

Co3 Contemporary Dance presents
IN.RESIDENCE 2023 curated by Raewyn Hill

FAÇADE

BY CHRISSIE PARROTT AO

Supported by Wright Burt Foundation

14–17 JUNE 2023
LIBERTY THEATRE



Photo by Chrissie Parrott AO

Co3 acknowledge the Whadjuk people of the Nyoongar nation, the Traditional Owners of this land and pay respect to Elders past and present. We celebrate those who have danced across Boodja for more than 60,000 years and it is our hope that dance unites our humanity.

WELCOME



This year, as part of our PATHWAYS PROGRAM, we welcome Chrissie Parrott as the 2023 Artist for IN.RESIDENCE, with her presentation of *Façade*. Made possible by the generous support of Wright Burt Foundation and City of

Perth, the IN.RESIDENCE program is an annual opportunity for choreographers and artists based in Western Australia. The initiative is founded on Co3's philosophy of facilitating artists, enriching artistic practice and relieving associated pressures in the pursuit of creating and presenting new work. During the development of *Façade*, Chrissie and her team rehearsed at the European Foods Warehouse in Northbridge with thanks to the Re Store family.

Chrissie is one of Australia's most iconic choreographers, who has made enormous contributions to contemporary dance across the country and beyond. This commission reinforces Chrissie's standing as an inspiration to all makers and the longevity of the career they could aspire to.

On behalf of Co3 I am thrilled to welcome you to what is a 70th birthday for both Chrissie and the Liberty Theatre, Perth's first arthouse cinema. We are hugely grateful to Randal Humich for the possibility to perform in this unique venue. It has been an absolute joy to watch Chrissie bring this work to life again and we cannot wait for you to join us for an outrageous season of *Façade*!

Raewyn Hill
Artistic Director
Co3 Contemporary Dance

CHRISSIE PARROTT BIOGRAPHY

Chrissie Parrott CitWA AO is a multi-awarded and internationally renowned creative artist whose career spans over four decades. She works across the disciplines of dance, theatre, digital arts, and decorative design and has worked extensively in the creative industries with an impressive portfolio.

Her primary practice is in dance, as dancer, lecturer, choreographer, and arts festival director, she has directed for theatre, TV and film, designed set and costumes, taught multimedia and animation, and creates large-scale digital artworks.

She has created a vast repertoire of over 90 works – including commissions across the country and internationally – her works have been performed in the UK, France, Holland, Japan, Korea, Indonesia and New Zealand. Chrissie Parrott's distinctive choreographic style draws equally upon her foundations in classical dance and the richness of the 20th Century contemporary dance vocabulary, as well as an upbringing surrounded by Vaudeville and stand-up comedy.

Chrissie's outstanding contribution to contemporary dance associated arts has been significantly acknowledged by the presentation of the Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award, Swan Gold Award, WA Citizen of the Year, Golden Key Society for high achievers USA, and a Centenary Medal. Chrissie also received an Ausdance WA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014 and was then honoured as a State Living Treasure. In 2021, she was the recipient of a prestigious Order of Australia. Most recently, Chrissie was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from PAWA.

CHOREOGRAPHER'S NOTE



The Baroque styling of *Façade*'s outrageous wigs and oversized crinolines contributes to questions about colonial histories, the prevalence of vanity in today's visual culture and the place of the body in society, fake news and celebrity.

The 'façade', the outward veneer, a conscious and highly stylised type of behaviour an individual adopts to fit in within perceived societal norms. Historically the mask created a distance of self-protection to hide the real you, often the soft core hidden for fear of seeming too vulnerable. Masking is interconnected with maintaining performative behaviour within social structures and cultures. It begs me to see the humour in it all! "The frail façade of petit bourgeois respectability."

Now a septuagenarian, I look back and am proud and satisfied of my creations that have graced many of the theatres and festivals around the world. So now it's time for my last hoorah! I've decided that this will be my last mainstage production. I want to acknowledge and celebrate artists who have worked and inspired me and sneak in some mementos and highlights from those past productions.

I offer *Façade* to you as a gift of love and thanks for all the years of support and belief in me.

I've never been afraid to ruffle a few feathers, weaving dark humour and audacious theatrical styling into a baroque/ vaudeville style variety show full of trickery and intrigue.

Thank you Raewyn Hill, Co3, and the Wright Burt Foundation.

Chrissie Parrott CitWA AO

CREATIVES



**Director/ Choreographer/
Set & Costume Designer**
Chrissie Parrott CitWA AO



**Production Manager
& Lighting Designer**
Andrew Portwine



Stage Manager
Hannah Portwine

Costume Hire Raffaella Basini
Decor/ Design Assistant Beth James
Carpenters Steve James, Ian Studham
Co3 Artistic Associate Dave Mack

PERFORMERS



Claudia Alessi



Katy Hall



Matthew Cellan Jones



Krista Low



Stefan Karlsson



Ronald MacQueen



Talitha Maslin



Matthew Morris



Paul Rowe



Russell Thorpe



Georgia Van Gils

SPECIAL THANKS

With love *Façade* is dedicated to my Dad, Fred Parrott, for lifelong inspiration and his wit and sense of humour. With special thanks to Thelma Cluning, Karmen Frantic, Steve McInerney, Susi Rigg, Randal Humich, Tamar Basini, The Chapel Space, Marloo Arts, ACF Campaign Donors and my sensational cast.
– Chrissie Parrott

ABOUT CO3 (Pron. KOH-three)

CO3 CONTEMPORARY DANCE IS AN ARTISTIC HOUSE, PROUDLY BASED IN PERTH, BOORLOO, ON THE LANDS OF THE WHADJUK NYOONGAR PEOPLE.

Co3 produces contemporary dance, delivered by national and international leaders at the forefront of Australasian art. Since 2016, the company has been the creative home for dance pioneer Raewyn Hill, a working artist, maker, educator, performer, and director. The annual artistic program centres on the development, creation and touring of major and minor scale works that are uniquely physical, multidisciplinary in nature, and technological in focus. As a core priority for the company, Raewyn developed the PATHWAYS PROGRAM, partnerships with WAAPA and the independent dance sector, demonstrating a commitment to empowering and inspiring the next generation of artists.

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Special thanks to Randal Humich, Humich Group & Liberty Theatre and Victor Giudicatti from The Re Store & European Foods Warehouse, Northbridge.

DISCLAIMER: Program is correct at time of print but may be subject to change.