

2018 REGIONAL TOUR TO NSW, QLD AND THE NT

Civic Theatre Newcastle
9 - 10 February

Dubbo Regional Theatre and
Convention Centre
Theatre 14 February

Empire Theatre Toowoomba
17 February

The Arts Centre Gold Coast
23 - 24 February

Rockhampton Regional Council
28 February

Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre
3 March

Araluen Arts Centre Alice Springs
9 - 10 March

ABOUT BANGARRA

Bangarra is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation and one of Australia's leading performing arts companies, widely acclaimed nationally and around the world for our powerful dancing, distinctive theatrical voice and utterly unique soundscapes, music and design.

Led by Artistic Director Stephen Page, our dance technique is forged from over 65,000 years of culture, embodied with contemporary movement. The company's dancers are dynamic artists who represent the pinnacle of Australian dance.

Our relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are the heart of Bangarra, with our repertoire created on Country and stories gathered from respected community Elders. It's this inherent connection to our land and people that makes us unique and enjoyed by audiences from remote Australian regional centres to international cities such as Paris, New York and Tokyo.

Bangarra Dance Theatre would like to pay respect and acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather. Bangarra also wishes to acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples whose customs and cultures inspire our work.

REGIONAL TOURING

Regional touring is a crucial part of the company's annual calendar, connecting Bangarra with the communities that inspire its stories, as well as exposing new audiences to a positive representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

BANGARRA EXECUTIVE





Artistic Director Stephen Page

Executive Director Philippe Magid

BANGARRA DANCE ENSEMBLE

Elma Kris
Waangenga Blanco
Tara Gower
Daniel Riley
Jasmin Sheppard
Tara Robertson
Kaïne Sultan-Babij
Luke Currie-Richardson
Beau Dean Riley Smith
Rikki Mason
Yolanda Lowatta
Rika Hamaguchi
Tyrel Dulvarie
Glory Tuohy-Daniell
Baden Hitchcock
Ryan Pearson
Lillian Banks
Brad Smith

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BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE



Bangarra's 2018 regional tour has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body, and the NSW Government through Create NSW.

Regional
Touring Partner

Official Airline



bangarra
DANCE THEATRE

**A NOTE FROM OUR
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR STEPHEN PAGE
& EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PHILIPPE MAGID**

Regional touring is an intrinsic part of the company's annual calendar and this year we will be visiting regional centres across New South Wales, Queensland and the Northern Territory. We are proud that as part of our 2018 program we are able to return the three unique dance experiences, which make up **OUR land people stories**, to the communities that inspired them: Dharug Country, Wiradjuri Country and Yolngu Country.

We couldn't deliver this tour without the support we receive from the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, the NSW Government through Create NSW and our Regional Touring Partner, Boral – thank you.

OUR land people stories is inspired by the culture and history embedded in the land, and in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' connection to Country. We are humbled to be entrusted by those communities to tell these stories, and we acknowledge the implicit responsibility within that.

The three works share a narrative thread. Whether it is Nyapanyapa's radical departure from Dreaming narratives in Yolngu painting traditions, the whitewashed legacy of Governor Macquarie, who called for the massacre of the local Dharug people at Appin, or in the complexities of rekindling family connections as told through a Wiradjuri kinship story, all three hold to account and analyse the impact of history, whilst simultaneously providing hope for the future in their exploration of resistance, survival and regeneration.

As part of our commitment to nurturing and developing the next generation of Aboriginal and Torres Straits storytellers and cultural leaders, **OUR land people stories** features the work of three emerging choreographers: Jasmin Sheppard, Daniel Riley and Beau Dean Riley Smith.

As always, we to pay homage to and acknowledge David Page, whose beautiful score we will be dancing to in **Macq**, and whose spirit will always continue to resonate within us all.

We hope you enjoy the journey.

OUR LAND PEOPLE STORIES

Regional touring is an inspiring and invigorating highlight on Bangarra's 2018 calendar and we are proud to visit Newcastle, Dubbo, Toowoomba, Gold Coast, Rockhampton, Mackay and Alice Springs.

This ambitious regional tour follows the highly acclaimed world premiere season of **OUR land people stories** in 2016. The triple bill performance features three personal works, by four choreographers.

Nyapanyapa, a work by Bangarra Artistic Director Stephen Page, is inspired by the beautifully textured painting of Yirrkala artist Nyapanyapa Yunupingu. Through dance, **Nyapanyapa** illuminates and celebrates the artist's incredible creative gifts and brings her joyful work to a new audience.

Stephen Page said: "Nyapanyapa Yunupingu is an inspiration. She is a proud Yolngu woman from the Gumatj clan of North East Arnhem Land, a strong figure in her community who creates her art simply because it's in her blood.

"Nyapanyapa's works give endless joy to all. Each time I visit Yirrkala, I am drawn to her energy, her spirit. Thank you to Nyapanyapa for the incredible artistic gifts she shares so freely with the world."

Dancer Jasmin Sheppard searches for the true history of Sydney through **Macq**, examining the two sides to Governor Macquarie. The work peels back the layers of the man and the delves into the impact of his actions on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, past and present.

Jasmin Sheppard said: "So much of Sydney is named for Lachlan Macquarie, but what legacy has the darker side of his governance left for us all?"

"The seed for **Macq** started when I first became aware of the 1816 massacre at Appin. Macquarie's diary entries uncover his frantic attempt to keep Aboriginal people aware of their boundaries, and the drastic measures he took to regain control. In shared ownership of this history lies true reconciliation."

Dancers and cousins, Beau Dean Riley Smith and Daniel Riley, explore the kinship systems of Wiradjuri country in Dubbo, New South Wales in their work **Miyagan**. An enriching journey of discovery, this work explores the kinship and bonds the Wiradjuri people share with the land and the resilience of their lineage.

Beau Dean Riley Smith and Daniel Riley on Miyagan said: "We are Indigenous men from the Wiradjuri nation, Rileys, cousins, from Western New South Wales. **Miyagan** came from wanting to tell a Wiradjuri story, and reconnect with our shared culture and heritage – it is narrated by the Wiradjuri kinship system.

"We explored this connection with the guidance of Aunty Di and Aunty Lyn, learning of the matrilineal totemic system, which consists of five levels: Nation, Moiety, Clan, Family and Individual. Kinship, and the bonds we all share as Indigenous people of this land, are what connects us to land, to each other and to our cultural responsibilities. There is nothing more valuable than miyagan, without kinship and family there is no life."

CREDITS

Macq

Choreography Jasmin Sheppard

Miyagan

Choreography Beau Dean Riley Smith and Daniel Riley

Nyapanyapa

Choreography Stephen Page

Macq

Music David Page

Miyagan

Music Paul Mac

Nyapanyapa

Music Steve Francis

Set Design

Jacob Nash

Costume Design

Jennifer Irwin

Lighting Design

Matt Cox

Photography: Edward Mulvihill

