



Information sheet

The Falcon

A enormous, stately bird of prey with an impressive 10m wingspan, covered with glowing, hand painted shards.

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Built in Australia for Dubai's World Expo, this iconic creature was designed to celebrate the 50 year Golden Jubilee in the UAE. Conceptualised, constructed and performed by the team at A Blanck Canvas, The Falcon has been performed both locally and internationally to captivated audiences of thousands.



Construction & Fabrication

The Falcon was exclusively made in our Melbourne workshop. Its main components consist of a fibreglass and steel internal frame, a hand carved EPE foam body with stylised layered feathers, embellished with an in-house custom scenic paint finish. The features of the creature and the angular execution is a signature of other large-scale works from our studio such as, The Guardian.

The Falcon has been built using our signature boom-arm chassis for total mobility and range of motion. The chassis has five levers that operate the bird's body and head that allows it to tilt and rise. The levers also activate the tail feathers to fan in and out, as well as controlling the wings that are automated to flap and fold away using motors and electronic mechanisms.

The puppet is completed with programmed light shows and soundscapes. Thousands of LED RGB pixels have been used throughout the puppet allowing multiple dazzling light sequences to form a key part of the performances.

The Falcon is a versatile spectacle, adaptable to any event setting. It can be showcased as a striking static installation within a custom-made den, positioned as a stationary puppet with expressive wing movements, or take flight in an engaging roving performance.

The Team

There are 12 members of The Falcon's team, including:

- 8 professional puppeteers
- 2 technical specialists
- 1 puppetry director
- 1 production assistant

A minimum 30-minute break for our puppeteers is required after each performance, with a space where they can stretch and warm up. A Blanck Canvas has skilled educators who can equip and train local artists to perform The Falcon in your region.



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Performance

- Each roving performance of The Falcon runs for 35 minutes.
- Each leg and claw is puppeteered and can produce a range of realistic bird-like movements including walking and hopping. The enormous wings can fold as the Falcon explores and fully extend in a show-stopping moment.
- The Falcons head is also puppeteered using a large rod with a trigger mechanism, this articulates the beak to open and shut when essential delivering the key defining head movements that are a signature of this beautiful creature in nature.
- The Falcons complex light sequences have been programmed to play in conjunction with unique soundscapes, including four short sound-bursts that can be activated wirelessly. E.g. squawks, bird calls and other sounds. The longest unique light sequence is 35 minutes in duration allowing for a unique experience as the puppet performs.
- The Falcon is free-roaming and can traverse through large environments during a show.
- The Falcon's static performance features an automated wing flap, bringing it to life even while in a stationary position within its custom-designed den.

Technical Requirements

- The street gradient should be easy to moderate. Surface cannot be soft, e.g. sand, mud, thick grass; if path/road surfaces can't be used The Falcon will require tile such as a portable roadway or a temporary footpath to be laid on the intended performance path.
- Minimum 12-metre-wide path with a minimum 5-metre-high clearing for roaming performances
- Surface must be able to support 800kg+ weight (Puppet, Puppeteers and Low-base Chassis).
- Currently 2400 watt (Can be converted).
- Charging Station to power batteries in-between performances; Can perform for up to 2 hours on one charge. The Falcon can carry a spare set of batteries to increase performance to 4 hours before recharging.
- Stationary, full wingspan - Length - 5m, Width - 10m, Height - 4m.
- If not stationed in its den, the Falcon requires a designated storage area where it can be safely protected from the weather and recharged as needed.



The Falcon



The Falcon

The Chassis System used for movements

Our dedicated puppeteers expertly maneuver our signature chassis base system to bring The Falcon to life with precision and skill.



[View video](#)



To discuss how you can work with us to deliver your event, please get in touch for an obligation-free quotation.

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