# SUI GENERIS

# CAST



Sienna Denby

Sienna is 15 and trains at Compeat Dance. She is a member of the Ev&Bow Youth Company. She is a successful competitive dancer with national titles in Australia and the USA. She has recently attended the Royal Academy of Dane and Trinity Laban summer programs.



Samantha LeonAaIs a professional dancer,<br/>acrobat, and graduate of<br/>Ev&Bow Dance TrainingSchool of<br/>Contempo<br/>Contempo<br/>Contre. She has featured<br/>as Grounded and<br/>ARKITEKNICIANS by<br/>LOcREaDO Dance<br/>Company and has madeAshlee stu<br/>School of<br/>School of<br/>Sch

multiple corporate and

television appearances.



Ashlee Wilson Ashlee studied at Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance in London. She is a member of the Sydney Choreographic Ensemble and performed in "Galileo"

## Laura Vlasic Laura is a graduate of

Sydney Dance Company's Pre-Professional Year. Laura has performed with Stephanie Lake Company and featured in Bad/Love's music video "World in Colour"

# CHOREOGRAPHY AND CONCEPT

## Paulina Quinteros – Choreographer Artistic Director of Danza del Arte.

Paulina has been commissioned by companies and organisations as diverse as UNSW, NAISDA, WAAPA, VCA, The Australian Ballet Company and Queensland Ballet. She has been awarded the AICD Robert Helpmann and The Peggy Van Praagh award for her choreographic works. Paulina is currently developing a new work in collaboration with Composer Elena Kats-Chernin and artist Wendy Sharpe.



2016 Paulina's work 'La Choreografia' received The Sydney Fringe Festival award for dance. In 2021, Paulina received an invitation from Marilyn Jones OBE and Artistic Director of the AICD Kathleen Hamilton to create the AICD's first contemporary dance syllabus. Paulina is in the process of creating the syllabus and is honoured and grateful to have received this invitation.

#### **Program Notes**

Sui Generis was conceived from my desire to create work in collaboration with artists from different artistic disciplines. Too often artists work within a single genre i.e. musicians work with musicians, dancers work with other dancers, and so on. However, if it were for me, I would fill the rehearsal studio with composers, musicians, designers, singers, acrobats, painters, writers, actors and of course dancers. There is something magical about sharing ideas amongst artists who feel passionate about creating new work.

#### Sui-Generis is comprised of two very contrasting works.

'Water-Mirror'. Is an artistic collaboration between Japanese composer Ryuji Hamada and myself the choreographer. This work captures the power of Japanese Taiko drumming and contemporary dance, showcasing the incredible physical capabilities of the dancers in matching the precision of the complex rhythms found in Water Mirror's score. In stark contrast the second work 'Handful of Notes', is a collaboration with Composer Elena Kats-Chernin, this work offers a selection of pieces from Elena's repertoire. As a choreographer I have been fond of Elena's music for many years and through this work I have had the opportunity to choreograph some of my favourite pieces. Having Elena playing live on stage, accompanied by dancers and The Sydney Philharmonia Choirs, backed with the incredible projection design of Artist Bill Hope, makes this an extraordinary collaboration.



Caitlin Halmarick Caitlin completed her preprofessional at American Ballet Theatre's JKO School and the New Zealand School of Dance. She has danced professionally with Ballet Collective Aotearoa, in soloist roles with Brisbane Ballet, as the lead female role in Lynch and Patersons 'Creatures of Prometheus' and in Sydney Choreographic Ensemble's 'Galileo'



### Bridget McAllister graduated in 2018 from Sydney Dance Company's Pre-professional year, and completed 3 years of fulltime ballet training (2015-2017) at Annette Roselli Dance Academy in Brisbane. Performing with Sydney Choreographic Centre in 'Galileo' 2022, Bonnie Curtis Projects in 'Wonderland' (2019), 'Unbound' (2021) creating her choreographic work 'React'



Ava is completing her fulltime training with Alegria Dance Studios. She is studying Ballet, Spanish and Contemporary Dance. Earlier this year she was a regional finalist at the Asian Grad Prix in Bangkok.

# MUSICIANS



Hyota Matsuzaki Hyota is a Japanese musician and performer, specialising in taiko and shinobue (Japanese bamboo flute).





Susannah Lawergren Susannah has worked with some of the foremost ensembles in Australia including Ensemble Offspring, Opera Australia, Australia Ensemble, Cantillation, Sydney Chamber Opera, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Salut! Baroque, Willoughby Orchestra and Hourglass Ensemble and international ensembles like Voces8, the Wallfisch Ensemble and Forma Antigva. From 2011-2019 she was a full-time member of the Song Company, singing an incredibly diverse range of music around Australia.



Wesley Stormer Wesley Stormer is a Sydney based composer who has a love of rich harmony and ear catching motifs. His piece 'Feeling Fine' began its' life as a solo Cello piece but has been rearranged for Flute, alto saxophone, Cello and Piano



Silvana Imperatori Silvana is a Norwegian musician and performer based in Sydney. She specialises in taiko, koto, and bamboo flute, she is also trained in Japanese vocal traditions and folk performance. Silvana has been a training associate of Taikoz since 2021.

Felix Partos – Additional

Compositions

A graduate of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Felix specialises in uniquely bending and blending the lines between electronic and acoustic sound sources to fictional worlds and sonicscapes with the aim to provoke complex emotional responses.

## Elena Kats-Chernin AO Composer

Elena Kats-Chernin is a Sydney based Australian composer. Her vibrant and distinctive music featured at the opening ceremonies of the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games and the 2003 Rugby World Cup. She has received several awards including Sounds Australian, Helpmann, Limelight and Sydney Theatre Awards as well as the Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award 2013 and Women in Music Award for Artistic Excellence in 2022.



Sydney Philharmonia Choirs Brett Weymark OAM, Artistic Director Conductor Aija Draguns

#### Choristers

Annabel Jeffery Xia Lian Hannah Alexander Charli Moore Jasmin Borsovszky Sophie Whitehead Tristan Spiteri Boghos Keleshian Tom Hazell Selwyn Lemos

# PRODUCTION



Bowie Wong – Fashion Designer After being credited with a Degrees in Pure Design in Japan and Stage and Costume Design from Manitoba University, Wong then joined the "Really Useful Theatre Company"

He launched his Couture brand at the Australian Fashion week in 2010. In 2012 his collection was named "Show of the Week"

During his Career Wong has dressed numerous celebrities around the world including Kylie Minogue, Beyonce and Japanese megastar Anna Tsuchiya.



Angus Denton – Projection Design: Water Mirror

Angus has over 25 years' experience in theatrical production and lighting design. He has worked and toured extensively with a number of major companies and artists such as the Sydney Dance Company and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.



Toby Sewell – Lighting Design Toby trained at WAAPA before joining the Australian Opera lighting department where he worked for over 16 years. He has designed shows for Opera Australia, Sydney Symphony, Pacific Opera, Washington Opera Company, Sydney Festival, Sydney Opera House, Melbourne Opera Company and the Melbourne and Sydney Theatre Companies. His designs include major events and festivals from Halo Festival, Fashion Week, the Gold Dinner and Bulgari in Australia and Italy.



Is and Artist and Commercial Illustrator living in the Blue Mountains with his wife Inga and dog Acorn. His detailed and fantastical work can be seen in children's books magazines, advertisements and now the stage !

Commercially he is represented by The Jacky Winter Group and his art practice is supported by the Lost Bear Gallery of Katoomba.

Yvette Simpson – Stage Manager Yvette has worked for 30 years in Event, Production and Stage management for such companies as Spare Parts Puppet Company, Sydney Theatre Company, One Extra Dance Company and Endangered Productions.

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