



## New Breed 2019

### Meet the new breed of Australian dance creators

28 Nov – 7 Dec  
Carriageworks, Sydney

**Sydney Dance Company and Carriageworks, in conjunction with The Balnaves Foundation, announce four Australian choreographers commissioned to create works for the acclaimed *New Breed* initiative that supports Australia's next generation of choreographers.**

*★★★★ Full of a wonderful sense of adventure, but also with the choreographic and theatrical nous to pull off an eclectic and consistently satisfying night of dance.* – **TimeOut**

Co-presented by Carriageworks and Sydney Dance Company – with the generous support of The Balnaves Foundation, *New Breed 2019* will provide Australian choreographers Josh Mu (Melbourne), Lauren Langlois (Melbourne), Ariella Casu (Sydney) and Davide Di Giovanni (Sydney) with an invaluable opportunity to work with Australia's leading contemporary dance company on a newly commissioned dance piece.

Showcasing a rich diversity of choreographic ideas, this talented group of emerging choreographers will create brand new pieces on members of Sydney Dance Company.

These four new works will comprise the *New Breed 2019* season from 28 November to 7 December. The *New Breed* initiative made its debut in November 2014, supporting five emerging Australian choreographers through the commissioning and presentation of new dance work. Four sold out seasons in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 ensued.

The sixth instalment in the *New Breed* initiative will see Carriageworks, Sydney Dance Company and The Balnaves Foundation continue their commitment to the future of Australian contemporary dance, by supporting independent choreographers Josh Mu, Lauren Langlois, Ariella Casu and Davide Di Giovanni.

From August, these dance makers will benefit from the extensive support of all the departments of Sydney Dance Company in readiness for their premiere season at Carriageworks, later this year.

**Sydney Dance Company Artistic Director Rafael Bonachela says,** "Australia is blessed with an extremely rich talent base of dynamic young dance creators. Yet in order for them to grow in their careers and reach their full potential, they need the opportunity to practice - the chance to take their ideas and put them on the stage in front of an audience. *New Breed* is about giving the next generation of talented young artists the best possible opportunity to experiment and create. The best dancers, the best production, marketing and publicity support, the best space to perform in, right here, at Carriageworks. I am delighted to introduce the four choreographers we have commissioned to create for our *New Breed 2019* program. I have been personally inspired hearing of their ideas and I look forward to seeing how their works resonate with dance audiences."

**Carriageworks Acting Director Euan Upston says**, “For the sixth year, Carriageworks is proud to collaborate with Sydney Dance Company and The Balnaves Foundation to support the development of new choreography by Australia’s best emerging talent. *New Breed* reflects Carriageworks’ commitment to present artist-led programs that reflect innovative, ambitious, and risk-taking contemporary work.”

**Victoria Balnaves of The Balnaves Foundation says**, “The Balnaves Foundation is delighted to continue to support Sydney Dance Company in engaging outstanding new choreographic talent through the 2019 *New Breed* program. We believe the *New Breed* program is a vital platform for independent and emerging choreographers in Australia. It empowers them to be courageous, creative and showcase their unique styles to new audiences, with the advantage of support from the Sydney Dance Company team and dancers. We are thrilled that *New Breed* continues to be an essential element of Sydney Dance Company’s annual program, and that the audience for *New Breed* works continue to grow both in Australia and overseas.

★★★★ ‘Always worth seeing, filled with surprises... a world of the imagination.’ **Sydney Morning Herald**

## CHOROEGRAPHER BIOS

### Josh Mu

Josh Mu is an Australian-based independent contemporary dancer. His dance roots began in breakdance and hip-hop culture, and expanded to include contemporary dance, ballet, circus, gymnastics, yoga and physical theatre.

Mu’s varied skill set has enabled him to work with a wide range of prominent companies and artists across Australia, including Chunky Move, Force Majeure, Dancenorth, Antony Hamilton Projects, Shaun Parker & Company, Sydney Theatre Company, Marrugeku, Tracks Dance Theatre, Stephanie Lake, Gavin Webber, Lucy Guerin, Gideon Obarzanek and Meryl Tankard.

Mu is an ArtsNT scholarship recipient and an Ausdance WA award winner for ‘Outstanding Performance’. Mu is also a certified yoga teacher who tours across Asia providing workshop intensives for yoga practitioners to enhance their physical understanding through movement methodologies.

Over his career Mu has had the opportunity to co-choreograph *Endurance* a Tracks Dance Theatre production and create a Darwin Festival sponsored performance called *Home* on the Northern Territory’s first breakdance crew SIK of which he was a founding member. Recently he has presented *Chrysalis* a new work supported by Sydney’s Ev & Bow.

### Lauren Langlois

Lauren Langlois is a performer, teacher and emerging choreographer passionate about dance-theatre making, dance improvisation and collaboration.

Lauren began her career with the Australian Dance Theatre and Sydney Dance Company before relocating to Melbourne in 2012 to collaborate on *Keep Everything*, Antony Hamilton’s critically-acclaimed work for Chunky Move. For her performance in *Keep Everything* she was nominated for Helpmann Award, a Green Room Award and an Australian Dance Award.

Since working with Chunky Move, Lauren has collaborated with Anouk van Dijk intensively, performing in *An Act of Now*, *247 Days*, *Complexity of Belonging* and *LUCID*. For her work in *Complexity of Belonging*, Lauren received the 2015 Green Room Award for Best Female Dancer.

Lauren has also worked with Australia’s leading independent choreographers, theatre directors and companies including: Antony Hamilton, Force Majeure, Lina Limosani, Lucy Guerin Inc, Larissa McGowan, Prue Lang, Stephanie Lake Company, Samara Hersch and Chamber Made.

In 2017, Lauren was the recipient of the Tanja Liedtke Fellowship and has since choreographed works for the New Zealand School of Dance, Transit Dance and Footnote New Zealand Dance.

In 2018, Lauren was commissioned by Chunky Move to choreograph *Nether*, a short work which premiered in Melbourne as part of the *Next Move* season.

### Ariella Casu

Born in America and raised in Italy, Ariella Casu began dancing in her mother’s dance school at four years old. At 16, Ariella was awarded a scholarship to train under Mauro Astolfi at the I.A.L.S. in Rome. At 19, Ariella performed at the Biennale di Venezia with Arsenale Della Danza.

Ariella has performed as soloist in Karl Alfred Schreiner’s *Der Nussknacker* with Stadttheater Klagenfurt in 2010, and with Gartnerplatztheater Munich under the direction of Karl Alfred Schreiner from 2011-2017.

While at Gärtnerplatztheater Ariella performed in works by Jo Stromgren, Gerog Reischl, Cayetano Soto, Edward Clug, Alexander Ekman, Marko Goecke, Antony Rizzi, Christopher Roman, Nanine Linning, Marguerite Donlon, Benoir LaChambre, Roberto Zappala, Eyal Dadon.

Ariella appeared in William Forsythe's *One Flat thing Reproduced* and Jacopo Godani's *Versus*. In 2017 Ariella performed with the Oslo Dance Ensemble in Jo Stromgren's *Salve Regina*.

Ariella joined Sydney Dance Company in 2018 and has performed with the Company on two European tours and in Antony Hamilton's *Forever & Ever*, Melanie Lane's *WOOF*, Gabrielle Nankivell's *Neon Aether* and a critically acclaimed performance in Rafael Bonachela's *ab [intra]*;

'Ariella Casu removes herself from the group to dance to her own rhythm and is euphoric.' **The Australian**

### **Davide Di Giovanni**

Davide Di Giovanni started his dance life in Teatro Alla Scala in Milan when he was 15. He then received a full scholarship to study at the renowned ballet school Balletto Di Toscana, joining the junior company at 17.

After three years with the Balletto Di Toscano, Davide joined Balletto dell'Esperia in Turin, where he met Jacopo Godani, Gustavo Ramirez Sansano and William Forsythe. He then moved to Munich at 23, where he worked for the Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz, with choreographers Marco Göcke, Alexander Ekman and Jø Strømgen. Davide danced in William Forsythe's *One Flat Thing* and worked on new creations with Christopher Roman, Nanine Linning, Georg Reischl and Jacopo Godani.

Davide met Rafael Bonachela in Italy and was introduced to Sydney Dance Company in Switzerland.

Davide first performed with Sydney Dance Company as part of [Orb](#) in 2017. Davide's performance in Rafael Bonachela's *ab [intra]* also received critical acclaim;

'The most eloquent sequence is the long central duet for Charmene Yap and Davide Di Giovanni. The intricate entanglement of their limbs has to be seen to be believed – and even then it is something of a mystery.' **Sydney Morning Herald**

### **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](#). Since 1985 the Company has been resident in purpose-built studios at Pier 4 in Sydney's Walsh Bay, minutes from the city's famed Harbour Bridge. Its studios house the largest public dance class program in Australia, attracting nearly 80,000 participants each year. Sydney Dance Company's DancED program is a national initiative supporting dance education for all ages, from primary students through to pre-professional dancers. A legendary force in contemporary dance in Australia, Sydney Dance Company is celebrating its 50th year in 2019.

### **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.

### **ABOUT THE BALNAVES FOUNDATION**

[The Balnaves Foundation](#) is a private philanthropic organisation established in 2006 by the Balnaves family 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.

Tickets are currently on sale for this limited season presentation, from 28 November to 7 December 2019, Carriageworks, 245 Wilson Street St Eveleigh.

**DATES: THU 28 NOV – SAT 7 DEC [VARIOUS] 7:30PM**

**SAT 7 DEC 2PM**

**COST: \$35**

**DETAILS & TICKETS: [www.sydneydancecompany.com](http://www.sydneydancecompany.com)**

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