

MEDIA CALL

# NEW BREED 2015

## Choreographer Announcement

Monday 10 August



Sydney Dance Company and Carriageworks are set to announce the four up-and-coming choreographers selected to take part in Year 2 of the *New Breed* initiative, a major three-year program created to support the next generation of Australian dance-makers.

Co-presented by two of Australia's most dynamic contemporary arts organisations, with generous support from The Balnaves Foundation, *New Breed* provides an invaluable opportunity for emerging choreographers to work with Australia's best contemporary dancers to create a newly commissioned dance work, presented at Sydney's leading contemporary multi-arts precinct Carriageworks.

Sydney Dance Company and Carriageworks' **New Breed** initiative made its debut in 2014, supporting five young Australian choreographers through the creation and presentation new dance works, resulting in a sell-out season at Carriageworks last November.

It has been exciting to see these choreographers progress in their careers following the 2014 program. Early this year Adelaide-based **New Breed 2014** independent choreographer Gabrielle Nankivell was announced as the recipient of the 2015 Tanja Liedtke Fellowship, established to honour dancer and choreographer, the late Tanja Liedtke. Whilst Sydney-based choreographer Cass Mortimer Eipper was commissioned to create a further work for Sydney Dance Company, which premiered at the Sydney Opera House as part of the Company's recent collaboration with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, for *Le Grand Tango*.

In 2015 Sydney Dance Company and Carriageworks continue their commitment to the future of Australian contemporary dance, and have commissioned four new choreographers to participate in the **New Breed** initiative. The finished works will be presented as part of a seven-performance season at Carriageworks this December.

The four choreographers selected by Sydney Dance Company Artistic Director, Rafael Bonachela and Carriageworks Associate Director, Lisa Ffrench will be announced on Monday August 10 at a media event to be held on the **New Breed 2015** stage at Carriageworks.

Also to be announced are the additional independent Australian artists commissioned to collaborate on aspects of the new works including design, music and costume.

Over the coming months the four handpicked artists and their collaborators will benefit from extensive support from all departments of Australia's leading contemporary dance company, in readiness for the premiere of their works at Carriageworks from December 8 to 13.

Sydney Dance Company Artistic Director Rafael Bonachela says, *"Over its 46-year history Sydney Dance Company has earned a reputation as a breeding ground for future generations of Australian choreographic artists. We are proud to further contribute to this legacy through what we believe is a truly unique program, and to further invest in what we believe is the very foundation of the future of Australian contemporary dance – its creators."*

Carriageworks Director Lisa Havilah says, *"Carriageworks has a strong and ongoing commitment to supporting the development of contemporary Australian Dance and ensuring that there are professional and sustained pathways for choreographers. Our ongoing partnership with Sydney Dance Company not only provides this but makes a significant contribution to the development of new audiences for Australian dance."*

Neil Balnaves, The Balnaves Foundation founder says, *"I believe that the arts are the soul of the country and that our culture defines us. We are incredibly proud to be supporting this innovative partnership model between two significant contemporary cultural organisations, who are making a major investment in the future of the Australian arts. New Breed is a particularly pertinent and relevant program in light of the recent significant structural changes in the Australian arts funding environment. The Balnaves Foundation applauds Sydney Dance Company and Carriageworks for creating and delivering this initiative which provides such an exceptional opportunity to foster emerging Australian talent, by ensuring supported creative pathways for independent artists and therefore the future of the Arts in this country."*

## **MEDIA CALL INFORMATION**

Media are invited to attend the **New Breed 2015** Choreographer Announcement, to be held:

Location: Carriageworks, 245 Wilson St, Redfern NSW

**Date:** Monday August 10

**Time:** 10am to 11am, followed by refreshments

**RSVP:** [juliec@sydneydancecompany.com](mailto:juliec@sydneydancecompany.com) or [gabrielle@articulatepr.com.au](mailto:gabrielle@articulatepr.com.au)

Meet the four up and coming Australian choreographers selected to take part in our **New Breed 2015** initiative and some of their collaborators. A photo call and interviews will follow the announcement.

Interviews and photos will also be available with;  
Sydney Dance Company Artistic Director Rafael Bonachela  
Carriageworks Director Lisa Havilah  
Hamish Balnaves, Trustee, The Balnaves Foundation.

ENDS/

Images: Four of the works presented as part of **New Breed 2014** - Gabrielle Nanvikell's *Wildebeest*, photo by Jack Saltmiras; Lee Serle's *White Elephant*, photo by Peter Greig; Cass Mortimer Eipper's *Dogs and Baristas*, photo by Peter Greig; Juliette Barton's *Scrutineer*, photo by Peter Greig.

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## **MEDIA CONTACT**

**For more information, images or interviews contact:**

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## **ABOUT NEW BREED**

Sydney Dance Company debuted **New Breed** in 2009, as a platform for the next generation of Australian choreographic talent. The program was re-ignited in 2014 as a three-year initiative, in partnership with Carriageworks, and thanks to generous support from The Balnaves Foundation.

*'How lucky are these five 'emerging' choreographers to have the support and resources of the Sydney Dance Company and Carriageworks for their early efforts? Best of all, to have the wonderful SDC dancers to help bring their ideas to physical reality.'*  
– **Sydney Morning Herald**

Being given such an opportunity to work with the Sydney Dance Company has been likened to *'being taken into a Rolls-Royce showroom [and] ... given a bunch of keys'* - **The Australian**

## **ABOUT SYDNEY DANCE COMPANY**

Sydney Dance Company is Australia's leading contemporary dance company, presenting new works in Sydney, around Australia and internationally under the artistic direction of Rafael Bonachela. The Company will celebrate 50 years in 2019.

[www.sydneydancecompany.com](http://www.sydneydancecompany.com).

## **ABOUT CARRIAGEWORKS**

Carriageworks is the largest and most significant contemporary multi-arts centre of its kind in Australia. Engaging artists and audiences with contemporary ideas and issues, Carriageworks has a reputation for presenting large-scale immersive programs that are artist led and emerge from Carriageworks' commitment to reflecting social and cultural diversity. The Carriageworks artistic program is ambitious, risk taking and unrelenting in its support of artists

[www.carriageworks.com.au](http://www.carriageworks.com.au)

## **ABOUT THE BALNAVES FOUNDATION**

The Balnaves Foundation is a private philanthropic organisation established in 2006 by Neil Balnaves AO to provide support to charitable enterprises across Australia. The Foundation disperses over \$2.5 million annually to organisations that aim to create a better Australia through education, medicine and the arts, with a focus on young people, the disadvantaged and Indigenous communities.

[www.balnavesfoundation.com](http://www.balnavesfoundation.com)