that I can **fidget with**, bite and break.



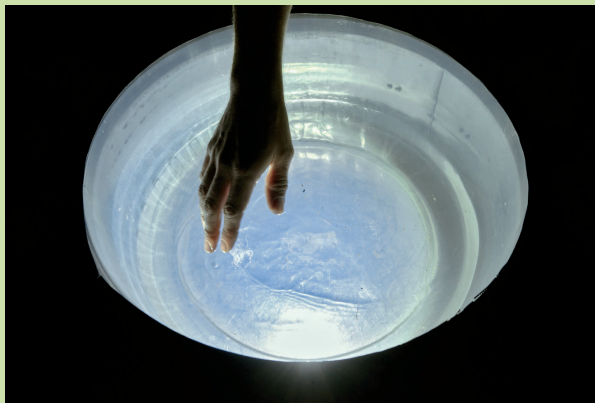
I will **sit next to other people and the adult with me** in our own area.



I will hear many **different sounds** and music.



I will hear soft or **sudden noises** from different parts of the space.



There will be a big **bowl of water** that I can play with and make shadows on the canopy roof.



There will be **different lights** in the space. They will change during the show.



After playing with water, there will be **soft flashing lights** that are like lightning.



The flashing lights are **not strobe lights**.



I will meet **puppets** made of objects.



The performers I have met are **moving the puppets**.



The puppets will come near me. I can **touch them** freely.



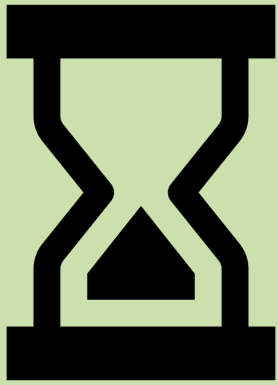
At one point, a **shelter** will appear around or above me.



When I am in the shelter, the performers will **spray the smell of trees and fruits** into the air.



The **scents** used are **juniper** and **vetiver essential oil**.



The performers will tell me when the show has **finished**.



I can have my **photo** taken at the end if I want to.



We will respect people's privacy and **avoid taking photos that include other people audience members**.

At Home Activities

Shadow Play

What you will need:

- Plant mister filled with warm water and a few drops of essential oil. (We recommend juniper berry, but you can use any smell you like that is natural)
- Torch / phone torch
- Plants, or small branches collected from outside
- Optional: coloured cellophane (like used sweet wrappers)



Activity:

- Turn off the lights
- Spray the plant mister
- Use the torch to make shadows of plants or branches on the ceiling and walls. By slowly and smoothly moving the torch, you can make it feel like you're moving through the undergrowth
- You can also have great fun making shadows that include your child's body or wheelchair
- Add colour by putting coloured cellophane onto your torch
- It's great to accompany this with music, or nature sounds

Top tips:

- You can use a head torch or attach a torch to a wrist strap with velcro, so your child can join in if holding a torch is inaccessible
- You can bring the shadows closer to your child using a white umbrella, or any white fabric or paper that can be held close-up

At Home Activities

Loud and Proud

Mirroring vocalisations, or the language your child speaks without words, is an under-rated, powerful way of making them feel important in the world and like their voice is heard. It's a simple technique that can be a really amazing tool to develop confidence and connections.

Activity:

You can find opportunities throughout the day to mirror vocalisations.

Alternatively, you can make it into a focused activity:

- Start with 5 minutes of sound. This could be an upbeat song or piece of music
- When this stops, it is important you stay still, and leave a very, very, **very** long pause
- During this, you might find your child start to vocalise. You can start to echo or mirror these sounds as a way of acknowledging and affirming their contribution.

Top tips:

- Let go of words and resist the urge to narrate what is happening
- Notice when you start to feel awkward and take deep breaths, reminding yourself that it's always good to leave longer for processing than what feels socially acceptable



At Home Activities

Sensory Walks

Activity:

- Go on a walk, or wheel, in nature, where you don't talk
- Instead, try to focus on your sensations. What do you smell, feel, hear and see around you as you wander?
- See if you can let your senses guide you, rather than sticking to the path
- When you, or your child, notices something interesting, like a bright flower or leaf, pause to really get the best view and take this in before you carry on



Top tips:

- This simple shift of focus can transform a mundane activity into a really special and beautiful time to share with your child or class
- It's important that you are very strict about the adults not talking (unless for safety reasons), and slowing down so you can really notice your own sensations, as well as the things your child seems to be responding to
- Going on regular sensory walks can have a great impact on the wellbeing and regulation of both the adult and child



We'd love to know what you thought

Thank you so much for coming to
When the World Turns

Our mission is **equal access to the arts** for everyone. By completing a short survey, you are supporting our work to deliver high-quality, inclusive theatre experiences, and make change across the cultural sector.

Your honest feedback about the show will help us understand what works and what could be different. We'll take all that on board when we're making future shows, so that they're as accessible, joyful and magical as possible.



**Scan the QR code
to access the survey**

By sharing your experience, we can also capture how our work is impacting audiences. We can use this to evidence the value of Sensory Theatre to funders and programmers.

An Oily Cart (UK) & Polyglot Theatre (AUS) collaboration

When the World Turns

Director

Rhiannon Armstrong

Original Co-Directors

Ellie Griffiths

& Sue Giles

Designer and Eco-scenographer

Andrea Carr

Original Design Concept

Dr Tanja Beer

Composer and Musical Director

Max Reinhardt

UK Performing & Devising Team

Nisha Anil

Kim Heron

Ed Yelland

Sound Designers

**Max Reinhardt (UK)
& Steph O'Hara (AUS)**

Assistant Sound Designer /

Multi Channel Programmer

PJ Davy

Lighting Designer

Marty Langthorne

Original Lighting Design Concept

Richard Vabre

Movement Director

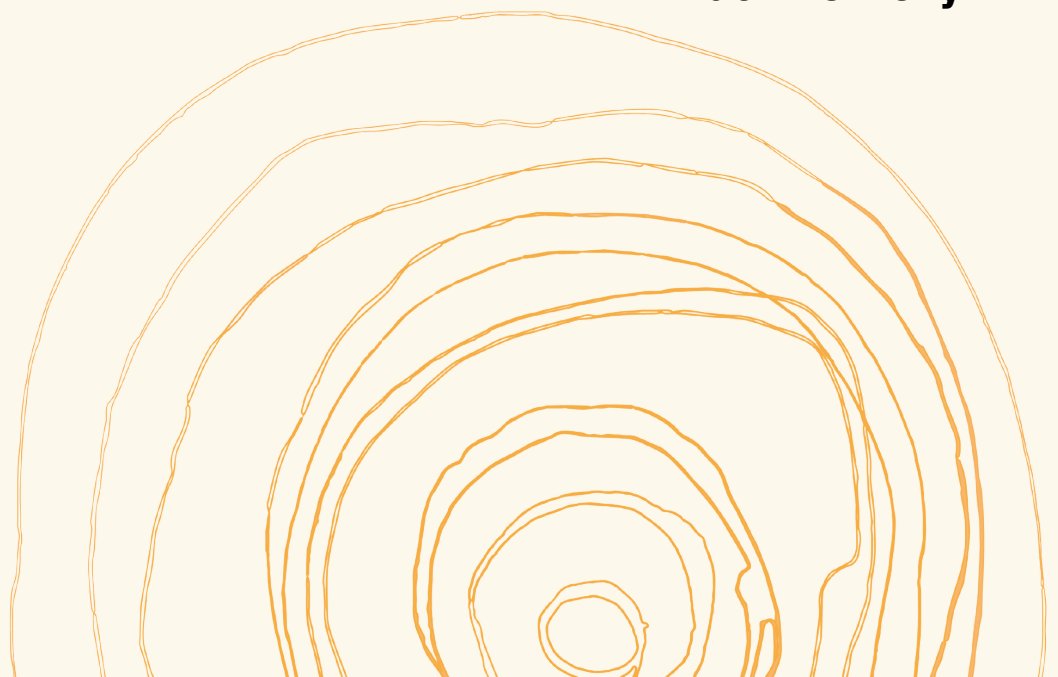
Genevieve Say

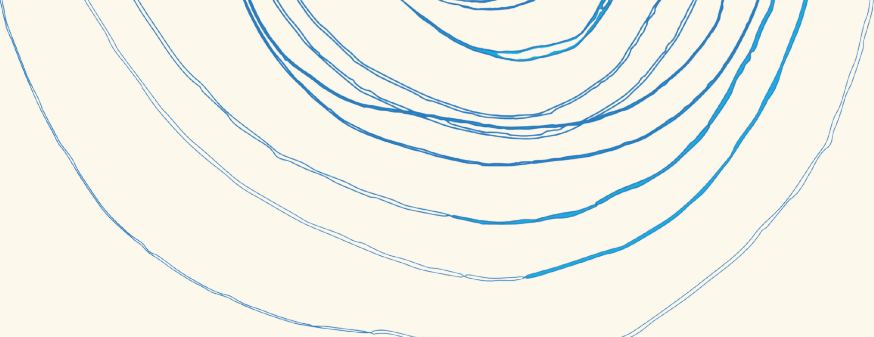
Puppetry Director

Steve Tiplady

Dramaturg

Naomi O'Kelly





Musicians on soundtrack: **Bruno Guastalla (cello & loutar), Lauren Spicely (violin), Max Reinhardt (keyboards), Jo-anne Cox (cello), Kyllah Dyer (cello)**

Plus samples of **Rhodri Davies on harp from his album *Dwa Dni***
Real sound recordings of **birds, animals, insects, trees, leaves, undergrowth, wind, rain; including field recordings made by Mike Challis**

Soundtrack mixed and recorded by **Max Reinhardt with recordings of the live musicians by Christopher Jarman, Nicholas O'Brien and Max**

Company Stage Manager
Technical Stage Manager
Crew

**Laide Sonola
Rebekah Wild
Amirul Azmi
Bea Galloway
Joshua Hill
Ben Standish**

Costume & Textile Props Maker

**Caroline Ip
& Malgorzata Walasek**

Set Construction
Specialist Props / Set Items Maker
Touch Map and Puppet Maker
Assistant Maker for Touch Maps
Shelters Maker
Murmuration Puppet Maker
Aromatherapist

**Tadeusz McCarthy Budzyhski
Eyal Edelman
Amy Nicholson
Charlotte Ball
Paula Hopkins
Helen Ainsworth
Stephen Smallwood**



Artistic Director & Joint CEO
Executive Director & Joint CEO

Tour Producer

Production Manager

Communications and Advocacy Officer

Access and Wellbeing Officer

Development Officer

Administrator

Placement

Graphic Design

Photography

Filmmaker

PR

Ellie Griffiths

Zoë Lally

Alison Garratt

Brent Tan

Flossie Waite

Maka Marambio de la Fuente

Zhaolin Zhou

Romica Sharma

Billie Antimony, Nuria Cano Lorente

Valerie Reid

Suzi Corker & Roswitha Chesher

Paul Williams

Binita Walia, The Space inBetween

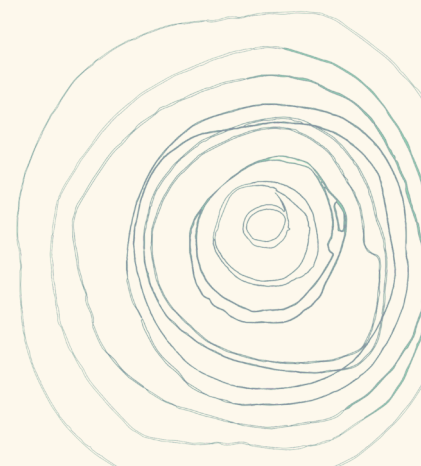
With thanks to the staff and students of **Beatrice Tate School** and **Stephen Hawking School**.

Thanks to everyone whose voices appear in **When the World Turns**: students from **Linden Lodge School**.

The UK version of When the World Turns is based on an original concept created by Oily Cart and Polyglot Theatre in Australia.

Full credits for the original creative team is available at:

www.oilycart.org.uk



Oily Cart (UK)

For over 40 years, Oily Cart has been creating remarkable, accessible shows that connect with babies, children and young people, and their families. In this time we have pioneered a whole new artform: Sensory Theatre. By pushing theatre beyond words – using not just 5, but all 33 senses – we create immersive wonderlands that never tell children how they should watch theatre, but learn from them what theatre should be.

An Oily Cart show can happen in your local theatre, hydrotherapy pool or school hall; on a trampoline or online; at home or even up in the air. Each sensory experience is a space to be who you are and to be together: the magic happens somewhere between us. We collaborate with disabled and non-disabled artists of all ages, always considering those who experience the most barriers first. With each show, we fight for a world where theatre welcomes everyone.

oilycart.org.uk

Polyglot Theatre (AUS)

Polyglot Theatre is a globally renowned company based in Melbourne that creates, produces and tours Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) all over the world. Polyglot's artistic approach of child-centred practice has earned our reputation at home and internationally as a leader in the TYA sector, celebrated for creating distinctive, collaborative works that are playful and conceptually robust. We involve kids from creative development through to immersive performances; and reach the broadest range of children by placing our work everywhere from the world's most prestigious theatres to the football grounds of regional Australia.

polyglot.org.au

Acknowledgments

This UK version of **When the World Turns** has received support from Arts Council England, The Boshier-Hinton Foundation, Cockayne – Grants for the Arts: a donor advised fund held at The London Community Foundation, The National Lottery Community Fund, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, The Royal Victoria Hall Foundation, The True Colours Trust, Wandsworth Council, funders that wish to remain anonymous and individual donors.



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



COCKAYNE



When the World Turns, a collaboration between Oily Cart (UK) and Polyglot Theatre (AUS), was originally commissioned by Arts Centre Melbourne for major arts and disability festival Alter State 2022. The development and premiere was supported by the UK/Australia Season Patrons Board, the British Council and the Australian Government as part of the UK/Australia Season, with further support from the Cassandra Gantner Foundation, State Trustees Australia Foundation, the Jennifer Prescott Family Foundation, the Marian and E.H. Flack Trust, ArtPlay, Arts Council England and ecoDynamics.

FOUNDATION PARTNERS



STRATEGIC PARTNER



PROJECT PARTNERS



Creative Program



Proudly supported by
ANNE AND MARK ROBERTSON OAM
THE PRESCOTT FAMILY FOUNDATION
THE SCOBIE AND CLAIRE MACKINNON TRUST
THE MARIAN AND E.H. FLACK TRUST





Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



phf Paul Hamlyn
Foundation



COCKAYNE



When the World Turns was originally commissioned by Arts Centre Melbourne for major arts and disability festival Alter State.
Oily Cart is a Registered Charity 1000799