

A person in a white dress is shown from the waist up, surrounded by a dense, vertical curtain of red and blue streamers. The person's right arm is extended to the right, and their left hand is near their chest. The streamers are illuminated with red and blue light, creating a vibrant, festive atmosphere.

20
21

11—
28
March

DANCEHOUSE DANCEHOUSE DANCEHOUSE

11 – 13 March



Sangam: Performing Arts Festival of South Asia and Diaspora

Sangam Festival of Performing Arts of South Asia and Diaspora presents two triple bills of newly created works by extraordinary South Asian classical-contemporary dancers at Dancehouse.

Now in its 3rd year, Sangam is a platform for emerging and established South Asian-Australian artists to learn, create and showcase art alongside globally renowned artists from the South Asian Diaspora. Over four jam-packed weekends, from February 20 to March 13 2021, and across four venues, Abbotsford Convent, The Drum Theatre, Bunjil Place and Dancehouse, this year's festival features 100+ artists bringing an eclectic array of music, dance, spoken word, comedy, classical and experimental performances to the stage. The Artistic Directors of the festival Priya Srinivasan, Hari Sivanesan and Uthra Vijay present Sangam in partnership with MAV and guided by BlakDance.

For more information visit sangam.com.au

Sangam is a proud partner of MAV and are supported by Creative Victoria, Australia Council for the Arts, City of Melbourne, City of Greater Dandenong and Yarra City Council. Sangam venue partners are Dancehouse, Abbotsford Convent, The Drum Theatre and Bunjil Place. Sangam has been guided by Blakdance and supported by Ausdance Victoria, Peril Magazine and SouthAsian Today.



Program One

Kasi Aysola's work *Eyes* explores the fragmented and multiple viewpoints and perspectives of the God who falls from grace.

Thursday—Saturday
6:30pm

Shyama Sasidharan and Divya Shreejit Kumar's duet *Melbourne Rasa* focuses on the migrant emotional and political struggle to 'belong' by investigating multiple emotional landscapes using both screen and live performance.

Rukshikaa Elankumaran's work *Amma: The Loss of our Motherland* uses classical Indian dance and is based on the Tamil Eelam liberation struggles in Sri Lanka exploring the emotions Tamil refugees and migrants experienced when they fled the country fearing persecution and genocide.

Program Two



Shriraam Theivendran's work *Sacred Sensuality* navigates the interplay of love, lust and religious sentiment through the classical dance medium. He asks "Is it improper, sinful even, to gaze at the Lord with thoughts of lust?"

Thursday—Saturday
8pm

Sooraj Subramaniam's work *Nimbus* is a contemporary dance solo journeying into the internal conflicts humans undergo when their expectations, their dreams, their aspirations get broken, where the rain of a nimbus (a dark and amorphous cloud) serves as metaphor

Raina Peterson's work *Maya (excerpts)* is an experimental solo dance work exploring Hindu conceptions of the self and the cosmos through a trans lens, and vice versa – exploring the trans experience using the frameworks of Hindu philosophy.

18 — 21 March



Bodylex **Rhys Ryan**

Laws are designed to regulate human behaviour. How our bodies are constituted through these superimposed pressures is a complex phenomenon. We must constantly navigate — deliberately or unconsciously — the tension between externally fixed rules and our subjective desires. Do we resist, conform or adapt? The answer is at once choreographic and political. By reframing these responses, *Bodylex* probes bigger questions about power, agency and authoring our own futures in a world of colliding sovereignties.

Thursday—Saturday
7pm

Sunday
3:30pm

Choreographer: Rhys Ryan

Performers: Isabelle Beauverd, Piaera Lauritz, Emma Riches

Voiceover: Zoe Boesen

Sound design: Robert Downie

Lighting design: John Collopy

Rhys Ryan is a dance artist whose practice encompasses performance, choreography and critical writing. He trained at the VCA and has worked as a dancer with Stephanie Lake, Russell Dumas, Anouk van Dijk, Kate Denborough, Linda Sastradipradja, Phoebe Robinson and Chunky Move. His choreographic credits include *Condition* (Dancehouse 2020), *Synthetic Upper* (VCA 2017) and, with collaborator Piaera Lauritz, *Colour Correction* (Melbourne Fringe 2018, Adelaide FringeVIEW 2020) and *Self Repair* (Melbourne Fringe 2017). Rhys has undertaken choreographic residencies at Lucy Guerin Inc and Darebin Arts Centre, and recently completed Dancehouse's Emerging Choreographers Program. He is also a lawyer and legal academic, and writes on dance for *Limelight*, *Dance Australia* and *Dance International*.

18 – 21 March



Memoria del Cuerpo Vivo Gabriela Green Olea & Oscar Ponce

This unique collaboration between two Chilean/Australian artists explores collective experience, told through a story of a young Chilean student activist. Gabriela Green Olea & Oscar Ponce are both children of parents that fled the Pinochet Dictatorship in Chile in 1973 and their living body memories give voice, song and movement to their ongoing resistance to the oppressive powers that dominate us all.

Thursday—Saturday
8pm

Sunday
4:30pm

Concept, choreography and performer: Gabriela Green Olea
Concept, music direction and performer: Oscar Ponce

Gabriela Green Olea is an activist and dance artist who works across many mediums, with all people and within inclusive environments. As a daughter and granddaughter of a refugee family, her work responds to the ideas of cross-cultural identity and the transitional space of belonging to community and place. She is a graduate of dance from the Victorian College of the Arts, 2014. In 2018 Gabriela was awarded a Young Regional Artist Scholarship and choreographed her first social arts project Continued Process, Altered Location for the This is Not Art Festival in Newcastle, 2018, mentored by Becky Hilton.

Oscar Ponce is an Australian born guitarist, composer and producer, he has been playing guitar for 24 years and performing professionally since early 2001. His passion for music and commitment to the guitar have been pivotal to his success in exploring the musical landscape of his past and present. He draws upon the traditions of South and Central American music, African music, Jazz and contemporary music.

18 — 21 March



MOTH Aimee Schollum

Three dancers unfolding, competing, surviving like moths to a flame in a haunting world woven around a singular axis in this new work by Aimee Schollum. Combining original sound design (Tamara Violet Partridge) and transformative costume design (Amelia Peace), *MOTH* pays homage to the fleeting beauty of the short life cycle.

Thursday—Saturday
9pm

Sunday
5:30pm

Director & Choreographer: Aimee Schollum
Performers: Emily Shoesmith, Melissa Tan, Aimee Schollum
Dramaturg: Jaala Jensen
Sound Designer: Tamara Violet Partridge
Lighting Designer: Jessica Hutton
Costume Designer: Amelia Peace
Producer: Beth Raywood Cross

Aimee Schollum is a Melbourne based, New Zealand born dancer, choreographer and graphic designer. She graduated with a Bachelor of Art and Design (Honours AUT 2010), a Diploma of Dance (2015) and has been a member of the 2019/20 Dancehouse Emerging Choreographers Program. Choreographic credits include *Sonos* winner Best Dance/Physical Theatre (2018 Melbourne Fringe) and *Eyes Wide Open* (2019 Melbourne Fringe). Most recently she performed in Stephanie Lake Company *Colossus* (Melbourne International Arts Festival 2019), Chunky Move & Contact Gonzos ChoreoLab performance at NGV (2020) and was a rehearsal director for *Simulcast* Bendigo by Chunky Move (2019). Alongside her arts practice Aimee is an experienced dance, Barre and RYT500 Ashtanga Yoga teacher.

24–27 March



Here we are
Such n Such

Such n Such thrive in uncertain conditions. *Here we are* is an open, unscored performance that generates, develops, accumulates or discards emergent material. Their long form duets are spontaneous compositions that are radical and risky approaches to crafting space and time in the absolute present, without a safety net.

Wednesday–Saturday
7pm

Concept & Performance: Such n Such (Debra Batton & Catherine Magill)

Lighting & Sound collaborator: Spenser Inwood

Visual Art collaborator: Clara M.Y.Chan

Debra Batton has no loyalty to genre, she can be found in circus, theatre, dance, or on screen and the street. She currently performs with Such n Such, Batton & Broadway and A Good Catch. Debra has a long history in performance as director and performer including a decade as Artistic Director of Legs on the Wall. Debra enjoys sharing ideas and skills for devising performance and is currently doing her MA in Art in Public Space at RMIT.

Catherine Magill (BA Dance) focuses on the exploration and development of instant composition, spoken word and the embodied moment. Her practice is informed by Authentic Movement, Body Mind Centering and numerous dance techniques. A teacher of performance improvisation, pilates and contact improvisation she has taught in a variety of settings including Deakin University. Catherine has performed as a solo artist both on stage and in film, and curated and performed in numerous shared presentations.

25 — 28 March



Colour-Fool **Yumi Umiumare and the ButohOUT! Ensemble**

Colour-Fool is an experimental performance installation work which embraces our colourful acts of 'foolishness' to provoke and challenge our perception of 'what is normal?' Created by a heterogeneous bunch of established and emerging artists from diverse cultural backgrounds, *Colour-Fool* draws on personal narratives and makes use of poetry, visual arts and body painting to reflect on 'home,' 'connection' and 'flesh' in a post-pandemic Melbourne.

Thursday—Saturday
8:15pm

Sunday
3:30pm

Director & Choreographer: Yumi Umiumare

Producer: Takashi Takiguchi

Co-creators & Performers: Kiki Ando, Emma Bathgate, David Blom, Jessie Ngaio, Pauline Sherlock, Tomoko Yamasaki, Takashi Takiguchi, Yumi Umiumare.

Lighting Designer & Operator: Rachel Lee

Sound Designer: Ai Yamamoto

Sound Operator: Isao Sano

Graphic Design: Monika Benova

Yumi Umiumare was born in Hyogo, Japan and is an established Butoh Dancer, choreographer and creator of Butoh Cabaret works. She has been creating her distinctive style of works for 30 years and her works are renowned for provoking visceral emotions and cultural identities. Yumi is a recipient of a fellowship from Australia Council (2015–16) and the winner of the Green Room Geoffrey Milne Memorial Award in 2017 in recognition of her contribution to Contemporary and Experimental Performance. Yumi is an artistic director of ButohOUT! Festival, activating local and international Butoh communities in Melbourne and teaches nationally and internationally.

28 March

Now Pieces
Amaara Raheem

Now Pieces is a curated monthly platform for improvised performance, practice exchange, and building community. It names the here and now, responds to the immediate and the personal and meets the wider social, political, and atmospheric moment we share.

Sunday
6:30pm

Each month a different curator or collective is invited to host and program Now Pieces 2021.

Curator: Amaara Raheem

Performers: Manisha Anjali, Emily Bowman and Amaara Raheem (trio), Deanne Butterworth (solo), Janette Hoe and Ria Soemardjo (duet), Alexander Powers (solo), Rachael Wisby (solo)

Creative Correspondent: Jessie Brooks-Dowsett

Amaara Raheem is a shape-shifter, an unspectacular dancer, permaculture enthusiast, occasional writer and amateur basket weaver. Dancing came about through working in theatre, and for her language has always been part of her practice of movement. Amaara's improvisations — in dance and life — are shaped by her history of migration. She's lived in three continents, and now resides part-time in Naarm/Melbourne and part-time in rural Victoria. She's completing a practice-based PhD at the School of Architecture and Urban Design RMIT University.

Biographies

Sangam Program One

Kasi Aysola is a dance artist who is making his mark in the United States. He is the Co-founder & Artistic Director of Prakriti Dance, an innovative dance company. Kasi is a dancer, choreographer, and nattuvangam artist of Indian performing traditions who trained under Guru Viji Prakash in Bharata Natyam and under Mythili Prakash. He has also trained in Kuchipudi under late Guru Vempati Ravi Shankar and Yamini Saripalli. Kasi is pursuing both forms with the intention to inspire new generations of dancers to delve into the enriching world of Indian performing arts.

Shyama Sasidharan is a performing artiste and a dance and yoga educator. She holds a Master's degree in Performing Arts from India and specialises in Kuchipudi dance. She has been a movement enthusiast and has learnt the basics of Kalaripayattu (Indian Martial Art) in addition to Bharatanatyam and Mohiniyattam. She is in a process of identifying a movement vocabulary from her cross-disciplinary trainings. She has worked at various educational institutions including the University of Melbourne and Hawthorn Primary School. Shyama is an active member of Melbourne's Indian art community and have performed as a solo artiste and in collaborations alike.

Divya Shreejit Kumar is a Bharatanatyam artist with an active practice in performance, teaching and choreography. Her 25 years of dance practice includes a brief stint at Mohiniattam. She continues to progress her training in interrelated aspects of the art including rhythm, notation, composition, and choreography. Divya prefers to work on lesser negotiated topics that address human emotional issues, she recently presented a new choreographic work on postnatal depression. Divya has an active presence in Melbourne's community arts scene. She is a member of Karma Dance's touring group and has performed at MCG, Woodford Folk Festival (Queensland) and in Byron Bay.

Rukshikaa Elankumaran is an upcoming Bharathanatyam dancer based in Melbourne. She regularly performs in Chennai during the Margazhi season and has staged many performances both nationally and internationally. She is a senior teacher and choreographer at Nadanailaya Academy. In addition to dance, Rukshikaa is currently undertaking her Honours year in Psychology at Monash University. She is currently part of the ECP program of choreographers at Dancehouse for 2021 and working with Priya Srinivasan.

Ramya S. Kapadia is a Durham-based Bharatanatyam dancer, choreographer, instructor and a Carnatic vocalist (South Indian classical dance & music forms). She received initial training in Bharatanatyam from Smt. Santha Gopinath of Kalakshetra and later from Smt. Kripa Baskaran, Brookfield, WI. Her vocal training began under her mother Smt. Gayathri Sundaresan, advanced by Late Guru V. Vamanan, Mumbai, India. Ramya has toured all over the United States & abroad to present solo & group works. She regularly provides vocal accompaniment to dancers around the world and composes music for their productions. Ramya has dabbled in a bit of Indie-pop and Indo-Jazz music during her undergraduate years in Mumbai.

Supporters & thank yous:

Sangam is a proud partner of MAV and are supported by Creative Victoria, Australia Council for the Arts, City of Melbourne, City of Greater Dandenong and Yarra City Council. Sangam venue partners are Dancehouse, Abbotsford Convent, The Drum Theatre and Bunjil Place. Sangam has been guided by Blakdance and supported by Ausdance Victoria, Peril Magazine and SouthAsian Today.

Sangam Program Two

Shriram Theiventhiran began his training under the tutelage of Renuka Arumughasamy (Melbourne). His passion for Bharata Natyam and fascination with its various styles had catalysed his thirst for further learning, taking him to Madras for intensive training under Dr. Sujatha Mohan. Shriram is a regular performer during the s circuit and has danced in several productions as a freelance dancer. He is one of the very few dancers who are practitioners of Bharata Natyam, Bharata Nrityam and Karanas. Shriram is the Artistic Director of Shri Nrityam. Having been influenced and inspired by Dr. Padma Subrahmanyam, Shriram strives to connect and bring unity through diversity, by carving a path of harmony through the Arts. He is currently part of the ECP program of choreographers at Dancehouse for 2021 and working with Joel Bray.

Sooraj Subramaniam is versatile in Bharatanatyam, Odissi, Kathak, ballet and contemporary dance forms. He received early training at the Sutra Foundation, Malaysia, and later on at the Western Australian Academy for Performing Arts, Perth. His major credits include performing with SRISHTI, Akademi, Balbir Singh Dance Company and Shobana Jeyasingh Dance. Sooraj currently lives in Belgium, presenting solo work as well as collaborating with companies and independent choreographers. His own creations employ an organic amalgam of styles, and draws on traditional templates to produce work that is personal and reflective.

Raina Peterson is a dancer-choreographer who was born and raised on the lands of the Gunaikurnai people and is currently living and working on the lands of the Wurundjeri people. Raina draws on their training in mohiniyattam (classical dance of Kerala, India) to create experimental works exploring gender, sexuality, spirituality and time. With dance partner Govind Pillai, their full-length works include In Plain Sanskrit (2015), Bent Bollywood (2018), Third Nature (2019), Kāla (2019), Drishti (2020) and Maya (solo, upcoming).

Aneka Srinivasan has been learning Carnatic music under Smt. Jayshree Ramachandran since the age of 4. She completed her Arangetram in 2015 and has since developed her passion for Carnatic music further by performing both in Melbourne and during the Chennai December Season, for various organisations and sabhas. She is also a Postgraduate Psychology Student in Melbourne, Australia.

Pallavi Susarla trained under Dr Chandrabhanu at the Chadrabhanu Bharatalaya Academy and is an accomplished Bharata Natyam and Oddisi dancer as well as a Carnatic Vocalist. Pallavi has performed in numerous productions and in 2012 she received the Natya Kala Choodamani award for her contribution to stage management, teaching, vocal music, mentoring and nattuvangam. Pallavi continues to develop and follow her passion for the arts.

Senthuran Jogaratnam commenced his Mridangam training under Sri Balasri Rasiah and is currently undertaking advanced training from Mridangam maestro Sri Patri Satish Kumar. He has accompanied for countless Carnatic concerts, Bharatha Natyam performances, Jugalbandis and Dance productions.

Maiyuren Srikumar is a violinist and composer who has been trained in both Classical Western and Carnatic music. He has made appearances on Sri Lankan national TV and radio as an upcoming Fusion artist who composes music with a unique blend of western and eastern cultures. He is also the founder of a sought after Melbourne based band performing in a range of public and private events. Aside from his contemporary works, Maiyuren regularly performs in Carnatic concerts and has also established himself in Melbourne as a versatile classical performer.

Bodylex — Rhys Ryan

Rhys Ryan is a dance artist whose practice encompasses performance, choreography and critical writing. He trained at the VCA and has worked as a dancer with Stephanie Lake, Russell Dumas, Anouk van Dijk, Kate Denborough, Linda Sastradipradja, Phoebe Robinson and Chunky Move. His choreographic credits include *Condition* (Dancehouse 2020), *Synthetic Upper* (VCA 2017) and, with collaborator Piaera Lauritz, *Colour Correction* (Melbourne Fringe 2018, Adelaide FringeVIEW 2020) and *Self Repair* (Melbourne Fringe 2017). Rhys is also a lawyer and legal academic, and writes on dance for Limelight, Dance Australia and Dance International.

Isabelle Beauverd is a freelance dance artist from Naarm/Melbourne. She has performed for Siobhan McKenna, Chunky Move, Sandra Parker, Victoria Chiu and Arts Fission, Emma Riches and Jack Riley. Upon graduating from the Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne University in 2016, Isabelle received the Choreographic Development Fund Award. Her choreographic works include *Bottom Line* (Melbourne Fringe Festival 2016), *Grapple* (commissioned by Melbourne University 2019) and *Surge* (awarded Best Dance, Melbourne Fringe Festival 2019).

Piaera Lauritz is a Naarm/Melbourne based dancer, choreographer and internationally screened filmmaker with a BFA in Dance from the Victorian College of the Arts. She has danced with makers such as Stuart Shugg, Nat Cursio, Phillip Adams, Kate Denborough, Alisdair Macindoe, Lilian Steiner and Broad Encounters production company. As the 'Peas' of 'Peas and Rice', Piaera has co-presented *Self Repair* (2017) and *Colour Correction* (2018) as part of the Melbourne Fringe Festival with collaborator Rhys Ryan. Her films have been screened at festivals in eight countries, with her 2019 work (*like a*) *Less Dense Brick* winning Best Film at Multiplié Dance Film Festival in Norway, and *Softer Terracotta* a 2020 semi-finalist at Dumbo Festival in New York.

Emma Riches is a Naarm/Melbourne based dance artist who graduated from the VCA in 2015 with a BFA in dance. Emma has worked with notable makers including Victoria Hunt, Jo Lloyd, Phillip Adams/Matthew Bird, Siobhan McKenna, Alice Will Caroline, Nebahat Erpolat and Adele Varcoe. Her choreographic work has been commissioned for the University of Melbourne and presented at M1 CONTACT Festival (Singapore), Sunshine Art Spaces, MPavilion and Dancehouse through the Emerging Choreographers Program. Emma is currently a part of 'Exquisite Corps', a cohort in residence at Temperance Hall.

Robert Downie is a composer, producer and sound designer seeking to combine the memories of days past with visions of the future. He has written scores for numerous contemporary dance works, theatre shows, and short films, and has had music featured on TV shows. He is also an active member in the Melbourne music scene, with mixing, mastering and production credits on over 30 records.

John Collopy is a lighting designer whose credits for dance and circus include *Dark Points* (Die Angle, Melbourne Fringe 2019), *Inside* (Milly Cooper, Undercover Artist Festival Brisbane 2017), and for circus, *Sensory Decadence* (One Fell Swoop/Gasworks) and *Kilter* (One Fell Swoop/White Night). Theatre credits include works for The Bloomshed (*The Nose*, *The Market is a Wind-Up Toy*, *Paradise Lost*, *Animal Farm*) plus *Slut* (The Burrow), *New Balance* (Before Shot/Theatre Works), *Thigh Gap* (La Mama), *WRATH* (KXT/Melbourne Fringe), *Rust* (Midsumma) and *Helping Hands* (A_tistic/La Mama).

Supporters & thank yous:

This work has been supported by Yarra City Arts and Lucy Guerin Inc. through a studio residency at WXYZ Studios. The choreographer wishes to thank Caitlin Dear, James Lauritz, Nader Ruhayel and the team at Dancehouse for their support.

Memoria del Cuerpo Vivo — Gabriela Green Olea & Oscar Poncell

Gabriela Green Olea is an activist and dance artist who works across many mediums, with all people and within inclusive environments. As a daughter and granddaughter of a refugee family, her work responds to the ideas of cross-cultural identity and the transitional space of belonging to community and place. She is a graduate of dance from the Victorian College of the Arts, 2014. In 2018 Gabriela was awarded a Young Regional Artist Scholarship and choreographed her first social arts project Continued Process, Altered Location for the This is Not Art Festival in Newcastle, 2018, mentored by Becky Hilton. In 2019 she choreographed WHO WE ARE with dancers in regional NSW, living with and without disability mentored by Vicky Malin (UK). In 2020 Gabriela performed at the Sydney Festival in ENCOUNTER by Emma Saunders for FORM Dance Projects. Gabriela is currently a Dancehouse Emerging Choreographer in Melbourne and is working in Western Sydney with Emma Saunders on her 'Curated Program' and the We Are Here Company.

Oscar Poncell is an Australian born guitarist, composer and producer, he has been playing guitar for 24 years and performing professionally since early 2001. His passion for music and commitment to the guitar have been pivotal to his success in exploring the musical landscape of his past and present. He draws upon the traditions of South and Central American music, African music, Jazz and contemporary music. Since his formal and informal studies in music with various highly respected guitar mentors, Oscar has become an outstanding guitarist and has had the opportunity to perform at major Australian Festivals such as Melbourne International Jazz Festival 2008—18, Womadelaide 2007, 18th Byron Bay Blues and Roots Festival 2007, Wangarratta Jazz Festival 2015 and he has toured internationally to Chile, Germany, Vanuatu, and New Caledonia. He is a founding member, vocalist, guitarist and plays the "Tres Cubano" in San Lazaro — one of Melbourne's leading Latin bands who were recognised for their contribution of all original recordings to the Australian world music scene in an Australian Music Council publication World Music, Global Sounds In Australia 2010.

Supporters & thank yous:

This work has been supported by Dancehouse, Ngioka Bunda-Heath, Dance Artist in Residence DAIR Program Ausdance NSW, Campbelltown Arts Centre and Emma Saunders.

MOTH — Aimee Schollum

Aimee Schollum is a Melbourne based, New Zealand born dancer, choreographer and graphic designer. She graduated with a Bachelor of Art and Design (Honours) AUT 2010 & a Diploma of Dance (Elite Performance) 2015, was a member of TriPP (Transit International Professional Pathway) 2018 mentored by Israel Aloni and has been a member of the 2019/20 Dancehouse Emerging Choreographic Program. Since moving to Australia in 2013 she has collaborated and designed artwork for Australian Youth Dance Festival: 2017 re-brand & Emergence, Yellow Wheel Set Designer: The People's Dance, Lucy Guerin: 2017 Pieces for Small Spaces, Dirtyfeet: Out of the Studio 2018 and Tasdance: First Floor 2019 to name a few.

Jaala Jensen is an Australian dancer, choreographer and filmmaker. She works as a multidisciplinary artist and explores ideas that combine the two mediums. Jaala got her start with DRILL Performance Company in Hobart, then relocated to Melbourne to complete a Diploma of Dance at The Space School of Performance Arts, and a Bachelor of Film at SAE Institute Melbourne. She has gone on to produce and perform in a number of independent works and short films and has recently spent time working as a choreographer with youth companies, DRILL and Spark Productions.

Melissa Tan originates from the Northern Territory, and began dance training at Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts(WAAPA), where she completed her Bachelor of Arts in 2015. Throughout her training, Tan performed in works by Sue Peacock, Justin Rutzu, Oded Ronen, Aimee Smith, Lucas Viallefond, and Lin Wen Chung. During 2015, she was granted the opportunity to spend 5 months at Taipei National University of the Arts (TNUA), where she was awarded Best Female Dancer, in Lin Wen Chung's remount of Chang He/Long River.

Emily Shoesmith graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts in 2016. Here she had the opportunity to work with Stephanie Lake, Lee Serle, Mariaa Randall, Sandra Parker, Rheannan Port, Kyall Shanks and Isabelle Beauverd. Since graduating she has worked as an independent artist, making and performing alongside Ashlen Harkness in their collaborative work 'In A Moment' in 2017. In 2018 Emily performed in award winning work 'Sonos' choreographed by Aimee Schollum for the Melbourne Fringe Festival as well as 'Eyes Wide Open' in 2019 again choreographed by Aimee Schollum.

Tamara Violet Partridge's appetite for music has become a passionate hunger to compose for film and multimedia. With a Bachelor Degree in Music Composition, and a Bachelor Degree (Honours) in Interactive Composition as well as specialised training in Film Scoring, Tamara commits herself to write, record and produce at the Industry Standards for every project she takes on. The Melbourne based composer has worked with directors and producers from various Australian Universities and Film Production Companies which has granted Tamara the means and the momentum to infinitely explore originality and professionalism in her work.

Supporters & thank yous:

This work has been supported by Dancehouse, The Space Dance & Arts Centre and Transit Dance. Special thanks to producer Beth Raywood Cross, lighting designer Jess Hutton and costume designer Amelia Peace for their contribution in bringing this work to life.

Here we are — Such n Such

Debra Batton has no loyalty to genre, she can be found in circus, theatre, dance, or on screen and the street. She currently performs with Such n Such, Batton & Broadway and A Good Catch. Debra has a long history in performance as director and performer including a decade as Artistic Director of Legs on the Wall. Debra enjoys sharing ideas and skills for devising performance and is currently doing her MA in Art in Public Space at RMIT.

Catherine Magill (BA Dance) focuses on the exploration and development of instant composition, spoken word and the embodied moment. Her practice is informed by Authentic Movement, Body Mind Centering and numerous dance techniques. A teacher of performance improvisation, pilates and contact improvisation she has taught in a variety of setting including Deakin University. Catherine has performed as a solo artist both on stage and in film, and curated and performed in numerous shared presentations.

Clara M.Y.Chan has worked and lived in Melbourne since the 90's. Recently Clara quit her day job to concentrate on her art making journey while pursuing a Master degree in Art in Public Space (RMIT). She is interested in engaging everyday craft materials and artisanal techniques in art activism, in which "handmade" becomes a form of resistance. Social justice and environmental consciousness are issues that are close to her heart. Recently Clara has started to combine digital technology with textile to open up new possibilities within her practice.

Spenser Inwood trained and performed with the Flying Fruit Fly Circus (FFFC) encouraging her to build a strong foundation in circus skills and making her the multi-skilled acrobat and aerialist she is today. Spenser directed her first full work What Do I Want? in 2013. Circus Oz ensemble 2013–2017. In 2017 She embarked on the exciting journey of starting her own company A GooD Catch with Sharon Gruenert and Debra Batton. Their works include Casting Off and Bridges. Casting Off is a multi-award-winning show. She has come back to Circus Oz since starting A GooD Catch to be a part of the ensemble in Model Citizens and Precarious. Life has been on hold but she is still making new works with A GooD Catch.

Supporters and thank yous:

Such n Such extend their heartfelt thanks to the Dancehouse team for dealing with the ever-changing conditions for performance due to Covid and making this event possible. Their generous patience and dogged persistence is much valued and appreciated. Clara Mee Yee Chan has been a wonderful collaborator and we thank her for her enthusiasm and trust in stepping into the unknown with us. Her wonderful textile creations have been a delight to perform in and have opened up a whole new area for Such n Such to explore. Thanks also to collaborator Spenser Inwood for creating wonderful sounds and lighting scapes for us to respond to, and to Sharon Gruenert for her input to this too. We thank Angel Leggas, Abi Li Zhen and Mishca Baka for their images and films respectively. For giving us some wonderful space in which to play in the lead up to the show, we thank Joey Lehrer and Emily Bowman for their workshop "Attending". We raise our voices in thanks to Hilde Knottenbelt for her fabulous "Creative Voice" coaching sessions. Our thanks also goes to our families, friends and fellow movers and the many wonderful ways they kept us nourished, supported and inspired during the tricky months of 2020.

New Ab/Normal — Colour-Fool, Yumi Umiumare and the ButohOUT! Ensemble

Yumi Umiumare was born in Hyogo, Japan and is an established Butoh Dancer, choreographer and creator of Butoh Cabaret works. She has been creating her distinctive style of works for 30 years and her works are renowned for provoking visceral emotions and cultural identities. Yumi is a recipient of a fellowship from Australia Council (2015-16) and the winner of the Green Room Geoffrey Milne Memorial Award in 2017 in recognition of her contribution to Contemporary and Experimental Performance. Yumi is an artistic director of ButohOUT! Festival, activating local and international Butoh communities in Melbourne and teaches nationally and internationally.

Takashi Takiguchi is a performer and creative producer of Japanese heritage based in Naarm (Melbourne). Takashi has an interest in working with varied ensembles of performers and non-performers who have a diverse skill set and lived experience, come from diverse backgrounds, ages, body types and varying levels of training. Major projects and artistic collaborators have produced and co-produced include ButohOUT! Festival, Australia's first Butoh festival (Melbourne 2017-2020) with Yumi Umiumare; Melaka Art & Performance Festival (2016 – 2010) with Tony Yap; Pelem Festival (2016 & 2020) with the Indonesian-based dancer Agung Gunanwan. impermanenceproductions.com

Kiki Ando was born in Shizuoka Japan, Kiki is a fashion designer and potter. She moved to Australia in 2003 where she graduated at the Melbourne School of Fashion while directing shows for the Melbourne Fringe Festival as well as several events for the Loreal Fashion Week.

David Blom works as a mental health nurse and educator. In his spare time he chases the Butoh. Under the tutelage of Yumi Umiumare and Tony Yap, David has been subject to multiple performances including ButohOUT! 2019, Mapping Melbourne 2019, ButohOUT! 2020, Huru Hara/Asia TOPA 2020.

Jessie Ngaio studied art in her hometown in Aotearoa and her MFA at RMIT. As chronic pain inhibited her painting, she explored taking her practice into the performing arts, producing and starring in Golden Gibbo nominated musical comedy, Slutmonster and Friends. Recently she has trained in clown and bouffon with Giovanni Fusetti, Claire Bartholomew and Pedro Fabio and is discovering a fascination with Butoh, studying with Yumi Umiumare. She is an experienced editor, creator and performer in feminist porn. jngaio.com

Pauline Sherlock has been based in Melbourne since October of 2018 and partaking in rigorous training experiences, exploring clown, Butoh, improvised movement and theatre training as research for her PhD and as part of her pursuit of expertise. Pauline has performed for several years as a singer-songwriter and stand-up comedian.

Tomoko Yamasaki is a Japanese performance artist & aerial performer, and shiatsu therapist based in Melbourne. After arriving in Melbourne in 1993, she began training aerial circus with Circus Oz and Women's Circus to express her physical body as her first language. She graduated from John Bolton Theatre School in 1998.

Supporters and thank yous:

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Dancehouse stands on what always was and always will be Aboriginal land. We pay our respects to the traditional owners of this land, the Wurundjeri peoples of the Kulin Nation, to their elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded.

Photos in order of appearance:

Front: *Third Nature* (2019), Raina Peterson. Photo by Hayden Golder.

Fading (2017), Divya Sheejith Kumar. Photo by Anandh Bala.

Indra (2018), Kasi Aysola. Photo by Arun Kumar.

Nimbus (2019), Sooraj Subramaniam. Photo by Karolina Maruszak.

Bodylex (2021), Rhys Ryan. Photo by Caitlin Dear.

Primera Linea (2019). Photo by Sebastián Silva Pizarro.

MOTH (2021), Aimee Schollum. Design by Aimee Schollum, photo by Jessi Jaggi.

Here we are (2021), Such n Such. Photo by Angel Leggas.

New Ab/Normal — Colour-Fool (2021), Yumi Umiumare and Pauline Sherlock. Collage elements by Jacqui Stockdale, graphic design by Monica Benova, photo by Mathew Lynn.

Back: *New Ab/Normal — Colour-Fool* (2021). Photo by Mathew Lynn.

Artists in Season One are supported by:



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