

# 2012 | PERTH FESTIVAL



UK/GERMANY

Gob Squad

## SUPER NIGHT SHOT

	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
FEB						10	11
	12	13					

Studio Underground, State Theatre Centre of WA

This performance is 1 hour with no interval

PERTH  
INTERNATIONAL  
ARTS FESTIVAL



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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10 FEBRUARY–3 MARCH  
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Image by Prudence Upton

## SUPER NIGHT SHOT

Concept by Gob Squad

Devised by:

**Johanna Freiburg**

**Sean Patten**

**Elyce Semeneć**

**Berit Stumpf**

**Sarah Thom**

**Bastian Trost**

**Simon Will**

On the Streets of Perth Tonight:

**Mat Hand**

**Erik Pold**

**Sarah Thom**

**Simon Will**

Tonight's Live Sound Mix:

**Jeff McGrory**

Sound Design:

**Sebastian Bark, Jeff McGrory**

Production Management:

**Eva Hartmann**

Touring Management:

**Mat Hand**

Permanent members of Gob Squad are Sean Patten, Sharon Smith, Berit Stumpf, Sarah Thom, Simon Will, Bastian Trost and Johanna Freiburg.

For *Super Night Shot*, Gob Squad is often joined by guest performers. Current guests are Mat Hand, Ilia Papatheodorou, Erik Pold, Elyce Semeneć and Laura Tonke.

The Soundtrack for *Super Night Shot* was produced by sound designers Sebastian Bark and Jeff McGrory in collaboration with Gob Squad.

Commissioned by Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz Berlin. With research and development funding from the Arts Council of England, East Midlands.

## SUPER NIGHT SHOT

I want to feel important.

Just for a moment I want to be the one who is special.

I don't want to blend into the crowd – I want to stand out.

I want to be noticed.

I want the red carpet, and an umbrella held over me to protect me from the rain and the flashing paparazzi. I want the best table in the restaurant. I want the finest wine and the chef to thank me for eating there. I want people to wonder who I am.

I want to be driven away in an ambulance ... no ... a police car.

I want to be handcuffed to a policeman, he has to be tall and handsome.

I want to be body-checked before getting into the car. I want a large crowd of passers-by to stop and be shocked, when the police find drugs on me – no .... a gun.

I want a barking police dog – a German Shepherd.

I want the onlookers to think I am a hard man, someone to be reckoned with, a rebel, a loner, a misguided youth – no – I've changed my mind I want them to think I'm a jealous lover about to commit a crime of passion ... a rich jealous lover, out of control and unable to hide my emotions which I've suppressed for years. I want the crowd to hold me back as I struggle.

I want a slow-motion struggle, sirens, blue flashing lights ...

**By Gob Squad**

Cover image by Gob Squad

## SUPER NIGHT SHOT

Instant Video Journeys from the Streets of Perth

*Super Night Shot* is an hour-long multi-screen video event filmed one hour before the audience arrives. The film contains no cuts and is produced with four video cameras by four performers in the streets of Perth. In the movie the city becomes a film set, a place in which cigarette butts in the gutter are props and everyone is a potential extra, friend, lover or liberator. This is the movie of their lives, their chance to shine. The audience waiting to see the film becomes the final scene as our heroes return home from their fantastical mission.

One hour before the show begins, the four Gob Squad members meet, arm themselves with their video cameras and start them simultaneously. With their watches synchronised they state their manifesto with military precision:

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***Each of us is just one in a million, easy to replace and easy to forget in a town that doesn't really need us ... but don't worry ... we're going to change all that ... we've got a plan ... this town will need us and this film will be our witness ...***

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Embarking on a 'war against anonymity' they set off into the night to prove the city really needs them. Working under the constraints of the time limit, the group set out to fulfil the mission and hopefully capture its magic on camera. Many obstacles need to be overcome: a stranger for the screen kiss has to be found, camera angles thought out, extras assembled, a publicity campaign coordinated and the right location for the all-important climax discovered.

The journey towards a 'final moment' is filled with various interventions. Members of the public are involved in an assortment of scenarios. Sometimes the film becomes a rap video, a musical or an action movie. The final fifteen minutes escalates into a set of filmic clichés, from a screen-kiss romance to a tragic downfall, from a car chase to a heroes welcome – unwittingly enacted by the waiting audience. The four video cassettes are immediately synchronised and played back so all four images are viewed simultaneously by the audience. A sound artist mixes the sound live and at moments adds touches of filmic soundtracks.

*Super Night Shot* is a magical journey through the night-time streets of Perth. Full of unexpected surprises, the public become co-stars in a movie that celebrates unplanned meetings with strangers. Often comical and moving, *Super Night Shot* attempts to elevate the banality of everyday life into the glamour and glitz of the big-screen blockbuster.



Image by David Baltzer

## GOB SQUAD

Hello. We are Gob Squad, a group of UK and German artists. We make performances and videos that search for beauty in the everyday, and look for words of wisdom from a passing stranger. We are an artists' collective, with seven core members working collaboratively on the concept, direction and performance of our work; other artists, performers and technicians are invited to collaborate on particular projects.

We try and explore the point where theatre meets art, media and real life. As well as theatres and galleries, we place our work at the heart of urban life – in houses, shops, underground stations, car parks, hotels or directly on the street. Everyday life and magic, banality and utopia, reality and entertainment are all set on a collision course and the audience is often asked to step beyond their traditional role as passive spectators and bear witness to the results.

We started the company in Nottingham in 1994 but are now more or less based in Berlin, although we regularly make and present work in the UK. Our work is frequently shown throughout Europe, and we've toured to all the continents apart from Antarctica.

[www.gobsquad.com](http://www.gobsquad.com)

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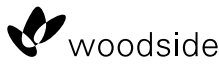
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