



VCASS | **DANCE** | 2022  
*presents*

# PETRUSHKA

WITH FULL SUPPORTING PROGRAM  
**SEPT 1 - SEPT 3 | VCASS STUDIO 1**



Victorian College of the Arts  
SECONDARY SCHOOL



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*presents*

# PETRUSHKA




**Steven McTaggart**  
HEAD OF DANCE

Movement, music and light... the magical combination for dance, transforms the stage into a world brimming with stories and possibilities.

Preparing the vision and vehicle for this magic is no mean feat. I extend my great appreciation to the dance staff and all our support personnel for their combined creativity and expertise in bringing this performance together.

However, it is the students who will bring it all to life!



A student is captured in a dynamic dance pose, wearing a Petrushka costume. The costume includes a yellow conical hat with a blue band and a white pom-pom, a white ruffled collar, and a skirt and leggings with a vibrant geometric pattern of red, purple, and pink. The student is wearing red shoes and has white face paint. They are in a crouched position with one leg raised high and arms extended, set against a background with a repeating stylized leaf pattern.

Our exciting anchor work *Petrushka* is re-imagined by Tim Harbour especially for VCASS. A powerfully symbolic tale which resonates on many levels, it is beautifully embodied by the vigour and talent of our senior students.

Our full supporting program provides great performance opportunities for students at every stage of their development. Balletic joy and elegance expressed in both junior and senior ballets, are followed by exuberant and bold contemporary items and an iconic senior jazz.

Congratulations to our students who have worked so hard to be here tonight. We are very proud of them and look forward to seeing them on stage as much as you do!

**Steven McTaggart**  
Head of Dance



# PETRUSHKA

WITH FULL SUPPORTING PROGRAM

PERFORMANCE LENGTH | 2 HOURS 20 MINUTES

## JUST FOR FUN

CHOREOGRAPHY | JANNE BLANCH

DANCERS | YEARS 7, 8 & 9

## SLEEPING BEAUTY

CHOREOGRAPHY | ARRANGED BY FIONA MUNROE

AFTER MARIUS PETIPA

DANCERS | YEARS 10, 11 & 12

## ENRAPTOR

CHOREOGRAPHY | SELA KIEK-CALLAN

LEANA SIMPER AND STACY MITCHELL

DANCERS | YEARS 7, 8 & 9

## A CHORUS LINE

CHOREOGRAPHY | MICHAEL BENNETT

AND ROSS HANNAFORD

DANCERS | YEARS 10, 11 & 12

INTERVAL | 20 MINUTES

## LURE

CHOREOGRAPHY | SELA KIEK-CALLAN

STEVEN MCTAGGART AND DANCERS

DANCERS | YEARS 10 & 11

## PETRUSHKA

CHOREOGRAPHY | TIM HARBOUR

DANCERS | YEARS 11 & 12

# JUST FOR FUN

Choreography	Janne Blanch
Rehearsal Assistant	Madeleine Eastoe
Music	Dimitri Shostakovitch and Henri Sauget
Dancers	Years 7, 8 & 9

## Choreographer's note:

As the title suggests, ***Just for Fun*** is simply that – an opportunity for our junior dancers to experience the joy of dance and interpret the various moods of the music ranging from **Shostakovitch's** sedate and sophisticated ***Contradance*** and charming ***Waltz-scherzo*** to **Sauguet's** playful and exuberant ***Galop***.

A huge thank you to **Madeleine Eastoe** for her invaluable support and sharp eye!







Excerpt from

# SLEEPING BEAUTY

Prologue | The Christening

**Choreography**

| Arranged by Fiona Munroe, after Marius Petipa

**Rehearsal Assistant**

| Madeleine Eastoe

**Music**

| Excerpt from the *Prologue* of *Sleeping Beauty*  
by Pytor Ilyich Tchiakovsky

**Dancers**

| Years 10, 11 & 12

## Choreographer's note:

The Royal Family are celebrating the christening of their daughter Aurora. Her Godmother, the Lilac Fairy (the flower symbolising the first love) and all her entourage are invited.

Each Fairy - the Fairy of Grace, the Fairy of Courage, the Fairy of Generosity, the Fairy of Musical Talent and the Fairy of Temperament - places a gift in the cradle of the young Princess.



# ENRAPTOR

**Choreography** | Sela Kiek-Callan, Leana Simper  
and Stacy Mitchell  
**Music** | Excerpts from *Planet Earth*  
and *Angels and Demons* by Hans Zimmer  
**Dancers** | Years 7, 8 & 9

**Choreographers' note:**

Humans are notorious for capturing and rarefying the beautiful  
and exotic creatures of this world, often with devastating results.

Sometimes nature finds a way of exacting its revenge.







# A CHORUS LINE

**Choreography** | Michael Bennett and Ross Hannaford  
**Music** | Excerpts from *A Chorus Line* by Marvin Hamlisch  
**Lyrics** | Edward Kleban  
**Dancers** | Years 10, 11 & 12  
**Vocalists** | Francesca Zeccola and Shaelyn Connor  
| Year 12 Theatre Arts

## Choreographer's note:

5, 6, 7, 8... *A Chorus Line* shines a searing light on a group of dancers at an audition fighting for their spot in a Broadway show. Audiences get a rare chance to peer into the audition room and share in the exhilaration, fear, joy, and sorrow that takes place.


We begin on the streets of New York, as dancers travel to an audition for the next biggest show in town, with *Dancin' in the Street*.

The hopeful auditionees find themselves in an intense and fierce competition to receive the coveted 'call back' in *I Hope I Get It*.

*Hello 12* sees the audition become intriguing and intense as the director wants to understand more about the dancers' lives, hoping this will help him with the casting process.





A man and a woman are posing in 1930s-style dance costumes. The man is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, a shiny gold vest, a black bow tie, and white trousers with a gold stripe down the side. He is holding a white top hat with a gold band in his right hand, which is raised high. The woman is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt with a gold vest, a black bow tie, and a black leotard with fishnet stockings. She is also holding a white top hat with a gold band in her right hand, which is raised high. They are both smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is dark with stylized, colorful geometric shapes in shades of purple, pink, and red, suggesting a city skyline or a stage set. The floor is dark and reflective.

The director finally asks  
'What will you do when you  
can't dance anymore?' This  
daring question inspires the  
classic song *What I Did For Love*.

After the brutal final cut we see  
the eventuality of the show in *One*.  
Here the grit and passion of these  
unique dancers is contrasted  
with the glamour and tragic  
uniformity of *A Chorus Line*.

*A Chorus Line* says 'Dance is  
a gift that is borrowed'; it  
beautifully conveys the  
lengths dancers go to  
for the love of what  
they do.



# LURE

**Choreography** | Sela Kiek- Callan, Steven McTaggart and Dancers

**Music**

| Excerpts from *Dune* by Hans Zimmer

Excerpts from *Helpful Goat* and *The Witcher*

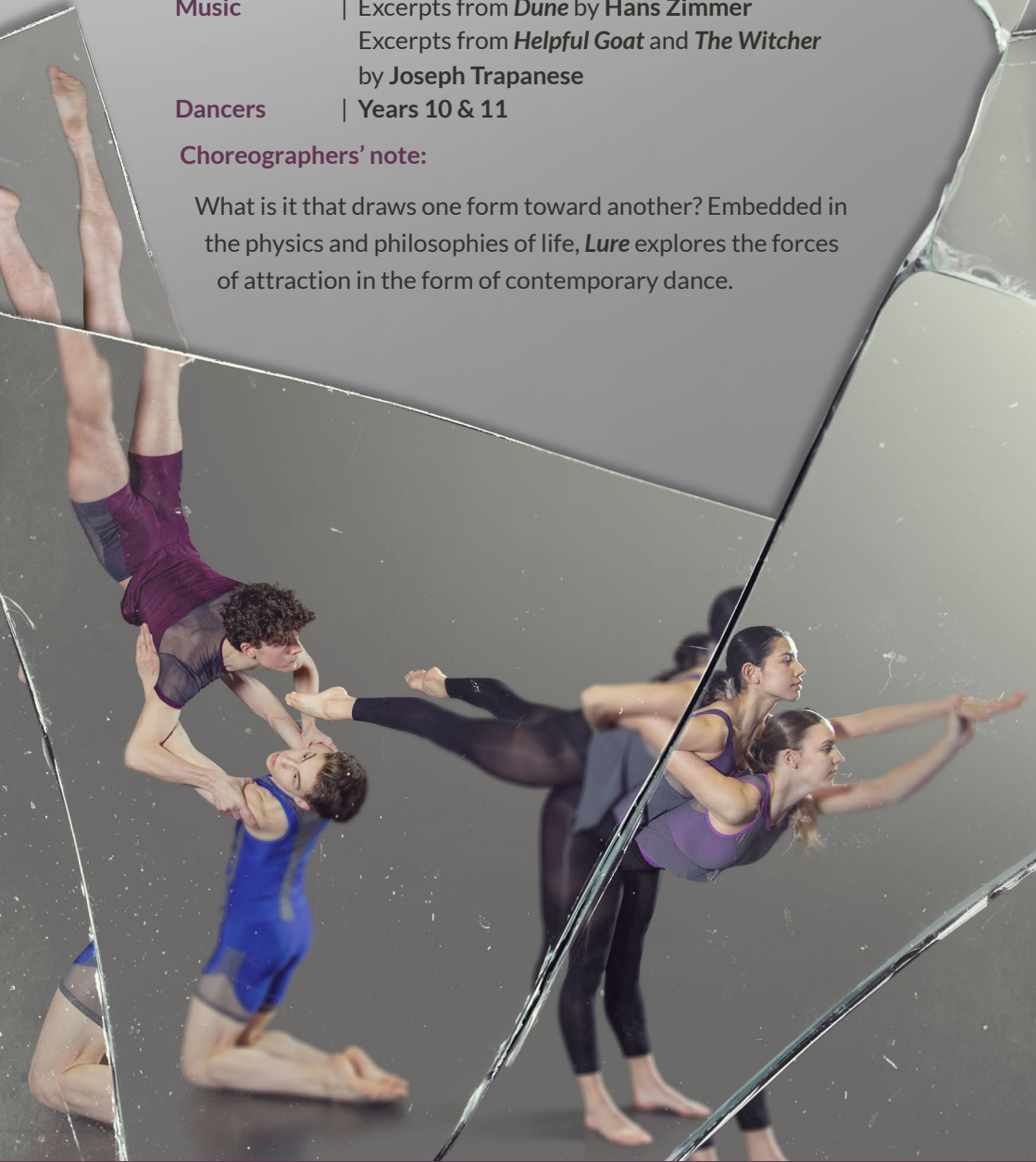
by Joseph Trapanese

**Dancers**

| Years 10 & 11

**Choreographers' note:**

What is it that draws one form toward another? Embedded in the physics and philosophies of life, *Lure* explores the forces of attraction in the form of contemporary dance.



# PETRUSHKA

**Choreography** | Tim Harbour

**Music** | *Petrushka* by Igor Stravinsky

**Dancers** | Years 11 & 12

## **Choreographer's note:**

### **Part 1**

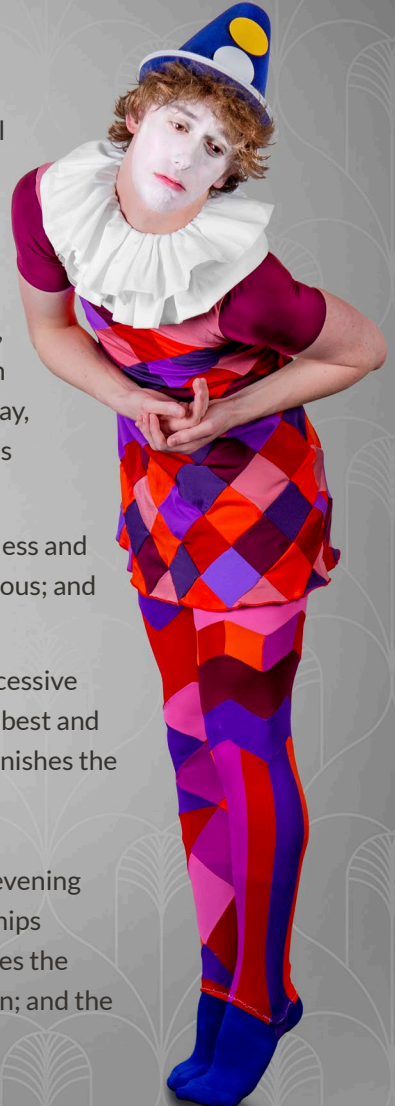
At a carnival in Melbourne Australia, school children are starting an excursion. As their names are ticked off by their teacher, they dance with excitement. Coming and going, they enjoy the different activities of the carnival. They treat themselves to lollipops, tease their amorous classmates and revel in the expectation of the highlight act of the day, a presentation by a famous Magician and his magical puppets.

There are three puppets: The Captain, fearless and powerful; The Ballet Doll, skilful and flirtatious; and Petrushka, ungainly and needy.

Despite Petrushka's foolish dancing and excessive emotions, it is this puppet the students like best and they are disappointed when the Magician finishes the show by scolding Petrushka.

### **Part 2**

The Magician and puppets rest before the evening show. Away from the crowds, the relationships between the puppets unfold. Petrushka loves the Ballet Doll; the Ballet Doll loves the Captain; and the Captain only loves himself.



Petrushka is shunned by the others and cries with loneliness. When Petrushka steals the Captain's prized mirror, the Captain is enraged and raising their sword, chases Petrushka back into the carnival.

### Part 3

In the evening, the students return to the carnival as does their teacher who brings her own child. With the weekend before them and the thrill of being at the Carnival at night, the students enjoy their freedom and friendships.

Suddenly Petrushka returns, chased by the sword-wielding Captain creating confusion and fear. Despite the Ballet Doll's attempt to intervene, the Captain strikes down Petrushka with the sword.

When Petrushka falls to the ground and dies, the students are horrified but the Magician assures them it was all just part of the show. As the crowd disperses, the Magician is left alone, enjoying his theatrical mastery.

Just then, the ghost of Petrushka rises above the Carnival, crying out in misery. The cries drive the Magician mad as he understands for the first time all the pain he has caused.





# CHOREOGRAPHERS

## JANNE BLANCH

Janne was a Principal Dancer with the **Royal New Zealand Ballet** and **Queensland Ballet**, before joining the **Australian Ballet** as a Senior Soloist in 1973. She featured in lead roles in both traditional and modern repertoire and toured extensively with these companies both nationally and internationally.

Following retirement as a dancer, Janne was appointed the Artistic Assistant to Anne Woolliams, the founding Dean of **VCA** when **VCASS** was the **Victorian College of the Arts Technical School**. She was Ballet Mistress of the **Vic Arts Dance Company** and Assistant to the Head of Dance at **VCASS**.

Janne is an expert teacher in Classical Ballet, having taught across all levels in VCASS from Year 7 to 12. Janne holds a **Diploma in Arts - Dance Teaching (VCA)**, a **Certificate of Adolescent Counselling (Monash)** and is a registered teacher and Practical teaching Supervisor of the **Royal Academy of Dance (RAD)**.

## ROSS HANNAFORD

Ross' career highlights include playing Tobias Ragg in ***Sweeney Todd*** as well as the coveted roles of Paul in ***A Chorus Line*** and Princeton in ***Avenue Q***. Ross became the resident director of **CATS** after playing Skimbleshanks in the most recent Australian tour. His other musical theatre credits include, ***Wicked***, ***King Kong***, ***We Will Rock You***, ***Pippin*** and ***Shout***. He is a recipient of the RAD Solo Seal award and a dedicated member of the Arts community.

## TIM HARBOUR

Tim danced for the **Australian Ballet** for 13 years, dancing principal roles, working with leading choreographers and touring all over the world. He was nominated as Best Male dancer in the **Australian Dance and Green Room Awards** and, after dancing as a guest with the **Royal Swedish Ballet**, retired in 2007. Tim has gone on to have an extensive career as a choreographer, taking on commissions with local companies like the **Queensland** and **West Australian Ballet** as well as internationally for the **New York City Ballet**, **Houston Ballet** and **Singapore Dance Theatre**. Tim was resident choreographer with the **Australian Ballet** 2014-2020, creating many works - *Filigree and Shadow* and *Squander and Glory* - and enjoyed multiple award nominations and return seasons. His choreographies have been performed all over the world including **New York**, **London**, **Houston** and **Singapore**.

## DR SELA KIEK-CALLAN

Sela is a graduate of the **Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts**. Moving to the **United Kingdom** in 1996, she performed with **Green Candle Dance Company**, **Kantikoy** and **Lisa Torun and Dancers**, and worked as a lecturer in **Dance** at **Coventry University** in **England**. Sela has choreographed for **Dancehouse Seasons**, the **St Kilda Festival**, **Quantum Leap Dance Company**, and the **Australian Youth Dance Festival**. She completed her PhD in Dance in 2011 through **Deakin University** and has published a number of articles on her site specific dance work. Sela is currently a Leading Teacher for Contemporary Dance at **VCASS** and lectures sessionally at **Victoria University** and **Deakin University**.

### STEVEN McTAGGART

Steven is a graduate of the **Victorian College of the Arts (VCA)** secondary and tertiary programs, receiving a Bachelor of Arts (contemporary dance performance), before joining **Royal New Zealand Ballet** where he became a lead soloist. His musical theatre credits include **CATS** in **Hamburg Germany**, **West Side Story** in **Sydney** and **Brisbane** and frequent appearances with **Opera Australia**.

Steven also worked in contemporary and commercial dance theatre in **Melbourne** as a freelance artist while completing a graduate Diploma in Choreography at the VCA. He joined **Meryl Tankard's Australian Dance Theatre** for over 2 years and was the Artistic Director/Assistant on the opening segment of the **Sydney 2000 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony**.

Steven has a Bachelor of Education in primary and secondary and currently is the Head of Dance at **VCASS**.

### FIONA MUNROE

Fiona Munroe is a classical ballet specialist and choreographer with a wealth of dancing experience. After her early training in Australia gaining her Advanced RAD, she trained at the **Royal Ballet Upper School** in **London**. Upon graduation Fiona went on to dance principal roles in **Malmo Ballet, Sweden**, performing professionally in **Europe, Japan, Italy** and **Australia**. After her professional career she returned to **Australia** and gained her RAD teaching registration with Distinction. For over 20 years, Fiona led her own dance studio in **Queensland**, providing pathways for many of her students to attend professional vocational training at the **Australian Ballet School** and many international schools. Fiona currently teaches ballet at **VCASS** across all year levels.

### LEANA SIMPER

Leana has been teaching acrobatic dance for over 20 years. She has studied Classical, Jazz, Tap, Contemporary, Musical Theatre and Acrobatics. Leana is a alumnus of **VCASS** who has worked professionally as both a dancer and an acrobat. As a trainer for **The Acrobatic Dance Association**, Leana is responsible for running acrobatic workshops and training sessions all across **Melbourne**.



### **YEAR 12 DANCERS**

Ashley Brkovic, Siobhan Cooper, Amelia Dixon, Ella Gordon, Rubi Hawkins, Hannah Lesniauskas, Tiana Magnussen, Mia Mangano, Lucas McLean, Felix Milewski, Audrey Moutia, Zac Purves, Merrikk Steinfort, Ruby Willis and Ariana Wolf.

### **YEAR 12 THEATRE ARTS (GUESTS)**

Francesca Zeccola and Shaelyn Connor

### **YEAR 11 DANCERS**

Gabrielle (Gabby) Arnold, Lucy Clatworthy, Lauren Edwards, Mackenzie (Macka) Hancock, Jaidyn Millington, Emma Mills, Katherine (Kate) Montgomery, Ella Morrison, Braelan Newman, Chloe Pearce, Morgan Renolds, Noah Sharpe, Jessica (Jess) Smart and Bridget Stackpole.

### **YEAR 10 DANCERS**

Sienna Babbage, Mikaylah Caracciolo. Taj Cooper, Lily-Grace De Zwart, Hugo Ernst-Russell, Maddison Fisher, Rocco Frediani, Xavier Gibson, Samuel Holzberger, Molly Hughes, Flynn Masterton, Zachary Medved, Ashlinn McLean, Ruby Monro, Blythe Nadorp-Daw, Chloe Nikolovski, Jack O'Toole, Ashton Smith, Pearl Southgate, Thomas Stevens, Ayshia-Mila Stromei and Alicia Wong.

### **YEAR 9 DANCERS**

Daisyboo Allen, Connor Bevis, Ryan Black, Banjo Chiron, Martin Cohen, Chloe Dan, Darcy Donoghue, Matilda (Tilly) Eardly, Emogen Gough, Sharon Jiang, Keira Lee, Desiree Li, Giselle Mammone, Eliza McTaggart, Mishka Oehlers, Jasmine Pye, Ella Tan and Jocelyn Wee Ching Wen

### **YEAR 8 DANCERS**

Christina Ivas, Nico Lundqvist, Mika Reiss, Milla Rigazzi, Misa Titcher, Annabelle Tran and William (Will) Wiseman.

### **YEAR 7 DANCERS**

Ella Eastoe, Sheydin Glynn, Sean Yuet (Natalie) Hew, Chloe Lahood, Giorgiana Ridolfi, Lexi Robertson, Charlotte Trapani, Ebony Veitch and Han (Maggie) Zhao.

## CREDITS

### Principal

Hilary Bland

### Assistant Principals

Donatella Mannolini

Michael Sargeant

James Rust

### Head of Dance

Steven McTaggart

### Dance Staff

Anne Butler

Fiona Munroe

Jack Egan

Janne Blanch

Kynan Jones

Leana Simper

Madeleine Eastoe

Olga Polyetayeva

Nicole Melloy

Ross Hannaford

Sela Kiek-Callan

Timothy Harbour

### Production Manager

Daniel Holden

### Stage Manager

Isabella Stephens

### Lighting Design

Tim Newman

### Lighting Operator

Kane Wilson

### Wardrobe Direction

Fiona Munroe

### Design & Photography

Dylan Breninger

### Costuming Support

Wei Wei McKercher,

Janne Blanch

& Danielle Carbone

### Parent Helpers

Naomi Gladman

Megan Medved

Claire Hughes

Tracey Glynn

Lea Black

Lisa Stackpole

Leanne Smith

Kerry Newman

### VCASS Staff

Adrian Bowler

Aidan Boase

Andrew Landrigan

Anne Lewitzka

Bridget Higgins

Christine Paraskeva

Christopher Button

Claire Di Lallo

Dermot Tutty

Eden Greskie

Elizabeth Townshend

Felicity Torrisi

Gobitha Gowrishan

Goran Banyai

Grace Cloney

Hakan Benli

Hannah Barbour Woods

Harry Boyd-Gerny

Ian Whitehurst

James Le Fevre

James Sherlock

Jenny Purcell

Jennifer Gillan

Jess Casey

Julie Haskell

Kathy Zhao

Kelly Sullivan

Kerri Redfern

Kiara Williams

Lanie Tobias

Leonie Perry

Lis Viggers

Louise Howlett

Luke Burgess

Nicholas Heynsbergh

Nicole Demasi

Oksana Kozlova

Penelope Webster

Rod Morrison

Rosemary Richards

Sarah Cathcart

Sarah Coleman

Sara McKenzie

Sean Peoples

Silvana Rossington

Stacy Mitchell

Steven Thorne

Stewart Kelly

Stuart Campbell

Rachelle Simm

Tara Daniel

Theo Buskes

Wendy Campbell

Zac Koukoravas

### Featured Dancers

**Front Cover** | Zac Purves

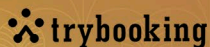
**Back Cover** | Mia Mangano

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