

DIRTYFEET

TEN YEARS

2017

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# DIRTYFEET

## T E N Y E A R S

"You would be hard pressed to find an independent contemporary dancer in Sydney who hasn't had a brush with DirtyFeet. What was started by seven dancers who gathered in a basketball court to take class, DirtyFeet is celebrating 10 years as a company providing opportunities for independent dancers and impacting the community. Now with a strong annual program, the company remains at the forefront of independent dance within Sydney and shows no signs of slowing down." - Elle Evangelista

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# THE CHOREOGRAPHIC LAB

## ARTISTIC REPORT



**The Choreographic Lab** provides a safe environment where early career dance professionals come together to explore their creative practice. The Lab builds relationships between artists, facilitates the development of methodology and skills, and can be the first steps towards the creation of new work. DirtyFeet provides a choreographer with a space to work, a mentor, a network of dancers and hosts an informal showing at the conclusion of the Lab.

In 2017 DirtyFeet delivered three Choreographic Labs - Cloe Fournier in April at Shopfront Arts Co-Op, Ashley Barton in August at ReadyMade Works, and Emma Harrison in September at ReadyMade Works. In 2017, 29 dancers participated across the three Labs.

DirtyFeet delivered The Choreographic Lab Program with the support of Shopfront Arts Co-Op, ReadyMade Works and the NSW Government through Create NSW. The Choreographic Lab will be returning in 2018 to again deliver three Labs for three new choreographers.

"It was an amazing project to be involved in. To share that space with a bunch of dancers who want to be involved in someone's development and forming of ideas and language. Whilst having the opportunity to be exposed to someone's individual process was really exciting and artistically invigorating."

Mikayla Nangle, Choreographic Lab dancer

## Key Successes

Choreographic Labs: 3 ( 6 weeks full-time professional development)  
Total artists engaged: 35 (3 choreographers, 3 mentors, 29 dancers)  
Total expressions of interest 40 (high demand to participate in program)  
Total audience reach: 36

Artist with disability supported to access a mainstream Lab opportunity by employing an audio describer.

DirtyFeet will continue a partnership with ReadyMade Works in 2018 to deliver all 3 Choreographic Labs at their studio. Central location broadens DirtyFeet's reach.

# OUT OF THE STUDIO

## ARTISTIC REPORT



**Out of the Studio** is an annual program opportunity for emerging choreographers to develop new ideas and a platform to present a new work to audiences in a theatre context. Applications in 2017 were open to previous Choreographic Lab recipients. DirtyFeet provides two choreographers with rehearsal space, 3 presentations over 2 nights (1 matinee), artists wages, an industry mentor, photo and video documentation, costume/prop budget, producer, administration, marketing and technical support.

DirtyFeet delivered Out of the Studio with the support of Shopfront Arts Co-Op, FORM Dance Projects and the NSW Government through Create NSW. Out of the Studio will be returning in 2018 to again deliver 2 new dance works by 2 emerging choreographers.

"Out of the Studio is a great program, totally necessary, this is 100% necessary to the artists of Sydney as a pathway to making work early along the line of your career." Thomas E.S.Kelly

"Out of the Studio was a great opportunity that has lead to many other things. Thank you!" Matt Cornell

## Key Successes

Out of the Studio: 2, 3 week creative developments

Total artists engaged: 20 (2 choreographers, 2 mentors, 13 dancers, 3 dance teachers)

Total audience reach: 89

Artist with disability supported to access a mainstream Out of the Studio opportunity by employing an artist support worker.

Out of the Studio provided a stepping stone for choreographers into other programs such as Critical Path Research Residency, Dance Massive 2019 and PACT Resident Company (Thomas E.S Kelly, Wollumbin Warning and CO\_EX\_EN).

DirtyFeet will deliver Out of the Studio in 2018 with venue partners Shopfront Arts Co-Op and FORM Dance Projects.

# THE RIGHT FOOT

## ARTISTIC REPORT



**The Right Foot** offers FREE contemporary dance workshops for young people with and without disability, providing a creative activity for those who may otherwise not have access to dance.

We believe in the positive impact dance has on people's lives- it is a creative way to improve health and fitness, encourage self-expression and build confidence. The workshops are also an important professional pathway for aspiring young artists to gain experience to further their performance career.

"We have disabilities, but it doesn't matter: we can all move and be together and no one cares about the differences." - 2015 participant Brianna Lowe.

In 2017 The Right Foot workshops were led by professional artist Brianna Kell in collaboration with a team of professional DirtyFeet artists who identify with and without a disability. The workshops were held on Saturdays throughout August and September, and delivered in partnership with Riverside Theatres.

DirtyFeet delivers The Right Foot with the support of The Funding Network, The Hecand Private Ancillary Fund, Riverside Theatres and the NSW Government through Create NSW.

"The heart of The Right Foot is so open and generous, as all of DirtyFeet programs are," she says. "But I really love how each year there are new and familiar faces and an openness to communication, expression and connections. It connects people in a context where disability doesn't matter. Everyone is experiencing dance and creativity together. There is time and patience for each person regardless of training and ability to connect with each other and their own freedoms of creativity."

Brianna Kell The Right Foot Facilitator

## Key Successes

5 workshops

Participants and participating support workers only (not including TRF leaders):

Total participation: 75

Average participants attendance: 75%

Total participants: 20

% who identify as having a disability: 85%

Leaders: 6 (1 x Lead Facilitators, 4 x Artist Support Workers – with one shared position due to availability)

Specialist Artist Support Worker: 1 x Visual Description Support for 3 x workshops.

Volunteers: 1

Audience in attendance at sharing: approx. 40

DirtyFeet will deliver The Right Foot in 2018 with venue partners Riverside Theatres and will increase the number of workshops to culminate in a theatre sharing.



# 2018 TOTALS



## **DirtyFeet held 17 events in 2017**

- 3 Choreographic Labs
- 3 Choreographic Lab sharings
- 2 Creative Developments
- 3 performances
- 5 workshops
- 1 workshop sharing

10 events were held in **Sydney**

7 events were held in **Western Sydney**

DirtyFeet engaged with 4 out of 6 of **CreateNSW priority areas**, people **with disability** accessed 12 events, **young people** accessed 17 events, **Aboriginal people** accessed 8 events and people living and/or working in **Western Sydney** accessed 10 events.

DirtyFeet had **350** people attend their events across 2017, 57% coming from Sydney and 43% coming from Western Sydney.

**79 people with disability** attended or participate in DirtyFeet's annual program alongside **100 young people**.

**65 NSW based artists** were involved in our Choreographic Lab and Out of the Studio program in 2017.

High demand for programs: **128 EOIs**, applications and registrations;

**Employed 43 artists and arts** workers across our programs;

“It is so impressive how they really managed to keep it going for 10 years,” he shares. “So many artists are really benefiting from the Choreographic Lab, and artists really get their feet wet and try stuff out in a supportive and constructive environment.” Martin del Amo

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## **Kerrie Burgess** **Chairperson**

Extensive senior public sector management experience including 10+ years in arts & culture sector  
Masters of Public Administration  
Graduate Diploma of Law  
10 years+ board and committee experience.

## **Maximillian Chung** **Director of Legal**

Corporate Lawyer at Hall & Wilcox Lawyers. Specialises in mergers and acquisitions and capital markets law. Recognised as an experienced and trusted adviser in the areas including but not limited to corporate governance and charities and not-for-profits law.

## **Tammy Brennan** **Director of Arts and Disability**

Respected artist and producer with a multidisciplinary creative practice. Studied business management; postgraduate level at the University of Westminster; Communications and Marketing manager for Accessible Arts. Content Producer at UNSW for the Big Anxiety Festival, freelance strategic communications consultant. Board Member of NSW Arts and Disability NFP, Outlandish Arts.

## **Michael Doropoulos** **Director of Finance**

1980, B.Comm.  
Registered Tax Agent.  
Managing Director of Rasko Holdings Pty Ltd.  
Served on various Arts Boards since 1981.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## **Jodie McNeilly**

### **Director and Head of Artistic Committee**

PhD University of Sydney.

Former: Lecturer

performance/dance/choreography at USyd, Macquarie and UNSW; theatre at Monash

Current: Philosophy lecturer (ACU)

Choreographic residencies at the Australian

Choreographic Centre, Hot House, Critical Path,

DirtyFeet and Bundanon.

Worked as general manager, grant writer, bookkeeper, producer for several arts companies.

Contributor to RealTime.

## **Matthew Mearns**

### **Director of Marketing and Business**

Qualifications in Business

Development Management,

Marketing & Advertising.

Registered VETAB Trainer & Assessor.

Business Development Manager for Rasko Holdings Pty Ltd.

## **Melinda Tyquin**

### **Director of Education**

Bachelor of Dance/Ed UNSW (2006).

Parramatta CEO Dance Program

Manager (2014-17). Performance Credits:

'Briwyant' (Van Hout 2011/2012), 'Game

of Seven' (Chester and Champion 2013),

'Winds of Woerr' (Gela 2014), 'The Likes

of Me (Shilcock/Walsh 2015), 'Catalyst'

(Accessible Arts 2015), 'Tangi Wai' (Hunt

2015/2017), 'Mura Buai' (Gela and Micich

2015), 'Fragments of Malungnoka' (Gela

2016).



# STAFF



**Anthea Doropoulos** Director, Board Member

**Sarah Fiddaman** Director

**Megan Exton** Administration, Co-producer Out of the Studio, The Right Foot Artist Support.

**Angela Goh** Choreographic Lab Program Manager, Co-Producer Out of the Studio

**Melinda Tyquin** The Right Foot Program Manager



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