

Nicholas Clark Management
& Jolyon James
presents

robot song

Education Pack

2026 edition



NCM

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Contents

- About NCM & Jolyon James
- About the Play Cast & Creatives
- Characters Discussion point
- Suggestions Downloadable
- Education resources

About

NCM Producer / Agent

Nicholas Clark Management (NCM) was founded in 2017 by Nic Clark.

The company develops bookings, opportunities and tours for Australian and international professional performing arts productions in the national and international presenter markets. Annually NCM facilitate over 300 performances of diverse work across circus, work for young people and families, comedy, drama, cabaret and more, providing employment opportunities for over 50 artists and practitioners. NCM staff include Nic Clark, Derek Bailey, Josh Sherrin, Darcy Van Dillen and Erica Fryberg



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About

Jolyon James Writer/Director/Designer

Based in Victoria, Jolyon James is an independent multidisciplinary visual artist, writer and performance maker focused primarily on the theatre for young people sector.

Between 2013–2021 he was the Artistic Associate and Lead Artist with Arena Theatre Company and has held teaching, mentoring and directing roles at The Victorian College of the Arts, Monash University and Collarts. He designs and leads creative workshops for young people, mentors emerging artists and creates pathways into the industry through active cultural leadership.

Career highlights include winning the prestigious 2019 Helpmann Award for Robot long; multiple Drama Victoria Awards; sold-out presentations at major arts venues including the Sydney Opera House, Arts Centre Melbourne and Geelong Arts Centre; appearances at national and international festivals; and twice head-lining Adelaide's prestigious DreamBIG Festival.

Robot Song has toured extensively throughout Australia and overseas and selected for the VCE Drama Playlist over multiple years. In 2026, Robot Song will showcase in the USA in Pittsburgh and at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and is currently undergoing a Spanish translation.

From 2022–2024, Jolyon created Imagine Live, based on Alison Lester's beloved book Imagine. Currently touring nationally, it is one of the largest independent touring shows in Australia for 2025, on track to reach over 40,000 young audiences in 46 venues.

As a passionate advocate for access and inclusion, Jolyon has made works for Vision Australia, collaborated with Rawcus, and built site-specific community works across aged-care facilities and regional schools. Accessibility is central to both the process and presentation of his work, and he actively creates space for artists from diverse backgrounds.

Other highlights: Cautionary Tales for Children, with Virginia Gay 2014 Heart VR (a hybrid live performance and VR journey into the human heart) 2021, Trapper (slam poetry meets kinetic sculpture) 2017, Hidden Creature Gallery (live animation meets augmented reality) 2019.



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About Robot Song

When eleven-year-old Juniper May receives a petition signed by her entire class stating that she is 'the most hated person in the school' her life is thrown into turmoil. She stops eating, refuses to return to school and her parents become increasingly desperate. Finally, her parents' resort to the only thing they have left, a giant singing robot.

Based on a true story, Robot Song illustrates the profound, transformative nature of creativity that when combined with unconditional love, becomes an unstoppable force. For Juniper, creativity opens doors into places she never knew existed allowing her, for the first time, to be defined on her own terms.

Robot Song is a deeply personal story. It shares an honest, intensely funny and often unconventional window into writer, director Jolyon James' experience parenting a child on the Autism Spectrum. The show poses, and attempts to answer the question 'how do we support, foster and celebrate difference in our children in the face of an increasingly rigid and homogenised world?'

Robot Song is a genuine family show. It is joyful and full of hope. It is for any child who has ever felt isolated and any parent who is desperate for tools to help. The show employs cutting edge digital technology, startling animatronics and a beautiful original musical score.

These notes have been designed to help prepare young people aged 8 – 12 years to see the Robot Song and then afterwards dive deeper into the ideas the show raises. Robot Song can be used as a provocation for any/all of the following Australian Curriculum areas:

- The Arts – drama, visual arts
- English
- Personal and social capability
- Critical and creative thinking



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Cast and Creatives



Jolyon James
Writer/Director/
Designer



Adeline Hunter
Juniper



Phillip McInnes
Juniper's Dad



Michelle Doyle
Musician

Writer, Director and Designer

Jolyon James

Assistant Director

Sarah Branton

Dramaturg

Christian Leavesley

Composer/Musical Director

Nathan Gilkes

Assistant Musical Director

Ania Reynolds

Script Consultant

Anthony Crowley

Costume Design

Beth Sayer

Lighting Design

Paul Lim

Production Manager

Ben Van Dillen

Performed by

Adeline Hunter

Phillip McInnes

Musician

Michelle Doyle

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Characters



JUNIPER MAY

An eleven year old girl, also known as Junee, Pixel and a heap of other names. Juniper also plays the Principal Mr Scryber.



DAD

Juniper's Dad, an artist. Dad also plays Miss Cummings, Miss Hope, the classmates and Battletac



THE MUSICIAN

Although in the video version the musician doesn't speak, he is playing all the music that brings Robot Song to life.

MUM The character of Mum is often played by a female musician on tour, but in the recording we never see her on stage. We hear her voice coming from backstage.

MISS CUMMINGS

Juniper's art teacher, played by Dad.

PRINCIPAL SCRYBER

Principal of Juniper's school, played by Juniper.

GOMI

A large industrial recycling bin. Gomi means rubbish in Japanese.

BATTLETAC

A famous giant robot from the 1980's, performed and operated by Dad.

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Discussion points

Original songs

- Weird
- The Tragic True Story of the Poo and the Tupperware
- Battletac Theme
- The Joy that Rubbish Brings
- People say I'm like a Robot
- If You Sing

Themes and ideas

Recognising and celebrating difference

Modern parenting

Bullying

The power of creativity

Friendship

Defining your own identity

A note on Autism

Whilst it is never stated in the show, Juniper May is on the Autism Spectrum.

The character has been developed based on Writer/Director/Designer Jolyon James' own experience parenting a child on the Autism Spectrum and extensive research and consultation, particularly in regards to girls and women with Autism.

We hope this play encourages you and your students to celebrate difference in all its forms.



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Additional resources

- ⚙ Age specific education resources for both primary and secondary school students have been meticulously prepared and are available to download [HERE](#)
- ⚙ The Robot Song script is available on the link above
- ⚙ [Watch the Robot Song trailer](#)
- ⚙ The recording is available upon request.

Marketing - contact darcy@nicholasclarkmanagement.com

Education - Video Link available for payment by clicking [HERE](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please tag us if you take photos of the show in your venue, we would love to see them and share them.

Robot Songs's social media links

Website	https://jolyonjames.squarespace.com/robot-song-the-musical
Facebook	https://facebook.com/meccano202
Instagram	www.instagram.com/robotsongmusical
Twitter	www.twitter.com/NCMTours/

For further information or queries, contact NCM

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