

## ANNA YEN

Anna Yen is a performer, theatre-maker, director, writer, circus / physical teacher and Feldenkrais Method practitioner.

Anna was a finalist in the Queensland Premiere's Drama Award 2018 with her new physical theatre work, **Slow Boat**. She was a writer / performer in **The Serpent's Table** 2014 Sydney Festival (Griffin Theatre / Contemporary Asian Australian Performance). She received a Matilda Award for her solo show **Chinese Take Away** Stage X (QPAC / Gum Yi Productions) and toured its film adaptation (SBS commissioned) with performance excerpts, to Asia, Europe and USA. **Chinese Take Away's** script is published by PlayLab. **Chinese Take Away** resources such as the DVD recording of the stageplay, and the script are regularly used in high school classrooms.

Other Performance Credits include: the award-winning **Monsteria** GUSH; **It All Begins With Love** Creative Regions; **Electric Dragon** Georgie Pinn, FedSq 2015; **A Creation Myth** tunCLOUD; **Waterwheel Installation** Igneous; **Wicked Bodies** La Boite/Zen Zen Zo, **Fortune** La Boite, **After China** QUT – Brisbane and Belvoir St; **Monkey Journey to the West** Chinese Historical Assoc; **Loaded Stories** QTC-Ed; four years with **Rock'n'Roll Circus** (now CIRCA) ensemble including in **Blood on the Butter**, **Circus Under the Tintop**, **Body Slam**, **Shame – An Incarcerated Tale** and **Trashed**; **Cravings** Vulcana; **The Case of All Things** with Jeff Turpin, in Kaohsiung, Taiwan 2008 for the launch of the World Games; and her **Chinese Grandma Clown** has featured at many festivals. She was a co-founder / performer of the Tasmanian Women's Circus and Horizon Circus in Hobart and co-ordinator of the **Tasmanian Youth Circus** from 1986 -89.

Yen has directed/collaboratively devised over 20 new-works including: **Phoenix Rising** Woodford; **Other-wise II** Under the Radar - Brisbane Festival; **Taboo** and **Stop Violence Against Women** QUT / Amnesty International / VenaCava; **Manga Metropolis** Hereford Sisters - Backbone Youth Arts, Brisbane Festival; **Lives and Loves** Ethnic Communities Council of Qld / Ausdance; **Aviatrix**, **Fire in the Belly** and **Blissed Out...** Vulcana Circus; **It's Just not Cricket** UQ Drama; street-theatre pieces for Women's International League for Peace and Freedom's Performers4Peace; and was Assistant Director on AWGIE Award-winning **Kese Solwata** Out of the Box.

Other awards include a **Creative Partnerships Art and Health Award** Qld with *The Lamingtons* for Griffith University / WMB Playful Engagement project, **Matilda Award** for Best Costume with GUSH and **Bank SA Adelaide Fringe Best Circus /Physical Theatre Weekly Award** for GUSH's **Monsteria**, and a **Churchill Fellowship** (2002). Anna has trained with Monika Pagneux, Philippe Gaulier, Nanjing Acrobatic Troupe, Shanghai Circus School, Ira Seidenstein, Zen Zen Zo, Hull Actors Studio LA, Andrea Moor and Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre.

Her PlayMoves – Movement Workshops for Performance, which integrates performance skills, creativity and the Feldenkrais Method, has been invited to Hobart, Melbourne, Perth, Wollongong, Cairns, Townsville, Bellbrae, Sydney and Brisbane. She's been a guest teacher at QUT, UQ, Circus Oz, Circus WOW and many schools, festivals and communities. Anna is a trainer at Vulcana in Brisbane and recently taught Feldenkrais at the 2019 Newcastle Juggling Convention. Anna is a Guest Artist at Yeronga State High School, and was part of their hugely successful YConnect Project. Anna teaches Feldenkrais Method's Awareness Through Movement at the Qld Conservatorium of Music as a sessional lecturer. She recently started teaching a Feldenkrais inspired sequence 'Wake Up!' to help performers and non-performers wake up at any time of day.

<http://www.playmoves.org>