



CORBIAN

Visual Arts and Dance

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For Immediate Release

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DARWIN'S EVOLUTION

Darwin is a truly unique and innovative theater experience where electroluminescent crayon-like creatures light up the stage with a heart-rending tale of a dinosaur discovering the true meaning of love. To tell the story creators Corbin Popp and Ian Carney have developed an array of creatures and characters, using flexible electroluminescent wire, that are manipulated by their hands and bodies in a blackout setting.

The story begins with Professor Henslow, a famous scientist who has magic powers. We find him in his workshop, putting his latest creation, Darwin, together piece by piece. With a wave of Henslow's magic wand, Darwin is brought to life.

Darwin is much more than a pet—he is a dinosaur, a wild and primitive creature. Though he learns to take his first steps from his creator, Darwin's animal instincts eventually take over and he succumbs to his predatory nature.

Realizing that he is suddenly in danger, Professor Henslow cleverly responds by making Darwin a heart, thereby creating in Darwin compassion for other beings. Darwin is transformed and a lasting bond develops between creator and beast.

Professor Henslow encourages Darwin to explore life beyond the workshop and sends him off with fireflies to guide him through the night. Darwin encounters many different types of creatures—Verla, the gangly ostrich; Peche, the beautiful fish; and Brutus, the menacing red dinosaur.

In the end when the red dinosaur threatens Professor Henslow's life, Darwin comes to the rescue, and when given a choice between his life or Henslow's, Darwin chooses to give up his new heart to save his master. Through this act of compassion, Darwin receives a miraculous gift—the evolution of his own heart.

Our story begins with Henslow, the Magical Scientist. We find him in his workshop, putting Darwin together piece by piece. With a wave of Henslow's magical wand, Darwin is brought to life.

Darwin is much more than a pet: he is a dinosaur – a wild and primitive creature. Though Darwin learns to take his first steps from his creator, he is, after all, a dinosaur. His animal instincts eventually take over and he has no choice but to succumb.

Just as it's becoming too late, Henslow realizes something must be done to change him, so he creates *compassion* for the creature by giving him a heart.

Darwin is transformed. A beautiful bond develops between creator and beast. And as must eventually happen, it is time for Darwin to explore his own world.

In Darwin's explorations, he encounters many different types of living creatures, learning the value of both good and bad, love and hate, friends and enemies. What Darwin takes from these life lessons are up to him, and only he can decide his fate.

It seems Darwin's fate is to rescue Henslow – when given a choice between his life or Henslow's, Darwin chooses to give up his heart to save his Master, to return the compassion that was once shown to him.

...Perhaps if we truly believe in what life brings, maybe love can conquer all.

DARWIN EDUCATION & WORKSHOPS

At CORBIAN Visual arts and Dance we are committed to bringing a new type of theatrical experience to people everywhere. Through a unique combination of puppetry, dance and storytelling we strive to rethink the way the public thinks of conventional theater. Our shows can be performed in any blackout setting available. From the beaches of a small Caribbean island to the remote mountains of Tibet , We rely on no outside source of power. So this show has the potential to reach an enormous amount of theater and arts starved communities.

Our intent is two-fold. First, we want to entertain. We are committed to bringing the highest quality of a theatrical experience possible. Second, our goal is to educate people in Arts and Science.

The basis for our medium is simple. Using flexible electroluminescent wire sculpted with rigid aluminum and copper wire to create different creatures and characters. These light wire creatures are then brought to life by wearing or manipulating them with our hands and body, in a blackout theatrical setting. With music, dialogue, interesting choreography and visual effects we create short vignettes or shows for audiences of all ages. Much of our work includes stories or tales that include lessons or moralistic value.

With that said we intend to use the process of creation in our shows for an educational experience.

Targeting young audiences, we begin creating new characters or creatures. Using simple sketches we emphasize the importance of line and what is currently accepted as visually correct. Next, our students take these sketches to the next level into three dimensional sculptures using armature material such as aluminum or copper wire. These are then wrapped and lined with the electroluminescent wire or "El wire". Learning to work with wire in art and using simple circuitry is

essential to building new projects. Our students will also have the opportunity to brainstorm new ideas often involving the creation of new mechanical joints and appendages. Learning to think up ideas and building them is a core part of our program and an asset for artists of the future.

The final process of our program is taking what the students have created and giving it life. This stage involves composing, directing and orchestration including acquisition of music, arrangement and choreography. Once the piece is finished we stress the importance of bringing it to a performance level. Their work is performed for fellow students and other possible productions.

In completion of our program the students will take home knowledge in several areas of arts and sciences. Sketch, sculpture, engineering, lighting or circuitry, music composition, creative writing, staging, and performing are what CORBIAN aspires to pass on to perspective students.