

# DANCEHOUSE DANCEHOUSE DANCEHOUSE DANCEHOUSE

## DANCEHOUSE HOUSEMATE RESEARCH PROGRAM

### WHAT IS DANCEHOUSE ?

Dancehouse exists to advance independent contemporary dance in Australia through its program of research, performance and artist development. Dancehouse creates an environment where creative risk, independent career paths, collaborative relationships and diverse practice and presentation can flourish. Dancehouse is also a crucial link to a network of movement practices, artists and organisations in Australia and internationally.

As one of the key centres for choreographic and contemporary dance development in Australia, Dancehouse plays a significant role in the development of innovative dance practice and ongoing artistic enquiry. Dancehouse actively supports individual artists, working in diverse modes of physical practice and across different stages of career development. It is a dynamic venue for professional moving arts, which facilitates the development of artists, choreographers and audiences alike.

Dance is an intrinsic part of artistic and social culture. It provides a means to connect our histories and experiences of the world with others, to share our stories and aspirations and to imagine new possibilities for living. Dance reconnects us with our bodies and the way they function, interactively and productively generating that which is new, surprising and enlivening.

### WHAT IS THE HOUSEMATE PROGRAM ?

In 2008, Dancehouse created a fully funded creative development and presentation residency for dance practitioners across Australia - the Housemate Residency.

The residency gives an independent artist up to 14 weeks of free, full-time studio space, financial support, mentoring, workshop and outreach opportunities, office facilities and producing support.

Two residencies are offered each year:

The **HOUSEMATE PERFORMANCE PROGRAM** and the **HOUSEMATE RESEARCH PROGRAM**.

The **HOUSEMATE PERFORMANCE PROGRAM**, in the first half of each year, focuses solely on creative development leading to a new work and formal performance season, which Dancehouse presents in one of our two theatres.

The **HOUSEMATE RESEARCH PROGRAM**, offered in the second half of each year, concentrates on research and experimentation, with no expectation of a presentation outcome.

With both programs, Dancehouse wishes to instigate and nurture rigorous discourse and wide-ranging experimentation in all movement-based forms and to encourage new choreographic work. Both 'Performance' and 'Research' Housemate programs provide the artist with extensive time, generous financial support and a thoroughly mentored environment. Even though these two programs are project oriented, Dancehouse is interested in an artist's more global pathway, thus trying to act as a career fertilizer and an available tool with which to invent new connections between artistic work, professional networks and wider audiences.

## THE HOUSEMATE RESEARCH PROGRAM

The housemate research program is an opportunity for a dance practitioner to undertake a period of studio exploration which is free from the constraints of expectation. It is a time for experimentation, contemplation, and even a willingness to fail in order to work through and discover creative and artistic ideas. There is no requirement to create or show work although it may be of benefit to share aspects of your research in the context of your choosing.

### Who is this for?

This residency is for dance artists who are engaging in a rigorous choreographic practice and who wish to enter into a process of research or creative development in partnership with Dancehouse in the second half of 2013.

Artists who consider themselves to be established, mid career or emerging are all welcome to apply, however sustained professional contemporary dance activity and/or demonstrated exceptional potential in choreography will need to be evident. Interstate artists are also welcome to apply, however Dancehouse is unable to fund travel, accommodation or living allowance. *To be eligible you must be a Dancehouse Member (or become one) and you must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident (for tax purposes).*

### How it works :

The Housemate receives:

- Up to 8 weeks of fully subsidised studio space for experimentation and rehearsal
- A salary throughout the residency (+ superannuation) plus a modest fee for a collaborator
- A work-in-progress showing and feedback session
- Constant mentoring and support through the Dancehouse team, resources and networks
- Office space, resources and supplies
- Written, video and photographic documentation and promotion pack

### Residency Timing

The 8 weeks of the residency can be consecutive or non-consecutive. The entire Housemate Research Residency in 2013 must be held between August and December and must take place at Dancehouse.

### Research + Creative Development

This residency is for artists who wish to engage in creative development of new work or continued exploration of practiced-based research. Dance makers who have undertaken one or more stages of a creative development are eligible to apply, however this residency is very much focused on research, experimentation and risk taking and will not include a formal presentation season. Should the resident wish to have one or more informal showings for feedback, Dancehouse will accommodate and support this.

### Financial Support

As well as providing the Housemate resident with studio space, technical and production support in-kind, the Housemate also receives a \$6,000 grant plus \$1000 for a collaborator. The grant is allocated and expended by Dancehouse and the expense areas to which this grant is allocated must be negotiated with Dancehouse at the outset of the residency.

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## SELECTION CRITERIA

The Housemate Research Program Residency is open to projects that are outstanding both in their vision and in their capacity to investigate new choreographic territories and to connect to our society. This program gives generous space to experimental, cutting-edge and even insular research, with the aim to support the discovery of new ground in choreographic exploration.

### **The proposal should clearly outline :**

- the idea you will be investigating
- the method with which you will tackle this investigation
- the importance of this idea at this time for you and for the artform

### **The proposals will be assessed on the following selection criteria:**

1. a creative rationale and innovative approach to choreographic thinking and practice that has the potential to:
  - challenge conventions of choreographic research
  - provoke critical dialogue and discourse
2. a clear articulation of how this proposal will relate to your ongoing choreographic and/or performance practice
3. a well planned and articulated investigative process
4. significance of the impact that the Dancehouse Housemate Residency will have on your career development

If, in addition to the above selection criteria, you wish to give some consideration to possible ways to link your project to the existing Dancehouse program or to share it with our wider community (eg. mentoring, workshops, exchanges with local dance groups and educational institutions), we would be interested to hear about this.

You are encouraged to discuss you application with Olivia Millard before submission.

## ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Applications will first be shortlisted by Dancehouse's Artistic Director Angela Conquet and Program Producer Olivia Millard.

Shortlisted applications will then be reviewed by a residency advisory group, made up of representatives from around Australia and also one international advisor.

This process will take up to 7 weeks and it is anticipated that the successful Housemate Research Residency applicant will be notified by July 22, 2013.

**Applicants are advised to discuss proposals with either Dancehouse's Artistic Director or Program Producer prior to submitting.**

**Please prepare your application as stipulated on the Housemate Cover Sheet / Application form and submit by email only.**