Annual Report





Thomas Merton

"Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time"



AUSTRALASIAN DANCE COLLECTIVE

Australasian Dance Collective Limited Judith Wright Centre Level 3, 420 Brunswick Street Fortitude Valley QLD 4006 ABN 12 010 545 187

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hello@australasiandancecollective.com australasiandancecollective.com FB IG Australasian Dance Collective respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands, waters and seas on which we work and live paying respects to Elders, past, present and future.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair Marian Gibney

Deputy Chair Tony Denholder

Bradley Chatfield (appointed October 2019) Rhyll Gardner (to May 2019) Roxanne Hopkins Dare Power Alan Scott Amy Hollingsworth (appointed January 2019)

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Artistic Director Amy Hollingsworth

Acting General Manager Nick Engler

Management Consultant Jan Irvine

Company Manager Jade Ellis

Acting Marketing & Development Manager Liana Cantarutti (to May 2019)

Marketing & Communications Manager Rebekah Devlin (from July 2019)

Marketing and Social Media Coordinator Alana Sargent

Administration Officer April Williams

Development Consultant Kathie Elliot Production Coordinator & Stage Manager Ariana O'Brien

Rehearsal Directors Andrea Briody Richard Causer

Youth Ensemble Coordinator Riannon McLean

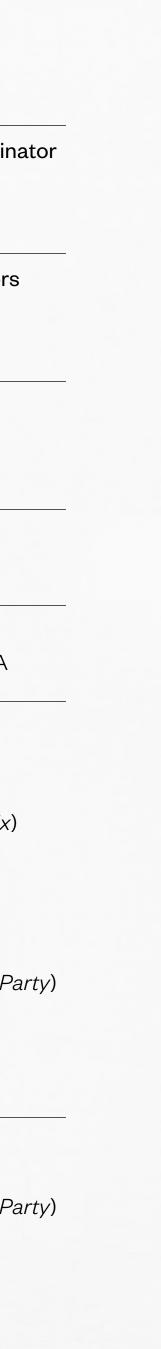
Bookkeeper Elizabeth Lepua

Accountant Karen Mitchell FCA

Ensemble

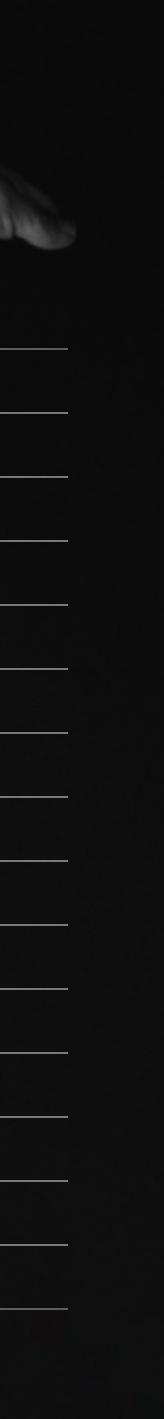
Georgie Bailey (*Echo, Matrix*) Richard Cilli (*Matrix*) Isabella Hood Bernhard Knauer Jake McLarnon Jag Popham (*Echo, The Dinner Party*) Lizzie Vilmanis (*The Dinner Party*) Josephine Weise

Understudy Samuel Gilovitz (Echo, The Dinner Party)





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From Expressions Dance Company to Australasian Dance Collective



Founded by Maggi Sietsma in 1984, nurtured by Natalie Weir from 2009 and now under the artistic directorship of Amy Hollingsworth, Expressions Dance Company has transformed — augmenting our already-profound impact on our artform and community.

This evolution recognises the two inspiring women who have paved the way for this company to date. We will continue this organisation's leadership in investing in the next generation of movers and makers and deepen our commitment to collaboration — locally, nationally and internationally.

We are proud of the lasting legacy that Maggi and Natalie have created. We will build on this by nurturing the progression of the company while capitalising on the strength of all that has been achieved.



Collectively Collectively Collectively Collectively

Creative Free Daring Extraordinary

Australasian Dance Collective



Company Review

2019 was a pivotal moment for the company

2019 marked great change but was also a year of discovery, dreaming and preparing ourselves for what lies ahead.

We know that in this ever-changing world, our artistic strength is the ability to create the narrative for cultivating connection and empathy.

With a new leader at the helm, a new vision and a new name, we built on the strength of the company's legacy, bringing stability to the team and laying the groundwork for the new direction for Australasian Dance Collective.



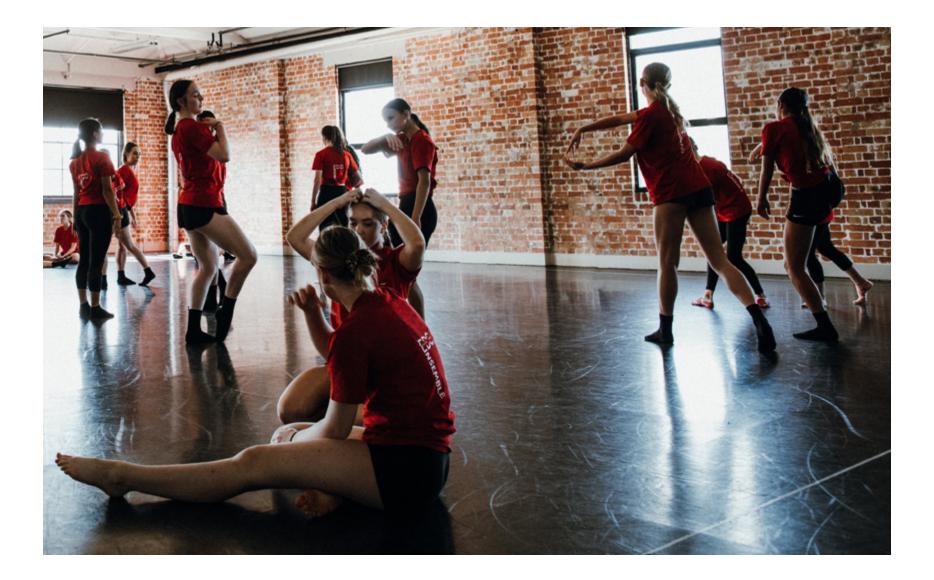


We began our mainstage season with *The Dinner Party*, celebrating outgoing Artistic Director, Natalie Weir, and her incredible decade of service to the company and the broader arts landscape. Over two months, the production toured to 12 regional centres across Australia as well as a performance season at our production partner venue, Queensland Performing Arts Centre.

Our commitment to cross-cultural exchange was exemplified through the significant double bill, *Matrix*. In a profound collaboration with BeijingDance/LDTX, *Matrix* was created over a period of six weeks in China within an imaginative and playful environment the two companies working alongside each other, bonding through our shared language of dance.

Matrix toured both internationally and regionally to Beijing, Tianjin, Cairns, Queanbeyan and Brisbane, garnering acclaim that this double bill "showcases the range and versatility of these two companies and the cultural and artistic value of this pioneering five-year China Australia Dance Exchange Project." (Jon Adams, Scenestr) We continued our commitment to the development of talent and investment in our sector — in particular, our artists. We engaged with hundreds of emerging artists and young dancers across our secondment program, masterclasses, workshops and open company classes as well as delivering our Contemporary Dance Intensives in four regional venues and Brisbane.

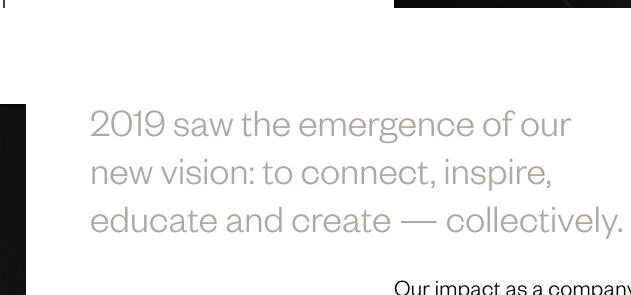
2019 also saw the inaugural year of the Youth Ensemble, a two-term program as well as a performance season, *Echo*, in collaboration with the company.





Company Review

In 2019, the company significantly increased its operating result and financial resilience. The result reflected our continuing focus on sustainability, the benefits of regional touring and the significant support we received from Arts Queensland, the Australia Council and our production partner QPAC. We sincerely thank each of these and all of our partners, sponsors and donors for their contribution to the company.



Our impact as a company, and our future dreams, would be impossible without the drive, creativity and talent of all who comprise the broader team at ADC. It is a privilege and pleasure to work with this wonderful group of people who share a common goal of positive impact and connection.

We are proud of what we achieved this year and we look forward to cultivating and sharing new initiatives to complement our existing commitments. Alongside our dedication to our artform, our artists and our creative civic mission will lie a reimagining of our performance spaces and mediums.

We will harness the strength of shared imaginations and energies to redefine choreography, boundaries and connection with our audiences. We look forward to creating imaginative partnerships which underpin our future and enrich our community.







Marian Gibney Chair



Amy Hollingsworth Artistic Director



Nick Engler General Manager



Achievements





Year in Numbers



PERFORMANCES





AUDIENCE



ARTISTS AND ARTS WORKERS EMPLOYED



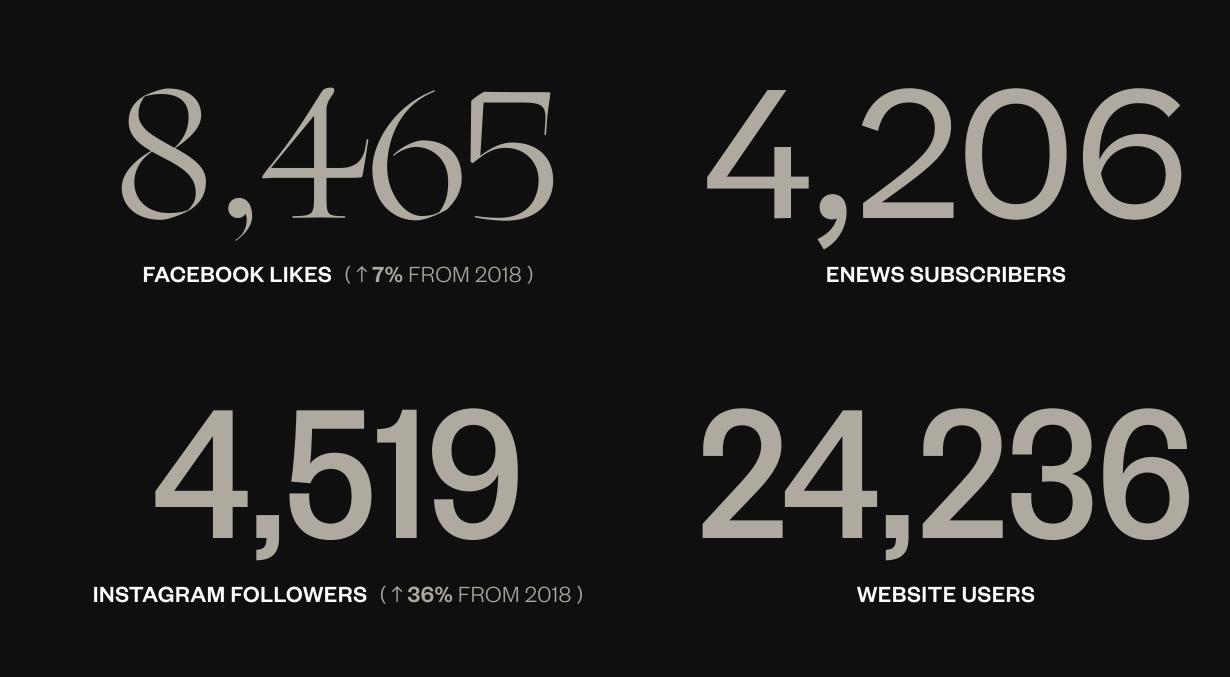
WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES

6

TOUR VENUES



FACEBOOK LIKES (17% FROM 2018)



INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS (↑ 36% FROM 2018)





TIANJIN

On Tour

DARWIN

CAIRNS

ALICE SPRINGS

ROCKHAMPTON MARYBOROUGH BRISBANE TOOWOOMBA **COFFS HARBOUR** DUBBO PORT MACQUARIE WYONG GRIFFITH PARRAMATTA QUEANBEYAN RENMARK GLOSSOP



2019 Performance Program



The Dinner Party

QPAC, CREMORNE 10 – 18 May

Originally performed in 2015, with the title The Host, Natalie Weir remoulded the work to fit the current ADC ensemble and decided on a new title, *The Dinner Party*.

The idea of a dinner party hosted by a wealthy young man of high status, and his guests all with their own desires, insecurities and agenda, provides great fodder for this work. The production draws inspiration from one of the definitions of a 'host': an animal or plant on which a parasite lives.



With every new work, the company continues to solidify their rightful place in the landscape of Contemporary Dance in Australia.

Dancetrain Magazine

It is impossible to take one's eyes off the guests at this dinner party — a charming, relatable, hour-long production.

QT Entertainment

... a lively tasting plate offering the audience plenty to savour.

Courier Mail





The Dinner Party



NATIONAL TOUR

28 May to 6 July

LOCATIONS

QLD Rockhampton Maryborough Toowoomba

NSW Coffs Harbour

Port Macquarie Wyong Parramatta Griffith Queanbeyan Dubbo

NT Darwin

Alice Springs

CREATIVE TEAM

Choreographer Natalie Weir

Costume Designer Gail Sorronda

Musical Director Tania Frazer

Lighting Designer Ben Hughes

Rehearsal Director Andrea Briody

DANCERS

Isabella Hood Bernhard Knauer Jake McLarnon Jag Popham Lizzie Vilmanis Josephine Weise

Understudies Georgie Bailey Samuel Gilovitz

MUSIC

Recorded and performed by Southern Cross Soloists

Viola Thomas Chawner

Violin Cameron Jamieson

Cello Robert Manley

Violin Iona Tache

PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Coordinator / Stage Manager Ariana O'Brien

Head Technician Chris Goeldner

Wardrobe Coordinator Sharon Clarke

Production Secondment Sophie Watkins

QPAC Lighting Technician Andrew Haden

Tour technician Steven Loxley





Matrix

2019 was the fourth year of our Chinese Australian Dance Exchange Project (2016 – 2020), and Matrix represented our most ambitious collaboration to date.

In August, ADC travelled to Beijing for six weeks to create a double-bill, *Matrix*, with the combined 20 dancers of ADC and BeijingDance/LDTX, working alongside a team of award-winning Australian and Chinese creatives. Two of Australia and China's leading female choreographers, Stephanie Lake and MA Bo, created an extraordinary double-bill.

Matrix premiered in Beijing and toured to Tianjin ahead of its Australian premiere in Cairns, and from there toured to Queanbeyan before its Brisbane season at QPAC's Playhouse.

CHINESE AUSTRALIAN DANCE EXCHANGE PROJECT (CADEP)

In 2015, Australasian Dance Collective entered into a ground-breaking partnership with China's leading contemporary dance companies, Guangdong Modern Dance Company (GMDC), Hong Kong's City Contemporary Dance Company (CCDC) and Beijing Dance/LDTX (LDTX).

CADEP features residencies, new creations, works in development, choreographer and dancer exchanges, performance seasons, festival engagements and education offerings including workshops and masterclasses spanning both countries.

A beautifully structured dance that leaves you wanting more. The group coheres as if it has been together for five years rather than the five weeks it took to create the works.

The Australian

Auto Cannibal is an aural and visual feast ... breathtaking in its originality.

While the contrast between the works couldn't be starker, this double bill showcases the range and versatility of these two companies and the cultural and artistic value of this pioneering five-year Chinese Australian Dance Exchange Project."

Scenestr





Matrix

DATES

Beijing, China 20 – 21 September

Tianjin, China 23 September

Cairns, Australia 1 November

Queanbeyan, Australia 7 – 8 November

Brisbane (QPAC) 13 – 16 November

CREATIVE TEAM

Auto Cannibal

Choreographer Stephanie Lake, with dancers

Music Robin Fox Lighting Joy Chen

Costume XING Yameng

Rehearsal Director Richard Causer

Encircling Voyage

Choreographer MA Bo

Music David Darling

Sound Effects MAO Liang

Lighting Joy Chen

Costume WANG Yan

PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Managers Ariana O'Brien & WANG Shijie

Head Technician Ryan Mahony

Costume Assistant Jaimeson Gilders

Wardrobe XING Yameng

Intern Maddison Campbell

DANCERS

ADC

Georgie Bailey Richard Cilli Isabella Hood Bernhard Knauer Jake McLarnon Josephine Weise

BeijingDance / LDTX CHEN Tian CHEN Weijie FENG Xiaoming GAO Rong HAO Ying HUANG Siang HUANG Siang KAM Alexis LIU Shiyu MA Yue SHI Qiang SUN Mengyao TIAN Rumeng WU Mi ZHANG Xuefeng





Echo

Youth Ensemble

(Featuring a guest performance by the company)

JUDITH WRIGHT CENTRE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS 4 May

2019 saw the inaugural performance season of Australasian Dance Collective's Youth Ensemble. They premiered *Echo*, in the intimate theatre environment at the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts.

The triple bill performance featured two newly commissioned works, *The Trigger of Being* by Youth Ensemble Coordinator Riannon Molean and *Shift* by company artist Jake McLarnon. The ADC company artists completed the program of *Echo* with a performance of *Deeper Than Ink* by the newly-appointed Artistic Director, Amy Hollingsworth, which originally premiered to rave reviews in 2017 for ADC's *Propel*.





CREATIVE TEAM

Shift

Choreographer Jake McLarnon

Lighting Design Christine Felmingham

Costume Designer Alana Sargent

Music

Jag Popham, with Ambe Decay by Kanding Ray

The Trigger of Being

Choreographer Riannon McLean

Lighting Designer Christine Felmingham

Costume Designer Alana Sargent

	Music
	<i>Lamp Mien</i> by Deaf
	Center, Pools of Rush
	by From The Mouth of
	The Sun
	Shift and The Trigger
	of Being performed by:
	ADC Youth Ensemble
	Deeper than Ink
per	Choreographer
	Amy Hollingsworth
	Lighting Designer
	Ben Hughes
	Costume Designer
	Alana Sargent
	Sound Designer
	Wil Hughes

Music Flex, Peter Venkman Part 1 and Secant by Ben Frost and Church Dream by Ryuichi Sakamoto & Alva Noto

Performed by: ADC company artists

DANCERS

Youth Ensemble Mia Beame Chelsea Bean Sarah Bellenger Zoe Browning Grace Campbell Grace Campbell Kirra Constantin Olivia Durrheim Eliza Flowers Katja Iffland Rashmi Kazony Alissa Koumenkov

Georgie McPhee Dominique Milne **Chloe Montiel** Georgia Mourant Lyn Nagayama Paige O'Dea Luchel Oegema Avalon Ormiston Alyssa Osborne Chloe O'Sullivan Lily Paige Teagan Potter Gabriella Quinn Greta Rollason Giuditta Ruberto Mia Sibley Christiana Stewart Brianna Tonakis

Company Artists

Georgie Bailey Isabella Hood Bernhard Knauer Jake McLarnon Jag Popham Josephine Weise

Understudy Samuel Gilovitz

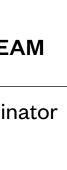
PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Coordinator / Stage Manager Ariana O'Brien

QUT Secondment Sophie Watkins

Head Technician Chris Goeldner

Wardrobe Coordinator Sharon Clarke



ator



Creative Developments

Digital Suite

ADC STUDIO 15 – 19 July

We undertook a creative development for the first commission of our future Digital Suite to be launched late 2020/early 2021. ADC invited acclaimed choreographer and filmmaker Cass Eipper to spend two weeks with the company commencing development of *Limbic*, a dance work specifically commissioned for film.

Emerging Makers

ADC STUDIO

30 Sept - 11 Oct

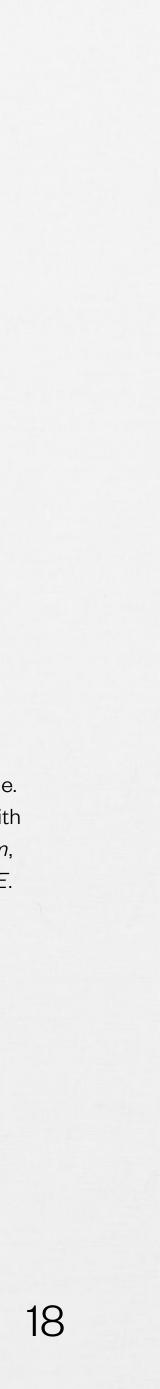
Emerging choreographer and company dancer Jake McLarnon was offered the opportunity of two week's creative development with the company artists. This was the first iteration of ADC's commitment to developing young makers, which will be expanded into an annual mentored creative process and performance outcome.



Alterum

ADC STUDIO 30 Sept - 4 Oct

We undertook a creative development for the first commission of our 2020 program with Melanie Lane. Acclaimed choreographer Melanie spent a week with the company commencing development of *Alterum*, a dance work specifically commissioned for *THREE*.



Special Projects

The Play of Light

CURIOUS ARTS FESTIVAL TOOWOOMBA

15 – 16 March

The Play of Light (previously *Lumen Body*) is a performance installation work integrating contemporary dance and projected imagery. This site-specific work featured projected light, geometric shapes, dynamic sculptural 3D animations and their striking interactions with live moving bodies. Created by ADC alumnus Elise May and featuring animation by Paul Van Opdenbosch and sound design by Jag Popham, this work is part of a larger body of work that investigates the intersection of dance and digital technologies such as motion capture and interactive live projection. Elise re-developed this exciting choreography with emerging dancers from the Toowoomba region who have helped to shape the design and performance concept specifically for Curious Arts Festival 2019.

ADC employed several local contemporary dancers as Associate Artists for this project. They danced alongside company artist Isabella Hood.

> Jacob Watton Taylor Seymour Lucy Hood Sarah McCarthy

Sampled

TIANJIN NORMAL UNIVERSITY TIANJIN 24 September

ADC was invited to present an all-Australian program, Sampled at the Tianjin Normal University.

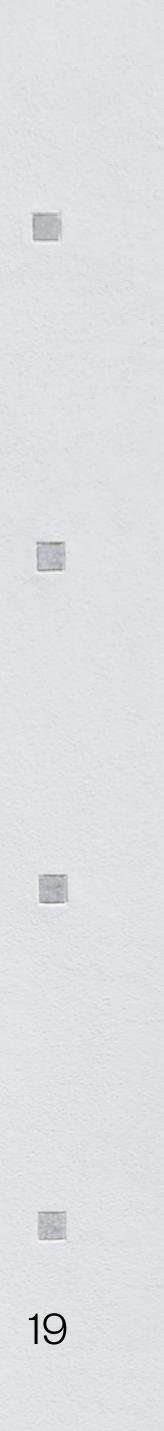
Artistic Director, Amy Hollingsworth, curated a program showcasing three Australian choreographers (Jake McLarnon, Elise May and Amy Hollingsworth) and also highlighting the excellence of our dancers by presenting Jake McLarnon dancing a solo work by acclaimed Chinese choreographer XU Yiming.

SUPERCELL Festival of Contemporary Dance Brisbane

30 March

Artistic Director, Amy Hollingsworth, delivered a masterclass and forum in the 2019 Supercell Festival, as part of their Satellite program.





Special Projects

Ausdance Educators QLD Conference

3 May

Artistic Director, Amy Hollingsworth, presented both a Keynote address and a workshop in cultivating creativity.

Keynote Speaker

BRISBANE FORUM

12 July

Artistic Director, Amy Hollingsworth, was invited to deliver a Keynote address about her journey as a dancer and director for the Brisbane Forum.

International Masterclass

NEW ZEALAND SCHOOL OF DANCE WELLINGTON, NZ 29 July

Artistic Director, Amy Hollingsworth, was invited to deliver a masterclass and lead a forum for the second and third year vocational students at the New Zealand School of Dance.

Season Launch

QPAC

26 November

In late November 2019, the company held an open air 2020 Season Launch, revealing both the mainstage programs and range of offerings, as well as announcing the new name and branding of the company.

The free event, held at QPAC's Melbourne Street Green, was attended by hundreds of supporters and partners of the company and marked the first time the company offered subscription packages for its annual programming.



Youth Ensemble

The 2019 Youth Ensemble was comprised of 30 young, like-minded individuals who shared the same passions and creative pathways.

Over two terms Youth Ensemble Coordinator Riannon McLean led a program that enhanced young dancers' learning by offering each ensemble member a strong focus on dance artistry and performance as well as the development of choreographic skills, techniques and self devised investigative solo practices.

Scheduled alongside the company calendar, our Youth Ensemble benefitted from direct access to the company artists and support staff. Rehearsals took place at our studio at The Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts.

The 2019 program included a performance season, *Echo*, at the Judith Wright Centre as part of the Australasian Dance Collective's official 2019 offerings.

Australasian Dance Collective aims to enrich, inspire and support the young dancers of our community, cultivating pathways and opportunities for them. At the conclusion of the Youth Ensemble's 2019 program, four lucky dancers, Mia Beame, Sarah Bellenger, Eliza Flowers, Olivia Durrheim were offered secondment placements with four leading training institutions from around Australia/New Zealand, including QUT, New Zealand School of Dance and Sydney Dance Company Pre-Professional Year.

Additionally, two-day ADC studio placements were awarded to: Avalon Ormiston, Alyssa Osborne, Alissa Kouzmenkov and Mia Beame, and a Creative Studio Placement was awarded to Mia Sibley. This placement is awarded to a student who showed great creative promise across choreographic development and creative thinking.



Dance Sector Development

CONTEMPORARY DANCE WORKSHOPS

Australasian Dance Collective offered schools contemporary dance workshops throughout the year by request. Our workshops cater to a range of skill levels and are adapted to align with the current curriculum.

Number of Participants: 691 Number of Workshops: 17 Number of Schools: 11

TEACHERS

(in addition to the ADC Ensemble) Andrea Briody Danika Sayce Jacob Watton Georgie Bailey

FOCUS 1.0

Professional development program for dance teachers.

Focus: Dance and Film Date: 3 June Venue: ADC Studio Attendance: 12 Number of schools represented: 9

FOCUS 2.0

Professional Development program for dance teachers.

Focus: Toolkit for 2020 Date: 4 Nov Venue: ADC Studio Attendance: 18 Number of schools represented: 8

DANCE SECONDMENTS

27 secondments from dance training institutions across Australia and New Zealand joined us for a week. Opportunities were also given to independent artists/graduates.

QUT

Erin O'Rourke Chloe Cartwright **Brock Fielder**

WAAPA

Marnie Fiebig Estelle Brown **Brent Rollins Brent Carson**

ACA

Madeline Bulmer Leo Ashenden Tiarna Linke Kirra Doherty

SYDNEY DANCE **COMPANY'S PPY**

Holli Di Nardo Soleil Harvey Telea Jensen

NZDC

Olivia Castagna Chase Clegg-Robinson Rachel Trent

TRANSIT DANCE

Yvonne Huang Ellie Murtagh Olivia Yeo Caitlin Harvey Annaleise Gaffney

INDEPENDENT **ARTISTS/GRADUATES**

Carien McKerrell Coco Wood Lachlan Broughton Tiffany Hislop Grace Bosward (BICD winner)

CONTEMPORARY DANCE INTENSIVES

Brisbane, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Glossop and Renmark

TOOWOOMBA

Dates: 15 & 16 April **Venue:** Empire Theatre Number of participants: 30

ROCKHAMPTON

Dates: 25 & 26 May Venue: Rockhampton Grammar School Dance Studios Number of participants: 32

GLOSSOP AND RENMARK **Dates:** 27 - 29 June Venues: Rosie Clark's Dance Studio and Rachel McLeod's Dance Studio Number of participants: 32

BRISBANE

Dates: Summer 7 – 18 January 2019 Winter 8 – 12 July 2019 Venue: ADC Studio & QUT Dance Studios Z9, Kelvin Grove Number of Participants **(Summer):** 42 Number of Participants (Winter): 42 **Employment:** 15 dance practitioners from around Australia

GUEST TEACHERS

(in addition to the ADC Ensemble) Larissa McGowan **Michael Smith** Vito Bernasconi Courtney Scheu Dan Crestani Emma Cameron Kurt Vogel Connor Dowling Liesel Zink Jana Castillo Core Yoga & Physio (Nathan Tight & Chanthalah Webster-Tight) Elise May PixelFrame (Lucas Thyer) Cass Eipper



Financial Summary

2019 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

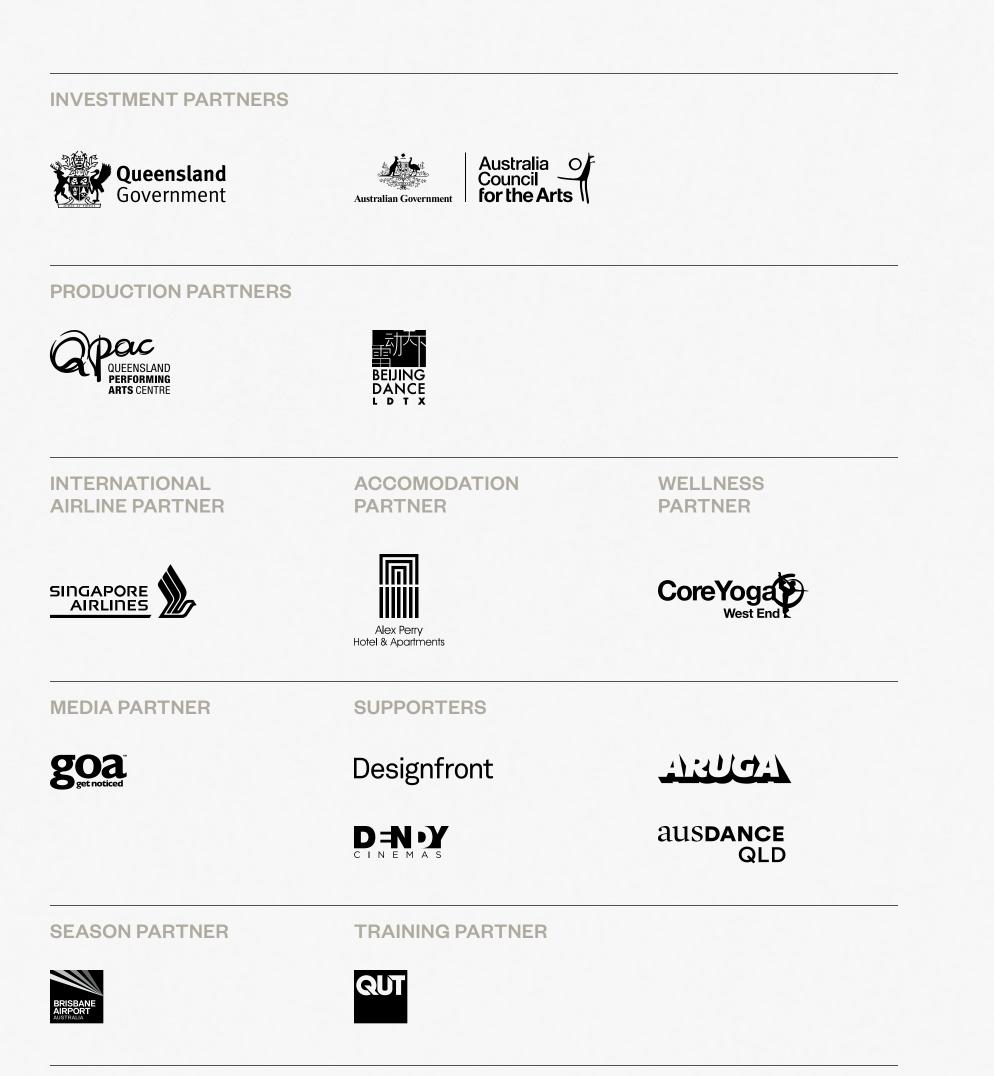
	2019	2018
Turnover (Gross Income)	\$1.95 M	\$1.87 M
Private Sector Funding & Philanthropy	\$381 K	\$395 K
Total Expenditure	\$1.85 M	\$1.86 M
Creatives, Artists & Arts Workers		
Investment of	\$1.09 M	\$1.12 M
% of total Expenditure	59%	62%
Operating Surplus	\$93 K	\$18 K
Net Assets at year-end	\$296 K	\$203 K
Reserves Ratio (Net Assets/Total Expenditure)	16%	11%

Extracted from the audited financial statements *2019 was a regional touring year, supported by Playing Australia and Playing Queensland funds





Our Partners & Supporters



ADC also wishes to acknowledge the support of our partners Valley Pool and Health Place

DONORS

\$1,000 and above
Marian Gibney
Tony Denholder
Paul Newman &
Lucy Bretherton
Stack Family Foundation
Andrew Battersby
Margo Low
Rhyll Gardner
Morgans Foundation
Melissa Blight
Lynette Denny
Sophie Mitchell

Up to \$1,000 Lori Lowther Peter and Anne Allen Louise Cutler Gary Frontin Kathie Elliott Elizabeth Lepua David Hardidge Elizabeth Morris Kim Parascos Shannon Lord Janelle Christofis Nick Engler Novita Jurry Viviane Negrine Anonymous **Michelle Trims** Luana Muglich Katharina Florian Rachael Fiona Di Nardo Annie Potter Alex McMahon

PHOTOGRAPHY

Justin Ridler Branding

David Kelly The Dinner Party, Echo, Youth Ensemble

Morgan Roberts Youth Ensemble

Jade Ellis Matrix

Yin Peng Matrix

WANG Xiao-jing Matrix

Paul Sickling Season Launch

DESIGN

Designfront



Collectively Extraordinary

