

Australasian
Dance
Collective

CONSTELLATIONS

23 – 24 June 2023
ADC Mature Ensemble



Constellations

23 – 24 June 2023

ADC Studio, Judith Wright Arts Centre

Choreographed by award-winning choreographer Liesel Zink in collaboration with the 2023 ADC Mature Ensemble. Join us on a journey where personal narratives converge, creating a harmonious whole that reveals the depth and brilliance of our collective experience.

Australasian Dance Collective 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.

Director's Note

Made in collaboration with the 19 dancers of the Mature Ensemble, *Constellations* explores the interconnectedness of our human existence; a weaving together of both the shared moments and divergent journeys that make us who we are. We began the artistic process with conversation; reflecting on journeys, discoveries and turning points in our lives and how they have shaped the people we are today. As we started to embody these experiences what emerged was a synergy in our diverse experiences. This inspired an exploration of 'a harmonious whole' that reveals the depth and brilliance of our collective experience.



As described in this poem by ensemble member Anni Webster:

As individuals,

*Each of us is unique
Each shines a different light
a different colour
a different intensity*

When we come together

*Chaos erupts
Crazy which way / each way / back way
White noise blocks the light*

One or two will pause

Feel a pulse

Sense a beat

Connect with another

Patterns begin to emerge

waves of light

ripple out

reach others

shape rhythms

form pathways

Together we are more than the sum of our parts

Together we are

Harmony

Empathy

Memory

Synergy

Constellations of Light

Special thanks to the ensemble for trusting in me, and huge thanks to Wendy for her tireless effort and constant care that makes the Mature Ensemble program the special experience it is.

Liesel Zink
Choreographer

Liesel Zink — Choreographer

Liesel Zink is an award-winning choreographer of Ukrainian and German descent interested in collective bodies as a tool for social change.

She has developed and presented work around Australia, Asia, and Eastern Europe. Liesel's practice explores the intersection of contemporary dance and community engagement often seeing her create performances in public-space and use her creative process as a means for artistic, cultural, and intergenerational exchange. As an independent choreographer, Liesel creates large-scale performances in public space. In 2023 she premiered en-masse public space performance *Us And All Of This* (Arts Centre Melbourne, Geelong Arts Centre, and Bunjil Place), commissioned by Arts Centre Melbourne with the support of the Betty Amsden Foundation, engaging over 250 community members



in a powerful resistance to atomized ways of living. Her other significant public space work *The Stance* was awarded the 2017 Australian Dance Award for Outstanding Achievement in Independent Dance and was presented in 10 cities worldwide, engaging 80 dancers from ages 8 – 84. Other recent independent projects include: *Daruvaty* (Bleach Festival 2022), *Awesome: a state of wonder and fear* (World Science Festival 2021), *Our New* (IMA Gallery 2020), *We and the Uncertain* (Ukraine 2019) and *Inter* (Flowstate 2018). As a choreographer, Liesel has also been commissioned to choreograph for Expressions Dance Company, Tasdance and LINK. Liesel is currently an Associate Artist for Force Majeure and a board member of Theatre Network Australia. Liesel is a dramaturge, facilitator, movement coordinator, producer and advocate.



ADC Mature Program

Australasian Dance Collective believes creativity, reciprocity and artistic spirit know no age limit. The ADC Mature Program encompasses the Mature Classes and Mature Ensemble.

Aimed at those 50-plus, this program facilitates a range of movement practices, fosters a sense of community, promotes healthy living and positive ageing. Our tailored program invigorates and inspires, developing physical and creative skills in a welcoming, inclusive, and stimulating environment.

ADC Mature Program is supported
by Richard Wood



Australasian Dance Collective acknowledges the assistance of the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

Credits

ADC Mature Program
Coordinator Wendy McPhee

Choreographer Liesel Zink

Lighting Technician Lauren Sallaway

2023 Mature Ensemble

Anni Webster
Annie MacAskill
Beverley Giles
Felicity Begley-Mills
Janice Addison
Jo Desailly
Judy Macsporrán
Julie Denniss
Lesley Synge
Margaret Clifford
Mary Anne McIntyre
Nereda Denington
Paula Maddern
Peta Picton
Tove Vine
Rana Jewell
Shona McKenzie
Vivienne Binns

Special thanks to Jane Richen,
Jennifer Price, Georgia-Elizabeth Bales
and the ADC team.

Photography Jade Ellis

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