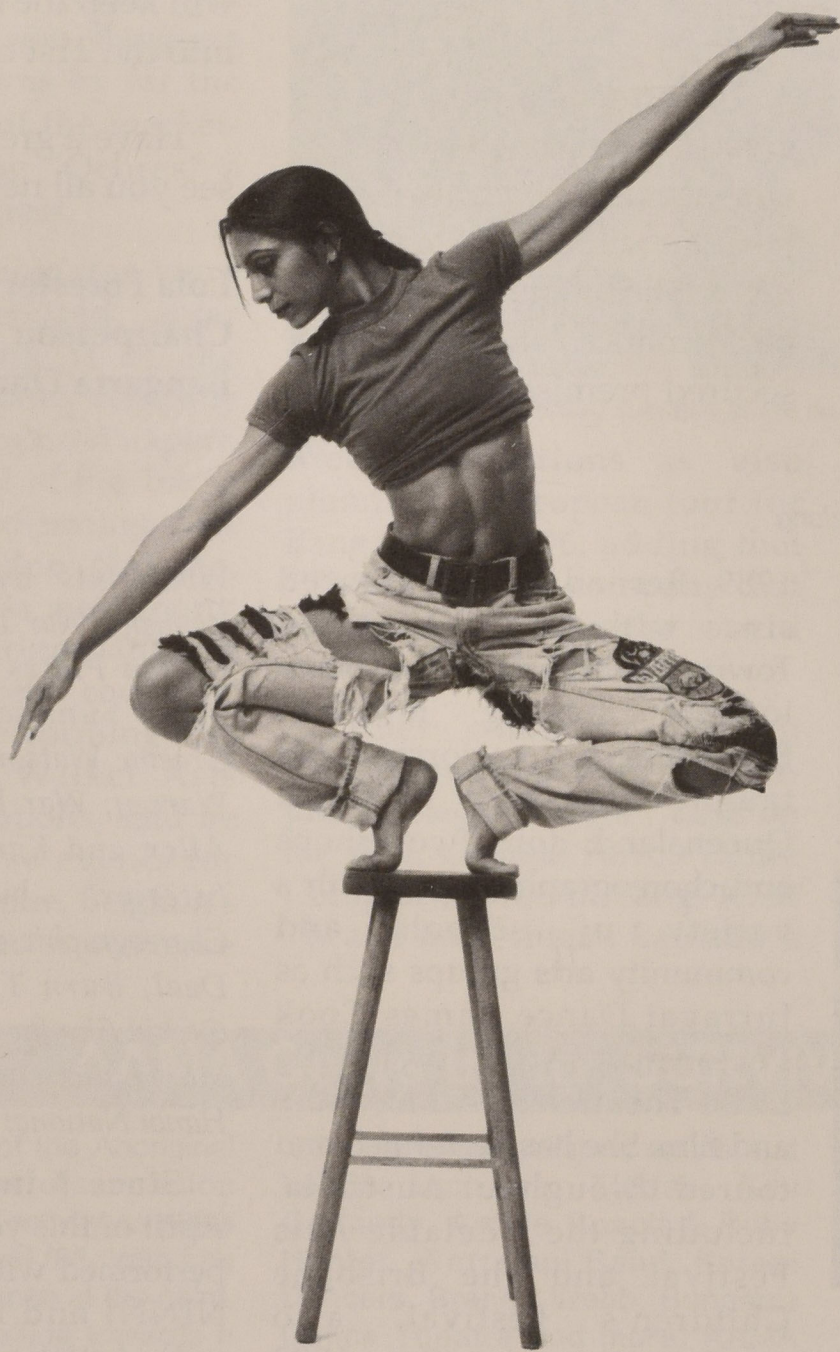
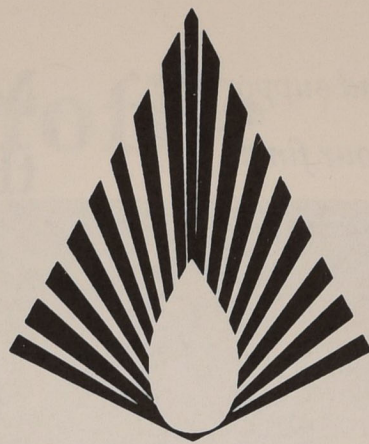


BANGARRA

dance theatre



Newsletter No. 3

1994

Dear friends and supporters,
Welcome to our final
newsletter for 1994. Another
year is over and we are gearing
up for a bigger and better 1995.
Our dancers have already fled
the city on a well earned break
preparing themselves to come
back next year at a fast and
furious pace. We would like to
thank you for your support
during the year and look forward
to your continued association in
the new year.

Introducing...

Assistant Artistic Director Bernadette Walong



Joining Bangarra as Assistant Artistic Director is Bernadette Walong.

Bernadette is from Oakey, Queensland. She joined NAISDA in 1985 (National Aboriginal Islander Skills Development Association), graduating after five years in

Message from the chairperson

Another successful year has passed not without some difficulties particularly in regards to our funding situation. In order to give a future to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture within the dance world, we need the required level of financial support from both the government and private sectors.

Performances have been greatly appreciated by all who see us. Hopefully next year we will be able to give the public bigger and better performances once we have secured premises for both

1989. Bernadette has danced since with Dance North in Townsville and is, to date, their longest serving member. Bernadette has performed and taught extensively in North Queensland, doing workshops and choreographic work with a variety of schools and community arts groups such as Jurragai Dance, James Cook Performing Arts, Townsville Little Theatre & TAIMA radio and film. She has performed and toured throughout Australia, including the Adelaide Arts Festival and the Brisbane Children's Festival, also participating in the 1993 inaugural Green Mill Project in Melbourne.

Internationally Bernadette has toured to Shanghai, Japan, Hong Kong, New Guinea and Vietnam. Bernadette has performed in the following works: *Shoulder High in Shadow* by Sue Healey;

administration and production. With the support from the NSW Ministry for the Arts part of this vision will be realised.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank: funding bodies, sponsors, board members, the hard workers in administration who work under such extremities and lastly the artistic team and dancers who will keep the flame burning into the 21st century.

Have a great holiday and see you all next year.

Lola Forester
Chairperson
Bangarra Dance Theatre.

Windprints by Nannette Hassell; *Women's War Too, Desert Magic & Broken Places* by Cheryl Stock; *Lunar Sunrise & World Cafe* by Graeme Watson; *Couch* by Leigh Warren; *War Dance* by Richard Allen and Karen Pearlman and *Interior* by Csaba Buday. Choreographic credits include: *Raw Deal, Burn This Territory* and *Orchid Sky* for Dance North which toured Vietnam and *Hello for the Hanoi National Dance School*.

Since joining Bangarra in April of this year Bernadette has performed with the company in NINNI and has collaborated with Artistic Director Stephen Page to create *OCHRES*, which will be presented in 1995.

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Raising Bangarra's Profile

The Australia Council's first International Arts Market was truly a success, with many overseas and regional delegates making plans to tour Australian theatre and dance companies.

The marketplace, held over a four day period was organised around the National Festival of Australian Theatre in Canberra with the aim to showcase Australian dance and theatre companies to national and international buyers. Bangarra Dance Theatre was by far the biggest success of the marketplace performing "Ochres" a new work in progress.

The Asian delegates were more than excited over Bangarra, saying it is the flagship contemporary company and the perfect cultural export. Secretary General of the Tokyo International Performing Arts Festival Mr Tadao Nakane, plans to organise a major north Asian tour featuring Bangarra and taking in several countries. John Killacky, performing arts curator for the Walker Arts Centre in Minneapolis, said he hopes to organise events for Bangarra at his centre. Belgium's Gie Baguette, director of France



Photo by Elaine Kitchner

Bangarra an outstanding success at the Australia Council's performing arts market .

Brod Productions is also planning a European tour for Bangarra in 1996, adding that "This is really a company that can tour all over the world because it's so beautiful."

Other companies which proved popular with marketplace delegates were , Legs on the Wall, Chrissie Parrott Dance Company, William Yang, REM Theatre and Ningali Lawford a

young Aboriginal artist form Western Australia, who presented a work based on her life, produced by Deckchair Theatre.

The Australia Council plans to increase it's funding for international touring from \$1 million to \$2 million by 1997 and believes it's \$40,000 subsidy of the Arts Market has paid off.

AAMA Gears up for SURVIVAL '95

Sydney's office of the Aboriginal Arts Management Association (AAMA) is a hive of activity as plans are made for **Survival '95**. With Lee Madden and Toni Janke at the helm, preparations are sailing towards a storm of cultural activity on January 26.

AAMA who operates on behalf of all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander artists across all artforms will host the fourth annual festival in collaboration with the La-Perouse Koori community at Yarra Bay Oval, La-Perouse. With 20,000 Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people expected on the day. The line up for Survival

'95 includes established artists and bands such as: Tiddas, Kev Carmody, Archie Roach & Ruby Hunter ,Warrumpi Band, Koreal Dancers, Brenda Webb, Bangarra Dance Theatre and more. AAMA also aims to take this opportunity to promote new and rising talent.

Among those invited to perform on "Invasion Day" is internationally acclaimed Yothu Yindi. Event co-ordinator Lee Madden believes: "Next year's festival promises to be bigger and better than that of previous years and we hope everyone will come along and help celebrate this important community

event." With the growing need to support Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander artists a fee has been introduced for Survival '95 to ensure that this important community event continues to happen every year.

Entrance fee \$10 Adults, \$7 Concession, children under 12 free. Also on offer will be stalls selling traditional foods, arts and crafts, books, CDs, t-shirts and much more. Survival '95 looks like the place to be.

**For further information contact
AAMA - Ph: (02) 281 2144.**

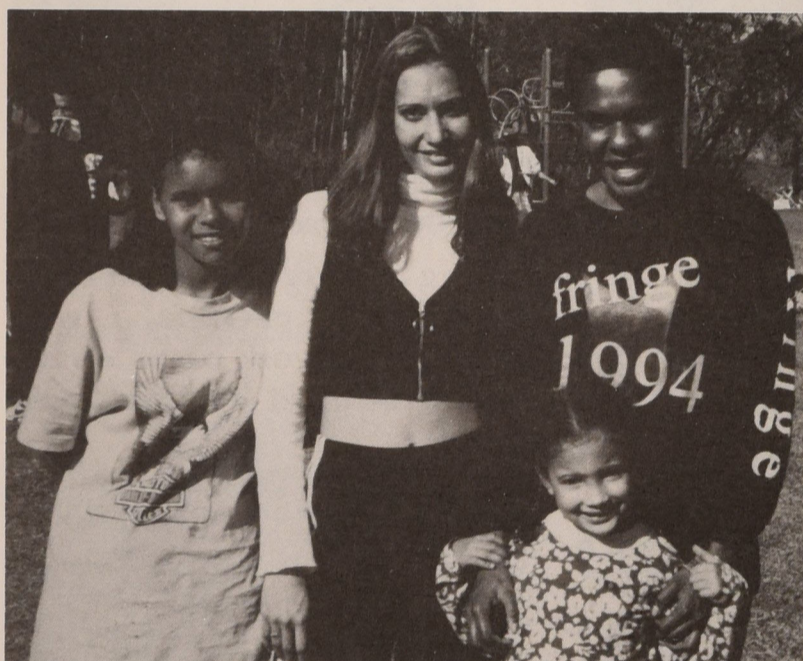
Tyerabarrbowaryaou II

I shall never become a white man.

This exciting exhibition curated by Fiona Foley & Djon Mundine opened at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney July 26 direct from the 1994 Havana Biennial, Cuba. Bangarra was invited to participate in the exhibition opening with a performance of traditional dance and a contemporary social issue piece relating to deaths in custody.

Tyerabarrbowaryaou II included

works by Ian Abdulla, Gordon Bennet, Destiny Deacon, Devin Gilbert, Ron Hurley, Audrey Kngwarreye, Hazel Kngwarreye, Katie Kngwarreye, Lily Kngwarreye, Lucy Kngwarreye, Michelle Kngwarreye, Tommy McRae, Ginger Riley Munduwalawala, Marrnyula Munungurr, Paddy Fordham Wainburranga and Jimmy Wululu.



Enjoying DOCS Family Picnic Day: (l to r) Marcia Carter, Brenda Webb, Glenda Aragu & Tamika Walker.



Luke Carroll and Lama Ghee at the Family Picnic Day.

1994 Triple M

Quit Rock Eisteddfod

GRAND FINALS

Bangarra's Artistic Director Stephen Page was a guest judge at the 1994 Triple M Rock Eisteddfod held at the Sydney Entertainment Centre on August 25 & 26. Stephen was very impressed with the creative talents of all those students who participated in this mammoth event, giving them an insight into the performing arts industry.

DOCS Family Picnic Day

Family Picnic Day The NSW Metro North Department of Community Services held their first annual picnic for at Nurragingy Recreation Area Doonside on July 6. The picnic invited Koori Kids in Care (Aboriginal children living in refuges, foster care & group homes) and their carers to enjoy a day of festivities with celebrities, performers and staff from the Dept of Community Services.

A sausage sizzle was in full swing to feed the hungry masses, whilst the entertainment line up of dancers and singers entertained the crowd. Bangarra performed a traditional dance segment along with other performers: Christine Anu & Malil, Brenda Webb, Sisterhood and more. Also on hand to chat and sign autographs were Luke Carroll, who had just won a role in the "Man from Snowy River 3", Gordon Tallis- St George footballer, Aaron Pederson- Presenter ABC Blackout, Wesley Patten & Lisa Kinchela- actors.

Aboriginal liaison officer Karen Salisbury and Constable Julie Nicholls of Mt Druitt local police were kept busy fingerprinting children and answering many questions as children climbed in and out of their van. To end the day a cake cutting ceremony was performed by the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs the Hon. Jim Longly. The day proved to be a great success, with all those present eager to see this event happen every year.

HAPPENED

NAMBUNDAH

Belvior Street Theatre presented for the second year running Nambundah, a national festival of indigenous spirit, community and culture from September 26 to October 9. This year festival events were held in and around the South Sydney community, workshops were held at both Eora Performing Arts College and The Settlement, with performances staged at Belvoir Street Theatre. The festival covered a wide variety of events including writers forums, plays featuring our young actors and playwrights, films selected from The Australian Film Commission and workshops in music, drama, dance, traditional food, culture and spirituality.

Festival highlights to name a few were: Women's Song which included Tiddas, Toni Janke, Deborah Cheetham and Brenda Webb; "LaidBack" featuring

Archie Roach & Ruby Hunter; and Bangarra performing a new work in progress "Ochres." Festival Artistic Director Lydia Miller offered Bangarra an extra night to perform "Ochres" adding, "This is an important work which needs to be seen." Audiences were very eager to see Bangarra's new work, resulting in the last night of "Ochres" selling out early in the day. Another festival highlight was the Koori Cabaret involving many indigenous artists both established and new, Bangarra were special guests in the cabaret entertaining audiences with a journey back to the 70's Disco era. Tina Turner and the Ikettes proving to be the hit of the night, leaving audiences calling for encore after encore. Nambundah promises to be bigger and better next year, truly a national festival not to be missed.

"Mo Award"

Nominated at this year's 19th Annual "MO" in the category of Dance Performer of the Year 1993 were Bangarra's Artistic Director Stephen Page and principal dancer Russell Page.

The Australian Entertainment "MO" Awards acknowledge excellence in all fields of live entertainment in Australia. The "MO" statuettes are awarded annually, honouring the highest achievements in the entertainment industry during the previous year. Congratulations to Stephen Page who was the proud recipient of the Gold "MO" Award for Dance Performer of the Year.



Stephen Page with his mother Doreen after receiving his Mo Award for Dance Performer of the Year.

Events featuring BANGARRA

Dreamtime Convention staged by the Australian Tourist Commission in Alice Springs.

39th Asia Pacific Film Festival 1994

Bangarra performed at the Welcome Dinner at the Opera House and at the Gala Awards at the State Theatre.

September Vogue feature story and one page photo on Bangarra.

Ch 7 The Times Oct 5, late night current affairs program featuring a story on Nambundah Festival with footage of Bangarra rehearsing "Ochres" and performing in the Koori Cabaret.

Creative Nation launch of the governments' cultural policy document at the National Gallery in Canberra. Bangarra performing a piece from "Ochres".

Ch 7 Denton Show

Nov 3, featuring Bangarra as special guests performing a segment from "Ochres" and a country & western improvisation piece.



BANGARRA *Friends Mystery Picnic*

One hundred and seventy friends and their guests joined us for the Mystery Picnic on Shark Island on Sunday 30th October.

The day was an outstanding success. It grew out of an idea of the Friends

Committee to create an event which would reflect the family nature of Bangarra and provide an opportunity for Friends, their families and guests to demonstrate their support for Bangarra and to meet and mix with the dancers, the staff and their families. It was a very collaborative event: the organisation of the day being carried out by the Friends Committee and the cultural entertainment provided by the dancers.

Both children and adults participated with the dancers in ochre painting and learning traditional dances. Then they competed side by side in the top competition of the day - the Dancers' Olympics!

The most frequently heard sound all day was laughter - punctuated by comments of appreciation on the wonderful barbecue and food prepared by Pablo and his team.

As a result of the success of the day - and by popular request, we will be organising a similar event in February next year. Be sure to book early so you won't miss out.

Finally we would like to invite all those who attended the picnic and showed their support for Bangarra to formalise that

support by joining the Friends and the Bangarra family in 1995.



Children enjoying the sun and entertainment at The Mystery Picnic



Some of Bangarra Friends committee members enjoying the day. l-r: Zoe Wheat, Jeanette Cheung, Bangarra Chairperson Lola Forester, Dawn Willis & Robyn Heras.

Thank you to the following people:

Committee members:

Dawn Willis, Robyn Heras, Christine Fraser, Zoe Wheat, Charlotte & Steve Smedley, Andrew Partos and Elise Wawrinetz.

Raffle Prizes were donated courtesy of Robyn & Pablo Heras and Charlotte & Steve Smedley.

Make a Contribution to Australia's Future

Bangarra Dance Theatre is a unique company who create and produce innovative contemporary theatre works of excellence. In order to continue to produce such works we need your support. Cash donations enable us to build and develop our company and provide artistic opportunities for young indigenous artists.

Your donation is Tax Deductible.

Individual donations **DO** matter.

You may care to make a cash donation now or provide for us in the future. Your bequest to us will ensure that the vital work we do continues with the future of our country for many years to come.

Bequests can be made in the following way :

1. **SPECIFIC SUMS**

The words " I give \$..... to" need to be added to your Will.

2. **PROPORTION OF ESTATE**

The words " I give % of my estate to" need to be added to your Will.

Talk to your solicitor. Your solicitor is there to help you make a clear, concise will, which is easily located and causes no misunderstandings.

Talk to us. Especially if you would like your bequest to be used for a specific program or purpose.

What They Did.....

EVEREST YORK SEYMOUR, a theatre and music lover, left the residue of his substantial estate for the construction and purchase in Sydney of a building to serve as a centre for musical and dramatic arts. It was used to build the Seymour Centre at the University of Sydney.

LISSA BLACK , who loved music and ballet, established in her will an annual award for a member of The Australian Ballet, selected by the company's Artistic Director, to receive overseas ballet tuition or expenses.

Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, Dr, Other -----

Address: -----

Phone: (Bus.) _____ (Home) _____

I would like further information on making a bequest to Bangarra Dance Theatre.

I would like to discuss a specific bequest to Bangarra Dance Theatre.

Company News

Congratulations Illona Tim and Lama Pinau Ghee on the birth of their baby daughter Loreena Anai born on August 3 and to Sean Choolburra and Paula Mailing on the birth of their baby daughter Kalkani born on August 20.

Also expecting babies in the new year are Monica Stevens and Gina Rings who are on maternity leave from the company.

Bangarra is searching for a new home...

Perhaps you can assist us in our search, we are looking for premises within the inner city area which will include rehearsal, production and administration space. We would all like to be in the one building. Any suggestions can be forwarded to our offices.

Farewell

A dinner was held at "La Vina" South American restaurant on 7th October to thank and farewell Robin Bryant for his contribution to Bangarra as founding General Manager. Staff and directors gave Robin a spirited send off with best wishes for the future. A presentation of a new hat called "The Legend" was added to Rob's extensive Akubra collection.

Christmas Break

Our offices will be closed during the Christmas period, while staff put their feet up for a well earned break. The office will be open again for business in the new year on January 9. However our true and trusted answering machine will be all set up and ready to take any messages during this time.

Apra Award

Bangarra's musical director David Page was nominated in the 1994 Australasian Performing Rights Association awards in the category of Most Performed Television Theme or Score, for the theme song - ABC Heartland series. These awards recognise the music industry's leading composers and songwriters.

Next Issue...

We'll introduce to you our new General Manager and new dancers. A brief preview of what we've got planned for '95 and much more.

To all our friends, supporters, sponsors, colleagues, company members and directors Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all at Bangarra.

Bangarra Friends' Application Form

Complete the details below and return to:

Bangarra Friends
PO BOX 875
STRAWBERRY HILLS NSW 2012

I am an existing Friend signing up a new member

Name:

Membership No:

OR

I would like to become a new Friend

Membership is valid for one year from the date of joining. Please select your membership choice and indicate all names in Dual and Family memberships. One membership will be issued in each name.

Single — \$25

Dual Membership — \$40

Family/Household (4 people) — \$60

Concession (Students/Pensioners) * — \$15

Organisation membership — \$100

Life membership — \$1,000

Corporate membership — \$2,000

* Student/Pensioner No:

Name 1:

Name 2:

Name 3:

Name 4:

Address:

Postcode:

Phone(h): Business:

Enclosed is my cheque or money order for \$.....

OR

Please credit my:

Bankcard Mastercard

Visa Amex

Card Number: _____

Expiry date:/.....

Signature:

Name of Card Holder:



This project has been made possible with assistance from the New South Wales Government through the Ministry for the Arts



Principal sponsor



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