



*"escape from war and the
crazy struggle to fit in"*

Kickstart Arts and SPACE present...

BREAKING

refugee stories | powerful dance | musical fusion | image

PEACOCK THEATRE



Front Cover - Shewit Belay and Jessica Lloyd
inside cover - Rochelle de Vries and Jessica Lloyd

Photo Credit: Peter Mathew Photography
www.petermathew.com.au

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Kickstart Arts acknowledge the traditional people of the land upon which we meet today, the Mouheneerner people, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

WELCOME/ DEDICATION

It gives me enormous pleasure to welcome you to Kickstart Arts new community performing arts work, created in collaboration with SPACE Dance (SAC), assisted by Ogilvie High School and the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra.

Breaking is an experimental hybrid arts project, that had its genesis in 2013 with the passion of three young, former refugee, emerging artists, who wanted to tell their stories of journey and survival and build a bridge of understanding they hoped would lead to greater social harmony in their hometown of Hobart. They also wanted to make some really great art and learn new skills to take them forward in their development as artists.

Through Breaking, a number of young and emerging artists and other members of the community have worked together to learn new skills, share stories and develop relationships of trust. What you see today is the tip of the iceberg, the culmination of many months in collaborative creative development and learning process. Participants have learned much about dance, music, group devising, the courage it takes to share ideas and the communication skills, trust and teamwork required to craft them into a final performance. A lot of valuable work and learning has gone into the making of the show and a number of young artists have been given an opportunity to stretch their wings creatively and to grow as artists. Each and every participant in the Breaking project has pushed themselves out of their comfort zone and taken a risk to try something new and to learn from the experience.

A synthesis of stories from several participants - Breaking is a psychological journey as much as a physical one. A lyrical, haunting work that celebrates real courage and the power of love to conquer all. The arts team have experimented with breaking with tradition in numerous ways - combining, improvisation with structure, rap with contemporary dance, physical theatre with live music, projection art and song, abstract with narrative.

But most of all, Breaking is an Artist's tribute to all our friends and community members who have survived the horrors of war. We honour your amazing courage and great strength and dedicate this show to the cessation of war.

May we all be free from suffering.

JAMI BLADEL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR / CEO KICKSTART ARTS

ARTIST STATEMENTS

CHOREOGRAPHER/MENTOR - Kelly Drummond Cawthon

“To reorient. To experience. To discover. To contribute.

In the creation of Breaking we have worked to provide the viewer with an opportunity to experience a collapse of boundaries in language and to perhaps be awakened, even if momentarily, from social and political apathy. We employ dance, theatre, technology, our hands and our art to wield our creative force at exploring and uncovering our humanity with a deep-rooted belief that the arts have the power to create change.”

NEW MUSIC COMPOSER/WRITER/RAPPER/MENTEE - Max Bladel-Reid

“Before Breaking I was completely unfamiliar with working with dance as a medium, and it’s been a see saw ride between excitement and terror. It is without doubt the biggest artistic endeavor I’ve ever attempted and a massive learning curve. I feel quite proud of this music - I gave myself license to follow my muse, and this resulted in it being very melodic and catchy. I built it from the foundations of “break beats” which I find really energizing and inspiring rhythmically. The process of writing in response to other peoples stories, creating music in response to movement has been humbling. I felt like I had a great responsibility to do the stories and the dance justice and to serve them well. I also want to acknowledge Leo Burton. I re-sculpted some material that he imagined in a couple of pieces and this collaboration has made the work richer. ”

CO-DIRECTOR/WRITER/RAPPER/PHYSICAL PERFORMER - Lawrence Gino

“Where I come from, dance is never choreographed. It is said that we are born with a rhythm and when we hear music our bodies naturally move to the beat so working on Breaking has been a completely different experience but one I have thoroughly enjoyed. I hope that people will hear my story and begin to know me as a brother, a father, a worker, a colleague, a friend and an artist rather than as ‘that refugee’. Although where I am from is important, it is the things I have overcome to be where I am now and the future in front of me which complete me as a person.”

WRITER/SINGER/DANCER - Shewit Belay

“The Breaking journey, as well as being a great opportunity to be in a thought-provoking performance, has been one of innovation, discovery... and delicious lunches from World Kitchen! As a five-year old, relocating to Australia with my immediate family as refugees, I guess I’ve grown up, predominantly, as an Australian. But these stories in Breaking are far from irrelevant - I am most familiar with those elements of reminiscent nostalgia, the yearning for home country that comes with leaving it, and the attempt to recreate parts of that home country in a refugee existence.”

PROJECTION ARTIST AND LIGHTING DESIGNER - Jason James

“I have been with this project through two creative developments, and now into production. It is fantastic to see this project get to have a life in front of an audience. I have absorbed the stories, and turned them into colour. From those colours the imagery has been developed. I have then used these images to support the story telling in the words, and dance, on stage. It is very important to me that the design elements do not tell the story, but that they work towards creating an environment for the story to unfold.“

Kickstart Arts would like to thank two gifted young artists: Kajan Sinnarasa (dancer) and Leo Burton (hip hop artist/ music producer) for their important contributions to the creative development of Breaking.

We would also like to acknowledge artist Andy Vagg and the Fabric of Life panels in use as the stage design for the orchestra. Fabric of Life was a story and reuse based visual arts project associated with The Happiness Project.

PRODUCTION PARTNERS

ABOUT KICKSTART ARTS

At Kickstart Arts we believe people are innately kind and generous. We invite our artists and participants to share this with each other and with an audience through great story driven projects. We see a future where the power of collective art making to transform, to heal and to enhance wellbeing is broadly valued and understood in a society where there is better health, greater social harmony, happier people and stronger communities.

As leaders in community arts and cultural development in Tasmania the company has a long record of high achievement stretching back over 22 years. A values driven organisation, Kickstart Arts has developed deep connections with Tasmanian communities through generating opportunities for engagement in cross-sectoral partnership and multi-art form projects both in regional Tasmania and at the Kickstart Arts Centre in St Johns Creative Living Park, New Town. We employ top professional artists and support professional learning for emerging artists.

ABOUT SPACE

SPACE: A twenty-first century approach to study in technical theatre, performance, teaching & choreography.

SPACE is a partnership program led by Salamanca arts Centre and TasTAFE. At SPACE our aim is to educate and train performing artists, technicians, teachers, movers and shakers, who know how to work with each other and are attuned to, informed about, and committed to contemporary performance.

SPACE is about work; creative work, technical work, intellectual work. SPACE students are challenged to invest themselves into the growth of their personal and artistic journey. We work with integrity, rigor and diligence in order to be citizens who contribute to the world. We promote diversity and encourage collaborative, multidisciplinary, and inter-cultural perspectives.

The students and tutors establish a unique community of committed artists who range in ages and experiences and are working to sustain their careers and deepen their relationship to performance and community. SPACE is a shelter and support system for artistic development, discovery, risk, collaboration and interdisciplinary cooperation.

ABOUT SALAMANCA ARTS CENTRE

(SAC) is Tasmania's multi-arts creative hub and an integral part of the State's arts and creative industries infrastructure.

SAC is an engine room for contemporary art-making and presentation; a centre for artists and designers in-studios; home to many of Tasmania's leading arts organisations across live performance (theatre, music, dance), film and writing; cultural and commercial galleries and studios for visual arts, crafts and design.

BREAKING (CREATIVE TEAM



KELLY DRUMMOND CAWTHON - Choreographer/mentor

Kelly's experiences as a professional in the world of performance and education span over two decades of art, performance, directing, producing, choreographing and teaching. Kelly has performed and presented work across the United States, Canada, Europe, Bulgaria, Brazil, Russia, Uzbekistan, Korea and Australia. Since returning to Tasmania in 2011 Kelly has had the thrill of working with Salamanca Arts Centre to launch and run the SPACE dance program. She has had the privilege of working as a Creative Producer and Teaching Artist in Residence for Kickstart Arts; as an independent performance artist collaborating with

projects including the Second Echo Ensemble, MADE, and Terrapin; and with Julie Waddington at Kingston High School as an arts@work artist in residence. Kelly is currently the Live Arts + Education Coordinator at Salamanca Arts Centre.



MAX BLADEL-REID- composer/writer/rapper/music producer

Max is a passionate Hip Hop artist and composer. His work encompasses song writing, rap, performance poetry; electronic music composition and production; live electronic music performance and DJ-ing. He has a background in youth theatre, improvisation and performance making and completed an Associate Degree in Music, majoring in Composition and Music Technology at the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music in 2012. He has appeared regularly in Hobart's live music venues as a rapper and DJ supporting artists including Immortal Technique, Benga, Ozi Batla, Kerser and Acumen. Max has worked as a teaching artist on community arts cultural development projects

including delivering hip-hop workshops for local Councils and schools throughout Southern Tasmania. He composed new works for the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra as part of their education and community programs and performed with them as a rapper in Kickstart Arts Power Hip Hop at the Peacock Theatre and Theatre Royal. Max has composed musical scores for 12 short films including as part of Kickstart Arts award winning CACD projects - The Happiness Project and Angels of Our Better Nature. When he is not composing Max is writing and performing with his band SKUNK, a jazz hip-hop quintet.



LAWRENCE GINO - Writer/rapper/performer/co-director

Lawrence 'Big Money' Gino was born in South Sudan during the civil war. When he was just weeks old, his mother fled with him to Uganda. He spent the next fourteen years living in refugee camps before his older sister sponsored him to Australia. He began making music in 2004 with friends and has since made a name for himself within the Afro-Australian hip-hop scene. He has organised a series of benefit concerts, Hip-Hop[e], to raise funds for various African appeals and run hip-hop workshops out of schools. The highlight of his career has been performing with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. Lawrence released his debut

album, the Uncovered Saga, in 2004 that chronicles his journey to find peace from South Sudan to Australia.



SHEWIT BELAY - writer/singer/dancer

Currently, Shewit Belay is a year-12 student at St. Mary's College. A vocal student of Helen Todd and pupil of Jenina's Dance Workshop, she has also been a member of several local musical casts - most recently The Wiz (St. Mary's College, 2014) Jesus Christ Superstar (Old Nick, 2014) and Hairspray (Musical Theatre Crew, 2013). Shewit is also an active member of the live music scene and performs regularly at local events and at The New Sydney and Brunswick Hotels. Prior to creating a career in performing arts, Shewit hopes to complete her university

bachelor degree. She has greatly enjoyed the process of Breaking and being a member of this cast.



JASON JAMES - Projection Artist/ Lighting Designer

Jason has worked as a lighting designer for over ten years; creating designs principally for new works. His recent credits include Motel Dreaming, and Galla Placidia for Dark MOFO; Echo, The Barbarians and Kimisis for IHOS Opera; Big Baby, Pip and Pooch, Shadow Dreams, Sleeping Horses Lie, Love, and The Gatekeeper for Terrapin Puppet Theatre; Born from Animals, Branch Book Bench, The Company I Keep, If I jumped I'd Fly Tasmanian Theatre Company, She's Not Performing Alison Mann; Birds for M.A.D.E.;

Death by Television for Briony Kidd; Hieronymus for Andrew Harper; ErrorInTime() for Nancy Mauro-Flude; La Casa Di Signori Marris Mastrocola and Nigel Kellaway; DJ Shadow, and Meat Puppets at MONA. Projection Design credits include Motel Dreaming Dark MOFO 2014; DJ Shadow MONA; Valley of the Shadow of Death Felicity Horsley; Echo Part 1 IHOS Opera; Hungry for You Extended Play Projects; Death by Television Briony Kidd. Video Artworks publicly exhibited: Death of the Actroid (Rat Palace Pop Up), Instill, Instill 2, Instill 3 (Salamanca Arts Centre), Kill Machine (Inflight), and Emo (CAST). <http://www.mediamixed.com/>



JAMI BLADEL - Dramaturge

Jami Bladel has been the Artistic Director and CEO of Kickstart Arts since 2006, producing innovative arts partnership projects. She began her career as an actor, having trained at the VCA, and worked extensively in the performing arts, acting, directing, writing and producing for more than 30 years. Jami has an entrepreneurial spirit and believes that social problems require social solutions; therefore she is currently establishing the Kickstart Arts Centre and developing Tasmania's first Creative Living Park in partnership with DHHS, a hub for creative living

solutions in New Town, Tasmania.



MATTHEW FARGHER - Music Mentor/Conductor

Matthew Fargher is a composer of original music and sound designs for over 30 years; with Kickstart Arts, Terrapin Puppet Theatre, Marrugeku, and Circus Oz. He has directed 400 voice choirs and produced albums for emerging hip-hop artists, worked with many cultures and ages to make amazing music.

THE BREAKING ORCHESTRA



BEA TILLEY - VOCALS

Bec is a versatile performer with a love of all genres, but particularly folk, jazz, funk, soul, and hip-hop. She studied at the UTAS Conservatorium of Music, and now sings with the Southern Gospel Choir as well as solo. By day she is a professional voice coach in anatomy-based vocal technique.



HAYDEN DARE - TROMBONE

Hayden Dare studied at the UTAS Conservatorium of Music and has been performing around Tasmania for the last 10 years. His favorite styles are Reggae and Pre 1950's Jazz.



JASON HOGGETT (DJ GROTESQUE) - TURNTABLES / DJ

Now in his eleventh year as a resident DJ at a number of Hobart nightclubs, DJ Grotesque has shared the stage with the likes of Grandmaster Flash, Mix Master Mike, Z-Trip, Q-Bert, Lyrics Born, Ugly Duckling, The Hilltop Hoods, Bliss n Eso, Urthboy, The Herd and many more.



EMILY WOLFE - VIOLIN

Emily Wolfe is a contemporary violinist that has studied at the Conservatorium of Music. Over the years she has performed in various groups in Hobart and has toured around Tasmania and interstate.



HAMISH HOUSTON - DOUBLE BASS

Hamish studied bass at the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music and has since been performing all around Australia, New York and Malaysia, and recording with many local artists. Hamish's versatility on both electric and double bass make him a truly versatile performer and highly regarded teacher.



DOMINIC MACKIE - VIOLA

Dominic is a recent graduate of the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music, majoring in viola performance and chamber music. He is also a permanent member of Tasmania's foremost barbershop quintet, Close Shave, in which he sings bass. He has been a winner of the Open Concerto section of the Hobart eisteddfod and a member of various orchestras and chamber ensembles throughout the state.



KELLY OTTAWAY - KEYBOARDS

Playing piano, keyboards and vibraphone, Kelly has been performing for more than ten years with leading Australian artists in jazz, funk and soul. He holds a Bachelor of Music and Graduate Diploma of Music from the Tasmanian Conservatorium and has post-graduate qualifications in arranging through Berklee College USA. Kelly currently tutors ensembles at the Tasmanian Conservatorium and dedicates his spare time to practice of both piano and vibes.



MAGGIE ABRAHAM - VIBES / MARIMBA

Maggie developed a passion for Latin music while studying in Cuba for year. She gigs regularly in jazz duo with Billy Whitton, her own group Chupacabra and with Hobart salsa band Son del sur.0100.



MITCH ELLIS - SAXOPHONE

Mitch Ellis completed his Bachelor of Music in 2008 and has since worked as a woodwind specialist performer/teacher in Hobart. Mitch regularly works across a diverse range of styles from classical music to big band jazz, and everything in between!



NICOLAS MERCER - CELLO

Nicholas studied classical cello at the National School of Music with David Pereira before completing his Bachelor with Honours in Tasmania with Christian Wojtowicz and Sue-Ellen Paulsen. With an interest in contemporary music and the electric cello, Nick has performed at venues and festivals nationally and is currently working as part of electro-acoustic trio Faldum.

SPACE CADETS

Breaking was made possible by the dedicated and passionate work of many SPACE dancers under the leadership of two incredible SPACE Diploma candidates:



ANGELA BARNARD - Assistant Choreographer

Angela studied dance and photography at Deakin University and teaching at QUT. Angela is currently Artistic Associate and Choreographer for Drill Performance Company, and will be choreographing her work Infamy as part of the creative development for Radical Kid in August 2014. She was choreographer for the Stompin Youth Choreographic Project in 2013 and 2012, which was part of the Junction Arts Festival in Launceston. Angela worked as a dancer in Paper Thin (2009), a creative development funded by Arts Tasmania with contemporary dance group The Phonics, and she won the 2007 Flip Top Heart competition for her original work S.H.E.D. Angela has taught dance at Guilford Young College since 2007, and currently teaches dance at Claremont College, Pulse Dance Studio and Eternal Dance Studio. Angela is studying towards a Diploma in Dance Teaching and Management with SPACE (a partnership between Salamanca Arts Centre and TasTAFE). Angela plans to open her own contemporary dance company, Dance 42, in October 2014.



ROCHELLE DE VRIES - Assistant Choreographer

Born and raised in South Africa, Rochelle danced as a child but started taking formal classes when she was 12 years old, learning different styles of dance including ballet, jazz, hip hop & urban. Her teacher inspired her to become a teacher. As Rochelle grew up and continued to learn and grow as a dancer she started choreographing for dance groups, which inspired her to open Eternal Dance studio in North Hobart. Rochelle has travelled and taught dance workshops in South Africa, U.S.A and Asia. Rochelle is studying towards a Diploma in Dance Teaching and Management with SPACE (a partnership between Salamanca Arts Centre and TasTAFE).

CAST

We would like to thank the following dancers who attended the SPACE dance workshops and generously contributed their talents to the creation of Breaking:

SPACE CADETS

Angela Barnard
Cynthia Awruch
Dayna Tyler
Hannah McCullagh
Hannah Noel
Joshua Coleman
Joshua Smith
Laura Purcell
Louise McIntosh
Megan Oh
Richard Davidson-Lim
Rochelle de Vries
Ruby Chau
Tullia Chung-Tilley
Wade Sainty

COMMUNITY DANCERS

Abbie Nichols
Aivy Joseph
Alma Faludi
Damien Xiong
Dominca Toomi
Eva Noel
Hannah Green
Jerusha Stride
Jessica Lloyd
Kiarn Mills
Levi de Vries
Lisa Bryant
Lochlan Masters

Maddi Lloyd
Morgan Longman
Raziyah de Vries
Shoshanna Stride
Sima Yousif-Osman
Tay-lah Swan
Teagan Parsons

COMMUNITY SINGERS

Betsy Hanson
Jan Bayarich
Jill Thiele

CREW

Producer/Production Manager **Richard Bladel**

Stage Manager **Jill Munro**

FOH Audio Production/ Operator **Reuben Hopkins, Bass Trap Productions**

Lighting Designer **Jason James**

Lighting Operator **Greg MacDonald**

Publicists **Richard Bladel with Yolanda Zarins**

Graphic Designer **Yolanda Zarins**

Company Manager **Penny Milburn**

Production Assistants **Greg MacDonald, Joshua Coleman & Jayden Mansfield**

Photography **Peter Mathews & Fred Assenheimer**

Breaking is Proudly Supported by...

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Rob Rule, Reuben & Jaala Hopkins, Terrapin Puppet Theatre, Rosemary Miller and the Salamanca Arts Centre, Old Nick Co., Eris Phillips, Rosemary Miller, Lyndon Bounday, David Hughes, Carolyn Coates, Allana Blizzard Jones, Ogilvie High School, The Breaking technical crew, Kajan Sinnarasa, Don Hopkins & Sandy Campbell and the Theatre Royal, Don Bate, Nicholas Hayward & the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Ian Wollstein, Laura Purcell, Nara Dennis, Andrew Legg & Glen Hodges, Monotone Art Printers, Nic Orme & Ruff Cut Records, Jonah Bladel, James Crotty, The Phoenix Centre through the Migrant Resource Centre, John Backhouse, Siobhan Harpur, Eternal Dance Studio, the carers and families of the performers, Peter Mathew, and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Kickstart Arts Board members: Michael Fortescue, Ron Ward, Richard Bladel, Berry Dunston, Terhas Bayru, Dale Berry, John Paton, Rachel Coad, Jami Bladel, Jim Everett.

SAC Board members: Lesley Graham, Gerald Loughran, David Laskey, Ross Byrne, Bill Hart, Lisa Free, Joselyn Baltra-Ulloa.



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