

Media Release: 29 October, 2008

Spare Parts Puppet Theatre

The Arrival

November 8 to 21

Media Contacts:

John Michael Swinbank 0414 743 418 pr@johnmichael.com.au

David Hall – 0423 083 004 – david@johnmichael.com.au

***The Arrival* keeps on going**

Spare Parts Puppet Theatre's ground-breaking production, *The Arrival* continues to cast its spell with international presentations planned in North America and Europe in 2009. Based on acclaimed illustrator and author Shaun Tan's story, *The Arrival* celebrates a vibrant world of harmony with animals and people living together happily in a fantastical metropolis. Its sophisticated use of imagery to tell a moving story of great humanity allows it to cross all boundaries and is suitable for all ages from five years old.

The Arrival has recently returned from a nine week national tour which took in 52 performances in four states and, prior to departing for the USA, the award-winning production will be presented for one week only at the company's Fremantle home theatre for a limited run from November 8 to 15, prior to touring to Bunbury from November 17 to 19 and Margaret River on November 20 and 21.

In January 2009, the company has been invited to showcase the production at the International Performing Arts for Youth (IPAY) 30th Annual International Showcase Conference held in Cleveland, Ohio.

Spare Parts General Manager, Cathcart Weatherly said that the prestigious invitation was a remarkable opportunity to develop the company's international profile and touring opportunities. "IPAY is a pioneer of quality children's programming throughout the United States and Canada," he said. "The 30th Annual Conference will allow us to present our work to over 200 of the leading presenters, artists and agents/managers and the greatest chance of establishing a viable touring circuit throughout North America."

Adapted by Michael Barlow, directed by Philip Mitchell and designed by the company's Chief Puppet Maker, Jiri Zmitko, *The Arrival* is a magical experience for all ages with a stunning mix of digital projection of Tan's exquisite images, live performance by highly regarded performers and puppeteers, Karen Hethey, Sanjiva Margio and Giri Mazzella and the excellence in puppetry that is the benchmark of the powerhouse company, Spare Parts Puppet Theatre. *The Arrival* won the Best Production category in the 2006 Equity Awards.

Bookings are essential as Spare Parts shows sell-out. Make them online at www.sppt.asn.au or by phone on 9335 5044 (\$2.00 phone booking fee applies).

**Excellent images as well as photo and interview opportunities are available.
Please contact John Michael Swinbank 0414 743 418 jm@johnmichael.com.au
David Hall 0423 083 004 david@johnmichael.com.au**

Spare Parts Puppet Theatre 1 Short Street Fremantle (opposite the Freo Train Station)

Bookings essential: www.sppt.asn.au or 9335 5044

Sat 8 November, 1.00pm & 6.30pm, Mon 10 - Wed 12 November, 10.00am & 1.00pm

Thurs 13 – Sat 15 November, 1.00pm & 6.30pm

Bunbury, The New Lyric, 7 Bourke Street Bunbury

Mon 17 November, 6.30pm, Tuesday 18th November, 1.00pm & 6.30pm, Wednesday 19th November, 10.00am

Margaret River. The Cultural Centre, Wallcliffe Road

Thurs 20 November, 6.30pm, Friday 21 November, 10.00am & 1.00pm