

BIOGRAPHIES

Dewey Dell

Dewey Dell was formed in 2007 by Teodora, Demetrio and Agata Castellucci, and Eugenio Resta. The four grew up together artistically, sharing the important formative experience of the Stoa school for rhythmic movement based in Cesena, Italy.

Teodora, Agata, Eugenio and Demetrio have strong skills in different areas; each of them giving priority to a specific aspect of Dewey Dell's work, without giving up their collective modelling of the artistic material. Since 2007 Dewey Dell has created *à elle vide* (2007), *KIN KEEN KING* (2008), *Baldassarre* (2009), *Cinquanta Urlanti, Quaranta Ruggenti, Sessanta Stridenti* (2010) and *Grave* (2011/12); as well as various forms of live concert in collaboration with Demetrio Castellucci's music group, Black Fanfare. Dewey Dell is part of Fies Factory, a project of Centrale Fies.

The name Dewey Dell is a tribute to the US author William Faulkner and the young girl of his *As I Lay Dying*, under whose gaze the company prepares itself to wander towards the abyss.

Justin Shoulder

Justin Shoulder creates urban mythologies: stories inspired by interests such as ecology, decay, consumption, human and animal relationships, masquerade, glitter, dance music and more. Drawing from the universal lineage of mythical creatures – dragons, chimeras, vampire demons, serpents, monkey gods and others – he creates his own 'fantastic creatures', using costume and its transformative powers to tell their stories through performance.

Justin Shoulder's performance practice has been nurtured in nightclubs including Sydney's Club Kooky and the Oxford Art Factory. He is a co-founder of The Glitter Militia – a conglomerate of cabaret, drag, mime, clowning, circus and strip-show artists whose events have included *You Lil Stripper* (Lanfranchi's and the Red Rattler); *Clown Cult* (Under the Radar and Harvest Festivals); and *The Cabinet of Curiosities* (a residency at The Rocks, Sydney). He has co-curated and performed in queer performance festival Quick & Dirty (2009) and toured to several festivals as a solo performer. As a visual artist he has appeared in both group and solo exhibitions in Sydney since 2007. Film projects include performing in Amy Gebhardt's *Into the Sun* (2011) and Rebecca Stegh's *Balthius and the Ugliness of Others* (2012).

In 2010 he took part in Jeremy Neideck's first development of *Hidden Lands*. As an ensemble performer he has appeared in Theatre Kantanka's *Bargain Garden* (2011) and Brook Andrew's *Travelling Colony*, Sydney Festival opening night 2012.

Nick Wales

Sydney-based composer Nick Wales works across contemporary dance, popular music, film, theatre, fashion and new music. He has collaborated with Justin Shoulder on performance and installation projects since 2007. In 2012 he has arranged orchestrations for Sarah Blasko's forthcoming album, collaborated with Rafael Bonachela for Sydney Dance Company's *ZoneAnother*; worked on a new creation with choreographer Shaun Parker for the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad; and performed with Holly Throsby's *See!* project. He is a founding member and co-composer of CODA, a critically acclaimed music group that incorporates classical styling with contemporary rock and electronica. He has collaborated frequently with Shaun Parker on works including *Happy as Larry* (with Bree van Reyk), *Spill*, *The Yard* and *This Show is About People*. Other commissions include for the Sydney Symphony, Matchbox Pictures, STUDIO TV, Brisbane Festival's *City of Lights*, Anton's *Supermodern*, the NRL, Sydney Children's Choir, *Firewater* on Sydney Harbour, Bell Shakespeare Company, Romance Was Born, Dion Lee and Akira Isogawa. He also works with filmmaker Paola Morabito and electronic musician Jonny Seymour.

Toby K

Sydney-based lighting and vision designer Toby K works across theatre, concerts and contemporary performance. Recent work includes lighting design for *The Buglugs Bum Thief* national tour for Monkey Baa Theatre Company; and Chicago Shakespeare Theatre's *Funk it Up About Nothin'*, which played Chicago, London and Australia's east coast.

In addition to his lighting practice Toby K creates interactive projection artworks. His latest work, *Feedback*, was developed in partnership with Performance Space, Critical Path and Merrigong Theatre Company. *Feedback* explores the relationship between performers, audience and technology. The 2011 development deployed brainwave-reading headsets to detect the audience's mental responses. Toby developed custom algorithms which used this data to modify the parameters of the performance environment live. This led to further response from the performers, and in turn further data from the audience members' brains, creating a feedback loop.

Jeff Stein

Jeff Stein works as an artist, performer, director, creative producer and programmer for theatre, events and festivals. His practice is hybrid, traversing visual arts, philosophy, architecture, dance and theatre; and is fuelled by the tension and synergies between these disciplines. For 12 years he was a member of Gravity Feed Performance Ensemble, performing in all its major productions.

He has also performed with Post Arrivalsists, Erth Theatre, Gekidan Kaitaisha, and Societas Raffaello Sanzio; and has worked on numerous smaller collaborations and solo performances. In 2007 he was awarded an Australia Council Inter-Arts Fellowship.

In 2012 Jeff Stein has continued his collaboration with Chiara Guidi from Italian company Societas Raffaello Sanzio, devising a new children's theatre work; and with Denis Beaubois and William McClure on a large-scale intimate installation, *Impasse*, for Melbourne Festival. He also continues his collaboration with Paul Gazzola on the work *Overlay*.

A Note from Arts House

The Exchange had a number of beginnings: Dewey Dell's work was seen by Arts House Associate Producer Olivia Anderson at TorinoDanza in 2011; creative producer Jeff Stein proposed a collaboration with the company; and Sydney-based artist Justin Shoulder, Emily Sexton at Next Wave and I were keen to collaborate on an international project during the Next Wave residency at Arts House. Fruitful conversations with the artists meant this opportunity was created; we look forward with great excitement to its realisation and future resonances.

Angharad Wynne-Jones,
Creative Producer Arts House

A Note from Next Wave

It's a wonderful thing when artists are generous enough to share their first encounters together with us, their community. Justin Shoulder, Toby Knyvett and Nick Wales are collaborating with Dewey Dell for the first time in this season. A new artistic conversation is a precious and fragile thing. I'm thrilled that with the creative guidance of Jeff Stein, Next Wave and Arts House, these artists are willing and excited to put their experimentation and new discoveries into the work that you will see tonight. Curiosity about other people, other artists and the other worlds that we do not yet know is exactly the kind of work that Next Wave loves to support. We can't wait to see where these conversations could lead us!

Emily Sexton, Artistic Director, Next Wave

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ARTS HOUSE  CITY OF MELBOURNE

Arts House is a City of Melbourne contemporary arts initiative

**ARTS HOUSE**

ARTS HOUSE,
NORTH MELBOURNE TOWN HALL

PROGRAM 1: SAT 19 – TUE 22 MAY 2012
DURATION: 75 minutes, including interval

PROGRAM 2: THU 24 – SUN 27 MAY 2012
DURATION: 85 minutes, including interval

justinshoulder.com
deweydell.com

The Exchange has been supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body, the Next Wave Festival, and the City of Melbourne through Arts House.

Images: **Amy Gebhardt** (V), **Demetrio Castellucci** (Cinquanta Urlanti, Quaranta Ruggenti, Sessanta Stridenti), **Rebecca Stegh** (The River Eats), **Cesuralab per Fies** (Grave).

The Exchange is a reciprocal process of development, presentation and exchange between two young and exciting theatre companies: Italy's Dewey Dell and Australian collaborating artists Justin Shoulder, Toby Knyvett and Nick Wales. The project has been facilitated by artist and creative producer Jeff Stein.

Notes from Jeff Stein

"That is finally what it means to be alone. To spin oneself into the silk of one's own soul, to mask oneself in one's own cocoon, and wait for the metamorphosis, which never fails to come about." August Strindberg

The exchange is a context to co-present two groups of artists who I think share something interesting in common, although that thing is not easily definable – I guess it's about their ability to manifest an uncanniness on stage. The work is both visual and physical theatre, but not in any normal sense of those words.

They create unique atmospheres, dense atmospheres, through their ability to fuse light, sound, image and movement – that is their magic.

What I love about the work is that it's not dealing with the banality of the everyday, although it is very human in a strange way. It is similar to my relation to my dog, my dog reminds me of things: love, loyalty and joy that no human can embody – our relationship to animals reminds us of our own humanity or our lacking as human beings.

"In the final instance, magic is not a knowledge of names, but a gesture – a breaking free from the name. Happy and without a name, the creature knocks at the gates of the land of magic who speaks in gesture alone."

Giorgio Agamben

PROGRAM 1



JUSTIN SHOULDER



Devisor/Performer/Costumes: **Justin Shoulder**
Original Music: **Nick Wales**
Vision Designer: **Toby K**
Creative Producer and Outside Eye: **Jeff Stein**
Costume Design Assistance: **Matthew Stegh**
Set Construction: **Ben Stegh, Ian Shoulder**

Special Thanks:
Performance Space, The Glitter Militia, Queen Street Studio, Reverse Garbage

PROGRAM NOTE

Calling to life a demon for today, the creature ‘V’ is manifest. In a ceremony of the senses the theatre becomes an altar for V to revel in the beauty and horror of contemporary idolatry and its 15 minutes of fame.

[Justin Shoulder](#)



DEWEY DELL

CINQUANTA URLANTI, QUARANTA RUGGENTI, SESSANTA STRIDENTI

(FURIOUS FIFTIES, ROARING FORTIES, SCREAMING SIXTIES)

Creators: **Agata, Demetrio and Teodora Castellucci, Eugenio Resta**
Performers: **Sara Angelini, Agata Castellucci, Teodora Castellucci**
Choreographer: **Teodora Castellucci**
Original Music: **Demetrio Castellucci**
Sets and Lighting: **Eugenio Resta**
Set Realisation: **Rinaldo Rinaldi**
Prosthesis: **Istvan Zimmerman, Giovanna Amoroso, Chiara Bocchini**
Sound: **Marco Canali**
Graphics: **Clio Casadei**

Dewey Dell is part of the project Fies Factory
Production: **Dewey Dell**

Special Thanks:
Paride Piccinini, Anagoor, Carmen Castellucci, Zapruder filmmakersgroup

Cinquanta Urlanti, Quaranta Ruggenti, Sessanta Stridenti (Furious Fifties, Roaring Forties, Screaming Sixties) was originally co-produced with Centrale Fies Romaeuropa Festival, Rencontres Chorégraphiques Internationales de Seine-Saint-Denis, Festival Uovo Performing Arts; with the support of NEXT/Regione Lombardia, and the Programma Cultura della Commissione Europea project Focus on Art and Science in the Performing Arts.

PROGRAM NOTE

Furious Fifties, Roaring Forties, Screaming Sixties are the proper names of three groups of winds that blow over the seas of the Antarctic.

Our work springs from a reflection on the ship and its inhabitants.

There's no difference between the sailor and his own ship. From the very moment when the ship leaves the harbour a new, single, floating body is born.

This new being, tied indissolubly to the water and the wind, becomes an enormous organism whose borders are blurring.

The noises of screeching ropes, the creaking of soaked wood, the sound of embarked objects that answer to the ship rolling on the waves, melt into sailors' voices and merge with orders screamed by the captain.

An obscure jumble becomes the general breath: the sound of a world where the man, the wind, the ship and the sea, inextricably combined together, form the only conceivable protagonist.

[Dewey Dell](#)

PROGRAM 2



JUSTIN SHOULDER

THE RIVER EATS

Devisor/Performer/Costumes: **Justin Shoulder**
Original Music: **Nick Wales**
Vision Designer: **Toby K**
Creative Producer and Outside Eye: **Jeff Stein**
Costume Construction and Design Assistance: **Matthew Stegh, Marty Jay, Violeta Shoulder, Ian Shoulder, Ami Shoulder, Anthony Aitch, Phoebe Hyles, Alistair Watts, Yasmina Black, Vincent Valentine**
Set Construction: **Dillon MacEwan**

Pinky Skype Video
Camera/SFX: **Rebecca Stegh**
Assistant: **Matthew Stegh**

Pinky Music Video
Concept and Design: **Justin Shoulder**
Co-Director: **Amy Gebhardt**
Cinematography: **Bonnie Elliot**
Editor: **Megan Voevodin**
SFX: **Rebecca Stegh**
Make-Up Collaborator: **Mat Hornby**

All music original except for excerpt from: Johann Sebastian Bach, Concerto for Harpsichord No. 5 in F Minor, BWV 1056 II. Arioso Largo

Special Thanks:
Violeta Shoulder, Ian Shoulder, Ami Shoulder, Matthew Stegh, Alistair Watts, Lucas Habte, Phoebe Woww, Samara Shehata, Matt Format, Frasers Studios, Reverse Garbage, Hedge, Joey Ruigrok van der Werven and Anna Tregloan

The River Eats has been commissioned and supported by the Next Wave Festival and the City of Melbourne through Arts House, and developed through a residency at Performance Space, Sydney.

PROGRAM NOTE

This is the journey of Pinky, a contemporary clown. Are they laughing or wearing a frown? Refracting through this techno hall of mirrors, Pinky's identity is undergoing a metamorphosis.

An underlying principle in Taoism states that within every independent entity lies a part of its opposite. Within sickness lies health, within Pinky lies the fantastic creature OO. An exploration of dualism: synthetic/natural, good/evil, body/soul, human/animal, light/dark, life/death. An exercise in movement and stillness.

[Justin Shoulder](#)



DEWEY DELL

GRAVE

Creators: **Agata, Demetrio and Teodora Castellucci, Eugenio Resta**
Performers: **Agata Castellucci, Teodora Castellucci; and participants from Arts House, Meat Market workshops, Sally Lewry, Leah Landau, Renae Shadler, Kate Laverack, Ellen Rijs, Ching Ching Ho, Mattie Young, Kerith Manderson-Galvin, Zoe Enticot**
Choreographer: **Teodora Castellucci**
Original Music: **Demetrio Castellucci**
Sets and Lighting: **Eugenio Resta**
Costumes: **Chiara Bocchini, Carmen Castellucci, Daniela Fabbri**
Graphics: **Clio Casadei**

Dewey Dell is part of the project Fies Factory
Production: **Dewey Dell**

Special Thanks:
Clàudia Tatinge Nascimento, Taeko Seguchi, Momoi Shimada, Haruka Inoue and *quelli del Buio*

Grave was originally co-produced by Centrale Fies, NEXT festival, Eurometropolis Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai + Valenciennes, Rencontres Chorégraphiques de Seine-Saint-Denis, Fondazione Fabbrica Europa, in collaboration with AMAT per Civitanova Danza.

PROGRAM NOTE

‘Grave’ is an Italian word which indicates something that has a weight, that is subject to the force of gravity.

The movement of this short performance is about the sensation of a precipitating body, the slowness of its gestures while gravity makes it crash to the ground at a stratospheric speed.

The moment is firm in the speed.

A motionless moment inside the speed of a body which knows it's going to crash to the ground.

[Dewey Dell](#)