

URBAN ASTRONAUT.

Urban Astronaut provides a glimpse of a future that might be... where problems surrounding air pollution have grown to crisis point, is there any way back? What can the Urban Astronaut learn from audiences now that might change his future?

Combining stunning design, unseen before aerial performance (using a unique travelling flying machine that suspends the performer 20ft in the air) with simple story telling and moving dance performance, Urban Astronaut travels through towns and cities searching for a solution to the environmental disaster that is present in our near future. The answer is found in a simple encounter with a young girl who provides the one thing the astronaut has lost... hope.

A bold new direction in physical theatre choreographed around a bespoke structure, intriguing, enchanting and thought-provoking, Highly Sprung once again take on a global issue with a narrative that makes it at once personal and motivating.

Suitable for all ages - A performance in two parts- static and promenade for towns, cities and parks and public spaces.

To book:

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Images: Rajvi Vaya



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Technical Info...

The performance takes place in three parts as follows:

Astronaut promenade: A 10-15 minute section of performance on the mobile aerial rig. The astronaut takes off and travels up to 100 metres through audience towards the designated flat floor performance area.

Hope: This section of performance happens simultaneously to the astronaut promenade. A single female performer uses a climbing structure set to the edge of the designated flat floor area to tend to plants. This section includes water spray from the climbing structure and the female performer laying a circle of soil approx. 10m x 8m around which audiences stand.

Duet: A 10 minute section of performance involving both the astronaut and the female dancer performing together in the designated flat floor area. 5 minutes on the mobile aerial rig and 5 minutes dancing on the flat floor.

Min space requirements: 100m for promenade (ideally hard standing and level)

10m x 8m for designated flat floor area (for duet section, ideally hard standing and level)

Audio: one free standing PA for designated flat floor area. One mounted to mobile aerial rig for Astronaut promenade.



Touring Personal: 5 Performers
1x Production Manager

Get in: 1 hour

Get Out: 15 minutes

Parking: 1x car 1x van
1x trailer (L 3.2m H 4.1m)

The rig is transported as a complete unit on a Vehicle Trailer towed by a LWB van.

Set:

Mobile aerial rig- a four wheeled pyramid structure with a large main beam on the top point of the pyramid with counterbalance system to allow a harnessed performer to be lifted up to 20ft and rotated left and right 360 degrees. Operated and powered by 3 performers.

Rig dimensions- Length 4m, Width 1.87m, Height 2.7m

Climbing Structure- Free standing metal braced structure. Incorporating water spray feature which sprays a mist of water up to 5 metres for the structure for 30 seconds on two occasions during the Hope section. Performer can climb the structure and is attached at structure's highest point by a climbing harness and swivel carabina.

Structure dimensions: Height 4.5m, Highest standing platform 2.6m, Footprint 6.6m²

Suitcase containing earth and small plants to be laid and planted by the female performer.

Running Time: 25 Mins

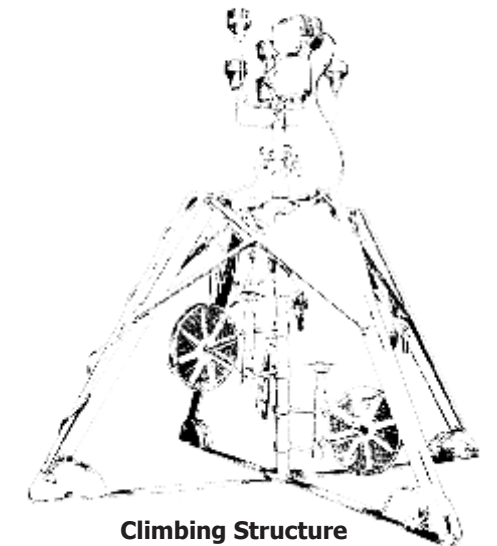
10-15 minutes promenade 10 mins duet on rig and floor

Stewarding and security: Requirements for promenade ideally 4x stewards. 2x Stewards at the front guarding the area in front of the astronaut. 2x stewards securing the rear of the rig, allowing a 3 metre space behind the rig to allow the operator to move forward and back when operating the flying aspect of the promenade.

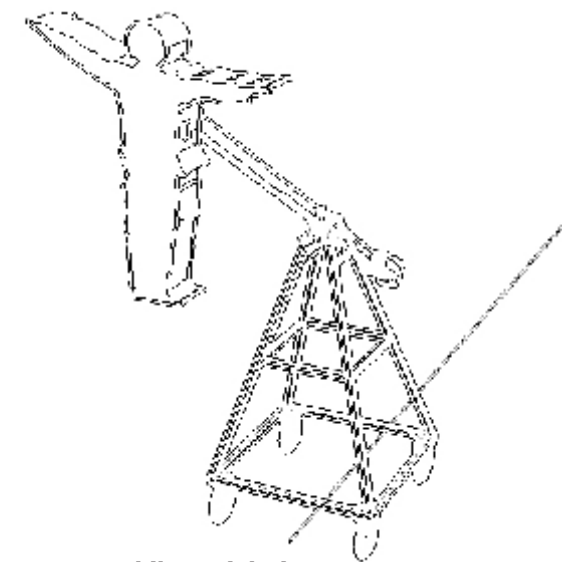
1 x steward at Designated flat floor area to manage audience around climbing structure.

Secure overnight storage for rig on trailer where required.

Avail:
Spring



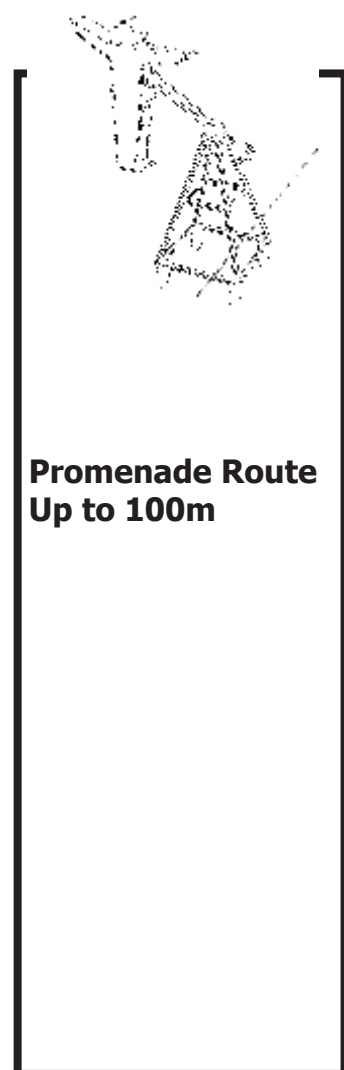
Climbing Structure



Mobile Aerial Rig

Performance Area Dimensions Diagram:

This is a suggestion of the space need for the performance, but is open to change to fit each venue.



Start Position for Mobile Aerial Rig and Launch section of performance

Promenade Route:

Ideally a route free from steps, kerbs, pot holes or changeable surfaces.

Free from overhead obstructions less than 20ft.

Ideal width- minimum 5m to allow for audience on both sides

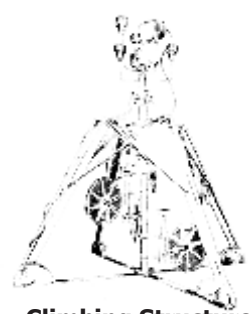
4 x stewards required throughout the promenade route

The route can go round corners.

PA- Ideally provided by venue

PA

Designated Flat Floor Area 10m x 8m Hope and Duet sections



Climbing Structure

1 x steward required to supervise and control access to flat floor area throughout performance slot.

FAQs...

- Do we require any additional equipment?
A PA is required for use at the designated flat floor area- and technical staff to operate PA.
Access to running water to fill spray cans for use on climbing structure.
 - What are the stewarding requirements?
Requirements for promenade ideally 4x stewards. 2x Stewards at the front guarding the area in front of the astronaut. 2x stewards securing the rear of the rig, allowing a 3 x metre space behind the rig to allow the operator to move forward and back when operating the flying aspect of the promenade.
1 x steward at Designated flat floor area to manage audience around climbing structure.
 - Do we require any fencing/barriers?
Not during the performance.
Fencing or barrier is required to guard both the rig and structure if left in the public arena between performances.
 - Can the performance be presented on grass?
The mobile aerial rig has been adapted to provide wheels that allow for movement on softer, more uneven surfaces like grass. We are confident that grass is not an issue, unless it is water logged, very muddy or very bumpy/uneven. In the case that weather impedes the performance, making the grass area too wet/slippy/muddy there is a B version of the dynamic section of the performance, which keeps the rig more static and requires the astronaut to perform off the rig for a larger percentage of the performance.
 - Are there any Weather restrictions for performing or contingency plans for bad weather?
Rain and Unfavourable Weather: Performances of Urban Astronaut will take place in light rain and moderate winds, but are not possible during heavy downpours or very strong winds. The decision to proceed with a performance during unfavourable weather is at the discretion of the project director: Mark Worth. Extremes of Temperature: In relation to the performance of Urban Astronaut on a very hot day, the risk of heat stroke must be considered. This problem is compounded by performers wearing costumes with reduced ability to breathe, therefore extreme high temperatures must be managed with the provision of appropriate facilities, this may include rescheduling the performance or to a different time of day, access to water, shade, and rest facilities.
 - Do you have Public Liability insurance?
The company has Public Liability with an indemnity of £5,000,000.
 - What are the accommodation details, numbers of performers/crew and number of rooms required?
The performance has 2 performers and three crew members. A total of 5 on the road.
All require single rooms. At times an additional room may be required for the company director/manager to attend.
 - What is the number of performances we can offer per day and what time do we require between shows?
Maximum of two performances per day.
With a minimum of 2 hours between show if performing in the same area, three hours if moving to new location between performances.
 - What is a typical schedule for the performance including - arrivals/get in and get out times/ does this require any other help?
Arrive, unload and set up 1 hour
Get in to costumes 15 minutes
Onsite before performance 30 minute prior to start time
Performance 30 minutes
Get out- change, pack van, load rig 60 minutes
- No additional technical support is required.
- Risk assessment
The performance is fully risk assessed.
Technical plans, method statements, wind management plans and risk assessments are all available on request.

Feedback...

“Highly Sprung’s Urban Astronaut takes us gracefully to a disparate future”

“My nine year old daughter was completely taken in by your performance. I could tell her about what’s going on with the planet again and again and it would just go over her head. What you’ve just done there, will stay with her forever.”

“Beautiful, moving piece by far my standout favourite of the whole festival!”

“Beautiful and relevant”

“Great performance, charming story. Definitely worth checking out!”

“Audiences are mesmerised!”

Touring 2020

Running Time 30 mins

Age Guidance None



AWARD WINNING STREET PERFORMANCE- Gi20 Audience Prize 2015

Links:

Web- highlysprungperformance.co.uk

Images- [flickr.com/photos/highlysprung](https://www.flickr.com/photos/highlysprung)

Youtube- <https://bit.ly/2TJMS37>

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