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# Tracker

Co-directed by  
Daniel Riley and Rachael Maza AM

AUSTRALIAN  
DANCE  
THEATRE

Australian Dance Theatre acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Kurna Yerta. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community and we extend this respect to First Peoples across the land. We pay our ongoing respects to them, their cultures and their Elders, past and present. We acknowledge the ongoing significance of dance as cultural practice, as interconnected with story, song and Country.

**Contacts**

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## About the Work

Artistic Director of Australian Dance Theatre, Wiradjuri director-choreographer Daniel Riley evokes an immensely powerful and personal story of his Great-Great Uncle, Alec "Tracker" Riley.

Alec, a Wiradjuri Elder and tracker, served the New South Wales Police Force for 40 years, leading numerous high-profile cases. As an Elder of his community he forged a path between the enforced colonial system in which he worked and his Wiradjuri lore. Tracker takes inspiration from his legacy and examines the battles First Nations people have shared for generations.

Weaving together dance, music and text, Tracker invites the audience into an open and transformative ceremonial space. This remarkable story is brought to life by a team of celebrated First Nations creatives, including award-winning playwright Ursula Yovich, co-director Rachael Maza AM, composers James Henry and Gary Watling, visual artist Jonathan Jones, lighting designer Chloe Ogilvie and an all-First Nations cast.

Culturally rich and ambitiously original, this multidisciplinary work rethinks how we engage with and experience First Nations storytelling.

## From the Creators

**"(On Alec Riley) His story and its relevance to us as a Community, as a Nation speaks completely to the 'navigating' of being a First Nations person in a colonized space. How you navigate that, how you survive that, how you maintain your integrity, your Cultural connections, your family, how you hold your family together."**

— Rachael Maza AM

**"It's through bringing these contemporary issues, and the political history into the room. Seeing a young black man searching for his identity and connection brings it into the present."**

— Daniel Riley

**"We exist in a network. We Culturally understand that, it's all about your interconnectedness and that interconnectedness is your lines of responsibility, and your protocols, and who you answer to."**

— Rachael Maza AM

**"The songwriting nature of a lot of the text for me is choreographic. Hearing the flow of words, the way they come out of the mouth. A lot of the words have directly inspired the physicality, but also finding the space between the words."**

— Daniel Riley

**Specifications**

Running Time	60 minutes (no interval)
Touring Party	5 Performers, 5 Staff (Artistic Director, Rehearsal Director, Technical Director/Tour Manager, Production Manager, Stage Manager)
Theatre Format	Black Box, 3-sided audience Alternative touring versions available for discussion
Performance Area	Level sprung dance floor (no rake) Minimum stage area: 12m wide x 10m deep
Bump In	2 day preferred, 1 day possible in some venues
Warnings	Haze effects, mature themes. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander audiences are advised that the performance contains the names of deceased persons.



## Australian Dance Theatre

Australian Dance Theatre has been creating exceptional contemporary dance and performing it across the country and around the world since 1965.

Australian Dance Theatre is the country's oldest ongoing contemporary dance company, located on Kaurna Yerta (Adelaide, South Australia). For nearly 60 years Australian Dance Theatre has pioneered new work that has continually redefined dance and pushed the artform.

Australian Dance Theatre is committed to the presentation of work reflective of Australia's diverse voices, landscapes and histories. Collaborative relationships and a commitment to community engagement are at the core of the company's values.

## ILBIJERRI Theatre Company

ILBIJERRI is one of Australia's leading theatre companies creating innovative works by First Nations artists. The longest established First Nations theatre company in Australia, ILBIJERRI creates, presents and tours powerful and engaging theatre by First Nations artists that gives voice to our Cultures.

ILBIJERRI is committed to growing a sustainable and vibrant First Nations arts ecology and is investing in the next generation of First Nations theatre makers and industry professionals.

Deep listening with and for Community and Country is central to our work. We take seriously our role as cultural leaders, continuing to make work that speaks to the truth of this country, celebrating the extraordinary resilience and strength of First Nations Peoples.

ILBIJERRI continues to bring the brilliance and sophistication of bold, black voices to audiences in country halls, community spaces, prisons and major venues, across Australia and the world.



### Key Creative Biographies



### Key Images and Video



### Tracker BTS Trailer



#### Key Creatives

Co-Director and Choreographer	Daniel Riley
Co-Director	Rachael Maza AM
Writers	Ursula Yovich and Amy Sole
Set Designer	Jonathan Jones
Composer and Sound Designer	James Henry
Composer and Live Musician	Gary Watling
Lighting Designer	Chloë Ogilvie
Costume Designer	Ailsa Paterson
Performers	Tyrel Dulvarie, Rika Hamaguchi, Kaine Sultan-Babij, Abbie-Lee Lewis (Sydney Festival 2023), Ari Maza Long (Perth Festival 2023, Adelaide Festival 2023), Ella Ferris (Rising 2023)
Voiceover	Archie Riley
Dramaturgs	Amy Sole and Jennifer Medway
Project Elders	Aunty Shirley Mathews and Aunty Ann Cribb
Wiradjuri Language Translator	Aunty Dianne Riley McNaboe
Scenic Artist	Merindah Funnell

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#### Media



**"It is the type of theatre that simply must be experienced."**

— Time Out Sydney, Vaanie Krishnan



**"I have been attending and reviewing performances by the Australian Dance Theatre since the Leigh Warren days, but I have never witnessed anything as powerful as this before."**

— Ray Smith, Broadway World



**"(Tracker) is deftly executed, deeply encultured, and exquisitely shaped."**

— Peter Burdon, The Advertiser

**"(Tracker) is one of the most genuine pieces of dance theatre I can recall in almost three decades of viewing."**

— Nina Levy, Seesaw Mag



#### Performance History

10-14 JANUARY 2023  
SYDNEY FESTIVAL  
CARRIAGEWORKS

1-4 MARCH 2023  
PERTH FESTIVAL  
STUDIO UNDERGROUND

10-18 MARCH 2023  
ADELAIDE FESTIVAL  
THE ODEON

7-18 JUNE 2023  
RISING:MELBOURNE  
ARTS HOUSE







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AUSTRALIAN  
DANCE  
THEATRE

**ILBIJERRI**  
BOLD. BLACK. BRILLIANT.

BUREAU  
OF  
WORKS\_



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