



# GRiT Newsletter

## Thoughts from the artistic director:

During this isolating and uncertain time, GRiT has been making exciting international connections with Chakrayvu Performing Arts Company (CPA) in Mumbai, India with Director Rayana Pandey and Artistic Director Glenn Hayden to brainstorm new ways of working and collaborating creatively with one another. At the moment, India is still in lockdown and the only way they can continue to work is online, so we have created an **International Drama Party**, bringing together kids from India and Australia in a creative environment for an hour of huge fun and huge cultural exchange. Facilitated by Rayana and Simone, with support workers Kerry and Nikhill, the parties have been an incredible source of joy, learning and laughter.



Rayana Pandey said *"It has been incredibly invigorating to unearth new ideas with an Australian company like GRiT. Together we have created a unique online environment for cultural and professional exchange with young people from around the globe. Watching the kids meet and share stories and ideas and creative energy is uplifting to say the least."*

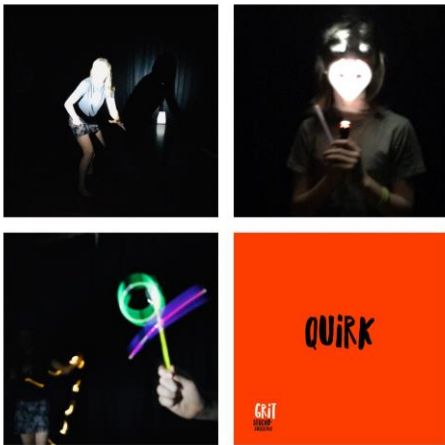
Simone says, *"It is so refreshing as artists, to meet and work with fellow creative professionals who are doing what you do, for the same reasons, and not afraid to truly collaborate and support one another. Working online with Rayana's energy is infectious, I cannot wait to meet her in person one day. And of course, Glenn and I are old buddies and its brilliant to be working together again". "This was a natural connection" says Glenn Hayden. "Instigating a collaboration between Australia and my new home India has been inspiring and Rayana and Simone are a dream team to be working with. The parallels with GRiT and CPA's Youth Theatre programs are countless and both companies are very excited about our future collaborations".*

It's been a strange year, but its relationships like this that highlight the importance of what we do, encouraging empathy, resilience, self-expression, emotional intelligence and curious minds. We hope our wonderful families are keeping well and staying safe. Thanks again for all your support & communications. Please stay in touch!

# Learning performance art through the ABCD's of play:

Our workshops explore, what makes a great play, player, team, and culture? Through investigating stagecraft, we integrate the creative with the physical and intellectual and use movement, voice, improvisation, character building and storytelling to be creative and express ourselves.

**What is the ABCD's of play?** Kerry Ireland & Simone Avramidis have created a circular and holistic teaching methodology which has become the foundation of GRIT's workshop program. They have spent a year researching, developing, exploring, and experimenting with theories and techniques that will empower young people to make positive change and benefit our overall community & culture.



Simone believes *"We are all responsible for the paths we choose. It's not the experiences we have but the way we choose to respond to the experiences we have that shape the people we become"*.

GRIT is an inclusive and nurturing space that encourages young people to be themselves and give it a go. There is no right or wrong, we value individuality and appreciate differences. We encourage young people to acknowledge how they feel, express themselves, be open and accepting to feelings and aware of their choices.

We achieve all this by using play and performance art as a platform to build confidence, resilience, empathy and respect.

*"To play needs much work. But when we experience the work as play, then it is not work anymore. A play is a play"*  
 – Peter Brook –

# Dates to remember!

## INTERNATIONAL PYJAMA DRAMA PARTY

Chakravyu Performing Arts (MUMBAI)  
& GRIT Studio Collective (AUST)

SATURDAY 26<sup>th</sup> September 2020

7-11yrs @ 5-6pm

**FREE**

Bookings essential

[www.gritstudiocollective.com.au](http://www.gritstudiocollective.com.au)



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS



Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September

5-9yrs @ 10am

10-13yrs @ 1pm

[www.gritstudiocollective.com.au](http://www.gritstudiocollective.com.au)

for more details

## TERM 4 - WEEKLY PERFORMANCE ART

In-theatre 10 WEEK Workshops

Starts WEDNESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020

IMAGINE 8-10yrs @ 4PM

QUIRK 11-13yrs @ 5.15PM

Starts THURSDAY 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

BELIEVE 5-7yrs @ 4PM

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