****

**Frogman - R&D**

Frogman R&D is only half way through and will complete in January. There are many technical and storytelling hurdles, as this genre of theatre experience is very new. We are creating the technology as we go.

**So far we have;**

- Collaborated with Katy Duke to film some test footage at the Deep in 360 and chatted with some of the Aquarists about what they think would make an exciting story.

- Worked out a complicated network system to power and broadcast the content of the show to the VR headsets, so that it can play at The Deep, but also tour the UK.

- Worked with a software developer to make an App to power the show.

- Written a synopsis of the story, exploring one single space, Meera's bedroom.

- We will need to build a life-size version of her bedroom within which we will eventually film in 360. It will be a controlled environment, potentially in the middle of a warehouse. We can do all sorts of exciting things, like flooding the room, making the walls shake etc.

- Working with Pete Malkin (Complicite sound designer) we are working with 360VR microphones to create an exciting sonic landscape.

- Working with Deloitte Digital to spec the best VR headsets to use to make it a comfortable and thrilling experience.

- Working with a Panasonic ambassador to use a trial of their 360live camera to create a live feed experience as well as pre-recorded 360 footage.

- working with greenscreen technology to use as a storytelling tool.

**Frogman experience.**

Frogman is a 360 degree virtual reality theatre experience for 30 audience members at a time. They experience the story which lasts 45 minutes wearing a VR headset and a pair of headphones. Meera guides the audience through the experience, it is her story.

**Frogman synopsis**

Frogman follows the story of Meera, bedbound with a rare bone fragility. She is in her bedroom in her flat in Cairns, Australia which she shares with her mum. Her best friend Ella has gone missing, causing a shockwave through the community. Her mum is a coral reef researcher and her dad is a frogman (a police diver). We follow Meera as she tried to work out where her friend has gone. The story goes into an aquarium, the bridge where Ella was last seen, the woods and out onto the reef itself. It is a story of friendship, fragility and fantasy.

**Next steps:**

- to meet with Katy Duke on November 1st to discuss where/when the show can open at the Deep, as well as other logistics.

- to gather footage from the reefs off Cairns, Australia, with the help of Katy Duke.

- to write the script with art direction.

- to build and shoot the footage in the bedroom.

- to continue to develop the apps which power the show.

- to try to gather further sponsorship for the show.

We would like to start by showing something in January and also testing 5-10minutes in May/June before opening in July. Precise performance dates in Hull to be discussed further on 1 November.