



## **Oxley College, New South Wales, 2016**

### **The Disappearing with Lorin Elizabeth & Zohab Khan**

Over two days in March, The Red Room Company brought renowned performance poets Lorin Elizabeth and Zohab Khan to Oxley College. More than 340 students from Years 7-11 wrote poems tracing memories rooted to time and place. With activities inspired by *The Disappearing* learning resource, students explored the lasting ties between home, memory, and disappearance.

Red Room Poetry Education inspires students and teachers to create, perform and publish poetry. We enliven experiences with poetry by bringing contemporary poets into classrooms across Australia to run intensive writing workshops that awaken imaginations, support creative opportunities and curriculum outcomes.

The Red Room Company at Oxley College, NSW, 2016

[redroomcompany.org/education/](http://redroomcompany.org/education/)



## **Year 8**

### **Untitled By Olivia P.**

Tossed by the waves, yet I don't sink  
Around and around but never reaching the  
shore  
My world is a whirlpool, my thoughts spinning  
Wave after wave, the sea turns into an angry  
monster,  
Lapping up my thoughts, there's no escape  
Tossed and turned like shoes  
in the washing machine.  
A loud roaring fills my ears, closer and  
closer...

And suddenly everything is silent. Silent.

Swinging back and forth, over darkness  
laughing so hard, we can barely stand  
higher and higher, too the moon,  
The happiness is contagious,  
the fun never dies.

### **Untitled By Tom H.**

Strands of string flake, fall, fly from my scalp.  
It leaps away, exposing the bare crown  
of an unprotected soul  
Who clutches  
and clenches  
and grasps the slippery rope that evades my  
touch.  
No success.

Vacantly rest, hours on end;  
Chew a mouthful of bland, hours to swallow;  
Run endless miles, gasping every hour;  
No success.  
I'm getting old.

### **LEGO By Jack**

The Lego is as sharp as a butcher's knife.  
It is like an untouched youth  
finally having someone to play with.  
Lego is the full spectrum of colours  
all entwined into a sea of clean plastic.  
It is an architect's tool kit all rolled into one.  
Lego is everyone's imagination.

Lego is like alcohol -  
once you discover it, it becomes a daily dose  
of fun, a price ranging from 10-500 dollars.



**Lorin Elizabeth** is a spoken word poet and co-founder/host of the Enough Said poetry slam at Studio 19 in Wollongong. She has graduated from a journalism and creative writing double degree and now spends her time learning the lyrics to rap albums.

Lorin has performed feature sets at Bankstown Poetry Slam, Art Party, Word In Hand in Glebe, Mars Hill Slam in Parramatta and at Word Co-Op in Canberra. She was a finalist at the 2013 Nimbin Performance Poetry World Cup and has shared the stage with acclaimed poets including Tug Dumbly, Candy Royale and Luka Lesson. In 2013 Lorin was a performer and program coordinator for the first Word Travels Festival in Sydney and also featured in the "2013: A Spoken Word Odyssey" at Marrickville Festival.

Lorin also works with young people as part of the Stand Tall Speak Out High School Poetry Slam in Bankstown and is currently running a series of special Poetry Object workshops with The Red Room Company.



**Zohab Khan** is the current Australian Poetry Slam Champion, didgeridoo player, harmonica beat-boxer and hip-hop artist. Zohab has toured Asia, the Middle East and Europe to sell-out crowds. In 2014, Zohab was a finalist in the International Poetry Slam in Madrid and was chosen to participate in an artistic residency in Dubai.

As an 4th generation Australian of Pakistani heritage and having grown up in rural NSW, Zohab has channelled his distinct life experiences into stories with the intent to educate. Zohab confronts a range of social justice issues from racism to gender inequality and socio-economic disparities. Zohab's high energy and powerful words have left countless inspired.

*I Write* (2015) is his first collection of poetry.

### **About Us**

The Red Room Company creates unusual and useful poetry projects that transform expectations of, and experiences with, poetry. We aspire to make poetry accessible to all, especially those who face the greatest barriers to creative opportunities.