

AUSTRALIAN  
DANCE  
THEATRE



# TRACKER

IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
ILBIJERRI THEATRE COMPANY

25—27 OCTOBER  
THE ODEON

31 OCTOBER  
SIR ROBERT  
HELPMANN THEATRE  
MT GAMBIER

3 NOVEMBER  
CHAFFEY THEATRE  
RENMARK

9 NOVEMBER  
MIDDLEBACK  
ARTS CENTRE  
WHYALLA

It's the type of  
theatre that  
simply must be  
experienced.

TIME OUT SYDNEY

## Acknowledgement of Country

Australian Dance Theatre acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Kurna Yerta. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community and we extend this respect to First Peoples across the land. We pay our ongoing respects to them, their cultures and their Elders, past and present. We acknowledge the ongoing significance of dance as cultural practice, as interconnected with story, song and Country.

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## ABOUT TRACKER

Artistic Director of Australian Dance Theatre, Wiradjuri director-choreographer Daniel Riley evokes an immensely powerful and personal story of his Great-Great Uncle, Alec “Tracker” Riley.

Alec, a Wiradjuri Elder and tracker, served the New South Wales Police Force for 40 years, leading numerous high-profile cases. As an Elder of his community he forged a path between the enforced colonial system in which he worked and his Wiradjuri lore. Tracker takes inspiration from his legacy and examines the battles First Nations people have shared for generations.

Weaving together dance, music and text, Tracker invites the audience into an open and transformative ceremonial space. This remarkable story is brought to life by a team of celebrated First Nations creatives, including award-winning playwright Ursula Yovich, co-director Rachael Maza AM, composers James Henry and Gary Watling, visual artist Jonathan Jones, lighting designer Chloe Ogilvie and an all-First Nations cast.



*Top and Above: @ Morgan Sette*

**Culturally rich and ambitiously original, this multidisciplinary work rethinks how we engage with and experience First Nations storytelling.**

# FROM THE CREATORS

“(On Alec Riley) His story and its relevance to us as a Community, as a Nation speaks completely to the ‘navigating’ of being a First Nations person in a colonized space. How you navigate that, how you survive that, how you maintain your integrity, your Cultural connections, your family, how you hold your family together.”

— Rachael Maza AM

“It’s through bringing these contemporary issues, and the political history into the room. Seeing a young black man searching for his identity and connection brings it into the present.”

— Daniel Riley

“We exist in a network. We Culturally understand that, it’s all about your inter-connectedness and that inter-connectedness is your lines of responsibility, and your protocols, and who you answer to.”

— Rachael Maza AM

“The songwriting nature of a lot of the text for me is choreographic. Hearing the flow of words, the way they come out of the mouth. A lot of the words have directly inspired the physicality, but also finding the space between the words.”

— Daniel Riley



# AUSTRALIAN DANCE THEATRE

Australian Dance Theatre has been creating exceptional contemporary dance and performing it across the country and around the world since 1965.

Australian Dance Theatre is the country's oldest contemporary dance company, located on Kurna Yerta (Adelaide, South Australia). For nearly 60 years Australian Dance Theatre has pioneered new work that has continually redefined dance and pushed the artform.

Australian Dance Theatre is committed to the presentation of work reflective of Australia's diverse voices, landscapes and histories. Collaborative relationships and a commitment to community engagement are at the core of the company's values.



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# ILBIJERRI THEATRE COMPANY

ILBIJERRI is one of Australia's leading theatre companies creating innovative works by First Nations artists. The longest established First Nations theatre company in Australia, ILBIJERRI creates, presents and tours powerful and engaging theatre by First Nations artists that gives voice to our Cultures.

ILBIJERRI is committed to growing a sustainable and vibrant First Nations arts ecology and is investing in the next generation of First Nations theatre makers and industry professionals.

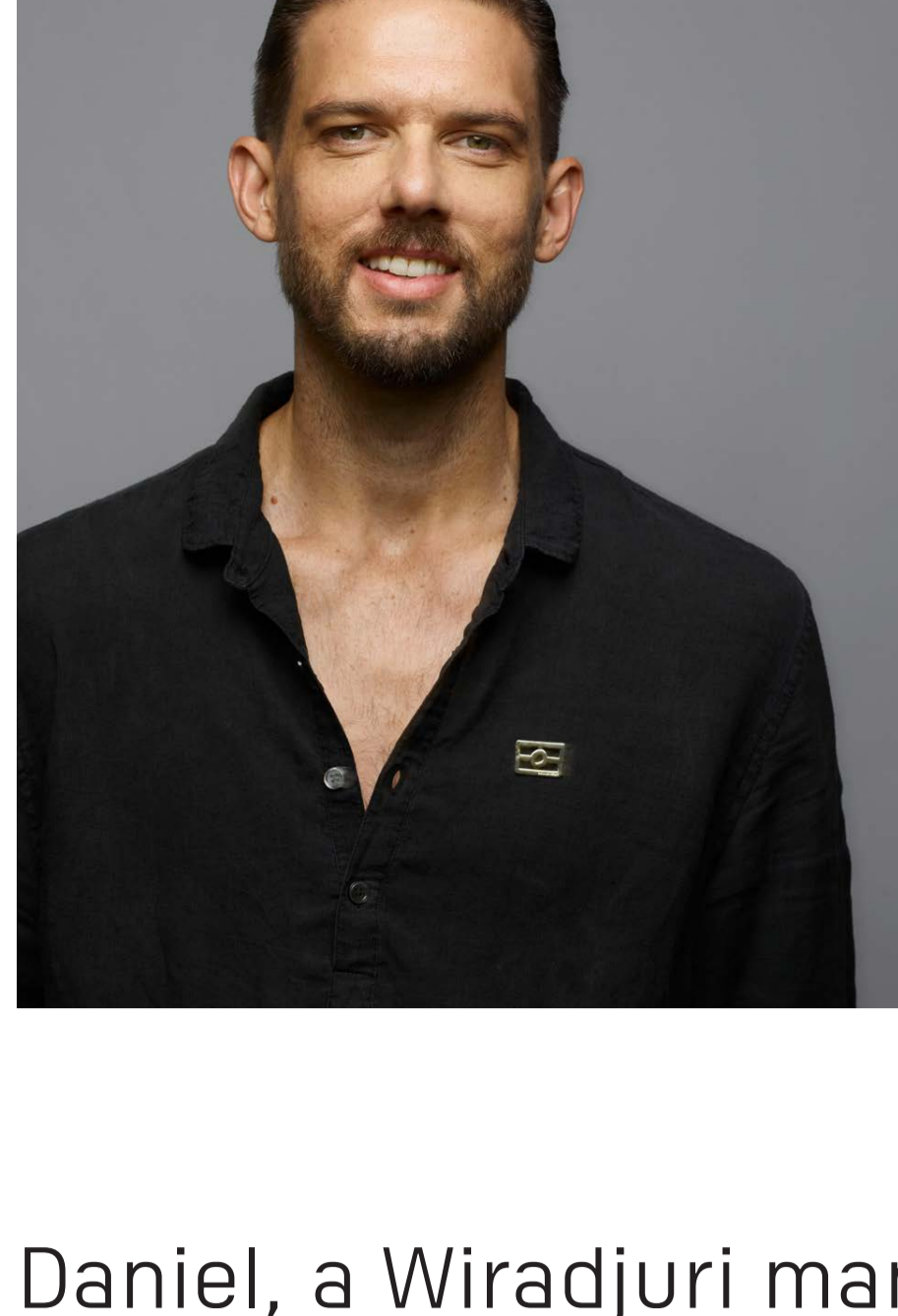
Deep listening with and for Community and Country is central to our work. We take seriously our role as cultural leaders, continuing to make work that speaks to the truth of this country, celebrating the extraordinary resilience and strength of First Nations Peoples.

ILBIJERRI continues to bring the brilliance and sophistication of bold, black voices to audiences in country halls, community spaces, prisons and major venues, across Australia and the world.



© Morgan Sette

# PERFORMERS



**Daniel Riley**

Daniel, a Wiradjuri man from Western NSW, began as Artistic Director of Australian Dance Theatre (ADT) in 2022. He is the sixth Artistic Director in the company's 57 year history, and the first First Nations person to be custodian of this iconic dance theatre company.



**Rika Hamaguchi**

Rika is from Broome in Western Australia. She is a descendant of the Yawuru, Bunaba, Bardi and Jaru people in the Kimberley Region. Rika also shares Japanese, Chinese and Scottish ancestry. Before joining Bangarra in 2015, Rika studied at NAISDA Dance College, where she was awarded the prestigious Chairman's Award.



**Kaine Sultan-Babij**

Kaine is a proud descendant of the Arrernte people of Harts Range in the Central Desert region of the Northern Territory. Born and raised in Whyalla (South Australia), Kaine also celebrates his Afghan and Croatian heritage. Kaine joined Bangarra in 2011 and in 2012 he was nominated for a Green Room Award for Best Male Dancer.



**Ari Maza-Long**

Ari Maza-Long graduated from the National Institute of Dramatic Art in 2021 and a month later was on stage in Belvoir's production of *At What Cost?* Born and raised into the world of performing arts, Ari began learning from an early age about the power of storytelling on stage and screen.



**Gary Watling**

Gary is a musician, composer, educator and a proud Wiradjuri man. After completing a Bachelor in Contemporary Music at Southern Cross University in 2010, Gary moved to Melbourne to pursue further study and completed his Bachelor in Music Performance (Degree with Honours) from the Victorian College of the Arts in 2011.



# CREDITS

## Co-Director and Choreographer

Daniel Riley

## Co-Director

Rachael Maza AM

## Writers

Ursula Yovich and Amy Sole

## Set Designer

Jonathan Jones

## Composer and Sound Designer

James Henry

## Composer and Live Musician

Gary Watling

## Lighting Designer

Chloë Ogilvie

## Costume Designer

Ailsa Paterson

## Voiceover

Archie Riley

## Dramaturgs

Amy Sole and Jennifer Medway

## Project Elders

Aunty Shirley Mathews and Aunty Ann Cribb

## Wiradjuri Language Translator

Aunty Dianne Riley McNaboe

## Scenic Artist

Merindah Funnell

## PRODUCTION TOURING STAFF

## Production Manager

Nathan Evers

## Head Technician

Clinton Camac

## Stage Manager

Katya Shevstov

## Rehearsal Director and Outside Eye

Adrienne Semmens

## Sound Technician

Sascha Budimski

# AUSTRALIAN DANCE THEATRE

## PARTNERS

### GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



**Government of South Australia**  
Department of the Premier  
and Cabinet



### PARTNERS

**Major  
Festivals  
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**Australian Government**  
RISE Fund

**ILBIJERRI**  
BOLD. BLACK. BRILLIANT.

### MEDIA PARTNERS

**The Monthly    The Saturday Paper    7am**

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