

Presented by Arts House

Nightdance Melanie Lane

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Image: Jody Hutchinson

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7.30pm, Thu 24 – Sat 26 Aug
2pm, Sat 26 Aug
3pm, Sun 27 Aug
60 mins

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artshouse.com.au

Creative Team

Choreographer/Director:

Melanie Lane

Co-Creation/Performance:

Lilian Steiner, Gregory
Lorenzutti, Melanie Lane

Guest Artists/Coaches:

Holly Durant, Benjamin
Hancock, Lily Paskas, Ryan
Ritchie, Lauren Runge,
Sidney Saayman

Costume:

Melanie Lane

Costume (Guest Artists):

Benjamin Hancock, Ryan
Ritchie, Sidney Saayman

Sound Design & Composition:

Chris Clark

Lighting Designer &

Production Manager:

Ben 'Bosco' Shaw

Technical Advisor:

Robin Fox

Producer:

Freya Waterson

Producer (CultureLAB

Development):

Jessica Morris Payne

Artist Statement

Nightdance is a project that has evolved after having realised that my dancing body had spent much of its history jiving in clubs at night, and that I had shared this experience with so many other bodies, both friends and strangers. I became interested in this collective spirit and the social spaces that are designed to stimulate our emotions and senses.

Nightdance speaks about the experiential consumption and spatial practices that are shared in night club environments and the potential for temporary identities to manifest, beyond what we know of ourselves. It is a place to feel an affection or affiliation with each other, forging and re-forging self and group identities.

I am drawn to these spaces because they are full of bodies that are performing, dancing and watching each other. Realms where we simultaneously become an actor and audience. A primal ritual that has been cultivated across a global culture and has potential to speak about the very human longing for connection, seduction and transformation.

The forms of entertainment that are alive in these spaces reflect our human desires and fantasies, and the entertainers themselves are masterfully armed with the tools and techniques to embody them.

— *Melanie Lane*



Melanie Lane

Choreographer/Director

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Melanie Lane is a Javanese/Australian choreographer and performer. Based in Europe from 2000–2014, Melanie worked with artists such as Arco Renz, Club Guy and Roni, and Tino Seghal performing internationally. Her choreographic work has been presented in international festivals and theatres such as Tanz im August, Uzes Danse Festival, Arts House, Taipei Arts Festival, Spring Dance Festival, O Espaço do Tempo, Festival Antigal, Dance Massive and HAU Hebbel am Ufer among others.

Her collaborative work extends to artists such as musician Clark, choreographer Morgan Belenguer, video artist Amos Gebhardt and visual artists Martin Boettger, Ash Keating and Bridie Lunney.

Melanie was appointed 2015 resident director at Lucy Guerin Inc. and has performed with Lucy Guerin Inc., Antony Hamilton Projects and Chunky Move. In 2016 she created *Re-make* for the Chunky Move's Next Move season and premiered her work *Wonderwomen* at HAU and LOFFT theatres in Germany.

Gregory Lorenzutti

Co-Creator/Performer

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Gregory Lorenzutti is a Brazilian-Australian artist based in Melbourne (Australia) working between the spaces of photography and dance. His career spans across a vast range of performances, from ballet companies, contemporary dance, tv & film and Rio de Janeiro Carnival parade. He has worked as a dancer and rehearsal manager in Brazil, Australia and Europe in companies such as Renato Vieira Cia de Dança, Atelie Coreográfico, Nós da Dança, Ballet de Niterói, Chunky Move and BalletLab. As a photographer he has worked for major dance companies and independent performers documenting and developing exclusive image concepts where he explores ideas of continuum in and out of the frame. Gregory holds a degree in Theatre at UniRio (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro) 2004 and Digital / Analog Photography at SENAC - Rio de Janeiro 2011 and Atelie da Imagem (RJ), and specialised in contemporary narratives in photography at the International Centre of Photography in New York.

Lilian Steiner

Co-Creator/Performer

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Lilian Steiner is a Melbourne-based dancer and choreographer working across independent and company environments within both dance and the visual arts. She has been a dancer with Lucy Guerin Inc. across many projects since 2011 and amongst others has worked with choreographers Phillip Adams' Balletlab, Shelley Lasica, Brooke Stamp, Rennie McDougall, visual artists Ash Keating, Brook Andrew and Mikala Dwyer and architect Matthew Bird. Lilian's own choreographic projects include *Admission into the Everyday Sublime* (Next Wave Festival, 2016), *BUNKER* (Melbourne Fringe, 2015), *Noise Quartet Meditation* (Melbourne Fringe, 2014 & Dance Massive 2017), *Meditation* (Melbourne Now, NGV, 2014) and *The Call to Connect – Voyager Recordings* (Lucy Guerin Inc.'s Pieces for Small Spaces, 2012). In 2015 Noise Quartet Meditation received the Green Room Award for Concept and Realisation. In 2017 Lilian was awarded both the Helpmann Award and the Green Room Award for Best Female Dancer.

Chris Clark

Sound Designer & Composer

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Chris Clark is a music producer signed to the British indie label Warp Records. His live show has toured clubs and festivals extensively throughout Europe, Asia, Australia and the United States. His composition for dance includes a number of projects with Melanie Lane, namely *Tilted Fawn*, *Merge* and *Wonderwomen*, and Antony Hamilton's *Sentinel*. In 2011 Chris has collaborated as sound designer for location based digital artists Blast Theory in Brighton, UK and for Saatchi & Saatchi's Cannes Lions 'New Directors Showcase'. He has completed re-mixes for Massive Attack, Depeche Mode, Max Richter and Battles a.o. In 2014, Chris composed the score for *Macbeth*, directed by Carrie Cracknell and Lucy Guerin at The Young Vic, and has composed scores for television and film such as UK/French mini-series *The Last Panthers*. He has recently released his 9th studio album *Death Peak* for Warp Records, currently touring internationally.

Ben 'Bosco' Shaw

Lighting Designer & Production Manager

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Bosco Shaw works primarily as a Lighting and Set Designer. His interest is in work that involves bodies and movement, how light feeds and influences the performing space and collaborations that propose alternate light sources and means. He recently joined with Paul Lim and Tom Wright to create ADDITIVE. A collaborative lighting design company. Design projects include; Antony Hamilton - *Meeting*. Tim Darbyshire - *Stampede the Stampede*. Dance North - *Attractor, Syncing Feeling, IF__Was__*. Chunky Move - *It Cannot Be Stopped*, Matthew Sleeth - *A Drone Opera*. Stephanie Lake - *Double Blind*. Luke George - *Erotic Dance*. Chamber Made Opera - *Permission to Speak, Between 8 and 9*. Asia TOPA - *XO State*.

Benjamin Hancock

Guest Artist

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Benjamin Hancock is a Melbourne dancer and choreographer. He graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) in 2008 with a Bachelor of Dance. He is a much sought after performer and collaborator featuring in works by some of Australia's leading choreographers including Lucy Guerin, Lee Serle, Sue Healey, Prue Lang, Antony Hamilton, Martin del Amo, Narelle Benjamin, Gideon Obarzanek/Chunky Move. Benjamin is also a prolific solo performer, having presented work for Kirsha Kaechele MONA Gallery & Prospect 3 New Orleans Biennale, Chunky Move's Next Move, Melbourne Now National Gallery of Victoria, and Lucy Guerin Inc.'s Pieces For Small Spaces. Benjamin has also engaged with the performance/club scene for a number of years extending to reach audiences beyond dance performing in venues, nightclubs, outdoor festivals, corporate and non-arts commercial organisations. Benjamin recently received a 2016 Green Room Award for Outstanding Male Dancer for *The Dark Chorus* Lucy Guerin Inc.

Ryan Ritchie

Guest Artist

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Ryan Ritchie is a Melbourne based singer, producer, musician, and songwriter whose original work draws influence from the traditions of popular, jazz, classical, 20th Century music, soul, RnB, hip hop and dance. As a performer, Ritchie is the vocalist for international touring bands True Live and The RaAh Project with whom he has headlined the Melbourne International Jazz Festival, Musiques en stock – Cluses (France), Festival de La Cité at Lausanne (Switzerland), Fun Festival (Beijing), Big Day Out, and supported Moby, The Roots and Justin Timberlake among others. As a producer and arranger, he has won four ARIA awards (Troye Sivan, KIMBRA, and Oh Mercy) and the International Songwriting Contest twice. Published by Mushroom Music Australia, Ritchie operates a studio out of Melbourne and has produced and arranged for a diverse range of artists. He is currently working on a dance music project under the pseudonym RICCI.

Sidney Saayman

Guest Artist

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Choreographer, host and performer of MenXclusive International, Sidney Saayman started out as a model and his career quickly lead him to international waters and he's now based in Melbourne, Australia. Sidney has performed in Street, Cabaret, Burlesque, commercial shows for clubs and product launches. He has created pieces for Dracula's (Melbourne) and the latest MenXclusive Live show. As an actor, he has appeared in *Underbelly Return to the Black Forest* and *Burlesque 54, The Left-Overs* and *Winners and Losers*. Sidney performs regularly at venues including Lus Melbourne, Red Love, Sexpo, Love Machine and GH Hotel.

Biographies

Freya Waterson

Producer

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Freya Waterson is a Melbourne based Producer working across art-forms. She has previously held key roles at Insite Arts, Melbourne Fringe and the UK's largest documentary forum, Sheffield Doc/Fest. She has also worked internationally for Aurora Nova (Edinburgh), the London Film Festival, and for pervasive games producer, Hide&Seek.

For Insite Arts she worked across the company's independent and project-based activity, supporting the development, presentation and touring of their artist's work in Australia and internationally. She was an Associate Producer of Hobart's MONA FOMA in 2011 and 2012.

As an independent producer, Freya now works with choreographers Stephanie Lake, Antony Hamilton and Melanie Lane, and performance-maker, Tamara Saulwick.



Thank You



I have been so fortunate to be able to exchange with local artists who perform in the club scene such as exotic dancers Sidney Saayman and Lauren Runge, performance artists Benjamin Hancock, Holly Durant and Lily Paskas, as well as singer song writer Ryan Ritchie. Their contribution to this project through workshops and collaborations has enlivened the process and creation of this work. I'm also extremely lucky to have collaborated with a stellar creative team, Lilian Steiner, Gregory Lorenzutti, Clark and Bosco Shaw. Together we have created *Nightdance*. Additional thanks go to Jessica Morris Payne, Lauren Runge, Robin Fox and the excellent team at Arts House.

Arts House, as a key program of the City of Melbourne, is Melbourne's contemporary centre for performance and interactive artforms. We support new and diverse ways to make and experience art which is participatory and experiential, interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary, curated through a balance of provocation, responsiveness and collaboration with artists and audiences.

For more information, please contact us on the details below.

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Bookings:
artshouse.com.au or
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Arts House acknowledges the traditional land upon which we are located, of the Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung people of the Kulin nation, and pay our respect to Elders both past and present and, through them, to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

