

[Press Release](#)[Media Contact](#)

Lara Paterson  
E [lara@commonstate.co](mailto:lara@commonstate.co)  
M (+61) 421 621 633

[Chunky Move Media Centre](#)

## COLLAPSING MODERN UTOPIAS - CHUNKY MOVE AND RESTLESS DANCE THEATRE PRESENT *REWARDS FOR THE TRIBE*



Two of Australia's most innovative and influential dance companies, **Chunky Move** and **Restless Dance Theatre**, come together for the first time with an ambitious, playful and uncompromising new work ***Rewards for the Tribe***, which will have its premiere at RISING 2022. A performance years in the making, featuring dancers with and without a disability, *Rewards for the Tribe* explores the question; is there such a thing as utopia by design?

For millennia, artists have strived to articulate the human experience in divine forms. Images of 'perfection' are everywhere, but we live in an imperfect world full of unpredictability and wonky angles. In *Rewards for the Tribe*, dancers wrestle with the archetypes of divine geometry laid out by the Old Masters.

Inspired by Mondrian's 20th century minimalist Colour Composition Series and Da Vinci's Vitruvian Man, dancers **Jianna Georgiou**, **Michael Hodyl** and **Charlie Wilkins** from Restless Dance Theatre along with **Cody Lavery** and **Benjamin Hancock** from Chunky Move delve deep into the complicated relationship between humans and the material world. *Rewards for the Tribe* celebrates the imaginations of artists while embracing life's exquisite chaos.

Choreographed and directed by Chunky Move Artistic Director **Antony Hamilton**, the five dancers bend, crumple and reorganise the asymmetrical set by **Jonathon Oxlade**

that gently pokes fun at the precise angles of Mondrian's colour block paintings. Together they find beauty in things as they are and question the pursuit of perfection.

With sound design by **Aviva Endean** incorporating the unique expressive voices of the dancers, a nostalgic and minimal lighting design by **Jenny Hector** perfectly sets the tone.

Taking place at Chunky Move's home in Southbank from 31 May until 5 June, this limited-run season has been in development since 2018. After a global pandemic and multiple lockdowns across Victoria and South Australia, *Rewards for the Tribe* is here, a labour of love from both companies, at long last ready to share with audiences.

--- ENDS ---

#### NOTES TO EDITORS

- Further information can be found at [rising.melbourne](https://rising.melbourne) & [chunkymove.com](https://chunkymove.com)
- Rewards for the Tribe runs from 31 May until 5 June as part of RISING 2022
- There will be a free workshop with Michelle Ryan, Artistic Director of Restless Dance Theatre running on Saturday 30 April 2-5pm. The workshop is open to ages 18+ who have experience in dance or performance, and people with and without a disability are welcome. Register via [chunkymove.com](https://chunkymove.com)

Created by Antony Hamilton, *Rewards for the Tribe* is a co-production between Chunky Move and Restless Dance Theatre.

*Rewards for the Tribe* is commissioned by Warwick Arts Centre and Coventry UK City of Culture.

*Rewards for the Tribe* is supported by the Australia Council for the Arts, Creative Victoria, Arts South Australia, the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund – an Australian Government initiative, the Australian Government as part of the UK/Australia Season, University of Warwick, the City of Melbourne through its Arts and Creative Investment Partnership Program, the Besen Family Foundation, the Alexander & Lloyd Martin Family Foundation, the James and Diana Ramsay Foundation, and by Supercell: Festival of Contemporary Dance and HOTA Home of the Arts through The Makers Program.

#### About Restless Dance Theatre

Restless Dance Theatre is Australia's leading dance theatre company working with artists with and without disability. The company invigorates, influences, and diversifies dance by creating innovative and highly distinctive works of dance theatre. Restless is a place where diversity is celebrated, and artists thrive creatively. Restless is led by Artistic Director Michelle Ryan, who was appointed in 2013 and has created five works for the company, including *In the Balance*, *Touched* and *Intimate Space*. *Intimate Space* received a Ruby Award for Arts Innovation and Enterprise, an Adelaide Critics Award for Best Professional Group, and nominations for two Helpmann Awards and the Ruby Award for Best New Work.

#### About Chunky Move

Chunky Move was established in 1995 and as Victoria's flagship contemporary dance company, is one of the most influential arts organisations in Australia. Under the creative leadership of Artistic Director Antony Hamilton, Chunky Move creates bold, visually striking, and genre-defying dance works that merge the body with other artistic mediums. Chunky Move's works interact with varied spaces and presentation contexts and are underpinned by an ethos of collaboration and experimentation. Artists and audiences are at the heart of the company, and their partnerships and projects, expressed through a program of major works, commissions, residencies, workshops and public classes, aim to increase the visibility of contemporary dance as an everyday artform.