Welcome to the first Dance Massive.

Currently in Australia there are around 50 dance companies and more than 200 choreographers investigating a range of techniques, culturally diverse forms, contexts and media.

Dance Massive is designed to celebrate this diverse culture by presenting many of these exhilarating works, artists and companies in what is arguably the creative epicentre of contemporary dance in Australia.

This collection of work is a visually spectacular series of sensory and physical experiences that range in style and scope, from the energetic and playful to the contemplative and intimate. Enjoy this first edition of Dance Massive.

Dance Massive is an initiative of Arts House, Malthouse Theatre and Dancehouse in conjunction with Ausdance Victoria and with the support of the Australia Council for the Arts and Arts Victoria.

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Arts House develops, produces and presents dynamic cultural experiences, which enable people to make meaningful connections on a local, national and international level. Each year Arts House presents a curated program of contemporary art featuring performances, exhibitions, live art, installations and cultural events, which are programmed to inspire dynamic community engagement.

Arts House is home to the oldest living culture on earth. Respect and engagement with this ancient culture and its contemporary lineage continues to make a unique contribution to creativity in this place and inspire our collective consciousness and understanding. The presenters acknowledge and respect the customs and traditions of Indigenous Australians and their special relationship with the land. The artists and organisers respectfully acknowledge that this program takes place on the land of the traditional owners of the Kulin Nation.

Arts House is a City of Melbourne contemporary arts initiative. Arts House has made every effort to offer wheelchair and limited mobility access throughout the program. Please contact Arts House on 03 9322 3719 for further information.

Helen Herbertson and Ben Cobham: Morphia Series at Arts House 10 - 15 March

Tickets at www.dancemassive.com.au or (03) 9639 0096

Arts House, Meat Market, 11 – 14 March
Lucy Guerin

Born in Adelaide, Australia, Lucy Guerin graduated from the Centre for Performing Arts in 1982 before joining the companies of Russell Page (Dance Exchange) and Nanette Hassall (Clearsighted). She moved to New York in 1989 for several years where she danced with Tere O’Connor Dance, the Bebe Miller Company and Sara Ruder.

Now based in Melbourne, Guerin has been commissioned by Chunky Move, Byron Naylor, Anthony Ross, Wouter Van Den Abbeele (B-Ware), The Roundhouse,猎户座, The Basement Dance Festival (with poet Michael Lena), JCDN/Hiatus (Japan), Dance Works Rotterdam and Mikhail Baryshnikov’s White Oak Dance Project (USA) among others.

In 2002 she formed her company Lucy Guerin Inc. (www.lucyguerin.com). Her works have toured to France, The Netherlands, UK, Germany, Denmark, Switzerland, Singapore, Korea, Shanghai, Canada and throughout the USA.

In 2005 Guerin was awarded the Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award for achievement by an individual. Other awards include the Prix d’Auteur from the Rencontres Choregraphiques Internationales de la Danse in France, a 1994 New York Foundation for the Arts Choreographic Fellowship and a 1997 New York Dance and Performance Award (a ‘Bessie’) for her piece Ten Lies. In 2007, Sirens and Stars won an Australian Green Room award for ‘Best Choreography’, a Helpmann Award for ‘Best Dance Work’ and an Australian Dance Award for ‘Best Performance’ by a Company.

Recent works for Lucy Guerin Inc. include Structure and Sadness, Corridor and Utterance. She has also collaborated on projects with visual artist David Rosetzky, ACMI screen gallery, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and the Australian Opera.

Lucy Guerin Inc.

Lucy Guerin Inc. is an Australian dance company that was established in 2002 to produce new work by choreographer Lucy Guerin. Recognized for the skill and acuity of its small group of performers, the company is committed to challenging and extending the art of contemporary dance. Typically, a production might involve dancers, musicians, and text and industrial design as well as Guerin’s lucid choreography.

A Lucy Guerin Inc production is always a stimulating and intimate experience. Not only focused on formal concerns, the company is also dedicated to the exploration and redemption of everyday events and emotions. Crucially this is always a choreographic exploration, offering revelations and nuances of feeling that could not be generated or communicated in any other form other than dance.

Lucy Guerin Inc has been a major influence on the growing identity of Australian dance at home and abroad. Much of this influence stems from the company’s programmatic research into choreographic practices.

This research is supported through FACES for Small Spaces, its annual curated program for new dance works by emerging choreographers in Melbourne. Also, the company sponsors studio rehearsals of first-draft works through its First Run presentations. It also offers workshops with local and international artists, presents one-off special events and maintains an artist-in-residence program.

As choreographer, he has been commissioned to make works for Chunky Move, Dancing Classrooms, The Victorian College of the Arts, Tere O’Connor Dance, the Bebe Miller Company and Sara Ruder.

Simon Obarzanek


Simon was the winner of the Second Melbourne Airport Innovators Award (2008) at Linden Centre for Contemporary Arts, St Kilda and his work is several public collections including the National Portrait Gallery, Canberra, the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney and the Gold Coast City Art Gallery.

Byron Perry

A graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts, Byron has toured throughout Australia, Europe and America developing and performing roles with Douglas Wright, Leigh Warren, Nanette Hassall, Gideon Obarzanek (Chunky Move), Paul Seylon Norton, Lucy Guerin Inc, Philip Adams (Ballet La La), Lloyd Newson (DV8 Physical Theatre), Kate Champion (Force Majeure), Antony Hamilton and Kate Darbourough (Kage Physical Theatre). He is a multiple nominee for both the Greenroom and Australian Dance Awards and in 2005 he was nominated for the Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative. In 2006 he received an Australian Dance Award for ‘outstanding performance by a male dancer’ and won ‘Best Male Dancer’ at the Greenroom Awards for his years work.

His choreographic work includes punctuated equilibrium and the haybailk limit for Chunky Move, last call for the Victorian College of the Arts, breakfast of saints for The Studio at the Sydney Opera House, a volume problem for Tasserdene and egg box for which he was nominated for a Greenroom Award for best original choreography. Most recently he co-created I Like This with Antony Hamilton for Chunkynemos Inaugural ‘Next Move’ program. He has also choreographed and performed in various projects for television and music videos.

Aside from his performance-based work Byron has an ongoing interest in visual art and design, including logo design, CD artwork and photography. He was recently exhibited as a finalist in the Sony ‘real photographers wanted’ competition in Sydney and has also presented a work in a number of galleries and bars around Melbourne.

Byron is currently participating in the Australia Council funded SCOPE initiative for career development in the area of photography with mentor Simon Obarzanek.