



**Natalie Abbott**

# Physical Fractals

**Arts House,  
North Melbourne Town Hall**

**Tue 12 – Sat 16 March**

**50 minutes**

## Cast/Creative

Choreographer/Performer: **Natalie Abbott**

Collaborator: **Rebecca Jensen**

Performer: **Sarah Aiken**

Live Sound: **Daniel Arnott**

Dramaturge: **Matthew Day**

Lighting Designer: **Govin Ruben**

**Physical Fractals** has been developed and supported through Next Wave's Kickstart program, Next Wave Festival, Arts Victoria and Footscray Community Arts Centre. This presentation is supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body; and the City of Melbourne through Arts House

Image: **Pia Johnson**

## About Physical Fractals

**Physical Fractals** is a sensorial study. I have been inspired by illusion and hypnosis, taking moments and warping them to create something other. I am interested in inviting all senses to be equally active when watching performance and noticing how this shifts perception of time.

*Natalie Abbott*



# DANCE MASSIVE AT ARTS HOUSE

## Biographies

### Natalie Abbott Choreographer/Performer

Natalie Abbott graduated in dance from the VCA in 2007, as recipient of the Orloff Family Trust Scholarship for most outstanding talent; and has since channelled her energies into creating thought-provoking dance. Her works include *Pastel Playground* (2007), *Parade* (2008), *Paradise Pop-Up* (2009), *Ultimate Pressure* – a video and sensory immersion work (Next Wave 2010), *Circles for Squares* for Lucy Guerin's *Pieces for Small Spaces* (2011) and *Physical Fractals* (Next Wave 2012). In 2012 Natalie also presented her video work *Levity* at Blindside Gallery, and commenced development of a new work, *MID-air*, at PACT in Sydney. In 2011 she received an Ian Potter Cultural Trust Grant and was also a Next Wave Kickstart artist.

In 2013 Natalie Abbott presents **Physical Fractals** at Dance Massive; will undertake further creative development for *MID-air* as an Arts House CultureLab artist, and will assist the *soft landing* professional development program at QL2 Centre for Youth Dance, Canberra. She is an avid performer, choreographer and experimental media artist, constantly seeking to extend her craft through practice and experience.

### Rebecca Jensen Collaborator

Rebecca Jensen is a Melbourne-based dancer, performer, choreographer and budding costume designer. Originally from West Auckland, New Zealand, she studied at the VCA, graduating in 2009. In 2011 she performed in Jo Lloyd's *Future Perfect* and Sandra Parker's *Document*, and with BalletLab as an intern in *Above* at MONA FOMA, Hobart. She has made work for Lucy Guerin (*Within an inner*, for *Pieces for Small Spaces*, 2011), Melbourne Jazz Festival, MONA FOMA Festival Club, and Emerge at Dancehouse; and has also choreographed numerous primary school musicals in New Zealand. She has received both an Australia Council ArtStart grant and an Ian Potter Cultural Trust travel grant. In 2013 she is creating new work through Next Wave's Kickstart program.

### Sarah Aiken Performer

Performer, choreographer and teacher Sarah Aiken has worked with choreographers including Shian Law, Carlee Mellow, James Welsby, Brooke Stamp/Aphids and Ben Speth. An Australia Council ArtStart recipient, she has recently undertaken research and development in Europe; and performed two short works,

*No Longer than Arms* and *Now Something Really Final* at K77 Berlin, funded by the Ian Potter Cultural Trust. Her choreographic work includes *Jurassic Arc* (Dancehouse), *Your Way* (Melbourne Fringe) and *DanceMusic* (Dancehouse Emerge), as well as a range of collaborative and interdisciplinary projects. A 2013 Kickstart artist, she is collaborating with dance-maker Rebecca Jensen to create a new work for Next Wave 2014.

### Daniel Arnott Live Sound

Daniel Arnott graduated from the VCA in music performance (improvisation) in 2010. There, he developed an interest in extended techniques on guitar, group improvisation and Billie Holiday. He has been working with dance artists since graduation, as he finds many similarities between dance and music – notably rhythm. At the VCA he performed in Ensemble MAX, a free group-improvising collective, where he experimented with loops and other live effects on both his guitar and other percussive instruments. This experimentation has been pivotal for composing music and sound for dance and film. He developed the dance film *Garage* in 2009; and *Dancemusic*, a piece with dancer Sarah Aiken, in 2010. His musical endeavours encompass folk music, free improvisation and jazz.

### Matthew Day Dramaturge

Matthew Day is a dancer, choreographer and dramaturge working across various artistic media and cultural contexts. He is invested in conceptual choreographic practices that are intensely physical and push the boundaries of choreography and performance. He studied dance and performance at the University of Western Sydney (2003–04) and the VCA (2005) before collaborating with students at the SNDO, Netherlands (2006–09). He has undertaken residencies at Critical Path, Lucy Guerin Inc, Chunky Move, Legs on the Wall, and the Bundanon Trust, where he worked with Deborah Hay on her Solo Commissioning Project. He premiered *Intermission*, the final instalment in his solo series *Trilogy*, at PACT centre for emerging artists in 2012; the previous works in this series, *Thousands* and *Cannibal*, have been met with critical acclaim. He will also work with Phillip Adams BalletLab on numerous projects in the coming years.

### Govin Ruben Lighting Designer

Govin Ruben is co-founder of the Rubix Cube: a company designed to foster

collaboration and increase the professional development of artists in Australia. Based in Melbourne, Rubix Cube has access to a pool of artists who have worked all over Australia and internationally on projects ranging from large-scale government-sponsored events to experimental fringe theatre. The company's aim is to provide a platform where key artists can come together, collaborate and share their mutual passion to write, create, design, direct and perform works of art in Australia and around the world.

## Thank You

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## Arts House

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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. From 2013, approximately half of this work will be selected through a new 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 (03) 9322 3720 or visit artshouse.com.au.

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