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## **SYDNEY DANCE COMPANY AND BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE ANNOUNCE TRAINING PARTNERSHIP IN 2020**

Sydney Dance Company and Bangarra Dance Theatre are thrilled to announce a partnership in 2020 to provide training and support for two pre-professional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dancers.

**Edan Porter**, a descendant of the Gomeri people, and **Maddison Paluch**, a Wiradjuri woman, will train with Sydney Dance Company's 2020 Pre-Professional Year cohort. This unique training course will offer Edan and Maddison the opportunity to learn from leading Australian and international guest artists, explore a variety of movement philosophies and further develop various dance techniques.

Recent Diploma graduates of NAISDA Dance College, Edan and Maddison will be supported by Bangarra's Russell Page Graduate Program, which provides artists with an invaluable opportunity to build their artistic and professional skills, and provides an encouraging environment to transition from tertiary dance studies into life as a professional dance artist.

Stephen Page, Artistic Director at Bangarra Dance Theatre said "Bangarra's Russell Page Graduate Program is a continuation of the vision I shared with my brothers, Russell and David. Russell was passionate about nurturing young talent, and so this is his legacy. Over the years the program has produced some wonderful dancers, who have become key members of our company. I can't wait to see what these new Graduates can achieve".

Rafael Bonachela, Artistic Director at Sydney Dance Company, said "We're incredibly excited to be welcoming Edan and Maddison to our Pre-Professional Year in 2020. They are both promising young dancers, and we're looking forward to watching their careers progress."

Linda Gamblin, Head of Training at Sydney Dance Company, said "The 2020 cohort of Pre-Professional Year dancers are incredibly dynamic and passionate young people. It is such an honour to facilitate growth in these young developing leaders. Each year the group defies and redefines what we thought we knew about dance. They truly are our future and I am excited to see their creative output this year."

Sydney Dance Company's Pre-Professional Year encompasses the full scope of professional dance training while highlighting collaboration and empowerment through every aspect of the program. Now in its seventh year, the program enables invaluable insights into the life of a professional dancer while gaining a wider, well-informed perspective of the industry.

Following a highly extensive audition process, the 2020 cohort ranges in age from 18 to 25 years and is comprised of dancers from across Australia and New Zealand.

Sydney Dance Company's Pre-Professional Year 2020 cohort includes:

Jackson Biala, Sydney NSW  
Lily Boston, Minyon Falls NSW  
Sophie Carathanassis, Newcastle NSW  
Jasmin Carter, Adelaide SA  
Lily Caswell, Gold Coast QLD  
Mia Corfield, Perth WA  
Mia-Clare Cox, Cedar Grove QLD  
Sabine Crompton-Ward, Hobart TAS  
Claudia Debenham, Christchurch NZ  
Emily Eather, Nundle NSW  
Saskia Ellis, Wollongong NSW  
Patricia Hayes Cavanagh, Canberra ACT  
Juliet Hoeberigs, Sydney NSW  
Sophie Jones, Yamba NSW  
Archie Mclean, Melbourne VIC  
Emily McMahan, Adelaide SA  
Jada Narkle, Perth WA  
Maddison Paluch, Rooty Hill NSW  
Edan Porter, Tamworth NSW  
Remy Rochester, Sydney NSW  
Lauren Rutherford, Perth WA  
Maycie Spry, Perth WA  
Amber Todd, Sydney NSW  
Elise Turco, Sydney NSW  
Isobel Turner, Sydney NSW  
Sebastian Vidot, Perth WA  
Coco Wood, Ballarat VIC  
Shalani Wood, Adelaide, SA

– ENDS –

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