

MEDIA RELEASE**N**

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 10:00 am (AEST)
Monday 9 July 2018**

Congratulations to the shortlisted nominees of the 21st Australian Dance Awards

Celebrating 21 years, the Australian Dance Awards is one of the country's most prestigious performing arts awards. Across 12 categories, the Awards acknowledge people working in the professional dance sector who have made innovative and exceptional work of national significance, or have made an outstanding and enduring contribution to the dance industry.

'Arriving at the shortlist is a demanding job for the volunteer panel of 13 dance sector professionals representing all states and territories', said Julie Dyson, nominations coordinator for the 2018 Australian Dance Awards.

'Panel members include educators, independent artists, dance company directors, and writers/reviewers. We receive between 450 and 700 nominations each year. A thorough voting system is in place, with two, sometimes three rounds of voting.'

Presented by Ausdance National, the 2018 awards will take place on Saturday 8 September at the Brisbane Powerhouse, with tickets on sale from 9 July.

'Ausdance National is honoured to present the 21st Australian Dance Awards in partnership with industry sponsors', said Kerry Comerford, Executive Director of Ausdance National. 'The Awards ceremony is the time we acknowledge and celebrate the dance profession's depth and diversity, both on and off the stage.'

Presented in an afternoon of performances showcasing some of Australia's best dance of the past year, the annual Australian Dance Awards rely on the generosity and goodwill of the dance sector. 'It's important that the event represents the excellence and diversity of dance in Australia' said Sandi Woo, 2018 Award's producer.

For interview or more information contact:

Kerry Comerford

Executive Director

Ausdance National

E national@ausdance.org.au

T 0419 254 128

And the shortlist is...**C****E**

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2018 Australian Dance Awards shortlist

Services to Dance

Philippe Charluet
Marilyn Miller
Philip Piggin
Hilary Trotter

Services to Dance Education

Paige Gordon
Raewyn Hill
Sinsa Mansell
Katrina Rank

Outstanding Achievement in Community Dance

Annette Carmichael for *The Beauty Index*
Tracks Dance for *Man Made*
QPAC, The Royal Ballet and Community Groups for *We All Dance*
Sprung!! Integrated Dance Group for *Share House*

Outstanding Achievement in Youth Dance

Austinmer Dance Theatre for *UNREAL*
Co3 for *Project next*
QL2 Dance for *This Poisoned Sea*
Moorambilla Voices for *Gundabooka*

Outstanding Achievement in Choreography

Lucy Guerin and Gideon Obarzanek for *Attractor* (Dancenorth and Lucy Guerin Inc)
Raewyn Hill for *The Zone* (Co3)
Stephanie Lake for *Pile of Bones* (Stephanie Lake Company)
Stephen Page for *Benelong (2017)* (Bangarra Dance Theatre)

Outstanding Achievement in Independent Dance

Martin del Amo for *CHAMPIONS*
Australian Dance Artists for *Restraint(s)*
Michelle Heaven for *In Plan*
Nick Power (choreography), Jack Prest (sound design) for *Between Tiny Cities*

Outstanding Performance by a Company

Co3 for *The Zone*
Dancenorth *Attractor*
STRUT Dance for William Forsythe's *One Flat Thing, Reproduced*
Queensland Ballet for *Raw (triple bill): No Man's Land, Glass Concerto and Ghost Dances*

Outstanding Performance by a Female Dancer

Jana Castillo for *construct* (Australian Dance Theatre)
Amber Haines for *Spectra* (Dancenorth)
Ako Kondo for *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (The Australian Ballet)
Charmene Yap for *Ocho* (Sydney Dance Company)

Outstanding Performance by a Male Dancer

Richard Causer for *Behind Closed Doors* (Expressions Dance Company)
Nelson Earl for *Ocho* (Sydney Dance Company)
Beau Dean Riley Smith for *Bennelong (2017)* (Bangarra Dance Theatre)
Kimball Wong for *construct* (Australian Dance Theatre)

Outstanding Achievement in Commercial Dance, Musicals or Physical Theatre

Gravity & Other Myths for *BACKBONE*
Michael Ralph for *SELF*
Andrew Hallsworth for *Muriel's Wedding* (Sydney Theatre Company and Global Creatures)
Nicola Gunn and Jo Lloyd for *Piece for Person and Ghetto Blaster*

Outstanding Achievement in Dance on Film or New Media

Richard James Allen for *Enchant*
Sophia Bender for *Behind Barres*
Sue Healey for *Eileen*
Catherine Moore & Jade Lowry for *Unstilled*