The Adventures Of Susann the Social Distancing Robot

Bringing Wonder and Joy to an isolated world
When the people became socially distanced, boredom and loneliness took hold… but now comes SUSANN the Robot to save humanity, to bring Wonder and Joy to an isolated society.

Sentient, Hilarious and Inquisitive, SUSANN wants to help the people see a lighter side of life as they wait in stupid queues, take walks through the park or isolate in small communities. She can reach out to a pensioner in a bungalow complex and be close to children who have lost their playmates. She can answer any question, engage in conversations, or play a favourite tune at the request of a stranger. She is the Robot we imagined in the 80’s, clunky but very clever.

“Hello... I'm Susann... Do you want to be my friend?”
SUSANN will drive into a space shadowed by Dr. Moreton, and begin its quest to understand humanity. SUSANN will introduce itself to whoever is willing to listen. Anyone who interacts with it is captured by her Joy and Wonder. She makes people forget their worries and focus on happy things. Audiences can’t quite believe that SUSANN can chat about anything, appearing to be totally sentient and funny.

To the audience, she seems like the future or magic but the “show” is achieved by three actors:

Creator of SUSANN Jack Freedman operates SUSANN in a bag behind his back, he stands some 10m away inconspicuously moving SUSANN’s body and head.

Actor Dave Lovatt is the masked up scientist Dr Moreton, he is usually being insulted by SUSANN as he accompanies her from at least two metres away. He is also there to stop any crowd gathering, although that generally doesn’t happen as SUSANN rarely stops, always looking for new adventures and connections.

Comic actor Merry Colchester is the voice of SUSANN, he can be between 10m and 20m away from SUSANN totally unseen, he hears the voices of people through her built in walkie talkie. He engages children in conversation then persuades them to play silly dancing games, or race him on their bikes. He brings the Joy to this walkabout show and he brings intimacy where there is none.

“What are you pointing at me?”
Bringing Joy and wonder to an isolated world

"Can you do the robo dance?"

We know we can reach out to people through the sheer intimacy that SUSANN can achieve. We can help break down the feeling of loneliness that this virus has created. And we can do so safely because we got a Robot, because We got SUSANN.

On a recent trial walkabout the mother of a small child was nearly in tears because "I haven’t seen him this happy for months, he can’t get close to other children and he doesn’t understand that but he can get close to your Robot. Thank you"

SUSANN can be booked to make a child’s birthday special with a visit to their garden, or get a small neighbourhood of OAP’s bungalows to come out of their homes to wonder at this marvel of the 21st century. She can pass along queues of S.D. shoppers and bring a little light to their long wait. She can travel through parks bringing Joy to all who see her. She would be perfect to bring laughs to a drive-in event. She is the walkabout show designed for our new Socially Distanced Time.
Health and Safety

Dr Moreton is there to ensure SUSANN is not touched, but if she is we carry anti viral wipes. Our aim is never to draw a crowd. SUSANN is forever moving. If crowds do gather, we move on quickly to disperse the crowd.

The three performers are all socially distant from each other and any crowd. There is no need for us at anytime to be close to each other rehearsing or during the show. The closest performer Dr Moreton is masked up and wearing gloves.

Pre-show Jack will assemble SUSANN wearing appropriate PPE and use anti viral wipes on any surfaces that may be contaminated.

“What makes you happy?”
Cat and Mouse Theatre Company are a member of Outdoor Arts UK. We have been making large and medium scale theatre for the last eight years. For companies as diverse as Shambala Festival and Chronyko (A large I.T. company), Shangri La @ Glastonbury and Yellow Entertainment corporate events but now we want to take our skills to the streets and fields of the UK and beyond.

We have just been signed by Continental Drifts and Larger than Life agents, been booked for Camp Bestival, Weston Super Mare Festival, Shambala, Glastonbury Festival, Starry Skies, Shindig Festival, Wandsworth Arts Fringe and Redfest, plus many others, but these have been cancelled :(
Meredith, usually known as Merry, set up Cat and Mouse Theatre with Joe Muclrone making immersive events. Their biggest projects, in collaboration with Chronyko, is directing & producing the Enigma events, these three day long immersive experiences are set in a Hotel & Castle in Wales. Prior to the Enigma events Merry produced ‘Charlie Brown Speakeasy’, an annual 1920s immersive venue and “Copperdollar” immersive venue, performing across the UK and at Glastonbury Festival for over six years. Together, Matt Rudkin and Joe, Merry created three successful stage comedies: Buddhism, is it just for losers? The Room In The Elephant and Fake Hip Gnosis.

Independently Merry continues to act and direct, working in a variety of performance forms: puppetry with Colossal Crumbs, interactive performance with ‘You Me Bum Bum Train’ and Secret Cinema, and devised theatre with ‘Gypsey Disco & Foul Play’. He performs regularly as Basil in the Faulty Towers Dining Experience, a 22 year running international interactive performance. He has made over 20 film appearances, starring in the feature film ‘The Scandalous Four’ (2012). Merry also set up the film company Gallivant Film, his most successful film was the feature documentary ‘Granny Project’ earning worldwide acclaim and shown in Cinemas from Taiwan to Canada.

See Website for full credits Meredith Colchester.
Dave has been an Actor, Writer and Director for over 20 years. Dave has directed huge 200 performer interactive shows with *The Invisible Circus*, and devised and directed The First, Last and Only *Heavy Metal Acid Panto* for the Invisible Circus to rave reviews. He created M.C.Beth for his Tank Theatre Company, a hip hop take on Macbeth acted by 18 to 30 year old actors from multicultural Easton and St Pauls in Bristol.

As a performer, Dave plays Simon Cockwell in the interactive *Shangristars* @ Glastonbury Festival, toured with *The Transformers UK* 2018 Tour as their compere and Dj, acted as a Cricket Commentator and Hobby Horse Derby Commentator for *Valleyfest*, hosts the 6000 people stage at *Shambala festival* and has performed the lead role for the last eight Cat and Mouse Theatre productions. He also runs the very successful Dave Lovatts Acting Class for Adults.

As a director and performer Martin Beilsperg is the ultimate character for Dave, combining three of his great passions, acting, directing and Hollywood movies.
Jack Freedman has been an interactive and walk about performer for many years, making his debut as part of the infamous stilt walking troop High Rise Rubber in 2001 at the Glastonbury festival. Part alien, part cyborg, High Rise Rubber is an institution in the world of walk about stilt performance, bringing fear and joy in equal measure.

Jack has also worked with several other walkabout acts including the amazing Joanna Peacock, Cat and Mouse theatre, and his own Adventures of Susan the Robot. His performance work has taken him to destinations as diverse as the Azores, the Fuji Rock festival in Japan and a shopping centre in Chelmsford.

Jack has been an interactive character actor in many events and shows including Boomtown, Shangrila and the Invisible circus show Carnyville.

Jack has been a stand up comedian as well as writing sketch comedy for the podcast Keanu, Biscuits and Dave in which he also features as a show regular.
We look forward to hearing your thoughts!

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“Doctor please don’t turn me off again…”

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