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Sydney Dance Company is excited to welcome five exceptional new dancers to the Company in 2023, Naiara de Matos, Piran Scott, Riley Fitzgerald, Madeline Harms and Lucy Angel. We are thrilled to announce their arrival, ushering in an exciting period at the home of contemporary dance in Australia.

Brazilian dancer <u>Naiara de Matos</u> received her training at Bolshoi Ballet School in Joinville (Brazil). Throughout her career, Naiara has joined companies such as Leipzig Ballet, Konzert Theatre Bern, Augsburg Ballet and Dance Company St Ballen, performing a variety of classical and modern repertoire in soloist and principal roles.

<u>Madeline Harms</u> received her early training at Maryke Dance Academy before attending the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School. She went on to complete her Bachelor of Dance at the Codarts University for the Arts, Rotterdam. Madeline has performed with Dantzaz Konpainia in Spain and has worked in The Netherlands as an independent dancer, later joining tanzmainz, the dance company of Staatstheatre Mainz, Germany.

Hailing from Mackay QLD, <u>Piran Scott</u> trained under Lynette Denny AM at Theatre Arts Mackay before completing the Professional Year program with Queensland Ballet. Throughout his career, Piran danced in Germany with Leipzig Ballet and Ballet Theatre Basel in soloist positions, before joining Dance Company St Gallen in Switzerland where he was awarded Dancer of the Year 2022 in *tanz* Magazine Europe.

<u>Riley Fitzgerald</u> received his early training with the Anita Coutts School of Dance before studying at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School. Riley then completed his Level 6 Diploma of Dance Performance at the New Zealand School of Dance in Wellington. Riley joined Sydney Dance Company in 2019 and performed soloist roles nationally and internationally in works such as *ab [intra], Lux Tenebris, Impermanence* and the critically acclaimed *Six Breaths*. Riley returns to Sydney Dance Company following time as a dancer with the Ballet National de Marseille, during which he toured extensively throughout Europe.

Lucy Angel has joined Sydney Dance Company as a trainee following her completion of the Pre-Professional Year program in 2022. Lucy's Sydney Dance Company debut was *ab [intra]* at *DanceX* before performing in *New Breed* 2022 with the Company.

The 2023 ensemble brings a wealth of experience, international exposure and expertise to Sydney Dance Company. The new ensemble's first performance will be <u>Ascent</u>, a triple bill featuring <u>Antony Hamilton's</u> Helpmann-Award winning *Forever & Ever* alongside world premieres by Artistic Director <u>Rafael Bonachela</u> and internationally acclaimed choreographer <u>Marina Mascarell</u>.

Naiara, Piran, Riley, Madeline and Lucy will join Sydney Dance Company's existing ensemble of leading contemporary dance talent;

Dean Elliott, Jacopo Grabar, Liam Green, Luke Hayward, Morgan Hurrell, Sophie Jones, Connor McMahon, Jesse Scales, Emily Seymour, Kai Taberner, Mia Thompson, Coco Wood and Chloe Young.







## 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 <u>Rafael Bonachela</u>. 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 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

## For information, images or interviews contact:

Vivienne Crowle, Marketing & Communications Coordinator viviennec@sydneydancecompany.com

Alexandra Barlow, Publicity Manager alexandrab@sydneydancecompany.com





