

# 9–12 November 2023

# Australasian Dance

**Brisbane Powerhouse** 

Australasian Dance Collective acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

#### **ABOUT ADC**

Australasian Dance Collective is one of the nation's leading contemporary dance companies.

Established in 1984 as Expressions Dance Company by Maggi Sietsma AM, the company has created more than 180 works by 80 national and international choreographers. Harnessing the talent of an extraordinary ensemble of six dancers, the company has achieved significant recognition through national awards, including three Helpmann Awards and three Australian Dance Awards.

Brisbane-based ADC is a significant cultural resource and a leading provider of dance performance and creative learning. We recognise the need to be nationally and internationally connected, represented through our diverse range of local and global partnerships.

Our core desire is to harness the power of the collective. Our signature is one of plurality not a singular footprint. In all areas of creation and performance we work as a collective where likeminded individuals have robust and invigorating conversations that give rise to new dance, to new art.

ADC invests in artists and art and cultivates interdisciplinary collaborations and imaginative partnerships. Through dance, we embrace an intergenerational focus and innovative co-creations — eliciting and presenting these myriad voices and forms to create something never seen before.

#### **MESSAGE FROM AMY HOLLINGSWORTH**

## It is with great pleasure that I warmly welcome you to *Halcyon*.

Live performance is an incredibly powerful tool delivering us into an environment where, shoulder to shoulder with both strangers and friends, we are moved, entertained, provoked and delighted. It builds camaraderie and community through the shared experience.

And what an experience *Halcyon* is... vivid and exciting, ripe with intrigue and possessing the richness of plotlines and characters of a bygone era.

Each night *Halcyon* invites the audience into a performance space. The hierarchy between performer and audience is dissolved and a shared understanding is built. This perfectly represents our commitment to redefining boundaries and reimagining the ways we can connect with audiences.

I would like to acknowledge the driving creative force behind *Halcyon*: Jack Lister. Jack is an extraordinary artist — a gifted performer, communicating with an inspiring physicality, but he also possesses quick intelligence and immense curiosity. His breadth of skills and interests has resulted in a unique and compelling choreographic voice — a maker who is able to coalesce dance, music, wit and irreverence into truly exhilarating experiences for audiences. I have watched him flourish as a creative for many years now and I couldn't be more thrilled to commission and support him with this piece, his first full-length work.

He didn't hold back, diving headfirst into a work that has many complexities. But he has a formidable team of creative minds around him to create this work collectively — Christine Felmingham, Louis Frere-Harvey, Ryan Renshaw, Zoe Griffiths, the ADC production team led by Candice Marshall and of course, the incredible ADC Company Artists.



I want to express my gratitude and respect for these exceptional performers — we are all fortunate to experience the gifts they share and the generosity that they approach all new creations with. This season specifically has brought to the fore their storytelling, adaptability and openness. The nature of this work relies on the dancers embracing the challenges of the unknown and it is their confidence and artistry that brings *Halcyon* to life.

I also wish to acknowledge, with deep gratitude, our broader collective of supporters, donors and partners — you enable us to have an impact and your generosity reminds us of our responsibility to keep striving for innovation and excellence. Thank you.

On behalf of the ADC board, staff and dancers, it is my absolute pleasure to share with you this witty and wonderful whodunit.

#### **ABOUT HALCYON**

They say the kingfisher is a bird of tranquillity, it's brilliant blue, mesmeric; a force to calm even the wildest seas.

On the other hand, the eagle is a symbol of power and grace; a bird of prey.

Though they do not share the same wingspan, from a great distance how can you tell which is which?

Don't be blinded by their majesty or might.

Adoration and envy are separated by the barest of margins.

As fine as a feather.

#### **JACK LISTER**



#### HALCYON CREATIVES

### CONCEPT AND DIRECTION JACK LISTER

#### CHOREOGRAPHY

JACK LISTER IN COLLABORATION WITH ADC COMPANY ARTISTS

LIGHTING DESIGN CHRISTINE FELMINGHAM

MUSIC COMPOSITION LOUIS FRERE-HARVEY

#### SOUND DESIGN LOUIS FRERE-HARVEY AND MICK TREVISAN

FILM AND VISUAL DESIGN RYAN RENSHAW

COSTUME REALISATION ZOE GRIFFITHS

#### CAST

HARRISON ELLIOTT LILLY KING TAIGA KITA-LEONG JACK LISTER SIOBHAN LYNCH GABRIELLE NANKIVELL LILY POTGER



#### **ABOUT JACK LISTER**

## Jack Lister is an Australian dancer, choreographer and creator, working across stage and screen.

After graduating from The Australian Ballet School, Jack joined Queensland Ballet (QB) in 2014 and danced many featured roles within the vast classical and modern repertoire, including works by Christopher Bruce, Jiri Kylian, Nils Christe, Liam Scarlett, Trey McIntyre and Natalie Weir.

After creating his first work for QB in 2015, Jack quickly established a name as a respected emerging maker, recognised in The Australian's national dance critic as "a young choreographer who is going places." He has gone on to create works for Queensland Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet, and Australasian Dance Collective, presented throughout Australia, United Kingdom, China and Germany to critical and audience acclaim.

In January 2020, Jack joined Australasian Dance Collective (ADC) as a company artist and was appointed Associate Choreographer with Queensland Ballet.

Since joining ADC, Jack has performed in creations by celebrated Australian and international choreographers, including Hofesh Shechter, Maxine Doyle, Melanie Lane, Amy Hollingsworth, Alisdair Macindoe, Gabrielle Nankivell, Cass Mortimer Eipper and Kate Harman, as well as creating two mainstage works for the company.

For ADC, Jack has choreographed *Aftermath*, a co-creation with ADC Artistic Director, Amy Hollingsworth, and two-time ARIA Music Awardnominated, producer and singer-songwriter, The Kite String Tangle's, Danny Harley. The full-evening work was met with audience and critical acclaim, described by The Courier Mail as "one of the most compelling performances I have ever witnessed." Since its soldout premiere season, *Aftermath* has gone on to feature in three major festivals across Australia. In January 2022, Jack was appointed Creative Associate of ADC, a position created for him.

Internationally, Jack has created *A Brief Nostalgia* for the Birmingham Royal Ballet, staged at both the Birmingham Hippodrome and Sadler's Wells in 2019, with recognition in Dancing Times such as, "Lister is just 25 years old, yet the piece appeared to be of exceptional maturity and depth." He was also a finalist in the 2019 International Ballet and Choreographic Competition, presenting two works in Beijing. Most recently, Jack premiered *Perfect Strangers*, performed by QB, at The Royal Opera House in London, 2022.

Jack has collaborated with respected Australian film director, Ryan Renshaw, creating dance films that have featured in film festivals worldwide. Their collaborative works have garnered award recognition, notably at the San Francisco Dance Film Festival and LA Dance Film Festival and their latest creation, *Still Life*, winning both Best Australian Film and Best of the Fest at the Inspired Film Festival, Australia.

Jack is currently based in Brisbane, Australia where he holds the dual roles of Company Artist and Creative Associate with ADC and maintains his ongoing appointment with QB as Associate Choreographer.



#### **MEET THE CREATIVES**

#### **LOUIS FRERE-HARVEY** SOUND DESIGNER AND COMPOSER

Louis combines his training in percussion, his passion for electronic dance music and his understanding of movement, to create energetically percussive compositions, uncovering the origins of rhythm within the body and its relationship to the music.

After completing studies at WAAPA, Louis began touring as a DJ under internationally acclaimed Command Q, touring Australia, NZ and North America. Following a decade of Command Q, Louis began working as a freelance composer, collaborating across the mediums of dance and theatre.

Louis has also collaborated with multiple award-winning companies, directors, and independent choreographers, such as Australasian Dance Collective, The Last Great Hunt, Izzac Carroll's *EGOT/ST* for Project Animo, Brooke Leeder's Structural Dependency for Perth Festival 2021, NICA's *ECLIPSE* with Sally Richardson, Mitchell Harvey Company's debut *MINDCON*, and *STOMPIN* Dance's 2023 major season.

Louis' most recent work *Mosaic* was presented at La Biennale di Venezia 2023, in collaboration with Scott Elstermann.

Louis was the recipient of Minderoo Foundation's inaugural Artist Fund 2021, as well as involvement in STRUT Dance's *SEED* residency and SITU-8 programs, TasDance's *AIR* with Robert Tinning, and most recently received a 2022 Performing Arts WA award for 'Outstanding Composition 2022'.

#### **CHRISTINE FELMINGHAM** LIGHTING DESIGNER

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Christine is a Queensland-based creative who has worked as a lighting designer for the past decade. She has Bachelor's degrees in Technical Production and Drama from QUT. In 2019 she was presented with the inaugural Emerging Female Leader Award at the Matilda Awards Ceremony.

Recent credits include *Macbeth in Concert* (Opera Queensland); *Bunker* (Lisa Wilson Projects); *Adrift* (Counterpilot); *The Sopranos* (Opera Queensland); *Ishmael* (Dead Puppet Society); *Caesar* (La Boite Theatre Company); *Rising* (Playlab Theatre); *Boyle & Waters in LEOTARD* (debase productions); *Dirty Laundry* (The Good Room); *Conviction, Elektra/Orestes, The Bull, The Moon* and *The Coronet of Stars* (The Hive Collection).

Christine also spends much of her time working as the lighting designer and production / technical manager for Counterpilot, the awardwinning collective of transmedia performance artists responsible for Not a Cult\*; Adrift; Breaking; Escape from Monotony; Raise The Roof: C'est Bon Salon; IMB: Institute of Light; Avoidable Perils; Truthmachine; Statum; Crunch Time; and Spectate.





#### **MEET THE CREATIVES**

#### **RYAN RENSHAW** VISUAL AND FILM DESIGNER

Ryan Renshaw is a multi-award winning film and television director based in Brisbane, Australia. His career began in the 1990's where he worked as a director for MTV in Australia, the United States and throughout Latin America. He has completed more than 80 music videos and worked as the creative director for INXS.

His screendance works have been included in over 100 international film festivals including San Francisco Dance Film Festival and Screendance International in Stockholm, and won the Jury Prize at the 2020 LA Dance Film Festival, Best International Film at Spain's 2021 Fiver International Dance Film Festival, the Jury Prize at 2020 Zinetika Festival, Best In Show at Inspired Dance Film Festival, Australia, and Best Film at the NoWHere Festival in Seoul 2021.

#### **ZOE GRIFFITHS** COSTUME REALISATION

Zoe Griffiths is a Brisbane based costume designer. She is drawn to designing for the stage because the outcome has a purpose, bringing artists' characters to life in a visual storyteller's world.

Griffiths loves the collaborative process of designing, working with other creatives to realise ideas together. With a passion for blending traditional design and artistry with innovative techniques, each new collaboration is an opportunity to explore new mediums and practices.

Griffiths has designed and styled costumes for ballet, contemporary dance and musical theatre. Recent projects include designing and creating a wearable projection backdrop in the form of a skirt for a notable Australian singer.

Griffiths first collaborated with ADC for Cass Mortimer Eipper's film *Liminal* as designer and maker. Following on from that as stylist for Amy Hollingsworth's film *9 Rooms*.





#### COMPANY ARTIST Harrison Elliott

From Perth, Harrison Elliott briefly studied at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (2012-2013) and was a long-time member of STEPS Youth Dance Company.

He has worked with various Australian companies such as Buzz Dance Theatre, Barking Gecko Theatre Company, Force Majeure, House of Omelia and Australian Dance Theatre (ADT). He has toured nationally and internationally, performing throughout Europe, South America and North America.

Elliott's first choreographic work *Fire Door*: *Do Not Obstruct* was presented through STEPS (2011). At ADT he presented his solo *A Man Stands in a Transport Terminal* (2017), a duo *YOU2* (2018) and a collaborative work *A New Scene Begins In The Dark* directed by Jo Stone (2020).

In 2019 Elliott was nominated for an Australian Dance Award for Outstanding Performance by a Male Dancer for his performance in ADT's work *South*.

Elliott has trained in circus aerial silks, parkour and has experience as an Assistant Stage Manager.

He has worked with various choreographers/ directors such as Shona Erskine, Alice Lee Holland, Isabella Stone, Laura Boynes, Lucas Jervies, John Sheedy, Tyrone Robinson, Kynan Hughes, James O'Hara, Brooke Leeder, Rachel Arianne Ogle, Danielle Micich, Gabrielle Nankivell, Ina Christel Johannessen, Jo Stone, Alison Currie and Larissa McGowan.

Elliott joined ADC in January 2022 as a company artist and had his debut with the company in *THREE* featuring the works of Kate Harman, Cass Mortimer Eipper and Gabrielle Nankivell. COMPANY ARTIST **\_ LILLY KING** 

Lilly King began her studies at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts in 2015 where, after three years she received a Bachelor in Dance, majoring in Ballet.

As an independent, King has worked with choreographer Brooke Leeder in her work *STRUCTURAL DEPENDENCY* (2018 & 2021) and *Radar* (2019).

Other performative endeavours King has experienced are Mitch Harvey, Rob Tinning & Brooke Leeder's *In Good Company* (2021); Stephanie Lake's *COLOSSUS* (Perth Festival 2020); Sally Richardson's *MUSE*, a part of SITU-8 (2020); Scott Ewen's *Wasps At War*, a part of STRUT's *And Then Some* (2019); Scott Elsterman's and Shone Erskine's *BANG! BANG!* (2019).

King was also awarded Best Newcomer (Dance) Award 2019 in the Performing Arts Awards WA (PAAWA).

King joined ADC in January 2022 and had her debut with the company in the season of *THREE* at QPAC's Playhouse in March, featuring in new creations by Cass Mortimer Eipper, Gabrielle Nankivell and Kate Harman.

#### COMPANY ARTIST TAIGA KITA-LEONG

Born and raised in Sydney, NSW, Taiga Kita-Leong attended New Zealand School of Dance and continued his studies at Sydney Dance Company Pre-Professional Year in 2020. Upon graduating in 2021 he performed graduation season works, *6 Breaths* by Rafael Bonachela, *EDEN* by James Vu Anh Pham and *Modern Analogue Archive* by Gabrielle Nankivell.

In January 2022, he performed in Ohad Naharin's critically acclaimed *DECADANCE* as part of Sydney Festival with Sydney Dance Company at the Sydney Opera House.

Throughout 2022 as an independent, Kita-Leong has performed *The Rivoli* by Miranda Wheen touring nationally with Dance Makers Collective; *Jordan GOGOS* Show as part of Afterpay Australian Fashion Week; *PRESS PLAY* for Vivid Sydney; *DOKU, The Binary World* by Lu Yang and *Skip It* by Davide Giovanni for Hermès.

He has appeared in both film and television on *Circumstance 2020* by Sue Healy (2020); *Australian Debates* on ABC Television (2021); *The Masked Singer* on Network 10 (2022); *On View: Panoramic Suite* by Sue Healy (2022) and *Night Bloomers* by Andrew Lee for SBS On Demand (2023).

Kita-Leong has worked with various choreographers/directors such as Amy Hollingsworth, Cass Mortimer Eipper, Adam Linder, Harrison Hall, Richard Cilli, Sophia Ndaba and Omer Backley-Astrachan.

In January 2023, Kita-Leong worked with choreographer Meryl Tankard in her new work *KAIROS* that debuted as part of Sydney Festival at Carriageworks.

#### COMPANY ARTIST SIOBHAN LYNCH



From Sydney, Siobhan is a multi-disciplinary independent artist specialising in Contemporary Dance.

She trained full-time with Sydney Dance Company (2019,2021) graduating with an Advanced Diploma in Elite Dance as well as graduating from NIDA (National Institute of the Dramatic Arts) with a Diploma in Musical Theatre (2020).

At the end of 2021, Siobhan performed works by Rafael Bonachela, Gabrielle Nankivell, James Vu Anh Pham and Omer Backley-Astrachan. Since then, Siobhan has worked with Sydney Dance Company as an Associate Artist and Teaching Artist.

Throughout 2022, Siobhan collaborated and performed with various contemporary dance groups including the Sydney Choreographic Ensemble's *GALILEO* performed at Riverside Theatres. She also danced with Catapult Choreographic Hub in Newcastle as part of New Annual Festival in Cadi McCarthy's *GRAPPLING FOR THE EDGE*. Furthermore in 2022, Siobhan performed *SKIP IT* by Davide Giovanni for Hermes, was Movement director for Bowie Wong's *COTURE IN MOTION* and appeared throughout the ABC Television series *SIGNIFICANT OTHERS* as a dancer and actor working with Danielle Micich, Artistic Director of Force Majeure Company.

During 2023, Siobhan performed in *HOW WE TAKE EACH OTHERS LOVE* by Davide Giovanni for NewOldNow company, has worked with dance and filmmaker Sue Healey for Sydney Festival and is a current recipient of the ACTIVATE residency program in collaboration with Catapult Choreographic Hub.

#### COMPANY ARTIST GABRIELLE NANKIVELL

Gabrielle Nankivell is a prominent Australian artist traversing dance, words, circumstance, and environment with an imaginative blend of fact and fiction. Her immersive projects and atmospheric performance work is known for its vivid choreography, attention to detail and evocative combinations of the mundane and the bizarre.

Gabrielle's work has been widely presented across Australia, Europe and Asia by Adelaide Festival Centre, Arts House (Melbourne), Brisbane Powerhouse, Cankarjev Dom (Slovenia), Carriageworks (Sydney), Esplanade Theatres (Singapore), Festival d'automne (France), High Fest Yerevan (Armenia), Klapstuk (Belgium), Lyric Theatre (Hong Kong), Roslyn Packer Theatre (Sydney), Le Théâtre National de la Danse Chaillot (Paris), Theatre Royal Hobart, The Joyce (NYC), The Place (London) & Vitalstatistix (Port Adelaide).

Recent works include *The Incandescent Dark* (2022) for Australasian Dance Collective, *Welcome to Galactica* (2022) for Brisbane Festival's Art Boat, *Sightings* (2022), an interdisciplinary portrait of place and social practice project, *Future History* (2021), a full-length solo performance, and *Wonder Grit* (2021), an action-packed performance text commissioned by The Mill & Adelaide Festival Centre for The Move.

Other notable commissions include Wildebeest (2016) and Neon Aether (2019) for Sydney Dance Company, Carbon Field (2018) with 40 dancers of the Queensland Ballet and ADC, SURGE (2018) for Dancenorth for the Commonwealth Games and Order of Things (2015) and *Focus* (2017) for Frontier Danceland Singapore. As a performer Gabrielle has worked with Australian Dance Theatre, Alexander Baervoets (BE), Chunky Move/Gideon Obarzanek, Gavin Webber/ Regurgitator, Jurij Konjar (SLO), Maxine Doyle (UK), The Farm, Thomas Steyaert (BE), Raul Maia (PT) & Ultima Vez/Wim Vandekeybus (BE) amongst others.

Gabrielle is the recipient of multiple scholarships, the inaugural Keith Bain Choreographic Travel Fellowship, the 2015 Tanja Liedtke Fellowship and a 2019 Arts South Australia Fellowship. She was Artist in Residence at the Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts, Sydney Dance Company's inaugural Training Associate and is currently part of the Artistic Team at Australasian Dance Collective.



Hailing from Garlambirla (Coffs Harbour), Lily trained with Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance in London.

Their personal exploration exists in the body and its experience. They seek to explore the limits of dance within community and commons and investigate how movement as a medium can be a modality for social systems, colonialism and place — using the findings of these investigations to negate and challenge the traditional structures of formalised contemporary dance.

During their career, Lily has worked most notably with, Hofesh Shechter, Christopher Bruce, Anthony Matsena and The Bait Fridge. They have performed in the UK and Australia and have a close performing relationship with MUD experimental performance community based on Kaurna Country, S.A. Lily facilitates workshops and classes in Tandanya to provide spaces for the exchange of knowledge and the strengthening of community bonds.

Since returning from the UK Lily has created and collaborated on works focusing on access and sharing between community and art in NSW and SA.

#### **MEET THE COLLECTIVE**

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Systems Consultant / Technician **Mick Trevisan** 

Audio Visual Technician Caitlyn Kidney

Assistant Lighting Designer Claire Browning

Costume Realisation Zoe Griffiths

> Photography David Kelly

Rehearsal Imagery Jade Ferguson



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# THREE

# Australasian Dance Collective

#### MACINDOE / MCCARTNEY / LARGE

20 - 23 MARCH 2024

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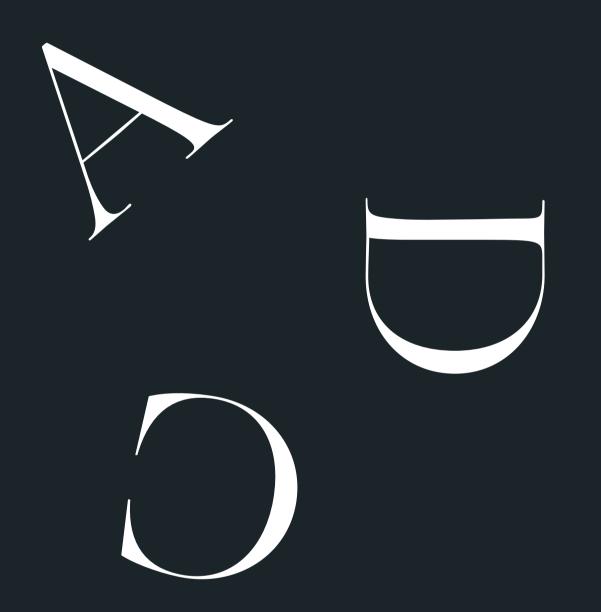


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