

#### CARRIAGEWORKS

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**TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS** Collier Charitable Fund, Copyright Agency Fund, Crown Resorts Foundation, Goethe Institut, Gordon Darling Foundation, James N Kirby Foundation, Packer Family Foundation

Carriageworks also thanks our generous donors under \$1,500 for their inspiring and ongoing support.



CARRIAGEWORKS AND BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE PRESENT

# ONES COUNTRY

THE SPINE OF OUR STORIES

CARRIAGEWORKS

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# ONES COUNTRY

## THE SPINE OF OUR STORIES

24 NOV - 2 DEC

### ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Stephen Page

### CHOREOGRAPHY

Djakapurra Munyarryun with Stephen Page and the Bangarra ensemble – Ngathu

Elma Kris and Nicola Sabatino – Whistler

Kaine Sultan-Babij – Place

ORIGINAL MUSIC Steve Francis

SET DESIGN Jacob Nash

COSTUME DESIGN Jennifer Irwin

LIGHTING DESIGN Matt Cox

### INTRODUCTION

Bangarra's relationships with Indigenous communities are the heart of their practice, their repertoire is created on Country and stories gathered from community Elders. Located on Gadigal land, Carriageworks' Indigenous history and place is central to our Artistic Program and we are proud to welcome back our partner Bangarra in 2017 with a triple bill of new works and contemporary Australian stories.

I would like to thank and congratulate Artistic Director Stephen Page and each of the choreographic talents of Bangarra dancers Elma Kris & Nicola Sabatino (Whistler); Kaine Sultan-Babij (Place); and Bangarra Foundation Member and Yolngu songman Djakapurra Munyarryun (Ngathu).

Carriageworks is able to present ONES COUNTRY – the spine of our stories with the ongoing support of the NSW Government through Create NSW and the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, and I would like to thank them for their ongoing support.

### LISA HAVILAH

DIRECTOR, CARRIAGEWORKS

Bangarra is proud to present our second Carriageworks season ONES COUNTRY – the spine of our stories, three brand-new works by dancers Elma Kris and Nicola Sabatino, Kaine Sultan-Babij, and Bangarra foundation member Djakapurra Munyarryun. These pieces tell original, authentic Australian stories of the creators' heritage and their land, traversing the myths of North East Arnhem Land, the azure waters of the Torres Strait Islands, and the concrete jungle of urban life.

Djakapurra Munyarryun is a respected Yolngu songman from Dhalinybuy in North East Arnhem Land. He has featured in, and helped create, many of Bangarra's productions as a dancer, cultural consultant and teacher, songman and yidaki player, but **Ngathu** is his first choreographic work for the Company. Ngathu is inspired by the ngathu (cycad) nut, which only appears for a fleeting moment before the wet season.

**Place** is dancer Kaine Sultan-Babij's first choreographic work for Bangarra. Grounded by his clan, his heritage, and his family totem of the caterpillar, he takes us to an urban Australian setting. In the abstract language of dance, he draws on his personal experience to explore what it means to be black and gay in today's world when you're displaced from your language and culture.

Bangarra dancers and proud Torres Strait Islander women Elma Kris and Nicola Sabatino have together created **Whistler**, a story inspired by the sacred call of the dugong and its significance to their people. Whistler is Nicola's choreographic debut for the company, while Elma has previously created two works for Bangarra: Emeret Lu (2007, True Stories) and About (2011, Belong).

Bangarra's creative team have brought these stories to life with music by Steve Francis, sets by Jacob Nash, costumes by Jennifer Irwin, and lighting design by Matt Cox.

ONES COUNTRY nurtures established and emerging voices from the Bangarra family, adding a richness to our Australian history. This season would not be possible without support from the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, the NSW Government through Create NSW, our major corporate partners BAI Communications, Boral and Lendlease, our official airline Qantas, and the many individuals who believe in our mission.

### STEPHEN PAGE

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE

### PHILIPPE MAGID

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE

### BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE

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Executive Director Philippe Magid

Executive Administrator Laura Hough

Head of Design Jacob Nash

Rehearsal Director Anton

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Production Manager Kayne Johnson

Company Manager Lachlan Bell

Stage Manager Matthew Schubach

Head of Wardrobe Monica Smith

Head Electrician Steve Hendy

David Page Music Fellowship Tristan Field

Production Trainee Maddison Paluch

**BANGARRA DANCE ENSEMBLE** Elma Kris, Deborah Brown, Waangenga Blanco, Tara Gower, Leonard Mickelo, Daniel Riley, Jasmin Sheppard, Tara Robertson, Kaine Sultan-Babij, Luke Currie-Richardson, Beau Dean Riley Smith, Nicola Sabatino, Rikki Mason, Yolanda Lowatta, Rika Hamaguchi, Tyrel Dulvarie, Glory Tuohy-Daniell, Baden Hitchcock, Ryan Pearson

### BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE BOARD

Chair Michael McDaniel

Deputy Chair Robynne Quiggin

Board Members Nicky Lester, Anna Bligh AC, Teresa Handicott, Nicola Kaldor, Stephen Page, Gregory Phillips, Rajiv Viswanathan, Tom Mosby, Ngiare Brown

**DONORS** In consultation with Wiradjuri Elders, Bangarra has taken inspiration from the word 'Bangarra' – a Wiradjuri word meaning 'to make fire' – to describe our levels of donor support. This use of Wiradjuri language is part of Bangarra's ongoing commitment to the survival of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.

Bangarra would like to thank the following patrons for their generous support of the company:

**DHULUBANG SPIRIT (PLANNED GIVING)** Anonymous, Margo Garnon Williams, Nicola Kaldor, Keith and Marguerite Mobbs, Lynn Ralph, Anne Roussac-Hayne, Neil Roussac, Stephen Scrogings

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**TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS** Annamila, The Balnaves Foundation, Colonial Foundation, Crown Resorts Foundation, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, Packer Family Foundation, The Sherry-Hogan Foundation, Tim Fairfax Family Foundation

Bangarra also thanks the many generous donors of less than \$5,000 who support our vision. \*Correct at 25 October 2017