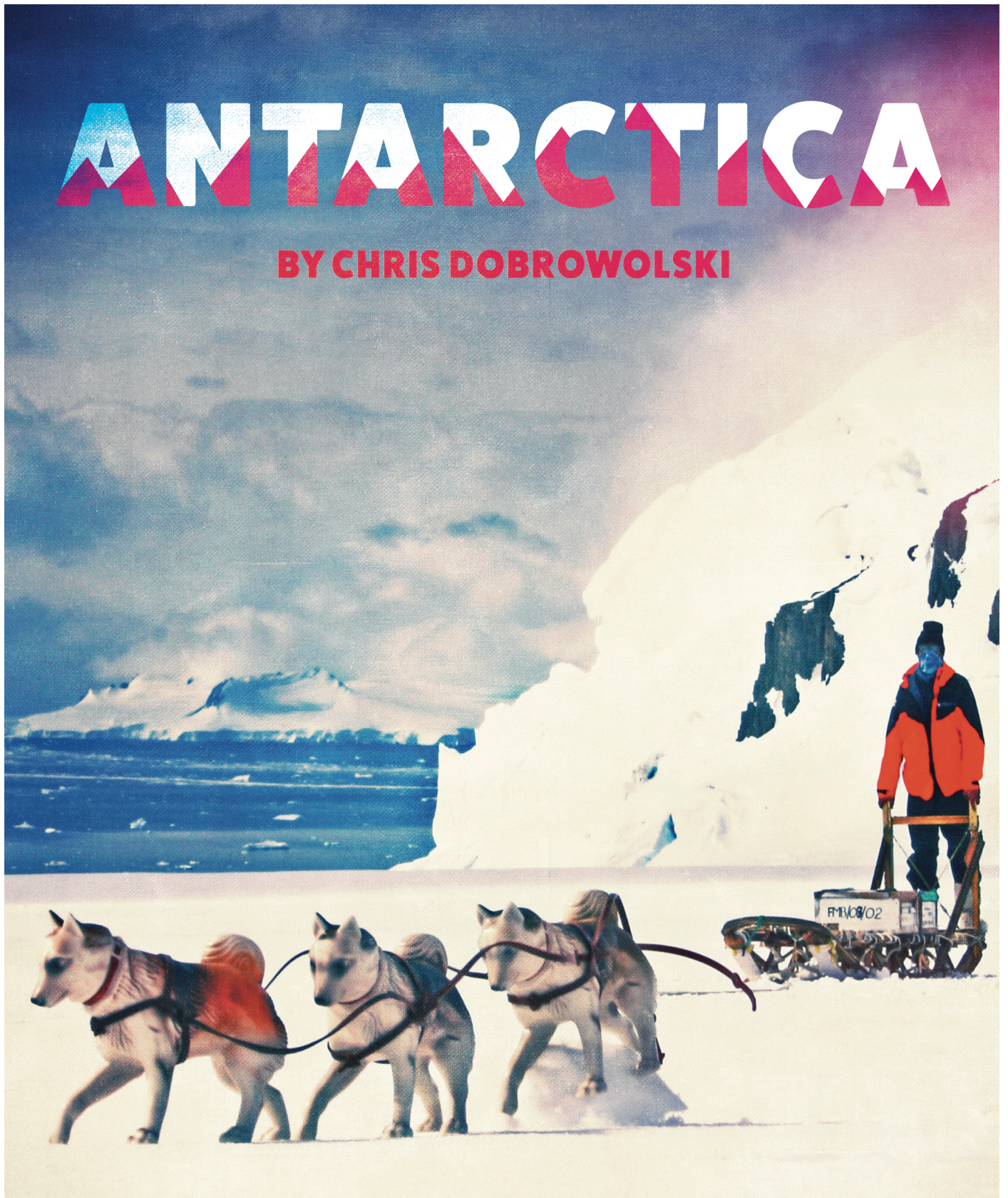


ANTARCTICA

BY CHRIS DOBROWOLSKI



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MARKETING PACK

Tagline (21 words)

In the coldest place on Earth it can be difficult to be an Artist when everyone around you is a Hero.

Copy (124 words)

Antarctica is the coldest, windiest, driest place in the world, home to a few scientists, engineers and medical professionals all at the top of their game. Every day is about survival. Every day is about saving the planet.

And then Chris came along to make some Art.

For three and a half months Chris lived and worked alongside the team at the British Antarctic Survey. He discovered that sometimes it's very difficult to justify your position as an Artist whilst everyone around you is a Hero.

Following on from Chris' acclaimed show *All Roads Lead to Rome* this is an adventure story about overcoming hardships and celebrating difference via tales of carnivorous ducks, ladybird books and a sledge built out of gold picture frames.

PRESS QUOTES

On *Antarctica*:

What emerges – apart from some of the most surreal holiday snaps you'll ever see – is a multifaceted work that interrogates the nature and purpose of art at the same time as embracing the all-sorts it takes to make a world.... charmingly, optimistically and heartwarmingly – Dobrowolski brings a shared humanity to the fore. **Culture Wars**

<http://mattrueman.co.uk/2010/11/review-antarctica-chelsea-theatre.html>

On *All Roads Lead to Rome*:

Dobrowolski's eccentric and theatrical manner transforms 'pointing at pictures with a stick' into an engaging and thoroughly interesting investigation... I think this show will appeal to fans of storytelling, art and comedy alike, so if you are looking for something a little different I'd highly recommend checking this out **Nerdgeist**

<http://nerdgeist.com/2014/05/11/all-roads-lead-to-rome-cathedral-quarter-arts-festival-2014/>

Dobrowolski's one man show is an hour of charismatic storytelling which invites its audience inside the Triumph Herald for a multimedia drive through his life. **Broadway Baby**

<http://www.broadwaybaby.com/shows/all-roads-lead-to-rome/4936>

This is one of the best shows I have ever seen in a theatre – and it isn't really a show... It's like someone showing you their holiday snaps - except this time you actually want to stay. **Colchester Gazette**

<http://chrisdobo.tumblr.com/post/67045861999/the-local-newspaper-reporter-liked-it>

Merges travelogue, documentary and comedy to create an entirely beguiling personal tale of possessions, loss and consumerism. **In Suffolk**

<http://www.insuffolk.com/roads-lead-rome-insuffolk-review/#>

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BIOGRAPHY

Chris Dobrowolski is an Essex-based artist and maker whose practice combines kinetic sculpture, storytelling and performance. He studied Fine Art in Hull but, when he first got there, he built a boat from driftwood to try to escape. Chris has since made a series of fully functioning vehicles in a similar vein, including a pedal car, a flame-throwing tank, a hovercraft and even an aeroplane. Each vehicle has its own story attached, collated in his recent publication, *Escape* (Jardine Press, 2014).

His recent work includes solo exhibitions at Wimbledon Art College, London and & Model, Leeds, the acclaimed performance presentation *All Roads Lead to Rome* and *Poland 3, Iran 2* with 30 Bird – a performance about international football in the 70's. Chris is currently an associate artist at Art Exchange, University of Essex.

MARKETING STARTERS FOR 10...

Overview

In *Antarctica*, Chris Dobrowolski gives a first hand account of his 14-week residency in Antarctica with the British Antarctic Survey. Over the course of an hour, using a classic PowerPoint presentation, Chris explains the realities of living in one of the harshest environments in the world, and the challenges it placed on him as the only artist for miles around. Told very simply the show is witty and surprisingly moving, tackling failure and overcoming hardship via tales of Ladybird books, carnivorous ducks and toy huskies.

[Chris' website](#) contains photos, short films, reflective writing and historical/contextual information – all of which can be used as part of a social media campaign.

Key selling points

- An intimate and relaxed experience, presented as an informal talk
- Will make you laugh – witty, warm and charismatic with a stand-up comedy feel
- Celebrates the love of adventure in the face of adversity, like Scott of the Antarctic
- Evocative storytelling which brings to life the experience of living in such a harsh environment for an extended period of time
- Funny reminiscences of growing up in the 70s with small models and Ladybird books

Potential target audiences

The historical links, unusual location, and contemporary performance style mean it could attract a range of audience groups, including:

- Frequent, multi-arts attenders interested in a range of events
- Arts students wanting to know what it's like being an artist
- Audiences for stand-up comedy (eg Dave Gorman)
- Audiences for contemporary performance
- Audiences interested in 'green' issues synonymous with British Antarctic Survey
- Individuals or groups with an interest in 70s childhood nostalgia
- Individuals or groups with historical interests in Scott of the Antarctic
- Individuals or groups with an interest in outdoor adventure or exploration (eg climbing/walking groups)

DIGITAL CONTENT

Videos

There are several short videos that Chris made whilst on residency in Antarctica, that are shown and given some context in the show itself. However there can be links made to them as part of the build up to the show:

The Hoover Aeroplane is a kinetic sculpture Chris made that brings a toy aeroplane into flight using an old vacuum cleaner, all created in one of his Antarctic sledge food boxes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7Rj5TW3YBQ>

Penguin Van 003 is another kinetic sculpture made in a sledge food box, this time with a toy Penguin biscuit van connected to audio of a man Chris met in Antarctica who talks about eating a lame penguin: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vY-GWT1xefE>

Bird Final (2) is a short film Chris made with footage of the aggressive seals and the scientists technique of moving the seals with trolleys and sticks. This film contains some quite graphic footage of dead animals: <https://vimeo.com/77033937>

More videos can be made available on request.

Social Media

Chris is very active on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ChrisDobrowolskiArt>

And uses the Twitter handle: @Chris_Dobo

And for the first time we're using the hashtag #Antarctica

Please note that some of Chris' videos and social media updates may contain adult content.

Where possible please include a link to the ticket-buying web page in your updates.

Twitter examples

#Antarctica is the latest offering from "the greatest living artist in the UK" @Chris_Dobo – get your tickets at [VENUE] now!

That @Chris_Dobo is back with his new piece #Antarctica, showcasing such skills as herding seals with sticks: (warning: dead animal content) <https://vimeo.com/77033937>

Sneaky preview of one of @Chris_Dobo's amazing kinetic sculptures you can see as part of #Antarctica on [DATE]: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7Rj5TW3YBQ>

BOX OFFICE INFO

Duration: 1 hour, 10 mins – no interval

Audience notes

We suggest a lower age limit of 14 due to the historical focus and context of the work, that will be enjoyed more by audiences with some prior knowledge. The performance includes some swearing and quite graphic footage of dead animals being eaten by other animals.

What is *Antarctica* about?

Antarctica is a one-man show telling the story of artist Chris Dobrowolski's three month residency in Antarctica. There he learned to live in the harshest of environments, and started to question his own necessity as an artist living amongst scientists, medical professionals and engineers all focused on issues of climate change and saving the planet. Told in a simple fashion (one man and a PowerPoint presentation) the show is witty and surprisingly moving, as it talks about overcoming hardship and having a sense of humour in tough (often quite grim) situations.

Who is Chris Dobrowolski?

Chris Dobrowolski is an artist who works from his garden shed in Colchester, Essex. He is primarily a sculptor, and makes moving mechanical objects with a deliberately makeshift aesthetic. Chris' projects often involve him building or repairing a vehicle using recycled materials, including a tank, a hovercraft and even an aeroplane. He then makes performances and lectures to share his adventures with audiences.

Who are Artsadmin?

Artsadmin produce Chris' shows *Antarctica* and *All Roads Lead to Rome*. Artsadmin is a unique producing and presenting organisation for contemporary artists working in theatre, dance, live art, visual arts and mixed media. The organisation offers a wide range of artist-development services including a free advisory service and mentoring schemes as well as a bursary scheme. www.artsadmin.co.uk