



DANCENORTH AUSTRALIA

WAYFINDER

DANCE

 **The Playhouse,
Darwin Entertainment Centre**



Fri 9 Aug 8pm

Sat 10 Aug 5pm

Duration 55mins

Photo: David Kelly

**Presented by Darwin Festival and
Darwin Entertainment Centre**

NOTE

Contains strobe lighting, theatrical haze, loud/startling noise and interactive objects that emit light and sound. Suitable for all ages.

**DARWIN
FESTIVAL**
8-25 AUGUST 2024



Darwin Festival Acknowledgement:

Darwin Festival takes place on what has always been Larrakia land. We wish to pay our respects to the Traditional Owners of this Country and to their ancestors. As the Festival welcomes contemporary artists and art from Australia and around the world, we also celebrate the continuing culture of the Larrakia people.

Scroll through to read more about this performance of Wayfinder.

Enjoy the show!

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

We all enter the world as Wayfinders. Finding our way we dance with the world, allowing the movements of life to illuminate the unshakable truth of our elemental connectivity.

Throughout this development, we have consciously focused our creative energy upon the heart – allowing its wisdom to guide the process. In doing so we have attempted to loosen the grip of modern humanity's default mode of rational, reductive brain-based being. In this space, a deeper, more intuitive and energetic creative eco-system has emerged.

The making of Wayfinder has been a heart expanding process. Nourished by the generosity of our collaborators Byron J Scullin, Chloe Greaves, Jeanette Hutchinson, Hiatus Kaiyote, Hiromi Tango, Nick Roux, Nik Pajanti and Robert Larsen, we have blurred the lines between form. Movement, light, sound, sculpture and song – each simultaneously finding and showing the way for the others. With deep gratitude we honour the artists and all that they have brought to this creation.

In the studio, the way with the dancers has been one of interbeing. A deeply interwoven exploration that has led to something profound,

a choreographic language has emerged from the space between all of us, yet as is the case with most magical phenomena, words fail to capture the essence of what we have co-created in the making of this show.

Damian, Felix, Marlo, Michael, Nelson, Sabine, Tara Jade, Callum, Darci, Tiana, Jag and Latisha your energy and devotion have paved the way for us all. Thank you, Niharika and Naomi, for your early contributions and to Aaron, Alice, Caitlin, Eloise, Felicity, Hillary, Jordan, Laura, Liam, Matthew, Monique, Nicole, Pip, Sarah, Stephen, Suzy, Tom, Toni and Yoshie – nothing that emerges within the studio does so in isolation. Your presence is felt, and feeds fuel into every aspect of the creation and presentation of this new work.

With love and appreciation for over 150 volunteers from across Australia who have woven their energy thoughtfully through more than 110 kilometres of salvaged wool – a visual metaphor for the energetic bonds that connect us all as one universal body. Wayfinder is a beacon.

Together may we find our way.

Amber Haines & Kyle Page

DANCENORTH

As a major champion of the arts in regional North Queensland, Dancenorth Australia balances a dynamic regional presence with a commitment to creating compelling contemporary dance that tours the globe.

Dancenorth is one of Australia's leading contemporary dance companies having presented work in over 45 International Arts Festivals and venues around Australia and the world and is an integral part of the Australian dance ecology making a significant contribution to the dance sector and building literacy around contemporary dance nationally. An epicentre of cultural exchange, Dancenorth empowers and supports dancemaking in Australia and independent practice through residencies, secondments, and creative developments through our Artistic Leadership and Capacity Development Program.

Alongside the professional Ensemble and touring productions sits an equally vital pillar of focus: Community Experience. Driven by a dedicated team, Dancenorth works with diverse and minority communities across Queensland using dance to support, enhance, inspire and heal - bringing communities together.



CREDITS

Concept, Direction & Choreography

Amber Haines (she/her) & Kyle Page (he/him)

Lighting Designer Niklas Pajanti

Composition Hiatus Kaiyote

Sound Artist & Designer Byron J Scullin

Sound Sculpture Design, Construction &

Implementation Robert Larsen &

Nicholas Roux

Visual Designer Hiromi Tango

Design Associate Chloe Greaves

Design Assistant Jeanette Hutchinson

Polyrhythm Consultant Naomi Jean

Performers Marlo Benjamin, Sabine Crompton-

Ward, Tiana Lung, Damian Meredith, Darci

O'Rourke, Jag Popham, Felix Sampson,

Michael Smith

Production Manager Toni Glynn

Company Stage Manager Pip Loth

Production Technician – Sound &

Technical Operator Yoshie Kenny

Production Technician – Lighting Suzy Brooks

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Wayfinder was commissioned by Brisbane Festival and North Australian Festival of Arts (NAFA). This project was made possible by Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund – an Australian Government Initiative. This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body.

Dancenorth Australia is assisted by both the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body, and the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland. Dancenorth Australia is supported by Townsville City Council through their Strategic Partnerships Program, and gratefully acknowledges the Wayfinder Giving Circle, who has supported the making of this work.

DARWIN FESTIVAL

Darwin Festival is the centre piece of what makes August in Darwin the best time of year. Loved by locals and adored by visitors, this tropical winter festival invites you to experience the very best in First Nations, Territory, Australian and international art, culture and music – not just as a spectator, but to be one with it.

DARWIN FESTIVAL 2024
RUNS 8 – 25 AUGUST

Sign up to our e-news for all the latest updates and information.



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EXPERIENCE?**

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