

# SPIRIT

## A RETROSPECTIVE 2021

75 minutes, no interval

### **BROLGA** (CORROBOREE, 2001)

*Brolga* is the journey of a young girl who enters a sacred ground that belongs to the brolgas. She plays, she mimics, and she discovers the sensuality of the brolga. But she has to learn to respect the secret brolga knowledge. The traditional spirit guides and protects her on this journey and she emerges with the totem markings of the brolga, transformed.

Following this young girl, we explore relationships between humans and creatures, reflecting on the intrinsic spirituality of the natural world.

PERFORMED BY

**Elma Kris**  
**Rika Hamguchi**  
**Beau Dean Riley Smith**  
**Lillian Banks**  
**Tyrel Dulvarie**  
**Full Company**

### **BLACK** (OCHRES, 1994)

This is male energy – when they wipe ochre across their forehead, it's protective action, to protect and maintain the male spirit before they go on the hunt. This dance features animal mimicry, which is integral to traditional dance; the swatting movement with the hands, like the swatting of flies, the crouching and rearing up, the shaking of the body – that is kangaroo.

In *Black* we also have the hands covering mouths – a political statement about petrol sniffing, an abstract move we included to comment on the social dilemma that is an ongoing issue in a lot of communities.

PERFORMED BY

**Beau Dean Riley Smith**  
**Rikki Mason**  
**Ryan Pearson**  
**Baden Hitchcock**  
**Bradley Smith**  
**Tyrel Dulvarie**

### **YELLOW** (OCHRES, 1995)

This is the woman spirit – mother earth in all her forms as represented by the women and the yellow ochre. Many of the movements in *Yellow* are inspired by female energy and their connection to the land – the nurturing of children, feeding, gathering, water, bathing, birthing.

PERFORMED BY

**Lillian Banks**  
**Rika Hamaguchi**  
**Courtney Radford**  
**Glory Tuohy-Daniell**  
**Kassidy Waters**

### **DINGO** (SKIN, 2000)

A sacred and powerful initiation ceremony from traditional Aboriginal men's law – a young boy becomes a man and is given the totem of the Dingo, Australia's wild dog. Inspired by the initiation of boys to men, taking on the fearless nature of the dingo.

PERFORMED BY

**Beau Dean Riley Smith**  
**All Men**

### CREDITS

**Choreography**  
Stephen Page,  
Bernadette Walong-Sene  
**Traditional Choreography  
and Music**  
Djakapurra Munyarryun

**Music**  
David Page, Steve Francis  
**Costume Design**  
Jennifer Irwin

**Set Design**  
Jacob Nash  
**Brolga Cloths**  
John Matkovic,  
Stephen Page

**Lighting Design**  
Nick Schlieper, Karen  
Norris, Joseph Mercurio,  
Matt Cox

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### **WHITE** **(OCHRES, 1994)**

*White* takes inspiration from what has come before and the impact it has on our future.

Our history is protecting us, it informs who we are and it is a source of rejuvenation.

*White* is that new spirit world: the dancers embody the spiritual energy of the future. We acknowledge the continuation of life by embracing our history.

PERFORMED BY

**Lillian Banks**  
**Glory Tuohy-Daniell**  
**Courtney Radford**

### **MOTH** **(BUSH, 2003)**

As we watch the moth emerge and transform, we witness the human life cycle, the passing on of knowledge and the resilience of spirit.

PERFORMED BY

**Tyrel Dulvarie**  
**Rika Hamaguchi**

### **TWO SISTERS** **(BUSH, 2003)**

Creation (Wirrkul Manda), A Creation story from North East Arnhem Land of two sisters birthing the land: 'they sang the songs and danced over the land... created all living things'.

Two Sisters is a Dhuwa Traditional Dance.

PERFORMED BY

**Elma Kris**  
**Glory Tuohy-Daniell**  
**Lillian Banks**  
**Courtney Radford**  
**Kassidy Waters**  
**Maddison Paluch**

### **THE CALL** **(WALKABOUT, 2002)**

The call grapples with the challenges of being an Indigenous man in the contemporary world, calling on connections to traditional land and culture, to cultivate strength.

PERFORMED BY

**Rikki Mason**  
**Elma Kris**

### **IN HER MIND** **(NYAPANYAPA, 2016)**

Homage. Meditation through art.

PERFORMED BY

**Rika Hamaguchi**  
**Bradley Smith**

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Bernadette Walong-Sene

#### **Traditional Choreography and Music**

Djakapurra Munyarryun

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David Page, Steve Francis

#### **Costume Design**

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