

Victorian College of the Arts
Media Release 2008
Thursday 1 May

30th Anniversary celebration of VCA Dance

In 2008 VCA Dance celebrates its 30th Anniversary. Since its establishment in 1978, VCA Dance has consistently trained highly motivated, disciplined and creative dancers and choreographers. The VCA Dance alumni community is made up of performers, choreographers, collaborators, teachers, researchers and artistic leaders in local, national and international dance communities.

Alumni include: **Phillip Adams** [Founder and Artistic Director/BalletLab], **Kate Denborough** and **Gerard van Dyck** [Associate Artistic Directors Kage Physical Theatre], **Cathy Goss** [Artistic Associate West Australian Ballet], **Rebecca Hilton** [former member of the Stephen Petronio Dance Company], **Prue Lang** [Ballet Frankfurt/William Forsyth], **Larissa McGowan** [Australian Dance Theatre], **Byron Perry** [Lucy Guerin's *Love Me*], **Hellen Sky** [Founder Dancehouse], **Carol Wellman** [Former Assistant Director and Rehearsal Director of Australian Dance Theatre] and choreographers/dancers **Kristy Ayre**, **Sara Black**, **Lina Limosani**, **Shaun Parker**, **Harriet Ritchie**, **Linda Sastradipradja** and **Delia Silvan**.

Acclaimed visiting artists to VCA Dance have included Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan; Rosalind Crisp; Alain Debrus [Paris Conservatoire]; William Forsythe; Gelsey Kirkland; Professor Donna Krasnow [York University/Toronto]; American choreographer, Stephen Petronio; Victoria Simon [Balanchine Trust] and Robert Swinston [Merce Cunningham Dance Company].

VCA Dance 30th Anniversary Performance season Friday 6 – Saturday 21 June 2008 Space 28, 28 Dodds Street, Southbank

Program 1 – Forever Young; Excerpts, Fragments & Images celebrating 30 years of VCA Dance
Friday 6, Saturday 7, Tuesday 10 - Saturday 14 June at 8pm ~ Saturday 7 and 14 June at 11.30am
in collaboration with VCA Production

Choreographed by **Rebecca Hilton**, one of the first graduates from VCA Dance, this new contemporary work traces the movement lineage of the past 30 years through the work of choreographers who have contributed to VCA Dance's innovative repertoire and celebrates the aesthetic, physicality and exuberance of current 2nd and 3rd year dance students. This special production incorporates set, costume, lighting and sound by VCA Production students across 4 levels: Undergraduate years 1, 2 & 3 and Postgraduate.

Program 2 – Moving Generations; celebrating 30 Years of VCA Dance
Monday 16 – Thursday 19 June, 7.30pm / Saturday 21 June, 2pm and 7.30pm

Anne Woolliams, Jonathan Taylor, Robert Ray, Neil Adams, Rebecca Hilton

The program spans three decades and reflects the influence of each Head of VCA Dance - **Anne Woolliams** (founding Dean 1978–86), **Jonathan Taylor** (Dean 1988–97) and **Jenny Kinder** (Head 2000– present). Current tertiary and secondary school students as well as alumni come together in a celebration of VCA Dance's 30 year history.

Cost - Programs 1 and 2: \$27.50 / \$17.50

Bookings & enquiries: 03 9685 9374

Postgraduate Dance Season 2008

Program 1 / Wed 4 – Fri 6 June, 7.30pm

Laura Bleicher, Emma Strapps, Helen Linkenbagh and Gabrielle Rose

Program 2 / Wed 11 – Fri 13 June, 7.30pm

Caley O'Neill and Soh Kian Leng

Studio 221, VCA Dance / 234 St Kilda Rd, Southbank / Cost: gold coin donation / Enquiries: 03 9685 9374

Media information: Lisa Montague/Jon Myer: 03 9685 9371 / 9685 9385 or montague@unimelb.edu.au