

ARTS HOUSE AND MOBILE STATES PRESENT

I LEFT MY SHOES ON WARM CONCRETE AND STOOD IN THE RAIN

GABRIELLE NANKIVELL



ARTS HOUSE

ARTS HOUSE
NORTH MELBOURNE TOWN HALL

THU 11 - SAT 13
AUGUST, 2011

CAST AND CREATIVE

Text, Physical Content and
Performance: Gabrielle Nankivell
Original Soundtrack: Luke Smiles/
motion laboratories
Design: Benjamin Cisterne
Tour Production Manager: Mark Haslam
gabriellenankivell.com

“This is humanity
stripped bare: a
catalogue of fears,
hopes, dreams - and
dreams-crushed - are
made temporarily
ethereal before
vanishing in darkness...”

Chris Hawthorne, *Laneway Magazine*

I left my shoes on warm concrete
and stood in the rain was originally
created and presented with the support
of Dancehouse's Housemate Residency
Program, the Besen Family Foundation,
the South Australian Government through
Arts SA, and Australian Dance Theatre.

Toured by Performing Lines for Mobile
States, with the support of the
Australian Government through the
Australia Council, its arts funding
and advisory body, and through the
national performing arts touring
program, Playing Australia.

Warning: Strobe lighting, strong
coarse language, complete blackout

Image: Chris Herzfeld, Camlight
Productions

ARTS HOUSE



PROGRAM NOTE

My sweat is my armour. Ecstasy is my shell and I am wrapped in the steely grace of determination that keeps the sunny moth away. I am on an empty set, held up by sound, beads of sweat and the roar of my life before. I am a gladiator. I live from the carrions of my own invention. I'm a warrior of beauty, a survivor, something of steel. I have strength, determination, power in failure and honour and grace in defeat.

I left my shoes on warm concrete and stood in the rain walks a fragile line - a tangled tale of survival, half-remembered, half-invented. A ride for the senses of performer and audience alike, embracing fear, laughter, tears and irony as the story of each unfolds. Subtle, stirring, humorous and even momentarily cliché, the mood of the performance is the intricacy of the human creature - reflected on stage.

As in life, struggle parades in incomparable disguises - floodlit, pitch-black, real, imagined, grand, humble - equally intense. With an evocative collaboration of movement, sound, dark and light, it is an invitation to let your imagination run wild. Listen to the rain ignite inklings in your eyes of days gone by and moments still to come. Stumble, step, gasp and grit your teeth. Fold your wings and wait.

This performance is brought to you in the spirit of a chopping, changing, hurtling world full of dishevelled perfection - a world where individual meets collective and you and I are equal.

Welcome to a small surprising story, welcome to your world.

Gabrielle Nankivell

BIOGRAPHIES

Gabrielle Nankivell, Text, Physical Content and Performance

As an avid maker, performer, educator and collaborator, Gabrielle Nankivell's goal is to ignite the imagination of audiences and create continuing avenues of dialogue on the topic of performance. As a producer, director and co-director, her work has been presented in ten countries across

three continents. As a creator and performer, she has been working worldwide since 2000 with companies and artists including Ultima Vez/Wim Vandekeybus (Belgium), Alexander Baervoets (Belgium), Aaben Dans/Thomas Eisenhardt (Denmark), Thomas Steyaert (Belgium), Raul Maia (Portugal), Pierre Wyss (Germany), Australian Dance Theatre/Garry Stewart, Splintergroup, Animal Farm Collective, Luke Smiles, Gavin Webber and Regurgitator amongst others. She was also co-founder/director of the Europe-based dance theatre company OX with Jurij Konjar from 2003-07.

Gabrielle Nankivell completed formal training with Jacqueline Tucker in Adelaide, holds a Bachelor of Dance from the Victorian College of the Arts, completed a Graduate Certificate in Arts (Writing) through Swinburne University, is currently undertaking her Masters Degree in Writing and is mentored daily by the world around her.

Luke Smiles

Original Soundtrack

The introduction of a Commodore 64 computer into the family home in the early 1980s began Luke Smiles's fascination with computers and sound. Having had no formal musical training but instead yielding to a keen interest in how things work, he has developed a unique practice in the development of soundtracks for dance and theatre. His appreciation of cinema has inspired a diverse sound-making practice and led him to work in areas including sound design, Foley work, sound effects editing and music composition. He is renowned for producing detailed soundtracks with a focus on the complete sound experience; a pursuit rarely followed in live theatre and a quality that sees his work in great demand both nationally and internationally.

Working under his business name motion laboratories, Luke Smiles has composed and produced soundtracks for artists and companies including Australian Dance Theatre, Bare Bones Dance Company (UK), Chunky Move, Dancenorth, Gabrielle Nankivell, Nederlands Dans Theater, OX Co. (Belgium/Slovenia), Rambert Dance Company (UK), Splinter group, Stompin, Tasdance, West Australian Ballet, and Windmill Theatre Company.

Benjamin Cisterne

Design

Benjamin Cisterne is renowned for creating bold designs, based in light, that are integral to a performance. He is passionate about the capability of light in performance design, and its role in art; and works collaboratively on projects across all art forms. Since completing his studies in 2002 at the WA Academy of Performing Arts he has been involved in the creation of lighting designs for exhibitions at the Australian War Memorial and the National Sports Museum; for architecture, including the Darwin Entertainment Centre; and for performance projects including Tim Harbour's *Halcyon* for The Australian Ballet, Stephanie Lake's *Mix Tape*, and Gideon Obarzanek's *Connected for Chunky Move*. He has toured extensively as both designer and master electrician and completed artistic and technical residencies in Australia and Europe. He has worked with choreographers including Gavin Webber (Dancenorth/independent), Phillip Adams (BalletLab), Luke George and Gabrielle Nankivell. His work has been recognised by the Green Room Awards on multiple occasions.

ARTS HOUSE

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Arts House is a City of Melbourne contemporary arts initiative. Each year Arts House presents a curated program of contemporary art featuring performances, exhibitions, live art, installations and cultural events.

Arts House operates as a multi-dimensional resource hub for artists: producing, programming, devising, supporting and funding. Work is presented across two sites: Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall and Arts House, Meat Market.

Arts House values arts and culture that help create a world where people are actively engaged, aware and empowered to participate, politically and culturally, to make positive change.