

MEDIA RELEASE

15 May 2018

THE SHIRE OF BROOME AND MARRUGEKU PRESENT

BURRGAJA YALIRRA (DANCING FORWARDS)

THREE SHORT WORKS

Three stories for country

The Shire of Broome and internationally-acclaimed contemporary dance-theatre company Marrugeku will present the world premiere of *Burrgaja Yalirra – Three Short Works* at the Broome Civic Centre in May/June 2018.

From the creators of *Gudirr Gudirr*, *Cut the Sky* and *Burning Daylight*, *Burrgaja Yalirra (Dancing Forwards)* is an evocative triple bill of new solo works exploring the challenges of reciprocity in Australia today. Through a series of collaborations with Marrugeku Associate Artists Edwin Lee Mulligan, Eric Avery and Miranda When and a team of interdisciplinary artists, *Burrgaja Yalirra (Dancing Forwards)* presents intercultural practice through Indigenous and non-Indigenous contemporary cultures across dance, music and storytelling. The triple bill of three works is curated by Marrugeku's Co-Directors Dalisa Pigram and Rachael Swain.

Ngarlimbah (You are as much a part of me as I am of you) is a spoken word, dance and animated video work conceived by Walmajarri/Nyikina painter and poet, Edwin Lee Mulligan and created in collaboration with award-winning new media artist Sohan Ariel Hayes (*Cannibal Story*). *Ngarlimbah* is the essence of reciprocity, expressing the interconnected nature of human, spirit and environmental realms.

Dancer/musician Eric Avery collaborates with Belgian choreographer Koen Augustijnen, (director of the award-winning *Gudirr Gudirr*) to create *Dancing with Strangers*. Eric Avery belongs to the Yuin, Ngiyampaa Wangaaypuwan and Gumbangirri peoples of NSW and is a custodian of songs and dances from his father's line. He explores the first colonial contact period, including early (and missed) opportunities for exchange in language, dance and sharing knowledge.

Miranda When creates *Miranda*, with Marrugeku's associate choreographer Serge Aimé Coulibaly (Burkina Faso/Belgium). Taking a starting point of her namesake, Miranda from *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, Miranda will explore the awkward, destabilising and often painful process for Australians of settler descent as they grapple with their own identity/belonging when experiencing encounter with First Nations Australian histories and cultural practices.

Exploring the challenges of what it means to learn from one another and our experience and understanding of 'country', Burrgaja Yalirra – Three Short Works sees some of our finest collaborating artists give voice and embodiment to the complexities and possibilities of seeing and feeling from another perspective. Marrugeku looks forward to sharing these three solo performances with our audiences.

Dalisa Pigram, Co-Artistic Director, Marrugeku

Burrgaja Yalirra – Three Short Works tours to Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts, 7-16 June 2018. Bookings through [PICA](#).

Burrgaja Yalirra – Three Short Works was commissioned by Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts and Carriageworks, Sydney.

MEDIA RELEASE

15 May 2018

COMPANY BACKGROUND

Marrugeku is an unparalleled arts presence in Australia today, dedicated to Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians working together to develop new dance languages. It breaks down walls and builds bridges between urban and remote dance communities, between Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists and between local and global situations. Marrugeku is led by co-artistic directors: choreographer/dancer Dalisa Pigram and director/dramaturg Rachael Swain. Collaborating for 24 years, they co-conceive and facilitate Marrugeku's productions and research laboratories, introducing audiences to potent Indigenous knowledge systems and the compelling experience of intercultural performance. Their works are acclaimed across Australia and the world appearing in the most prestigious festivals and venues in Europe, the Americas and the Pacific. Recent productions *Gudirr Gudirr* and *Cut The Sky* have been presented across Australia, Europe and North America.

WHAT: *Burrgaja Yalirra – Three Short Works*
WHEN: 30, 31 May and 2 June 2018, at 7pm (entry from 6.40pm)
WHERE: Pigram Garden Theatre, Broome Civic Centre, 27 Weld St Broome
BOOKINGS: www.broomeciviccentre.com.au
