

## The Nargun and the Stars review

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STM reporter Alicia Bridges  
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**STUNNING visuals, innovative puppetry and a gorgeous Australian storyline make Scott Wright's *The Nargun and the Stars* an absolute must-see production for all.**



**FAMILY FUN:** Tom Green (Simon) pictured with creature puppets Potkooorok and the smaller Nyols in *The Nargun and the Stars*. Picture: **Tomasz Machnik**.

Based on the story by Patricia Wrightson, the story unfolds through the eyes of Simon, a young boy who is sent to live with his country relatives after a car accident killed his parents.

There he is welcomed warmly by Charlie and Edie, a humble country couple who enjoy the simple life.

Initially overwhelmed by his new life, Simon turns to the bush and finds more than he bargains for in the trees and the swamp.

Playful dreamtime creatures the Potkooorok (water spirit), Turongs (tree people) and

particularly cheeky Nyols (mountain spirits) inhabit their respective parts of Wongadilla Station.

While the spirits are harmless, there is something more sinister living in the hills and swamps on the station.

The Nargun, a giant, living boulder, has been moving around the country-side with cruel intentions since she was disturbed from her resting place by the advent of industrial machinery.

When she becomes a threat to Simon's new family, the boy must call on the spirits to help scare the Nargun away for good.

This beautiful production is brilliantly constructed and executed with real innovation.

Each character is brought to life in spectacular fashion, with faultless movement and expression.

Using inflatables and deceptive projections, the settings are also spectacular and created in a way which allows the cast to move freely.

The opening scene is one of many highlights, along with one which takes the audience under-water to a cavern beneath the swamp.

Credit must go to the puppeteers and set designers, who transformed The Nargun and the Stars into a visual masterpiece.

The entire cast and crew must be immensely proud of this tribute to the culture of Indigenous Australians.

Children in the audience were absorbed and adults were in awe; The Nargun and the Stars is worth every penny.

**The Nargun and the Stars**

**Erth Visual and Physical, Performing Lines, Barking Gecko Theatre Company**

**The Regal Theatre, Subiaco**

**Reviewer: Alicia Bridges**

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