



# PORK AND POLL TAXES

**By** Talia Pua  
**Produced by** Proudly Asian Theatre & Hand Pulled Collective  
**Directed by** Chye-Ling Huang

## TOURING TECHNICAL RIDER

Prepared for international and national touring | 2026 onwards

*This document is a baseline touring technical rider. All elements are adaptable through discussion with host venues.*

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## SHOW INFORMATION & FRONT OF HOUSE

**Runtime:** 80 minutes

**Interval:** None

**Maximum shows per day:** 2

**Recommended maximum shows per week:** 8

**Latecomers:** May be admitted at suitable breaks.

**Audience interaction:** Minimal

**Age guidance:** Recommended 12+

**Content advisory:**

- Themes of migration, discrimination, and family conflict
- Strong language, racial slurs
- Loud sound and moments of emotional intensity
- No haze or strobe

**Additional:** Talkbacks and education workshops available by arrangement.

## SYNOPSIS

***Pork and Poll Taxes*** 人頭豬稅 is a heart-wrenching and epic family tragedy inspired by the histories of Chinese market gardeners during Aotearoa’s poll tax era.

1891, New Gold Mountain. Jiu Choy impulsively decides to immigrate to Aotearoa to escape the pressures back home and start a new life with his wife, Shui Ching. What begins as an idealistic dream quickly spirals out of control when Shui Ching sends their only son, Kam Loi, to New Gold Mountain in her place. This triggers a violent chain of events that pits family member against family members as they fight for what they each believe is the ‘better life’. With no one willing to see eye-to-eye, Jiu Choy’s obsession, Shui Ching’s stubbornness and Kam Loi’s desperation to please threatens to shatter the whole family. But what they don’t realise is that

greater societal and political powers are at play, which will ultimately determine the fate of their family.

*Pork and Poll Taxes* is a Greek-level epic tragedy spanning years and continents told through striking visuals, music and movement. Audiences will be left reeling and questioning: How much has changed since then?

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## TOURING PARTY

**Touring Cast:** 5

**Touring Crew:** 3

- Production Manager
- Stage Manager
- LX / Sound / AV Operator

**Total touring party:** 8 people

Host venues are requested to provide local pack-in/pack-out crew as outlined below.

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## VENUE REQUIREMENTS

- Suitable for mid-size proscenium venues (150-500 pax)
- Preferred configuration: End-on / Proscenium
- A crossover between PS and OP is ideal, or masking to create a temporary crossover/wings
- Flat, even stage floor required
- The venue should provide a clean, secure and climate-controlled performance environment
- Box Office and Front of House services required

### **Stage dimensions**

**Minimum depth:** 6m

**Minimum width:** 10m

**Minimum height:** 5m

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## **DOCUMENTATION REQUESTED FROM VENUE**

To allow advance planning, we kindly request the following at least 4 weeks prior to arrival:

- To-scale stage and seating plan
  - Lighting rig and fixture inventory
  - Lighting console details
  - Sound system and console details
  - Projector specifications and throw distances
  - Any known power or rigging limitations
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## **SET & STAGING**

This production has a large-scale visual design and benefits from full theatrical masking/drapes and a comprehensive lighting rig. This show also features AV projection and requires two projectors.

## **SUMMARY**

- A full stage floor made from pieces of MDF cut to resemble fractured concrete
- 8x 'trees' rigged from the grid, each tree is composed of a wire round (300mm diameter) with plastic chains hanging from the wire (5m drop) to form a tubular curtain. These trees are hang the whole height of the stage from grid to stage floor. The wire end of the tree is rigged to the grid.
- A cyc with LED ground row and black gauze in front.
- Two projectors: one mounted above the stage to project down over the full stage and one from front of house that covers the full stage

No raked stage.

Full ground plans available on confirmation.

## **COMPANY TO PROVIDE**

- a) Floor covering
- b) 8x chain trees
- c) All stage props and costumes

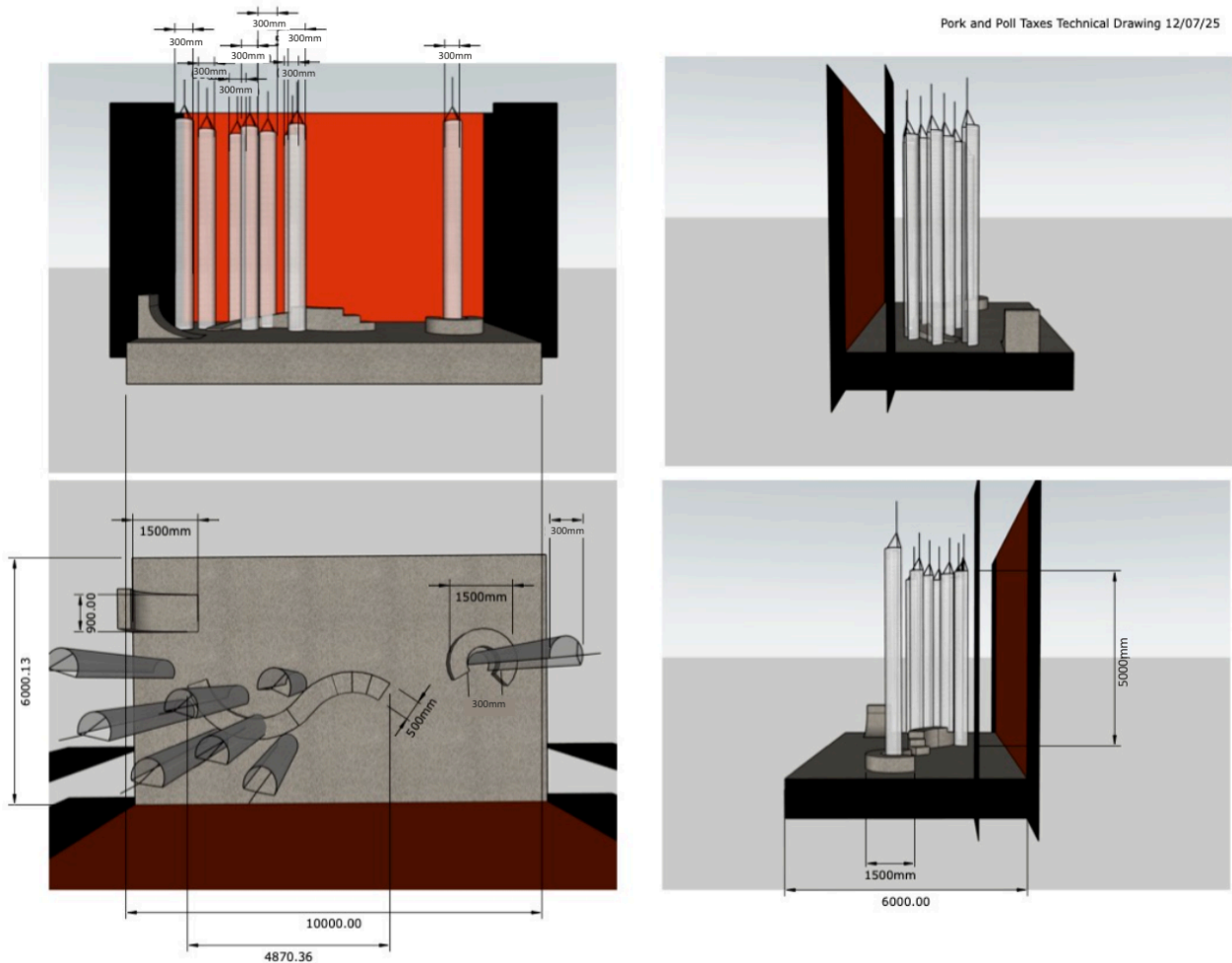
## **PRESENTER TO PROVIDE (STAGING)**

- a) Cyc and black gauze

- b) Enough tape consumables to mark out staging, to secure cables and string lights. If the venue is heritage listed and requires specific tape, the presenter will make sure tape is suitable.

## FREIGHT OF SET

The Presenter will freight the floor and Set pieces unless it is more practical to transport in a van, ie in the event of a multi venue tour.



## WARDROBE

The company tours with their own costumes. Access to a washing machine, dryer and iron are required at a close proximity to the venue. If the season runs for more than one week, dry cleaning will be required. The presenter will provide the tour manager with details of a local fast-turn-around dry-cleaning service.

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## PROJECTION / AV

The design uses two projections as an integral storytelling device, one throwing to the floor for shifting landscapes, and the other throwing on the vertical set.

### VENUE TO PROVIDE (PROJECTION/AV)

2x 10k lumen projectors capable of full stage coverage

1. 1x FOH projector
2. 1x overhead projector

#### Preferred models (or equivalent):

- Epson EB-2265U
- Sony VPL-FWZ65

#### Required Specs:

- WXGA resolution or higher
- 5000+ lumens minimum
- HDMI input
- Data cabling to operator position

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## LIGHTING

The lighting design is based around the use of both standard and LED theatrical fixtures. Substitutions may be possible but must be discussed with the production team in advance.

### CONTROL

A full ETC lighting console (Ion or Gio) is preferred.

If this is not available, the company will supply its own lighting control system (ETC Nomad).

### VENUE TO PROVIDE (LIGHTING)

- All appropriate AC power and DMX cabling required to power and control the rig
- Ground-level cyc LEDs
- FOH operator position with a table large enough to accommodate:
  - 2 laptops or
  - 1 laptop + lighting desk + audio mixing desk
- Detailed lighting plot and channel list supplied in advance

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## AUDIO

### VENUE TO PROVIDE (AUDIO)

- Stereo FOH PA suitable for spoken theatre
- 1–2 foldback monitors (front of stage)
- 1 × SM58 on stand
- FOH mixer (minimum 4 channels)

Playback operated from FOH.

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## CREW REQUIREMENTS

### VENUE TO PROVIDE (PACK-IN CREW)

- 2x Lighting crew
- 2x Stage technicians / mechanists
- 1x Sound technician
- 1x AV technician

Crew numbers may be adjusted depending on venue rig and pre-rig availability.

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## PACK-IN/OUT SCHEDULE

**Pack-in:** Minimum 2 days, depending on venue/lighting needs. A pre-rig is preferred.

**Pack-out:** Approx. 6 hours

Day	Start	End	Action
<b>Prior to Company arrival</b>			Ops area setup, lighting rig and patch
<b>Day 1</b>	0800	1200	Crew arrival and travel to venue
	1200	1300	Lunch
	1300	1530	Pack-in
	1530	1700	Dedicated AV plot and projection mapping
	1700	1800	Dinner
	1800	2200	LX and AV Plot
<b>Day 2</b>	0900	1200	Plot continues, SX tech time

	1200	1245	Lunch
	1245	1500	Cue to cue
	1500	1630	Notes & Technical fixes, then break
	1800	1930	Tech/dress rehearsal
	1930	2015	Dinner break
	2015	2100	Technical Contingency
<b>Day 3</b>			<b>Matinee and Evening Performance ready</b>

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## FACILITIES

### DRESSING ROOMS/BACK-STAGE RIDER

Presenter to provide minimum two (2) dressing rooms with:

- Access to private showers, toilets, make-up lights, mirrors, and power
- Clean towels for the performer for each performance
- Costume rack
- Laundry + dryer access
- Iron + ironing board
- Fast-turnaround dry cleaner (for runs >1 week)
- Tea, coffee, filtered or bottled water
- Reliable internet access is appreciated within the dressing room spaces
- Dressing rooms should be warm, clean and comfortable

The Dressing room spaces break down as follows:

Dressing Room 1: Performers

Dressing Room 2: Touring Crew

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## ACCESSIBILITY

The company is committed to working with presenters to support accessible performances where possible (e.g. relaxed, captioned or audio-described performances, child-friendly matinees). Please discuss options with us.

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## HEALTH & SAFETY

A full risk assessment will be provided in advance of the season.

This production contains suspended scenic elements and projection equipment. All rigging will be installed in collaboration with venue technicians.

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## FREIGHT

Company will tours with:

- Stage floor panels (or vinyls), 4m long (rolled)
- Half a dozen wooden set pieces
- Eight (8) collapsable trees
- Props and costumes

All will be designed to fit in a LWB cargo van.

Estimated freight volume:

TBC — this info will be provided after the September 2026 return season at Herald Theatre.

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## CONTACTS

**Producer:** Marianne Infante (Proudly Asian Theatre) | [marianne@proudlyasiantheatre.com](mailto:marianne@proudlyasiantheatre.com)

**Set Design:** Jane Hakaraia | +64 21 491 796 | [janehak@gmail.com](mailto:janehak@gmail.com)

Thank you for taking the time to read this Technical Rider for *Pork and Poll Taxes*. If you have any questions or require further clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact us. We hope to work with you to bring this story to your theatre and your community. Ngā mihi nui.