



TE AHUREI TOI O TĀMAKI
AUCKLAND
ARTS FESTIVAL

TRUCK

Suitcase Show

 Digital Show Programme

Loft, Q Theatre

6-9 March 2025

Suitcase Show

Credits

Director

Hannah Smith

Writer

Ralph McCubbin Howell

Performers

Ralph McCubbin Howell

Hannah Smith

WITH Anya-Tate Manning AND Richard Falkner

Travelling Wonder-Tech

Pete Davison

Sound Design & Composition

Tane Upjohn Beatson

Production & Technical

Design Collaborators

Brad Gledhill & Rachel Marlow

(Filament Eleven 11)

? **55mins no interval**

Recommended for ages 12+. Contains haze, flashing lights, and theatrical references to death and violence.

Suitcase Show

Credits

Additional Composition

Robyn Bryant

Lyrics

Ralph McCubbin Howell

'Leaving On A Jet Plane' – Written by J Denver – BMG Ruby Songs

Administered by: Essex Music of Australia Pty Ltd

Videography

Dean Hewison

Craft & Prop Design

Hannah Smith

Ralph McCubbin-Howell

Rebekah de Roo

Romina Menses

Emory Otto

Marketing

Rebekah de Roo

Photography

Rebekah de Roo (cover and p5)

Lewis Ferris (p9)



Suitcase Show

Acknowledgements

***Suitcase Show* is presented by
Te Ahurei Toi o Tāmaki Auckland
Arts Festival and Performing Arts
Network New Zealand (PANNZ)**



**Trick of the Light Theatre
would like to thank:**

All the team at Te Ahurei Toi o Tāmaki
Auckland Arts Festival and PANNZ for making
this tour possible; Creative New Zealand
and Dennis and Suzy O'Brien for their
support; our brilliant assistant Sophie Helm;
everyone who offered feedback along the
way; friends and whānau, flatmates + lovers
— we couldn't have made this without you.

Suitcase Show

Creative Notes



Suitcase Show

Creative Notes

Suitcase Show is a collection of short stories inspired by ideas of lone and lonely travellers, of carrying your home, and of odysseys of travel in a world that's falling apart. We built it through a series of showings in site-specific venues (a bar, a photography darkroom...) then put the pieces together to premiere at NZ Fringe 2024. A version of one of our stories was first told as part of our show *The Devil's Half-Acre* (Aotearoa New Zealand Festival of the Arts, 2016), and we've adapted another one from Chaucer (he's cool with it). The show will continue to evolve and we're always keen to hear feedback. Find us on Facebook at [trickofthelighttheatre](https://www.facebook.com/trickofthelighttheatre), on Instagram [@trickofthelighznz](https://www.instagram.com/trickofthelighznz). To find out more about *Suitcase Show*, visit our full show page [here](#).

— **Trick of the Light Theatre**

P.S. Pre and post-show is by Delaney Davidson. He's very good. [Have a listen](#).



Trick of the Light Theatre is founded by Hannah Smith and Ralph McCubbin Howell.

Our works include *The Road That Wasn't There* (Outstanding New NZ Play, Most Promising Director and Production of the Year – Wellington Theatre Awards 2013; Children's Event Award – Fringe World, Perth 2016; Best Children's Event – Adelaide Fringe 2016); *The Bookbinder* (Best of the Fringe – NZ Fringe 2014; International Excellence Award – Sydney Fringe Festival 2014; Children's Theatre Award – Fringe World, Perth 2015); *Tröll* (Outstanding Theatre Award – Fringe Review, Edinburgh 2019; Children's and Weekly Award – Fringe World, Perth 2019); and *The Griegol* (Director, Composer, and Production of the Year – Wellington Theatre Awards 2022). They co-founded the Green Green Room with Barbarian Productions, a resource sharing hub for Wellington theatre makers, and produced the Green Theatre Touring Guide, a guidebook and [website](#) to help artists tour sustainably in and from Aotearoa.

Green Theatre Kaupapa

We are in a climate crisis and we recognise that making and touring theatre comes with an environmental footprint. As a company we're committed to adapting our work and ways of working towards environmental sustainability, and to using our platform to advocate better practices.

We designed *Suitcase Show* to have a minimal footprint, with a small touring team and with freighting components forming our onstage design. For this tour we've worked to streamline our travel and personnel; we recycle, compost, and try to avoid buying new. We'd love to have toured in a hybrid van (or an EV with sufficient range) as we have done overseas but couldn't find a local hire company that does this — if you know of one, pass it on.

There's always more to do, and we're always keen for ideas. Find out more about our approach in [Green Theatre Touring Guide](#).

Suitcase Show

About the Creators



Suitcase Show

About the Creators



Hannah Smith

Director, Performer, Craft & Prop Design

Hannah Smith (she/her) is a Wellington-based director, designer and producer who grew up in Dunedin. She is co-founder of Trick of the Light Theatre for which she has directed numerous productions, including international tours with *The Bookbinder*, *Beards! Beards! Beards!*, *The Road That Wasn't There* and *Tröll*. She has BA (Hons) in English & Theatre from Victoria University of Wellington. She received a nomination for Most Promising Director at the 2011 Wellington Theatre Awards, and received the same award in 2013 for *The Road That Wasn't There*. In 2022 she was awarded Director of the Year for her work on *The Griegol*, and in 2023 she received a FAME Trust Mid-Career Award. She has a background in puppetry and paper-art, and her work with Trick of the Light has been performed around Aotearoa, Australia, UK, USA, Canada and South Africa.

AWARDS: Most Promising Director – Wellington Theatre Awards, *The Road That Wasn't There*, 2013; Director of the Year – Wellington Theatre Awards, *The Griegol*, 2022.

NOMINATIONS: Best Production Design – NZ Fringe Awards, *The Bookbinder*, 2014; Most Promising Director – Wellington Theatre Awards, *The Engine Room*, 2011.

Suitcase Show

About the Creators



Ralph McCubbin Howell

Writer, Performer, Lyrics

Ralph McCubbin Howell (he/him) is a Wellington-based theatre maker who grew up in Waikari in Te Waipounamu. He is co-founder of Trick of the Light Theatre

for which he has written and performed in numerous productions, touring internationally with *The Bookbinder*, *Beards! Beards! Beards!*, *The Road That Wasn't There* and *Tröll*. He was a member of the NZ Young Shakespeare Company which performed at the Globe Theatre in London in 2005, and completed a BA (Hons) in Theatre & English at Victoria University of Wellington before training at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School in the UK. He received a Masters in Scriptwriting at the Institute of Modern Letters at Victoria University in 2018, and his accolades as playwright include the Bruce Mason Playwriting Award, and Outstanding New NZ Play at the Wellington Theatre Awards.

AWARDS: Bruce Mason Playwriting Award – Playmarket Annual Awards, 2014; Outstanding New NZ Play – Wellington Theatre Awards, *The Road That Wasn't There*, 2013; Outstanding New Playwright – Wellington Theatre Awards, 2011.

NOMINATIONS: Adam NZ Play Award – *Lysander's Aunty*, 2020; Outstanding New NZ Play – Wellington Theatre Awards, *Tröll*, 2019; Adam NZ Play Award – *The Devil's Half-Acre*, 2016; Outstanding New NZ Play – Wellington Theatre Awards, *The Bookbinder*, 2014; Most Promising Male Newcomer of the Year – Chapman Tripp Theatre Awards, *Katydid*, 2010; Most Promising Male Newcomer of the Year – Chapman Tripp Theatre Awards, *A Most Outrageous Humbug*, 2009.

Suitcase Show

About the Creators



Filament Eleven 11 Production & Technical Design

Rachel Marlow and Bradley Gledhill are production designers and co-founders of design company Filament Eleven 11. They work collaboratively to create dynamic production

designs (lighting/set/video) for live events and public experiences, putting design and technology at the centre of storytelling in unique and inventive ways.

Filament Eleven 11 is drawn to boundary-pushing work led by inspiring creatives. Recent and upcoming theatrical designs include: production design for *Hyperspace*, *Things that Matter*, *Basmati Bitch*, *Scenes from a Yellow Peril* (Auckland Theatre Company); *Next to Normal* (The Court Theatre); *The Strangest of Angels* (New Zealand Opera); *Heartbreak Hotel* (EBKM); *Every Brilliant Thing*, *Scattergun* (Silo Theatre); and *The Savage Coloniser Show* (FCC); lighting and video design for *The Resistance* (Australian Theatre for Young People), *The Made* (Auckland Theatre Company) and *Dakota of the White Flats* (Red Leap Theatre); lighting design for *Owls Do Cry* (Red Leap Theatre) and *The Writer* (Silo Theatre).

Suitcase Show

About the Creators



Tane Upjohn-Beatson Sound Design & Composition

Tane Upjohn-Beatson (he/him) is an award-winning New Zealand composer and sound designer whose recent works

include Emmy award-winning music editing on Sir Peter Jackson's *Get Back* series about The Beatles; and collaborations with Wētā Workshop, Sir Richard Taylor and Park Road Post, creating immersive scores and soundscapes for location based experiences including *Gallipoli: The Scale of Our War* and Wētā Workshop's *Unleashed*. His numerous theatrical works have received consistent critical acclaim and several prestigious Wellington Theatre awards. He was the recipient of the Park Road Post Sound Designer award for his work on *Watch* in 2014 and surround sound tour de force *Broken River* in 2013; and Composer of the Year for his work on *The Griegol* in 2023. With Trick of the Light Theatre he has composed and sound designed for *The Engine Room*, *The Road That Wasn't There*, *Broken River*, *The Devil's Half-Acre*, *The Bookbinder*, *Tröll*, *It's Behind You!* and *The Griegol*. taneub.com

About the Festival

Who We Are

Te Ahurei Toi o Tāmaki Auckland Arts Festival is a melting pot of shared experiences, whakaaro, live entertainment and kōrero every March.

Our lifeblood is arts and culture in contemporary Tāmaki Makaurau. We care deeply about celebrating artists both here in Aotearoa and from around the world, serving the creatives and communities behind the works we present, honouring te reo and te ao Māori in all that we do, and contributing to a better city and society. That's us.

Every March you'll see a big reunion with our city's arts community — many of whom we consider our whānau whānui, our extended family — alongside our mahi towards better accessibility and education opportunities for our audiences. We're also passionate about the works we curate and our collaboration with the many people who make those experiences happen. We strive to celebrate with generosity; human connection and manaakitanga will always be at the heart of what we stand for.

When we're on, we're on a mission to make Auckland an amazing place to socialise and be entertained in. Whether you're discovering the city for the first time or rekindling your love for its hidden gems, we truly believe there's something for everyone at the Festival.

The Auckland Festival Trust Ph +64 09 309 0989 Email info@aaf.co.nz

Ground Floor, 48 Greys Avenue, Auckland 1010

PO Box 5419, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142, Aotearoa New Zealand

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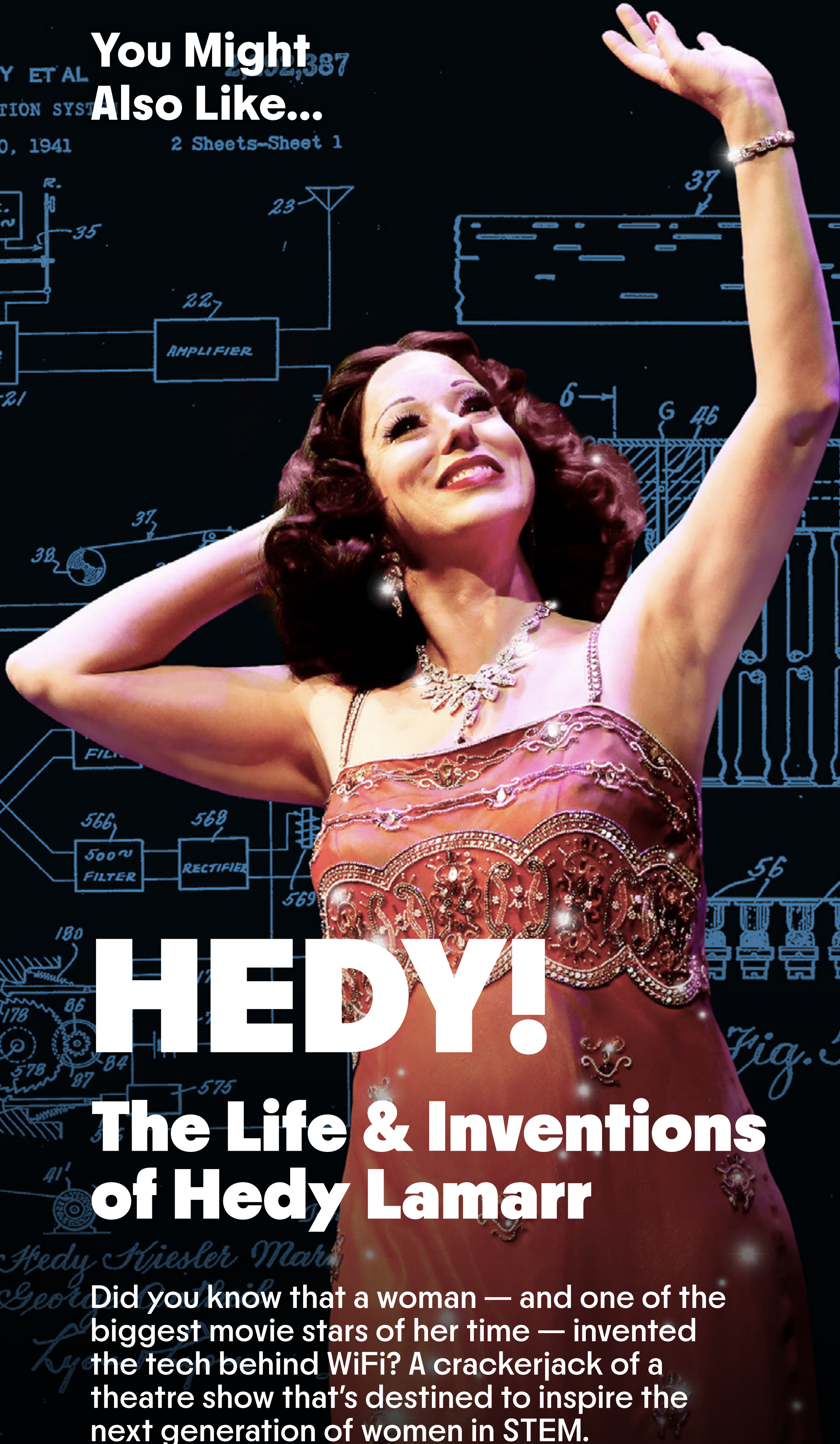
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Theatre USA First time in Aotearoa



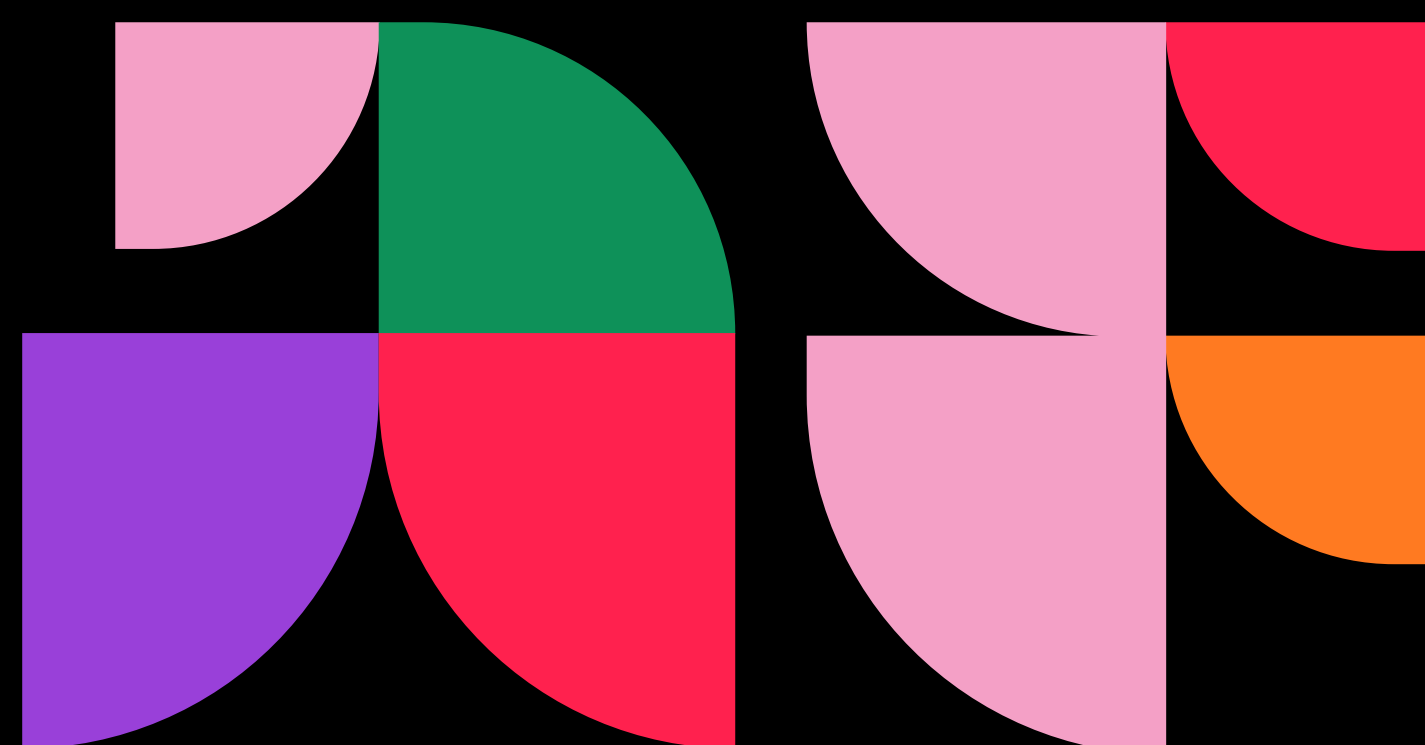
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