

**Media Release: For Immediate Dissemination**

**Ausdance Victoria appoints their new General Manager, Robbie Carmellotti**



**November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020:** Ausdance Victoria is delighted to announce the appointment of Robbie Carmellotti to the position of General Manager, based in Melbourne.

Welcoming Robbie to the team, Executive Director of Ausdance Victoria Michele Silby said: *'Robbie brings to Ausdance Victoria his passion for the ongoing development of Australia's dance, arts and entertainment industries with an ardent focus on progressing diversity and equality within the sectors'*.

Robbie's extensive portfolio of experience within the arts industry includes being a producer with Opera Australia overseeing the delivery of key commercial events such as the Sydney Opera House New Year's Eve Gala and associated events, Mazda Opera in the Bowl, Mazda Opera in the Domain, Anthony Pratt and OA's Opera for the People and the return season of West Side Story.

A further thirty commercial production credits can be attributed to his time as Executive Producer and Director of Operations with StageArt Australia, with highlights being the Australasian premiere of The Color Purple the Musical, Memphis the Musical, Dreamgirls, In the Heights and the Victorian premiere of Spring Awakening.

Speaking about the appointment Robbie said: *'I'm thrilled to be joining Ausdance Victoria with the objective to continue the extraordinary work done by the organisation and its partners in the past'*.

Robbie's enthusiasm for the industry has grown from his beginnings as a dancer which saw him become an Australian and International champion in Latin American Dancesport. Speaking further about his vision for the sector Robbie said, *'I look forward to contributing to the growth of our sector by ensuring the dance industry and dancers across all genres are championed and supported to reach their fullest potential'*.

Silby adds *'With the unprecedented challenges faced by the Arts Sector in 2020, Ausdance Victoria remains committed to working with the Victorian Dance sector to ensure we all emerge stronger post*

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*COVID-19. Robbie's extensive management and operational experience will be a valuable asset towards addressing immediate sector needs and ensuring that Ausdance Victoria continues to engage, collaborate and provide development opportunities for Victoria's diverse dance ecology'.*

Robbie commences his role as General Manager of Ausdance Victoria immediately.

For media enquiries contact

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## **Notes to the Editor**

### **About Ausdance Victoria**

Ausdance Victoria is the peak body for dance, leading dance in the State. We aim to provide all Victorians with opportunities to experience and engage with dance. A membership-based organisation, Ausdance Victoria provides a platform for the states dance sector needs to be heard and creates an environment for dance to thrive.

### **Our work includes:**

**Advocacy:** High-level strategic advice and vision for the dance sector. We advocate on behalf of the dance industry to raise the profile of dance and increase investment in the arts.

**Education:** We provide a range of options to people looking to further their dance practise. Ausdance Victoria is a registered RTO offering Certificate II in dance with selected units from Certificate III in dance.

**Special Projects:** Ausdance Victoria has a successful and sustainable program of projects and events. These include Big Dance (large scale community dance event), Australian Youth Dance Festival, Dance Massive and many more

**Ongoing sector capacity building:** We support the capacity building of dancers, choreographers, companies, organisations, venues, education sector, dance schools and teachers by offering advice, information and training related to Dance.

**Member Support:** Ausdance Victoria members become part of a vibrant community of Independent Dance Artists, Small to Medium companies, Dance Teachers and Dance Education professionals, Educational establishments, Arts professionals and Arts organisations.

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