

MEDIA RELEASE

10 May 2010



WORLD PREMIERE BY BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE – OF EARTH AND SKY

Following the sell out success of their 20th anniversary tour of *Fire* in 2009, **Bangarra Dance Theatre** leaps into the next 20 years with a stunning new double bill.

Always original and evocative, Bangarra presents two works inspired by old and new stories and examines the fusion of dance and visual art.

of earth & sky will feature **Artefact** the new work from Bangarra's celebrated choreographer Frances Rings, who first made the move from dancer to creator with the company's *Walkabout* season in 2002.

Bangarra is also pleased to introduce the eagerly anticipated choreographic debut of dancer, Daniel Riley McKinley. At aged 24, Daniel is the youngest choreographer to contribute to Bangarra's dance theatre repertoire with his work **Riley**.

"It is a great thrill to mentor young choreographer, Daniel Riley McKinley, who is set to deliver a fresh 'new generation' of Indigenous story telling." Stephen Page

At the heart of all of Bangarra's productions is the musical creativity of award-winning David Page, who is one of the most successful Aboriginal contemporary composers in

Australia. David's music is the inimitable soundscape of Bangarra that lures audiences year after year.

In keeping with the development of emerging Indigenous artists, Stephen Page has commissioned Jacob Nash, aged 27, as the set designer for *of earth & sky*.

BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE AND QPAC IN ASSOCIATION WITH MUSGRAVE PARK CULTURAL CENTRE PRESENT:

The world premiere - 'OF EARTH AND SKY'

A new double bill from Bangarra Dance Theatre in 2010 *Artefact* from Frances Rings and *Riley* from Daniel Riley McKinley

Where: The Playhouse, QPAC, Cultural Centre, South Bank

When: 2 to 10 July 2010 (8 shows only)

Tickets: Premium \$59 A Reserve Adult \$49, A Reserve Concession, \$46 Groups (10 or more)
\$46 Youth (under 30) \$29

Bookings: www.qpac.com.au or phone 136 246

For media enquiries please contact:

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Further information follows:

Bangarra Dance Theatre – 'of earth & sky'

Artistic Director	Stephen Page
Choreographers	Daniel Riley McKinley Frances Rings
Cultural Consultant	Kathy Balngayngu Marika
Rehearsal Director	Catherine Goss
Composer	David Page
Set Designer	Jacob Nash
Costume Designer	Gabriela Tylesova
Lighting Designer	Damien Cooper

ARTEFACT

France Rings new production for 2010, 'Artefact', is inspired by dynamics between 'man and object' that have meaning to culture, spirit and place. This work honours symbols of ancient and modern rituals and reclaims the spirit of these artefacts.

Frances has been, and continues to be, at the core of Bangarra's creative energy. She and Stephen Page, have shared a number of choreographic double bills. Audiences will know Frances from her previous outstanding Bangarra productions including 'Rations', 'Unaipon' and 'X300'.

Frances, who was mentored by Stephen, brings a female perspective and energy that has added a new dimension to Bangarra's collection of works. Her work is often built around a key theme of retaining cultural knowledge.

"I'm creating a dance inspired by indigenous artefacts and the relationship people have to those objects. Objects special to indigenous people are simple, but hold great spiritual meaning and connection. The challenge is to bring these static objects to life. To make them move. They're like a little dose of spirituality sitting on your shelf". Frances Rings

RILEY

'Riley' is a celebration of the life of Aboriginal photographer and film maker, the late Michael Riley and his internationally acclaimed 'cloud' series. 'cloud' was Michael's last photographic work prior to his passing. His work is permanently installed as part of the Australian Indigenous Art Commission at the Musée du quai Branly in Paris and was hung as part of Sydney Festival in the summer of 2002 as an outdoor exhibition at Circular Quay.

Daniel, who shares a connection to Michael Riley through blood and land, pays homage to Michael by using his images as the visual landscape to inform the movement.

