

## 2016 regional tour to WA and SA

**Albany** Albany Entertainment Centre · 19 October

**Mandurah** Mandurah Performing Arts Centre · 22 October

**Geraldton** Queens Park Theatre · 26 October

**Kalgoorlie** Goldfield Arts Centre · 29 October

**Marree** community performance · 4 November

**Whyalla** Middleback Theatre · 8 November

**Port Pirie** Northern Festival Centre · 11 November

**Mt Gambier** Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre · 15 November

**Renmark** Chaffey Theatre · 19 November

## About Bangarra

Bangarra is an Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander organisation and one of Australia's leading performing arts companies. We are 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 40,000 years of culture, infused with contemporary movement. The company's dancers are professionally trained, 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 New York.

## Regional touring

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

## Bangarra Dance Ensemble

Deborah Brown

Waangenga Blanco

Tara Gower

Leonard Mickelo

Daniel Riley

Jasmin Sheppard

Tara Robertson

Kaine Sultan-Babij

Luke Currie-Richardson

Beau Dean Riley Smith

Rikki Mason

Yolanda Lowatta

Rika Hamaguchi

Tyrel Dulvarie

Glory Tuohy-Daniell

## Bangarra Executive

**Artistic Director** Stephen Page

**Executive Director** Philippe Magid

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.



Bangarra's 2016 regional tour has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body



**bangarra**  
DANCE THEATRE

# TERRAIN



*"exhilarating and engrossing"*

— The Sydney Morning Herald

A note from the Choreographer  
**Frances Rings**

I'm excited and honoured to be returning *Terrain* to its original homelands and to give back to the Arabunna Community who so generously shared and inspired this work. It is also a great opportunity to reconnect with our regional audience in South Australia and Western Australia and share with them our love for protecting one of our greatest environmental legacies.

My work is inspired by our relationship with the natural world and *Terrain* embodies the meeting of spirit and place at Lake Eyre in South Australia. Kati Thanda is one of those rare places you visit that stay with you and linger long after you have left.

While I was researching *Terrain*, I was fortunate enough to be able to spend time with Arabunna local Uncle Reg Dodd. Being with him on his Country and hearing his stories made me think deeply about Aboriginal people like myself who live in urban areas and our relationship to Country. I realised that although the location may be different the connection is the same.

The land defines who we are, the way we live, whether we are salt water, fresh water, desert, or island people. It is these ties to Country that have made us resilient, allowing us to see beyond injustice and adversity.

Thank you to the supremely talented Bangarra dance ensemble who embody these stories and take us to Country. I'd like to also acknowledge my creative team - David Page for his score, Jacob Nash for his sets, Jennifer Irwin for her costumes and Karen Norris for her lighting - and to Stephen Page who has always encouraged and supported my vision.

A special thank you to Reg Dodd, his family and the Arabunna community. Thank you to my husband Scott, and my darling sons Yillen and Zef, who love and support me unconditionally.

This work is dedicated to the memory of our artistic brother and Songman Roy David Page whose music and energy live on in the spirit of Bangarra.

Cover: Deborah Brown.  
Photography Zan Wimberley  
Inside Left: Daniel Riley  
Inside Right: Bangarra Ensemble  
Photography by Greg Barrett

A note from our Artistic Director  
**Stephen Page**

Touring regionally is an invigorating time for us and we look forward to presenting *Terrain* to communities across Western Australia and South Australia.

The core of our work is inspired by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, and the relationship between land and its people. Spending time with communities and local Elders enables our artists to deeply engage with the stories that are passed down to them, supporting their contribution during the rehearsal process, as well as their flair for telling these stories to audiences through dance.

After creating many poignant works for Bangarra, *Terrain* was the first full-length work of Frances' that the company commissioned in 2012. She continued her inspiring choreographical journey, creating a captivating work brimming with beauty and meaning that deservedly won the 2013 Helpmann Award for Best Ballet/ Dance Work. It's a privilege to be able to transport *Terrain* back to the landscape it emerged from.

Thank you to Rehearsal Directors past and current for their talent, support and positivity in studio: Cathie Goss who worked on the premiere in 2012 and Anton who worked on this remount.

And I'd like to pay homage to and acknowledge our brother David Page, whose beautiful score we will be dancing to at each performance during this 2016 regional tour, and that will always continue to resonate with us.



## TERRAIN

*"simply exquisite"*  
The Sun-Herald

*Terrain* transports us to Lake Eyre in South Australia, the place of Australia's inland sea: one of the few untouched natural waterways in the world.

Choreographer Frances Rings explores the fundamental connection between Aboriginal people and land - how our land looks after us, how we connect with its spirit, and how we regard its future.

After its world premiere season in 2012, *Terrain* went on to win two Helpmann Awards for Best Ballet/Dance Work and Best Female Dancer in a Dance or Physical Theatre Work for dancer Deborah Brown. It was then brought back to the stage early 2016 for a season at Riverside Theatres in Parramatta, NSW. This tour to WA and SA marks *Terrain's* third remount.



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