

NEW FACES JOIN THE RANKS OF THE SYDNEY DANCE COMPANY BOARD



Incoming Sydney Dance Company Chair, Karen Moses

Australia's leading contemporary dance company today announced some changes to its board, with two fresh additions; renowned arts administrator, Chrissy Sharp and high-profile arts philanthropist, Catriona Mordant.

Also announced was the news that the Chair of Sydney Dance Company, Andrew Messenger, who joined the Board in 2010, will be stepping down after 4 years in the role, with current board member and former Origin Energy Executive Director, Finance and Strategy, Karen Moses stepping up as Chair of the company.

MEDIA RELEASE

7 December, 2016

On Tuesday evening, Catriona Mordant said, "I am delighted to join Sydney Dance Company family and look forward to working with the board of this dynamic institution as it heads towards its 50th year."

Chrissy Sharp echoed Catriona Mordant's thoughts, adding, "I am honoured to have the opportunity to be part of such an incredible Australian institution. I love its extraordinary company of dancers, led by the brilliant talent of Rafael Bonachela, and I love the whole Sydney Dance Company team working so passionately behind the scenes. I am greatly looking forward to contributing as a member of its board."

Outgoing Chair, Andrew Messenger said, "I am incredibly proud to have played a part in the success of Australia's premier contemporary dance company. It is deeply gratifying to see the Company's ongoing growth through an absolute commitment to artistic excellence and innovation."

Incoming Chair of Sydney Dance Company, Karen Moses commented, "It is with great pride that I accept the role as Chair of Sydney Dance Company, one of the most exciting and dynamic performing arts companies in Australia. I step into the role at a time when the Company is looking forward to the rejuvenation of the Walsh Bay Arts Precinct, celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Sydney Dance Company, and positioning the company for the next phase of our history. I want to acknowledge the passion, dedication and commitment that Andrew Messenger has shown to the Company and thank him for his leadership during his four-year tenure as Chair."

The appointments of Chrissy Sharp and Catriona Mordant as board members and Karen Moses as Chair will commence immediately. They join existing board directors; Pam Bartlett, Peter Brownie, Jean-Marc Carriol, Brett Clegg, Jane Freudenstein, Kiera Grant, Beau Neilson and Carla Zampatti AC.

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.

Sydney Dance Company is a legendary force in Australian contemporary dance. The Company has performed on the great dance stages of the world, from the Sydney Opera House in Australia, to the Joyce Theatre in New York, the Grand in Shanghai and the Stanislavsky in Moscow.

The Company maintains an ensemble of 16 exceptional dancers actively creating and touring new work under the Artistic Directorship of Rafael Bonachela, who, over the past five years, has cemented the company's reputation as a creative powerhouse, with his acclaimed group of dancers presenting new work by himself and guest Australian and international choreographers.

The Company will celebrate 50 years in 2019.

BIOGRAPHIES

CHRISSEY SHARP

Chrissy Sharp was the inaugural Director of the Wheeler Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas. Established as the focal point of Melbourne's designation as a UNESCO City of Literature, the Wheeler Centre presents a year-round programme of literary and ideas-related events, and is home to a range of literary organisations.

Prior to establishing the Wheeler Centre, Chrissy was General Manager of Sadler's Wells in London (2004-2009) and responsible, alongside Alistair Spalding, for reviving the fortunes of the famous dance institution. She was previously General Manager of the Sydney Festival, Head of Policy at national broadcaster SBS, and Executive Director of the Australian Writers' Guild.

Most recently, Chrissy was Acting Director of Sydney Dance Company, stepping in as maternity leave cover for CEO Anne Dunn.

CATRIONA MORDANT

Catriona Mordant is the Director of the Foundation of the Museum of Contemporary Art and a Director of Queensland Ballet. Prior to these appointments, Catriona was a Foundation Trustee of the Art Gallery of NSW for 8 years, Patron of Sydney Opera House and member of the Tate International Council. Catriona's lifelong passion and dedication to the arts has led her to become one of Australia's leading arts philanthropists and financiers. With her husband, Simon, she led the campaign for the redevelopment of the Museum of Contemporary Art and the new Australian Pavilion in Venice.

KAREN MOSES

Karen Moses has over 10 years experience as a Listed Company Director and over 20 years as a Company Director. She has over 30 years experience in the energy industry spanning oil, gas, electricity and coal commodities and upstream production, supply and retail, gained both within Australia and overseas. Karen worked with Origin Energy from 1994 until 2015, most recently as Executive Director, Finance & Strategy. Prior to joining Origin, Karen held various roles at Exxon and BP.

Karen joined the Sydney Dance Company Board in 2012. She is also a director of Boral Limited, Orica Limited, Sydney Symphony Limited, and SAS Trustee Corporation. Her prior directorships include Origin Energy Limited (2009-2015), Contact Energy Limited (2004-2015), Australian Energy Market Operator Ltd (2009-2012), Energy and Water Ombudsman (Victoria) Ltd, and VENCORP (2007-2009).

For more on Sydney Dance Company go to, www.sydneydancecompany.com, or follow us at:

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