



# Annual Report 2018

**auSDANCE**  
**VIC**

V

Join the peak body for dance in  
VIC starting at \$33

Champion for dance  
in Victoria

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“I enjoyed everyone  
coming together to  
celebrate dance, and  
everyone being able to take  
part in it. I also loved the  
energy and vibe”

**Big Dance participant**

“It made me realise how  
important dance is, how  
fundamental to life”

**Big Dance participant**

“Our group felt a great  
sense of connection and  
acceptance with the other  
groups. It has boosted their  
confidence and abilities”

**Big Dance participant**

C

## Contents

- 02 Foreword from the Chair
- 03 Foreword from the Director
- 04 About Ausdance Victoria
- 05 Board
- 08 Staff
- 10 Events
- 17 Education and RTO
- 20 Advocacy
- 22 Membership and Marketing

## Foreword from the Chair

In 2018, we celebrate and reflect on a truly big year of dance at Ausdance Victoria!

In the second year of our strategic plan 2017-2020, Ausdance Victoria presented programs that enriched our members and communities' relationship to dance, and delivered on our mission of lifelong learning.

A highlight of our year was hosting Big Dance on International Dance Day, April 29, 2018. In Melbourne, Castlemaine and Yarra Ranges, dancers of all ages and abilities performed the Big Dance, choreographed by Frances Rings and Craig Bary. It was inspiring to connect Victorian dance nationally and internationally, continuing to grow this project with at least 2,500 Australian dancers involved across Victoria, NSW, Darwin and Canberra. We are thrilled that Big Dance was a finalist for the 2018 VicHealth Improving Health Through Arts award. We furthered our mission to increase access and engagement in this project through our work with Deakin University's AllPlay Dance program. Big Dance was presented with Ausdance NSW, continuing our strong relationship with our fellow state organisation in sharing resources and collaborating on key projects.

We promoted dance creation and participation through our program Knowing You, Knowing Me, produced in partnership with City of Whittlesea as part of Creative Victoria's Creative Suburbs program. Our work as a Registered Training Organisation saw the continuation and growth of our Dance Teaching Skill Set which was piloted in 2017/2018.

Our report *Leading and Teaching Dance to Ageing Populations* was released in August 2018 and we look forward to supporting work that provides dance experiences to older people and prepare the industry for future demand.

We are very proud that Dr Katrina Rank was recognised and honoured with a Dance Award for Services to Dance Education at the 2018 Dance Awards.

We are grateful for the support we receive from Creative Victoria, and are committed to our work in capacity building and creating sustainability in our organisation and the wider industry.

The diversity of our work is supported by an incredible staff. Thank you to our Executive Director Michelle Silby, whose vision and energy continues to enrich and expand the breadth of Ausdance Victoria's reach, and to Clare McKenzie, Dr Katrina Rank, Sasha Leong and Quinho Soler. We thank Jonathan Homsey as he departs, and welcome Joshua Allen to the team. We also appreciate the work of our many project staff and volunteers who have assisted on our projects through the year!

Thank you to our board for your continued commitment for Ausdance Victoria. We acknowledge the heartfelt contribution of our outgoing board members: Adam Wheeler, Laura Osborne and Marija Grgic. At the beginning of the year we were fortunate to welcome new board members Sally Denning and Kelly Dickson, and at the close of the year, Helen Haines, Amy Jennings and Amity Jarvis, who join myself and Lauren Brewerton. It is a privilege to work with such a committed and inspiring group and to serve as Chair for Ausdance Victoria, and to represent ours and all Ausdance state organisations on the Ausdance National board.

We are looking ahead to a fruitful and bright 2019 which builds on our achievements of this year.

Jasmine Moseley

## Foreword from the Director

**2018 was a huge year for us as an organisation, delivering a major project: Big Dance Australia, across five states and territories – engaging artists, partners and thousands of participants!**

**We have just completed the second year of our strategic plan for the period 2017 – 2020. Ausdance NSW and Ausdance Victoria continue to work in partnership for the benefit of our members and the broader dance sector and wider communities of NSW and Victoria.**

We continue to focus on growing pathways and opportunities for artists across the two states; broadening our reach and increasing depth of engagement. We ran a varied program of professional development, activities and events, while planning for projects happening in 2019 and 2020.

Two growing key areas of focus for us are the youth dance sector and creative ageing. This will develop alongside our core dance industry and education programs. Advocacy continues to be a key focus through various programs, such as Big Dance, which takes an active advocacy approach and through our social media platforms, conferences, written submissions and regular meetings with government and other key stakeholders.

I continue to sit on various committees looking at training packages, qualifications and industry needs.

I want to thank all our volunteers; the board for all their time, advice and skills, and the small but wonderful staff team for delivering 2018 and planning for 2019 and beyond.

Congratulations to all Ausdance members and the dance sector on your achievements.

Best,  
Michelle Silby

### 2018, a few highlights:

- Big Dance 2018 across NSW, VIC, SA, NT and ACT
- Major research *Leading and Teaching Dance to Ageing Populations* funded by Workforce Training Innovation Fund
- Presentations at Creative Ageing Forum, NSW, World Dance Alliance and DACI, SA and Artlands in VIC
- Partnerships with 40 schools delivering dance to young people
- Ongoing key partnership between Ausdance NSW and Ausdance VIC



Big Dance, Michelle Silby (left), Bronwyn Watkins, CEO Royal Academy of Dance, Australia (right), photo by Jasmine Moseley.

# About Ausdance VIC

Ausdance is Australia's peak body for dance. Ausdance has a 40-year history of educating, inspiring and supporting the dance community to reach its potential as a dynamic force within local, national and international communities. The Ausdance network is a federated association of separately funded state/territory organisations with their own priorities and programs.

At Ausdance VIC, we aim to provide Victorians with opportunities to experience and engage with dance. We are also the subject association for dance in Victoria and a Registered Training Organisation. We create resources, advise, work with key partners and provide professional development programs.

## Mission Statement

Our mission is to create, support and promote opportunities for dance in Victoria, and invest in its ongoing development by:

- **Championing** innovation, creativity and diversity in dance
- **Advocating** and demonstrating high standards of professionalism in the dance industry
- **Mobilising** cooperation in support of dance development (art form and sector)
- **Promoting** dance creation, presentation and participation
- Promoting the **interaction of Victoria dance** within the national and international arenas
- Ensuring the **stability** and sustainability of the organisation

## Priorities 2017 – 2020:

1. Strengthen sector networks and access to resources
2. Improve capacity building and industry sustainability
3. Increase access, engagement and participation
4. Advocate for art form and sector development
5. Develop lifelong learning

6. Build Ausdance Victoria's organisational capacity and sustainability

Alongside our advocacy and educational programs, Ausdance Victoria produces events each year. In 2018 this included Big Dance, a free mass participatory dance event and Knowing You, Knowing Me, a community project delivered with the City of Whittlesea.

Ausdance Victoria is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO 20949), with scope to deliver Dance Teaching Skill Set (CUASS00015) and Certificate II in Dance (CUA20113) with selected units from Certificate III in Dance (CUA30113) in 2018. Ausdance Victoria is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), a Tax Concession Charity (TCC) and has Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. Ausdance Vic supports dance teachers by providing comprehensive resources, industry and relevant professional development days, mentoring, and an expansive network of dance teachers as support. Ausdance Victoria works closely with Ausdance National and the Ausdance Network to advocate for members on a local, state and national level.

# Board

## Jasmine Moseley Chair

Currently Company Manager at The Australian Ballet, Jasmine has toured and managed in major performing arts venues and regional centres across all states and territories of Australia. Recently Jasmine was Company Manager for local artists in the landmark presentation of Taylor Mac's A 24-Decade History of Popular Music at the 2017 Melbourne Festival. She has toured internationally to Japan, United States, China and the UK. Jasmine began her career at Express Media, and continued to grow working with diverse artists and communities at Cultural Infusion. Jasmine is a graduate of the 2016 Asialink Leaders Program and the inaugural China Australia Millennial Project (CAMP 2015). Jasmine holds a Masters in Arts and Entertainment Management (Deakin University) and Bachelor degrees in Arts and Music Performance (Monash University). A passionate arts advocate, Jasmine has served on the boards of Ausdance Victoria since 2014 and Ausdance National since March 2017.

## Amy Jennings Secretary

Amy Jennings is Legal Counsel for Tennis Australia Limited, the governing body of tennis in Australia. Throughout her legal career, Amy has worked with a number of not-for-profit sporting organisations, including Football Federation Australia, and also sits as a member of Football Federation Victoria's Grievance and Disciplinary Tribunal. In addition to her legal qualifications, Amy holds a Bachelor of Communication from the University of Newcastle and a Master of Arts (Broadcast Journalism) from University College Falmouth, having worked as a broadcast journalist for the BBC, ABC and Austereo.

## Kelly Dickson Vice Chair

Kelly Dickson has held a variety of roles in the cultural, government and sports sectors over a 25-year career, including marketing, communications, commercial, public affairs, stakeholder engagement, strategy and producing. As the Chief Operating Officer for the Victorian Major Events Company, she was Founder and Project Director for White Night Melbourne (2013-2016) and White Night Ballarat, in addition to leading bid teams for a range of cultural and sporting events. Kelly currently provides consultancy services in strategy, major event creation and delivery, to host governments and councils, tourism organisations, venues and event organisers, both in Australia and internationally.

## Helen Haines Treasurer

Helen Haines is the Director and founder of Dollars + Sense Consulting, a boutique bookkeeping company based in Cremorne. Helen is passionate about seeing small businesses succeed and takes a holistic approach to their business but getting to know why they do what they do, not just the what or how. Helen has a range of financial experience in compliance, small business advisory and operational administration. She helps businesses grow, thrive and achieve their goals every day. In January 2019, her little girl, Francesca, arrived and outside of work family time is her favourite thing! Between her and her husband they are changing the stereotypical family roles and living the concept of work-life rhythm. She is passionate about the arts and being a part of the Ausdance community.

## Dr. Sally Denning

Dr Sally Denning is the Program Manager, Quality Unit at the Australian Childhood Foundation (ACF). Sally assisted ACF to gain Quality Assurance certification with ISO 9001:2015 and the Victorian DHHS Service Standards in 2014 and recently manages compliance aspects for ACF's Registered Training Organisation. Sally has a background as a dancer, educator and a clinical counsellor and has worked for the last 8 years at ACF offering clinical counselling, dance therapy and playtherapy for children who have experienced trauma, neglect and abuse and their carers. Sally holds a PhD (Dance Therapy Research) from Melbourne University, a Masters in Education (Melb Uni), Graduate Diploma in Movement & Dance (Melb Uni), Graduate Certificate in Leadership in Education & Training (Vic Uni), Graduate Certificate in Dance Therapy (Melb Uni), Bachelor of Education (Melb Uni) and a Diploma of Quality Auditing (GMS).

## Adam Wheeler

**Vice Chair March 2014 – December 2018**

Adam Wheeler is the Artistic Director of Tasdance and a Stompin and Victorian College of the Arts Alumni. He has created and performed in dance works with companies such as Chunky Move, Lucy Guerin Inc, Tasdance, 2NDTOE, The Australian Ballet, Opera Australia, Yellow Wheel, Stompin, Steps, QL2 and Fling Physical Theatre. Other career highlights include performing in Opera Australia's The Ring Cycle, the Australian Ballet's Out There Project, Festival Directing Short+Sweet Dance Melbourne/ Sydney and The Australian Youth Dance Festival and developing a Contemporary System of Training for the Australian Teachers of Dancing, which is now taught all over Australia, Thailand, Hong Kong and Singapore.

## Lauren Brewerton

Lauren Brewerton is currently a HR Partner at Arts Centre Melbourne for the Performing Arts Pillar. With a passion for the arts Lauren has spent twenty years within the industry, firstly in stage and venue management and then in front of house where she continues to work to this day. After spending time in Scotland working in theatre, Lauren returned to Australia where she began a career in recruitment and then generalist HR. Throughout her HR career which spans over ten years, Lauren has worked across the corporate, higher education and government sectors. Her most recent role with Arts Centre Melbourne has enabled her love of the arts and her HR career to combine.

## Amity Jarvis

Amity is an experienced legal professional and arts advocate with extensive engagement in the legal and arts sectors spanning a decade. Amity is a senior commercial lawyer in private practice at a large firm with particular expertise in commercial transactions drafting and review, contract negotiation and corporate advisory. Throughout her practice she has provided legal and business advisory services for the creative sector assisting artists and arts organisations, and has accumulated broad experience in not-for-profit board governance. Amity also has expertise in arts media and marketing having worked with flagship performing arts companies The Australian Ballet, as Publicist, and Bangarra Dance Theatre, as Marketing Manager. She has also worked as a Marketing Consultant managing the strategic marketing activities of Cirque du Soleil, Luna Park and Sydney Dance Company. Amity holds a double Bachelor degree in Law and Arts with Honours from The University of Melbourne. She is committed to artistic and cultural expression in Australia and loves all forms of dance.

## Marija Grgic

**Secretary May 2017 – December 2018**

Marija has had a 20-year career in various roles across the retail industry across Finance, Compliance and Merchandise, most recently at Myer, as the National Manager – Merchandise Operations. After a number of consulting roles, she is now working at the University of Melbourne as a Manager in Strategy, Planning and Resources. Marija has a passion for the arts and a long history in philanthropy, including Board roles with the Myer Community Fund as Company Secretary (2006-2017) and Director (2014-2017).

## Laura Osborne

**Treasurer December 2014 – December 2018**

Laura is a qualified Chartered Accountant with a number of years' experience providing compliance and advisory services to businesses across a vast variety of industries and structures. Additionally, Laura has a wealth of experience in business planning, development and implementation of enterprise growth strategies and overall governance management. Outside of Ausdance, Laura is a manager of Business Advisory for a mid-tier accounting firm based in Melbourne and Geelong.



1. The Archivists, photo by Andrew Garton.
2. Big Dance Yarra Ranges, photo by Ryan Tews.
3. Big Dance Melbourne, photo by Sarah Walker.

# Staff

## Michelle Silby Executive Director

Michelle Silby has an extensive career in dance in both creative and administrative functions over the last 25 years. After leading Ausdance NSW since Oct 2012, she was appointed Executive Director, Ausdance Victoria in Nov 2015. She is inspired by the opportunities that leading both states will bring to the dance sector, wider communities and respective organisations. Michelle was born in the UK, where she studied dance at Arts Educational Schools London, followed by a post-graduate year at London Contemporary Dance School, The Place in 1992. Michelle moved to Sydney in 2006 and Melbourne in 2015 where she has continued to work in the arts. She has held roles as the Program Manager, Dance at the Australia Council for the Arts, Executive Producer for the 2014 and 2017 Australian Dance Awards, and is also an Independent Consultant for Arts and Dance with various clients across Australia.

## Sasha Leong Dance Development Officer

Sasha Leong joined Ausdance VIC in 2015 and is passionate about diversity, community engagement and social activism. One of her highlights at Ausdance was developing Knowing You, Knowing Me, an 18-month community dance project, working closely with community in the City of Whittlesea. Outside of Ausdance, Sasha is a multi-disciplinary artist based in the West of Naarm. After performing as a dancer and actor, she now collaborates with artists of diverse backgrounds with recent works, Emergence (2017) and Bukjeh (2018). Sasha also offers project support to local community groups, and is a participant of Leadership Victoria's 2018 New and Emerging Communities Leadership (Women) program.

## Dr. Katrina Rank Director of Education and Lifelong Learning

Dr Katrina Rank is a leading Australian educator and dance artist, contributing to national and international education outcomes. A ballet and contemporary dancer by training, Katrina maintains a performance and teaching practice and received an Australian Dance Award for Services to Dance Education in 2018. Katrina has worked in various roles for Ausdance since 2008 including acting Director, Education Manager and consultant. Katrina was the author and project leader of Teaching and Leading Dance to Older People, a research program and report. Her extensive background in education and community arts also saw her work on the Knowing You Knowing Me Project with the City of Whittlesea in 2017–2018 and the hugely successful Alice Project. Her recent dance focus has been on dance for health, with particular reference to ageing and Parkinson's disease.

## Clare McKenzie General Manager

Clare is an experienced arts manager, having worked in managing, producing and marketing roles in the arts industry for over 10 years. As General Manager of Ausdance, Clare manages the financial and operational aspects of the organisation as well as industry programs. Prior to joining Ausdance Victoria, Clare was Executive Producer for KAGE Dance Theatre, overseeing finance, strategic planning and business development including National and International touring. Clare also has significant experience in international market development and marketing gained through her previous position at Circus Oz.

## Joshua Allen Marketing Officer

Joshua Allen is a freelance producer, arts marketer and writer working in contemporary performance. He works with independent artists and those from queer and culturally diverse backgrounds who explore intercultural ideas, gender and sexuality. Josh is a 2019 Australia Council for the Arts Future Leader and recently was a participant in the Asian Producers Platform Camp 2018 in Indonesia. Josh has produced work at Next Wave Festival, Theatre Works, Edinburgh Fringe and FRINGE WORLD Festival. He has also worked in the UK as a Young Producer for Battersea Arts Centre and an Assistant Producer for Milk Presents touring their production Joan to Edinburgh Fringe and Australia. He also is a Peer Assessor for the Australia Council. Josh has previously worked for arts organisations across Australia and in the UK including: Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts, Perth Festival, Emerging Writers' Festival, The Blue Room Theatre and the Gate Theatre.

## Quinho Soler RTO Coordinator

Quinho Soler is a passionate arts educator and manager working in the sector for over ten years. He has previously worked across admission, events, student management and counselling at Academy of Design Australia and Photography Studies College. Quinho holds a Bachelor's Degree in Social Science emphasis on Social Work from Victoria University with Distinction and a Diploma of Education Support from Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. Quinho is also a passionate advocate for emerging artists and queer people of colour with a new collective starting in 2019 for the QPOC community. Quinho formally ran "Rare in Style" for five years which created a platform for emerging designers and performance artists. He also has a visual arts practice aiming to empower queer people of colour with an emphasis on the intersectionality of Latin and Australian culture.

## Jonathan Homsey Arts Media & Marketing Officer August 2016 – April 2018

Jonathan is an arts maker and manager interested in the intersection of street dance, visual art and social engagement. Born in Hong Kong and raised in the United States of America, he immigrated to Australia in 2010. He is a graduate of Victorian College of the Arts (BA Dance) and Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (MA Arts Management with Distinction). He has worked in community management and marketing for other organisations such as Gertrude Street Projection Festival and Phillip Adams Balletlab. Jonathan oversees all digital and physical collateral for Ausdance New South Wales and Victoria as a shared role across both states and was also the mentor for the 360 Artist Development Project, Project Manager for Battle Massive and curator for Ancestors and Anecdotes, all 2017 projects.

## Thank you

**Big Dance Coordinator/Education Support Officer**  
Chelsea Bryne

**Bookkeeper**  
Kacey Carey

**Auditor**  
Joseph Boyar

**Thank you to all the artists, producers, production managers and other staff who have worked on our workshops and events.**

**A big thank you also to all our volunteers and members, your support is invaluable.**

# Events

## Big Dance

In 2018, Ausdance Victoria hosted the Big Dance, a biennial festival of dance. Big Dance commissions acclaimed choreographers to create a work that can be learnt by anyone in the world, through online tutorials and community workshops. The Festival culminates with thousands of people performing the one unifying choreographic piece at Big Dance events.



Big Dance Melbourne, photo by Sarah Walker.

### Big Dance 2018 aims

- Raise participation in and the appreciation of dance
- Deliver a dance program that contributes to social interaction and cohesion, allowing people to feel a sense of community
- To share Indigenous and non-Indigenous dance and cultures
- To create a short dance work that embodies and shares Australian culture using contemporary practice
- Increase opportunities for physical activity through dance and contribute to people's health and wellbeing

The United Kingdom passed the Big Dance legacy to Australia after presenting the biennial global event since 2006, led by the Mayor of London in partnership with People Dancing and a network of leading dance organisations. Jacqueline Rose, Head of Culture for the Greater London Authority travelled to Australia to handover Big Dance. Big Dance 2018 was created by acclaimed Indigenous freelance choreographer, Frances Rings and Manager for Contemporary Dance and Physical Theatre at NAISDA Dance College,

New-Zealand born Craig Bary. An original score was written by composer and musician Huey Benjamin. Online tutorials were created by NAISDA Developing Artists. Ausdance Victoria developed Big Dance Australia to create opportunities for people to engage with dance and to increase opportunities for physical activity through dance, contributing to people's health and wellbeing. We also broadened access to the program by creating a seated version and partnered with Deakin University's AllPlay Dance program to create resources on how to adapt the dance for different abilities.

Big Dance culminated with three Ausdance Victoria events in Yarra Ranges, Castlemaine and in Federation Square on International Dance Day, 29 April 2018. Additional events were held in Sydney, Albury, Darwin and Canberra. Thank you to all who danced with us. Big Dance was a finalist for the 2018 VicHealth Improving Health Through Arts award. Thanks to our Big Dance teachers: Chloe Dobson, Dani-Ela Kayler, Gerard Van Dyck, Gretal Taylor, Gulsen Ozer, Josh Twee, Lydia Connolly-Hiatt, Ngioka Bunda-Heath and Sofie Burgoyne. Also thank you to all our Big Dance crew, venue partners and ambassadors.

### Big Dance Melbourne

Big Dance Melbourne filled Federation Square with hundreds of dancers. Special thanks to our MC Yung Philly and performers Neil Morris aka DRMNGNOW, Indigenous Hip Hop Projects, Origins Dance Company, Shiamak and e.motion21.

### Big Dance at Yarra Ranges

With support from Yarra Ranges Council, Big Dance at Yarra Ranges was held at Melba Park, Lilydale. It was an open dance party with the local community celebrating dance together. Special thanks to e.motion21, MC G, Michelle Redman of Vitality moves, Yarra Ranges Life TV, Rotary Club Lilydale and Little Sugar Coffee Caravan.

### Big Dance Castlemaine

Big Dance Castlemaine was held in Victory Park, MCed by Tegan Lang, the event included performances by Movement Zone, Over the Moon, Castlemaine Ballet, Castlemaine Circus, e.motion21 and Lady Fun Times. Thanks also to our on the ground consultant Angelica Clunes.

### Big Dance Advocacy and Industry Events

Michelle Silby and Jacqueline Rose, Head of Arts and Culture, London spoke at over five industry events held across NSW and Victoria. The Australia Council presented the first pre-event talk with opening address by Wesley Enoch followed by Create NSW and the event was hosted by Alex O'Mara Deputy Secretary, Arts, Screen and Culture. Michelle spoke to the power of participation and its effect of strengthening networks and building sector capacity. Jacqueline went on to visit Wagana Dancers in the Blue Mountains and present at further Industry events in Canberra, at the City of Melbourne and ACCA run by Ausdance Vic and hosted by Creative Victoria. Over 300 people attended these events, where not only the impact of Big Dance was spoken about but a range of policies and programs in the UK. Workshops were provided for the staff of The Australia Council, Creative Victoria and Create NSW.

#### Big Dance at a glance:

- 5 major cultural community events: 3 Victoria, 2 New South Wales, 1 Northern Territories, 1 South Australia at the World Dance Congress
- 4,200 dancers participated in major events
- 120 free community dance workshops were organised across the nation
- 800 national and international delegates participated in Big Dance from Dance and The Child International Conference, World Dance Congress
- 883 viewers watched the live stream
- 13,732 visited the Big Dance website

#### Supporters

VicHealth, Australia Council for the Arts, City of Sydney, Yarra Ranges Council, Regional Centre for Culture, NAISDA Dance College and AllPlay Dance



Big Dance Castlemaine, photo by Pia Johnson.



Big Dance Melbourne, photo by Sarah Walker.





Ausdance Victoria member Castlemaine Ballet, Big Dance Castlemaine, photo by Pia Johnson



The Archivists, photo by Katrina Rank



Ausdance Victoria member Over the Moon Yoga and Dance Studio, Big Dance Castlemaine, photo by Pia Johnson



Ausdance Victoria member Movement Zone Studio, Big Dance Castlemaine, photo by Pia Johnson

## Knowing You, Knowing Me



Co-developed by Ausdance Vic's Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, Dr Katrina Rank, and Dance Development Officer, Sasha Leong, and delivered in partnership with the City of Whittlesea, Knowing You, Knowing Me is a community dance project that started in mid-2017 and concluded at the end of 2018. We ran 122 free dance classes in Doreen, Mernda and Epping, presented workshops and performed at eight community events, and organised a guerrilla flashmob at a local train station.

The project brought together groups of people who bonded through their love of dance. Participants were challenged to step out of their comfort zone, and experienced dance in all forms and actively contributed to fun creative processes. The latter contributed to the development of a new work, The Archivists – a live performance and dance film.

## A Glance at Dance

In September we held our first Glance at Dance event. Glance at Dance provides opportunities for members to get together to share news and ideas in a casual setting. Our first networking event was held at Bombini Buzz. We launched our Teaching and Leading Dance to Ageing Populations research and we heard from members Linda McKay from Essentially Dance and Tom and Teagan from Lucy Guerin Inc.



1. Knowing You, Knowing Me, photo by City of Whittlesea.  
2. Dance Massive 2017, photo courtesy of Dance Massive.

## Planning for 2019

### Arts Learning Festival

Ausdance Victoria will be presenting at the 2019 Arts Learning Festival organised by Independent Schools Victoria. We will be running Teaching Dad to Dance workshops for students and teachers as part of the School's Program, free Big Dance workshops on Community Day, followed by a performance of Big Dance at the closing ceremony.



### Big Dance Maroondah

The Big Dance legacy continues in 2019! With support from Maroondah City Council, we are taking Big Dance to Maroondah in 2019. Free dance workshops will be held weekly in Ringwood and Croydon in March and April.

### Dance Massive

Preparations are underway for Dance Massive 2019. Ausdance Victoria is an associate partner of the Festival and is responsible for producing the Masterclasses and industry sessions, where artists can pitch their work or show an excerpt of a work in development. Ausdance Victoria received 59 applications from artists from across Australia wishing to be part of this program. Ausdance Vic chairs the industry panel that selects these choreographers and artists.



1. Teaching Dad to Dance, photo by Ausdance Victoria.  
2. Burrbgaja Yalirra, Marrugeku, photo by Prudence Upton.

# AUSTRALIAN YOUTH DANCE FESTIVAL

REVOLUTIONS PER MINUTE

7—12 JULY 2019



Titled **Revolutions per minute (rpm)**, AYDF2019 is directed by Alice Lee Holland and will thrive on creation and collaboration.

The week-long Festival features three streams:

## Young Dancers' program

- A full week of intensive workshops on different dance styles, choreography, repertory and improvisation sessions, keynotes and panel sessions.

## Revolutions per minute

- Two evenings of performances by Australian and international youth dance companies at Melbourne's flagship contemporary arts venue, Meat Market.

## Think Tank program

- A 2.5 days' program for youth dance leaders, professional and emerging artists, dance educators and the broader industry with strong focus on best practices in youth dance and its development opportunities for young dancers working towards a sustainable career in dance.

In addition to the week-long program, some Australian companies will be hosting their international counterparts for an International Exchange.

## Education and RTO

### CUA20113 Certificate II in Dance, VCE VET

In 2018, Ausdance Victoria partnered with 41 schools and studios, totalling 517 students. In 2019, we expect a few more partnerships and an increase in student enrolments with positive feedback being received for our 2018 year. We developed our first partnership with a Tasmanian secondary school to deliver Certificate II and III in Dance. We supported the dance community in understanding the Child Safety Standards and provided resources to help them implement them. We provided teacher professional development days and the very popular Industry Days for students. We reviewed our RTO processes and implemented new strategies for online enrolments and requests. We updated all RTO documents to complement new guidelines which will also streamline our processes throughout the year.

### CUASS00015 Dance Teaching Skill Set

In 2018, seven students completed the first fully online version of the Dance Teaching Skill Set. The program introduced a tutorial element, utilising video conferencing and this built on the discussion board posts on

various topics to establish a community of learners. 2019's student cohort will experience a blend learning model of online and face to face training, based on trainer reflections and student feedback. The 2019 Dance Teaching Skill Set will begin in April 2019, with completions estimated in August.

### Working with Children Skill Set

2018 saw the roll out of the Child Safety Standards and the Mandatory Reporting Scheme. This legislation is relevant to all Victorian organisations and individuals working with children, who must meet the standards and report on suspected abuse or misconduct. Ausdance Victoria education staff attended training and professional development programs and began collecting information in order to develop a new Skill Set for individuals in the Performing Arts.

### Research into Dance Programs and Creative Ageing

Ausdance Victoria released findings from a three-month study titled Leading and Teaching Dance to Ageing Populations. Led by Ausdance Victoria, this work analysed the national and global trend to provide dance experiences to older people and revealed a need to prepare the industry for future demand, in particular ensuring teachers have suitable experience and qualifications. There has been significant interest in the report on a national and state level with presentations at the MAV Ageing Communities forum, 5 June; Creative Ageing Forum, October 31 and the BOLD Festival 2019. We have received a grant of \$30,000 from the Helen MacPherson Smith Trust Fund to develop the training program into a nationally recognised training program and to place this on Ausdance Victoria's scope of registration.



Knowing You, Knowing Me, photo by City of Whittlesea.

### AllPlay Dance

Ausdance Victoria partnered with Deakin University to create specialized content for an online resource called AllPlay Dance. AllPlay Dance provides evidence-based resources to enable participation in inclusive dance programs nationally. The program provides:

1. Easy to access online information including a searchable online directory of disability-friendly dance centres.
2. Greater engagement and meaningful participation in dance programs
3. Online resources to help dance centres and teachers adopt inclusive dance practices.

We hope to change community attitudes about disability and inclusion, particularly in the dance community. We focused our work in Big Dance, with inclusive videos, social stories and tips for inclusive approaches. We presented the program at Panpapanpalya, the world Dance Congress in Adelaide and at Dance Architect to studio teachers. This project was shortlisted in the 2018 VicHealth Awards category, Improving health through arts.



1, 2. Big Dance Melbourne, photo by Sarah Walker.



### VCAA VCE Dance Implementation Workshops

Ausdance VIC was delighted to have worked with the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) to deliver the implementation briefings for the newly accredited VCE Dance study design in June to August 2018 at three state-wide locations. These workshops detailed key components of the newly accredited VCE dance study due for implementation in 2019.

### Student Industry Days

Ausdance Victoria holds itself to the highest standards when considering the best interests of the students enrolled through our RTO, with particular reference to safe dance practices and delivering the best possible age-appropriate skills, content, and materials. This inclusive learning is supported through current industry connectivity and engagement. With this in mind, we engaged respectable dance artists and choreographers in the industry to deliver dance workshops through our annual Industry Days. In 2018, students had the opportunity to learn and dance with: Freya List, Courtney Hale, Jayden Hicks, Chelsea Byrnes, Trevor Santos and Melanie Moravski Dechnicz.

We would like to thank all our artists for sharing their talents and visions to our students in an inclusive and thoughtful manner. We would like to also thank Michelle Silby, Paea Leech and Heidi Batista for paneling our Audition Segment of our Industry Day Event.

### Teacher Professional Development

In 2018, we provided professional development to VCE VET, secondary and studio teachers in two different workshops being:

#### 1. Ideas for Inclusive Dance and Movement with Janice Florence from Weave Movement Theatre

Janice shared and worked with participants on ideas for inclusive dance and movement.

#### 2. Functional Feet

Using the dynamic and unique approach of the Franklin Method, Bea Glendenning was able to use easily relatable imagery to guide our teachers through sensing healthy foot function. With a refreshed understanding, participants were also equipped with a foot workout using therabands.

We also held a specialized Scored Assessment session with Lisa Woolley, Quality Assessor with the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA), who provided our teachers with vital understanding on the 2018 Scored Assessments.

### Dance Standards in Action and Choreography 101

In addition to these offerings, we conducted workshops for primary and secondary teachers. Registration was high, showing the need to continue to offer professional learning opportunities such as this. Other professional learning offered by education staff has been housed under Big Dance, with four specialist teacher workshops at The Malthouse, City of Maroondah, NIDA and Chunky Move.



Choreography 101A, photo by Robert Wagner.

# Advocacy

Michelle Silby is on the following boards and committees to advocate for dance across VIC and Victoria for industry needs, professional training, education and funded courses. This knowledge provides an overview that enables us to see the gaps, trends, and the needs of the dance sector, and to look for potential solutions and provision.

As Michelle Silby is Executive Director for both Victoria and NSW, this creates many opportunities for interstate partnerships. The relationship builds sector capacity through joint and shared strategies, initiatives and knowledge. Events such as the Australian Dance Awards, Dance Massive and the National Dance Forum are promoted across both states for the benefit of the sector and provide shared areas of focus for the teams. Throughout the year, the Executive Director regularly meets with state and federal agencies, funding bodies, and key stakeholders such as; Creative Victoria, Create NSW, The Australia Council for the Arts, City of Sydney, City of Melbourne and Local Government authorities. Other members of the team also meet with various companies, organisations, individuals, and the boarder creative arts community and educational institutions.



Big Dance, photo by Jasmine Moseley.

## Industry Advisory Group (IAG) for business run by the Victorian Skills Commission

Michelle represents Arts & Culture, on behalf of Ausdance and AICV. Similar to ACFIBS this group also looks at the training and professional needs of the Industry and arts education for the state of Victoria in a much broader business context.

## Independent Reference Committee (IRC), for Arts and Culture Industries, Vice Chair (National) Appointed by AISC, Australian Industry Skills Council.

The committee are drawn from around the country and provide representation for different artforms from various creative industries. The committee looks at the training needs of the industry and assesses current and propose new training qualifications. The IRC is run by Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) and has set a four-year work plan which has been endorsed by the government 2018 / 19 will see the review of many training packages including Musical Theatre and Dance.

## Arts Industry Council of Victoria (AICV), Co-convenor

The AICV is made up of the CEOs of Peak Bodies and Service organisations across all artforms. The objective is to advocate for the arts sector regarding matters of policy, networking, promotion and assisting in the creation of a sustainable arts sector. The AICV meet with the Minister for the Arts and CEO of Creative Victoria once a term. In 2018, five council meetings were held.

## Forums

### 2018 Victorian Election Arts, Culture & Creative Industries Forum

A pre-election arts forum was organized by Arts Industry Council of Victoria, which is co-convened by Andy Miller and Michelle Silby. Held at the National Gallery of Victoria, the forum was facilitated by Sami Shah and we heard from Ministers Martin Foley, Heidi Victoria and Sue Pennicuik. It was attended by approximately 300 people and also filmed.

### Panpapanpalya – Joint Dance Congress 2018

Ausdance Victoria was represented by our Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, Katrina Rank, and Dance Development Officer, Sasha Leong, at Panpapanpalya 2018, the second joint dance congress between Dance and the Child International (daCi) and World Dance Alliance (WDA) in Adelaide. It was a gathering of around 800 participants across generations, from 26 countries, for a week-long program of workshops, international keynotes, panel sessions, paper presentations, lecture demonstrations, performances, and more, all in the celebration of dance. Katrina presented on the research and findings of the Teaching and Leading Dance to Older Populations report to a full room and was part of a panel presentation on Dance for Parkinson's. Sasha had the opportunity to work with the daCi Springboarders in the Young People's Gathering and led Big Dance workshops, with support from Katrina, as part of the daily morning Dance Flavours. Big Dance was performed by the congress participants during the closing event, wrapping up a fantastic week of dancing and global connection.

### Artlands

Artlands is the biannual Regional Arts Australia Conference, 2018 was run by Regional Arts Victoria. Michelle Silby attended and spoke at Artlands on 'The Power of Participation' using Big Dance Australia as a case Study.



1. 2018 Victorian Election Arts, Culture & Creative Industries Forum, photos by Osei Owusu banahene courtesy of Multicultural Arts Victoria.  
2. Big Dance, photo by Sarah Walker.

# Membership and Marketing

We are passionate about seeing our local dance sector and community thrive, and through our membership and marketing channels provide tailored support to dance practitioners across Victoria.

Ausdance Victoria works closely with Ausdance National and the Ausdance Network to advocate for members on a local, state and national level. All Ausdance Victoria members are automatically World Dance Alliance – Asia Pacific Members, and part of the WDA Global Network, and are also able to access the Ausdance network nationwide, including Ausdance National. In 2018 we had 652 members.

### Ausdance Victoria members receive the following benefits:

- One-on-one career advice/mentoring from one of our team members
- Exclusive information, invitations and offers via members only e-newsletters
- Exclusive workshops and masterclasses with discounts to a majority of our events
- Promote your shows, events, workshops, classes and other dance activities
- Access to resource materials such as funding opportunities and health and safety
- Attendance at our industry event A Glance at Dance
- 40% off a subscription for Dance Australia magazine and 50% off as a student
- Discounted dance policy with Aon Insurance.



Dance Standards in Action, photo by Robert Wagner

### Website

- Views: 25,100 (+38.4%)
- Visits: 12,400 (+38.7%)
- Unique Visitors: 12,500 (+64.2%)

### Social media

Facebook following of 2,400 with annual reach of 190,876



1. Big Dance Yarra Ranges, photo by Ryan Tews.  
2. Ausdance Victoria member Shiamak performing at Big Dance 2018, Federation Square, photo by Sarah Walker

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**CREATIVE VICTORIA**

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Audance VIC is supported by the Victorian Government  
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