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# Queensland **Ballet**

## Media Release

24 June, 2016

### QUEENSLAND BALLET REMEMBERS AND HONOURS



Queensland Ballet's upcoming triple bill season, *Lest We Forget*, will be a moving reflection on the impact of war not only on those who served but also those who were left behind.

Artistic Director Li Cunxin said the season, running from 29 July to 6 August, offers audiences a unique and intimate way to reflect on and commemorate

the ANZAC Centenary.

"*Lest We Forget* incorporates contemporary dance and neo classical ballet and will have wide appeal for audiences," Mr Li said.

"We're privileged to have three incredible works to perform by three highly respected choreographers."

The three performances: *Paul Taylor's Company B*, Ma Cong's *In the Best Moments* and *Natalie Weir's We Who Are Left* are all quite different to each other.

*Company B* recalls a turbulent war era through the hit songs of the Andrews Sisters. The music is upbeat but the dance references the reality of many husbands, sons and boyfriends saying goodbye to their loved ones as they went off to war.

Known for his bold and innovative work, choreographer Ma Cong has created *In the Best Moments* especially for this Queensland Ballet season.

Inspired by *The Hours Suite* by Philip Glass, this is an intimate depiction of human relationships across three movements of music.

One of Australia's most acclaimed contemporary choreographers, Natalie Weir, has created a stunning work inspired by poetry written during the First World War.

*We Who Are Left* tells personal stories exploring themes such as separation, loss, fear, pride, bravery and dignity.

Mr Li said the season was quite an intimate remembering of war and its impact as all the works explored the themes of love, commitment and passion.

"The season draws on the power of dance to reflect the heartache of war and therefore touches on some very deep emotions," Mr Li said.

"Ballet lends itself perfectly to telling stories like these as it's such an affecting art-form that expresses emotion through the movement of bodies.

"I think audiences will be truly moved by this season as we continue to commemorate the important milestone of the ANZAC Centenary.

"We're very proud of this program as it salutes our forefathers' heroic endeavours and honours their incredible sacrifice as we treasure the precious peace and prosperity we enjoy today."

Queensland Ballet has commissioned the two new works by Ma Cong and Natalie Weir in partnership with the Queensland Performing Arts Centre and the season is supported by the Australian Government's Anzac Centenary Arts and Culture Fund.

For more information on Queensland Ballet's *Lest We Forget* season (29 July - 6 August) and community events visit [www.queenslandballet.com.au](http://www.queenslandballet.com.au)

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## Honouring the Legacy - an event

On the closing weekend of our *Lest We Forget* season we will celebrate with a free family-friendly event on the Playhouse Lawn (outside QPAC's Playhouse Theatre). The day's events will include including public swing dance classes followed by an open swing dance to live music. This form of dance is a reference to the style of dancing that was popular during the war years.

The event will also include craft activities and in-conversations with Artistic Director Li Cunxin. For further information visit [www.queenslandballet.com.au](http://www.queenslandballet.com.au)



## Behind the scenes

If you're just getting to know QB, our fan pages on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Pinterest](#) and [Instagram](#) are a great way to keep up-to-date with what the Company is doing, both behind the scenes and on the stage.

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### Photography

Queensland Ballet's *Lest We Forget*. Photo Simon Lekias

Rehearsal Photography. Photo Christian Tiger

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