

## BANGARRA PRESENTS BRAND-NEW DEDICATED WORK FOR CHILDREN, *THE BOGONG'S SONG: A CALL TO COUNTRY*



Photo: Featured artists, Benjin Maza and Tjilala Brown-Roberts, Photographer: Daniel Boud.

*What guides you through the darkness when you've lost your way? A whisper on the wind. A shimmer in the stars. A moth in flight.*

**June 2025:** In September, Australia's leading Indigenous performing arts company, Bangarra Dance Theatre, will present the world premiere of their second dedicated work for primary-aged children, *The Bogong's Song: a call to Country*, an exciting new creation by Bidjara choreographer and writer Yolande Brown and Thiithaarr Warra/Kaanju/Ayapathu writer Chenoa Deemal.

*The Bogong's Song* blends storytelling, shadow puppetry, dance and song to tell the story of the Bogong moth, inviting young audiences to experience connection to Country, and to listen, reflect, and wonder.

This brand-new work will premiere at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre in September as part of Brisbane Festival before flying over to Sydney for a season at Bangarra's Studio Theatre in Walsh Bay in October.

When a brother and sister turn out the lights for the night, their Nan promises to tell them a story. Like the beating wings of the Bogong moth, her voice carries them into dreams, into an extraordinary world where Country shares its secrets. In this place, the past speaks through stars, trees, and grasses. Healing begins in the silence between breaths.

As Nan passes her knowledge to her grandchildren, we're all invited to experience connection to Country. And as the children open their hearts to the stories of their ancestors, we discover that even the smallest creatures have a vital role to play.

Director, co-writer and choreographer of the work Yolande Brown said, "When we truly understand that we're all connected—not just person to person, but across species, from animals to plants to trees—we'll begin to see how to work with the wisdom held across the greater ecosystem.

When we do that, not only will people be healthier and happier, but the planet will be too. Like the Bogong moth, no matter how small you are, you can carry a big story and contribute to something extraordinary."

Brown and Deemal's warm-hearted story follows Bangarra's first work for children, the award-winning *Waru – journey of the small turtle*, which enthralled more than 25,000 youngsters last year.

Bringing the story to life are featured artists Yidindji/Birri Gubba/Miriam Mer/Tanna Island dancer Benjin Maza and Warlpiri woman Tjilala Brown-Roberts, Wiradjuri/Gamilaroi man and composer Brendon Boney, set and costume designer Richard Roberts, Gadigal woman and set design associate Annaliese McCarthy, lighting designer Ben Hughes, Ngarrindjeri man and lighting design associate Eben Love, video designer Justin Harrison, cultural consultants Ngarigo/Monero woman Auntie Doris Paton and Wiradjuri/Gomerioi/Ngunnawall/Yuin man Arthur Little, Walbunja/Ngarigo woman and illustrator Cheryl Davison, and puppetry consultant Vanessa Ellis.

Brisbane Festival and Sydney tickets are on sale now. For more information, waitlist and tickets, please visit [bangarra.com.au](http://bangarra.com.au). Age recommendation: 7 – 12 year olds.

#### THE BOGONG'S SONG DATES:

MEANJIN	Queensland Performing Arts Centre (as part of Brisbane Festival)	24 <sup>th</sup> September – 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	<a href="https://www.qpac.com.au/whats-on/2025/bf-the-bogongs-song-a-call-to-country">https://www.qpac.com.au/whats-on/2025/bf-the-bogongs-song-a-call-to-country</a>
GADIGAL COUNTRY	The Studio Theatre at Bangarra (Sydney)	8 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	<a href="https://www.bangarra.com.au/productions/the-bogongs-song/">https://www.bangarra.com.au/productions/the-bogongs-song/</a>

Presented by **QPAC** and **Bangarra Dance Theatre** in association with **Brisbane Festival**.

*Bangarra Dance Theatre respectfully acknowledges and thanks the Monaro Ngarigo Cultural Authorities. We also honour the knowledge holders across the many communities connected by the Bogong Moth's migration.*

*The Bogong's Song has been generously supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, the Australian Government's Indigenous Languages and Arts program, the Girgensohn Foundation and the Knights Family Jabula Foundation.*



The Bogong's Song has been Commissioned by QPAC and Bangarra Dance Theatre and generously supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, the Australian Government's Indigenous Languages and Arts program, the Girgensohn Foundation and the Knights Family Jabula Foundation.



-ENDS-

[Images and trailer are available for download here](#)

For further information and interview requests:

**KABUKU PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Natasha Vickery: 0424 193 553 | [natasha@kabukupr.com.au](mailto:natasha@kabukupr.com.au)  
Marygrace Lardizabal: 0479 081 960 | [marygrace@kabukupr.com.au](mailto:marygrace@kabukupr.com.au)

**EDITOR'S NOTES: ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

**Yolande Brown**

Yolande is a proud Bidjara woman, known for her impactful work across a range of artistic productions, programs, and advisory panels. Yolande received the Australian Student's Prize of Excellence (awarded to the top 500 Australian high school students), holds a BA (Dance) and her C.Mus (Piano - AMEB). A senior dance artist with Bangarra Dance Theatre from 1999 to 2015, she co-choreographed the acclaimed *Dark Emu* in 2018 and created *Imprint* in 2013. Yolande received a Deadly Award for Best Dance Artist 2010. She also led the build and curation of Bangarra's Knowledge Ground, enriching the company's cultural legacy.

With a career spanning multiple disciplines, Yolande has collaborated with Australia's leading creatives in music, theatre, and dance. Most recently, she choreographed the mainstage production of *The Sunshine Club* for Queensland Theatre Company and QPAC as well as for the extensive regional tour with HIT Productions. She is currently creating for the Queensland Ballet's 2025 Bespoke season.

Yolande is Co-CEO and creative lead at AIME and a board member of Legs on the Wall. Through her leadership and creative vision, Yolande continues to inspire, shape, and elevate the Australian arts landscape, fostering cultural storytelling, connection, and excellence.

**Chenoe Deemal**

Chenoe Deemal is a proud Thiithaarr Warra (Guugu Yimithirr), Kaanju and Ayapathu woman from Cape York in Far North QLD. She has a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting) from Queensland University of Technology, and an Advanced Diploma of the Performing Arts from the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts (ACPA) in Australia. Chenoe is an award-winning actress, receiving the Matilda Award for Best Performance in a Leading Role – Mainstage Production for her performance in *Is That You*, Ruthie directed by Leah Purcell.

In 2022, Chenoe played one of the lead roles in *TIDDAS* at La Boite Theatre. Chenoe was also the lead in Queensland Theatre's *The Longest Minute* which received a Matilda Award Nomination for Chenoe - Best Actress in a Leading Role. The production went on to tour regional Queensland. Chenoe also appeared in the world premiere production of David Williamson's *Sorting Out Rachel* at Sydney's Ensemble Theatre in 2018.

Her stand-out one-woman performance in the Queensland Theatre/Grin & Tonic co-production *The Seven Stages* of Grieving garnered huge critical acclaim; the production has been performed in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland as well as visiting London for the 2017 Border Crossings' Origins Festival and in 2019 was performed in Los Angeles, CA.



Queensland  
Government



Australian Government  
Indigenous Languages and Arts

*The Bogong's Song* has been Commissioned by QPAC and Bangarra Dance Theatre and generously supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, the Australian Government's Indigenous Languages and Arts program, the Girsensohn Foundation and the Knights Family Jabula Foundation.

