

PERFORMING LINES

2025-2026

PROGRAM



In everything we do, we acknowledge that we live on Aboriginal land and constantly learn from the wisdom of First Peoples.

Where we are and the history that precedes us informs how we work and how we move forward.

# A note on reading the 2025-2026 program of activities

The following program represents Performing Lines' pipeline of works for the years 2025-2026. The volume of work reflects both confirmed and unconfirmed projects, in a cycle that follows an iterative, rather than annual logic and is subject to constant, evolving conversations between Performing Lines, the artists, presenters and investment partners.

Some of the variables that inform the above programming outcomes include:

- Reliance on project-based or international funding outcomes
- Shifting creative and investment priorities of presenting partners
- Variable programming cycles – festivals and presenters have different program lock-offs and confirmation deadlines.
- Securing and aligning appropriate partners for the work
- External forces (geo-political changes, natural disasters, inflation etc) and their impact on the viability of touring.
- Creative risk – Performing Lines embeds creative risk as part of its program structure and must be comfortable with some works changing course or not progressing through to presentation.

# Contents

## MAJOR COMMISSIONS

- 5 Stunt Double
- 6 Us And All Of This
- 7 Hide the Dog
- 8 Techno Train
- 9 Legends (of the Golden Arches)

## NEW WORK PRESENTATIONS

- 11 Flames Danced in their Hair But Did Not Burn Them
- 12 Equations of a Falling Body
- 13 Beneath the Music
- 14 ARCO Jnr/Snr
- 15 Charcoal
- 16 Rumpelstiltskin
- 17 Honour
- 17 Aunty

## CREATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

- 19 From Here, Together
- 20 The Simmering
- 21 Prepare for the Plunge
- 22 Sylvania Waters
- 23 Golden Hour
- 24 SA/MOA (sacred/centre)
- 25 UNWOMAN
- 26 My First and Last Solo Show
- 27 SPHINX
- 28 Mrityu
- 29 It's Already Happened, We're Just In The Past
- 30 The Censor
- 31 The Clawset
- 31 Mongrel Tongue
- 32 List of Games that Buddah Would Not Play
- 32 Street Pavillion
- 33 Love Less Tender

## INTERNATIONAL TOURS

- 35 Rinse
- 36 Wonderbox

## NATIONAL TOURS & PRESENTATIONS

- 38 24 Hour Grumble Boogie
- 39 WAKE
- 40 Black Brass
- 41 Slow Burn, Together
- 42 TWO
- 43 Enemies of Grooviness Eat Shit
- 44 An Uncertain Time
- 45 M'ap Boulé
- 46 Glass Child
- 47 YES
- 48 Deejay Dancer

## REGIONAL TOURS

- 50 Island Whispers
- 51 MENTAL - The Mother Load
- 52 The Rainbow Tree
- 53 Love for One Night

## SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

- 55 NSW Producers Platform
- 56 Local Giants
- 57 Tarraleah Artist Residency
- 58 Tasmania Sector Day
- 59 First Nations Mentoring
- 60 Muiyatina– Producer Mentoring
- 61 Make Some Space
- 62 Kolyang Program

**MAJOR**

**COMMISSIONS**



THE FARM

# STUNT DOUBLE

Major Commission | National Tour (2023-2024) | International Tour (2025)

*Stunt Double* is a jaw-dropping immersive theatre experience bringing audiences inside the filming of a 1970s Aussie action flick. Select members of the audience are given roles to fulfill, working as extras, gaffers, clappers, art department, and more; placing them up close and personal with the actors and their extraordinary stunt doubles.

Cycling through take after take of high octane stunts; flips, jumps, fights and more; the doubles put their body on the line while the actors reap the glory. In *Stunt Double* it's the hardest working people who get paid the least and exploited the most.

The show is a tongue in cheek dive into the complex and absurd power dynamics of the film industry, into exploitation as a bloodsport, and the human costs of celebrity and our quest to come out on top.

*Stunt Double* is a commission of the Major Festivals Initiative and will premiere at Darwin Festival 2023 before embarking on a national tour.

QLD | WA | GERMANY

## TEAM

Gavin Webber, Grayson Millwood, Kate Harman, Chloe Ogilvie, Essie Horn, David Carberry, Ngoc Phan, Matt Cornell, Tyler Hill, Luke Smiles, Sanja Simic, Marco Sinigaglia, Carly Rees, Mick Angus, Mark Wareham, Zoe Atkinson.

## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Darwin Festival (2023)  
Brisbane Festival (2023)  
Perth Festival (2024)  
HOTA (2024)  
Canberra Theatre Centre (2024)





LIESEL ZINK WITH LAWRENCE ENGLISH AND COLLABORATORS

QLD

# US AND ALL OF THIS

Major Commission | National / International  
Market Development (2024) | National Tour  
(2024) | International Tour (2025)

*Us And All Of This* is a profound dance work of scale by Brisbane based choreographer Liesel Zink, set to a new score by renowned composer Lawrence English. It brings together 100 local community dancers from amateurs to professionals, for a 45 minute performance that momentarily unfolds across a large plot of urban public space.

The work premiered in March/April 2023 as a Betty Amsden Participation Project, commissioned by Arts Centre Melbourne and the Betty Amsden Endowment, and co-presented with Bunjil Place and Geelong Arts Centre.

The project involves a community engagement officer and four local dance artists who assist with recruitment and teach choreography during weekend rehearsals over a five-week period. Amidst global challenges of geopolitical tension, ecological concerns, labor issues, and social isolation, *Us And All Of This* offers a rare moment of calm reflection, promoting togetherness and community building through stillness and shared experiences.

We will be seeking new presentation opportunities across Australia for 2024.

## TEAM

Martyn Coutts, Cass Fumi, Joshua Lowe, Bindi Green, Natasha Marich, Ngioka Bunda-Heath, Kyall Shanks, Katrina Rank, Guy Ritani, Jenn Ma, Gülsen Özer, Dee Wong, Hithanjane Yatawara, Jessica Lessosky, Fiona Luca, Ash Skinner, Chafia Brooks, Jess Li, Luisa La Fornara (Cultura)

## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Arts Centre Melbourne (2023)

Bunjil Place (2023)

Geelong Art Centre at Johnstone Park (2023)



NATHAN MAYNARD (PALAWA) & JAMIE MCCASKILL (MĀORI)

TAS | NEW ZEALAND / AOTEAROA

# HIDE THE DOG

Major Commission | International Market Development (2024) | Regional Tour (2024) | International Tour (2025)

Co-written by Tasmanian playwright Nathan Maynard (palawa) and Aotearoa writer Jamie McCaskill (Māori), *Hide the Dog* is a truly trans-Tasman creation. This remarkable work for children tells the story of two childhood best friends Niarra (a palawa young girl) and Te Umuroa (a Māori young boy), who stumble upon the last remaining Tasmanian Tiger and resolve to keep him safe from hunters by smuggling him to Aotearoa by canoe. But hunters aren't the only ones on this tiger's tail. In order to save their furry friend they must outwit Māori gods and palawa spirits, and connect with their cultures and each other along the way.

The show is directed by celebrated theatre artist Isaac Drandic (Noongar) on a spectacular set by Māori designer Jane Hakaraia.

*Hide The Dog* is a commission of the Major Festivals Initiative and received its world premiere production from Performing Lines TAS at Sydney Festival 2023, subsequently touring to Perth Festival, Ten Days On The Island and RISING. In September it travels north to Brisbane Festival. In 2024 we will develop future touring to New Zealand / Aotearoa.

## TEAM

Isaac Drandic, Tibian Wyles, Reuben Butler, Tyler Wilson Kokiri, Najwa Adams Evel, Elaine Crombie, Poroaki Merritt-McDonald, Jane Hakaraia, Maaka McGregor, Ben Hughes, Keith Deverell, Sabio Evans, Denni Proctor, Greg Methe, Maakarita Paku, Adam (Gus) Powers, Marty Shlansky.

## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Sydney Festival (2023)  
Perth Festival (2023)  
Ten Days On The Island (2023)  
RISING (2023)  
Brisbane Festival (2023)





PAUL MAC

# TECHNO TRAIN

**Major Commission | Creative Development (2024) | World Premiere (2025)**

*Techno Train* is a new immersive work by veteran DJ and Sydney Queer nightlife stalwart Paul Mac, transforming a train carriage on the metropolitan Sydney train network into a pulsing club soundscape.

Marrying the artist's lifelong fascination with trains and reverence for the divine Queer ecstasy of the dancefloor, the work reimagines the infrastructure of a city.

Created in partnership with Sydney Festival and Sydney Trains, *Techno Train* will receive a further creative development ahead of a world premiere in 2024.

NSW

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## TEAM

Jono Boer, Giles Wragg, Gary Wotherspoon.

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## PRESENTATIONS

VIVID (2024)

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MERLYNN TONG & JOE PARADISE LUI

QLD | WA

# LEGENDS (OF THE GOLDEN ARCHES)

Major Commission | Creative Development (2024) | World Premiere (2025) | National Tour (2025) | International Tour (2026)

*LEGENDS (of the Golden Arches)* is a new work from Joe Paradise Lui and Merlynn Tong unlike anything that has been seen on Australian main stages before. It sits at the intersection of Chinese/Singaporean cultural mythology, the migrant experience in Australia and the aesthetics of funerals, hell theme parks and spaces of street level experience.

Gesturing towards Gods, legends, the afterlife and hamburgers, *LEGENDS (of the Golden Arches)* sees Lui and Tong attempt to marry up the poetry, mythology and wisdom of their heritage with a contemporary understanding of the society and culture in which they both live.

The production received Creative Development support via the Major Festivals Initiative with the backing of Perth Festival, Brisbane Festival and Sydney Festival. *LEGENDS (of the Golden Arches)* will continue its development during 2023 and 2024, before premiere seasons in 2025.

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## TEAM

Cherish Marrington, Nicole Marrington, Wendy Yu, Kate Baldwin, Marcel Dorney, Danielle Micich.

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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**NEW WORK**

**PRESENTATIONS**



FRAUGHT OUTFIT



# FLAMES DANCED IN THEIR HAIR BUT DID NOT BURN THEM

World Premiere (2025) | Market Development (2024) | National Tour (2025)

*Flames Danced In Their Hair But Did Not Burn Them* is a multi-screen video installation about wildness, transgression and body politics, created by filmmaker Kate Blackmore, theatre makers Adena Jacobs and Aaron Orzech, composer Kelly Ryall, and the young performers who co-created Fraught Outfit's controversial production of *The Bacchae*.

The work totals approximately 30 minutes in length on a loop, inviting audiences in every 45 mins. The material will combine behind the scenes archival footage from the 2016 production with interviews and video content created in 2022. The installation will evoke an experience of extreme intimacy between the audience and performers, whilst situating the content in an environment that is consciously 'theatrical' which, like the 2015 production, calls attention to the act of spectatorship, and takes us into unexpected terrain, beyond the threshold.

The work is a co-commission of Substation and Melbourne Fringe and will premiere in October 2023. We will be seeking further national presentations in 2024.

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## TEAM

Adena Jacobs, Aaron Orzech, Kate Blackmore, Kelly Ryall, Bonnie Brown, Mieke Dodd, Tove Due, Eve Fitzgerald, Romaine McSweeney, Anouk Gleeson-Mead, Cindy Hu, Eve Nixon, Birdie Noonan, Lois Scott, Carla Tilley.

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Substation (2023)

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LAURA BOYNES

# EQUATIONS OF A FALLING BODY

Market Development (2024-2025) | World Premiere (2025) | National Tour (2025-2026) | International Market Development (2025) | International Tour (2026)

Crafted and live-conducted by Laura Boynes, one of WA's finest choreographic talents, *Equations of a Falling Body* is a mesmerising, immediate and relevant performance attuned to our post-digital age.

Our contemporary world is wildly unpredictable, often leaving us wondering to what extent our lives are determined by forces beyond our control. *Equations of a Falling Body* sets those forces in motion, using real time choreography to create conundrums between three of Perth's most virtuosic physical performers.

The work premiered at Perth Festival 2023. In 2024 we turn our eyes to market development for future national presentations and touring opportunities.



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## TEAM

Anthony Coxeter, Lucy Guerin, Ella-Rose Trew, James O'Hara, Timothy Green, Matt Marshall, Peter Young, Bruce McKinven, Tristen Parr, Felicity Groom, Adelina Larsson, Mark Haslam.

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Perth Festival (2023)

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JAY EMMANUEL & ENCOUNTER THEATRE

WA

# BENEATH THE MUSIC

World Premiere (2025) | National /  
International Market Development (2024-  
2025) | National Tour (2025) | International  
Tour (2025)

*Beneath the Music* is a new devised work combining dance and theatre by Perth based playwright and theatre maker Jay Emmanuel and presented by Encounter Theatre, exploring themes of transformation, identity and queerness.

Partially inspired by Karthika Nair's award-winning book *Until the Lions: Echoes from the Mahabharata*, and Jay Emmanuel's lived experience of queerness in India, *Beneath the Music* offers a perspective into ancient and contemporary Indian imagination and culture before colonisation, where sexuality and gender were fluid concepts.

The work premiered late May 2023 at Subiaco Arts Centre, Perth. In 2024 we will be develop opportunities for future national presentations.

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## TEAM

Karthika Nair, Kalieaswari Srinivasan, Manjula Radha Krishnan, Ramith Ramesh, Tyrone Earl Lraé Robinson, James O'Hara, Willy Cessa, Tao Issaro, Peter Young, Nicole Marrington, Elham Eshraghian-Haakansson, Asha Kiani, Kalaimamani P.K. Sambandan Thambiran, Ben Nelson, Liam Murray, Gabrielle Metcalf.

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Subiaco Arts Centre (2023)

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ADAM KELLY AND JAMES BERLYN

# ARCO Jnr/Snr

Market Development (2024-2025) |  
National Tour (2025) | International Tour  
(2025-26)

Adam Kelly is, in his words, an autistic gentleman. His friend Finbar is a fish. Adam thinks that asking someone what it feels like to live with autism is pretty much like asking a fish (i.e. Finbar) if it knows it's in water, which is pretty funny if you think about it.

ARCO is Adam Kelly's award-winning show about living with autism, or, in Finbar the fish's case, living in water. The show takes a heartfelt look at the life and struggles of a young man trying to make connections with the people and world around him. Along the way Adam asks gently of his audience to consider life from his perspective.

ARCO Jnr, a supercharged version of the original for children and families, incorporates exciting animation from Perth-based neurodiverse artist Ben Hollingsworth. Join us as Adam and Finbar dance, draw, fly and joke their way into our hearts.

WA

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## TEAM

Adam Kelly, James Berlyn, Alex Desebrock, Designer Peter Young, Tristen Parr, Ben Hollingsworth, Johanna Keyser and Catherine O'Donoghue

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

FRINGE WORLD Festival, WA (J2020)

AWESOME Festival, WA (2021)

Regional Tour, WA (2022): Mandurah Performing Arts Centre, Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre, Albany Entertainment Centre and Harvey Recreation Centre.

Arts Centre Melbourne (2023)

FUSE International, London (2023)

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KEIA MCGRADY

# CHARCOAL

**Creative Development (2024) | World Premiere (2024) | Regional Tour (2025)**

*Charcoal* is a new work by First Nations dance artist Keia McGrady, exploring the embodiment and physicality of caring for country through visual art and movement. Working with charcoal made on Migunberri country, this performance embodies the fire that forms it. *Charcoal* investigates the impacts of land management or lack thereof, and the importance of First Nations stewardship.

Keia McGrady is the recipient of the 2023 Performing Lines TAS Aboriginal Arts Mentorship, supported by Arts Tasmania.

TAS

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## TEAM

Amarina Toby, Alinta McGrady, Waveney Yasso, Courtney Scheu.

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## DEVELOPMENT PARTNER

Moonah Arts Center (2023)

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## PRESENTATIONS

Junction Arts Festival (Sep 2024)  
Theatre Royal (Sept 2024)

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AMANDA HODDER AND NICHOLAS TOLPUTT

TAS

# RUMPELSTILTSKIN

**Creative Development (2024) | World  
Premiere (2025) | Regional Tour (2025)**

*What does Rumpelstiltskin (Rumpel) get up to when he isn't spinning gold in exchange for children? Yoga? Shopping? Why does Rumpel even want a child? Rumpel is a quirky, ordinary single father-to-be, consumed by his obsession with gaining a child, and his love and desire for a family. A relatable, loveable story, that slowly unveils its connections to the beloved fairytale as the story takes a dark turn, and we are left to wrestle with our sympathy for the main character. A story with comic appeal while exploring themes of loneliness, masculinity, shame and pride.*

*A solo, one act opera, the first of its kind in Australia to be created for the countertenor. The countertenor voice is the only voice type that uses two distinct voices – the upper falsetto voice, and the lower baritone voice. This duality of sound is a unique facet of the voice that can represent insanity, 'masculine' and 'feminine' sounds, or split consciousness. Utilising a Nord synthesizer to explore unique sound pairings between this versatile instrument and the countertenor voice, we will be working with an Australian composer to write music that uses the strengths of this instrument and the varied sound qualities it can create.*

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## TEAM

Amanda Hodder, Nicholas Tolputt

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## PRESENTATIONS

Lumi first Nation Programming Ten Day on The Island Festival (2025)

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BEAT ENTERTAINMENT

VIC

# HONOUR

Creative Development (2024) | Pilot Presentation (2024) | World Premiere (2025)

*HONOUR is a multi-disciplinary work to be performed in public spaces which elevates and celebrates our Queer POC elders, made in consultation with Aunty Denise Kickett. The work will be a ceremony of love, recognition and an unmissable party, It will feature an epic soundtrack from some of the nation's most iconic First Nations musicians as well as performances from legendary QTPOC dancers DJ's, drag artists and trans activists. HONOUR will be a heartfelt celebration and honouring of our path finders and light bringers, the real royalty of our communities.*

## TEAM

Aunty Denise Kickett, Samuel Gaskin, Johnny Hamilton, Cerulean, Kee-Ahn, Cleonie Morgan

## PRESENTATIONS

Midsumma Festival (2025)

*Commissioned by Midsumma Festival, the work is being piloted in 2024 and the full length work will be developed for premiere in Midsumma 2025*

BEAT ENTERTAINMENT

VIC

# AUNTY

Creative Development (2024) | Presentation (2024) | Market Development (2024) | National Tour (2025)

*AUNTY is BEAT Entertainment's Inter-Indignational-Kiki which is part cabaret, part party. AUNTY is a celebration of Music, Black Women, Queer Icons, Indigenous Royalty and everything FABULOUS in between. AUNTY is important for LGBTQIA+ communities as it creates and fosters a space that centres QTBIPOC artists and audience FIRST. AUNTY is a fierce and fabulous party for all LGBTQIA+ folks that is BIPOC led and curated that shares its heart, soul and culture with anyone/everyone who attends. AUNTY engages local QTBIPOC DJs and artists with a electric night of dance, music, impromptu voguing and a kick-ass dance floor to create a truly unbeatable and unforgettable night of high energy, high camp and a high dose of community connection, sharing and release. AUNTY invites its audiences to step into their ferocious QUEEN selves, and you are and own the dance floor #Yassss #Aunt*

## TEAM

Samuel Gaskin, Johnny Hamilton, Ms Katalnya, Tomas aka 2Joocee, Niveen aka HipHopHoe

## PRESENTATIONS

TBC



**CREATIVE**

**DEVELOPMENTS**



EMMA FISHWICK



# FROM HERE, TOGETHER

## Creative Development (2024-2025) | World Premiere (2026)

Emma Fishwick's new work *From Here, Together* comments on our relationship to space and progress; conflating past and present pursuits for new worlds versus the reality of the world we currently live in.

This sequel work will expand on ensemble methods and concepts around gender, power and labour as first explored in the 2021 Perth Festival Commission *Slow Burn, Together*, and continues the project's creative development momentum following its Co3 In Residence in 2022.

The work will have a second creative development in 2023-2024 prior to premiere in 2024-2025.

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### TEAM

Francesca Fenton, Zendra Giraud, Bobbi Henry, Crystal Nguyen, Bobby Russell, Ella-Rose Trew, Laura Boynes, Tristen Parr, Mark Haslam, Bruce McKinven, Renée Newman, Joe Paradise Lui.

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### PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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MAITLAND SCHNAARS & JO POLLITT

# THE SIMMERING

**Creative Development (2024) | World  
Premiere (2025) | National Market  
Development (2026)**

*The Simmering* is a hybrid performance work of contemporary dance, poetry and music by Jo Pollitt and Maitland Schnaars. The project began as a series of communiques over Facebook Messenger in 2010, marking over a decade of conversation and marination of the work.

*The Simmering* is a side-by-side duet of emotional and intellectual intimacy between two innovative artists, rendering visible the things too hard to say in the difficult conversations surrounding culture and identity.

We are working towards a 2024 premiere of the work and the development of a tour to follow.

WA

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## TEAM

Joe Paradise Lui, Zoe Atkinson, Rachel Arianne Ogle, Julia Moody, Rubeun Yorkshire.

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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LPA (EDITH PERRENOT & DR JULIA DROUHIN)

TAS

# PREPARE FOR THE PLUNGE

Creative Development (2024) | World  
Premiere (2025) | National Market  
Development (2025)

Navigating (French) female archetypes, pop culture and the fragile beauty of the ordinary, French-Tasmanian artist duo LPA (comprised of Edith Perrenot & Dr Julia Drouhin) want to create a multidisciplinary show that uses the theatre of the absurd to tackle the “end of the world” scale challenges that humanity is currently facing. With a tongue-in-cheek performance language, the show focuses on the global sea level rises and learning to swim in emergency situations. This is a site-specific work potentially placing artists and audiences in empty swimming pools across Tasmania.

It will receive a creative development in 2024.

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## TEAM

Loren Kronemyer, Ian Sinclair, Maude Davey, Jo Duffy.

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ANTOINETTE BARBOUTTIS

NSW

# SYLVANIA WATERS

**Creative Development (2024) | World Premiere (2025)**

Following an investment into new works through the Rescue-Restart fund offered by Create NSW, Performing Lines has recently facilitated the creative development of Antoinette Barbouttis' meta-theatrical stage adaptation of the seminal and controversial ABC/BBC Reality TV show *Sylvania Waters*.

Asking profound questions about ethics, culpability, and narrative agency, the work explores the Donaher-Baker blended family during their time as the focus of the documentary series as well as its subsequent effects on their lives.

*Sylvania Waters* received a creative development produced by Performing Lines NSW culminating in a staged reading in May 2023. We now look to presenters and commissioners for a future premiere of the work.

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## TEAM

Mish Grigor, Elly-May Barnes, Will Bartolo, Albert Mwangi, Steve Rodgers, Eliza Scott, Helen Thomson, Megan Wilding.

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## DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Arts House Wyong - Co-Commissioner  
Create NSW



ELLA HETHERINGTON

# GOLDEN HOUR

Creative Development (2024) | World Premiere (2025) | National / International Market Development (2026) | National Tour (2026)

*Golden Hour* is structured as a concept album – a sonic/visual meditation set to a series of theatrical, choreographic and melancholic images unfolding to create an evocative and celebratory archive of the universal experience of impermanence.

Two performers – Ella-Rose Trew and Jacob Lehrer – explore inevitability, patterns of human existence, perceptions of time, memories of place and the love left behind at the end; all framed within a transformative and physics-defying structure of the home, designed by Bruce McKinven. Tilman Robinson's score provides a textural musical backdrop, an electro-acoustic sound both dark and brooding, integrating sonic design with onstage intimacies.

The work is planned for a second stage creative development in 2024.

WA

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## TEAM

Ella-Rose Trew, Jacob Lehrer, Tilman Robinson, Bruce McKinven, Mark Haslam, Rachel Ariane Ogle.

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LILA MELEISEA

TAS

# SA/MOA (SACRED/CENTRE)

**Creative Development (2024-2025) | World Premiere (2026)**

SA/MOA (*sacred/centre*) is a multimedia presentation of new works, developed by Tasmanian Samoan artist Lila Meleisea. Featuring elements of sound, light and durational live performance, as well as a new major body of visual works, SA/MOA (*sacred/centre*) explores Samoan culture and spirituality offering audiences an experience of meditation, a lullaby, and call to action for the respect and preservation of Pasifika knowledges and ways of being.

SA/MOA (*sacred/centre*) was seeded through the Tarraleah Artist Residency and subsequently supported with a residency at Moonah Arts Centre. It will receive a creative development in 2024.

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## TEAM

Takani Clark, Grace Vanilau.

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THE RABBLE

# UNWOMAN

Creative Development (2024) | National Presentation (2025) | International Tour (2026)

*UNWOMAN* is an epic and imagistic piece of feminist theatre created in both Ireland and Australia, examining reproductive rights, experiences of pregnancy and bodily autonomy.

Made with THE RABBLE, professional performers and a community ensemble of pregnant performers, *UNWOMAN* is an invocation of the pregnant body as a plurality of experiences. It is visceral, carnal and an uncompromising piece of feminist theatre horrified by the history and laws attempting to curb bodily autonomy and reproductive rights.

Recreated for each presenter via a creative development process with a new local community ensemble, *UNWOMAN* is a socially engaged work responding to local contexts.

VIC

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## TEAM

Emma Valente, Kate Davis, Cass Fumi.

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NATALIE ROSE

# MY FIRST AND LAST SOLO SHOW

Creative Development (2024) | World  
Premiere (2025) | National Market  
Development (2026)

The first solo work presented by acclaimed Western Sydney theatre maker Natalie Rose, Creative Director of Shopfront Arts Co-op and founding member of POST performance collective.

*My First And Last Solo Show* is a show made by a mother, through collaboration with a series of female artists and industry mentors (Victoria Spence, Jodee Mundy, Clare Britton, Victoria Hunt, Emma Saunders, and more) who also happen to be mothers. It looks back on Rose's career and legacy and carefully handles vulnerable stories about artistry in the context of motherhood, the challenges it poses, and the cultural and political landscape the artist-mother must navigate in order to "have it all".

NSW

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## TEAM

Mabelle Rose, Jodee Mundy, Clare Britton, Victoria Hunt, Emma Saunders, Clare Grant, Victoria Spence, James Brown, Tyler Fitzpatrick.

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## DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Campbelltown Arts Centre  
Creative Australia

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THE RABBLE

# SPHINX

**Creative Development (2024) | World Premiere (2025)**

*Sphinx* is a planned largescale cinematic zoetrope-like performance installation investigating the female gaze, and an homage to little known feminist films and filmmakers. In 1977 Laura Mulvey made *Riddles of the Sphinx*, a film investigating her own work on the male gaze, setting out to explore and create a feminist language for cinema outside of traditional narrative norms. The film has very little narrative and concentrates on the gender politics of domestic life.

It uses 360-degree pans which move slowly and without any pleasurable focus on the women characters.

In a creative development in 2024, THE RABBLE will use the significant archive at ACMI and the National Film and Sound Archive to further research experimental feminist film makers, ultimately conducting a series of experiments using camera techniques pioneered by the above-mentioned film makers. This is partially with a view to determining how these techniques might influence a feminist dramaturgy for the camera in live performance.

VIC

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## TEAM

Kate Davis, Emma Valente, Cassandra Fumi, Emma Lockhart-Wilson, Mary Helen Sassman, Dana Miltins.

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## DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

ACMI (2024)

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ARJUNAN PUEVEENDRAN

# MRITYU

**Creative Development (2024) | World Premiere (2025)**

*Mrityu* is a new cross-artform performance work by Carnatic musician and performer Arjunan Puveendran exploring the processing of death through rituals, drawing largely from South Asian rituals and arts heritages, re-contextualised for an Australian audience.

It is a performance of shared narratives using a distinctive merging of monologues, music, ritual, and movement from the perspective of an observer – not mourner, dying or deceased. The work responds to the post-pandemic environment exploring how we have become desensitised to death, juxtaposed against the pain of not being able to grieve, mourn or perform rituals in customary ways.

The work was seeded through the Rescue-Restart fund offered by Create NSW and will receive a further creative development in 2023.

NSW

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## TEAM

Victoria Spence, Christopher Gurusamy, Janakan Raj, John Napier, Indu Balachandran, Amrita Hepi.

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EMILY PARSONS-LORD & SHAN TURNER-CARROLL

NSW

# IT'S ALREADY HAPPENED, WE'RE JUST IN THE PAST

**Creative Development (2024) | World  
Premiere (2025)**

*This new work presents a slow-motion, looping, accumulating, durational experimental fight-dance using body-assist apparatus and analogue film effects scripted onto the gallery walls to illustrate a suspended unstable moment of crisis.*

*Film-craft allows us to examine disaster in close detail over time, and from physical safety. To watch, pause, and watch again, to appreciate the beauty of the spectacle, or the narrative of the occurrence, capturing what usually takes a shocking thunderous moment where adrenaline can hijack thought. This project seeks to expand the edges of the thunderous moment in a live performance, and dwell on the act of watching. Shifting to a geological or cosmic time scale, our thunderous moment is a suspended, prolonged jolt.*

*Using body-assist effects borrowed from film-craft, the artists' achieve improbable movement, creating a space where time and physics are queer: it repeats, accumulates, loops. The fight-dance uses the spectacle of destruction of the gallery to examine the destabilising experience of witnessing and living-within multiple crises.*

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## TEAM

Emily Parsons-Lord & Shan Turner-Carroll, Genevieve Bevan John, Solomon Thomas, Jo Lloyd, Ray Anthony, Genevieve Bevan John

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VIDYA RAJAN AND CASSANDRA FUMI

# THE CENSOR

**Creative Development (2024) | World Premiere (2025)**

*Have you ever been told you can't read this or that book? Maybe the adults said it was too scary? Or not a good book for kids? What if you still really wanted to read it? What would you do?*

*Welcome to The Censor: a world where you can read everything. Where you're in control of what you choose to read. Where you're in control of yourselves. Where you're in control of... the adults!*

*In this workshop series you get to choose what gets banned and what gets read. Theatre-makers Vidya Rajan and Cassandra Fumi will guide you through two stages of creative workshops exploring book censorship and what's on your mind when these big book decisions get made for you. At the final hour of each workshop, we'll get your parents / adults in to see what they have to say.*

*You'll form a dynamic ensemble working towards a sharing of what we have made so far (in June) where you'll perform for other children and maybe some adults (if they're lucky).*

*This project is part of ArtPlay's New Ideas Lab – a program that develops new creative works for children over three stages with collaboration from artists, children and audiences alike.*



<https://www.performinglines.org.au/projects/the-censor>

VIC

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## TEAM

Vidya Rajan and Cassandra Fumi, Emma Valente, Romanie Harper, Rachel Lee with an ensemble of young people

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## PRESENTATIONS

ArtPlay New Ideas Lab (2024)

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GINAVA (A.K.A. BLAKE ANDERSON)

WA

# THE CLAWSET

Creative Development (2024-2025) | World Premiere (2026)

*THE CLAWSET* is a new cabaret / theatre work by Ginava (a.k.a. Blake Anderson), an award-winning artist whose presentations to date have largely taken place within fringe and club platforms.

When a teen goes to sleep one night, he is visited by a host of monsters living inside his closet. They kidnap the teen, guiding him on a journey, on which he must confront the monsters; each representing his own internal conflicts of sexual desires, internalised homophobia, gender identity, community, activism and love.

## TEAM

TBC

NAZAREE DICKERSON

VIC

# MONGREL TONGUE

Creative Development (2024-2025) | World Premiere (2025)

*Mongrel Tongue* is a new play by Queer Wardandi Bibbulman Noongar and Burmese artist, Nazaree Dickerson. The primary theme of the work is language, and the power and mechanics of language as a tool to talk about identity and culture.

As a semi-autobiographical work, *Mongrel Tongue*, explores Dickerson's own position in relation to community, as well as dislocation and displacement from language and culture as a result of the Stolen Generation.

In 2023 and 2024, the work is to receive a creative development ahead of its world premiere.

## TEAM

Amy Sole, Kristel Kickett, Lauren Swain,

JOE PARADISE LUI & VIDYA RAJAN

VIC

# LIST OF GAMES THAT BUDDHA WOULD NOT PLAY

**Creative Development (2023) | World Premiere (2024)**

In either the 6<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> Century BC Gautama Buddha, the founder of Buddhism, is reputed to have dictated a list of games he would not play given their propensity for encouraging negligence in the behaviours of the player.

*List of Games That Buddha Would Not Play* is a hilarious theatrical work by Joe Paradise Lui and Vidya Rajan which sees the two artists playing all of the games on Buddha's blacklist (except for game 16).

This work will have a creative development in 2023 with a view to its world premiere in 2024.

## TEAM

Mish Grigor, Rachel Rui Qian Lee, Geoffrey Watson, Rosie Pid.

## DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

University of Melbourne - co-commisioning

## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

FERAS SHAHEEN

TAS

# STREET PAVILION

**Creative Development (2023) | World Premiere (2025)**

*Street Pavilion* is a community-based project which presents three major concepts: methodology, manifesto and performance. At the core of the project is research and discovery, looking at how busking and street performers are perceived in the arts world. Through this project, Feras Shaheen examines how we can legitimize these practices and create new and engaging ways to connect dancers, musicians, and audiences. One portion of this is through the presentation and marketing of the project, to challenge the usual perceptions of street performers and solidify their place in the arts world. This is done by using professional marketing tools to shift these perceptions to a high arts festival standard.

## TEAM

Joshua Santospirito

## DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Moonah Arts Centre (2023)  
Raw Space (2023)



RAGHAV HANDA

NSW

# LOVE LESS TENDER

## Creative Development (2024) | World Premiere (2025)

Love Less Tender looks at the complexity of love and pleasure through the Sanskrit scripture, Kama Sutra. The piece, a danced, spoken and sung conversation between choreographer Raghav Handa, performer and writer Nicholas Brown, and dancer Victor Zarallo, explores the motivations behind and the borders that lie between love and pleasure and how they are shaped by personal, cultural and contemporary forces. What would you do for love? Is it ever too much? Is pleasure always guilty?

## TEAM

Raghav Handa, Nicholas Brown, Maharshi Raval, Victor Zarallo, Shashi Handa, Vicki Van Hout, Justine Shih Pearson

## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

# INTERNATIONAL TOURS



AMRITA HEPI

# RINSE

**Market Development (2024) | International Market Development (2024) | International Tour (2024-2025)**

*RINSE* is a solo dance work by celebrated First Nations choreographer and dancer Amrita Hepi, asking what it is about new 'beginnings' that remains intoxicating; the persistent lust for the initial thrill of a romance, scene, impression, country – the opening lines of stories bigger and more complex than just a beginning, middle and end. With an intense physical choreography – and accompanying text – the work shifts from fluid, to humorous and strangely affecting.

Winning the People's Choice Award at the Keir Choreographic Award, *RINSE* was developed as a full-length work for premiere at Performance Space's Liveworks Festival at Carriageworks in 2022, and immediately programmed at Fusebox Festival, TX where it toured in April 2023.

The work will be toured to further North American presenters in early 2024 with future touring opportunities also in development.

VIC | THAILAND

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## TEAM

Mish Grigor, Daniel Jenatsch, Matt Adey.

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## PRESENTATIONS

Festival TransAmériques Canada (2024)  
International tour 2024-2026

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Liveworks Festival of Experimental Art (2022)  
Fusebox Festival (2023)

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SENSORIUM THEATRE

# WONDERBOX

Market Development (2024) | National Tour (2024-2025) | International Tour (2026)

Sensorium Theatre - Australia's only theatre company making work specifically designed for young audiences with disability and their friends – invites children to roll the dice and set out along a safe, exhilarating pathway into the unknown.

Inside a giant puzzle-box of illusions, kooky-carnival friends with magic in their pockets lead audiences into an immersive multi-sensory wonderland of fantastical large-scale projections, strange tiny delights, and infectious live music. EVERY child's curiosity is celebrated and rewarded with wondrous surprises. As boxes reveal boxes within boxes each child is given the opportunity to find a magical version of themselves.

Inside the Wonderbox, micro moments of whole worlds in a matchbox lead into macro universes where EVERYONE, their face reflected in the stars of the Milky Way, is invited to be wonderful!

WA

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## TEAM

Michelle Hovane, Francis Italiano, Jamie David, Bec Bradley, Rachael Woodward, Gabriel Critti-Schnaars, Joanna, Michelle Hovane, Jamie David, Michelle Hovane, Jamie David, Daisy Sanders, Ella Hetherington, Amalia Lambert, Mand Markey, Ellen Flatters, Lucy Birkinshaw, Roly Skender, Steve Berrick

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Perth Festival (2023)  
Awesome Arts Festival (2023)

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# **NATIONAL TOURS & PRESENTATIONS**



BETTY GRUMBLE & DJ HIPHOPHOE

NSW | VIC

# 24 HOUR GRUMBLE BOOGIE

## National Market Development (2024)

In February 2023, Performing Lines NSW premiered *24 Hour Grumble Boogie* at Carriageworks for the opening weekend of Sydney WorldPride. In this multifaced, durational performance Betty Grumble united with fierce lover and warrior of music and community, DJ HipHopHoe for 24 hours of dance invitation, movement meditation and deep time feeling.

The performance is an all day and all night surreal aerobics class inspired by the Grumble Boogies livestreamed through lockdown; a communal celebration of aliveness; and a collage of grumblisms past and present.

Harnessing utopian energies gifted from their own experiences of queerness, the two artists and soul sisters blended choreography, music, protest and pleasures, taking over Bay 20 of Carriageworks alongside a cavalcade of local and international guests including Peaches, Christeene, Dr Annie Sprinkle and more.

## TEAM

Willow Darling, Alex Torney, Sophie Roberts, Victoria Spence, Joe Shrimpton, Daniel Story, Betty Apple, Christeene, Dr Annie Sprinkle, Beth Stephens, Peaches, Aunty Rhonda Dixon-Grovenor, Victoria Spence, Karmyn Gibson, DJ Charlie Villas, Matthew Massaria, Charlotte Farrell, DJ Matt Vaughan, Steam Room DJs, Pony Club Gym, Mona Eltahawy, Stereogamous, Cosmic Nuns, Blak Douglas, Davina, Fetu Taku, DJ Annabelle Gaspar, Craig Slist.

## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Sydney WorldPride (2023)





THE RABBLE

# WAKE

## National Presentation (2024)

WAKE is a new experimental performance installation by powerhouse Feminist theatre makers THE RABBLE addressing the invisibility, erasure and isolation of older women. Co-authored with an ensemble of women over 65, WAKE explores the relationship society has with older women over 65 years old and the loneliness these women often feel.

Through a process of devising and collaboration, the ensemble are given agency to tell their own stories, and the result is a strange vaudevillian show which unfolds at the iconic Altona Italian Social Club.

Responding to the context of ever increasing hostility towards women's bodies particularly for the elderly, WAKE will feature acts of courage and celebration created by the participating women. With an eclectic offering from a ukulele solo to a strip tease, or a monologue from hamlet or a handwritten poem, WAKE is an absurd work of solidarity, in an absurd age of dislocation.

VIC

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## TEAM

Kate Davis, Emma Valente, Emma Lockhart-Wilson, Cassandra Fumi, Nate Evans

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Substation at Altona Italian Social Club / Melbourne Fringe (2023)

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MARARO WANGAI

# BLACK BRASS

## Market Development (2024) | National Tour (2025)

*Black Brass* is an intimate and soulful play by West Australian Kenyan artist Mararo Wangai celebrating stories of resilience and personal victories, offering a window into the lives and voices of people not often heard in the theatre.

A stirring deliberation on the choices we make and how they shape our lives, *Black Brass* is a theatrical feast; playful yet mysterious. It follows the story of a cleaner, arriving to clean a music studio late at night, where he encounters a stranger who speaks only in music. Here they draw each other in to force a reckoning with a past that refuses to let go and a present that is unwilling to accept.

Performed by Mararo Wangai, and joined live onstage by musician Mahamudo Selimane, the work draws on interviews with communities of the African diaspora in Perth. It premiered at Perth Festival 2021 before touring to Belvoir Theatre in 2022.

WA

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### TEAM

Matt Edgerton, Afeif Ismail, Sisonke Mismang, Zainab Syed, Mahamudo Selimane, Zoe Atkinson, Lucy Birkinshaw, Tim Collins, Ben Nelson.

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### PRESENTATIONS

ISPA Perth Congress (2024)

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### PAST PRESENTATIONS

Perth Festival (2021)  
Belvoir, Sydney Festival (2022)  
Albany Entertainment Centre (2023)  
Queens Park Theatre (2023)  
P.A.C.E. Market in South Africa (2023)

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EMMA FISHWICK



# SLOW BURN, TOGETHER

Market Development (2024) | National Tour (2024) | International Market Development (2025) | International Tour (2026)

In a golden world of coconuts and grapefruits, piles of books and high heels, a clothing rack and a gramophone, Western Australian dance artist and Choreographer Emma Fishwick draws audiences into a series mesmerising vignettes filled with unexpected delights. Infused with a wry sense of humour *Slow Burn, Together* is an antidote to the uncertainty of our times.

Drawing from the masters of the Baroque and Pre-Raphaelite eras, the work plays with the tension of the present cultural moment and creates space for self-reflection and observation. *Slow Burn, Together* contemplates a female perspective and agency as an ensemble of women subvert their historic objectification to reveal the labour behind the façade.

The work premiered with Perth Festival 2021 with a national tour featuring locally cast ensembles in each tour location in development for 2024.

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## TEAM

Ella-Rose Trew, Francesca Fenton, Frances Barbe, Laura Boynes, Liz Cornish, Julie Doyle, Nannette Hassall, Ella Heatherington, Rachel Arianne Ogle, Sue Peacock, Aimee Smith, Marie-Muriel Toulcanon, Min Zhu, Emily Coles, Ellie Matzer, Bruce McKinven, Amalia Lambert, Tristen Parr, Chris Donnelly, Renée Newman, Mark Haslam, Chelsea Knight.

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RAGHAV HANDA

# TWO

**Market Development (2024) | Regional Tour (2024) | National Tour (2024) | International Tour (2025)**

*TWO* by Raghav Handa, is a celebrated dance work with text, exploring the transformative power of collaboration via the launching pad of Kathak dance.

For close to ten years, Raghav and the Maestro Tabla musician Maharshi Raval have built a friendship defined – and sometimes challenged – by the hierarchy inherent between dancer and musician in traditional Indian Kathak. *TWO* asks what happens when those conventional roles are reversed and the dancer takes control.

In a joyful celebration of trust, the pair push the boundaries of that convention in a charming and playful testament to friendship, respect and profound exchange. Imagining new ways of working shaped by the sharing and negotiation of power.

Premiering with FORM Dance at Riverside Theatre, Parramatta in 2021, *TWO* has since toured to OzAsia Festival, Darwin Festival and Arts House, and will soon be presented at Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts, and embark on a 2024 tour of regional NSW.

NSW

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## TEAM

Maharshi Raval, Julie-Anne Long, Alejandro Rolandi, Justine Shih Pearson, Karen Norris, Gordon Rymer.

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## PRESENTATIONS

Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre (2024)

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Arts House (2023)

PICA (2023)

Darwin Festival (2022)

OzAsia Festival (2021)

FORM Dance at Riverside Theatre (2021)

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BETTY GRUMBLE

NSW

# ENEMIES OF GROOVINESS EAT SHIT

## Market Development (2024) | International Tour (2024)

*Enemies of Grooviness Eat Shit* is poetry, a tribute, a rock'n'roll performance art collision, a love scene and a revenge fantasy. This radical eco-feminist show is a self-reflective, regenerative dive into the compost bin of making and moving through the trouble; of defying the ever-present cultures of violence and ecocide. Bowing to the powers of Grief and Love Energy, Rage Energy, Hope Energy & Fuck Energy, Emma Maye Gibson (a.k.a. Betty Grumble) invites you to sit with and honour the legacy of makers, mentors, friends, lovers and 'enemies' that have formed an ecosystem of aliveness within the perils of eco-grief and the structures that no longer serve us.

Premiering at The Red Rattler in October 2020, the show has since been presented at VIVID 2022, the Rechabite Perth, Darwin Festival, and Brisbane Festival, and will be presented at Arts House for Melbourne Fringe October 2023. Future national and international touring plans are in development.

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### TEAM

Emma Maye Gibson, Megana Holliday, Victoria Spence, Dr Vivienne Linsley, Charlotte Farrell, Dr Annie Sprinkle, Stella Delight, Stereogamous, Ms Saffa, Matthew Stegh & Haus of Helmutti, Alex Torney.

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### PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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### PAST PRESENTATIONS

The Red Rattler Theatre, Sydney (2020)  
Vivid Sydney, Eveleigh Works, Sydney (2022)  
The Rechabite, Perth (2022)  
Brown's Mart Theatre, Darwin Festival (2022)  
The Tivoli, Brisbane Festival, Brisbane (2022)  
Arts House, Melbourne Fringe (2023)

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SARAH AUSTIN & CO

VIC

# AN UNCERTAIN TIME

**Market Development (2024) | National Tour (2025) | International Tour (2025)**

*An Uncertain Time* is a 30 minute, immersive, sensory theatre performance created by Sarah Austin, designed specifically for babies aged 0-12 months and their carers.

Neuroscience tells us that critical neural pathways are formed in the first three years of life. Providing infants with quality arts and cultural experience fosters their understanding of beauty, belonging and story.

Taking the notion of the first year of an infant's life as a period of great uncertainty for both baby and carer, *An Uncertain Time* uses elements of song, sound, physical theatre and object puppetry to create a narrative journey for both baby and carer.

Performing Lines VIC produced a season of the work at Arts Centre Melbourne June 2023, and is developing national touring plans for 2024.

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## TEAM

Niow, Lauren Sheree, Rainbow Sweeny, Richard Vabre, Madeleine Flynn, Tim Humphrey, Graham Coffey, Meg Taranto.

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Arts Centre Melbourne (2023)

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NANCY DENIS

# M'AP BOULÉ

Market Development (2024) | Regional Tour (2025) | International Tour (2026)

*M'ap Boulé* by Nancy Denis, is a lyrical dramatic cabaret about a child born of immigrants growing up in a country called Australia. Nancy Denis shares funny and pivotal stories from her journey to embrace her Black, Queer, Haitian and Australian identities, framed by the pain and joy she carries from her self-liberated Ancestors who revolted against their colonisers and created the first black-led republic of Haiti. Supported by collaborators Carl St. Jacques, Anthea Williams, Victoria Falconer, Mick Stuart, Kween G and more, *M'ap Boulé* – Haitian Creole for “I’m on fire” – is a celebration of culture, connection and spirit.

In 2023 the work will be presented at Adelaide Cabaret Festival and Bleach\* Festival, with further touring plans in development for 2024.

NSW

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## TEAM

Anthea Williams, Liza-Mare Syron, Carl St Jacques, Victoria Falconer, Maitê Inaê, Karen Norris, Kween G Kibone, Mick Stuart.

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Adelaide Cabaret Festival (2023)  
Bleach\* (2023)

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KAYAH AND MAITREYAH GUENTHER & THE FARM

# GLASS CHILD

**Market Development (2024) | National Tour (2024) | International Tour (2025)**

This co-creation between The Farm and real life siblings Maitreyah and Kayah Guenther is a gentle exploration of the sibling dynamic in a family living with disability.

Kayah, a young man with Down syndrome, uses dance to express the way he sees the world and the way the world sees him. His sister Maitreyah uses language – a “glass child”, she has been his ally and support from her earliest days – often eclipsing her own needs as a child without disability. Here they feature together in a docu-dance performance that explores the joys and challenges of their relationship.

In March 2021 the work premiered at HOTA, The Gold Coast, and returned May-June 2023 at the Cremorne Theatre, Brisbane. In 2023 Performing Lines is working on building a national tour for 2024.

QLD | WA | GERMANY

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## TEAM

Kate Harman, Gavin Webber, Rozina Suliman, Chloe Ogilvie, Anna Whitaker

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

QPAC (2023)

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THE RABBLE

# YES

## Market Development (2024) | National Tour (2024)

YES is an investigation into the dynamics of power, consent, knowledge, truth by acclaimed feminist theatre makers THE RABBLE. The work is set within an ever-changing physical space, occasionally erupting with manufactured weather events, in which an audience watches two performers answer hundreds of questions.

Shifting between rite of passage, public debate and personal memoir, this unpredictable onslaught blurs the line between instruction, permission, philosophy and confession. The questions are relentless – even overwhelming – reminding us of the unyielding pressures of seeking answers and understanding and the futility of the pursuit of singular truth.

A national tour of the work is in development for 2024.

VIC

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### TEAM

Emma Valente, Kate Davis, Dana Miltins, Mary Helen Sassman, Eva Seymour, Cassandra Fumi, Kate Cameron, Emma Lockhart-Wilson, Jim Stenson

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### PAST PRESENTATIONS

Arts House (2022)  
Vitalstatistix (2022)

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NICK POWER

# DEEJAY X DANCER

## Market Development (2024) | National Tour (2024)

Inspired by the legendary block parties of 1970's New York, acclaimed choreographer Nick Power pays tribute to hip hop's origins. Featuring world champion turntablist DJ Total Eclipse (AB Original, Hilltop Hoods) with 3 of Australia's most respected Breakers, DeeJay x Dancer walks the tightrope of live performance in a thrilling call and response showdown, highlighting the skill, playfulness and connection between these two traditional hip hop forms.

DeeJay x Dancer continues Power's choreographic exploration of Hip Hop's rituals and origins, following on from his past hit works: Cypher, Between Tiny Cities, Two Crews.

VIC

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### TEAM

Nick Power, Anastasios Repousis, Demi Sorono, Jackson Garcia, DJ Total Eclipse, Sean Bacon, Ting Tan, Lee Wilson, Alejandro Rolandi

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### PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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### PAST PRESENTATIONS

Sydney Opera House Studio, New Work Now (2022)  
Newcastle Museum, New Annual Festival (2022)  
Merrigong Theatre Company, Wollongong Town Hall (2023)  
Brown's Mart Theatre, Darwin Festival (2023)

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# REGIONAL TOURS





NUNAMI SCULTHORPE GREEN

TAS

# ISLAND WHISPERS

## Market Development (2024) | Regional Tour (2025)

*Island Whispers-Kingborough* is a unique First Nations authored walking tour by Nunami Sculthorpe Green, the creator of the hugely successful First Nations walking tour of nipaluna/Hobart *takara nipaluna*. *Island Whispers* shares a Tasmanian Aboriginal perspective on history and place, connected to the Kingborough council region.

In 2024 Performing Lines TAS will be engaging in market development to determine sites of comparable *Island Whispers* tours across lutruwita.

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### TEAM

Sarah Hamilton

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BRYONY GEEVES, MELISSA KING, CARRIE MCLEAN,  
REBECCA THOMSON & JULIE WADDINGTON

TAS

# MENTAL - THE MOTHERLOAD

Regional Tour (2024) | National Tour (2024)

*MENTAL – The Motherload* is a creative documentary performance exploring the beauty, grotesquery, and poetry in the madness and mundanity of motherhood. Presented as a raucous interactive live gameshow: two teams compete for the crown of Ultimate Queen Mumma in a series of bizarre, boisterous, and hilarious tasks torn from the very real experiences of motherhood throughout its stages, while the verbatim performances offset this riotous battle with poignancy, relief, and chaos.

Created by a collective of Tasmanian women artists, *MENTAL – The Motherload* is in the midst of a regional tour of the island, and a further national tour is in development for 2024.

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## TEAM

Jane Johnson, Jacky Collyer, Ros Wren, Toni Smith, Clare Spillman.

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Burnie Arts and Function Centre (2023)

Theatre Royal, Hobart (2023)

Theatre North: George Town & Deloraine (2023)

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FAT FRUIT

VIC

# THE RAINBOW TREE

## Regional Tour (2024)

*The Rainbow Tree* is an unabashed queer family work co-written with seven children from rainbow families. It features live musical storytelling performed by two queer super Aunties, Auntie Bear and ZaZa from Fat Fruit (Bec Matthews and Sarah Ward). The songs share personal and imagined stories through exploring family, identity and community, and are brought to life through the projected visual images of Jolyon James (Arena Theatre Company) featuring animation, illustrations and the children themselves.

We are currently developing a regional tour of *The Rainbow Tree* for 2024.

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## TEAM

Sarah Ward, Bec Matthews, Susie Dee, Bridget Milesi, Monique Aucher, Jolyon James Animator.

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## PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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## PAST PRESENTATIONS

Bunjil Place (2023)  
Geelong Arts Centre (2023)  
Arts Centre Melbourne (2023)  
Bendigo Venues & Events (2023)  
Sydney WorldPride (2023)  
Yarra Ranges Council (2023)

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NORPA

NSW

# LOVE FOR ONE NIGHT

## Market Development (2024) | Regional Tour (2025)

*Love For One Night* – is an innovative, outdoor theatre event conceived by NORPA.

A love letter to country pubs and the connections that blossom therein, *Love for One Night* is a circle dance of intersecting love stories told in the playful and theatrical style of *Railway Wonderland* and *Dreamland*. A series of brief encounters are told through dialogue, movement and song — from deep friendship to infatuation, romance and heartbreak and of course sexual attraction and unbridled lust — while stunning visual effects add to the electric ambiance.

Originally presented at The Eltham Hotel, Lismore, in 2025 the work will tour to comparable pubs and hotels around regional Australia.

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### TEAM

Janis Balodis, Julian Louis, Jamie Birrell, Luke Bennett, Ben Cox, Alex Torney, Charlotte Haywood, Kimberley McIntyre, Claire Atkins, Mic Gruchy, Poppy Walker, Lloyd Allison Young, Zoe Gameau, Katia Molino, Phil Blackman.

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### PRESENTATIONS

TBC

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### PAST PRESENTATIONS

Eltham Hotel (2022)

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**SECTOR**

**DEVELOPMENT**



# NSW PRODUCERS PLATFORM

## Sector Development (2024)

Performing Lines NSW has brought its innovative skills development program for up-and-coming Producers to NSW, for a series of sessions designed to answer questions and provide real-world content to develop emerging producers' skills and experience.

The NSW Producers' Platform provides an opportunity for 8 independent producers to undertake a rigorous skills development program spanning 10-weeks. Facilitated by Performing Lines, alongside specialist guest speakers, this industry-led program incorporates practical, hands-on learning around processes and procedures for producing works to the highest professional standard and is informed by Performing Lines' methodology of learn-by-practice through the sharing of case studies and templates. In 2024 a small group of the Producer Platform participants will be selected to undertake a paid placement at a partner organisation.

The NSW Producers Platform is specifically catered to NSW-based producers – both metropolitan and regional – with a view to create a resilient, flexible, and strong cohort of independent producers working within our state.

## PARTNERS

Contemporary Asian Australian Performance (CAAP)  
National Theatre of Parramatta  
Shopfront Arts Co-Op  
NORPA  
Utp  
Griffin Theatre Company  
Campbelltown Arts Centre



[www.performinglines.org.au/initiatives/nsw-producers-platform/](http://www.performinglines.org.au/initiatives/nsw-producers-platform/)



PERFORMING LINES

# LOCAL GIANTS

## Sector Development (2024-2025)

Local Giants is an ambitious capacity building program which seeks to unlock the cultural ambition and potential of regional Australia; born of a three way partnership between Performing Arts Connections (PAC) Australia, Performing Lines and Regional Arts Australia.

Following extensive consultation and with support from the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund—an Australian Government initiative, the Australian Government through the Regional Arts Fund, and the NSW Government through Create NSW, Local Giants is a program running across 2021 – 2025 in partnership with regional partner venues in South Australia, New South Wales and Queensland.

The program consists of several intersecting parts including a Regional Producers Platform, Regional Artist Residencies in three states, and new Regional Work Co-Commissions.

In its first phase Local Giants has provided opportunities for over 75 artists, arts workers and producers, across the three residencies and producer platform, resulting in the development of up to three new regional works.

 [www.performinglines.org.au/initiatives/local-giants/](http://www.performinglines.org.au/initiatives/local-giants/)

NATIONAL

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## PARTNERS

Regional Arts Australia  
Performing Arts Connections (PAC) Australia  
Country Arts SA  
Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre  
Cairns Regional Council.

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PERFORMING LINES TAS

TAS

# TARRALEAH RESIDENCY

## Sector Development (2024-2026)

The Tarraleah Artist Residency is a core part of the annual program of Performing Lines TAS, creating a space for roughly 20 artists per year to share ideas and develop their professional practice.

Artists come together and explore new project ideas that often go on to reach the national stage. A range of highly skilled mentors from different arts practices across Australia are invited to inform each project's development.

In an intensive three-day event, the residency provides an exquisite regional setting, a supportive creative environment to test ideas and push projects to their next level of artistic discovery. Tarraleah Residency affords a highly efficient and inclusive platform for the generation of new works, new networks for artists, and additional resources for the sector. Each residency also has at least one First Nations mentor and four First Nations participants.

Local and national Festival Directors are also invited as observers, so they can connect with projects early and where aligned, begin conversations with artists about their work.



[www.performinglines.org.au/initiatives/tarraleah-artist-residency/](http://www.performinglines.org.au/initiatives/tarraleah-artist-residency/)



PERFORMING LINES TAS

TAS

# TASMANIA SECTOR DAY

## Sector Development (2024-2026)

An annual Sector Day held by Performing Lines TAS to foster community, knowledge sharing and connection at all levels of the Tasmanian arts industry.

Representatives from both the State and Federal arts funding bodies attend, as do the Artistic Directors of all the funded performing arts companies, CEOs of presenting organisations, Festival Directors and key independent artists. The focus of the event is flexible so that it can include break-out discussions with interest groups, introductions of new artists and company visions and challenging issues for the sector.





PERFORMING LINES TAS

TAS

# FIRST NATIONS MENTORING

## Sector Development (2024-2026)

Performing Lines TAS maintains an annual mentorship for First Nations artists of any discipline within the performing art. The mentorship program has played an unparalleled role in the career development of First Nation artists in lutruwita/ Tasmania. Across a range of roles, each artist has a personalised program that is tailored to their skills, takes them in new and exciting directions and connects them to career opportunities.

The 2024 mentee will be announced towards the end of 2023.

# MUYLATINA PRODUCERS PROGRAM

## Sector Development (2024)

In 2024, Performing Lines TAS partners with WaPA to expand the MuylatinaProducers Program. This collaboration allows Walantanaliny Palingina (WaPa), an Aboriginal-led arts organization, to enhance capacity building for artists and arts workers through a culturally safe and customized model of intergenerational knowledge sharing. Producer Sinsa Mansell's extensive learning journey over five years of sector engagement forms the foundation for Muylathina's culturally specific developmental approach.

The six-month producing program takes place in 2023, followed by a placement opportunity in PL Tas' Producer Platform alongside the Tarraleah Artist residency in 2024-25. Looking ahead to 2026-27, the goal is to employ a new First Nations trainee Producer, fostering strategic capacity building and support for artists and arts workers. This initiative aims to create sustained growth, development, and care for First Nations arts workers in the future.

## PARTNERS

Walantanaliny Palingina (WaPa)

# MAKE SOME SPACE

## Sector Development (2024-2026)

Make Some Space is a professional development program for 15-25 years olds in Victoria to foster the next generation of diverse arts leaders by developing pathways into the arts who may not otherwise have access to them and paying the artists to be involved. The 10 local participants are paid to take part in a two month program of training in producing and practice, leading up to a subversive and collaboratively created variety show in which they also perform. Selection prioritises marginalized and under-represented young people. The program is run by Sarah Austin and Performing Lines VIC in partnership with the presentation venue, The Bowery Theatre / Brimbank City Council.

## PARTNERS

The Bowery Theatre  
Brimbank City Council

# KOLYANG PROGRAM

## Sector Development (2024-2026)

The Kolyang Creative Hub and Kolyang Artist Lab, initiated by Performing Lines WA (PLWA), have been integral to the independent performing arts sector in Western Australia. These programs ran successfully in 2020, 2021, and 2022, evolving and adapting over time based on feedback and sector needs.

The Kolyang Creative Hub offers a three-week responsive program for mid-career and established independent artists. It fosters interdisciplinary artistic practice sharing, creative developments, panels, and conversations. This hub serves as a platform for breaking down silos, promoting knowledge sharing, critical thinking, and innovative approaches to working.

Running concurrently with or in close proximity to the Creative Hub, the Kolyang Artist Lab provides a creative space for emerging and early-career artists with diverse lived experiences. It allows them to explore ideas, forge relationships, and delve into performance-making processes.

Both initiatives follow a similar methodology

- An open expression of interest, inviting artists and producers to apply.
- An Artist Advisory Group to help select and support participants and shape the program.
- No fixed outcomes were expected – participation and learning were central.
- Participants were paid.
- Artist-led, with each year having a focus on one aspect of cultural diversity, equity and inclusion.

The Department of Local Government, Sports and Cultural Industries (DLGSCI), through the Arts Organisation Investment Program, confirmed ongoing support for the new-look Kolyang Program of Industry Development Initiatives from 2024-27, further affirming its importance and potential for ongoing positive impact.



[www.performinglines.org.au/initiatives/kolyang-program/](http://www.performinglines.org.au/initiatives/kolyang-program/)





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Redfern  
NSW 2016



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