

Queensland Ballet

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR LI CUNXIN

BESPOKE

10 – 12 February

Brisbane Powerhouse

Bespoke is supported by the Queensland
Government through Arts Queensland.

LEAD PARTNER



FROM THE
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

We are incredibly proud of this inaugural *Bespoke* season and we've been impatient to share it with you since we began creating these three brand new ballets.

These innovative works set our *Bespoke* program in motion and are all about new people, new art forms and new ideas.

This notion of innovation has from the outset, formed the very essence of this project, which sees our dancers work with artists from a diverse array of genres and backgrounds, to bring together an inspiring season of contemporary dance.

Special thanks must first be given to the three talented choreographers, whose vision has enabled the *Bespoke* concept to come to fruition — Stephanie Lake, Amy Hollingsworth and Jack Lister. Thank you for sharing so generously of your talents, imagination and creativity. You have truly made this opening *Bespoke* season one of significance for Queensland Ballet and our audiences. As we strive to contribute to the landscape of new Australian dance works, your choreography brings a much welcomed challenge for our dancers.

To our distinguished collaborators, thank you for sharing your art with us, for working with us to transform the movement created into something even more awe-inspiring. Katie Noonan, cIn, and Robin Fox — each of you come with very different sounds and experiences in music, and each of you has added an inextricable element to those pieces on which you have worked. We could not have done this without you. To Lighting Designer Cameron Goerg, who has designed for all three works, we are very grateful for your remarkable vision, thank you for your dedication to creating designs which perfectly complement each work.

Bespoke has received support from Arts Queensland through the Arts Illuminate stream of the Queensland Arts Showcase Program, for which we are very grateful. As always, we are thankful for the support offered to Queensland Ballet from the State and Federal Governments, Lead Partner Suncorp, Major Partners Virgin Australia, BMW and JC Decaux and all our corporate partners and supporters. Thank you for your assistance in allowing us to reach higher in 2017.

I am delighted that you could join us for our first production for the year and on behalf of our Company, enjoy *Bespoke*.



LI CUNXIN
Artistic Director



Cover image: Vanessa Morelli, Joel Woellner,
Vito Bernasconi and Sophie Zoricic
Creative Direction: Designfront Photography: Harold David

Please be aware that the performance does contain haze and smoke effects, strobe effects and sudden loud noises. The performance lasts approximately two hours, including two 20-minute intervals.

GLASS HEART



In a world that is hyper-connected, we as humans have somehow become more disconnected than ever. We may be engaged with the world at an intellectual level, but emotionally we seem more distant.

Exploring the intensely close relationship between the beauty and ugliness of human nature, we look to the world where so many people have become urban warriors who must be everything and do everything, where we have come to protect ourselves, to disassociate from the harsh realities we sometimes need to face. Then there are those few who do feel it all so keenly — the empathes, the fragile hearts.

How do we as humans inhabit that space in the middle, that allows us to feel and engage without being crushed by the weight of it all?

To an incredible new commission with live vocal and music production, *Glass Heart* illustrates the very human struggle to know how to 'be' in the world and the challenges we may need to confront.

Choreographer — Amy Hollingsworth
Creative Consultant/
Composer/Vocalist — Katie Noonan
Music Producer/Composer — cIn
Lighting Designer — Cameron Goerg
Costume Concept — Amy Hollingsworth
Costume Design Coordinator — Noelene Hill

Jette Parker Young Artists
Photography Ali Cameron

Bespoke

RATIONAL / ANIMAL



Society as we know it, is made up of constraints, of boundaries and margins that guide our actions, our interactions and to some extent, our behaviours and thoughts.

But what if those constraints were stripped away, if we and our basest thoughts and instincts were left bare? If the layers were peeled back to reveal the human beneath the exterior shell...

Rational / Animal looks at us as humans in the rawest form. Order versus chaos. Fight or flight. Primal instinct and the basic need to survive. What would that look like, who would we become and would there be any order?

When all is stripped bare, we are not unlike. Rationale is not determined: it is a choice.

Choreographer ————— Jack Lister
Music ————— *Fearful Symmetries*
Composer ————— John Adams
Lighting Designer ————— Cameron Goerg
Costume Concept ————— Jack Lister
Costume Design Coordinator — Noelene Hill

CHAMELEON



Inspired by the discipline and rigour of the ballet dancers, *Chameleon* explores adaptation, osmosis, uniformity and metamorphosis.

A collision of extremes: contemporary and classical, upheaval and control, restriction and freedom. *Chameleon* is about the continual pull of the group. There are ruptures, individuals break out and assert their individuality but the draw of the collective is strong, and they return again and again to be subsumed. There is strength in numbers. The dancers take the audience with them on a journey through virtuosity, absurdity, spontaneity and the joys of a shared experience.

This is my first time working with a ballet company, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to the dancers for their absolute commitment and open-mindedness from day one.

Huge thanks also to the talented collaborators and designers, everyone working tirelessly behind the scenes and to Li Cunxin and Amy Hollingsworth for bold programming and their utmost support to create this work.

Choreographer ————— Stephanie Lake
Composer ————— Robin Fox
Lighting Designer ————— Cameron Goerg
Costume Concept ————— Stephanie Lake
Costume Design Coordinator — Noelene Hill

AMY HOLLINGSWORTH

In a highly awarded career spanning work as a dancer, coach and director, Amy Hollingsworth was described by the UK *Observer* as one of 'the most compelling and intelligent dancers on the world stage'.

Amy has performed as a Principal and Leading Dancer with companies such as Rambert Dance Company, Royal New Zealand Ballet, Peter Schaufuss Balletten, Bonachela Dance Company, Michael Clark Company, Hofesh Shechter Company, George Piper Dances and Sydney Dance Company.

A founding member of Bonachela Dance Company, where she was also Assistant Artistic Director, Amy later became Dance Director for Sydney Dance Company. After moving to Queensland in late 2014, Amy was Rehearsal Director for Expressions Dance Company, while also choreographing and mentoring through her own company, Bespoke Movement. In 2016, she joined Queensland Ballet as Ballet Mistress and Creative Associate.

**STEPHANIE LAKE**

Stephanie Lake is a multi-award winning choreographer and dancer based in Melbourne. Her performance career spans sixteen years, touring extensively with leading contemporary companies Chunky Move, Lucy Guerin Inc and BalletLab. Stephanie's choreographic works have been presented in major festivals and venues around Australia and have toured to France, Germany, Scotland, Ireland, Denmark, Singapore and Hong Kong. In 2014, Stephanie won both the Helpmann and Australian Dance Award for Most Outstanding Choreography as well as the Green Room Award (2011). She was the recipient of the prestigious Sidney Myer Creative Fellowship and Peggy van Praagh Choreographic Fellowship. In 2013, Stephanie was appointed Resident Director of Lucy Guerin Inc. She has created works for Chunky Move, Sydney Dance Company, Dancenorth, Tasdance and Frontier Danceland (Singapore) among others. Stephanie collaborates across theatre, film, audio-visual and music video and has directed several large-scale public works.

JACK LISTER

Following his training at The Australian Ballet School, Jack Lister joined Queensland Ballet as Company Artist in 2014.

As a choreographer, Jack has collaborated with Brisbane-based art galleries, designers, and creatives, producing photographic, film and large scale projections for events and festivals. His first choreographic work for Queensland Ballet, *Memory House*, premièred as part of *Dance Dialogues* in late 2015. This was closely followed by Jack's second work *Fonder Heart*, which premièred in 2016, also for the *Dance Dialogues* season. Strong, fluid and assertive, *Fonder Heart* was described as "sleek, sophisticated and intriguing" by dance critic Deborah Jones.

KATIE NOONAN

Katie Noonan's technical mastery and pure voice makes her one of Australia's most versatile and beloved vocalists. A mother, singer, producer, songwriter, pianist and business woman, this 4x ARIA Award winning and 7x platinum selling songstress first received widespread praise as the angel-voiced songstress of indie-pop band, George and has since taken audiences on sublime excursions through Jazz, Pop and Classical music.

Her various releases include her collaboration with the world-famous Brodsky Quartet for the acclaimed album *With Love and Fury*, her jazz folk trio's self-titled album

Elixir and the 2012 ARIA winning *First Seed Ripening*, the No. 1 selling classical album *Two of a Kind* with her mother Maggie and her gold-selling top ten solo album *Skin*.

Katie is constantly blurring genre boundaries and exploring interdisciplinary collaborations and is truly an artist that thrives on new creative relationships and exchanges.

CLN

Callan Alexander is the man behind Brisbane's newest electronic-beats project cln, and at just 20 years of age he is producing at a level of maturity that you just wouldn't expect from someone so young.

cln exploded onto the scene in 2014 with his debut EP *Sideways*, and has since been turning heads. His debut single *Better Than* won over the support of radio stations and music websites across the globe, while also dominating the Hype Machine music charts alongside some outstanding remixes he produced for the likes of Crooked Colours, Kilter, Wookie and ODESZA.

cln has had the privilege of supporting some of his music idols including Kele Okereke (frontman of UK group Bloc Party), Australian dance music duo The Aston Shuffle, and American electronic duo ODESZA.

cln played his first show in the USA last year when he supported The Chainsmokers, before heading back over for a longer run of shows around the USA in late 2016.

ROBIN FOX

Robin Fox is an artist working in sound and light across performance, installation, interactive systems and contemporary dance. His AV works with lasers (*Monochroma*, *RGB*) have been performed worldwide to critical acclaim.

In dance he is a frequent collaborator with Stephanie Lake and has also collaborated regularly with Lucy Guerin, Antony Hamilton and Gideon Obarzanek, among others. His collaboration with Lee Serle was performed by the Lyon Opera Ballet. His music is released internationally through Editions Mego. Recent projects include *Sky Light*, a citywide laser installation commissioned by Melbourne Fringe, *Double Vision*, a collaboration with electronic music legend Atom TM and he is co-founder of MESS (Melbourne Electronic Sound Studio), which opened in April 2016. Recent performance highlights include the Berlin Atonal Festival, Mutek Japan and MONA FOMA.

**CAMERON GOERG**

Cameron Goerg has 16 years experience as a lighting designer and in technical development. He is currently Lighting and Technical Manager for Queensland Ballet whilst also taking on freelance lighting design commissions.

He has designed lighting for many new dance works in Queensland Ballet's *Vis-à-vis* and *Dance Dialogues* seasons. Cameron has redesigned lighting for Queensland Ballet's productions of Ben Stevenson's *The Nutcracker* from 2014 to 2016, Greg Horsman's *Coppélia*, Ben Stevenson's *Cinderella* and Ai-Gul Gaisina's *Giselle*.

He designed lighting for Shake & Stir's Youth Shakespeare Festival's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Macbeth*, Collusion Music's *Desirelines* and worked on the technical development of Queensland Ballet's productions of Trey McIntyre's *Peter Pan*, Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Romeo & Juliet* and Derek Deane's *Strictly Gershwin*.

DANCERS

PRINCIPAL ARTISTS



Victor Estévez



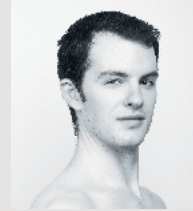
Laura Hidalgo



Clare Morehen

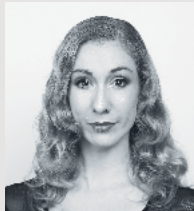


Yanela Piñera

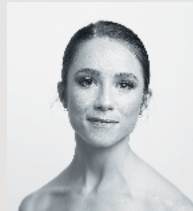


Shane Wuerthner

SOLOISTS



Lisa Edwards

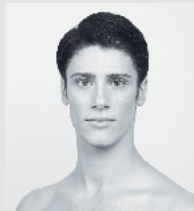


Lucy Green

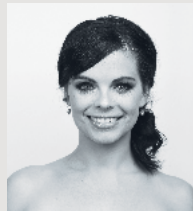


Camilo Ramos

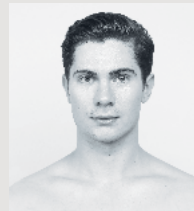
DEMI-SOLOISTS



Vito Bernasconi



Teri Crilly



Alexander Idaszak



Lina Kim

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D'Arcy Brazier, Zoe Doonar, Zhi Fang, Liam Geck, Serena Green, Tamara Hanton, Mia Heathcote, Jack Lister, Vanessa Morelli, Samuel Packer, David Power, Lou Spichtig, Georgia Swan, Rian Thompson, Laura Tosar, Joel Woellner, Neneka Yoshida, Sophie Zoricic, Zuquan Kou, Ze Wu

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Queensland Ballet

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