

PERTH FESTIVAL

15 February – 14 March

A PERTH FESTIVAL COMMISSION
WORLD PREMIERE

ARCHIVES OF HUMANITY

CO3 CONTEMPORARY DANCE



Image: Daniel Carson

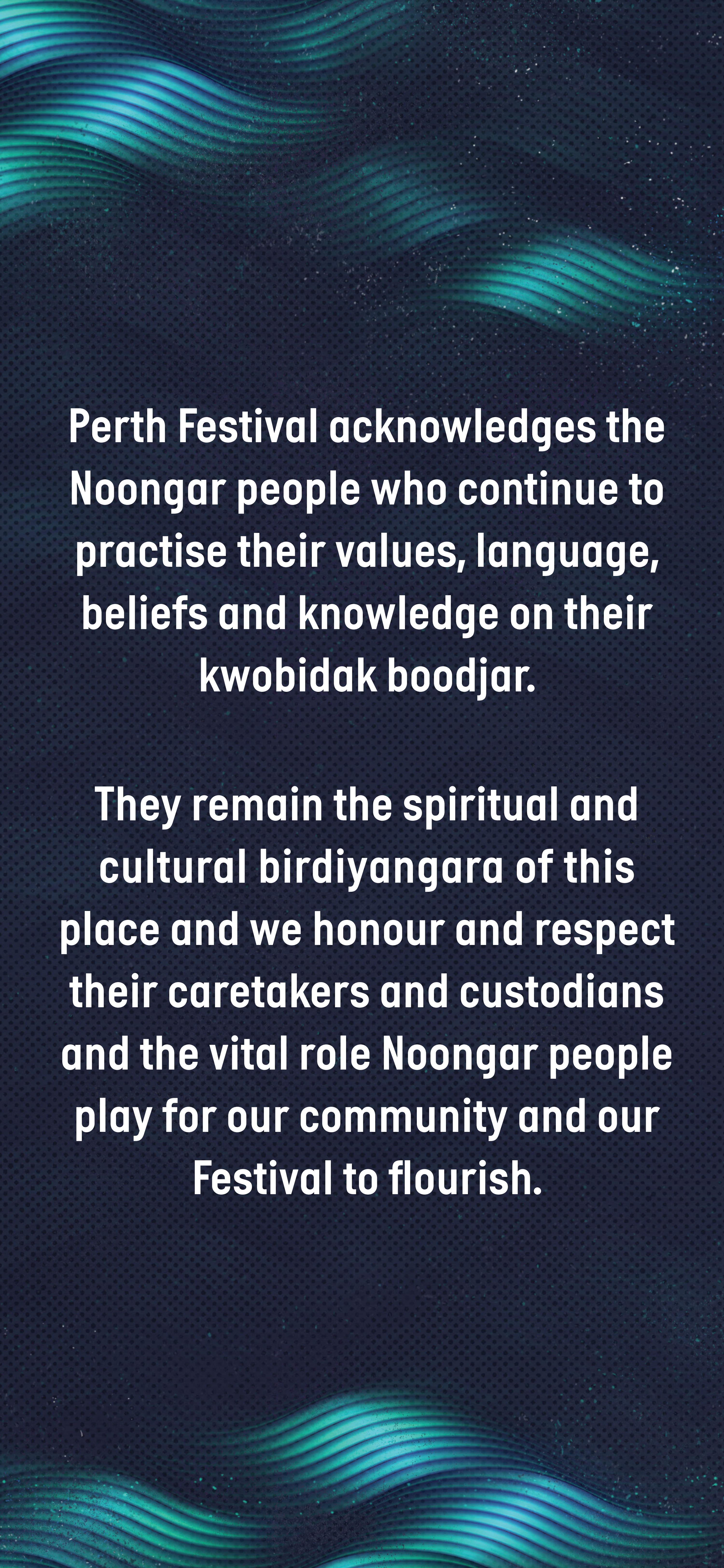
Founder



Principal Partner



2021



**Perth Festival acknowledges the
Noongar people who continue to
practise their values, language,
beliefs and knowledge on their
kwobidak boodjar.**

**They remain the spiritual and
cultural birdiyangara of this
place and we honour and respect
their caretakers and custodians
and the vital role Noongar people
play for our community and our
Festival to flourish.**

PERTH FESTIVAL

Stay COVID-19 safe



Physical distancing



Wash your hands



Stay home if you are sick



Register your attendance

For latest health advice visit healthywa.wa.gov.au/coronavirus

A PERTH FESTIVAL COMMISSION
WORLD PREMIERE

ARCHIVES OF HUMANITY

CO3 CONTEMPORARY DANCE

YANDILUP / NORTHBRIDGE

STUDIO UNDERGROUND,
STATE THEATRE CENTRE OF WA

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
FEBRUARY				5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Fri 19 Feb 7pm
Sat 20 Feb 1pm & 7pm
Sun 21 Feb 4pm
Tue 23 – Fri 26 Feb 7pm
Sat 27 Feb 2pm
Duration 60mins

Latecomers not admitted

Post Show Q&A Sat 20 Feb 7pm

Contains haze & strobe effects



Audio described performance Wed 24 Feb 7pm with tactile tour available before the show

Supported by



Wesfarmers Arts

ARCHIVES OF HUMANITY

CO3 UNLOCKED

Listen to exclusive pre-show
commentary via the app
Co3 Unlocked.

Content will be accessible prior to
each performance. Please bring
in-ear headphones if you choose to
listen prior to taking your seats.

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Image: Jess Wyld

Perth Festival 2021 is a love song to this place – it’s people, artists and stories. And so, it is fitting that our leading contemporary dance company premieres their latest work as part of the Festival. *Archives of Humanity* celebrates community, exploring the ways we care for each other in a crisis. In this time of a global pandemic this seems particularly poignant and we feel very lucky that we can come together in the theatre to share in this work together. Enjoy the show!

IAIN GRANDAGE

PERTH FESTIVAL ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Image: Jess Wyld

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO AFTER THE SHOW?

Stick around Perth Cultural Centre and enjoy City of Lights. Immerse yourself in the projections, catch some tunes at *STC Courtyard Sessions*, drop into a local bar for a post-show drink or treat yourself to a tasty bite at one of Northbridge's many eateries.



**‘A visceral
moving portrait
of human calamity.’**

CREDITS

Designed, Devised & Directed by
Raewyn Hill

Composer Eden Mulholland

Dramaturg Richard Longbottom

Artistic Associate Alice Kell

Sculptural Artist Naoko Yoshimoto

**Production Manager &
Lighting Designer** Mark Haslam

Design Associate Bruce McKinven

Costume Associates
Nora Stelter & Bec Simpkins

Stage Manager Liam Murray

Production Assistants
Scott Galbraith & Stephanie Thackray

Project Coordinator Tanya Rodin

Co3 Dancers Mitchell Aldridge,
Claudia Alessi, Mitch Harvey,
Storm Helmore, Alex Kay, Yilin Kong,
David Mack, Matthew Morris,
Jo Omodei, Otto Pye, Russell Thorpe,
Luci Young

WAAPA Secondees Campbell Gateley,
Anna Milburn, Jessica Pettitt,
Nadia Priolo, Macon Riley, Aisha Samat,
Sami Jane Smith, Luther Wilson,
Zachary Wilson

Intern Arianwen Painter-Jones

SPECIAL THANKS

Nathan Kell (Circus Director)
Sue Peacock (WAAPA)
Gavin Webber

Company Class Teachers
Scott Galbraith, Mitch Harvey,
Alex Kay, David Mack, Talitha Maslin,
Emma Robson, Kate Starre, Zee Zunnur

THE BIRD MAKERS PROJECT

Concept
Raewyn Hill & Naoko Yoshimoto

**Project & Community Engagement
Coordinator** Rebecca Collings

Public Workshop Coordinators
Talitha Maslin, Paul Rowe, Kristie Rowe

Schools Workshop Coordinator
Jess Lewis

Bird Registrar Kelsey Martin

Thanks to all the bird makers, volunteers
and teaching artists
involved in *Archives of Humanity*.
A full list of acknowledgements can
be viewed at co3.org.au

MUSIC CREDIT

Audio samples of Vivaldi’s *Gloria* are
used with the generous permission
of the University of North Texas. The
recording is performed by The Collegium
Singers & Baroque Orchestra, Richard
Sparks, conductor. Cello performed by
acclaimed cellist Helen Mountfort, who
has worked with Paul Kelly, Archie Roach,
Midnight Oil, and is a founding member
of My Friend the Chocolate Cake.

CO3 BOARD & EXECUTIVE

- Patron Michael Smith
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- Deputy Chair David Griffiths
- Secretary Peter Metcalfe
- Treasurer Rob Bentley

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Helen Carroll, Collene Hansen,
Pamela-Jayne Kinder, Scott King
- Co-CEO & Artistic Director
Raewyn Hill
- Co-CEO & Executive Director
Alana Culverhouse

STATE THEATRE CENTRE OF WA

State Theatre Centre of Western Australia is managed by the Perth Theatre Trust.

- Manager, State Theatre Centre of WA Alice Jorgensen
- Chairman, Perth Theatre Trust
Morgan Solomon
- General Manager, Perth Theatre Trust Duncan Ord OAM



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Image: Toni Wilkinson

Q&A WITH RAEWYN HILL

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Image: Chris Symes

What was the inspiration for Archives of Humanity?

The project started with an invitation from Perth Festival Artistic Director Iain Grandage to create a work of scale for the 2021 Festival. It fits into my life’s body of work. Each work I create is a natural progression from the last in terms of themes, aesthetics and movement language. My artistic offerings over the last few years have focused on the gathering of community, the way that people communicate and the way that they support and care for each other. With *Archives of Humanity* I’ve delved deeper into that concept and created an environment of crisis and recovery that strangely ended up in alignment with COVID and the pandemic, even though the work was by no means a response to the situation, it was already in the making.

Bill Viola's *The Raft* was the initial point of investigation as it is a visceral moving portrait of human calamity. The work of Italian painter Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio from the late 16th and early 17th century has also been a great source of inspiration for his staged portraits of intense and violent realism. Vivaldi's 'Gloria' has been a source of musical inspiration.

To reflect the work's underlying theme of theme of communities in crisis and how people respond, *Archives of Humanity* is performed by an intergenerational cast with artists ranging in age from 15 to 55 years, their life experiences the underscore of the work.

What is the significance of the title?

The title *Archives of Humanity* reflects the vast history of human experience and for me, embodies truth. How the audience responds to that truth depends on the experiences they have had in their own lives. The work is an offering for this time and the people who witness it to respond and reflect in their own individual way.

When did you decide it would be more than a dance work and why?

This was not a decision, rather a natural progression that occurred with the bringing together of a multi-generational cast. Each artist brings to the stage their own history and exceptional talent and

that is honoured in the choreography. The slowing down of movement allows the audience to capture minuscule details – the timely blink of an eye expressing and exposing more truth than a grandioso movement phrase.

Tell us about your collaboration with international artist Naoko Yoshimoto. How did this come about and how did the collaboration impact Archives of Humanity?

Naoko's sculptural works have long been an inspiration to me for their aesthetic beauty and poetic storytelling of people, place and community. We began collaborating in 2012, imbedding a solo I had choreographed into her installation *a Garden echoing with Heartbeats* in Japan. For *Archives of Humanity* our conversations were initiated by the concept of merging the stories of our WA community into the set, a flock of 1001 birds. In 2019 Naoko resided here in Perth, beginning to construct the birds from donated garments of clothing, each holding legacy from the donor. When the pandemic hit Naoko was unable to return to Australia to complete the birds, and as a result The Bird Makers Project was born. Over 1001 members from our WA community have now made a bird and shared with us their personal story of migration, isolation or significant experience.



Image: Chris Symes

How have you seen The Bird Makers Project impact the West Australian community? What has surprised you about this project?

The unexpected reach of the project across the Western Australian community is really almost overwhelming. It became our biggest community engagement program yet, but what I’m particularly so grateful for is the generosity of those involved, especially with the sharing of their stories. These stories have created such a rich platform for the creation of the work, they in themselves reflect the shared human experience. It’s been a beautiful chance to engage with the community through this different medium, encouraging everyone to come together, creating through learning the tactility of threading a needle. Those who perhaps would have never engaged with us in a dance context, became richly connected to

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the making of this work. It has given all involved a voice, a listening ear. It brought people together through creativity and story, and that shared experience will be palpable between the birds as they fly together.

You have collaborated with composer Eden Mulholland over many years now. With this work, was the music created for the movement or the movement for the music or were they developed together?

Collaborating to create the score for *Archives of Humanity* throughout the pandemic has been a great challenge for Eden and I. Over the years we have established and refined a collaborative process that is completely organic, music is created in response to the dance and the dance is created in response to the music and we work alongside each other, physically sharing the studio space.

When the pandemic hit, we were forced to create remotely and on opposite sides of the country. We collaborated through Zoom and FaceTime, sending archival videos from the studio and receiving audio files in return and vice versa. Despite this challenge, the movement and music are still a result of each other, a testament to our working relationship and the deep respect and understanding we have of each other's artistic practice.



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Image: Chris Symes

ABOUT Co3

(pron. KOH-three)

Co3 Contemporary Dance is driven by excellence and collaboration and in its short five-year history has emerged as the State's leading contemporary dance company. They have become a progressive platform for the exchange of ideas and stories that reflect the experiences of the WA community. With a multidisciplinary and technological focus, the company presents an annual program of works with unique physicality and expression. Through the programming of Artistic Director, Raewyn Hill, Co3 seeks to empower and inspire, developing future audiences and the next generation of artists.

Co3 is resident dance company at the State Theatre Centre of WA on the land of the Whadjuk Noongar people.

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RAEWYN HILL

Co3 Artistic Director/Devisor & Director

Raewyn is one of Australasia's foremost dance practitioners and pioneers whose work as a dancer and choreographer has won critical acclaim in a career spanning 28 years. She was instrumental in the formation of Co3 Contemporary Dance and is its founding Artistic Director.

Prior to Co3, Raewyn was the Artistic Director at Dancenorth in Queensland and had a prolific career as a dancer and an internationally commissioned choreographer and educator. She held prestigious positions at numerous dance companies across the globe, including Cite des Arts (Paris), Baryshnikov Arts

Centre (New York), Juilliard (New York), Bolshoi Ballet Academy (Moscow), Beijing Dance Academy (China), The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (China), National Arts Centre (Tokyo), Tokyo Wonder Site (Tokyo) and Saison Foundation (Tokyo).

During her current tenure at Co3, Raewyn has devised and presented innovative mainstage works, built a vibrant youth ensemble and elite training squad, and a range of community engagement programs. In 2018 she was nominated in the Australian Dance Awards for Services to Dance Education, Outstanding Achievement in Choreography (*THE ZONE*) and Outstanding Performance by a Female Dancer for *Good Little Soldier* (Ochre Contemporary Dance Company). Her dancer training program also became the focus of a postdoctoral research study through Edith Cowan University, Australia. *Archives Of Humanity* is her latest World Premiere new Australian work, commissioned and presented as part of Perth Festival 2021.



EDEN MULHOLLAND

Composer

Eden (Ngati Uepohatu, Aotearoa) is one of Australasia’s most respected and prolific composers and producers for theatre, film, and contemporary dance. His background as a gifted contemporary dancer, together with his ongoing career as a recording artist, means his work not only spans multiple disciplines but also meets the challenges involved in transcending or transgressing conventional genre boundaries.

Eden is well known and sought after for his unusual mix of disciplined focus combined with creative freedom, a balancing act which allows for collaborative improvisation and risk taking when exploring and developing new works. He has received numerous arts festival and commercial sound design awards and is a founding member of the acclaimed multi-disciplined collective Movement of the Human. Eden has made numerous full-length works with Raewyn Hill, with *Archives of Humanity* marking his next composition as a Co3 Associate Artist.

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RICHARD LONGBOTTOM

Dramaturg

A former dancer with Royal New Zealand Ballet, Richard has a longstanding artistic partnership with Raewyn Hill. Beginning in 2004 he was rehearsal director and general manager for Raewyn's independent dance company, Soapbox Productions. Highlights included presenting at multiple New Zealand festivals and assisting the re-staging of Raewyn's work at the Bolshoi Ballet Academy and Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts. Richard was a founding member of Co3 Contemporary Dance, joining the company in 2015 as community engagement director (additionally undertaking the role of dance director) and later as executive director. Richard has held numerous roles in the Australian dance sector, including at Dancenorth and Tasdance.



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ALICE KELL

Artistic Associate

Alice joined Co3 Contemporary Dance as a guest artist for the return season of *re:Loaded* in 2016. She began working with Raewyn Hill at Dancenorth in 2012 and has a background in the creative industries spanning 15 years, having worked in Australia and Europe as a dance theatre performer and choreographer.

After graduating from QUT Alice joined Dancenorth in 2005 and in 2009 became freelance designing and coordinating costumes for notable companies including Force Majeure, Physical Virus Collective (Germany), Animal Farm Collective, Regurgitator and the Australian Ballet. In 2015 Alice extended her love for design by completing a Diploma of Interior Design with a focus on set design.



NAOKO YOSHIMOTO

Sculptural Artist

Naoko was born in Japan and studied BA Analytical Psychology at the Faculty of Education at Kyoto University and weaving at Kawashima Textile School. She researched the ritualistic use of clothing and contemporary art practice in the UK and received the Kyoto Prefecture Cultural Prize (2011). Naoko has exhibited works in museums and galleries, including solo shows in USA, Japan, UK, Singapore, Italy and Austria and in 2013 first collaborated with Raewyn Hill on the performance work *Flock* at the National Art Center Tokyo. 2020 marks seven years of creative collaboration between Raewyn and Naoko. She has been a regular contributor to the Bird Makers Community Group on Facebook and has been working with local communities in Japan on bird making workshops as part of a virtual residency supported by the Australia Japan Foundation.



MARK HASLAM

Production Manager & Lighting Designer

Mark's practice is a hybrid of technical production, design, direction and performance. He has worked with many leading Australian and international contemporary arts companies across performance, dance, music and visual arts practice and toured work across four continents. He has built projects with Sydney Theatre Company, Marrugeku, Erth Visual and Physical, Societas Raffaello Sanzio, Stalker Theatre, The Farm, Legs on the Wall, Performance Space, Company B Belvoir, Co3 and was production manager for the original season of *Muriel's Wedding the Musical*. He has created unique festival performances and lit some of the world's leading DJs and fashion houses. Through his company kdmindustries he explores performance-based collaborations between non-traditional theatrical artists.



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BRUCE MCKINVEN

Design Associate

Bruce's career as set, costume and event designer spans 30 years, working across the fields of theatre, dance, festivals, events and film. He has designed for many of Australia's leading theatre and dance companies, arts festivals and independent artists. Current appointments include senior site designer for Hobart company DarkLab (since 2016), working predominantly on Dark Mofo Festival and the design of the entertainment and dining precinct In The Hanging Garden; site designer for Adelaide Festival's Adelaide Writers' Week (since 2012) and sessional lecturer at WAAPA in 3rd Year Design since 2011. Bruce was appointed Festival Designer for Perth Festival in 2020, designing key event spaces including City of Lights, Kabarett Haus, the Somerville Film venue at UWA (2013 – current) and Literature and Ideas.

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CLAUDIA ALESSI

Claudia has amassed a diverse and considerable suite of experience over a significant multi-disciplinary career in movement, dance, puppetry and film within the arts nationally and internationally spanning 30 years. She has taught generations of dancers and actors; choreographed, produced significant events; held board positions and continues to champion dance and physical theatre here and abroad.

Raewyn and Claudia first worked together in 1998 with Garry Stewart's Thwack! company.

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MITCHELL ALDRIDGE

Born in Darwin, Mitchell is a dancer, photographer and musician who worked locally with SLIDE Youth Dance Theatre and Tracks Dance Inc, before moving to Perth to study at WAAPA. Mitchell has appeared in *Hofesh in the Yard* at Perth Festival, *Structural Dependency* by Brooke Leeder & Dancers, *Situ-8* by STRUT Dance and *FourByFour*, a VR collaboration between Co3, Tura New Music and XR:WA.



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MITCH HARVEY

Since graduating from WAAPA in 2013, Mitch has worked with companies throughout Australia as an independent artist, as well as a founding member of Co3 Contemporary Dance. Mitch has choreographed multiple short works and undertaken residencies in Australia and internationally to develop new works.

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STORM HELMORE

Storm is a contemporary dancer, performer, maker and teacher. Originally from Queensland, she trained at WAAPA and over the past decade has built her career working predominantly in the independent dance sector here in Perth. This is Storm's first season with Co3 and she is honoured to be part of the local line-up of artists showcased at Perth Festival 2021.



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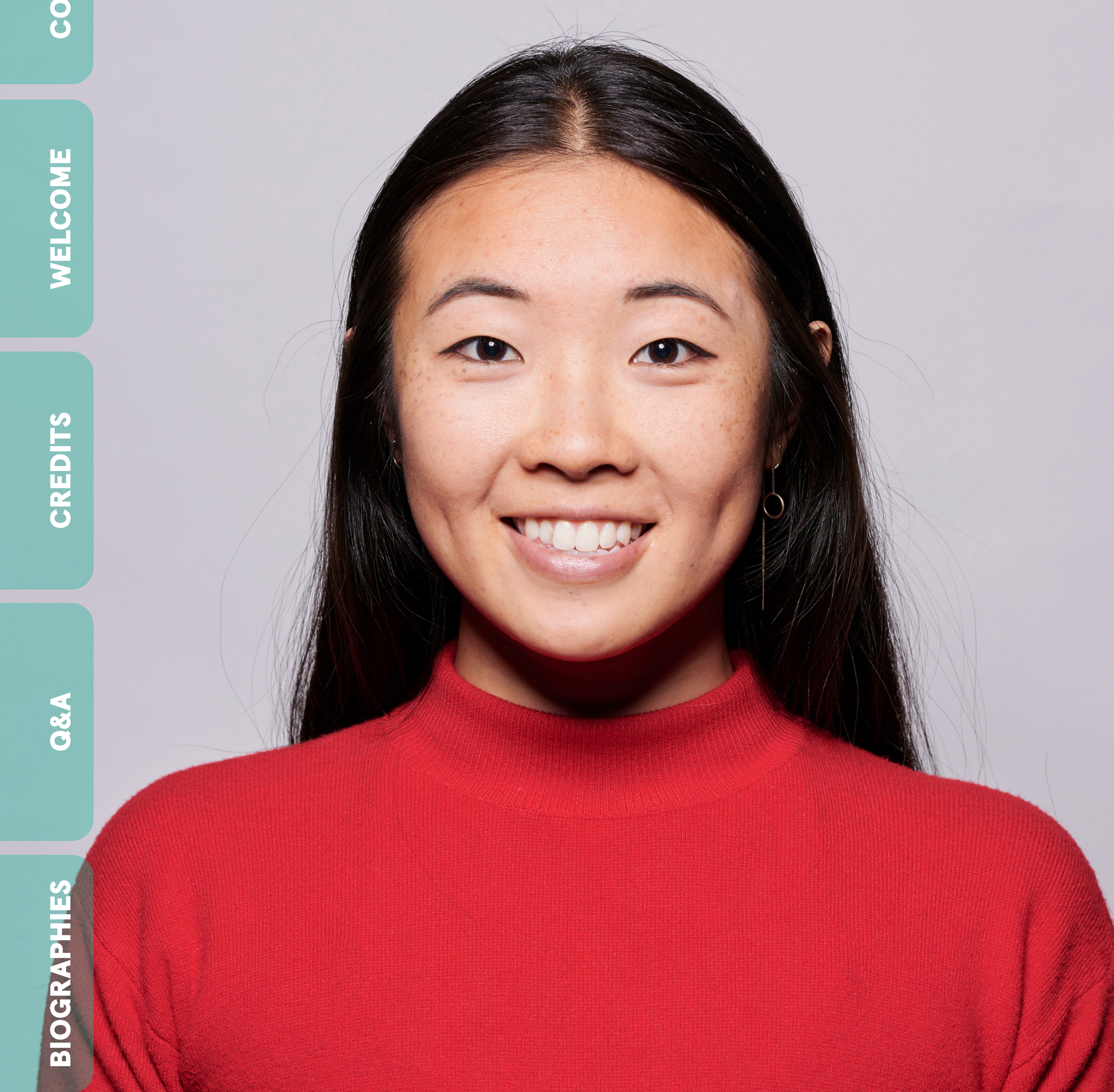
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ALEX KAY

Alex trained at the Perth School of Ballet, STEPS Youth Dance Company and in 2015 became a founding member of Co3’s Act-Belong-Commit Co: Youth Ensemble and Elite Training Squad. Alex went on to study at WAAPA and upon graduation completed an Honours year with LINK Dance Company, performing works by renowned choreographers and touring to France, Taiwan, China and Melbourne. Now a developing artist for Co3 Alex has performed *Leviathan* in Perth Festival 2020 and has worked with many acclaimed dance artists.



YILIN KONG

Yilin is an independent artist who graduated from WAAPA in 2011 and has since performed across the country and internationally. She has worked with many local independent choreographers and companies and has expanded her performance skills into theatre and choreography. *Archives of Humanity* will be Yilin's debut with Co3.

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DAVID MACK

David was born in the 80s and grew up in Coffs Harbour, travelling most of the world in the following years. He has a wife, two boys and a cat named Evie and they all dance, in the lounge room, at traffic lights and on stage when we're lucky.

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MATTHEW MORRIS

Living the dream! An eclectic mishmash of international artistic endeavors spanning over 30 years, some extraordinary and others ordinary.

Proud to be a WAAPA graduate amongst this collective of artists. If you wanna know more talk with him after the show.

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JO OMODEI

In 2018 Jo was awarded joint recipient of the Palisade Award for Most Outstanding Dance Graduate at WAAPA. During training she studied at the Conservatory of Dance at the State University of New York and in 2019 joined LINK Dance Company. As a Developing Artist for Co3 Jo performed in *Leviathan* and Stephanie Lake's *Colossus* for Perth Festival 2020, in *Hidden Movements* and *Situ-8* by STRUT Dance and *FourByFour*, a VR collaboration between Co3, Tura New Music and XR:WA.



OTTO PYE

Otto Pye is an aspiring Western Australian youth dance artist developing his skills in movement, choreography and music. He was a member of STEPS Youth Dance Company and a member of Co3's Act-Belong-Commit Co: Youth Ensemble and Elite Training Squad. Recently Otto created and performed in *December Project 2020* at the Art Gallery of Western Australia. Co3 has invited him to take part in *Archives of Humanity*, making his debut as an emerging artist in Western Australia.

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RUSSELL THORPE

Russell is a WAAPA alumni and joined Co3 as a founding dancer in 2015. During this time Russell has performed works by Raewyn Hill, Larissa McGownan, Gavin Webber and Antony Hamilton. Russell most recently performed in a restaging of Hofesh Shechter's *Uprising* & *tHE bAD* for Perth Festival 2020.

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LUCI YOUNG

Luci has just finished two years training at Pevnev Ballet Academy and was a member of Co3's Act-Belong-Commit Co: Youth Ensemble and Elite Training Squad from 2016 – 19. In 2018 Luci was awarded Best Newcomer at the Performing Arts WA Awards for her performance in Co3's *Frank Enstein*. In February 2020 she understudied for *Leviathan* as part of the Perth Festival Young Creatives program.

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CAMPBELL GATELEY

Campbell is a contemporary artist based in Perth. He began full time training at John Curtin College of the Arts, was a member of STEPS Youth Dance in 2014 and a member of the Co3's Act-Belong-Commit Co:Youth Ensemble and Elite Training Squad 2015 – 17. He is currently finishing his final year at WAAPA.



ANNA MILBURN

Anna is a Perth-based dancer in her final year of a BA in Dance at WAAPA. In 2019 she spent six months studying abroad at Purchase College, New York, performing as a part of the Purchase Dance Company with choreographer Joseph Hernandez (Ubiquitous Menace). As part of her training, Anna also worked with choreographers Claudia Alessi on *Holding on to fall*, Joanna Noonan on *Someone Else's Story* and most recently performed in Raewyn Hill's *A Moving Portrait*.

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JESSICA PETTITT

Jessica is currently in her final year of a BA in Dance at WAAPA. In 2019 she studied abroad at Purchase College in New York. Jessica has performed in works by Emily Bowman, Joanna Noonan and Claudia Alessi, and recently in *A Moving Portrait* by Raewyn Hill. She also took part in a secondment with Emma Fishwick for the development of her work *Slow Burn, Together* and performed in Stephanie Lake's *Colossus* at Perth Festival 2020.

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NADIA PRIOLO

In 2018 Nadia was accepted into WAAPA where she is currently completing her BA in Dance. During her training Nadia has performed in works by Raewyn Hill, Cass Mortimer Eipper, Claudia Alessi, Joanna Noonan and Emily Bowman. Early in 2020 she took part in a secondment with Emma Fishwick for her independent work *Slow Burn, Together*.

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MACON RILEY

Macon is a Perth-based performer who performed with SLIDE Youth Dance Theatre and Tracks Dance from 2013 – 16. After graduating from WAAPA he went on to perform in FRINGEWORLD 2020, STRUT Dance’s shortcuts seasons and *Hidden Movements: The studio sessions 2020*. Alongside performing Macon has a keen interest in studying improvisation methods, traveling and choreography.

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AISHA SAMAT

Aisha graduated from VCASS in 2017 and from WAAPA with a BA in Dance in 2020, where she worked with Raewyn Hill. In 2019 she spent six months studying abroad at Purchase College, New York, where Leah Ives directed a remount of Trisha Brown's *Set and Reset*.

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SAMI JANE SMITH

Sami Jane is a movement artist about to graduate from WAAPA with a BA in Dance. Prior to studying Sami Jane worked independently in Sydney and in 2018 was awarded a DAIR residency through AusDance NSW. She now resides in Perth and is emerging as a curious and explorative artist. She performed in Stephanie Lake's *Colossus* at Perth Festival 2020.

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LUTHER WILSON

Luther is a contemporary dancer and performer based in Perth. He began his training in 2015 in Darwin, before moving to Perth to study at WAAPA. He has since performed in works created by Claudia Alessi, Cass Eipper, Graeme Watson and Raewyn Hill, training under a myriad of experienced industry professionals.

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ZACHARY WILSON

Zachary is a Perth-based performer. Originally from Darwin and WAAPA trained, Zach brings a unique blend of contemporary, breakdance and circus skills to the table. Zach has performed in the works of esteemed choreographers Raewyn Hill of Co3 and Cass Mortimer Eipper of Sydney Dance Company.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING C03 DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

We are grateful to the following individuals, families and businesses who support our vision of becoming a leading proponent of contemporary dance in the Australasian region.

HEART & SOUL SUPPORTERS*

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HEROES

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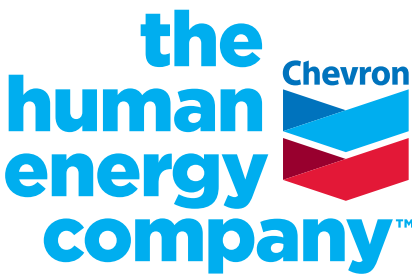
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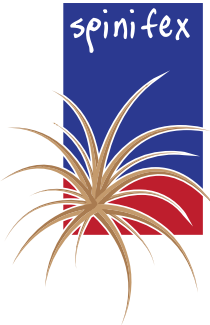
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