

Presented by Arts House as
part of Dance Massive

Split

Lucy Guerin Inc

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Image: Gregory Lorenzutti

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Thu 16 – Sat 18 Mar, 7pm &
Thu 23 – Sat 25 Mar, 7pm &
Sun 19 & Sun 26 Mar, 3pm
50 mins

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Creative Team

Lucy Guerin
Choreographer/Director
Melanie Lane & Lilian Steiner
Dancers
Scanner
Composer
Paul Lim
Lighting Designer
Harriet Oxley
Costume Designer
Robin Fox
Sound Designer
Jessie Oshodi
Dancer Understudy
Tra Mi Dinh
Dancer Secondee
James Lipari
Production Manager
Annette Vieusseux
Producer
Claire Bradley Duke
Assistant Producer



Artist Statement

The inspiration for *Split* came from a desire to get into the studio with just two dancers. Having worked on some larger pieces over the last couple of years, I wanted that luxury of closeness with the dancers, to play and search in a low pressure environment. This for me is the joy of dance making, a chance to burrow into the pure elements of choreography; time, space, structure and the movement of the human body. And to allow content to develop from that process which has resonance in the world.

Split shifts between two bodies, reconciled and in conflict. The diminishing world that they inhabit induces competition, negotiation, harmony and aggression. They set their own parameters. Dividing the time length of each section and the amount of space for each, I also wanted to disrupt the harmony between the two dancers. We tried different costumes but that didn't seem to read clearly. Having one naked and the other clothed created a split in identity that intensified the piece. For me it gives seriousness and normality to the female body, which is such a site of commodification, exploitation, shame and shock. I feel very sad sometimes about the never

ending ways in which women must conform to a ridiculous ideal. In *Split* it is what the body does as much as what it is that is important.

Heartfelt thanks to Lilian and Melanie for their courage and commitment to this work. Their patience and diligence is very apparent, and the gravity and concentration that they bring to the choreography are vital to its realisation.

Their willingness to engage in the creative process not just as instruments, but as agents who embody ideas and make the work into a whole, is very precious.

— *Lucy Guerin*

Lucy Guerin

Choreographer/Director

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Lucy Guerin was born in Adelaide, Australia and graduated from the Centre for Performing Arts in 1982 before joining the companies of Russell Dumas (Dance Exchange) and Nanette Hassall (Danceworks). She moved to New York in 1989 for seven years where she danced with Tere O'Connor Dance, the Bebe Miller Company and Sara Rudner, and began to produce her first choreographic works. In 2002 she established Lucy Guerin Inc in Melbourne to support the development, creation and touring of new works with a focus on challenging and extending the concepts and practice of contemporary dance. Major Lucy Guerin Inc works include *Structure and Sadness* (2006), *Corridor* (2008), *Untrained* (2009), *Human Interest Story* (2010), *Conversation Piece* (2012), *Weather* (2012), *Motion Picture* (2015), *The Dark Chorus* (2016) and *Attractor* (2017).

Guerin has toured her work extensively in Europe, Asia and North America as well as to most of Australia's major festivals and venues. She has been commissioned by Chunky Move, Mikhail Baryshnikov's White Oak Dance Project (USA), Lyon Opera Ballet (France), and Rambert (UK) among many others. Her awards include the Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award, a New York Dance and Performance Award (a 'Bessie'), numerous Green Room Awards, a Helpmann Award and two Australian Dance Awards. In 2016 she was awarded the Australia Council Award for Outstanding Contribution to Dance.

Melanie Lane

Dancer

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Melanie Lane is a choreographer and performer. Based in Europe from 2000–2014, Melanie worked with artists such as Arco Renz | Kobalt Works, Club Guy and Roni, and Tino Seghal performing internationally.

Since 2007, Melanie has been artistic collaborator to Belgian dance company Kobalt Works | Arco Renz collaborating on projects in Belgium, Norway, Germany and Indonesia.

Melanie's choreographic works have presented both in Europe and Australia. She has been artist in residence at Dock 11 Berlin, Tanzwerkstatt Berlin, Lucy Guerin Inc and Schauspielhaus Leipzig.

Her collaborative work extends to artists such as musician Clark, choreographer Morgan Belenguer, and visual artists Martin Boettger, Ash Keating and Bridie Lunney.

She joined Antony Hamilton Projects for his works – *Drift*, *Black Project 1* and *Ruth*.

In 2015, Melanie was Resident Director at Lucy Guerin Inc.

In 2016 Melanie created *Re-make* for Chunky Move's Next Move program and premiered her new work *Wonderwomen* - co-produced by LOFFT and HAU theatres in Germany.

Lilian Steiner

Dancer

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Lilian Steiner is a Melbourne-based dancer and choreographer who has collaborated and performed with Lucy Guerin Inc across multiple projects since 2011. She has also worked with choreographers Phillip Adams' Balletlab, Brooke Stamp and Rennie McDougall, visual artists Ash Keating, Brook Andrew, Mikala Dwyer and Alicia Frankovic, political performance group Public Movement (Israel) and experimental sound and media artist Richie Cyngler.

As a dancer, Lilian has been nominated for the Green Room Award for Best Female Dancer in 2013, 2016 and 2017. Her choreographic work received the Green Room Award for Concept and Realisation (2014) and nominations for the Shirley McKechnie Award for Choreography and Best Design.

Lilian's *Noise Quartet Meditation* is in the 2017 Dance Massive program, at Dancehouse.

Scanner

Composer

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Robin Rimbaud, alias Scanner, is a composer whose work traverses the experimental terrain between sound, space and image, creating absorbing, multilayered sound pieces that twist technology in unconventional ways, connecting a bewilderingly diverse array of genres. Since 1991 he has been intensely active in sonic art, producing concerts, installations and recordings, the albums *Mass Observation* (1994), *Delivery* (1997), and *The Garden is Full of Metal* (1998) hailed by critics as innovative and inspirational works of contemporary electronic music.

Committed to working with cutting edge practitioners, Scanner has collaborated on projects with Bryan Ferry, Wayne MacGregor, Mike Kelley, Mirosław Balka, Torres, Michael Nyman, Carsten Nicolai, Steve McQueen, Laurie Anderson and Hussein Chalayan, amongst others. Scanner worked with Lucy Guerin on the 2016 commission for Rambert, *Tomorrow*.

Paul Lim

Lighting Designer

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Paul Lim is a Melbourne based Lighting Designer with a broad range of experience in theatrical production. His multifaceted knowledge has been used to provide integrated solutions for theatre, festivals and events around the world. Lighting design credits include: *The Dark Chorus* (Lucy Guerin Inc); *The Magic Flute* (New Zealand Opera); *Changes* and *Siva* (Black Grace Dance Company); *The Mooncake and the Kumara* (Auckland Arts Festival); *Fault Lines* (Le Shan Modern Dance Company); *Effie: The Virgin Bride* (Frontier Mushroom); *Struttin with some BBQ* (Australian Art Orchestra); *Kiasmos* (2015 Australian tour); the international award winning shows: *Hot Brown Honey* and *Briefs: The Second Coming* (Briefs Factory) and *Nirbhaya* (Assembly/Riverside Studios/Poorna Jaganathan). Paul is a director of Additive, providing technical solutions to the event industry.

Biographies

Harriet Oxley

Costume Designer

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Harriet Oxley previously collaborated with Lucy Guerin on *Attractor* (co-production with Dancenorth and co-choreographed by Gideon Obarzanek) and on the multiple Green Room Award nominated *The Dark Chorus*. She has designed costumes for choreographers Gideon Obarzanek (Chunky Move and Sydney Dance Company), Stephanie Lake, Michelle Heaven, Ros Warby, Victoria Chiu and Sean Curham (NZ).

For Victorian Opera, Harriet has designed 6 productions including the 2016 coproduction with Circus Oz *Laughter and Tears*, and the co-production with Chunky Move, *Assembly*. Her design for *Angelique* won the Green Room award for Design for Opera in 2011.

Harriet has also designed for Tamara Saulwick, Dislocate Physical Theatre, NICA, VCA's music theatre department, and the big-budget musical *Moonshadow*.

Harriet is a graduate of VCA theatre design and Fashion at RMIT.

Robin Fox

Sound Designer

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Robin Fox is an artist working in sound and light across performance, installation, interactive systems and contemporary dance. His AV works with lasers (*Monochroma, RGB*) have been performed worldwide to critical acclaim. In dance he is a frequent collaborator with Lucy Guerin and has also collaborated regularly with Stephanie Lake, Antony Hamilton and Gideon Obarzanek among others. His music is released internationally through Editions Mego.

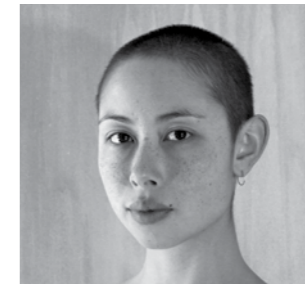
Current projects include *Sky Light*, a citywide laser installation commissioned by Melbourne Fringe, *Double Vision* a collaboration with electronic music legend Atom tm, and he is co-founder of MESS (Melbourne Electronic Sound Studio) which opened in April 2016.



Lucy Guerin



Melanie Lane



Lilian Steiner



Scanner



Paul Lim



Harriet Oxley



Robin Fox



Thank You



Angharad Wynne Jones and the team at Arts House, the Dance Massive consortium, First In Last Out, Alexandra Macalister-Bills, Inga Muribo, Gregory Lorenzutti, Gus Kemp, Freya Waterson, Gideon Obarzanek, to our generous donors and the Board of Lucy Guerin Inc.

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

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