

FRENETIC ENGINEERING RISK ASSESSMENT - 'CALAMITY JANE'

HAZARDOUS ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

Lasso
Line Dancing
Knife throwing
Use of Water on Stage

In all cases, adequate time should be arranged for a technical rehearsal in the space with any production crew & safety stewards being made aware of potential hazards, and stewards should be made available to mark out clearance area to prevent public access to performance area when equipment is in place.

Event organisers are to provide a secure/lockable or stewarded area for equipment to be stored in between shows near to performance area. This will negate the risk of members of the public gaining access to knives that will be set in place on the prop prior to shows. Where a situation is deemed to be high risk from this point of view high risk items will be removed from the table and store elsewhere.

Lasso

HAZARD:

- Damage to décor or lights in performance space
- Injury to audience member by impact with lasso
- Injury to performer through tripping on lasso/falling décor/lights

PEOPLE AT RISK:

- Public
- Production crew
- Performer

SUMMARY OF RISK:

SEVERITY: Minor injury

LIKELIHOOD: Very unlikely

CONTROLS IN PLACE:

- Performer trained in safe use of equipment
- Performance space in venue allows act to be performed with ample clearance from any objects/lights (min 4 x 4m performance space).
- Minimum height clearance with no décor/equipment above stage – 3m (can be negotiated but must rehearse in space prior to performance)
- Ample clearance allowed - between performers and audience (see above requirements)

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Event organisers clear stage of props before other performers enter the stage

KNIFE THROWING

HAZARD:

- Injury through knife wound

PEOPLE AT RISK:

- Public
- Production crew
- Performer

SUMMARY OF RISK:

SEVERITY: Fatality

LIKELIHOOD: Very unlikely

CONTROLS IN PLACE:

- Performer trained in safe use of equipment
- Event organisers to allow time on stage before show for marking distance for throwing knives and for performer to check all necessary controls have been taken care of
- Ample clearance allowed for distance between knife board and audience (4 x 4 m – can be negotiated in advance)
- Event organisers to ensure no lights are directly behind the knife board in case of temporary 'blinding' of performer when throwing knives
- Backdrop or ample clearance behind knifeboard to prevent possible 'stray' knives from hitting anyone
- Where a thoroughfare is near or behind stage right – event organisers to provide stewards to prevent anyone walking behind knife board during the knife throwing section of the show
- Where performer deems it necessary she may move members of the audience to a safer distance/during that section of the show
- Immediately after a show performer will count knives and remove them from access of the public
- Event organisers – where necessary clear stage of knives and props before other performers/public enter the stage. If stage hands/manager touching knives must be briefed by event organiser that they are dangerous
- Event organisers – to provide secure place away from the public for storage of knives and props
- Performer to give clear warning to volunteer not to move from behind board or move board while knives are being thrown

LINE DANCING

HAZARD:

- Slip or fall for performer
- Performer falling on audience member or crew

PEOPLE AT RISK:

- Public
- Production crew
- Performer

SUMMARY OF RISK:

SEVERITY: Serious injury

LIKELIHOOD: Very unlikely

SEVERITY: Minor Injury

LIKELIHOOD: Unlikely

CONTROLS IN PLACE:

- Performers trained in safe practice of physical performance
- Ample clearance allowed for between performers and audience
- Event organisers to ensure dry, even, flat stage for performance
- Provision of adequate heated space, by venue, free from hazards/objects for performers to warm-up muscle groups

USE OF WATER ON STAGE

- Slip or fall for performer
- Performer falling on audience member or crew
- Slip or fall for subsequent performers or crew

PEOPLE AT RISK:

- Public
- Production crew
- Performer

SUMMARY OF RISK:

SEVERITY: Serious injury

LIKELIHOOD: Very unlikely

SEVERITY: Minor Injury

LIKELIHOOD: Unlikely

CONTROLS IN PLACE:

- Performer to take care not to spill water – very unlikely that any will be spilled on stage
- Stage crew to check for slight spillage and wipe stage dry if they find any – before allowing other performers to enter the stage
- Stage crew to take care when removing props as there may be some water left in the glass or bottle – put lid on and then remove with other props