

# Bronwyn Vaughan presents

# My Fine Feathered Friends



ENGLISH/HSIE

Performed & devised by Bronwyn Vaughan. Directed by Brian Joyce. Designed by Janet Clouston

This delightful and whimsical performance is based on stories about birds from a variety of cultural sources – Chinese, African and Australian – and explores the world of birds, looking at birds’ song, flight, intelligence and problem solving, as well as broader themes of freedom and captivity, bravery, ingenuity, friendship, and the close bond between humans and animals.

The stories told include *The Emperor and the Nightingale* by Hans Christian Anderson, *The Elephant’s Child* by Rudyard Kipling and *The Eagle and The Wren*, a story told across many ages and cultures.

Bronwyn Vaughan is simply mesmerising. Her unique style of storytelling is highly theatrical, characterized by drama, action, humour, wit, intelligent engagement and involvement. She uses a wide array of theatrical tools – movement, music, song, dance, puppetry, traditional and contemporary musical instruments, and compelling characterisations – to create a rich and rewarding theatrical experience for young audiences.

Bronwyn’s performance is enriched by exquisitely designed and crafted props, puppets, sets and costumes. **Recycled, found objects** have been used to create the puppets, props, costumes, wigs, and many of the instruments used in the show. We meet a huge wading-bird made from kitchen utensils, a nightingale crafted from a teapot, an elephant fashioned out of plumber’s pipes and an upside down watering can. Ms P herself is up-cycled chic, sporting a glamorous outfit made entirely from tea towels and a hairpiece moulded from fruit bags. In the **post-show Q and A** the audience can learn about the practicalities of creating and crafting the show, as well as taking a closer look at the stories that form the foundation of the performance.

### The Performer

Bronwyn Vaughan has worked as a performer, writer, musician, and storyteller in Theatre-in-Education and Children’s Theatre for the past 35 years, touring extensively throughout Australia to schools, community venues, libraries and art galleries. She was a founding member of Pipi Storm and her many credits include *Pipi Storm Children’s Circus*, *Kid’s Kabaret*, *Carburettas and Dummy Half*, *Stories Given..Handed On* and *The Bombshells*. Her school programmes include *When Camels Could Fly*, *Aditi and her Rickshaw*, *Stories in the Shade of a Tree*, *At the Foot of The Storyteller’s Chair*, and *Floating on a Sea of Stories*.

Curriculum Links include: introducing stories from a range of cultures; introducing customs, practices & symbols of others; identifies drama from different places; and explores sounds from other cultures.

<b>DURATION: Infants – 45 mins + question time</b>	<b>SUITABILITY: Years F-2</b>
<b>PERFORMANCE COST</b> \$4.50 per student <u>\$0.45</u> GST Total: \$4.95 (Incl. GST)	<b>PERFORMANCE MINIMUM (100 students)*</b> \$450.00 per performance <u>\$ 45.00</u> GST Total: \$495.00 (incl. GST)
<b>*PLEASE NOTE EVERY STUDENT OVER 100 PAYS \$4.50 + GST</b> Teacher’s Notes provided on website below.	