

The internationally acclaimed

# Richard Bradshaw & his Shadow Theatre in BRADSHAW'S SHADOWS

"...he works alone behind a screen scarcely larger than that of a TV set. But what work! What a goldsmith!...It's an opportunity not to miss! It's not so often one gets the chance to laugh wholeheartedly...and with spirit!"  
Marc Chevalier in Arts Magazine (Paris)

"...his cut-out shapes cast a spell over the audience, and prove that the simple things in life are often the best."  
Sian Martin, The Daily News (Perth)

"Bradshaw is a master of his craft...the tale of a green fish and an orange fish is a pointed, non-preachy parable of race relations and world politics." Douglas J. Keating in The Philadelphia Inquirer

"Richard provides a flawless production that keeps the audience riveted to the screen. Here is the ultimate in Shadow Puppetry. The presentation involves fun, colour, wonderment and for puppeteers, an enhanced disbelief that anything could be so exact and workable. Richard always pleases the audience, and, as usual, he left us begging for more." M'El Reum, Journal of the Puppeteers of America, July 2001.

This is a fast-moving, entertaining programme which has successfully toured to twenty countries and played to audiences of all ages.

There are about twenty different scenarios ranging from short, visual jokes to longer songs and stories. The performance begins with a version of "The Broken Bridge" a shadow play from France that is over 200 years old, and ends with an original mock heroic song "Super Kangaroo". There is an item based on an Aboriginal legend, which tells how the sun was made, and a story of prejudice between a green fish and an orange fish. (This last story can easily lead to a discussion of world tensions).

Richard also demonstrates how to make simple shadow puppets and shows examples of traditional figures from India, Indonesia, Thailand, China, Turkey and Greece. People who see the performance are often inspired to try their hand at making shadow puppets.

The programme can be enjoyed at several levels, and has delighted audiences of children, teenagers and adults all over the world.

## Richard Bradshaw

The late Jim Henson first saw Richard's show in France in 1972 and again in New York in 1974. He invited Richard to appear in the first series of **The Muppet Show** in 1976 and came to Sydney in 1984 to make a documentary on Richard's work as part of an international series of six, shown on ABC TV.

Richard's work has been seen on the ABC's **Play School** for over 30 years. One item with an Ostrich, a Mouse and a Hippopotamus has been shown since 1967 and remains in Richard's live shows. (The last part of this item can lead into a useful discussion of levers and fiction!)

Richard has a B.Sc in Mathematics and Geology (1959) and for ten years was a secondary Teacher for whom puppetry was a hobby. In 1986 he received a **Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)** for services to the arts as a Puppeteer and in 1987 he shared the **Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award**.

With performances in Europe, Asia and North America (as well as in New Zealand and Australia) the show has become something of an international classic of Shadow Theatre.

FOR STUDENTS OF FRENCH  
The show can be presented with a mix of French and English according to their level of ability.

<b>DURATION:</b> 50 minutes	<b>SUITABILITY:</b> Years K-6
<b>PERFORMANCE COST</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE MINIMUM</b> 120 STUDENTS
\$4.00 per student	\$480.00 per show
<del>\$0.40 gst</del>	<del>\$ 48.00 gst</del>
\$4.40 Total (Inc GST)	\$528.00 Total (Inc GST)

# Young Australia Workshop

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This programme was awarded the FRATER AWARD by the NSW Department of Education and Training for "excellent contribution to the 1997 Performances for Schools Programme".