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Queensland **Ballet**

Media Release



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A TRIPLE BILL OF RAW, POWERFUL STORIES.

Queensland Ballet's upcoming triple bill, **Raw**, will soon erupt onto the stage with three transcendent dance pieces featuring raw, powerful movement. Evoking stories of human experience, the works are by three uniquely talented choreographers, Christopher Bruce, Liam Scarlett and Greg Horsman.



Artistic Director Li Cunxin said the season, 17 - 25 March, will move audiences with the touching way in which the stories are told, and some ground-breaking choreography.

"The incomparable Liam Scarlett brings his acclaimed *No Man's Land* to this triple bill, along with Christopher Bruce's iconic *Ghost Dances* and Greg Horsman's energetic *Glass Concerto*," said Mr Li.

"These are three very different works, each with its own story to tell about the things we experience as humans both past and present.

"*Ghost Dances* is a work of great significance in the world of ballet and I vividly remember performing this ballet myself. It is an immensely powerful and evocative work, with a beautiful fluidity of movement."

"Before working with Christopher Bruce in *Ghost Dances*, I had never moved in such a way as a dancer and I think our dancers will be captivated by this work. It gives me so much pleasure to present such a seminal piece of contemporary choreography."

"I really think Christopher Bruce's exceptional work from 1981 will still astound audiences today."

Ghost Dances is one of the most celebrated contemporary ballet pieces of its generation, it was first created in 1981 and immediately became a global sensation. Set to South American folk songs recorded by Inti-Illimani, it tells stories of love and compassion, as death – in the form of the iconic "ghosts" – interrupts the daily lives of a series of ordinary people. The work mixes traditional South American folk dances with contemporary choreography and was originally created in response to the overthrow and assassination of President Salvador Allende in Chile in 1973.

[Read more about Ghost Dances here](#)



“We are absolutely thrilled to be welcoming choreographer (and Queensland Ballet Artistic Associate) Liam Scarlett back to Brisbane for this season,” Mr Li said.

“This will be the first time we’ve had Liam back to work with us since we performed his highly successful *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* last year and since we announced his role as Artistic Associate, we can’t wait to get back into the studio with him.”

“Liam brings us his *No Man’s Land* which is a co-production with English National Ballet and received critical acclaim for its London season last year.”

No Man’s Land, draws on the power of dance to reflect upon the heartache of war. The story brings to life the entwined destinies of women working in munition factories at home with the men fighting in the trenches told through mesmerising pas de deux set to a score by Liszt.

“Our dancers love working with Liam as he is such a choreographic talent yet is so collaborative and humble. He is highly sought after throughout the world, and we are honoured to perform his ballets and to have him as Artistic Associate.”



[Read more about No Man's Land here](#)

Mr Li said he was looking forward to showcasing the speed and precision of the artists of Queensland Ballet through Greg Horsman's *Glass Concerto*.

"It is a motif of Greg's choreographic style to interpret the emotion and intensity of the music. He creates such exciting work that he constantly challenges the dancers and pushes them to their limits," Mr Li said.

"In this work he captures the pulse and escalating intensity of Philip Glass's music and really does engage the audience in every step.

"*Glass Concerto* premièred at the 43rd Prix de Lausanne Gala in Switzerland with our Jette Parker Young Artists. Greg is reworking this ballet to present it this season"

"I'm so pleased to announce Greg's collaboration with the talented Brisbane-based fashion designer George Wu, on his costume design for *Glass Concerto* . The outcome of this collaboration has added some fashion world glamour and elegance to the ballet"

[Read more about Glass Concerto here](#)

"This season presents a mix of contemporary and classical ballet and I know audiences will be drawn in by the beautiful dancing, stirring stories and exquisite music."

Media inquiries

Danielle Renshaw

Queensland Ballet Publicity Manager

Ph: 0408 498 339

Email: drenshaw@queenslandballet.com.au

Contact us

PO Box 3791 South Brisbane QLD 410

Phone 07 3013 6666 | Fax 07 3013 6600

mail@queenslandballet.com.au | queenslandballet.com.au

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Liam Scarlett's *No Man's Land* image by Dave Morgan featuring English National Ballet

Liam Scarlett's *No Man's Land* image by Ash featuring Tamara Rojo and Esteban Berlanga

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