

Presented by Arts House as
part of Dance Massive

Vanishing Point Shian Law

A

Image: James Wright

H



S

Tue 14 – Sat 18 Mar, 8.45pm
60 mins

1

artshouse.com.au

Creative Team

Shian Law
Choreographer
Phillip Adams
Collaborating
Choreographer
Deanne Butterworth
Collaborating
Choreographer
Jo Lloyd
Collaborating
Choreographer/
Dramaturg
Matthew Adey
Set & Lighting Designer
James Wright
Video Artist/
Cinematographer/Editor
Christine Francis
Photographer
Tait Sengstock
Painter
Eleanor Ivory Weber
Writer
Marco Cher-Gibard
Sound Designer
Andrew Treloar
Costume Designer

Benjamin Hurley
Understudy
Cam McLachlan
Assistant
Alison Halit
Producer
Sheridan Gerrald,
Thomas Woodman,
Benjamin Hurley, Milo
Hyde, Cam McLachlan,
Luke Fryer, Ellen Davies,
Emma Riches, Mossy
Pebbles
Performers for
Performance Lecture:
Grey Area, FUCKDOG
Michael McNab
Musician for Performance
Lecture: FUCKDOG



Artist Statement

A séance
Creating the history
Calling the never-born work from
the grave, never quite made
Living a life of purgatory along the
margin of marginal dance histories
in Australia
At the same time central, crucial
(The only ones, perhaps)
Though there are always margins to
the margins and history is kind to no
one once you're dead
(The memory as a weak organ, or:
a fact proved wrong by dance)
These archives and documents
encapsulate, and at the same time
totally evade, the countless lost
stories that finally make up what we
mean, what the work means,
what the artist means

In a society that would have this
mean nothing, there is something
essential about the work that was
never made
The work being made as we speak
Which is to say the work that cannot
be known before it is made, may be
never made
But is wished for
A work whose future is not known,
but which we must nonetheless
create and make to ever see
But how to convince other people
that it is a work?

— *Eleanor Ivory Weber*
“*Vanishing Point*” 2017

Shian Law

Choreographer

×

Shian Law is an Australian performance artist. He received formal training in dance at the Victorian College of the Arts and regularly works as a performer, choreographer, collaborator and dramaturg in the context of dance, live art intervention and trans-media performance.

Shian's multi-faceted conceptual projects are the result of an adept practice spanning several artistic disciplines, including choreography, spatial practice, participatory art and screen-based art. Through his collaborative practice with a core artistic team, Shian's work utilises hybrid forms and new discursive frameworks wherein the representation of body and the way we experience dance are investigated. Grandeur, intimacy, spectatorship and historicity are recurring motifs. Shian has worked closely with choreographer/mentor Jo Lloyd, Phillip Adams, Deanne Butterworth, Mikala Dwyer, Brooke Amity Stamp, Lara Thoms and Lz Dunn.

Shian is the recipient of Tanja Liedtke Foundation scholarship, Cité International Des Art residency, Asialink Residency, Menagerie De Verre, Paris and Ian Potter Travel Grant. Most recently, he was commissioned by Rafael Bonachela for Sydney Dance Company New Breed 2016, Underbelly Arts 2017 and Dance Massive Festival 2017.

Shian is the inaugural artist-in-residence at the Temperance Hall under the stewardship of Phillip Adams' Balletlab.

Phillip Adams

Collaborating Choreographer

×

Phillip Adams is the founder and Artistic Director of Phillip Adams BalletLab, forming the company upon his return home from New York in 1998. Phillip is a graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts and his performing arts background spans a 30 year career in contemporary dance and more recently, visual arts. Phillip lived and worked in New York for a decade after being awarded the ANZ International Fellowship Award in 1988. He was a member of several leading dance companies and worked with many independent choreographers including BeBe Miller, Trisha Brown, Irene Hultman, Sarah Rudner, Amanda Miller, Donna Uchizono and Nina Wiener.

More than a decade on, his achievements and qualifications cover a range of creative ventures including commissions, touring, awards, residencies, mentoring and a highly regarded body of artistic works. Phillip has been commissioned to make works by many companies including Australian Ballet, Chunky Move, Museum of New and Old Art, Guangdong Modern Dance Company (China), Dance Works Rotterdam (NL), City Contemporary Dance Company (HK) and Lux Boreal (Mexico) for Festival of Mexico.

Phillip is regularly commissioned by Australian dance institutions and universities, and teaches workshops nationally and internationally.

Deanne Butterworth

Collaborating Choreographer

×

Deanne Butterworth is a dancer and choreographer. Her interests lie in the transfer of information and ideas from one body to another, the creation of energies, systems, languages and understanding developed in isolation and within groups of people. Her work is often responsive to the space in which it is shown and can involve still images, sound, music, text and video. Deanne studied at Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (BA dance, 1993) and Victoria University (2011). Throughout 2017-2019 she is a studioartist at Gertrude Contemporary.

Over a twenty year period Deanne has worked with many artists and choreographers including Phillip Adams Balletlab, Tim Darbyshire, Maria Hassabi, Rebecca Jensen, Shelley Lasica, Shian Law, Jo Lloyd, Sandra Parker, Lee Serle and Brooke Stamp amongst others. Some works include: *Dual Reperage in Threes*, Dancehouse for Dance Massive (2011); *Twinships*, Westspace (2012); *Doubleage*, Arts House for Dance Massive, (2013); *Siteless Now*, NGV (2014), *Regarding Yesterday* - with Adva Zakai at Slopes (2014); *How Choreography Works* - with Lasica and Lloyd at Westspace and later at Art Gallery of NSW for Biennale of Sydney (2015 & 2016); *All Our Dreams Come True* - with Lloyd at Bus Projects (2016); *Two Parts of Easy Action*, The Substation (2016); *The Interlude* Spring 1883, (2016). In 2015 Deanne participated in an interdisciplinary notation workshop organised by Hannah Mathews and in 2016 was artist-in-residence at Boyd Studio 1 funded through City of Melbourne.

Jo Lloyd

Collaborating Choreographer/Dramaturg

×

Jo Lloyd is an influential Melbourne dance artist working with choreography as a social encounter, revealing behaviour over particular durations and circumstances. A dance graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts, over the past 15 years Jo has presented her work in gallery spaces and theatres in Japan, New York, Hong Kong, and locally in Dance Massive, the Biennale of Sydney, Live Works, Dark MOFO and Next Wave. Recent projects include; *Confusion for Three*, Arts House (2015), *All Our Dreams Come True* created with Deanne Butterworth for BUS Projects (2016) and *Mermermer* created with Nicola Gunn for Chunky Move's Next Move commission (2016 - Green Room nomination for Female Performer).

Jo has performed in the works of choreographers Gideon Obarzanek (Chunky Move), Shelley Lasica, Sandra Parker, Prue Lang, Shian Law and Ros Warby.

Matthew Adey

Set & Lighting Designer

×

Matthew Adey is a production designer and theatre artist from Melbourne, Victoria. He works under the moniker House of Vnholy, specialising in the creation of live performance, set and lighting design, installation and sculpture. Adey graduated from VCA with a Bachelor of Fine Arts - Theatre Production in 2011. HOV's performance installations include *MONO-*, *HOMME* with Rebecca Jensen, *Death Summit* at Dark Mofo and *The Spectre of Death Looms Large...* at Metanoia Live Works.

Biographies

James Wright

Video Artist/Cinematographer/Editor

×

James Wright is an artist, director and cinematographer working across moving image production. In 2010, he founded NON, a full-service moving image studio dedicated to the arts and socially engaged practices in Australia. In this capacity, James has worked with organisations including National Gallery of Victoria, Australian Centre for the Moving Image, GetUp Australia, Chunky Move, Phillip Adams Balletlab, Big hART, Arts House, Lucy Guerin Inc, Liquid Architecture Festival, Dance Massive Festival and worked with artists including Antony Hamilton, Bianca Hester, Robin Fox, Agatha Gothe-Snape, Matthew Bird, Jo Lloyd, Shian Law, Nicola Gunn, Shelley Lasica, Lucy McRae, Stephanie Lake, Anthony Pateras, Tarryn Gill & Pilar Mata Dupont.

Christine Francis

Photographer

×

Christine Francis is a Melbourne based photographer specialising in interiors, architecture and design. She graduated in 2002 from a bachelor of visual communication (photography & digital imaging) from the University of Western Sydney. Her clients range from solo practitioners through to large scale firms. Published in international design and architectural publications, her work has taken her across the country and overseas.

Eleanor Ivory Weber

Writer

×

Eleanor Ivory Weber is a writer and curator. She was previously Assistant Curator, Photographs at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. She completed a Bachelor of Arts (Advanced) (Honours) at the University of Sydney in 2012 with the thesis *A process without end: Autonomous art structures and the politics of self-organisation* and was subsequently co-director of 55 Sydenham Road Marrickville NSW 2204 AU. There she curated the group exhibitions *Reality Considerations* (for the sake of) (2012) and *Hyper Spectral Display* (.hsd) (2013).

As a writer she works across multiple formats, including for periodicals *frieze*, *Column* and *How To Sleep Faster*, for exhibitions in written and spoken form, and as a contributor to books published in Australia and abroad.



Thank You



Shian would like to thank his artistic team, many of the artists and writers who have inspired him along the way.

Vanishing Point is supported by the Australia Council for the Arts, Creative Victoria, Arts House, City of Melbourne, the Besen Family Foundation, Tanja Liedtke Foundation.

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.

521 Queensberry Street
North Melbourne VIC 3051
(03) 9322 3720

artshouse@melbourne.vic.gov.au
artshouse.com.au

Bookings:
artshouse.com.au or
(03) 9322 3713

**DANCE
MASSIVE**



Australia
Council
for the Arts

CREATIVE VICTORIA

**Besen Family
FOUNDATION**

