

New Board Members

Sydney Dance Company
announces two new
appointments to its
Board of Directors.

Sydney Dance Company is pleased to announce two new appointments to its Board: Michael Dagostino and Andrew Hagger.

Announcing the appointments, Chair of Sydney Dance Company Emma-Jane Newton said; *"I am delighted that Michael and Andrew are joining the Board at such an exciting time for the organisation. Michael's deep experience in the contemporary arts across Sydney and Western Sydney, and Andrew's combined commercial and not-for-profit experience across Australia brings valuable expertise and insights to our governance table"*.

With over 25 years of experience in the contemporary arts sector, **Michael Dagostino** is currently Director of Museums and Cultural Engagement at the University of Sydney responsible for the Chau Chak Wing Museum and Seymour Centre. Former positions include the inaugural Director of the Parramatta Artists Studios, where he developed an innovative hub for emerging artists, and Director of Campbelltown Arts Centre, a flagship cultural institution for contemporary multi-disciplinary artistic practice, where he secured \$79.8m for its expansion. Michael's career includes being the Chair of Artspace, on the Boards of Accessible Arts, FBi Radio, and Sydney Writers Festival and leadership positions on the NSW State Government Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee, Western Sydney Arts Alliance, and the Ministerial Advisory Panel that assisted on the development of Creative Communities policy.

"I am deeply honoured to join the Board of Sydney Dance Company, especially as the company looks towards an exciting future," said Michael Dagostino. "With a strong focus on education, I'm eager to support the company's impact, particularly through its educational initiatives. Dance has always been a personal passion of mine, and I'm excited to contribute to a company that plays such a vital role in shaping Australia's arts landscape. I look forward to working with the Board to ensure the company continues to inspire and grow."

Andrew Hagger is the Executive Chairman of recently launched advisory firm Famille Capital. Previously he served the commercial and philanthropic interests of Andrew and Nicola Forrest, as CEO of Tattarang, one of Australia's largest private investment groups, and as CEO of Minderoo Foundation, a modern and active philanthropy of global scale. Andrew's extensive commercial experience includes serving on National Australia Bank's global executive team for eight years, in roles including leading National Australia Bank's Australian retail bank, and its wealth and asset management division. He is a former Melbourne Managing Partner of professional service firm PwC, for whom he also served on international postings in UK and Asia. Andrew has been active in the not-for-profit sector over recent decades including Board roles with the Wheeler Centre, Melbourne International Jazz Festival and as Appeal Chairman for the Olivia Newton John Cancer & Wellness Research Centre. He is an accomplished musician having released several albums and has performed in concert at Sydney Opera House and Melbourne Recital Centre.

Media Contacts

For interview requests, images or further information, please contact:

Clare Callaghan

E clare@articulatepr.com.au

M 0450 223 485

Sasha Haughan

E sasha@articulatepr.com.au

M 0405 006 035

Media release

For immediate release

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On his appointment Andrew commented; *"I am delighted to join the high calibre Board of Sydney Dance Company. I see extraordinary potential in the company which deservedly enjoys a reputation for creativity and inspiration across Australia and internationally. I have been passionate about the arts all my life and have enjoyed Sydney Dance Company's performances onstage in recent years. I look forward to the opportunity to work with Emma-Jane, the Board and management team as the company continues to expand its vision."*

Sydney Dance Company Board members: Emma Jane Newton (Chair), Larissa Behrendt AO, Jillian Broadbent AC, Michael Dagostino, David Friedlander, Emma Gray, Andrew Hagger, Alexa Haslingden, Mark Hassell, Sandra McCullagh, Paris Neilson, Bianca Spender.

About Sydney Dance Company

Sydney Dance Company is Australia's leading contemporary dance company, presenting new works in Sydney, around Australia and internationally, under artistic direction of Rafael Bonachela. Since 1985 the Company has been resident in purpose-built studios on Gadigal Land at Wharf 4/5 in Sydney's Walsh Bay Arts Precinct. Its studios house the largest public in-studio dance class program in Australia. A legendary force in contemporary dance in Australia, Sydney Dance Company celebrated its 50th year in 2019.

More information, www.sydneydancecompany.com