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FESTIVAL BRINGS THEATRE MASTERPIECE TO PERTH

Robert Lepage/Ex Machina (Canada)

The Far Side of the Moon

Lepage at his very best, showing his talent for forging unexpected connections and appealing simultaneously to hearts and minds. **THE GUARDIAN (UK)**

The greatest and most acclaimed work by legendary Canadian theatre writer and director Robert Lepage, seen in 45 cities around the world, finally comes to Perth.

Twelve years after he wowed the 2006 Perth Festival with *The Dragon's Trilogy*, stage maestro **Robert Lepage** presents his rapturously received *The Far Side of the Moon*.

Premiered in 2000, this multimedia marvel confirms Lepage's status as the pre-eminent visionary of modern theatre and is performed as a virtuosic solo by **Yves Jacques**.

The Far Side of the Moon is the story of two brothers - one flashy and successful, the other self-doubting and permanently upstaged – who gradually become entwined in the history of the Soviet-US space race.

Lepage tells the simultaneously witty and haunting story about these two estranged brothers who are forced to confront their lifelong antagonism after the death of their mother.

The Far Side of the Moon explores themes of competition, vanity and isolation on both a personal and geopolitical level, using video, theatre, puppetry and an otherworldly score by **Laurie Anderson** to probe the forces that bring us together and pull us apart.

This is theatre at its most artistically accomplished and emotionally resonant.

Festival Artistic Director Wendy Martin says 'This is one of Robert Lepage's iconic works. The amazing thing about Lepage is that the works he made 20 years ago are still travelling the world and looking astonishingly fresh as if they had been made yesterday. I remember seeing *The Far Side of the Moon* in 2001 and it remains on my all-time list of life-changing theatre.'

Dubbed the 'the alchemist of modern imagistic theatre' by *The Guardian* newspaper, **Robert Lepage** is famed for his phenomenally imaginative and singularly visual work.



Following a series of internationally celebrated productions throughout the 1980s and early 1990s including his epics *Seven Streams of the River Ota* and *The Dragons Trilogy*, he founded the production company Ex Machina in 1994.

WHAT: THE FAR SIDE OF THE MOON

WHERE: Heath Ledger Theatre

WHEN: Feb 22-24

BOOKING DETAILS: 08 6488 5555 or perthfestival.com.au

Tickets: \$25-\$85

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Perth Festival

Founded in 1953 by The University of Western Australia, Perth Festival is the longest running international arts festival in Australia and Western Australia's premier cultural event. The Festival has developed a worldwide reputation for excellence in its international program, the presentation of new works and the highest quality artistic experiences for its audience. For 64 years the Festival has welcomed to Perth some of the world's greatest living artists and now connects with hundreds of thousands of people each year.

Wendy Martin is the Artistic Director 2016–19.

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