VCASS | DANCE | 2024

MAY 15 - 16 | 6 & 8 PM

VCASS STUDIO THEATRE

57 MILES STREET, SOUTHBANK









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Steven McTaggart HEAD OF DANCE

Welcome to EIDOS, our first dance show of 2024.

The title of this season references concepts and ideas, specifically those which drive choreographers and dancers to communicate and connect with their audiences.

It is wonderful helping our dancers discover so many new styles of choreography, spanning almost two centuries! This aesthetic exposure is both rewarding and challenging for the students, building confidence in their ability to tackle the breadth of work within the dance industry today.

Each work allows the students' passion for dance shine through, and I thank the VCASS dance team for their expertise in bringing these eclectic works to life.

We hope you enjoy EIDOS, danceworks past and current.

La Bayadère

Choreography | Natalia Makarova after Marius Petipa

| Restaged by Fiona Munroe and Madeleine Eastoe

Music | Excerpts from Kingdom of the Shades Act 2 of La Bayadère

by Ludwig Minkus

Dancers | Years 10 & 11

Choreographic note:

An excerpt from the Kingdom of the Shades in Act 2 of the ballet La Bayadère, this mesmerising technical display represents the hallucination of Prince Solor, one of the main characters. The dancers drift onto the stage, like smoke, gradually filling the space with graceful configurations.

Dreaming to Forget

Choreography | Sela Kiek-Callan, Joseph Newton-Keogh and Dancers

Music | Cage then Brick and Hammered by Hidden Orchestra

Dancers | Year 12

Choreographic note:

This is an excerpt from the work currently being created for the 2024 Major Dance Performance. The starting point for this piece is the idea of resilience and how we individually and collectively discover ways to recover and regenerate after seismic life events.

VCE Skills Solo

Solo 1 | May 15 @ 6pm & May 16 @ 8pm

Choreography | Sharon Jiang

Music | The Invincible Castle by Gabriel Saban & Tian Bo

Solo 4 | May 15 @ 8pm & May 16 @ 6pm

Choreography | Jocelyn Wee Ching Wen

Music | Flight by Hidden Orchestra

La Sylphide

Choreography | After August Bournonville

staged by Janne Blanch

Music | Excerpt from Act 2 of La Sylphide

by Herman Severin Løvenskiold

Dancers | Year 9

Choreographic note:

La Sylphide is a romantic ballet in two acts choreographed in 1836 by renowned Danish Ballet Master, August Bournonville, making it one of the world's oldest surviving ballets. This excerpt is from the Sylphs' scene in Act 2

Cycles

Choreography | Steven McTaggart and Dancers

| after David Parsons Round My World

Music | We Insist by Zoe Keating

Dancers | Year 10

Choreographic note:

Round my world inspired this collaborative choreography with the Year 10 dancers. It pivots, turns, swings, rotates, curves and spirals in all manner of circles, representing connections and pathways that weave through our lives.

Excerpt from The Nutcracker

Choreography | After Sir Peter Wright, staged by Madeleine Eastoe

Music | Excerpts from Act 1 of The Nutcracker

| by Pyotr Tchaikovsky

Dancers | Year 8

Choreographic note:

Sir Peter Wright's interpretation of the well known ballet *The Nutcracker* is one of the most beautiful versions still performed to this day. This excerpt, adapted from Act 1, is centred around the older children and Clara, before they receive their presents on Christmas Eve from the magical character, Drosselmeyer.

After Rooster

Choreography | Sèla Kiek-Callan after Christopher Bruce

Music | Sympathy for the Devil by The Rolling Stones

Dancers | Year 11

Choreographic note:

This piece is a celebration of the Swinging Sixties. Sharp-suited and sassy, women and men perform virtuoso courtship dances.

Tarantella

Choreography | Vaganova, restaged by Fiona Munroe

Music | Traditional (Italian)

Dancers | Year 7

Choreographic note:

The *Tarantella* is a popular Italian dance and is even considered by many as the 'dance of Italy'. The dance is both lively and graceful, made up of light, quick steps mixed with passionate gestures. Its origin dates back to the Middle Ages.

Legend states that between the 15th and 17th centuries an epidemic of tarantism swept through Southern Italy. It was believed to be a result of being bitten by the poisonous tarantula spider. Once bitten, the victim would fall into a trance that could only be cured by frenzied dancing. People surrounded the victim while musicians played mandolins, guitars and tambourines in search of the correct rhythm. Each beat would have a different effect on the victim causing various movements and gestures. Once the correct rhythm was found it was almost certain that the tarantism would be cured!

VCE Skills Solo

Solo 2 | May 15 @ 6pm & May 16 @ 8pm

Choreography | Chantal Banks

Music | Start again by Luca D'Alberto

Solo 4 | May 15 @ 8pm & May 16 @ 6pm

Choreography | Kiera Lee

Music | September by Sparky Deathcap

Molecular Magic - Whirlpool

Choreography | Sela Kiek-Callan and Dancers

Music | Race to Feed from the movie score for Blue Planet II

by Hanz Zimmer, Jacob Shae and David Flemming

Dancers | Year 9

Choreographic note:

This is an excerpt from a work we are creating for the 2024 Malthouse Season. This section explores the interaction of different states of matter.

Do I have your Attention

Choreography | Etienne Khoo

Music | Cartier by Dopebwoy

| Not Nice by Party Next Door

| Do I Have Your Attention by Todrick Hall

| Abusadamenta by Mac Gussta & MC DG

Dancers | Years 10, 11 & 12 Jazz Elective

Choreographic note:

Thanks to Etienne for this work, which celebrates the style and energy of street and hip-hop dance culture, bringing out the charisma and power of our senior Jazz elective class.

Molecular Magic - Scientists

Choreography | Sela Kiek-Callan, Steven McTaggart and Dancers

Music | Hexadecimals from the film The Martian

| by Harry Gregson-Williams

Dancers | Year 7

Choreographic note:

This is an excerpt from a work we are creating for the 2024 Malthouse Season. This section was stimulated by the idea of teams of scientists collaborating to make new discoveries in molecular biology.

VCE Skills Solo

Solo 3 | May 15 @ 6pm & May 16 @ 8pm

Choreography | Ryan Black

Music | East London Street by the Hidden Orchestra

Solo 6 | May 15 @ 8pm & May 16 @ 6pm

Choreography | Connor Bevis

Music | Rain, in Your Black Eyes by Ezio Bosso

Tribe

Choreography | Steven McTaggart and Dancers

Music | Mbira by AFG Sound Alliance

Dancers | Year 8

Choreographic note:

This work with the Year 8 dancers plays with their imaginative connection to nature and its diverse animals, as realised through their fun, creativity and collaboration.

Linea Adora

Choreography | Tim Harbour

Music | Movements 3 and 4 of Four Movements for Two Pianos

| by Philip Glass

Dancers | Years 10, 11 & 12

Choreographic note:

This excerpt is from a longer work made for Singapore Ballet in 2018, commissioned to celebrate their 30th anniversary. *Linea Adora* means 'the glory of lines' and endeavours to create drama through form.

Flashback

Choreography | Nicole Melloy

Music | What a Feeling by Irene Cara, Maniac by Michael Sembello

| Stayin" Alive by The Bee Gees, Disco Inferno by The Trammps

| Footloose by Kenny Loggins

Dancers | Years 7, 8 & 9

Choreographic note:

The junior cohort are such an enthusiastic bunch, fearless in their desire to learn and brimming with personality. They have been the perfect vehicle on which to create a piece that pays tribute to some of the glorious movie musicals that came out in the 70s and 80s, pioneering a whole new era of music, dance, and fashion. From disco balls to leg warmers, it's been a joy to pay homage to this fun and formative time in history with such talented dancers.

Higher

Choreography | Kim Adam

Music | Higher by Michael Buble

Dancers | Years 10, 11 & 12

Choreographic note:

Higher is a dynamic dance performance that pushes the boundaries of movement and style. The choreography has worked to blend the dancers strong technical abilities with sophistication and artistry.



2024 VCASS Dance Students

Year 7

Hamish West
Harry McNamara
Huon Parfitt
Khloe Liu
Lana Dafnias
Luke Holt
Mia-Jane Kelly
Neve Cope
Oscar Wang
Sienna Lee
Sienna Lopes
Sunnie Barr
Yuri Ko

Year 8

Ashley Gillespie Ava Del Rosario Benson Flores Ethan Taylor Grace Ivas Harrison Llyod Hayden Warner Jasper Zajacek-Tieu Lara Kafkis Lukas Elliott Makayla Hughes Sora Takeda

Year 9

Abigail McTaggart
Ally Gillespie
Charlotte Trapani
Ebony Veitch
Eden-Rose Driver
Ella Eastoe
Giorgiana Ridolfi
Isabella Newcombe
Krychel Teng
Logan Taylor
Sean Yuet Hew
Sheydin Glynn

Year 10

Aaron David Elise Huynh Christina Ivas Nico Lundqvist Chloe Moulton Chloe Petrovic Mika Reiss Milla Rigazzi Misa Titcher Annabelle Tran Chloe Valentine William Wiseman Millie Wood Elle Wootton

Year 11

Chantal Banks Connor Bevis Rvan Black Dimitri Bregianis **Banjo Chiron** Chloe Daley Chloe Dan Darcy Donoghue **Emogen Gough Sharon Jiang Abbey Jones** Keira Lee Desiree Li Eliza McTaggart Mishka Oehlers Jasmine Pye Flla Tan Jocelyn Wee Yolanda Zhu

Year 12

Sienna Babbage Mikaylah Caracciolo Tai Cooper Maddison Fisher Rocco Frediani Xavier Gibson Samuel Holzberger Flynn Masterton Naomi McKav Ashlinn McLean Tawhia McMath Zachary Medved Mikavla Milner Ruby Monro Chloe Nikolovski Jack O'Toole Ashton Smith Pearl Southgate Avshia-Mila Stromei Alicia Wong



SAVE THE DATES

THEATRE ARTS | THE TRIAL

29 & 30 May @ Chapel Off Chapel

VISUAL ARTS | MID YEAR EXHIBITION

18, 19 & 20 June @ VCA Artspace

MUSIC | CHORAL FANTASY

27 August @ Melbourne Recital Centre

DANCE | MAJOR PERFORMANCE

29, 30 and 31 August @ Malthouse Theatre

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VICTORIAN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS SECONDARY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL **Hilary Bland**

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Joel Batalha, Donatella Mannolini, James Rust & Karen Schofield

HEAD OF DANCE Steven McTaggart

DANCE STAFF

Anne Butler, Fiona Munroe, Jack Egan, Janne Blanch Joseph Newton-Keogh, Kim Adams, Kynan Jones, Leana Simper, Madeleine Eastoe, Nicole Melloy, Olga Polyetayeva, Ross Hannaford, Sela Kiek-Callan & Timothy Harbour MUSIC ACCOMPANIMENT Olga Polyetayeva **DESIGN AND PHOTOGRAPHY Dylan Breninger**

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