

A young man with dark skin and short hair is shirtless, looking directly at the camera. He is holding a large bundle of dry sticks or branches above his head with both arms. The background is a dense, intricate network of mangrove tree roots, likely from a Scaevola or similar species, which are light brown and gnarled. The scene is set outdoors, with natural light filtering through the foliage.

FORM

DANCE PROJECTS

FOSTERING DANCE CULTURE
IN WESTERN SYDNEY

form.org.au

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



FORM Dance Projects respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work and dance: The Burramattagal people and clans of the Dharug Nation. We pay our respects to Dharug Elders past, present and emerging. We celebrate the continuing culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and extend our respect to all First Nations people.

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Cover image: *Kairos*, Thuba Ndibali, Photo: Régis Lansac
Homage to Jack Mitchell from Alvin Ailey’s “Hermit Songs”
Inside cover image: *Kairos*, Cloé Fournier, Photo: Régis Lansac



Image: Bat Lake,
Photo: Dom O'Donnell

ABOUT US

Emerging 23 years ago through a Create NSW and City of Parramatta community outreach initiative, FORM has grown into a vital arts organisation firmly anchored in Western Sydney. Uniquely placed in the Australian independent dance sector as both presenter and producer, FORM drives an artistic program engaging a community of local, national and international dance artists.

Our purpose is to rigorously support independent Australian dance artists and develop audiences for contemporary dance. FORM exists to provide opportunities for Australian independent dance artists to create, experiment, present new work and connect with audiences. We support artists at all stages of their career, develop their national and international profiles and provide valuable professional development opportunities.

FORM's vision is ambitious. In Parramatta, rapidly transforming into Sydney's central city, we work in an environment reflective of a future Australia. Alongside independent dance artists, we embrace the diversity of young Western Sydney dancers from many cultural communities to challenge the face of Australian contemporary dance. We build on our expertise in the contemporary dance sector and offer something new to artists and audiences.

FORM's program spans four key areas – presentation and producing, education, community engagement and audience development. The interconnectedness of these activities is vital for wider understanding and appreciation of Australian dance culture in a shifting contemporary context. As one of the leading presenters of independent dance in Sydney and Australia, FORM is the place artists come to premiere new dance work and realise their artistic vision. Our signature

Dance Bites program is acclaimed for its eclectic curation, showcasing a wide range of choreographers working across diverse styles – from the innovative and experimental to the popular and accessible. The works of experienced, more established artists are placed alongside those of promising newcomers.

FORM takes risks. We commission and produce large innovative new Australian dance works, made in Parramatta, Western Sydney. In collaboration with diverse partner companies and leading Australian independent choreographers and artists, we extend professional development opportunities for mid-career to established artists to create and collaborate in the making of innovative new work.

FORM provides unique opportunities for young people in Western Sydney. We increase their exposure to renowned choreographic practice, contribute to artform appreciation and develop young audiences. We play an important role in fostering the next generation of dance makers. Through our enlivening education program, we provide access and participation in dance culture for early-career artists and performing arts students. Underpinning the artistic program and as a companion to our Dance Bites program, the education program includes skills development, workshops, Q&A sessions and masterclasses. The annual Sharp Short Dance Festival for choreographers and dancers 21 and under offers young artists a unique opportunity to experience a presentation environment supported by industry peers.

FORM's partnerships are vital to our work. We have developed and maintained numerous relationships across industry sectors and across Western Sydney that

will continue to help us forge new ground and broaden opportunities for the dance sector. Our many successes over the last two decades demonstrate FORM is forging an exciting trajectory, based on unique initiatives and responses to the broader arts landscape.

GOVERNANCE

BOARD EXECUTIVE

CHAIR NARELLE LEWIS (Until April 2022)
MARK LILLIS (From June 2022)
TREASURER PAMELA THORNTON (Interim Chair April to June 2022)

BOARD MEMBERS

BELINDA MCNULTY (From February Until June 2022)
DOLLA MERRILLEES (From June 2022)
JANE WITTER (From February 2022)
DR. JULIE-ANNE LONG
KATHERINE PFAHL (Until February 2022)
MARK LILLIS (From February 2022)
MARTIN DEL AMO (From June 2022)
PAMELA THORNTON
PEPA MOLINA (From June 2022)
PROF. PETER HUTCHINGS (Until June 2022)
SIDDHARTHA KAPOOR (Until February 2022)

TEAM

DIRECTOR AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ANNETTE McLERNON
ACTING DIRECTOR AGNES MICHELET (1 August to 20 September 2022)
PROGRAM MANAGER AGNES MICHELET
BUSINESS MANAGER, PUBLIC OFFICER SALLY EBERT
PROGRAM CO-ORDINATOR NAOMI HIBBERD
BLOGGER IN RESIDENCE VICKI VAN HOUT
SHARP SHORT DANCE ARTISTIC PRODUCER NAOMI HIBBERD
INTERN JOSHUA SHERWOOD (Until 28 January)

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

In the third year of COVID-related restrictions on how we live and work, I'd firstly like to thank FORM's dedicated team, who continued to successfully collaborate and support independent dance artists. While there have been important and positive learnings from this time, there is no doubt that the energy and commitment needed to deliver the FORM program within this every-changing environment has been substantial.

FORM Director, Annette McLernon; Business Manager, Sally Ebert; Program Manager, Agnes Michelet; Program Co-Ordinator, Naomi Hibberd and the 2022 program's many collaborators, have worked as a committed team to deliver exceptional outcomes. It is testament to what small-to-medium independent arts companies can deliver when they are nimble, adaptive and supported with the necessary funding. In 2022 this included the Commonwealth Government's Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund which allowed FORM to build digital capacity, and also develop and deliver *Kairos*, an important new work by Meryl Tankard.

In a year of constant evolution, it is perhaps fitting that the FORM Board also welcomed new members at the Annual General Meeting; including Dolla Merrillees, Martin del Amo and Pepa Molina along with recently appointed board members Jane Witter and myself. These new members joined our dedicated existing board members, Pam Thornton and Julie-Anne Long. I thank this remarkable collective, who bring a wealth of experience and capability from across the independent dance, arts and professional sectors.

I choose to support FORM because I know first-hand how important it is to experience performance that takes you out of your own world. As a misfit kid and teen, growing up in a then drab south-western Sydney, I remember the lasting effect of experiencing other people's stories told through dance and theatre. FORM works to deliver those experiences as both a presenter and producer for many independents artists, within, thankfully, a much-changed Western Sydney. Without FORM's support there would be a major gap in the dance community and communities more broadly in Sydney, and nationally.

Over 300 artists participate in our annual artistic program, and FORM forges important connections and outcomes for emerging and established dance artists. While FORM creates enormous impact, the precarious nature of our arts organisations means there is always a need to help sustain and grow that work.



Image: Kairos, Taiga Kita-Leong, Photo: Régis Lansac

We continue to work closely with Creative Partnerships Australia through their philanthropy campaign, Plus1 Program. This association raised funds for our annual Sharp Short Dance festival for young, emerging dance artists from Western Sydney and beyond and delivered *An Evening with Meryl Tankard*, an artist talk, that raised FORM's profile whilst promoting *Kairos*. Such support, which also includes generous financial contribution from the Packer Family Foundation, works to ensure that future creatives continue to be nurtured. I encourage our supporters to support FORM in whatever way they can, so we can continue to contribute to Western Sydney's dynamic cultural landscape.

Particular thanks go to stakeholders at Create NSW and the City of Parramatta, who continue to support and contribute to FORM's yearly program. I would also like to thank Craig McMaster and his team at Riverside Theatres, and Olivia Ansell at Sydney Festival for their ongoing and committed partnership with FORM as a presenter of new Australian dance works.

Finally, and most importantly, I would like to give the board's heartfelt thanks to Annette McLernon, FORM's Director for the last 12 years. Annette resigned in late 2022 and will step-aside as Director in March 2023. During Annette's tenure FORM has transformed from a small service organisation into a leading presenter and producer of independent contemporary dance in Australia. As leader, Annette has put FORM on the map. The organisation now plays a critical role in the Australian dance sector and offers significant support to a vast number of independent dancers, creatives, collectives, partners and emerging dance organisations in Western Sydney and beyond. We would like to thank Annette for her outstanding dedication to FORM and the Australian dance industry.

2023 will see us appoint a new leader who will develop our next strategic plan, built on Annette's impressive legacy. Stay in touch, as it promises to be an exciting time.

Mark Lillis
Chair



Image: *Kairos*, Taiga Kita-Leong, Cloé Fournier, Thuba Ndbali, Lillian Fournier, Julie Ann Minaai, and Jasmin Luna. Photo: Régis Lansac

PROGRAM OVERVIEW 2022

Successful RISE Federal arts funding was extremely impactful for our independent dance organisation in Western Sydney in 2022, as it steered us through the challenging pandemic. FORM flourished because of the productivity generated through project funding while we navigated the year, of what was referred to as, “*living with Covid*.”

FORM was able to facilitate valuable employment, skills development, mentoring, creation, presentation and participation opportunities for the community of independent dance artists, including Western Sydney artists, we support.

Opening and closing the year, in January and December 2022, FORM commissioned and produced two creative developments of a new Australian dance work, *Kairos*, directed by legendary choreographer, Meryl Tankard AO, composed and performed by Elena Kats-Chernin AO, with visual artist Régis Lansac (OAM) collaborating with the next generation of Australian dance makers.

Across the year FORM employed 25 artists to create *Kairos*, and secured a Sydney Festival 2023 presentation for the World Premiere. After 2.5 years in the making, through the pandemic years, *Kairos* was emerging as a captivating and provocative, new Australian dance work. Meryl Tankard, as Director, highlighted and drew together the dance vocabulary and uniqueness of six independent dance artists, Taiga Kita-Leong, Cloé Fournier, Thuba Ndbali, Lillian Fournier, Julie Ann Minaai, and Jasmin Luna with a constellation of creative designers. Meryl said *Kairos* “*exceeded her expectations*”, whilst Elena Kats-Chernin said she was “*so grateful for FORM choosing her as the composer for this project, and for persevering against all obstacles!*”

ENCOUNTER SYDNEY was produced by FORM and presented by Sydney Opera House with Emma Saunders, director and the WE ARE HERE Company dancers on the forecourt of Sydney Opera House in May 2022. Warren Foster, the spoken word poet collaborated with Western Sydney writer, Felicity Castagna, creating a fresh Sydney text for this mini-version of the

original Parramatta, Western Sydney production, presented in Sydney Festival 2020. FORM also had the opportunity to produce in partnership with Sydney Youth Orchestras an invaluable recording of the original *ENCOUNTER* music scores, composed by Amanda Brown and Jodi Phillis, commissioned by FORM Dance Projects. It certainly was a celebration of tenacity and hope for the future, to see the dancers performing this Sydney version of *ENCOUNTER* on the majestic steps of the opera house.

Our signature Dance Bites 2022 program saw the emergence of premiere seasons of new dance works by independent dance makers, such as *Double Beat*, by Sara Black, that had gone into hiatus. Still amidst risks of cancellation due to COVID ongoing events, it was a relief to see this season presented at Riverside Theatres in May, after being postponed twice in 2020, then 2021. The all-female artistic team was exceptional and audiences responded very positively to the work, including dance school teachers and students. The season also saw the return of reviewers to the

theatre. *Radical Transparency*, Emma Saunders with WE ARE HERE Company launched Dance Bites in March 2022. This was the company’s first full-length main staged work. In collaboration with her team of 10 emerging dancers and professional creatives such as Felicity Castagna from *ENCOUNTER*, Emma Saunders created a very unique blend of written and spoken text, video, song and everyday movement. It was a proud achievement for this emerging Western Sydney dance company. The inimitable Ryuichi Fujimura (*Fall! Falter!! Dance!!!*) featured in a double bill season Let’s DANCE with Chris Chua (*BeatStorm*) which was a critical success, and attracted younger participation and a more diverse audience. The final Dance Bites season, *Bat Lake*, welcomed the return of larger audiences in the theatre and was a tremendous achievement for Eliza Cooper as an emerging choreographer and the tight ensemble of independent dancers. The Learn the Repertoire See the Show sold out months in advance. The Dance Bites 2022 program highlighted the resilience

and strong sense of community imbedded in the NSW independent dance sector.

Throughout 2022 FORM invested in building the digital capacity for our organisation and training our small team in digital skills and producing digital content. FORM employed producers, dance artists, composers, designers, production crews, and theatre technicians. We provided opportunities for artists to participate in a variety of digital activities and events related to dance (podcasts, blogs, online dance workshops, streaming Dance Bites shows) and our annual online youth dance festival, Sharp Short Dance, which flipped to digital in 2021, became a hybrid digital/theatre presentation in 2022.

The annual youth dance festival, Sharp Short Dance, was creatively produced by Naomi Hibberd with MC Jamie Winbank. Young dance makers from Western Sydney and far beyond continued to embrace the online dance film section. Since 2020 Sharp Short Dance festival

has kept adapting to new circumstances, capturing this year the opportunities offered through the addition of film, whilst reinforcing the live performance core of the festival, still affected by COVID. The dance film component of the festival continued in 2022 engaging entrants from Regional NSW to New York City. The final was presented live in the theatre and livestreamed.

It was heartening to have a new FORM board evolve in 2022 led by Mark Lillis as Chair. FORM simply wouldn’t exist without the dedication and commitment from the board. Thank you from the FORM team, and all the artists, creatives and production crew that contribute to FORM collectively, and have benefited from the board’s ongoing voluntary support.

Annette McLernon
Director

perFORM – ARTISTIC PROGRAM

FORM Dance Projects works with Australia's leading choreographers and dancers and a diverse range of partners, from Riverside Theatres to independent producers and companies, arts organisations, education institutes, council and community service providers to support dance as an art form.

Dance Bites is a curated, signature program of contemporary dance works presented by FORM Dance Projects

and Riverside Theatres. The annual Dance Bites program features some of Australia's most innovative and exciting choreographers and performers. A Dance Bites season provides enormous opportunity for early-career to established independent choreographers to present their works with support from FORM Dance Projects in venue hire, technical production, administration, marketing and publicity of the production.

Since 2013, FORM has ventured into commissioning and producing large scale, genre-defying festival productions. These commissions support artform development, enhance professional development and the dance practices of early career to established dance artists. Through our entire artistic program FORM fosters career pathways, provides employment, and promotes the "Made in Parramatta" reputation and brand.



Image: Falli Fallerii Dance!!!
Ryuichi Fujimura. Photo: Heidrun Löhr

PRESENTED BY SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

ENCOUNTER SYDNEY



Image: Encounter Sydney, Warren Foster and Dancers.
Photo: Cassandra Hannagan

EMMA SAUNDERS and the WE ARE HERE Company
PRODUCED BY FORM DANCE PROJECTS

After a rippin' world premiere of *ENCOUNTER* in 2020, in Parramatta, Western Sydney, FORM Dance Projects, Emma Saunders and a new dance ensemble, the WE ARE HERE Company, are back with *ENCOUNTER SYDNEY*. In this site-specific work of joy, spread out on the forecourt of Sydney Opera House, directed by the "formidable" Emma Saunders, *ENCOUNTER SYDNEY* explored the everyday extraordinariness and energy behind our next generation.

In collaboration with a group of award-winning Australian artists, including writer, Felicity Castagna, composers, Amanda Brown (The Go-Betweens) and Jodi Phillis (The Clouds), a cast of 10 dancers and words spoken by Warren Foster, *ENCOUNTER SYDNEY* explored the indomitable spirit of youth and the world they find themselves in.

The riveting soundtrack to *ENCOUNTER SYDNEY*, is the original *ENCOUNTER* score performed and recorded by the musicians of the Western Sydney Youth Orchestra, conducted by James Pensini.

"The show is a joy bomb in many ways, an eruption of raw energy and physicality. Emma Saunders' work with these young dancers uses simple provocations responding to the actual site, the monumental steps, the podium and the expanse of the Sydney Opera House forecourt back to the city."

Fiona Winning, Sydney Opera House, Head of Programming

DIRECTOR: EMMA SAUNDERS
CHOREOGRAPHY: EMMA SAUNDERS IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DANCERS
WRITER: FELICITY CASTAGNA
COMPOSERS: AMANDA BROWN AND JODI PHILLIS
ORCHESTRATOR: JESSICA WELLS
CONDUCTOR: JAMES PENSINI
VISUAL ARTIST: DAVID CAPRA
SPOKEN WORD: WARREN FOSTER

DANCE CAPTAINS: JOSHUA O'CONNOR AND NAOMI REICHARDT

DANCERS: JULIAN CHAN, SARAH GOROCH, GABRIELA GREEN OLEA, CLAYTON JEAN, SARAH KALULE, LAWRENCEA MATEARIKI, SABRINA MUSZYNSKI, JOSHUA O'CONNOR, NAOMI REICHARDT, EMILY YALI

OUTSIDE EYE: JANE MCKERNAN
MUSICIANS: WESTERN SYDNEY YOUTH ORCHESTRA
COSTUME KEEPER: QUIRINE VAN NISPEN
PRODUCTION ASST: JEREMY AINSWORTH
PRODUCER: ANNETTE McLERNON

ENCOUNTER and ENCOUNTER SOUTH were originally Commissioned and Produced by FORM Dance Projects, supported by Sydney Youth Orchestras and FLING Physical Theatre, for presentation in Four Winds SPRING Festival 2019 and Sydney Festival 2020.



KAIROS – DEVELOPMENT

MERYL TANKARD AO | ELENA KATS-CHERNIN AO | REGIS LANSAC OAM
COMMISSIONED AND PRODUCED BY FORM DANCE PROJECTS

JANUARY 2022 AND DECEMBER 2022

In ancient Greek, *Kairos* is “the right or opportune moment for doing, a moment that cannot be scheduled”. That moment is now for director Meryl Tankard AO, composer Elena Kats-Chernin AO and visual artist Régis Lansac OAM, who have created a vibrant new dance work responding to these uncertain and challenging times.

Commissioned and produced by FORM Dance Projects and created by three world-renowned Australian artists and long time collaborators, with the next generation of dance makers, this Sydney Festival world premiere will encompass a vast lexicon of human experience and human movement: the dark and challenging; the ugly and beautiful; the humorous and joyful.

These internationally celebrated artists collaborated with emerging to mid-career dance artists: Cloé Fournier, Katina Olsen, Thubalethu Ndibali, Taiga Kita-Leong,

Jasmin Luna, Lillian Fearn and Julie Ann Minaai. As a director and choreographer Tankard is revered for her dynamic intuitive movement, challenging, encouraging and drawing out each performer’s own vocabulary of movements.

Kairos speaks to these times, through the history of time. We experience our contemporary 21st century world collapsing and expanding through a concertina of disaster, crisis, chaos and suffering. All seen through the experience of a pandemic that has kept us isolated, and impacted the very essence of dance, the artform of touch.

This final creative development emerges from a choreographic intensive, *Masked*, commissioned and facilitated by FORM Dance Projects in 2020-2021, directed and mentored by Meryl Tankard, with 8 Australian independent dancemakers. These artists led an immersive residency

“I am interested to collaborate with the next generation of independent artists who are curious, have unique voices and dance vocabularies, and are passionate about exploring their dance practice. I have great admiration for the work FORM Dance Projects is doing in fostering artistic collaborations for independent artists and I am thrilled to be involved in this new production.”

Meryl Tankard AO

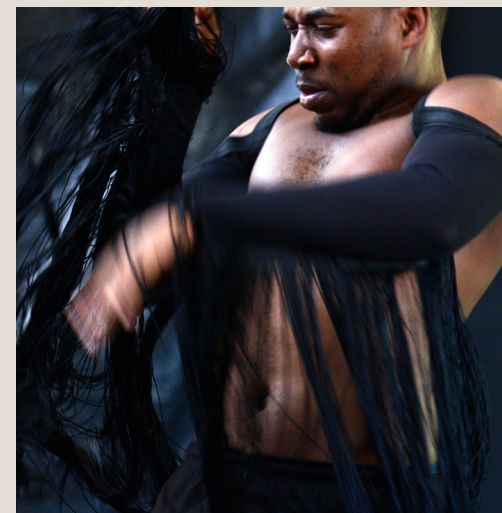
“For all creatives involved, this project is undoubtedly a unique and significant experience.”

Elena Kats-Chernin AO

“We created a big work despite the difficulties of the current climate. It was wonderful having 3 iconic artists in the studio who had such humility. I felt very privileged to come to the studio every morning of the developments. I think my favourite part was Bundanon. It was a very special time and place to create.”

Choreographer/Performer

Images: Kairos Development. Photo: Régis Lansac



CONCEPT, DIRECTION, CHOREOGRAPHY MERYL TANKARD
COMPOSER, PIANIST ELENA KATS-CHERNIN
VIDEO DESIGN AND PHOTOGRAPHY RÉGIS LANSAC
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR KATE DUNN
PERFORMANCE AND CHOREOGRAPHY CLOÉ FOURNIER, THUBALETHU NDIBALI, TAIGA KITA-LEONG, JASMIN LUNA, LILLIAN FEARN AND JULIE ANN MINAAI
UNDERSTUDY NAOMI HIBBERD
CHILD IZABELLE KHARAMAN
COSTUME DESIGN MELANIE LIERTZ, SAM ST. AUBYN
SET DESIGN MERYL TANKARD, MASON BROWNE
ASSOCIATE SET DESIGN BENEDICT JANECZKO-TAYLOR, RUBY JENKINS
SOUND DESIGN BOB SCOTT
LIGHTING DESIGN VERITY HAMPSON
ASSOCIATE VIDEO DESIGN MORGAN MORONEY
PRODUCTION MANAGER MARK HASLAM
STAGE MANAGER FRANKIE CLARKE
FIRST CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT DANCE ARTIST KATINA OLSEN
FIRST CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT CULTURAL CONSULTANT MAXWELL DILLON (KOMBUMERRI)
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ANNETTE MCLERNON
BUSINESS MANAGER SALLY EBERT
PRODUCTION CO-ORDINATOR NAOMI HIBBERD
PROGRAM MANAGER AGNÈS MICHELET
PRODUCTION NAISDA INTERN JOSHUA SHERWOOD

FORM Dance Projects would like to thank and acknowledge project funding and support from Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund—an Australian Government initiative, Create NSW, The Packer Family Foundation, Sydney Dance Company and Riverside Theatres.

FORM DANCE PROJECTS AND RIVERSIDE THEATRES PRESENT

RADICAL TRANSPARENCY

WE ARE HERE COMPANY DIRECTED BY EMMA SAUNDERS

18 - 19 MARCH
LIVESTREAM 19 MARCH**DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER** EMMA SAUNDERS
COLLABORATING DANCERS**LIVE** FIORELLA BAMBA, GABRIELA GREEN OLEA, SARAH GOROCH,
SARAH KALULE, SABRINA MUSZYNSKI, NAOMI REICHARDT, JOSH O'CONNOR,
CLAIRE RODRIGUES, RACHELLE SILSBY, EMILY YALI**DIGITAL** VISHNU ARUNASALAM, LIAM BERG, CYNTHIA FLOREK, WARREN FOSTER,
ROMAIN HASSANIN, BEDELIA LOWRENCEK, KATRINA SNEATH, CHRIS WADE,
RORY WARNE**COLLABORATING WRITER** FELICITY CASTAGNA**COLLABORATING VIDEOGRAPHER** DOM O'DONNELL**COLLABORATING DESIGNER** DAVID CAPRA**COLLABORATING OUTSIDE EYE** JANE MCKERNAN**COLLABORATING SOUND CONSULTANT** MATT STEFFEN**PRODUCTION CONSULTANT** JOSH O'CONNOR**PRODUCTION/STAGE MANAGER** JEREMY AINSWORTH**ALL THAT I AM RIGHT NOW COMPOSER** JODI PHILLIS (ENCOUNTER SOUNDTRACK)**LOCATION** PARRAMATTA RIVERSIDE THEATRES, LENNOX THEATRE*"Radical Transparency is a delight, a bright
expression of hope for dance in dark times."*Keith Gallash,
RealTime Arts, 21 September 2022.

Radical Transparency is a new rollicking one of a kind work by the WE ARE HERE Company exploring the intersection between honesty and artifice, wild and tame, light and dark, process and performance, raw and manufactured, and how on earth in this day and age we are going to present new dance work that is sustainable, wild, buoyant and afloat while it feels like everything is sinking. The WE ARE HERE Company holds artistry, performative range and collaboration in its work, contributing and redefining the current look, approach and style of Australian contemporary dance. The company comprises 19 powerful performers (aged 20-30 yrs) who are open minded, able to dance with 'heart' and exhibit performative and choreographic potential.

Image: *Radical Transparency*, Rachelle Silsby.
Photo: Dom O'Donnell

FORM DANCE PROJECTS AND RIVERSIDE THEATRES PRESENT

DOUBLE BEAT

SARA BLACK

5 - 7 MAY
LIVESTREAM 7 MAY**DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER/PRODUCER** SARA BLACK**PERFORMERS/CHOREOGRAPHERS** ISABEL ESTRELLA, SAMANTHA HINES,
SOPHIA NDABA**COMPOSER** ALYX DENNISON**LIGHTING DESIGNER** VERONIQUE BENNETT**COSTUME DESIGNER** ALEISA JELBART**PRODUCTION/STAGE MANAGER** KAYLEE ASHTON**MENTOR** NARELLE BENJAMIN**FEATURING HEART SOUNDS** SOPHIA NDABA, SAMANTHA HINES,
ISABEL ESTRELLA, XANTHE DENNISON TRUMPMANIS, WILLOW MERCER,
DAVID TRUMPMANIS, BRIANNA KELL, CODY LAVERY AND JASMIN LUNA**LOCATION** PARRAMATTA RIVERSIDE THEATRE, LENNOX THEATRE*"This hypnotic work by Helpmann Award
winner Sara Black uses a pulsating, throbbing
soundtrack of heartbeats by Alyx Dennison that
also includes the sounds of Black's son in utero
as well as wildlife and birds."*Lynne Lancaster,
Dance Informa, 5 May 2022.

With an exceptional all female Australian cast and creative team directed by Helpmann Award winner Sara Black, *Double Beat* explores the aural and physical responses the heart and pulse present in differing emotional and physical states. Written for three women, this contemporary dance trio takes the audience into a deep cocoon of meditation and rhythm.

Three weeks after conception we have a beat, our bodies are far from fully formed, yet a beat has begun. Altering in response to activity and emotion, it is a constant presence within us throughout life's journey, until it simply stops. We can often be disconnected to this life force and sensation that we carry within us. Here we find space to connect to those rhythms and observe the wonder of the human body.

Image: *Double Beat*, Isabel Estrella, Samantha Hines, Sophia Ndaba.
Photo: Heidrun Löhr

DANCE BITES 2022



Image: Let's DANCE, Artwork by Helen Tsantikos.
Ryuichi Fujimura, Photo: Alex Houy

FORM DANCE PROJECTS AND RIVERSIDE THEATRES PRESENT

LET'S DANCE

A DOUBLE BILL BY RYUICHI FUJIMURA AND CHRIS CHUA

11 - 13 AUGUST

FALL! FALTER!! DANCE!!!

CHOREOGRAPHER/WRITER/PERFORMER RYUICHI FUJIMURA
VIDEO LAURA TURNER

DESIGN CONSULTANT TOBHIYAH STONE FELLER

DRAMATURG CARLOS GOMES

LIGHTING DESIGNER/PRODUCTION MANAGER FRANKIE CLARKE

LOCATION PARRAMATTA RIVERSIDE THEATRE, LENNOX THEATRE

"Fujimura reaches out as a human being and we in the audience embrace him."

Jill Sykes,
Sydney Morning Herald, 12 August 2022.

BEATSTORM CONCEPT CREATOR/CHOREOGRAPHER CHRIS CHUA
PERFORMERS CHRIS CHUA, NASIM PATEL
PRODUCTION MANAGER FRANKIE CLARKE

"Both works were from a very integral place of exploration and authenticity. These were not about a display of technical prowess but connected with people on a more heart-felt and playful level."

Audience Member

Fall! Falter!! Dance!!! is a humorous, poignant and sincere take on a contemporary dancer's life, in which recognition is limited and the reward is small. Through Ryuichi's solo, self-devised performance work, he asks himself the fundamental question: 'why perform?'

This is the premiere of his final work in a trilogy of solo works following the presentation of *How I Practice My Religion* that premiered in FORM's 2019 Dance Bites season.

BeatStorm is a collision between a video game and a movement performance. Motion capture devices track and project two players into a virtual world in real-time as they travel along a fast-moving path set to high-energy electronic dance music evocative of video gaming. In each level, players must dodge a barrage of obstacles and collect items by moving their bodies; there is a one-to-one correspondence of movement between the real and the virtual.

DANCE BITES 2022



Image: Bat Lake, Allie Graham.
Photo: Dom O'Donnell

FORM DANCE PROJECTS AND RIVERSIDE THEATRES PRESENT

BAT LAKE

ELIZA COOPER

13 - 15 OCTOBER

LIVESTREAM 15 OCTOBER

DIRECTOR, CHOREOGRAPHER AND COSTUME DESIGNER ELIZA COOPER

SOUND DESIGNER MASON PERONCHIK

PERFORMERS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS MAXINE CARLISLE, MITCHELL CHRISTIE, ALLIE GRAHAM, JASMIN LUNA, CASSIDY MCDERMOTT-SMITH, REMY ROCHESTER, STRICKLAND YOUNG

LIGHTING DESIGNER AND PRODUCTION MANAGER FRANKIE CLARKE

PROPS DESIGNER ELIZA COOPER, JOHN COOPER

PROPS PERFORMERS NIKI VERRALL, ISABEL ESTRELLA, MADELEINE BACKEN

MENTOR KAY ARMSTRONG

COSTUME ADVISOR AZURE SCHOFIELD

COSTUME ASSISTANT EMALYN KNIGHT

UNDERSTUDY NIKI VERRALL

CHOREOGRAPHER AND COLLABORATOR JACK TUCKERMAN

LOCATION PARRAMATTA RIVERSIDE THEATRE, LENNOX THEATRE

"Bat Lake is an eerie, gripping, atmospheric astonishing piece by Sydney dance artist Eliza Cooper, evoking the dark and mysterious world of bats."

Lynne Lancaster, Dance Informa, 13 October 2022.

Bat Lake by Eliza Cooper is a dance work celebrating the dark, theatrical world of bats. From pollination to echolocation, the work exposes their nocturnal escapades usually hidden in the shadows. *Bat Lake* transforms the performance space as elegant beasts glide swiftly across a twilight stage. The work aims to bare these misunderstood creatures, bring their complex characters to life and reveal what lies beneath their mystique.

MARKETING AND PUBLICITY



RADICAL TRANSPARENCY

"I enjoyed it extremely - such colourful explosions on stage, such anarchic energy!"
Heidrun Lohr, Digital audience member

"Radical Transparency conveys a strong sense of the anxieties induced by the Covid pandemic, the consequent lockdowns and the difficulties of reconnecting, but doesn't play the angst, opting instead for humour (as you would expect of director Emma Saunders, one of the much-missed The Fondue Set trio) of varying degrees of bewilderment, darkness and estrangement, confidently played and danced by the 11 performers, all in their 20s."

Keith Gallash, RealTime Arts, 21 September 2022.

Radical Transparency, Claire Rodrigues. Photo: Dom O'Donnell

DOUBLE BEAT

"The calm of contentment, the fitfulness of fear, the immobility of acceptance – all are reflected in a complexity of choreography that excites and confuses, stimulates and, sometimes, perplexes."

Carol Wimmer, Stage Whispers, 5 May 2022.

"A powerful trio of women investigate the bodily and sonic responses the pulse and heart have in response to various physical and emotional states."

Lynne Lancaster, Dance Informa, 5 May 2022.

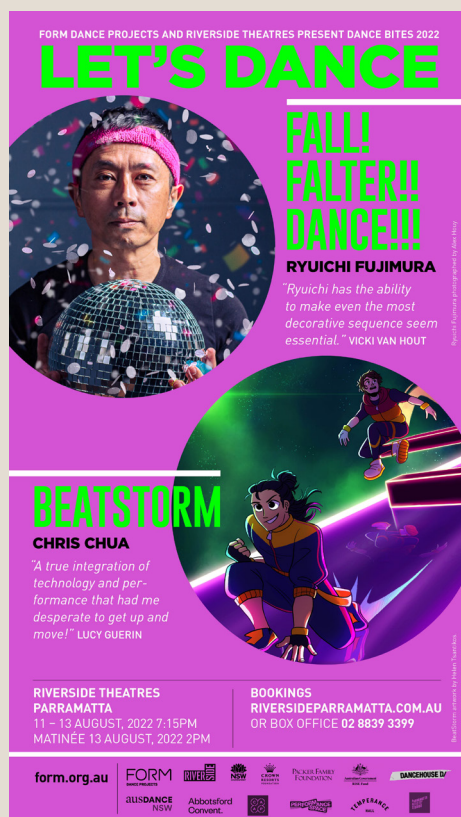
"DOUBLE BEAT. A metaphor for the journey of the human heart expressed through dance. Vibrantly conceived. Vivaciously performed. Vividly staged."

Robin Knightly, Sydney Arts Guide 7 May 2022.

Double Beat, Isabel Estrella, Samantha Hines, Sophia Ndaba. Photo: Heidrun Lohr

FORM Dance Projects strategically aims to promote contemporary dance to wide audiences both in the theatre and online. FORM collaborates with designers at Alphabet Studio and photographers and video artists to develop a unique brand, which promotes and presents artists' productions to the highest standards possible. Images are a powerful way to communicate with audiences and our creative team work hard to convey evocative and powerful marketing collateral to capture people's attention and elevate contemporary dance. FORM continues to work with Jala Design who created our website design, launched in 2017.

FORM engaged dance specialist publicist Emma Collison to gain excellent media exposure for the 2022 Dance Bites program. This ensures that our artists gather valuable reviews and audience interest in their work.



LET'S DANCE

"How rare is this? Dance that makes you laugh out loud. Paired in a double bill with a human video game that has the audience so engaged some of them take up the offer to try their luck at the end of the show."

Jill Sykes, Sydney Morning Herald, 12 August 2022.

"Chris Chua has a creative imagination, obviously inspired by his work in computer programming and his dance experience. Bringing them together in such a creative way is an inspiration – and one that will appeal enormously across generations."

Carol Wimmer, Stage Whisper, 13 August 2022.

"Ryuichi Fujimura, with pathos, grace and humour, created an engaging show, deftly interweaving movement, gesture, mime, spoken word and song. Beatstorm is an exciting interactive game/dance warm-up tool for all who are brave-of-heart movers – budding and seasoned dancers alike."

Robin Knightly, Sydney Arts Guide, 15 August 2022.

Beatstorm, Chris Chua and Nasim Patel. Photo: Heidrun Lohr

BAT LAKE

"Cooper's extraordinary work demands a very flexible body and is, at times, almost acrobatic, other times, extremely minimalised and controlled."

Lynne Lancaster, Dance Informa, 13 October 2022.

"This is a stunning piece of theatre. It's creative, imaginative, sensitive. What a pity it plays for such a short time!"

Carol Wimmer, Stage Whispers, 15 October 2022.

"Cooper spoke of the energy that propels her forward in an art form that she sees as 'the ultimate mind and body challenge.'"

Celina Lei, Arts Hub So you want my Arts Job as a Choreographer, 17 October 2022

Bat Lake, Maxine Carlisle and Strickland Young. Photo: Dom O'Donnell.

TOTAL ANNUAL REVIEWS AND INTERVIEWS: 51

FORM Dance Projects produces projects with creative development residencies and performance opportunities for professional artists. FORM also provides mentoring opportunities and the development of professional skills for dance artists throughout their careers.



Image: Kairos, Taiga Kita-Leong & Thuba Ndbali.
Photo: Régis Lansac

platFORM – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In 2022, Northmead studio and Riverside studio continued to be offered as studio venues operated by Riverside Theatres, courtesy of the City of Parramatta. FORM was able to support Dance Bites rehearsals, creative developments and dance workshop programs supporting professional artists in all stages of their careers.

RESIDENCIES

Throughout the year we welcome our program artists, as well as guest artists in creative development into our studio.



Georgia Cranco & Amanda McGregor.
Photo: Naomi Hibberd

CREATE SPACE GEORGIA CRANKO

27 JUNE – 9 JULY

Create Space is a supported residency for artists with disability, developed between Ausdance NSW, Sydney Opera House and FORM Dance Projects. This year’s recipient was dancer and choreographer Georgia Cranco. Georgia used the two-week residency to develop her work *The Doubling Of Presence*. “The Create Space residency is allowing me to start to grapple with concepts of care, consent, and bodily autonomy in

the context of disability. Having dedicated time in a studio is always a joy, it gives me the mental space, and the actual space to cultivate my creativity and physically explore seemingly intangible ideas. It’s so nice to play, to devise and discover new ways of telling a story and challenging audiences.” Georgia Cranco.

WE ARE HERE COMPANY

ALL YEAR

The WE ARE HERE Company is a breakthrough contemporary dance company comprising 19 powerful performers (aged 20-30 yrs) who are open minded, able to dance with ‘heart’ and exhibit performative and choreographic potential. The company rehearses at the Northmead studio every Tuesday during school terms.

Artistic Director Emma Saunders

Artists Fiorella Bamba, Gabriela Green Olea, Sarah Goroch, Sarah Kalule, Sabrina Muszynski, Naomi Reichardt, Josh O’Connor, Claire Rodrigues, Rachelle Silsby, Emily Yali, Vishnu Arunasalam, Liam Berg, Cynthia Florek, Warren Foster, Romain Hassanin, Bedelia Lowrencek, Katrina Sneath, Chris Wade, Rory Warne.

MOLONAI MAKALIO

28 FEBRUARY – 18 MARCH

Step was originally commissioned by Nick Power & Intimate Spectacle as a ten minute work for *Out of Iso*, in Nick’s NEXT LEVEL: A new realm of hip hop, October 2020. A first creative development towards a larger work was supported by Sydney

Festival, and UNSW Creative Practice Laboratory. Step had its second creative development supported by FORM Dance Projects and Riverside Theatres at the Northmead Studio. During the 3 weeks residency at FORM, Molonai deepened the conceptual terrain of the work in a period of research and generation of new performance material. Working with artists Clive Ellwood (dancer/performer) and Russell Morell (drummer) and mentored by Latai Taumoepeau and Matt Prest. Step brings together hip hop and rugby with Polynesian cultural elements such as Lali (wooden drum), the kava ceremony to create a unique performance that explores the physical and spiritual connections between these different cultural sources.

OUT OF THE STUDIO – DIRTY FEET GABRIELA GREEN OLEA

22 AUGUST - 9 NOVEMBER

Out of the Studio is an opportunity for emerging choreographers to develop new ideas and a platform to present new dance works to audiences in a theatre context. FORM Dance Projects continues its partnership on this program by providing studio space for the development of these new dance works. Past residents include Matt Cornell, Sara Black, Lucky Lartey, Callum Mooney, Emma Harrison and Emily Flannery. In 2022 FORM welcomed Gabriela Green Olea into the studio developing her new work *Spaces of Belonging*.

TOTAL DAYS IN RESIDENCE: 163



Image: Learn The Repertoire, See The Show.
Sara Black Photo: Naomi Hibberd

transFORM – EDUCATION PROGRAM

FORM Dance Projects provides access and participation in dance culture for performing arts students and emerging artists in a vibrant education program. This aspirational education program underpins the artistic program and includes skills development workshops and masterclasses, matinee performances with Q&A sessions (Learn the Repertoire, See the Show), auditions and a youth dance festival.

LEARN THE REPERTOIRE, SEE THE SHOW

Learn the Repertoire, See the Show is a unique program for dance students to learn the repertoire from each of the Dance Bites performances in a workshop led by the presenting company. Following the workshop, students experience a matinee performance and post show Q&A with the artistic team.

DOUBLE BEAT

Sara Black and her team introduced students to the process of making *Double Beat*, an exploration of our constant heartbeat and pulse in a close partnership of sound and movement. The workshop began with a high energy contemporary warm up. Students then had the opportunity to engage in an introduction to Heart Rhythm Meditation practice. This experience was used to guide an open exploration into improvisation tasks operating from internal and external connections to the rhythm of the pulse and heart.

“It broadened my view on exploring new aspects of contemporary dance”
Year 10 Student Castle Hill High School

PARTICIPANTS 47
TEACHERS 2
SCHOOLS 3

BAT LAKE

The workshop was be led by Eliza Cooper and began with a stretch and warm up followed by learning repertoire from the work. Students explored animalistic movements and phrases that involved basic floor work used in *Bat Lake*.

“It challenged the students to learn from working choreographers and allowed them to experience the work from the inside.”
Castle Hill High School Teacher

PARTICIPANTS 61
TEACHERS 4
SCHOOLS 5



Image: Choreographic Workshop.
Photo: Agnes Michelet

CHOREOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP

FORM DANCE PROJECTS AND SYDNEY DANCE COMPANY

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
PARRAMATTA
5 – 6 APRIL, 2022

FORM Dance Projects welcomed the return of its annual Choreographic Workshop in 2022 in partnership with Sydney Dance Company. This popular program provided HSC Dance students with the unique opportunity to develop their choreographic skills under the guidance of industry professionals. Mentored by Sydney Dance Company teaching artists, the practical workshop shared choreographic tools and techniques used by the company during the creation of Rafael Bonachela's *Ab[intra]*. In this immersive one-day workshop, students were challenged to think innovatively, disrupt familiar patterns of moving, generate interesting material, and develop their confidence and creativity in composition. The workshop program also offered insights into Rafael Bonachela's creative process through viewing and discussing excerpts of Sydney Dance Company work. The Choreographic Workshop was particularly valuable for HSC dance students and students who participated in Sharp Short Dance later in the year.

TEACHING ARTISTS

JAMIE WINBANK
BRAD CARTER
ISABELLA CRAIN

PARTICIPANTS 78
TEACHERS 6
SCHOOLS 5

"Educational, inspirational and meaningful to young dancers"

Year 10 Student,
Marian Catholic College.

"I found it interesting doing abstract moves and isolating certain parts of the body because it allowed me to try something new."

Year 9 Student,
Cheltenham Girls High School



Image: Sharp Short Dance 2022, Spencer Bloomfield.
Photo: Dom O'Donnell

SHARP SHORT DANCE

FORM DANCE PROJECTS AND RIVERSIDE PRESENT

SHARP SHORT DANCE 2022 FILM HEATS

HEATS 11 – 15 NOVEMBER

LIVE HEAT FINALISTS 16 – 17 NOVEMBER
FINAL 19 NOVEMBER

FORM Dance Projects annual youth dance festival featured short works by choreographers and dancers 21 and under. Sharp Short Dance inspires young performers to strive for their own artistic excellence and encourages active youth participation in all genres and traditions of dance and media. In 2022 the festival expanded with exciting dance film content and digital media. Sharp Short Dance is a Western Sydney-based event that celebrates young talent, with entries from across Australia, from local to regional and interstate. Sharp Short Dance Live featured 22 dance works created and performed by young dancers, up to 5 minutes in length. Entrants performed in a heat and a panel of industry professionals invited a selection of works to be presented in the final. Sharp Short Dance Film featured 20 dance films created by young dancers and choreographers. All works were presented on FORM's website where audiences were invited to participate in voting for their favourite work. Winning works were eligible for awards including Most Innovative Choreography,

Outstanding Junior and Senior Dancer, Outstanding Solo Performance, Outstanding Duet Performance, Outstanding Ensemble Performance, Audience Choice Award Live and Film. The Outstanding Dance Film Award was sponsored by AFTRS and the Regional Dance Film Award was sponsored by Cowra Civic Centre. Finalists were also eligible for valuable industry secondments with Australian Dance Theatre, Catapult Dance, AUSTI Dance and Physical Theatre, Sydney Dance Company PPY and Academy of Music and Performing Arts.

"THIS IS FABULOUS!! We are so thrilled with the whole experience. Thank you for an awesome night. The kids were absolutely thrilled and so empowered and inspired by the whole process. So worth it, and so much gained by the kids. We'll be back."

Anna Bloomfield,
Dubbo Ballet School, Regional Live

"A huge congratulations to you and the entire FORM Team on another incredible Sharp Short Dance - your efforts are outstanding, you create a wonderful space for young artists to share their artistry. You make such a safe space to work in for the judges, myself, and young artists."

Jamie Winbank, MC and Judge.

SHARP SHORT DANCE AWARDS

MOST INNOVATIVE CHOREOGRAPHY

MACKENNA WILSON WITH *BLOOM*

OUTSTANDING JUNIOR DANCER

AMARI LEIVA URZUA WITH *TRASANO*

OUTSTANDING SENIOR DANCER

CARMEN YIH WITH *LAYER BY LAYER*

OUTSTANDING SOLO PERFORMANCE

SASKIA ELLIS WITH *FALLOW*

OUTSTANDING DUET PERFORMANCE

HUGO POULET (& NIKI VERRAL) WITH
L1N6UAL 5TEPS

OUTSTANDING ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE

DAKOTA DANG WITH *BELLYACHE*

REGIONAL AWARD

ADDISON SKINNER WITH *NOT ABOUT ANGELS*

AUDIENCE CHOICE LIVE

SPENCER BLOOMFIELD WITH *AFFINITY*

OUTSTANDING DANCE FILM

ADRIAN BUDDY MALBASIAS WITH *ANINO*

AUDIENCE CHOICE FILM RUBY KO WITH

THE RED STRING

AUSTRALIAN DANCE THEATRE SECONDMENT

DANIEL RILEY

AUSTINMER DANCE THEATRE

ADRIAN BUDDY MALBASIAS

CATAPULT DANCE

HUGO POULET & NIKI VERRALL

SYDNEY DANCE COMPANY PRE-PROFESSIONAL YEAR SECONDMENT

SPENCER BLOOMFIELD & MAGNUS MEAGHER

ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

ERIKA BARNIER, AVALON THOMAS & MIA
KLOISER-JONES

TOTAL CHOREOGRAPHERS: 42

TOTAL PERFORMERS: 110

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS: 113

TOTAL ONLINE VOTES: 1,478

TOTAL FINAL AUDIENCE: 230

TOTAL WORKS: 42

TOTAL FESTIVAL PARTICIPATION: 152



FORM DANCE PROJECTS AND
RIVERSIDE THEATRES PRESENT

BODY AND ENVIRONMENT FILM FLING PHYSICAL THEATRE

DIRECTED BY ROB MCCREDIE
18 NOVEMBER

Set within a unique transforming set installation, *Body and Environment* features the FLING Physical Theatre company, made up of 11 young performers from the Bega Valley aged 14-18.

A suspended web of 64 interconnected shirts is manipulated by the performers to create a series of spaces; from architectural structures to natural environments, public and private spaces, to the subconscious internal landscapes of the mind. Following the cancelled 2020 touring of the work due to COVID, the work has been developed into a film version.

CHOREOGRAPHER ROB MCCREDIE
PERFORMERS PERDITA BRYDON, EBONY CONSTABLE, ISHA CONSTABLE, TAJ CONSTABLE, ISLA COOK, HARRY HAGGAR, MAYA RAE NAVARRETE, AMALIA-GRACE THOMPSON, ALFIE TAIT, ROSE TURNER, RORY WARNE, ANISE YI
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREW ROBINSON
CHOREOGRAPHIC COLLABORATOR HOLLY DURANT
REHEARSAL DIRECTION AND CHOREOGRAPHIC COLLABORATOR GABRIELLE ROSE
SET DESIGN TIM NEWTH AND ROB MCCREDIE
SOUND DESIGN DAVID HEWITT
LIGHTING DESIGN GERRY CORCORAN
PRODUCTION COORDINATOR ANNE CORCORAN
ORIGINAL CREATIVE TEAM GABRIELA GREEN OLEA
REMOUNT CREATIVE TEAM BETH LANE AND PATRICK MEESMANN
HAIR AND MAKEUP CLAIR WILKINSON
PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS LARA SCRIVENS AND BODHI MOFFATT-TURNER
CAMERA OP/ KEY GRIP BRENT OCCLESHAW
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT AND LIGHTING OPERATION SAM SEIDEL
AUDIO POST PRODUCTION SAM MARTIN AND DAVID HEWITT
FILM EDITORS ROB MCCREDIE AND ANDREW ROBINSON

inFORM - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

BLOGGER IN RESIDENCE VICKI VAN HOUT form.org.au/blog

In 2022, FORM Dance Projects commissioned Australia Council Dance Award (2019) recipient Vicki Van Hout to be the resident blogger after the ongoing success of her blog residency, initiated in 2013. Throughout the year Van Hout blogged for FORM about all things dance from her unique perspective as an Indigenous choreographer. Van Hout's blog contributes valuable reputable discourse within the dance community and is a perceptive, entertaining and articulate window to the dance world for a larger audience.

DANCING THE AGENCY OF THINGS BLOG 9 MAY 2022

I have found that the process of ageing has had a strange effect upon me, in that in my pursuit to thwart rigor mortis my dance has become loud and somewhat vulgar at times. Like a hot flush, I can feel when I transition from a sophisticate into a lunatic as I give in to the surge of mania, and my limbs cleave the space producing overly energetic lines and sequences, whereby only fools and unwitting audience members remain in close proximity. Martin del Amo in comparison always seems to move as if he's floating. Del Amo invokes a delicate air of curiosity, as if atmospheric currents are taking him on a journey belying his extensive experience in Body Weather training, which is geared towards honing sensitivity in relation to space and place. Despite our seeming incompatibility, I had the best time intuiting the porosity of the steel blades of samurai swords thousands of years old, refashioned and repurposed for a second life in WWII, to dancing the machinations of the artificial intelligence it took to uncover the age of a Persian rug and the composite construction of a frail wooden pony, amongst the many artefacts with del Amo. For our dance was as much about the discovery of aspects of each other as it was the objects; how to share the performative space and work in complement to each other as opposed to modes of combat, vying for the eyes and attention of the bystanding bodies.

BACK TO GARMA BLOG 4 AUGUST 2022

Back to Garma. As I tuned in, a bunngal (dance) session was underway with two clans performing flag dances. The flag dances are a part of a song cycle which chronicles the early interaction with Indonesian sailors fishing and bartering for trepang or sea slugs.

All of a sudden I saw two dances I haven't seen performed for a long time. Card dance and drinking dance. As an Aboriginal dance student from down south learning the dances for the first time I was embarrassed to perform the dances because we used to get a bad rap as drunks and the like. I suppose the audiences we were performing for wouldn't have known that the dances form embodied repositories of history which predates British colonial settlement, so the people teaching us those dances just left them out of the song cycle to avoid potential controversy. But to see the dances performed at Garma was heartening, proof that we are inhabiting a great time of change.

By the way, I am writing to you from the lands of the Yugambeh people in Coolangatta as I am teaching some choreographic workshops as part of a Karul dance company intensive titled Ngari Ngali-Wahlu. Yesterday we learned dances from country all around this area on the Eastern seaboard of southern Queensland. One dance held within it the local knowledge of fishing practices, whereby if too many fish were caught they were given back to the sea for the dolphins to eat. This dance is vital and a symbol of the environmental zeitgeist as it typifies the kind of ecological management we are all aiming for in this precarious time of environmental fragility.

AN OCTOBER JAM-PACKED WITH EMBODIED REPRESENTATIONS ON STAGE BLOG 7 NOVEMBER 2022

Bat Lake began with a stunning inverted solo whereby a compelling idiosyncratic language for busy hands, performed in a shoulder stand, was enacted and later replicated. The solo was curtailed all too soon to be replaced by a duet reminiscent of other reptiles, before the remainder of the ensemble cast joined the first two males.

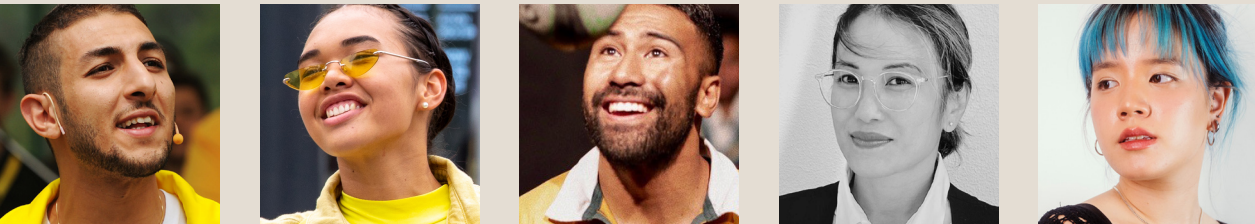
Cooper's choreography was enhanced by the costuming, also conceived by Cooper, consisting of voluminous layers of translucent black fabric which billowed and undulated, serving to obscure the increasing virtuosic shapes and lines within the sequences. I was simultaneously reminded of the ink blots used in old psychiatry tests whereby patients were asked to decipher the ambiguity created by their amorphous form, and the plumes of smoke utilised by magicians to hide the machinations of their chicanery. The opportunist in me saw Bat Lake as the perfect vehicle to vie for a return to Cooper's old stomping ground in Sydney Dance Company's pre-professional course, as a choreographer for their annual end of year presentation, or as part of the company's annual New Breed season featuring emergent choreographers.

FORMIDABLES PODCAST

FORM DANCE PROJECTS PRESENTS **PODCAST SERIES**
FORMIDABLES – SPEAKING FROM THE HEART OF WESTERN SYDNEY
form.org.au/whats-on/podcast/

FORMidables is a 10-part podcast series commissioned and produced by FORM Dance Projects in partnership with other Parramatta organisations, ACE (Arts and Cultural Exchange) and Diversity Arts Australia. The podcasts present award winning Western Sydney slam poet Pola Fanous in lively duet conversations. FORMidables is about life, passion, the universality of dance language, what it means to be a young artist in a cosmopolitan Australia and the lessons we can take from the artists who contribute to the vibrancy of art making in Western Sydney.

HOST POLA FANOUS | EDITOR VIR KAULA | MUSIC THEME ALI SAGANCI | PODCAST CURATOR/PRODUCER AGNES MICHELET



Images: FORMidables Podcast, (Left to right) Pola Fanous, Lawerncea Mateariki, Molonai Makalio, Melissa Ramos and Candy Park

EPISODE 9 28 JUNE
MOLONAI MAKALIO and LAWRENCEA MATEARIKI

Diving deep in their personal stories, Molonai Makalio and Lawrencea Mateariki openheartedly share their Polynesian culture and how dance has been a healing force in their life journey growing up in Western Sydney. Makalio reveals his inspiration behind his new work, *STEP*, at the intersection of hip hop, rugby and war dances. Mateariki explores how performing in *ENCOUNTER* directed by Emma Saunders led her to integrate her Cook Island dance practice with pedestrian dance.

EPISODE 10 19 AUGUST -
MELISSA RAMOS and CANDY PARK

In this final episode of FORMidables, we heard from two artists who have embraced dance film as a most inspiring creative practice, offering infinite possibilities of approaching dance as a subject of viewing. They offer a masterclass in “just doing it”, whilst giving precious advice to their younger selves and sharing striking insights in Western Sydney’s unique character. You’ll be left in no doubt that living a creative life is priceless.

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**ARTIST TALK WITH MERYL TANKARD AO,
HOSTED BY CAROLINE BAUM.**

1 December 2022
3 Danks Street, Waterloo Sydney

An intimate, behind the scenes memoir of Meryl Tankard’s career, in conversation with author and podcaster, Caroline Baum, illustrated by long term collaborator, Régis Lansac OAM. This artist talk included a sneak peek into the creation of a new Australian dance work, *Kairos*, commissioned and produced by FORM Dance Projects, to be presented in Sydney Festival 2023.

Meryl Tankard, undoubtedly one of Australia’s leading contemporary artists, is internationally acclaimed for the “emotional punch packed into her inventive choreography”. Having leapt to fame in Europe with Pina Bausch and the radical German Wuppertaler Tanztheater, as one of Bausch’s leading performers, Tankard returned to Australia to create a dance aesthetic all her own. Tankard has had a prolific career as a performer, choreographer and director, with an inspiring canon of work that has been a seminal influence in the development of Australian contemporary dance and dance theatre.

This was a fundraising event with proceeds going to FORM Dance Projects, making dance happen.

Image 1: Margie Bryant, Gene Sherman and Jennifer Cummins

Image 2: Meryl Tankard and Régis Lansac

Image 3: Mark Lillis, Thuba Ndibali and Ryuichi Fujimura

Image 4: Martin Del Amo and Vicki Van Hout
Photo: Mark Adams

APPENDIX ONE

APPENDIX ONE ARTIST LIST 2022

Abbey Kerr	Daisy Tame	Kate Dunn
Abbey Rowland-Jones	Dakota Dang	Katina Olsen
Abbie Farmilo	Daniel Riley	Katrina Sneath
Addison Wray	Danni Cook	Kay Armstrong
Adrian Malbasias	Danni Riley	Keira Brown
Aleisa Jelbart	David Capra	Keira Davies
Alex Craig	David Hewitt	Klara Solomon
Alex Frost	Dehlia Kawltla	Ky'Reisha Dickinson
Alex Thatcher	Denis Beaubois	Lachlan Hangan
Alfie Tait	Dia Chaker	Lachlan Reck
Allie Graham	Dom O'Donnell	Lara Chapman
Alvin Toh	Dr Julie-Anne Long	Lara Stone
Alyx Dennison	Ebony Constable	Laura Turner
Amalia-Grace Thompson	Eden Andrew	Lawrencea Mateariki
Amanda Brown	Eileen Jeon	Lexy Panetta
Amanda Marlian	Elena Kats-Chernin	Liam Berg
Amanda McGregor	Eliza Cooper	Lila Browning
Amari Leiva Urzua	Elizabeth Vowles	Lilli Sallustio
Andjelina Tosanovic	Eloise Stone	Lillian Fearn
Andrew Camilleri	Emalyn Knight	Lilly Jackson
Andrew Robinson	Emily Yali	Lily Chen
Anise Yi	Emma Saunders	Luce Carnevale
Annalise Read	Erika Barnier	Luci Young
Anneliese Kirk	Felicity Castagna	Lux Eterna
Anthea Doropoulos	Feras Shaheen	Lyla Jamieson
Ashleigh Barlin	Fiorella Bamba	Mackenna Wilson
Ava Hasler	Floriane Sevault	Maddie Loughhead
Avalon Thomas	Frankie Clarke	Maddison Bowyer
Avani Suradkar	Gabriela Green Olea	Maddison Fraser
Azure Schofield	Gabrielle Rose	Madeleine Backen
Bailey Pullen	Georgia Cranko	Madison Barkley
Becky Savage	Georgia Matheson	Maeve Pepper
Bedelia Lowrencecv	Georgina Rouse	Magnus Meagher
Ben Moss	Gerry Corcoran	Maisy Rose
Benedict Janeczko-Taylor	Harry Haggar	Martin Del Amo
Beth Lane	Heidrun Lohr	Mason Browne
Bob Scott	Hillary Do	Mason Peronchik
Bonnie Fan	Holly Durant	Matt Steffen
Brad Carter	Holly Faulds	Matthew Massaria
Brigid Gallagher	Hugo Poulet	Maxine Carlisle
Cadi McCarthy	Imogen Hill	Maxwell Dillion
Candy Park	Imogen Urwin	Maya Gavish
Carlie Shaw	Imogen Yang	Maya Rae Navarrete
Carlos Gomes	Isabel Estrella	Melanie Liertz
Carmen Yih	Isha Constable	Melia Tenace
Caroline Baum	Isla Cook	Melissa Ramos
Cassidy McDermott-Smith	Izabelle Kharaman	Meryl Tankard
Cassidy Thomson	Jack Tuckerman	Mia Cohen
Charisse Timermanis	Jade Howe	Mia Deane
Charlotte Chapman	James Pensini	Mia Kloiser-Jones
Charlotte Simmons	Jamie Winbank	Michelle Maxwell
Chloe Leong	Jane McKernan	Mikayla Osborne
Chloe Young	Jasmin Luna	Mitchell Christie
Chris Chua	Jedd Scott	Morgan Moroney
Chris Wade	Jessica Blackstock	Myiesha Bevan
Clair Wilkinson	Jodi Phillis	Naomi Hibberd
Claire Rodrigues	John Cooper	Naomi Reichardt
Clare Dark	John Judd	Narelle Benjamin
Clayton Jean	Jordan Predl	Nasim Patel
Cloé Fournier	Josh O'Connor	Natalie Hardy
Coby Boney Norris	Joshua Sherwood	Natalie Qaqish
Connie Fan	Julia Villaflor	Nicole Artsetos
Courtney Allerton	Julian Chan	Niki Verral
Cynthia Florek	Julie Ann Minaai	Nikolina Kuzet
Daisy Buttress	Juliet Andersen-Allen	Noah Stephenson

Omer Backley
Patrick Meessmann
Pepa Molina
Perdita Brydon
Quirine Van Nispen
Rachelle Silsby
Régis Lansac
Remy Rochester
Renata Commisso
Renee Coubrough
Rita El-Ghossein
Rob McCredie
Romain Hassanin
Rory Warne
Rose Amon
Liam Berg
Rose Turner
Roset Kiryacos
Ruby Ko
Ryuichi Fujimura
Sabina Muszynski
Taj Constable
Tara Robertson
Thuba Ndibali
Tim Newth
Tobhiyah Stone Feller
Verity Hampson
Veronique Bennett
Vishnu Arunasalam
Warren Foster
Vicki Van Hout
Zak Pidd
Zoe Farrar
Zoe Harris
Zoe Morgan

ARTISTS IN THE PROGRAM: 300

LETTERS OF SUPPORT PROVIDED
BY FORM TO ARTISTS: 22

APPENDIX TWO

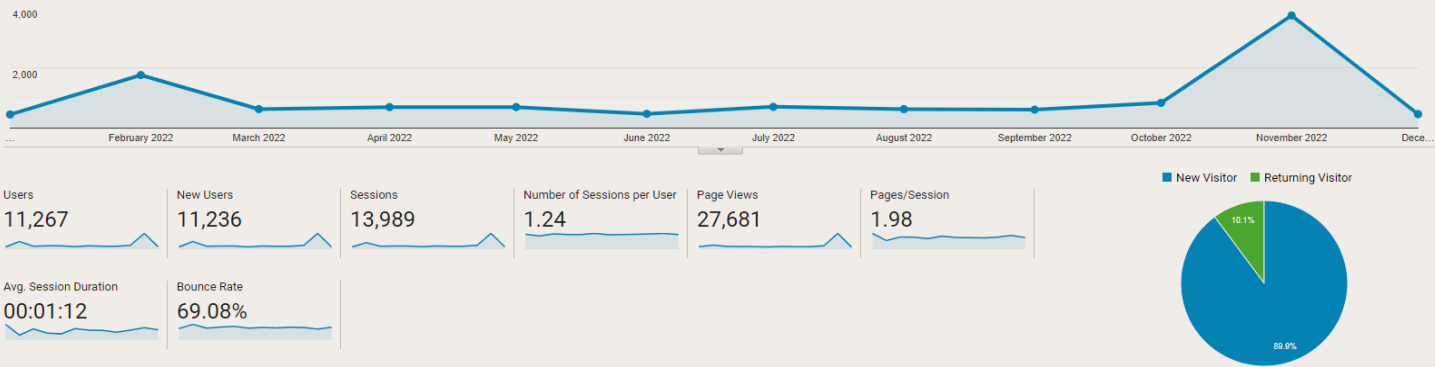
AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT 2022

Festival Audience	
March Dance Closing Party (screening WAH)	45
Encounter Sydney	1,112
Total 1	1,157
Theatre Audience	
Radical Transparency	187
Double Beat	248
Let's DANCE	183
Bat Lake	419
Sharp Short Dance	160
Body and Environment	29
Total 2	1226
Studio Audience	
Molonai showing	7
Create Space	7
An Evening with Meryl	49
Total 3	63
Total Live Audience	
2446	
Online Audience	
Sharp Short Dance Final	70
Sharp Short Dance Online votes	1478
Podcast download	93
Radical Transparency Livestream	60
Double Beat Screening	46
Bat Lake Livestream	53
Blog Views	860
Podcast downloads	152
Total Online Audience	2812
Education and Professional Development	
Choreographic Workshops	78
Learn the Repertoire Double Beat off site	13
Learn the Repertoire Double Beat in theatre	34
Learn the Repertoire Bat Lake in theatre	35
Learn the Repertoire Bat Lake off site	12
Sharp Short Dance participants	113
Artists in Residence	33
Kairos Development Dec	15
Kairos Development Jan	13
Encounter Syd Opera House	68
Total	417

Media Listings	
Radical Transparency	13
Double Beat	14
Let's Dance	17
Bat Lake	7
Total	51
Print Media	
Pulse Summer – Radical Transparency & Double Beat	97,000
Pulse Winter – Let's DANCE	97,000
Pulse Spring – Bat Lake	97,000
Riverside January - March Program	10,000
Riverside April - June Program	10,000
Riverside July - September Program	10,000
Riverside October - December Program	10,000
Total	331,000
Online Engagement	
FORM website visits	27,681
FORM facebook reach	105,491
FORM Twitter	552
FORM Enews audience	1,484
FORM Youtube views	321
FORM Vimeo views	565
FORM Instagram reach	42,647
Pulse Summer	55,000
Pulse Autumn	55,000
Pulse Winter	55,000
Pulse Spring	55,000
ENCOUNTER Sydney social media shares	
Bennelong Sydney	61,300
Sydney Youth Orchestras	2,275
Ausdance NSW	3,742
Sydney Festival	50,400
Sydney Opera House	168,000
Radio engagement	30,000
Total	684,458

APPENDIX THREE

WEBSITE TRAFFIC JAN – DEC 2022



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FINANCIAL REPORT 2022

THIS IS AN ABRIDGED VERSION OF FORM DANCE PROJECTS 2022 AUDIT. FULL VERSION IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT THE ACNC WEBSITE.

Supplied by Alex Whitehead BCom LLB CPA
Certified Practising Accountant
ABN 74 912 871 902

DETAILED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 2022

Income	2022	2021
Box Office Ticket Sales	84,979	70,408
Grants -government		
Create NSW	185,000	235,000
JobKeeper		7,600
Dept Arts, Sport & Recreation	198,566	26,545
Parramatta City Council	2,740	16,260
Jobsaver NSW		23,304
Grants -non-government		
Crown Resorts Foundation	50,000	50,000
Packer Family Foundation	50,000	50,000
Interest Received	678	23
Other	3,490	2,956
Donations & Gifts	18,602	0
Total Income	594,055	482,096
Expenses		
Audit	2,600	1,500
Production Expenses	303,219	199,078
Salaries and on-costs	185,000	185,000
Other	0	33,143
Total expenses	555,180	476,071
Profit for the year	38,875	6,025

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 2022

	2022	2021
Retained surplus at the beginning of the financial year	117,595	111,570
Profit for the year	38,875	6,025
Retained surplus at the end of the financial year	156,470	117,595

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER, 2022

	2022	2021
Cash	379,281	564,074
Receivables	0	8,799
Prepaid expenses	300	341
Total Assets	379,581	573,214
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	62,380	61,097
Provision for employee entitlements	18,092	22,079
Grants received in advance	134,889	362,793
Total Current Liabilities	215,361	445,969
Non-Current Liabilities		
Provision for employee entitlements	7,750	9,650
Total Non-Current Liabilities	7,750	9,650
Total Liabilities	223,111	455,619
Net Assets	156,470	117,595
Equity	156,470	117,595
Retained surplus	156,470	117,595
Total Equity	156,470	117,595

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 2022

	2022	2021
Cashflows from operating activites		
Interest received	678	23
Fees and other income received	374,272	669,564
Payments to suppliers and employees	(559,743)	(442,641)
Net cash provided /(used)by operating activites	(184,793)	226,940
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(184,793)	226,940
Cash at the beginning financial year	564,074	337,128
Cash at end financial year	379,281	564,074
Total Current Liabilities	215,361	445,969
Reconciliation of Net cash used/(provided) by operating activitest		
Profit for the year		
Interest received	38,875	6,025
Changes in operating assets and liabilities		
Decrease/(Increase) in trade debtors	8,799	(8,029)
Decrease in prepaid expenses	41	4,644
Increase in trade creditors	1,283	28,623
Decrease/(Increase) in provision for employee entitlements	(5,887)	163
Decrease/(Increase) in grants receivd in advance	(227,904)	195,520
Net cash provided/(used) by operating activites	(184,793)	226,946

PARTNERS, SUPPORTERS & SPONSORS

PRINCIPAL PARTNERS



FORM Dance Projects Incorporated is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW, and the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund—an Australian Government initiative.

PARTNERS



DESIGN

PR AGENCY

WEBSITE DESIGNER

FORM DANCE PROJECTS WORKS WITH

ACE (Arts and Cultural Exchange)
Ausdance NSW
French Embassy in Australia
Brand X
Bundanon Trust
Critical Path
3 Danks
Dancehouse
DirtyFeet
Diversity Arts Australia
FLING Physical Theatre
March Dance

MARCS Institute for Brain,
Behaviour and Development, Western
Sydney University
National Aboriginal Islander Skills
Development Association
Parramatta Artists' Studios
ReadyMade Works
Sydney Dance Company
Sydney Opera House
WE ARE HERE Company
Western Sydney Youth Orchestra
Western Sydney Business Chamber

SPONSORS

Academy of Music and
Performing Arts
Ausdance NSW
Austinmer Dance Theatre
Australian Film Television
and Radio School
Australian Dance Theatre
Bloch
Busy at Work

Catapult Dance
Choreographic Hub
Cowra Civic Centre
Dance Cinema
DirtyFeet
DUTI Dance Studios
Sydney Dance Company

The FORM Team

An Evening with Meryl Tankard
Artist Talk, Naomi Hibberd,
Annette McLernon, Sally Ebert
and Agnes Michelet.

Photo: Mark Adams



Back Cover Image: Amari Leiva
Urzua, Photo: Dom O'Donnell

FORM DANCE PROJECTS INCORPORATED

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DANCE PROJECTS

