



Australia's leading contemporary dance company today announced the appointment of **Emma-Jane Newton** to the position of Deputy Chair. In addition, **Alexa Haslingden**, Chair of not-for-profit women's charity, Lou's Place and Board member of RACAT, and **Emma Gray**, Group Executive, Data and Automation at ANZ, have joined the Board of Sydney Dance Company as Non-Executive Directors.

Emma-Jane is a Managing Director at Morgan Stanley in its Investment Banking Division, and joined the Board in April 2018. She has chaired the Audit & Risk Committee since 2019. A passionate supporter and advocate for Sydney Dance Company for many years, EJ played a key role in helping the Company successfully navigate through the disruption and challenges of recent years.

Chair of Sydney Dance Company, Brett Clegg commented, "EJ is a wonderful and committed colleague who has stepped up in a time when the external challenges have been significant for performing arts companies. Her diligent and thoughtful leadership of the ARC has been one of the reasons we have emerged from the pandemic in a position of financial and operational strength. She shares a keen sense of the responsibility of stewardship of this great Company."

Alexa and Emma are both long-standing supporters of the Company. Alexa has had significant involvement over many years in Sydney Dance Company's renowned annual fundraising gala, Dance Noir. She has served on the Events Committee since 2014. Alexa and Emma bring a wealth of skills and international experience to their Board positions and will respectively serve on the Philanthropy and Commercial sub-committees.

Brett continued, "I am delighted to welcome Alexa and Emma to the Sydney Dance Company Board. They have been part of our family for many years and now have the opportunity and privilege of taking a formal position in helping to steer this proud organisation. I look forward to drawing upon their counsel as we collectively work to drive Australia's premier dance company forward to extend our exceptional national and international success."

Sydney Dance Company Board Directors; Pam Bartlett, David Baxby, Jillian Broadbent AC, Brett Clegg, David Friedlander, Emma Gray, Alexa Haslingden, Mark Hassell, Catriona Mordant AM, Emma-Jane Newton, Sandra McCullagh and Paris Neilson.

Please find below short biographical notes on Alexa Haslingden and Emma Gray.

Alexa Haslingden is Chair of Lou's Place, a daytime, drop in refuge serving women from all over the greater Sydney area. Each year, staff at Lou's Place assist over 6,000 women visiting the service with housing referrals, counselling, advocacy, legal advice, addiction, domestic violence and mental health issues. Alexia joined The Marmalade Foundation (Lou's Place) in 2014, became a board member in 2015 and Chair in 2017.

Alexa is also on the board of RACAT Group, a media company that produces television shows (*Love On The Spectrum*), magazines (Australian Geographic), digital media and games.

Alexa holds a degree in International Relations from Stanford University and has over 25 years' experience in the advertising industry, having worked in the USA, Hong Kong, and Australia for J. Walter Thompson, DDB Needham, John Bevins Pty Ltd and Goldsmith-Jeffrey New York.

Emma Gray is an accomplished global business executive with 20 years of experience creating brand and shareholder value through operational and advisory roles in the retail and consumer sector. She is skilled at working with boards, management and financial stakeholders to drive strategy and execution of critical initiatives. Emma is deep across transformation, corporate and BU strategy, loyalty, and analytics with experience as Chief Loyalty and Data Officer and GM Strategy for Woolworths Limited in Sydney, Chief Strategy Officer for Rebel Sports and Partner with Bain & Company in London, San Francisco and Sydney. She is currently the Group Executive, Data and Automation at ANZ, previously holding the role of Chief Data Officer for the Company.

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 and recently refurbished studios at Wharf 4/5 in Sydney's Walsh Bay Arts Precinct. Its studios house the largest public in-studio and online dance class program in Australia, attracting nearly 100,000 attendances each year. A legendary force in contemporary dance in Australia, Sydney Dance Company celebrated its 50th year in 2019.

More information, www.sydneydancecompany.com

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