

Australasian Dance Collective

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New Executive Director joins Australasian Dance Collective at pivotal time

Delivering an ambitious, world-first dance performance with drones is the first major project for Australasian Dance Collective's new Executive Director Sarah Kirkham.

With her early experience as a classical and contemporary dancer, combined with recent doctoral research on dance company sustainability, Ms Kirkham brings a unique and fresh perspective to the 39-year-old organisation.

"Sustainability is an important consideration in the context of disruptive trends and in the environment we operate in today" she said.

"I'm excited to be working alongside the ADC team to build a culture of sustainability across economic, environmental, social and cultural dimensions."

Commencing her tenure January 30, Ms Kirkham also said she would draw on the leadership and project management experience gained across her extensive professional career to "embrace change and drive growth" for the Brisbane-based contemporary dance company.

"I'm excited to help shape the organisation's future vision and pursue opportunities, inclusion and nurture the shared values of ADC," she said.

Ms Kirkham joins dynamic ADC Artistic Director Amy Hollingsworth, the driving force behind choreographing dancers and the movement of micro drones in the upcoming, ingenious show *Lucie In The Sky*.

Ms Hollingsworth said the ground-breaking performance, named after the trademarked "Lucie" micro drones, would explore the relationship between humans and autonomous machines programmed to emulate emotions.

ADC Chair, Alan Scott, said it was a pivotal year for the Brisbane-based collective as it pushed the boundaries of what could be achieved through a fusion of art and technology.

"*Lucie In The Sky* is choreographed with Verity Studios (Zurich) who has delivered projects for some of the world's most established stage performers. This is only the beginning of our cutting-edge projects, and we look forward to unveiling other ventures as the year progresses," he said.

"We're also powering on with our innovative community programs which engage young people and older adults in our youth and mature ensembles, each delivering performance seasons every year.

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“ADC has an exciting future with Sarah and Amy at the helm, leading an extraordinary team of staff, artists and partners,” he said.

Lucie In The Sky will premiere at QPAC in May and tickets are available through [QTIX](#).

ABOUT US

Australasian Dance Collective:

- is one of Australia’s leading contemporary dance companies
- was established in 1984 as Expressions Dance Company
- is a collective of artists, creatives and collaborators working together to connect, empower and inspire
- provides extensive education and community engagement opportunities
- prioritises collaboration and artistic risk-taking to create exhilarating dance works
- collaborates nationally and internationally to create multiple new works annually
- has won national awards including three Helpmann Awards and three Australian Dance Awards
- gratefully receives support from private donors and government funding bodies

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