

p o l y g l o t

*theatre is child's play*

*Sticky*

**MAZE**

# Technical Specification



September 2011

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### **IMPORTANT**

*Sticky Maze* is a flexible site-specific work that can be adapted to fit a variety of spaces and circumstances. The information contained in this document should only be used as a guide. Requirements specific to each venue to be negotiated with Polyglot prior to any presentation.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**PRODUCER**

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**ARTISTIC STATEMENT**

*Sticky Maze* starts as a see-through construction of sticky tape stretched between upright poles, marking out a complex maze. The children and families’ role is then to fill in the walls; colouring them in so to speak, by attaching torn up newspaper to the sticky walls. The maze becomes a proper, bewildering labyrinth, over the whole day, inviting people young and old to add to the walls and to the complexity of the maze.

Children are invited to draw their portraits and add them to the walls; they become immersed in the world the maze conjures up and start to write instructions, directions and desperate messages.

The performers in the maze are tricksters - luring the unwary to dead ends. They can become invisible in the maze, dressed in the same material as the walls, and wearing disguises. They lead games and take kids on tours. But most of all they are there to hand over the fun to the kids – following their lead in the inventive interaction and allowing free play of all the possibilities. The *Sticky Maze* is filled with music – played live and directly influenced by the children and by the material.

At the end the whole event is cut down and rolled into one enormous newspaper and sticky tape ball – light and large it is the perfect plaything and over the period of days will become part of the ever growing installation.

Polyglot Theatre is supported by the Victorian Government through Arts Victoria, by the City of Melbourne and by the City of Stonnington.

[www.polyglottheatre.com](http://www.polyglottheatre.com)

## EVENT INFORMATION

This is an interactive performance event. There are no separate audience and performance areas.

## CAPACITY

As a rough guide to the capacity of *Sticky Maze*, approximately 100 people (adults and children) can fit in a 15m x 10m (50' X 33') or 150m<sup>2</sup> (1650ft<sup>2</sup>) area at one time.

## EVENT RUNNING TIME

2 x 2hr Session per day. These can be run as 40 minute sessions instead of 2hr continuous sessions.

## REQUIRED BREAKS

A 90minute break is required between sessions for Lunch and to reset the site.

## MARKETING INFORMATION

For documentary and archive purposes, Polyglot may film and photograph sessions. This is done in line with local child protection laws. Please let us know if your organisation has any particular policies to which we must adhere.

We will also distribute surveys asking patrons for feedback on the event for our own purposes.

Polyglot requires approval of all marketing materials that feature our work to ensure that our branding and contractual obligations with our funders are met. We will ensure a fast turnaround.

For high-resolution publicity images, please visit: [www.polyglottheatre.com/downloads](http://www.polyglottheatre.com/downloads).

## STAFFING REQUIREMENTS

### PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

- 1 x Venue Liaison at all times
- 8 x Crew to assist with Load In
- 4 x FOH Crew to assist with each performance session
- 8 x Crew to assist with Load Out

For locations where English is not the primary language, a fluent English-local language interpreter must be available to the touring party during all scheduled activity. This interpreter must be familiar with standard theatre terminology.

### POLYGLOT TO PROVIDE

- 4 x Performers
- 1 x Musician
- 1 x Production Manager
- 1 x Tour Manager (for international performance only)

**ACCOMMODATION**

**PRESENTER TO PROVIDE**

Single room in four-star accommodation for each member of the Polyglot touring party. This is an Australian union requirement. The accommodation provided should be walking distance from the venue (or easily accessible via public transport, with no longer than a 30 minutes commute between the accommodation and venue).

**TRAVEL & GROUND TRANSPORT**

**PRESENTER TO PROVIDE**

Adequate ground transportation between the airport and accommodation. If the accommodation is too far away from the venue, a venue pool car, hire car or taxis) must be provided for use by the touring party.



## SPACE REQUIREMENTS

### PERFORMANCE SPACE

#### PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

##### LARGE, OPEN SPACE

Although *Sticky Maze* is an adaptable work, the minimum space required is:

**15 x 10 x 5 metres (width x length x height)**

**50 x 33 x 16 feet (width x length x height)**

A good sized site is 20 x 15 x 6 metres (width x length x height) / 65 x 50 x 20 feet.

The space must be dedicated to *Sticky Maze* for the length of the season including load-in and out.

Please send through photos / plans so we can adapt the work for the space.

The poles need to be delivered directly to the site or to an adjacent storage area.

As a guide to capacity, roughly 100 people can fit in a 15 x 10 metre (50 x 33 feet) space *at one time*.

### FLOOR SURFACE

#### PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

Floor surface must be:

- Flat as possible
- Level – there should no slope over the site
- Clear of large obstacles including boulders, trees and fences
- Solid
- Dry

Suitable floor surfaces are:

- Grass
- Timber
- Paving
- Bricks
- Tiles
- Concrete

Please note that Gaffer and Mark up tape may be stuck directly to the floor surface to mark out the maze.

## DRESSING ROOMS

### PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

1. Male Dressing Room to fit 3 people comfortably.
2. Female Dressing Room to fit 3 people comfortably.

Both Dressing Rooms to have:

- Access to showers
- Access to toilets
- Bench
- Mirror
- Hanging Facilities
- Iron & Ironing Board
- Lockable doors
- Water

In addition, the company will need access to a computer with internet access and/or wireless internet facilities as well as a photocopier.

Laundry facilities: The venue must provide a washing machine, dryer and iron.

## MARQUEE

### PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

Two Marquees with walls

- 3m x 3m (10' x 10') for housing the musicians/DJ
- 3m x 3m (10' x 10') for storage, unless alternative covered storage adjacent to the site is available.

## STORAGE

### PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

Storage facilities for poles and extra materials **must** be adjacent to the performance space. The required size of this space is relative to the size of the performance space.

A minimum of 9 square metres (3m x 3m) of storage space is required for the extra materials.

## SECURITY

### PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

Secure location for storage of audio/DJ equipment overnight

## VEHICLE ACCESS

Large vehicle access (3-tonne truck minimum) is required to deliver the set and other production elements. Please let us know in advance of any unusual circumstances so that we may prepare accordingly.

## WASTE REMOVAL

### PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

Adequate onsite recycling and rubbish facilities should be provided. In addition, the following items must be provided:

- 1 x Walk Behind Sweeper
- 3 x Commercial Brooms
- 3 x Dust Pans

Due to a lot of small litter that is inherently produced in this piece, a Walk Behind Sweeper is necessary to reduce the amount of rubbish and effectively clean the space and surrounding area during Load Out. A manual broom alone is not sufficient considering the scale of the work.

## WEATHER PROTECTION

Outdoor sites that have some sort of shelter from strong winds should be chosen. If you are concerned, ask us about your proposed site. In case of extremely windy or wet weather the performance will be cancelled. With enough notice, the performance may be moved inside but will need to be modified to accommodate for the change of space and height.

## SIGNAGE

### POLYGLOT TO PROVIDE

Polyglot will supply all signage. Any site-specific signage required will be created during Load in. Please note that the signage will need to be attached to the walls / fences.

## TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

As a general rule:

- Load In will take 8 hours
- Load Out will take 4 hours

## SET & MATERIALS

### POLYGLOT TO PROVIDE

All the upright poles, bases and sandbags necessary to create the maze. A typical presentation of Sticky Maze will require approximately 75 poles per 150 square metres (15 x 10 metres) / 1650 square foot (50 x 33 feet) space.

Polyglot will also provide all the materials required to deliver the installation. These include:

- Sticky tape (20mm thick)
- Hazard tape
- Masking tape (45mm thick)
- Newspaper
- Paper
- Paper Holders
- Pastels
- Textas
- Chalk

## SOUND

### PRESENTER TO PROVIDE

- 6 x RCF Active Speakers (or equivalent) with stands (or flown)
  - 1 x Denon DN-C615 CD Player (or equivalent)
  - 1 x Radio Handheld SM58 Radio Microphone
  - 1 x Handheld SM58 Radio Microphone (Back Up)
  - 1 x 16 channel sound desk with 6 Aux Sends, stereo inputs and phantom power available on all channels.
  - 1 x 3.5mm mini-jack to XLR **OR** 6.5mm jack (for laptop to sound desk)
- Adequate power, power boards and sound cabling to realise  
Adequate cable trapping to cover exposed cabling along walkways

RCF speakers to be placed evenly around the outskirts of the space with the horns facing inwards.

This system has been designed as surround sound, to minimise excessive sound levels close to small children. It is a safety requirement that sound levels not exceed 72dB at the location of the platforms.

#### **Please note**

For performances outside of Australia, appropriate adaptors and power transformers must be supplied for operation of audio equipment: clean transformation and adaptation of **10** circuits of 240V, 10amp power are required.

**LIGHTING**

As much natural light as possible during the day is ideal. For night and indoor performances, a bright warm wash or strong work lights required – full visibility throughout the space is essential.

**OTHER EQUIPMENT**

**PRESENTER TO PROVIDE**

- 1 x First Aid Kit
- 2 x Fire Extinguisher's – Water or CO<sup>2</sup>
- 4 x 6' (1.8m) Trestle tables
- 10 x Chairs
- Drinking water for all production and performance personnel

**PRODUCTION SCHEDULE**

Below is a sample of the production schedule that might be utilised. Please note that this show does require 8 hours to load in prior to the first performance and 4 hours to load out after the last performance.

The schedule varies depending on the size and location of the performance space. The following is only a guide. Final production schedule will be arranged in consultation with the Polyglot Production Manager.

**DAY ONE - LOAD IN**

Start	Finish	Activity	Personnel
09:00	13:00	Mark out site Wrap + Construct Poles	Polyglot Cast & Crew Site Manager/Venue Liaison 4 x Load in Crew
13:00	14:00	Break	
14:00	18:00	Place Poles Create signage Meet with DJ / Musician	Polyglot Cast & Crew Site Manager/Venue Liaison 4 x Load in Crew DJ / Musician

**DAY TWO – PERFORMANCE**

Start	Finish	Activity	Personnel
09:00	10:30	Prepare for Performance	Polyglot Cast & Crew Site Manager/Venue Liaison 4 x Load in Crew
10:30	12:30	Performance	Polyglot Cast & Crew Site Manager/Venue Liaison 4 x FOH Crew DJ / Musician
13:00	14:30	Break (minimum 90 minutes between performances)	
14:30	16:30	Performance	Polyglot Cast & Crew Site Manager/Venue Liaison 4 x FOH Manager DJ / Musician
16:30	17:00	Clean Up	Polyglot Cast & Crew Site Manager/Venue Liaison 4 x FOH Manager DJ / Musician

DAY THREE – PERFORMANCE AND LOAD OUT

Start	Finish	Activity	Personnel
09:00	10:30	Prepare for Performance	Polyglot Cast & Crew Site Manager/Venue Liaison 4 x Local Crew/Volunteer
10:30	12:30	Performance	Polyglot Cast & Crew Site Manager/Venue Liaison 4 x FOH Crew DJ or Musician
13:00	14:30	Break (minimum 90 minutes between performances)	
14:30	16:30	Performance	Polyglot Cast & Crew Site Manager/Venue Liaison 4 x FOH Crew DJ / Musician
16:30	17:00	Break	
17:00	21:00	Breakdown/Crush Boxes Move boxes to compactor Clear site/ Remove Temporary Markings	Polyglot Cast & Crew Site Manager/Venue Liaison 4x Local Out Crew



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Does the space need to be completely symmetrical?**

No. The space can take any form as long as it is a clear area, flat and a suitable size for the intended audience numbers.

### **How do you control how many people come in?**

The event is fenced, and the Production Manager, together with your Front of House Crew, will monitor how many people are in the site. We have a specified entrance/exit that we can close when necessary, to control the number of people in the space. Ideally the event has session times (even if entry is free) to allow for numbers to be controlled and for access to the activity to be equitable for participants.

### **What do the performers do?**

The performers' primary role is to facilitate the children's ideas. They have a series of improvised clowning routines that create the atmosphere in the site.

### **Is it dangerous?**

No. The work looks chaotic but is actually very controlled.

### **Can I leave my kids in the site?**

No. We encourage parents or guardians to enter the space and play together with their children.

### **Is there a risk assessment available?**

Yes, a full risk assessment is available on request to the Associate Producer.

### **My uncle runs a stationery business. Can he provide the paper and sticky tape?**

Yes please. Please contact the Associate Producer.

### **What ages is it for?**

The ideal age for Littles is 2 to 12 years. There is no age limit for their accompanying Bigs!

### **How do school groups work?**

We can open for group sessions of approximately 45 minutes.

### **Will the Australian government pay to bring you to my country?**

In some circumstances, we can apply for government funding for our airfares. Please chat with our Executive Producer.

### **How long do people play for?**

People can stay for as long as they like - ten minutes or two hours! The event can also be structured to run in hour-long sessions where the whole site gets cleared every 45 to 60 minutes to allow a whole new group of people into the space. An hour is the ideal time for the activity.