

Presented by Arts House, ILBIJERRI Theatre Company,
Belvoir and version 1.0

BEAUTIFUL ONE DAY

ILBIJERRI, BELVOIR AND VERSION 1.0

**Arts House,
North Melbourne Town Hall**

Tue 26 November –
Sun 1 December 2013
80 minutes
Post-show Q&A, Thu 28 November
Forum, Sun 1 December

**artshouse.com.au
ilbijerri.com.au
belvoir.com.au
versiononepointzero.com**

Beautiful One Day has been supported by the Australian Government through the Indigenous Culture Support program and the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body; the Victorian Government through Arts Victoria; the Balnaves Foundation; the Besen Family Foundation and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

Artistic Credits

Devisor/Audiovisual Designer: **Sean Bacon**
Devisor/Performer/Cultural Consultant:
Magdalena Blackley
Devisor/Performer: **Kylie Doomadgee**
Devisor/Performer: **Paul Dwyer**
Devisor/Director: **Eamon Flack**
Devisor/Performer: **Rachael Maza**
Devisor/Performer: **Jane Phegan**
Devisor/Performer: **Harry Reuben**
Devisor/Dramaturge: **David Williams**
Acting/Script Coach: **Kylie Farmer**
Original Set and Costume Designer:
Ruby Langton-Batty
Original Lighting Designer: **Frank Mainoo**
Sound Designer/Composer: **Paul Prestipino**
Stage Manager: **Laura Smans**
Technical Direction: **Bluebottle**

**"A VIVID, POIGNANT, POLITICAL AND OFTEN
UNEXPECTEDLY FUNNY WORK... THAT DEMANDS
OUR FULL ATTENTION, DESERVES IT AND REWARDS IT"**

– *Sun-Herald*, 2012

About Beautiful One Day

Palm Island, 2004. An Aboriginal man dies in police custody. Members of the Palm Island community make a direct challenge to police power and the police station is torched. Eight years later, the people of Palm Island continue to demand real justice, and all the while life continues.

ILBIJERRI Theatre Company, version 1.0 and Belvoir came together in 2011 over a shared sense of outrage at the injustices surrounding the death in custody. But, prompted by the Palm Island community, they have looked for a way to turn anger into real understanding and new possibilities. The result is **Beautiful One Day** – a theatrical documentary about the irrepressible life and times of Palm Island.

As raw as it is confronting, the show stars three Islanders in their first theatrical appearances. It combines documentary-style footage with conversation, reportage, stories and images, told in their own words. **Beautiful One Day** captures the horrible reality of an unnecessary death and yet the remarkable humanity, wisdom and determination to forgive of Palm Islanders.

An antidote to the relentlessly negative media coverage, this work interweaves the stories of Palm Island, the *diktats* of white Australia and the voices of the community to create a work that is honest, joyful and poignant.

Biographies – Devisors

Rachael Maza

Devisor/Performer

Rachael Maza is one of the most recognisable faces in the Australian film, television and theatre industry. Her performance credits include the AFI-award-winning *Radiance*, *Cosi* and *Lillian's Story*. She joined ILBIJERRI Theatre Company as Artistic Director in 2009. Since then she has directed *Sisters of Gelam* (2009), *Jack Charles V the Crown* (2010) and *Foley* (2011); and co-devised *Beautiful One Day* (2012/2013).

Paul Dwyer

Devisor/Performer

Paul Dwyer is a senior lecturer in the Department of Performance Studies at the University of Sydney, where he teaches courses on dramaturgy and the politics of performance. He has collaborated with version 1.0 on the making of documentary theatre productions including *CMI (A Certain Maritime Incident)* and *The Bougainville Photoplay Project*, which received a Green Room Award for Best Mise en Scène in Alternative/Hybrid Theatre.

Jane Phegan

Devisor/Performer

Jane Phegan has worked extensively in theatre and radio since graduating from Theatre Nepean (University of Western Sydney). As company artist for version 1.0, she has devised and performed in *A Distressing Scenario*, *From a Distance*, *Deeply Offensive and Utterly Untrue*, *THIS KIND OF RUCKUS*, *The Table of Knowledge*, *The Tender Age*, *The Major Minor Party* and *The Vehicle Failed to Stop*.

Magdalena Blackley

Devvisor/Performer/Cultural Consultant

Magdalena Blackley has lived on Palm Island most of her life and is an active community member. Her passion has always been for working in community groups and early childhood education. She was a councillor on the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council; a director for the Palm Island Community Company; and is currently Secretary of the Bwgcolman Aboriginal Arts Co-Op.

Kylie Doomadgee

Devvisor/Performer

Beautiful One Day is Kylie Doomadgee's first professional production. In 2009 she studied at the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts (ACPA), where she performed in *In the Raw*. She graduated from Wangetti Campus, Cairns, in 2010. She hopes to go back to ACPA to complete her studies; and intends to pursue a career in theatre and film.

Harry Reuben

Devvisor/Performer

Harry Reuben graduated from Marist College Ashgrove in Brisbane. He lives and works on Palm Island. When not on stage, he works for the Department of Human Services, Centrelink. During his free time he is involved with the local PCYC and mentoring programs for the Indigenous youth of Palm Island.

Eamon Flack

Devvisor/Director

Eamon Flack is Associate Director – New Projects at Belvoir. He has worked as a director, actor, writer and dramaturge for companies and festivals around Australia. For Belvoir his

directing credits include *Angels in America*, *Babyteeth*, *As You Like It* and *The End*. His production of Jason de Santis's *Wulamanayuwí and the Seven Pamanui* tours nationally in 2013 and 2014.

David Williams

Devvisor/Dramaturge

David Williams is a freelance performance maker, and holds a PhD from UNSW. He was a founder of version 1.0, co-devising and producing all the company's work from 1998 until his departure in 2012. He is currently developing new theatre works for QTC, Vitalstatistix, Hothouse Theatre and Powerhouse Youth Theatre, among other freelance projects.

Sean Bacon

Devvisor/Audiovisual Designer

Sean Bacon studied video and visual arts, graduating with Honours in 1998. He has previously worked with Belvoir on *Measure for Measure*, for which he won a Sydney Theatre Award for Stage Design. He has been a company artist for version 1.0 since 2005. In 2005 he undertook a three-month residency at the Australia Council's Green Street Studios in New York.

Biographies – Creative Team

Ruby Langton-Batty

Original Set and Costume Designer

Ruby Langton-Batty designed *Windmill Baby*, *Beautiful One Day* and *Coranderrk* for Belvoir. She designed costumes for *The Shadow King* at Malthouse Theatre, and is currently designing *Black Diggers* with QTC and Sydney Festival. She has designed several short films and assisted on *Redfern Now* seasons 1 and 2, and feature film *The Sapphires*.

Frank Mainoo

Original Lighting Designer

Since completing a Bachelor of Creative Arts from the University of Wollongong in 2007, Frank Mainoo has worked regularly with companies including Urban Theatre Projects, version 1.0, Belvoir, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre, ICE (Information and Cultural Exchange) and PACT. In 2010 he received a fellowship grant to attend Theaterformen in Germany.

Paul Prestipino

Sound Designer/Composer

Paul Prestipino is a composer and recording artist with extensive experience creating sound for performance. Recent credits include *The Vehicle Failed to Stop* and *The Disappearances Project* for version 1.0, and *Buried City* for Urban Theatre Projects/Belvoir/Sydney Festival. He recently directed a radio adaptation of *The Disappearances Project* for ABC Radio National, nominated for the Prix Italia Award 2013. Other collaborations include projects with Roman Paska (USA) and Societas Raffaello Sanzio (Italy).

Kylie Farmer

Acting/Script Coach

Kylie Farmer (Kaarlijilba Kaardn) is an actor, television presenter, writer and director. Hailing from the Nyungar/Bibbulmun nation, her theatre credits include *The Sapphires*, *The White Divers of Broome*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *One Day in '67*, *King Hit* and *Aliwa*. Her film and television credits include *Redfern Now*, *The Gods of Wheat Street*, *Ace of Spades*, *Stone Bros.*, *The Marngrook Footy Show* and *Waabiny Time*.

Laura Smans

Stage Manager

Laura Smans began her career working on Adelaide Writers' Week with the Adelaide Festival. Since then, she has toured extensively with many Australian companies, including Windmill Theatre and Patch Theatre Company. She specialises in production management, working with festivals including WOMADelaide, Adelaide Festival, Next Wave, Woodford Folk Festival and the Adelaide Film Festival.

Bluebottle

Technical Direction

Bluebottle is a Melbourne-based design company with expertise in combining light and form in inventive ways. The bluebottle team is accomplished in managing all aspects of a project to achieve an excellent outcome. Company members work across various art forms as creative consultants, designers, technical directors and project managers. Their work can be seen in theatres, galleries, museums and architecture.

The Companies

ILBIJERRI Theatre Company

ILBIJERRI is Australia's leading and longest-running Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander theatre company, creating challenging and inspiring theatre creatively controlled by Indigenous artists. The company's stories are provocative and affecting, giving voice to Australia's unique and diverse Indigenous cultures.

ILBIJERRI tours its work to urban, regional and remote locations across Australia, and internationally; and has commissioned 30 new Indigenous works and performed for more than 150,000 people. ILBIJERRI delivers a broad program of artist development for new and emerging Indigenous writers, actors, directors and creatives.

Born from community, ILBIJERRI remains a spearhead for the Australian Indigenous community, in telling the stories of what it means to be Indigenous in Australia today. Its work possesses the power to reach out and remind audiences of every person's need for family, history and heritage.

ILBIJERRI's collaborative relationships with communities and artists are at the heart of the company's creative process; all of ILBIJERRI's work empowers and enlightens its audiences.

version 1.0

version 1.0 is a company of artists that makes devised performances that are both political and personal. Its performances are based on rigorous research and the subject matter engages with political and social issues through innovative theatrical strategies.

version 1.0 is acclaimed in Australia for its innovative, accessible and entertaining mix of documentary theatre, contemporary performance and media spectacle. Recent works include *The Vehicle Failed to Stop* and *The Major Minor Party* (2013), *The Tender Age* (2012), the widely acclaimed *The Table of Knowledge* (2011–12), *The Disappearances Project* (2011), *A Distressing Scenario* and the Helpmann-Award-winning *THIS KIND OF RUCKUS* (2010), *seven kilometres north-east* (2010–12) and the Green-Room-Award-winning *The Bougainville Photoplay Project* (2008–11).

Belvoir

When the theatre in an old tomato sauce factory at 25 Belvoir St, Surry Hills, Sydney, was threatened with redevelopment in 1984, more than 600 people – passionate lovers and makers of theatre – formed a syndicate to buy the building and save it. It was an act of love; to theatre and to the city.

Thirty years later, Belvoir is still going strong and has nurtured the finest theatrical talents in this country. Belvoir fills its two beautiful theatres year-round with performances that are visionary, bold and risky; and takes its work to other capital cities, regional Australia and overseas.

Belvoir's work is fresh, dynamic and challenging. Come see for yourself.

Beautiful One Day Forum

Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall

Sunday 1 December 2013, 3.30pm

90 minutes

FREE, bookings essential

Led by some of Australia's leading Indigenous professionals and academics, this forum will consider the relationships between art, performance and politics; and how these connections give voice to issues of national importance both within and outside Indigenous communities.

Writer and educator Tony Birch will facilitate the discussion alongside panellists Larissa Behrendt, Daniel Browning, Genevieve Grieves and with devisors Paul Dwyer, Rachael Maza and Aunty Magdalena Blackley.

Tony Birch

Tony Birch is a Melbourne-based writer and community educator. His writing includes short fiction, novels, poetry and essays. He is an active critic of colonial history in Australia and the continuing marginalisation of Indigenous communities and the disadvantaged, particularly the homeless.

Tony Birch's work is widely read and loved, including by those who might normally avoid books, particularly teenage boys. Through his outreach work, he visits many schools to speak to students, and takes particular pleasure in returning to the two schools that expelled him, as both of his previous books are on the syllabus.

Larissa Behrendt

Larissa Behrendt is an Australian academic, writer and novelist who has written extensively on legal and Indigenous issues. She is a Professor of Law and Director of the Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS), and completed a Master of Laws and a Doctorate at Harvard Law School in 1994 and 1998, respectively. In March 2011 she was named the first Chair of Indigenous Research at UTS.

Daniel Browning

Daniel Browning produces and presents *Away!*, ABC Radio National's Indigenous culture program; as well as a range of arts programs from Monday to Thursday at 9pm including *Into the Music* and *Poetica*. A former news director at Triple J, he has worked for the ABC since 1994. He is also a freelance arts writer and has been guest editor of specialist Indigenous issues of the contemporary arts journal *Artlink*.

Genevieve Grieves

Genevieve Grieves, traditionally from the mid-north coast of New South Wales, is Lead Curator of the *First Peoples* exhibition at the Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Melbourne Museum. She is also a filmmaker and media artist. She has worked with the Koorie Heritage Trust as an oral historian, on the *Mission Voices* website for the ABC, and as a field producer on *First Australians* for SBS television. She wrote and directed the documentary *Lani's Story*.

Thank You

Beautiful One Day draws on many different documentary materials and interviews with Palm Islander people. The companies thank those who appear in the production through their stories, their voices or their images:

Valmai and Pamela Aplin, Uncle Dudley Bostock, David Bulsey, Elizabeth Clay, Samuel 'Johnny' Clay, Rachel Cummins, Walter Foster, Aunt Betty Geia, Georgina Haines, Erykah Kyle, Dulcie Polowea Isaro, Renarta Prior, Aunt Mary Spencer, Milton Thaiday, Perry Thompson, Jeff Waters, Joanne Watson, Iris White, Gerald Wotton, Lex Wotton.

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The Balnaves Foundation

Supporting Beautiful One Day

The Balnaves Foundation is a private philanthropic organisation that was established in 2006 by Neil Balnaves AO to provide support to charitable enterprises across Australia. The Foundation has been funding Belvoir's Indigenous theatre program since 2011; each year it provides the financial underpinning for Belvoir to present two Indigenous works. A range of access programs is attached to the productions, including an unwaged performance and schools matinees.

Showing its commitment to Indigenous work at Belvoir, the Balnaves Foundation has supported productions of *Jack Charles V the Crown*, *Windmill Baby*, **Beautiful One Day**, *Don't Take Your Love to Town*, *The Cake Man* and *Coranderrk*.

Arts House

Arts House presents contemporary arts in programs encompassing performance, exhibitions, live art, residencies and other activities that nurture, support and stimulate cultural engagement. We value work in which artists at different stages of their careers, as well as our diverse audiences and communities, are actively involved in creating an imaginative, just and environmentally sustainable global society.

Arts House's programs include two curated public seasons of multidisciplinary work each year. Approximately half of this work is selected through an Expression of Interest process. We seek artists who are responding to the urgent issues of our time in imaginative and surprising ways, taking artistic risks and offering multiple ways for audiences to engage with or co-author their work.

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

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ARTS HOUSE



ILBIJERRI
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