

YOUR DIGITAL PROGRAM / TEXT ONLY VERSION

# Private View

Restless Dance Theatre

**29 February - 9 March 2024**

**The Odeon Theatre**

**Duration:** 1hr, no interval

**Warnings:** Contains sexual references, nudity and theatrical haze. Recommended for audiences 14+

**Note** This is an immersive performance. Audiences will be invited to roam through the space at times during the performance. This is a roaming event, however accessible seating will be available. Latecomers will not be admitted.

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government's Major Festivals Initiative, managed by the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, in association with the Confederation of Australian International Arts Festivals Inc., commissioned by Adelaide Festival, Brisbane Festival and Alter State I Arts Centre Melbourne.

*Private View* is supported by Arts SA, Creative Australia and the Restless Donor Circle.

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## THIS DIGITAL PROGRAM INCLUDES

Credits

Program Note

Creating *Private View*

Biographies

About Restless Dance Theatre

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# Credits

## CREATIVE TEAM

Director **Michelle Ryan**  
Concept, Dramaturg & Creative Producer  
**Roz Hervey**  
Assistant Director **Daisy Brown**  
Singer and Composer **Carla Lippis**  
Composer **Geoffrey Crowther**  
Choreographer **Larissa McGowan**  
Lighting Designer **Matthew Adey**  
Designer **Renate Henschke**  
Cinematographer **Matt Byrne**  
Rehearsal Director **Sarah-Jayne Howard**

Dancers **Charlie Wilkins,**  
**Darcy Carpenter, Jianna Georgiou,**  
**Michael Hodyl, Madalene Macera,**  
**Bonnie Williams** (guest artist),  
**Rowan Rossi** (guest artist)

Intimacy Coach **Eliza Lovell**

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Manager & Stage Manager  
**Katya Shevtsov**  
Technical Design & Management **Lachlan Turner**  
Design Associate **Oli Lagoon Williamson**  
Costume Design Associate **Ziva von der Borch**  
Cinematographer **Matt Byrne**  
Sound Production & Operator **Sascha Budimski**  
Set Build **Chris Hill & InSET Sets & Props**  
Operator & Crew **Reece Vidler**  
Lighting Programmer **Luke Pilla**  
AV Programmer **Mark Oakley**  
Sound Production & Crew **James Oborn**  
ASM & Production Assistant **Axel Andrews**  
Rigger **Aaron Herczeg**  
Venue Technician **Ben Johnston**  
Crew **Aaron Cato, Ayden Martin, David Bailht,**  
**Michael Noble, Patrick Pages Oliver**

First Development performers  
**Alexis Luke & Michael Noble**  
Interviewees **Andrew Pandos, Isadora**  
**Sweeney, Kirsty Martensen & Rachel High**

**Special thank you:** Andrew Steinkopf, Australian Dance Theatre, Brink Productions, Caroline Conlon, Charlotte Baruc – Le Pas Sage, Chris Hill, Clinton Camac, GWB Entertainment - Queens Theatre, Huey Cobham Hervey, Jodee Mundy, Kaz Gower – Makeup & Hair, Ninian Donald, Patch Theatre Company, State Theatre Company South Australia, Wendy Lagoon

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## Program Note

### **Michelle Ryan, Artistic Director**

In the realm of human experience, the desire for intimacy transcends all boundaries. It is a fundamental aspect of our existence, as vital as the air we breathe. At Restless, we acknowledge the shared dreams of romance and connection, recognising that individuals with intellectual disabilities are no different in their quest for love. We believe in the power of desire as a common thread that binds us. Ignoring these dreams is to ignore the essence of what makes us human. Private View dissolves the barriers of silence and stigma, affirming that the needs and desires of people with disabilities are as rich and deserving of expression as anyone else's. With each performance, we strive to kindle a spark of reflection in our audience.

In this work the diverse artists portray the universal themes of life. We gently invite you into this shared space, encouraging a journey from comfort to contemplation. The heart of this work beats with the input of our dancers. Their perspectives are integral, and our creative process thrives on this collaboration. A heartfelt thank you goes to every member of our team — the creatives, the dancers, and the production staff — who have poured their passion into bringing these stories to light.

# Creating *Private View*

## Roz Hervey, Concept, Dramaturge & Creative Producer

At Restless, we work with great artistic collaborators, and we pride ourselves on finding unique ways to tell authentic stories informed by disability through dance theatre.

Each new work we create challenges the form either by cross artform collaboration or the unusual venues our works are presented in.

In *Private View*, we are collaborating with singer, composer and musician Carla Lippis. I saw Carla when she arrived back to Adelaide from the UK. She performed at The Lab and I said to Michelle we have to have her in the work, we call her the electricity.

We know audiences are excited to have theatrical experiences in nontraditional spaces. At Restless we believe that sharing works in unusual ways allows our audiences to get up close and personal with our dancers. We have done this previously in works such as *Intimate Space* for Adelaide Festival 2017 where dance theatre was presented in many of the spaces found within the Hilton Adelaide hotel in Victoria Square in the heart of the city.

*Private View* was seeded during Covid. When we were all working from home we spent a lot of time with the dancers on zoom and got to know the dancers in a very different way to being in the studio together.

My initial suggestion for the work was to have cameras set up in our dancers' bedrooms and screened in other countries in a public space.

Given the subject matter it's been really important that our dancers lives are not on show to the audience so we've developed a range of techniques that allow the dancers to contribute but not always give their personal experience. These include having an intimacy coordinator, having character names, using interviews as source material and doing research outside the room.

We can have a million ideas on paper or in discussions but sometimes they don't work on the floor. Michelle and I both spoke to David Thompson. David is Clinical Nurse Consultant and Coordinator for the NSW Statewide Intellectual Disability Mental Health Outreach Service (SIDMHOS). He has also completed a PHD on people with intellectual disability and sexuality.

He encouraged us to watch films and series that also touched on sexuality, love, intimacy, and disability.

For further research, our Intimacy Coach, Eliza Lovell, and I interviewed a range of people with disabilities about sexuality, love and intimacy. These interviews have also informed the work and are directly incorporated into *Private View*, as their words feature in the foyer sound installation.

# Biographies

## Director **Michelle Ryan**

Michelle has over 30 years of experience in the arts. She has worked with Meryl Tankard and Dance North, and she currently serves as the artistic director of Restless Dance Theatre, where she creates major award-winning and critically acclaimed work.

## Concept, Dramaturg & Creative Producer **Roz Hervey**

Roz is a former professional dancer and the previous winner of the Ausdance award for 'Outstanding Performance by a Female Dancer.' Over the last 32 years, she has worked for numerous dance, dance theatre, and theatre companies, touring around the world.

## Assistant Director **Daisy Brown**

Daisy has over 30 years of experience in the Adelaide arts scene as a theatre maker and director of new work. She has directed for Restless Dance Theatre, Patch Theatre, Brink Productions, and Vitalstatistix, and her work has been presented in major national arts festivals with her theatre company Control Party and The Misery Children.

## Singer and Composer **Carla Lippis**

Carla Lippis is a live grenade with lungs, who has recently returned home after four years in London's West End, where she worked as the principal singer at the historic Cafe de Paris, and as the host of notorious nightclub The Box.

## Composer **Geoffrey Crowther**

The audio engineer and electronic musician studied Film & Television at the University of Glasgow and Sonic Arts at the University of Adelaide. Currently, they work as a live sound engineer and composer.

## Choreographer & Rehearsal Director **Larissa McGowan**

Larissa is an award-winning dance artist and choreographer. She was a longstanding performer and Associate Choreographer with Australian Dance Theatre. Larissa is currently Associate Artist for Restless Dance Theatre.

## Lighting Designer **Matthew Adey**

A multi-disciplinary artist and designer, Matthew formed House of Vnholy, which creates numerous performance installations. Matthew was Dark Mofo's Senior Lighting Designer from 2017 to 2019 and is now the Head of Event Design for RISING Festival in Melbourne.

## Designer **Renate Henschke**

A costume, production designer and maker working in film, television and theatre. Renate's previous international work includes *Game of Thrones* and *Vikings*. Recently she has worked with local companies Windmill Theatre and Closer Productions.

## Intimacy Coach **Eliza Lovell**

A Flinders University graduate (BA Hons Drama – First class, 1992), a performer, Teaching Artist, Audio Descriptor, & Intimacy Direction Consultant. Eliza's arts practice spans Community and Cultural Development, advocacy, and collaboration in Arts Education, Arts in Health, Aging & Disability.

## Rehearsal Director **Sarah-Jayne Howard**

Rehearsal Director Sarah-Jayne Howard has made her mark with a dance career spanning over two decades. She graduated from the New Zealand School of Dance and has worked with Australian Dance Theatre, Chunky Move, and Restless Dance Theatre.

## Dancer **Charlie Wilkins**

Charlie is a professional dancer and performer in *Rewards for the Tribe*, *Guttered*, *Ecoute Pour Voir*, *Home*, *Exposed* and *Shifting Perspectives*. Charlie is also a champion swimmer, representing Australia overseas and winning countless medals.

## Dancer **Darcy Carpenter**

Originally from Renmark, Darcy has performed nationally and internationally in works including *In the Balance*, *Intimate Space*, *Guttered*, *Ecoute Pour Voir*, *Rewards for the Tribe*, *Exposed* and *Shifting Perspectives* with Restless Dance Theatre.

## Dancer **Jianna Georgiou**

An award-winning professional dancer, director, and choreographer, Jianna has been with Restless since 2006, touring nationally and internationally in all major company productions. Jianna is a previous recipient of the prestigious Ruby Young Achiever Award.

## Dancer **Michael Hodyl**

Joining Restless in 2013, Michael has performed nationally and internationally in works including *In the Balance*, *Intimate Space*, *Zizanie*, *Seeing Through Darkness*, *Guttered*, *Ecoute Pour Voir*, *Rewards for the Tribe*, *Exposed* and *Shifting Perspectives*.

### Dancer **Madalene Macera**

Adelaide College of the Arts and Flinders University graduate, Madalene freelanced, dancing across Europe before joining Restless. Since then, she has toured regionally and nationally in *Seeing Through Darkness*, *Ecoute Pour Voir*, *Guttered*, *Exposed* and *Shifting Perspectives*.

### Guest Dancer **Bonnie Williams**

Bonnie has over 15 years' experience in the disability arts sector as a dancer, teacher, and mentor. Proudly disabled, she has been an integral part of Restless Dance as a teacher and now on stage.

### Guest Dancer **Rowan Rossi**

Adelaide-born dancer Rowan, a graduate of the New Zealand School of Dance and former member of the Australian Dance Theatre, has been a teacher and guest dancer with Restless Dance Theatre for over two years.

## About Restless Dance Theatre

Restless Dance Theatre is Australia's leading creator of dance theatre by dancers with and without disability. Our artistic voice is loud, strong and original. Restless brings artists with diverse minds, bodies and imaginations together to create contemporary dance theatre from everyday lived experiences; manifested into beautiful art, embedding inclusion into our screens, on our stages and in unexpected places. Restless Dance Theatre is a place where diversity is celebrated, and all artists thrive creatively.

### RESTLESS STAFF

#### **Michelle Ryan**

Artistic Director

#### **Roz Hervey**

Creative Producer

#### **Julie Moralee**

Chief Executive Officer

#### **Theresa Williams**

Finance Manager

#### **Larissa McGowan**

Associate Artist

#### **Deli Cooper**

Public Programs & Administration Coordinator

#### **Lina Limosani**

Public Classes Executive

#### **Radhé Osborn**

Marketing Manager

#### **Bhodi Hudson**

Admin Assistant

### RESTLESS BOARD

#### **Nick Linke**

Chair

#### **Caroline Ellison**

Deputy Chair

#### **Andrew Mailer**

Treasurer

#### **Tuula Roppola**

Board Member

#### **Michael Coonan**

Board Member

#### **Antionette Tyson**

Board Member

### RESTLESS DONORS

Principal Donors: James Darling and Lesley Forwood, Vicky Toovey, Rob and Jan Tanner

Restless Donor Circle: Sue and Geoff Boettcher, Celia Brissenden and Tom Farnan, Sam Harvey, Alexandra Hurford, Boram Lee, Nicholas Linke, Andrew and Melissa Mailler, Jean Matthews, David and Vicki Minear, Ruth Rentschler, Angelo and Georgie Salerno, Caroline Treloar, Andrew and Julie van Essen.

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