

NA DJINANG CIRCUS

ARTERIAL

Friday 14 February

7.30pm

60 minutes, no interval

Post-Show Q&A with the cast after the show!



FRANKSTON ARTS CENTRE

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Created by:..... Dylan Singh, Johnny Brown,
Maggie Church-Kopp,
Tammy Bouman

Directed by:..... Harley Mann

Outside Eye: Rowan Heydon-White

Lighting Design by:..... Gina Gascoigne

Lighting designed Reimagined by:..... Harrie Hogan

Sound Designed by: Danni A Esposito

Costumes designed by:..... Emily Barrie

Originally Commissioned By:..... Yirramboi Festival

Na Djinang Circus is a Melbourne based contemporary circus company working with diverse young artists to share unique insight with the next generation's Hands & Feet.

Na Djinang Circus aims to develop work that utilises the next generation's social and political attitudes and tell stories that challenge our own perceived ideas about contemporary Australian society. Our work explores fundamental human characteristics from an indigenous perspective, using the body to demonstrate complex human experiences of trust, connection, vulnerability, and joy.

Na Djinang Circus is known for being a First Nations led company and our art and ethos reflect traditional and contemporary values. We are curious, original and free to make mistakes.

We believe as artists we have the power to shape audiences' opinions and help create change.



Photo: Tiffany Garvie



Photo: Darren Gill

Harley Mann - Founder & Artistic Custodian



Harley Mann, is a Wakka Wakka man from Queensland, he grew up on Gadigal country NSW. Drawing on his own Aboriginal heritage as inspiration Harley founded Na Djinang Circus in 2017. Harley has since graduated with his Bachelor of Circus Arts and worked with some of Australia's leading contemporary circus companies including, Circa, Circus Oz and Casus.

Under Harley's guidance, Na Djinang's highly successful work *Common Dissonance* was nominated for a greenroom award for best circus. In 2021 Na Djinang premiered a sold-out season of *Arterial* as a part of the Yirramboi Festival.

Harley was also honoured with the 2018 Melbourne Fringe Award for Best Emerging Circus Artist. He is the co-convenor of the TNA CaPT Advisory panel and is a current member of the TNA board. Harley is ensuring that he upskills while he tours, creates, and develops what he hopes is a significant contribution to Australia's circus industry.

Tamara Bouman - Ensemble Member Arterial

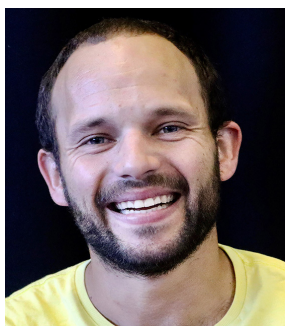


Tamara is a First Nations contemporary dancer with a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Dance) from the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA), class of 2019. During her time at VCA Tamara was able to grow as an artist with the support and teachings from choreographers including Sarah-Jayne Howard, Stephanie Lake, Rheannan Port, Sue Healey, Larissa McGowan and Alistair MacIndoe.

Tamara's love for dance and movement has led her to perform as a part of major festivals including the Melbourne International Arts Festival (2019), and Sydney Festival (2020).

Tamara is keenly interested in cross disciplinary and cross cultural collaboration, exploring the sheer physicality, intricacy and dexterity of movement and the body's limits/restrictions, using dance and movement to deepen her connection to her culture and land and how the body can be used as a tool for learning and sharing.

Dylan Singh - Ensemble Member Arterial



Proud Wiradjuri man, Dylan Singh is a second generation circus performer with a passion for cultural practice. Using circus as a medium to weave culture into his performances Dylan has searched for the meaning of Dreaming and how he can practise it in a modern day context.

Dylan has engaged audiences for over 10 years, working with some of Australia's leading companies, including Company 2, Circus Oz and Casus.

Growing up in the Flying Fruit Fly circus Dylan's connection to community is reflected through his goal to nurture and inspire the next generation of black performers. Having found a deep understanding of what it means to be a modern first nations man and practitioner, Dylan hopes to help audiences learn and celebrate Aboriginal culture, struggles, and triumphs.

Maggie Church Kopp - Ensemble Member Arterial



Maggie Church-Kopp is a circus performer, actor and facilitator who was raised in Mparntwe and is proudly of Arrernte and British descent.

She inherited circus as an art form at a very young age and has loved it ever since. Before joining Na Djinang in 2021 Maggie performed circus independently at many festivals including Woodford Folk festival, Wide Open Spaces and Karnidale. Her passion for performance also includes music, theatre and dance, most recently alongside Ilbijjeri Theatre company.

Having trained with companies such as Circus Oz, The Flying Fruit Fly Circus (NTP 2019), and Duprada Dance Company, Maggie is

passionate about the ways in which storytelling and movement can enrich communities.

Johnathon Brown



Johnathon is a proud Anawan/Kamilaroi Man from Armidale, NSW. Currently 28 years old, he is an acclaimed dancer/acrobat performer at Na Dijnang Circus in Melbourne since 2022.

Johnathon has toured globally, showcasing his talent at festivals like the Fringe and Sydney Festival. His captivating performances in *DriftWood*, *DNA*, *Chasing Smoke*, *Arterial*, and *Common Dissonance* have garnered praise. Additionally, he is a NAISDA Dance College graduate, adding depth and cultural significance to his artistry. With an unwavering commitment to his craft and a passion for storytelling through movement, Johnathon continues to leave an unforgettable mark in the world of dance.

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