

THE VISIONARY an outdoors show



A person walks on to the street wheeling a homemade podium.

Dressed eccentrically, maybe in robes, maybe with a big beard, they position the podium and climb up. A preacher, a “David Icke”, from Speaker’s Corner, “motivational”, imparting their own brand of wisdom : they address the street, maybe using a megaphone.

They offer ‘profound’, befuddling, homespun proverbs, they talk about modern life and contemporary issues, with signs supporting their proclamations.

Hopefully they gather a crowd.

They become more extreme, explaining how they reached a higher plane, developing super powers.

They predict things : when the traffic lights change? Something falling out of a window?

They make things appear from nowhere, levitate, rip off robes to reveal wings...

A heckler appears, shouting at The Visionary, saying they are a fool and charlatan.

Proving their powers the Visionary sets the heckler’s head on fire, the heckler runs off.

The Visionary starts rambling, a chaotic stream of consciousness.

A council worker appears to shut down the show, they shout, causing a commotion.

The Visionary disappears in a cloud of smoke.

The council worker then folds up the podium and wheels it away.

[The podium has trap door, to enable vanish with a change of clothes in podium].

The Visionary is non-religious but has their own particular set of beliefs.

Commenting on modern life and it’s chaos, with absurd hidden wisdoms.

Performed with amplified voice and triggered sound effects.

2 performers : The Visionary, The Heckler/Council worker

NOTES



The tricks and illusions will be crucial for a big impact from the show.

Objects appearing from within costume and podium, fire effects, flash paper, levitation and a finale disappearance

The talking gives a lot of room for cultural and contemporary references and commentary.

It would be good to tackle strong contemporary issues, Racism, Pandemic, Climate Change, Capitalism, Important to me it must be funny and the performance powerful, easing people in to reflection through the humour and the drama of the show.

As Joe Strummer said about The Clash's performances:

"I do want people to have a great time and enjoy themselves, and I think that's what it's all about really, as far as the concert is concerned right, but somehow I don't feel good unless I feel that they've gone away and thought about it or something...the after effect, the after taste is what I'm really after."

The talking should start understated and low key, sensible in tone if not in logic.

A recycled homemade feel to costumes and props

Use of sound effects and some music

Look at themes and subject matter for *the Visionary*

Look at humour in "political" and motivational speakers

Rough out structure of the show and crucial tricks/illusions.

Research motivational speakers, street preachers, speakers corner

Research mind reading, group hypnosis

The street speaker/prophet is an iconic image everyone can understand.

A show "of" the street, rather than a show "in" the street, it belongs on the street and can't play indoors.

Playing with possibility of this being a "real" street prophet

CREATIVE TEAM

CONFIRMED

Writer : Jon Hicks

Writing Support : Joe Macintosh (SeaChange Arts)

<https://seachangearts.org.uk>

Performer : Jon Hicks

<http://www.thejonhicks.com>

Performer/co-deviser : Matt Rudkin

<http://www.mattrudkin.co.uk>

Magic Consultant : Noel Britten (president of Magic Circle)

<http://www.noelbritten.co.uk> <http://www.bizarrebath.co.uk>

Outdoors Arts Sensei and Creative Contraption Consultant : Bill Palmer (Avanti)

<http://avantidisplay.co.uk>

Sound & SFX Consultant : Nick Wharburton (Stuff and Things)

<https://stuffandthings.co.uk/pas-q-thing/>

Prop Maker & Wood Engineer : Pat Seaman (Werewolf of London)

<http://www.werewolfoflondon.net>

Director : Toby Parks (SpyMonkey)

<https://www.spymonkey.co.uk>

HOPEFULLY

Speakers Corner Expert Consultant : Tony Allen

(stand up comedian, advocate heckler, anarchist parasite, mixed-ability shaman)

<https://www.newagenda.org/index.html>

CO-COMMISSIONERS

SeaChange Arts <https://seachangearts.org.uk>

Freedom Festival <https://www.freedomfestival.co.uk>

SOME REFERENCE

Reggie Watts disorients you in the most entertaining way

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BdHK_r9RXTc&list=PLuKt9HUrXLrBDHX_-AXHhN8ZN9wHVuqsd&index=1

Monkey TV show intro

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LAbE36IBTZY&list=PLuKt9HUrXLrBDHX_-AXHhN8ZN9wHVuqsd&index=2

12 Biggest Dick Moves in Old estament

<http://io9.com/gods-12-biggest-dick-moves-in-the-old-testament-1522970429>

Sick of this market-driven world? You should be article by George Monbiot

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/aug/05/neoliberalism-mental-health-rich-poverty-economy>

New Age Bullshit Generator

<http://sebpearce.com/bullshit/>

a satirical site genarating random 'quotes' using the words of Deepak Chopra

<http://www.wisdomofchopra.com>

The real Deepak Chopra

<https://www.deepakchopra.com>

The Amazing Randi

https://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/09/magazine/the-unbelievable-skepticism-of-the-amazing-randi.html?_r=0

Matthew Silver : Words of Wisdom from an Unexpected Citizen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y7rXlbHtcqM>

Mario Lopez's Sizzling Salt Illusion

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_t2EuUBjhWs

The Wizard : public speaker legend of ChirstchurchNZ

<https://wizard.gen.nz>

David Icke

<https://davidicke.com>

Stanley Green : Tottenham Court Road Eat Less Protein

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stanley_Green

Open Air Preaching

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open-air_preaching

The Power of Ignorance

<http://www.chrisgibbs.ca/ignorance.htm>

Barrack Obama Comebacks & Rebuttals

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SOpvCubalx0>

Barrack Obama jokes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NajhG8PpC2A>

Street Preacher

<https://www.cheshire-live.co.uk/news/chester-cheshire-news/loud-street-preacher-splits-opinion-17653455>

Mad Preacher

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=45&v=LR0c886hpkY&feature=emb_logo

Anti gay Preachers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XDGf2xgy7DE>

Pastor Rips Hypocritical Churches For Using The Bible To Bash Gay People (Great energy)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w-0T0IRNAZg>

Donald Trump

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uCAR68qyMd8>

Anti Trump Preacher

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OM-X7ileHzs>

Mystery Men The Sphinx

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5I94bT23cQ>

Marx Brothers Cutlery gag. Also used by Artizani's Syrovy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9vNono2CXo>

- Derren Brown *Miracle*

<http://derrenbrown.co.uk/stage-screen/>

- Stage Hypnosis

<https://www.hypnosis101.com/hypnosis/stage-hypnosis/stage-hypnosis-secrets/>

Speakers Corner

<https://www.speakerscorner.net>

Tony Benn

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2014/mar/15/10-of-the-best-tony-benn-quotes-as-picked-by-our-readers>

Reading

A Summer in the Park: A Journal of Speakers' Corner by Tony Allen is published by Freedom Press (£8.50).

<https://www.theguardian.com/theguardian/2004/dec/03/features11.g2?INTCMP=SRCH>

The Speakers by Heathcote Williams

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1822958.The_Speakers

A Modest Proposal by Jonathan Swift

<https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/modestproposal/summary/>

The Best of Benn: Speeches, Diaries, Letters, and Other Writings Paperback – 2 July compiled by Ruth Winstons