

MEDIA RELEASE

AUSTRALIAN DANCE THEATRE PERFORMS IN INDONESIA FOR THE FIRST TIME

8 October 2014: Australian Dance Theatre is delighted to announce that for the first time, the work of Artistic Director Garry Stewart will be performed in Indonesia.

The company will present *Be Your Self* at the 5th Salihara Festival in Jakarta this weekend, 11 and 12 October 2014.

Be Your Self which premiered at the Adelaide Festival 2010 was selected by the Salihara Festival as a work that takes the human body and the meaning of being a human, back to the stage. Fusing different narratives from Buddhism philosophy to medical texts, the movements of the dancers are designed to be highly athletic, sophisticated and dangerous.

The Salihara Festival, curated by Artistic Director Tony Prabowo has programmed *Be Your Self* in a program of international performing arts that "...open new paths in art and have taken inspiration from mass culture; popular works that are inspired by important issues in our social life; experimental works that maintain the communication with the viewers; works that excite our five senses and educate; all of these will be performed in the 2014 Salihara Festival."

This tour has been supported by the Australian Embassy in Jakarta with the aim of strengthening cultural and economic ties between Australia and Indonesia. Throughout 2014, arts and culture, along with science and innovation, is the focus for the Embassy, showcasing contemporary Australian music, visual arts, literature, sport, science and innovation and dance across Indonesia.

Australian Dance Theatre's Executive Director Julianne Pierce said the company is absolutely thrilled to be touring to Jakarta.

"A current focus of Australian Dance Theatre is to reach new markets in Asia. There is much interest in Australian arts and culture across the region and this is the perfect time for us to showcase the best of Australian dance to our friends in South East Asia and more broadly in Asia. The support of the Embassy and Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is very exciting for us, Their work to build bridges and create new opportunities has to be applauded," she said.

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Australian Dance Theatre sees this as the first step in Asian touring and is already in discussion with festivals in Korea and Taiwan about presentations during their 50th anniversary in 2015.


Australian Dance Theatre's international touring strategy is supported by the Australia Council and ADT also acknowledges the continued support of Arts SA.


Ends.

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Australian Dance Theatre – Celebrating 50 Years in 2015

Australian Dance Theatre has a rich history full of wonderful stories and achievements that have lead it to its current world-class status, a dancing phenomenon that continues to push new boundaries across the globe, making it one of Adelaide's and Australia's greatest exports and ambassadors today.

Dr Elizabeth Cameron Dalman OAM and patron for the 50th anniversary celebrations founded the Australian Dance Theatre in 1965 after she was inspired by her experience in New York and by the Australian environment. It was the first time modern and contemporary dance was taught in Australia.

Since then, the Australian Dance Theatre has grown to be one of the most influential dance companies in the country and has been producing consistently great repertoire since it was formed.

Australian Dance Theatre is highly regarded within Australia and beyond. Under the artistic direction of Garry Stewart since the end of 1999, the Australian Dance Theatre embarked on a remarkably successful artistic trajectory that has distinguished it as a daring, exciting and highly skilled ensemble. As a result, they enjoy an enviable national and international reputation and is currently regarded as one of the most widely recognised contemporary dance companies in the world.