

CHUNKY MOVE

Press Release

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Chunky Move Media Centre

CHUNKY MOVE AND RESTLESS DANCE THEATRE'S CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED REWARDS FOR THE TRIBE TO BE STAGED IN ADELAIDE FOLLOWING ITS UK PREMIERE



After a sold-out run in Melbourne earlier this year as part of RISING Festival, **Chunky Move** and **Restless Dance Theatre's** geometrical playground performance **Rewards for the Tribe** returns this October, with special UK performances taking place in Coventry, followed by a warm return to Australia with a run of shows in Restless' hometown of Adelaide from 26-29 October.

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. A performance years in the making, featuring dancers with and without a disability, *Rewards for the Tribe* wrestles with the archetypes of divine geometry laid out by the Old Masters.

Chunky Move's Artistic Director Antony Hamilton was interested in toppling the idealism of 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.

Taking place at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry UK, from Wednesday 5 October until Saturday 8 October, this will be Restless Dance Theatre's first time presenting a work in the UK. Warwick Arts Centre commissioned the work and hosted the companies for a development workshop in 2019. Chunky Move returns after a 10-year hiatus, where they presented *Mortal Engine*, choreographed by former Chunky Move Artistic Director Gideon Obarzanek, at London's Southbank Centre in 2012.

After the UK run, Chunky Move and Restless Dance Theatre will head to Adelaide from Wednesday 26 October until Saturday 29 October, marking an important hometown show for Restless. They will perform at The Odeon Theatre, the home of Australian Dance Theatre where Hamilton was once a company member. Chunky Move has not performed in Adelaide since 2014, when they toured Hamilton's *Keep Everything*.

Choreographed and directed by 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.

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NOTES TO EDITOR

- More information can be found at **chunkymove.com** and **restlessdance.org**.
- Rewards for the Tribe runs from Wednesday 5 October until Saturday 8 October at Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry, England. Tickets can be purchased here.
- Rewards for the Tribe runs from Wednesday 26 October until Saturday 29 October at The Odeon Theatre. Tickets can be purchase here.

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.

The UK season is part of The Season, supported by British Council and DFAT.

The Adelaide Season was made possible through the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund.

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 creator and collaborator of dance theatre by dancers with and without disability. Led by Artistic Director Michelle Ryan, an awardwinning artist with disability, Restless creates loud, strong, and original dance theatre nationally and internationally. The work is collaboratively devised, inclusive and informed by disability. Our artists invigorate, influence, and diversify Australian dance. Restless brings artists with diverse minds, bodies, and imaginations together to create contemporary dance theatre from everyday lived experiences; manifested into beautiful art, embedding inclusion into our screens, on our stages and in unexpected places. Restless Dance Theatre is a place where diversity is celebrated, and all artists thrive creatively.

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.

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