

# AUSTRALIAN ARTS LABORATORY

CNR, OXFORD & COMBER STREETS,  
PADDINGTON

ALL MAIL TO: 23 HODDLE STREET, PADDINGTON  
TEL: 31-4488 AFTER 6 P.M.

The Public Relations Officer,

Dear Sir,

re: Free Theatre Tour

This is to acquaint you with a new and different kind of venture in the arts which we think will help you.

In January the Australian Free Theatre Troupe will be touring capital cities and large towns in Australia, and we are seeking your help or sponsorship. We need help with travelling expenses, equipment, transport and accommodation. In return, we offer to publicize your generosity in every way possible - at our press conferences, on the vehicle, in leaflets and handouts, on the program, on posters, announcements at performances, and so on.

Please find attached a separate sheet detailing our proposed show, itinerary, equipment needs and anticipated costs. All of these are naturally subject to alteration.

Our show will be a mixture of short plays by young Australians (some by ourselves) poetry reading, music, mimes, folk song, lightshow, films and a happening. We will vary the program according to the venue and audience - more experimental and free for students, more conventional for older audiences, for instance. The only intention of our show is to entertain.

In view of the recent support given by the Myer and Peter Stuyvesant Trusts to university drama festivals, and the tour by Melbourne's La Mama experimental theatre to the Perth and Adelaide festivals, we feel that this sort of sponsorship offers a real benefit to a large company, especially one connected with travel or motoring.

We look forward to the opportunity to present our views more fully in an interview, as a letter can only give a meagre idea of what we can do.

Yours faithfully,

AUSTRALIAN FREE THEATRE TROUPE

Clem Gorman

SPECIFIC NEED: Funds or vehicle

## PROGRAM

- Plays:** Alexander Duss - "NORM and AHMED"  
Jack Hibberd - "WHO"  
Jack Romeril - play to be decided  
Australian Free Theatre Troupe - Courtroom Play,  
Pop Play, Mima, extract from "Birth of Space"  
Sketches by Beckett, Marinetti, etc.
- Films:** Sandra Gorman - "AUSTRALIAN FREE THEATRE TROUPE"  
Lindsay Bourke - sound and image films  
Rod and Mick Dash - selected films  
Clem Gorman - "THE UNVEILING OF THE MYSTERIES"  
selected UPU films, and others.
- Folk song:** Barbara Bacon - young blues singer from Brisbane.
- Lightshow:** Strobes, wheels, flickers, projectors, water lights etc.
- Poetry:** Poems by young Sydney poets including John Tranter,  
Nick Batty, Bob Adamson and others. Poems by Melbourne  
poet Bill Beard, and readings of Blake, Dylan, Leonard  
Cohen, Upanishads, etc.
- Music:** Lindsay Bourke, organ, Barbara Bacon, and the Australian  
Free Theatre Troupe on conga, harmonica, guitar, bongos and  
ocharina. Plus chanting, including Yoga chants and our own.  
Plus tapes of electronic music, Tibetan monks chanting etc.
- Happening:** The Australian Free Theatre Troupe involves the audience  
in doing it themselves, on stage with us, releasing  
natural creativity until the whole theatre becomes a stage.
- Street Theatre:** Comedia del'Arte sketch, plus Julie Janssen's creation of  
Jules Ffeiffer's "The Bomb".
- Creative workshops:** Local theatricals join us in sessions designed to  
exchange knowledge and techniques and foster creativity.

A ONE WEEK SEASON OF THE SHOW WILL BE PERFORMED IN SYDNEY  
BEFORE LEAVING.

ITINERARY

Thursday Jan. 1: Leave Sydney for Newcastle  
Friday Jan 2: Perform Newcastle  
Saturday Jan 3: to Gold Coast  
Sunday Jan 4: Perform Gold Coast  
Monday Jan 5: to Brisbane  
Tuesday Jan 6: perform Brisbane  
Wednesday Jan 7: perform Toowoomba  
Thursday Jan 8: perform Armidale  
Friday Jan 9: return Sydney

---

WEEKEND RESTING IN SYDNEY/TRAVEL TO WOLLONGONG SUNDAY NIGHT

---

Monday Jan 12th: perform Wollongong  
Tuesday Jan 13: travel Canberra  
Wednesday Jan 14: perform Canberra  
Thursday Jan 15: perform Albury  
Friday Jan 16: to Melbourne  
Saturday Jan 17: perform Melbourne  
Sunday Jan 18: perform Melbourne  
Monday Jan 19: perform Geelong and/or holiday resorts.  
Tuesday Jan 20: travel Adelaide  
Wednesday Jan 21: perform Adelaide  
Thursday Jan 22: return Sydney

---

POSSIBLE EXTENSIONS OF TOUR UP TO SIX WEEKS: Alice Springs, Darwin,  
Perth, Kalgoorlie, Mt. Isa, Townsville, Cairns. We feel that all these  
places, because of isolation, would provide big houses for our show,  
and if our sponsor will help us, we will definitely tour these places,  
returning to Sydney in mid-February.