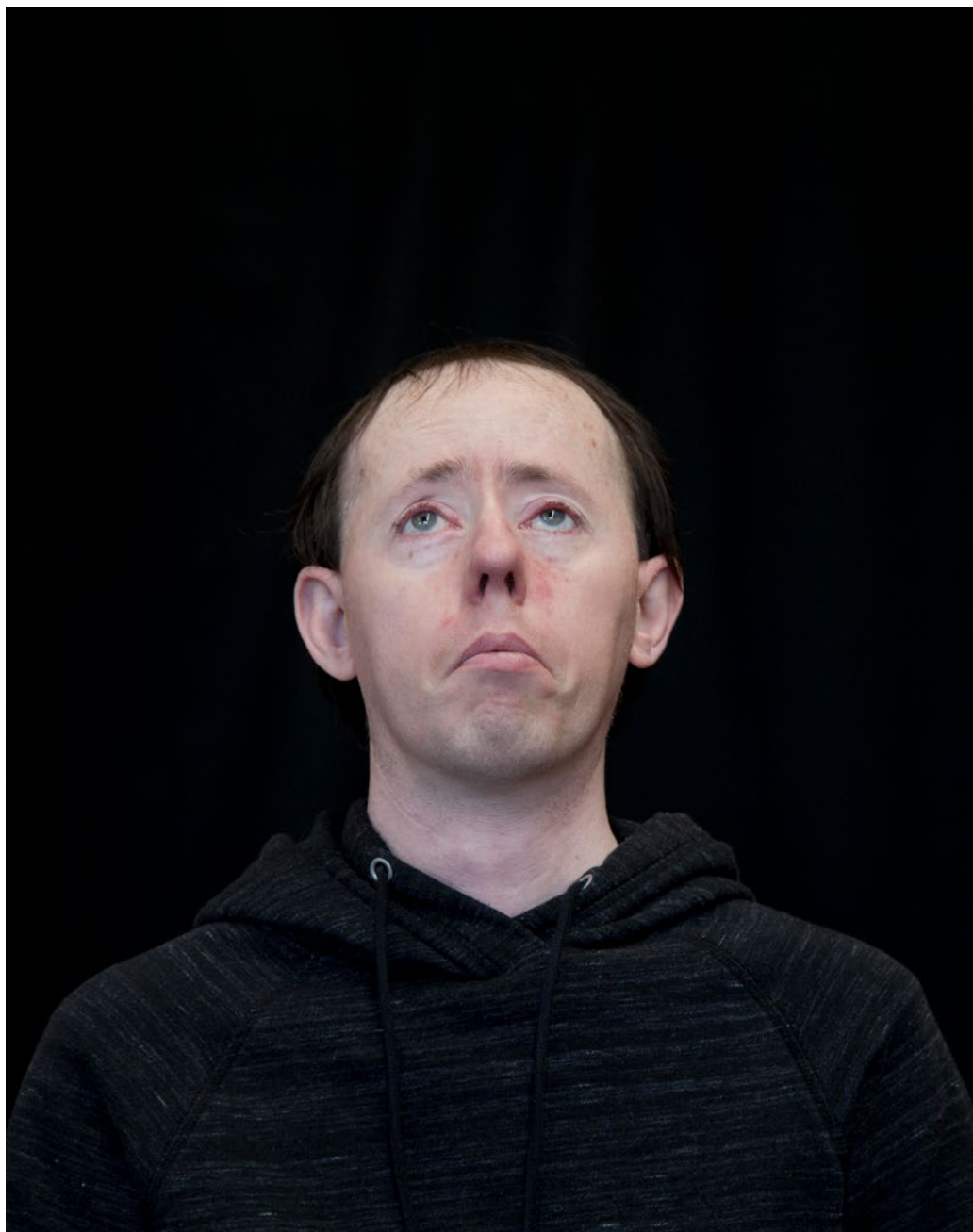



2019 Year in Review

BACK
TO
BACK
THEATRE



We, Back to Back Theatre, acknowledge that we work on land for which the Wadawurrung people are the traditional owners and custodians.

We pay our respects to their ancestors past, present and future and commit ourselves to work for reconciliation and justice for indigenous people.



A portrait of a man with a thick, reddish-brown beard and curly brown hair, looking directly at the camera. He is wearing a grey t-shirt with white text and a logo. The background is solid black.

NORTH ADAMS, MA | 2018
**THEATRE
LAB AT
MASS MOCA**
sundance

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“Back to Back Theatre is despicable. It’s beastly. It’s contagious. Get this filth off our stages. This is rubbish theatre. Too many words. These guys are a pack of punks. They don’t know what they are doing, they forget their lines. They just stand around like they want someone to care for them. They are dismissible. They’re like children. I reckon puppets could do better than those disabled people. Racist, ableist, hopeless, degrading, bad acting, poor music, pathetic lighting, shit costumes, and totally bad acting. That acting was just totally bad. The direction is not so well directed. The Director doesn’t know what he is doing, drinks too much coffee and he’s boring. It’s like they pretend that they are disabled. All the actors are lip synched. Dirty.

— 2019 Green Room award winner of ‘Best Ensemble’,
reviewing themselves

“An hour with this ensemble arguably offers more wisdom, and more stringent argument, than anything in politics, though barbed irony is never far away.

— Cameron Woodhead for *The Age*

“If you have any preconceived notions about the expressive capacities of “neurodivergent” people, this ensemble will explode them.

— Don Aucoin for *Boston Globe*

“Reporting that the ensemble are crackerjack at what they do is flat-out understatement... Theirs is an insightful pronouncement worthy of the kind of standing ovation that nowadays has become ho-hum elsewhere.

— David Finkle for *NY Stage Review*

“The power of Back to Back’s work is always in the performances... Each actor brings to their performance a very particular and perilous sense of exposure. There is no question, at any time, that they aren’t acting, but their disabilities also force them to be wholly themselves on stage, something they share with only the very best actors.

— Alison Croggan for *The Saturday Paper*

“This troupe utilizes characteristics that could typically set them apart in outstanding ways to create brilliant theatrical experiences. Back to Back Theatre is comprised of actors who have transformed what has often been or could be perceived as obstacles if not insurmountable challenges to a stage career, into singular gifts for their ability as storytellers.

— Cindy Sibilsky for *Broadway World*

FROM THE CHAIR

To you—a friend and follower of Back to Back Theatre—it is my pleasure to share this 2019 Year in Review.

2019 concluded a decade of spectacular milestones and achievements for Back to Back Theatre.

From 2009 to 2019, the company has undertaken 71 national and 87 international seasons of its work. This includes presentations and screenings at the world's preeminent contemporary arts festivals and venues. In the same decade, community and education workshops have been delivered to approximately 24,000 community members and students, with a focus on artistic excellence.

In 2019, Back to Back Theatre continued to inspire and lead with a robust, expansive program.

In September we premiered our new major work, *THE SHADOW WHOSE PREY THE HUNTER BECOMES*, in Sydney ahead of seasons in Geelong and Melbourne. *GANESH VERSUS THE THIRD REICH* entered its ninth year of touring with a season in Bendigo in November, not long after the announcement of State Government funding for a radical script adaptation to turn this superb play into a feature film.

Our first foray into TV, *ODDLANDS*, screened nationally on ABC TV in March, before going on to win the Audience Choice Award at Oskaa Bright Film Festival in Bristol in the United Kingdom. Opening opportunities to author tales of communities across the globe, *THE DEMOCRATIC SET* took us from communities in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong to the United Kingdom.

Our COMMUNITY PROGRAMS grew throughout 2019, with *THEATRE OF SPEED* as ever a pillar of our programming. We introduced *SPEED TRIALS*: the opportunity for artistically enthusiastic people with disabilities to engage with us further; and Back to Back Theatre's highly anticipated annual weekend workshop, *CAMP – COME AND MAKE PERFORMANCE*, once again proved enormously popular for artists with and without disabilities.

Following the 2018 launch of our EDUCATION PROGRAM, 2019 saw intensive school-based RADIAL residencies come into being with two local Geelong schools, and we delved further into the education realm, facilitating inclusive theatre workshops with students and teachers from schools in the Greater Geelong region.

Our artistic vision extends our momentum, maturity and ambition to make theatre of global significance; We seek to create a national and international artistic legacy by provoking genuine cultural and social change, re-defining possibility in theatrical practice, and thus, in society. It is not possible without your support.

I wish to extend my gratitude to the fearless ensemble, staff and collaborators, community members, families and carers. We could not make our shared work without you all.

To those who sat in the seats as we performed; partnered to present with us; were curious about our work; financially supported us; and you, the reader of this: thank you for your continued support to realise the vision of our ensemble and to deliver our programs in theatres, on screens, in communities and in schools across Australia and around the world.

Jann Kinsela, Chair

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Back to Back Theatre operates with enlightened self-interest. We seek long-term benefits as opposed to short-term gain. For society to survive and flourish we recognise that it is best to act with a collective sensibility.

We honour reciprocity, moral obligation, duty towards community, and trust.

Back to Back Theatre pursues a model of equality that values diversity. We strive to protect otherness as an asset. We champion an individual's particular gifts and recognise that if these gifts are not nurtured and seen by others, the whole of society will suffer. Our cultural ambition is to transform ourselves and others.

The world can be made and unmade. Theatre by definition is constructive.

A new Back to Back Theatre work is an externalisation of our artists' imagination. Their inner world becomes shareable and for our audiences, transformative. Bringing a new theatre work into being is a reminder to our audience that they can affect change and make the world anew.

The cure for distraction is to question attention. The antidote to helplessness is action. To conquer despair, we should enact imagination.

Our imagination prevails over our skill.

The working relationship between our artists and collaborators depends on demolishing forms of authority. The company needs something more sustaining than authority. We prefer faith.

**Bruce Gladwin, Artistic Director & Co-CEO
and Alice Nash, Executive Producer & Co-CEO**

THE SHADOW WHOSE PREY THE HUNTER BECOMES

Authors Mark Deans, Michael Chan, Bruce Gladwin, Simon Laherty, Sarah Mainwaring, Scott Price, Sonia Teuben **Composition** Luke Howard Trio—Daniel Farrugia, Luke Howard, Jonathon Zion **Performers** Mark Deans, Michael Chan, Simon Laherty, Sarah Mainwaring, Scott Price **Director** Bruce Gladwin **Screen Design** Rhian Hinkley, lowercase **Lighting Design** Andrew Livingston, bluebottle **Sound Design** Lachlan Carrick **Script Consultant** Melissa Reeves **Costume Design** Shio Otani **Translation** Jennifer Ma **Stage Manager** Alana Hoggart **Sound Engineer** Thomas Campbell **Production Manager** Bao Ngouansavanh **Artist Support** Erin Watson, Nikki Watson **Creative Development** Michael Chan, Mark Cuthbertson, Mark Deans, Rhian Hinkley, Bruce Gladwin, Simon Laherty, Pippin Latham, Andrew Livingston, Sarah Mainwaring, Victoria Marshall, Scott Price, Brian Tilley, Sonia Teuben **Producers** Alison Harvey, Tanya Bennett **Executive Producer** Alice Nash

Weaving a narrative through human rights, sexual politics, and the projected dominance of artificial intelligence, **THE SHADOW WHOSE PREY THE HUNTER BECOMES** is a sly theatrical revelation inspired by mistakes, mis-readings, mis-leadings and misunderstanding, **SHADOW** reminds us that none of us are self-sufficient and all of us are responsible.

Three years of intermittent, informal and formal creative development culminated in 2019 with the triumphant world premiere of our major new work, **THE SHADOW WHOSE PREY THE HUNTER BECOMES**, at Sydney's Carriageworks in September, followed by performances, presented by Geelong Arts Centre at Back to Back Theatre's Studio, culminating with a two-week season at Arts Centre Melbourne as part of Melbourne International Arts Festival.

THE SHADOW WHOSE PREY THE HUNTER BECOMES has been created for spaces big and small, from the grandest theatrical settings, to small community centres in rural Australia. We will aim to tour this work widely to audiences for years into the future.

“It's a mark of Back to Back's assurance and skill that they're able to eschew showiness and instead focus solely on the qualities that have made their work utterly compelling. It's never safe theatre. Back to Back's work is at once gentle and brutal, welcoming and full of spikes. I've not seen a Back to Back show that hasn't sought to revolutionise our assumptions about what theatre, performance and life can be.

— Alison Croggan, *The Saturday Paper*

“Always funny, always immensely serious, always provoking us more astutely than any other poet or playwright manages to do. I came away with understanding this is a show about humanity of the largest and most generous scale.

— Audience member, Melbourne



We make theatre to risk finding out what we want, to question the assumptions we hold about ourselves and others and to champion our audience's humanity. Our intention is to make theatre works the like of which have never been seen. We believe invention is the essential tool in the search for meaning and the betterment of our shared experience.

Our job as theatre makers is to nourish our audience. We unapologetically seek to encourage mystery, belief and hope. We want to place our audience in contact with life itself.

Engaging with Back to Back Theatre can be profound. Our productions and processes are redemptive. We seek to make theatre that reminds us of sensitivities we might have lost, something beyond words, or unacknowledged.

GANESH VERSUS THE THIRD REICH

Director, Devisor & Design Bruce Gladwin **Performed by** Mark Deans, Simon Laherty, Scott Price, Brian Tilley & David Woods **Additional Performance** Georgina Naidu **Devisors** Mark Deans, Marcia Ferguson, Bruce Gladwin, Nicki Holland, Simon Laherty, Sarah Mainwaring, Scott Price, Kate Sulan, Brian Tilley & David Woods **Lighting Design** Andrew Livingston, bluebottle **Design & Set Construction** Mark Cuthbertson **Design & Animation** Rhian Hinkley **Composer** Jóhann Jóhannsson **Mask Design & Construction** Sam Jinks & Paul Smits **Costume Design** Shio Otani **Translation** Karen Witthuhn & Greg Bailey **Script Consultant** Melissa Reeves **Creative Development Actors** Brian Lipson, James Saunders & Sonia Teuben **Production Manager** Bao Ngouansavanh **Sound Engineer** Marco Cher Gibard **Stage Manager** Alana Hoggart **Ensemble Support** Nikki Watson **Producer** Alice Fleming **Executive Producer** Alice Nash

The story begins with the elephant-headed God Ganesh travelling through Nazi Germany to reclaim the Swastika, an ancient Hindu symbol. As this intrepid hero embarks on his journey a second narrative is revealed: the actors themselves begin to feel the weighty responsibility of storytellers and question the ethics of cultural appropriation.

Since premiering in 2011, GANESH VERSUS THE THIRD REICH has been performed in 35 cities worldwide, garnering eight national and international awards, including the 2012 Helpmann Award for Best Australian Play.

In 2019, GANESH VERSUS THE THIRD REICH returned to Australian soil following a six-year interlude, with performances in Bendigo's Ulumbarra Theatre in November, entering the work into its ninth year of touring.

The ambition for GANESH continues to grow, with the announcement in August by Victorian Premier, The Honourable Daniel Andrews, of the Victorian Government's investment towards script development for a radical feature film adaptation of the award-winning work. Work will begin on the script in 2020.

ODDLANDS

Executive Producers Debbie Lee, Julie Eckersley **Producers** Brendan Campbell, Stephen Corvini, Alice Nash **Executive Producer & Head of ABC Arts** Mandy Chang **Adelaide Film Festival Director** Amanda Duthie **Writer / Director** Bruce Gladwin **Script Producer** Warren Clarke **Director of Photography** Matthew Temple **Production Designer** Jo Briscoe **Costume Designer** Aphrodite Kondos **Makeup & Hair Designer** John Logue **Editor** Daniela Rauli **Composer** Joff Bush **Artist Support** Nikki Watson **Lead Actors** Tam: Sonia Teuben, Des: Simon Laherty, Animal: Jacek Koman, Charles: Robin Ramsay, The Hunter: Brian Tilley, Mark: Mark Deans, The Voice of Civix: Belinda McClory **Supporting Actors** Joshua Armour, Phoebe Baker, Adam Berry, Greg Bird, Lochie Campbell, Michael Chan, Robbie Croft, Felix Figaira, Chris Hansen, Emma J Hawkins, Sarah Mainwaring, Francesa Neri, Neville Porter, Scott Price, Tamika Simpson, Jessica Walker, Jillian Waite, Allan V Watt, Liam White, Nicholas Walsh, Nikita Vietch

Back to Back Theatre took to the small screen in 2019, with the ODDLANDS TV Pilot airing nationally on ABC TV in March to a viewership of 145,000 people, with a further 4,000 streaming the episode later on iView, the greatest single audience a work of Back to Back Theatre has ever reached.

The film has since been screened in festival settings nationally and internationally, most notably at Oskaa Bright Film Festival in the United Kingdom where it received the Audience Choice award in November.

ODDLANDS sees Des and Tam, members of a clean-up crew in a strange toxic wasteland, stumble upon what may be the last human survivor. These determined but lowly Level 7s will have to decide between saving humanity or saving themselves.

ODDLANDS is a story about two unlikely heroes who manage to find a little hope in the strangest of places. The question is, what will they do when they find it?

Our plans for ODDLANDS are far from complete, with scripts for episodes 2 and 3 completed in 2019, and script development for further episodes underway.

THE DEMOCRATIC SET

Original Concept, Design/Direction
Bruce Gladwin **Original Set Design**
Mark Cuthbertson **Original Videography**
Rhian Hinkley

THE DEMOCRATIC SET Calgary & Perth

Director Ingrid Voorendt **Ensemble**
Scott Price (Calgary), Sarah Mainwaring
(Perth) **Videographer** Samuel James
Production Manager Richard Vabre
Producer Alison Harvey

THE DEMOCRATIC SET Hong Kong

Director Bruce Gladwin **Ensemble**
Michael Chan **Videographer** Rhian
Hinkley **Production Manager** Bao
Ngouansavanh **Producer** Alice Nash

In 2019 our live performance / film / community residency
THE DEMOCRATIC SET entered its eleventh year of travels.

Authoring a unique visual tale of the community in which it is created,
THE DEMOCRATIC SET invites audiences to explore what an
uncensored space means to them. The setting and starting point
is a neutral room with two opposing doors.

THE DEMOCRATIC SET began the year in Calgary, Canada in January
with High Performance Rodeo and One Yellow Rabbit, before its first
outing at a school at Perth's All Saints College in March.

In June the premiere of THE DEMOCRATIC SET's second instalment
with Bristol's In Between Time Festival, which was created in 2018,
premiered to audiences before the set travelled to Hong Kong's West
Kowloon Cultural District in August. The outcomes of this stunning work
in Hong Kong will take place in 2020.

RADIAL

RADIAL Northern Bay College

Co-Director Tamara Searle **Co-Director**
& **Videographer** Rhian Hinkley **Performers**
Blade Pruckl, Conor Mulilo, Deekon
Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Hicks, Eros
McGeachin, Hanna Day, Jahnaye Buntine,
Katee Lee Moait, Misheck Bigirimana,
Pauline Mulilo, Ruby Lewis, Sharli Lloyd,
Waimana Manukau, Whetu Manukau,
Yasmin Yaqoobi, Zaiden Stafford, Zanda Day
Song Composer Harry Covill **Workshop**
& **Artistic Collaborator** Liam White
Costume Designer Adele Vaoce
Production Manager Bao Ngouansavanh
Producer Nikki Watson **Production Crew**
Adam Marsh, Beth Weatherly **Performing**
Arts & Extended School Program
Coordinator Amanda Baulch

RADIAL Barwon Valley

Co-Director Ingrid Voorendt **Co-Director**
& **Videographer** Rhian Hinkley **Performers**
Aaron Mc Cullum, Aayla Fry, Alex Powell,
Beau Smith, Claudia Laurenti, Jacob
Collins, Jasmine Swindells, Sophie
Kocovski **Song Composer** Harry Covill
Workshop & Artistic Collaborator Phoebe
Baker **Costume Designer** Bridget Milesi
Production Manager Bao Ngouansavanh
Production Crew Liam Way **Wardrobe**
& **Props Assistant** Kirstin Honey
Secondment Harry Harvey **Learning**
Specialist Sue Angelovski **Producer** Nikki
Watson

RADIAL's clearly defined artistic process creates space for the
explorations of its subjects, capturing the beautiful idiosyncrasies
of people, bodies, communities and landscapes, from all angles.

In 2019 RADIAL IN SCHOOLS began with local Northern Bay College
across semester one, and Barwon Valley School in semester two,
creating two unique and moving portraits of each school community.

In February 2019, RADIAL Dundee, created in 2018 with the National
Theatre of Scotland, was screened across the UK, with a feature on
the UK's BBC Scotland coinciding with the release of 'Remember Us',
the soundtrack to RADIAL Dundee and first ever release of a music
single by the National Theatre of Scotland.

Throughout the year, former incarnations of RADIAL screened in
Australia and further afield, including in New York as Part of the Segal
Film Festival on Theatre and Performance in March, and the UK's
Oska Bright Film Festival in October. The full collection of RADIAL films
was also included in Flux, an exhibition of contemporary visual art by
prominent d/Deaf and disabled artists in Canberra's Belconnen Arts
Centre from November.



Back to Back Theatre is committed to staying local in a global space. We place value on being in direct dialogue with our community at large, and with the people in it.

Our COMMUNITY & EDUCATION PROGRAMS are integral to the innovative work we make: we draw on the expertise of community members, students and educators, their ideas, skill sets, politics and knowledge. We designate them as thought leaders, trusted advisors and experts. We ask for artistic feedback alongside their gauge on social, cultural and environmental temperatures.

THEATRE OF SPEED

THEATRE OF SPEED Members Ben Oakes, Breanna Delio, Jessica Walker, Kristie Brockett, Laura Berrisford, Liam White, Mark Deans, Michael Chan, Nikita Veitch, Phoebe Baker, Robert Croft, Sarah Mainwaring, Scott Price, Simon Laherty, Tamika Simpson, Victoria Marshall **Guest Artists** Emilie Collier, Ingrid Voorendt, Jackson Castiglione, James Pratt, Leisa Shelton, Maude Davey, Miriam Boolsten, Suzanne Inglebrecht, Tamara Searle, Tom Middleditch, Zoe Barry **Curation** Ingrid Voorendt, Tamara Searle **Artist Support** Ingrid Voorendt, Kirstin Honey, Tamara Searle

THEATRE OF SPEED is an experimental laboratory for young people with intellectual disabilities in Geelong, an environment that achieves capacity building outcomes with an intensive work and training focus.

A point of intersection between established and emerging artists and a crucible for new ideas and inter-disciplinary practice, THEATRE OF SPEED meets weekly, and is a place of great freedom, where trouble and disruption seek to rupture what is thought possible.

Daring and ruthless, this experimental art-making laboratory embraced local and international guest artists throughout the year as they developed DREAMS FOR SARAH and USE YOUR WORDS, and presented JACKO. THEATRE OF SPEED also shared in Open Workshops with Soapbox Theatre and Geelong Grammar School.

THEATRE OF SPEED held two public presentations of works in development in 2019, with MOUNTAINS RISE for Geelong After Dark in May attended by over 2,400 people, and a work-in-progress showing of DREAMS FOR SARAH as part of International Day of People with a Disability in November.

CAMP (COME AND MAKE PERFORMANCE)

CAMP 2019 Guest Artists Ahmarnya Price, Alex Walker, Amelia Ducker, Daniel Koerner, Emma J Hawkins, Leisa Shelton, Liz Dunn, Maude Davey, Miranda Nation, Mish Griggior, Natalie Rose, Paea Leach, Roslyn Oades, Sarah Mainwaring, Scott Price, Shian Law, Zoe Barry **CAMP 2019 Support** Julie Fryman, Shannon Quinn, Sue Angelovski, Travis Don **CAMP 2019 Curator** Ingrid Voorendt

CAMP (COME AND MAKE PERFORMANCE), Back to Back Theatre's annual weekend of theatre- and art-making workshops for people with and without disabilities, returned in March.

Championing an environment of creative exploration and investigation, CAMP featured a line-up of leading contemporary artists, delivering a range of workshops spanning burlesque, masked performance, multimedia technology, movement, soundscapes and more. 2019 also marked the first year that CAMP facilitated a dedicated youth stream, with a full day workshop offered on Sunday exclusively to high school aged students.

Increasing in popularity and scope each year, CAMP 2019 engaged 114 participants, 18 guest artists and 120 audience members for showings at the conclusion of each workshop, celebrating a weekend of ruthless creative curiosity.

MOUNTAINS RISE FOR GEELONG AFTER DARK

Concept/Development Ingrid Voordent,
Zoe Barry & Mark Cuthbertson

Performers Jessica Walker, Kristie
Brockett, Laura Berrisford, Liam White,
Mark Deans, Michael Chan, Nikita Veitch,
Phoebe Baker, Robert Croft, Sarah
Mainwaring, Scott Price, Simon Laherty,
Tamika Simpson, Victoria Marshall

The soundscape that we make is like a mountain being made. It is for the audience to imagine what's happening in the performance, without seeing it. It is a journey into people's dreams through sound and imagery and voices. We make the mountains rise.

In May, Back to Back Theatre opened its doors to the public for Geelong After Dark, the annual celebration of artistic exploration in the Geelong Arts Precinct. Held annually, the night is about entering and embracing the unknown.

Back to Back Theatre's activation for the evening, MOUNTAINS RISE, included a sound installation inspired by the mysteries of time, space and things that can't be seen, and the creation of a 25-metre visual arts laneway installation by artist and THEATRE OF SPEED member Robert Croft.

Visited by over 2,400 members of the public on the night, MOUNTAINS RISE layered recorded and live improvisation of sound and voices, by THEATRE OF SPEED to create a textured, other-worldly experience.

SPEED TRIALS

SPEED TRIAL Participants Bodhi Wood,
Corey Britten, Joshua Fullerton, Julia
Kennedy, Luke Craig

In the second half of the year, once per term, openings were made available for individuals who had connected with Back to Back Theatre previously, and expressed interest in engaging further to become involved in THEATRE OF SPEED.

The introduction of SPEED TRIALS marks a significant moment of growth in our COMMUNITY & EDUCATION PROGRAMS, and demand for access to our programs continues to grow, this is the first in a suite of extended programming Back to Back Theatre will seek to introduce over the coming years, creating more opportunities for engagement in the arts for all people.

VISITING ARTIST WEEK

Visiting Artists 2019 Cathy Hunt, Jay
Emmanuel, Laurel Green, Madeleine
Stewart, Miriam Boolsten, Naree Shields
Tamara Gazzard

In March, Back to Back Theatre hosted its third annual VISITING ARTISTS WEEK. Created in response to the many enquiries Back to Back Theatre receives, VISITING ARTISTS WEEK provides an exclusive insight into the company ethos, enabling both local and international artists to learn more about the important work of Back to Back Theatre, and engage in our processes.

The program is open on an invitational basis, and is offered freely to those who join us. In 2019, seven visiting artists attended: two international artists from Calgary & Copenhagen, three from Regional New South Wales, one from Perth and one from Melbourne.

Coinciding with CAMP, VISITING ARTIST WEEK provides an intensive schedule of discussions and sharing of artistic practice, culminating in a performance outcome with members of the ensemble and THEATRE OF SPEED.



EDUCATION

Curation Ahmarnya Price, Ingrid Voorendt, Tamara Searle **Producer** Nikki Watson **Collaborating Artists** Adele Varcoe, Bridget Milesi, Geelong Arts Centre, Harry Myers Covill, Liam White, Phoebe Baker, Rhian Hinkley, Sarah Mainwaring, Scott Price, Tom Middleditch, Zoe Barry

Back to Back Theatre's newly introduced and recently formalised EDUCATION PROGRAM continued to grow in 2019 with the inception of Extended School Residencies, Teacher Professional Development, School Showings, Career Nights, a dedicated CAMP Youth stream and One-Off Incursion-Excursion Workshops.

The extended RADIAL IN SCHOOLS residencies saw THEATRE OF SPEED participants Liam White and Phoebe Baker extend their professional practice by undertaking positions as workshop and artistic collaborators for individual 8-week residencies at local Northern Bay College and Barwon Valley School.

Together with students, through exploring movement, sound, improvisation and discussions on the future, dreams, rules, and super-powers, two unique and moving RADIAL films were created.

RADIAL Northern Bay College premiered at Back to Back Theatre to an audience of approximately 40 guests, before being screened at assemblies across all 5 Northern Bay College Campuses to around 2,000 students and teachers, while RADIAL Barwon Valley School premiered in November 2019 to an audience of around 80 friends, family, carers and staff.

On March 13, Back to Back Theatre hosted an inclusive theatre workshop at Geelong Arts Centre, aimed at providing teachers with insight into inclusive theatre making practices, and to demystify preconceptions around working with people with disabilities, while in October as part of the Poppykettle Multi-Arts Festival, Back to Back Theatre ran four 45-minute workshops with over 100 primary school aged children.

Our model for student engagement encourages inclusion and diverse representation of young people. The programs provide young Victorians, within formal and informal learning environments, with equitable access to the best artistic experiences that strengthen learning and enhance personal and social outcomes.

2019 EDUCATION SNAPSHOT

35

workshops
delivered

119

primary
students
engaged

175

secondary
students
engaged

96

teachers
connected

68

parents
connected

29

artists
facilitating

EXPOSURE

The enigmatic, unpolished and profound voice of the ensemble is a fundamental strength of Back to Back Theatre. In a noisy world, their voice has the capacity to transcend stage and smart screen, speaking to you in a rare and unexpected place.

We seek to connect audiences with our work, and with our company.
Our audiences alike, seek to connect with us.

IN 2019, OUR REACH WAS SIGNIFICANT:

158,965

audience
members

25,733

visits to the
Back to Back Theatre
website

7,925

followers across our
social media platforms

7,586

video views on Vimeo...
That's 19 days, 14 hours,
59 minutes, 02 seconds

129

media articles nationally
and internationally

9

reviews

WHERE WE WENT

8 – 12 January

THE DEMOCRATIC SET

Residency

Calgary, Canada

14 January

RADIAL THEATRE OF SPEED

Screening

London, United Kingdom

8 March

RADIAL Dundee

Screening

New York, USA

18 – 22 March

THE DEMOCRATIC SET

Residency

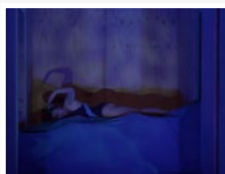
Perth, Australia

3 May

MOUNTAINS RISE

by THEATRE OF SPEED

Geelong, Australia



January

March

May

February

April



24 February

RADIAL Dundee

BBC Scotland Broadcast

United Kingdom

29 April – 20 June

RADIAL Northern Bay

College Residency

Geelong, Australia

24 February

RADIAL Dundee

– REMEMBER ME

Soundtrack Release with

BBC Scotland and National

Theatre of Scotland

United Kingdom

2 – 6 October

**THE SHADOW WHOSE PREY
THE HUNTER BECOMES**

Geelong, Australia

9 – 20 October

**THE SHADOW WHOSE PREY
THE HUNTER BECOMES**

Melbourne, Australia

24 – 26 August

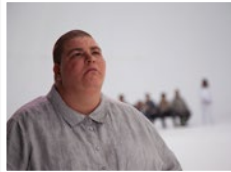
**THE DEMOCRATIC SET
Residency**

West Kowloon, Hong Kong

23 – 26 October

**ODDLANDS, RADIAL Dundee
& RADIAL Berlin Screening**

Brighton, United Kingdom



August

October

July

September

November

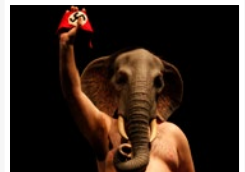


22 July – 24 October
**RADIAL Barwon Valley
School Residency**
Geelong, Australia



25 – 28 September
**THE SHADOW WHOSE PREY
THE HUNTER BECOMES**
Sydney, Australia

28 September
**THE DEMOCRATIC SET
Bristol Screening**
Bristol, United Kingdom



6 – 17 November
ODDLANDS Screening
Norwich, United Kingdom

19 – 20 November
**GANESH VERSUS
THE THIRD REICH**
Bendigo, Australia

29 November – 9 Feb 2020
RADIAL Flux Exhibition
Canberra, Australia

ADVOCACY & LEADERSHIP

NETWORKS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Australian Writers Guild
Committee for Geelong
Geelong Community Theatre Network
G21 Arts & Culture Pillar
Live Performance Australia
National Disability Services (NDS)
The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Arts Working Group
Theatre Network Australia (TNA)

SELECTED NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

A New Approach Policy Roundtable, Canberra
Committee for Geelong, Leaders for Geelong
Deakin University Occasional Address, Graduation Ceremony
for Faculty of Arts and Education, Geelong
National Arts Strategies CEO Program, New York
Performing Arts Exchange (PAX) 2019, Caloundra
Performing Arts Heritage Network (PAHN) Conference, Geelong

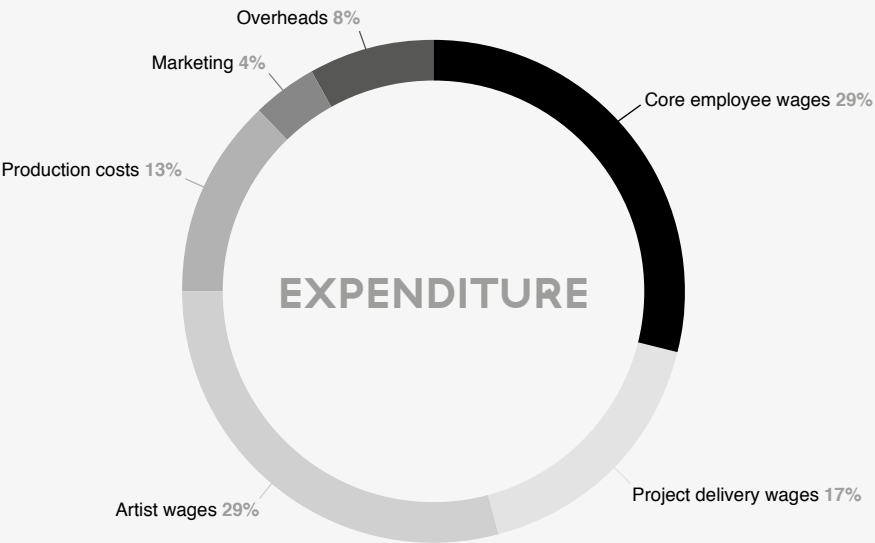
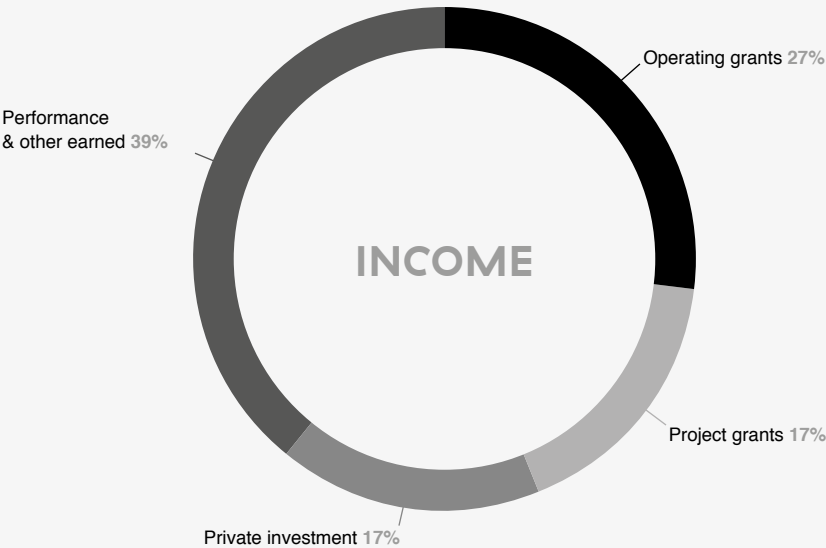
WORK EXPERIENCE / SECONDMENTS / MENTORSHIPS

Benjamin Mills
Breanna Deleo
Lisa de Kwant
Femke Heskes
Mayumi Hikida
Nargis

A portrait of a man with his eyes closed, wearing a blue jacket over a black t-shirt. The t-shirt has green pixelated text that reads "ASIMO" on the top line, "or" on the middle line, and "Caspian" on the bottom line. The background is black.

ASIMO
or
Caspian

FINANCE





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Mark Deans
Michael Chan (from July)
Sarah Mainwaring
Scott Price
Simon Laherty
Sonia Teuben
Victoria Marshall (to April)

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Meg Wardlaw
Rose Hiscock
Scott Price (Ensemble Representative)
Yoni Prior (Vice Chair)

STAFF

Ahmarnya Price	Acting Artistic Associate (from June)
Alice Fleming	Producer (from November)
Alice Nash	Executive Producer and Co-CEO
Ally Harvey	Senior Producer (to August)
Bao Ngouansavanh	Production Manager (from February)
Bruce Gladwin	Artistic Director and Co-CEO
Dans Sheehan	Production Manager (to February)
Ellen Fox	Partnerships Manager (from November)
Elysa McInnes	Marketing and Development Coordinator (from August)
Erin Watson	Company Manager
Georgia Whyte	Marketing Manager (to January)
Ingrid Voorendt	Artistic Associate
Jane Millet	Producer (from October)
Julie Fryman	Administration Assistant (to April)
Katherine Branch	Director of Marketing and Development (from February)
Kirstin Honey	Community Programs Assistant (from January)
Kim Lewis	Ensemble fitness
Laurena Purdie	Finance Assistant (to March)
Lisa Couper	General Manager (from February)
Maria Griffin	Executive Assistant (to June)
Merryn Humphreys	Finance and Operations Administrator (from July)
Melissa Stark	Partnerships Manager (to November, Maternity Leave)
Nicole Todhunter	Marketing Assistant (to August)
Nikki Watson	Community and Education Producer
Sue White	Finance Manager
Tanya Bennett	Senior Producer (from August)
Tamara Searle	Artistic Associate (to June, Maternity Leave)
Tegan Lang	Partnerships Manager (to December)
Tom Middleditch	Acting Artistic Associate (September to October)

GUEST ARTISTS & COLLABORATORS

Adele Varco
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Alana Hoggart
Alex Walker
Alice Pollard
Amelia Ducker
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Beth Weatherly
Brian Tilley
Bridget Milesi
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Laurel Green
Leisa Shelton
Liam Way
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Marco Cher Gibard
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Miranda Nation
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Mish Griggor
Naree Shields
Natalie Rose
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Shian Law
Shio Otani
Sonia Teuben
Sophie O'Brien
Sue Angelovski
Suzanne Ingelbrecht
Tamara Gazzard
Tamara Searle
Tamika Simpson
Thomas Campbell
Tom Middleditch
Zoe Barry

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FLUX Exhibition
G21
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Hugh Coldwell-Ross
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InBetween Time
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Kate Brereton
Katherine O'Neill
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Kimberley Sinnott
Kitty Walker
Laurel Green
Liam Way
Lisa de Kwant
Lizzie Banks
London Short Film Festival
Madeleine Stewart
Malthouse
Marline Zaibak
Matchbox
Mathew Flood
Mikk Hwat
Miranda Brown
Miriam Boolsten
Nadine Fleming
Nancy Black
Naree Sheilds
National Theatre of Scotland
Nelson Park School
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One Yellow Rabbit
OSKA Bright Film Festival
Paul Lim
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Platform Arts

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Rosie Fischer
Samantha Born
Scott Bowman
Secon Freight Logistics
Segal Film Festival
Shannon Quinn
Stan & Mel Corner
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Stephen Oakes
Strong Brother, Strong Sister
Sue Angelovski
Tamara Gazzard
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Financial support for Back to Back Theatre contributes to the development of a robust, prosperous, dynamic and thriving society, with important longitudinal economic return for people with disabilities and the communities in which we operate.

Your support of Back to Back Theatre helps us develop, stage and tour major new works, provide arts-based community programs, and to advocate for the power of inclusive art and equal rights for people with disabilities.

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

You can phone us on **03 5221 2029** or **info@backtobacktheatre.com** for more information.

You may make a donation by direct EFT transfer or online via
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