

Bangarra Dance Theatre

Biography

One of the most exciting performing arts companies in Australia today is Bangarra Dance Theatre. Formed in 1989, the meteoric rise of this company has seen it lauded by audiences and critics alike. Bangarra is something special. Its artists have come together from all over Australia to form a unique contemporary clan - a tribe that embraces both of Australia's Indigenous peoples. They have developed a new language through which contemporary urban Aboriginal people can express themselves, their ideas and their spirits - a language of dance, music and song. Drawing on the traditional dances and culture of the Yirrkala community in the remote area of Arnhemland in the north of Australia, under the artistic direction of Stephen Page, Bangarra has fused stories and songs as timeless as the land from which they are drawn with the contemporary experiences and realities of the Aboriginal and Islander people who have made the cities their home. From this fusion has emerged an electrifying new style, completely innovative, truly Australian - a style which seamlessly blends contemporary fluidity with dynamic traditionalism, and for which Bangarra is renowned.

Dancers

Narelle Benjamin
Victor Bramich
Yolande Brown
Lea Francis
Djakapurra Munyarryyun
Russell Page
Frances Rings
Sidney Saltner

Artistic Director Stephen Page
Artistic Co-ordinator Jasmine Gulash
Rehearsal Director Bill Pengelly
General Manager Jo Dyer
Development Manager Fiona Taylor
Administrator Carla Theunissen
Financial Controller David Lloyd
Production Manager John Colvin
Stage Manager Sam Baker
Production Assistant Ebony Williams

Board Members

Chair Aden Ridgeway
Ian Collie
Graeme Galt
Danny Gilbert
Robin Hughes
Richard Longes
Graham Mooney
Stephen Page
Dawn Willis

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Rites, 1997 production