

# BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE

# BUSH

***Bush* is a lush and contemporary celebration of beauty, ritual and music inspired by the Dreamtime creation stories of Arnhem Land. From the last breath of sunset to the first finger light of dawn, we enter a mysterious and secret space to witness nature's sacred poetry.**

*"My traditional family from Arnhem Land have supported and inspired me ceremonially and spiritually for a long time now. It is a great honour to be allowed to put these stories in the public domain in a contemporary context. This work is a bush galaxy of the poetic imagery and stories that make up our history – it embraces all the inspirations that come from living from the land. Bush is about welcoming the audience into this spiritual glory box and maintaining an honest respect for the land and its people."* Stephen Page, Artistic Director.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CHOREOGRAPHER	<b>Stephen Page</b>
CHOREOGRAPHER & REHEARSAL DIRECTOR	<b>Frances Rings</b>
CULTURAL CONSULTANT & GUEST PERFORMER	<b>Kathy Balngayngu Marika</b>
COMPOSERS	<b>David Page &amp; Steve Francis</b>
SET DESIGNER	<b>Peter England</b>
COSTUME DESIGNER	<b>Jennifer Irwin</b>
ORIGINAL LIGHTING DESIGN	<b>Nick Schlieper</b>
LIGHTING DESIGNER	<b>Glenn Hughes</b>
COMPANY MANAGER	<b>Jasmine Gulash</b>
PRODUCTION MANAGER	<b>Brenna Hobson</b>
STAGE MANAGER	<b>Narelle Lewis</b>
HEAD MECHANIST	<b>Billy Hopper</b>
FEMALE ENSEMBLE	<b>Elma Kris, Yolande Brown, Deborah Brown, Chantal Kerr, Rheannan Port, Barbra Drummond</b>
MALE ENSEMBLE	<b>Sidney Saltner, Sani Townson, Patrick Thaiday, Timothy Bishop, Jhuny-Boy Borja, Waniga Blanco</b>

## THE PROGRAM

- CREATION** “They sang the songs and danced over the land...  
(WIRRKUL MANDA) **Created all living things”** (Two Sisters, Wirrkul Manda)
- GOANNA** Each goanna (male totem) is given his sense of sight,  
(DJANDA) **sound, smell, taste, touch.**
- SLITHER** Every one hundred years a sacred creature emerges  
from its journey through the Earth. The women are  
chosen as keepers of the knowledge.
- LIFE CYCLE** Metamorphosis, rejuvenation and the passing  
on of knowledge.  
*Leaf (Man'tjarr)*  
*Caterpillar (Dapal)*  
*Moth (Dhumar)*
- STICK** Nganuk or Mimi spirits appear as spiritual messengers  
– they can come as good or bad signs.
- THE CALL** The effects of western Christian influence on  
Indigenous beliefs, a struggle in spiritual response to  
a calling.
- CEREMONY** The cycle of rituals in the celebration of death and rebirth.  
*Passing*  
*Gift*  
*Clan*

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### Bangarra Dance Theatre

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news and performances.

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