



Restless Dance Theatre - world premiere performance at Art Gallery of South Australia

'One is never finished seeing and watching, our eyes are the door of the spirit and the light of the mind.'

Georges Rouault

Adelaide, Australia: Restless Dance Theatre, Australia's leading dance company working with artists with and without disability will perform *Seeing Through Darkness* at the Art Gallery of South Australia for an exclusive season from Friday 4 September until Friday 2 October.

Directed by Michelle Ryan, Artistic Director of Restless Dance Theatre, *Seeing Through Darkness* is a physical response to the works of expressionist artist Georges Rouault. The Company's six dancers will perform in the Gallery alongside the works of George Rouault, with the artist's influential monochromatic portrayals of humanity brought to life through lighting, shadow and movement.

Ryan says, 'The imperfect form of the human body and the troubled soul of the works of Rouault resonate with how people with disability can feel and be perceived. Some may be confronted while others may see beauty in difference.'

'There are many facets that create the human experience. Some are vibrant flashes of joy and achievement while others are the lingering remains of pain and loss. But ultimately, what do we leave behind?'

AGSA

MEDIA RELEASE

'The elegance and beauty of the Art Gallery of South Australia, combined with an original score, innovative lighting and a diverse company of dancers, creates a space to bring these works to life through dance.'

The performance is supported by the dramatic use of light and bold shadow work. The result sees light arc around the performers, mimicking the way the sun tracks and allowing the performance and space to be painted by light.

Director Rhana Devenport ONZM says, 'AGSA is thrilled to collaborate with this distinctive Australian dance company to shed new light on the powerful works of Georges Rouault. Restless Dance Theatre's ability to communicate through performance is unique and we're delighted to offer our visitors this immersive visual art experience.'

Audiences are encouraged to book to avoid disappointment.

ENDS

Presented at the Art Gallery of South Australia in partnership with Restless Dance Theatre

Director Michelle Ryan

Design Geoff Cobham and Meg Wilson

Music Hilary Kleinig and Emily Tulloch

Dancers Kathryn Adams, Chris Dyke, Jianna Georgiou, Michael Hodyl, Alexis Luke and Michael Noble.

Assistant Director Larissa McGowan

Image caption: Restless Dance Theatre, *Seeing Through Darkness* directed by Michelle Ryan, 2020; Developed with the support of the Art Gallery of South Australia in response to the Gallery's collection of works of art by Georges Rouault, © Restless Dance Theatre, photo: Shane Reid.

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IMAGES

https://files.artgallery.sa.gov.au/ftp/marketing/MEDIA/Seeing_Through_Darkness_AGSA.zip

BOOKINGS bookings@artgallery.sa.gov.au

About Restless Dance Theatre Since its inception the company has mounted over 30 major productions and many major community workshop programs. A listing of past shows can be viewed [here](#). Led by Artistic Director Michelle Ryan, one of Australia's leading dance artists, Restless Dance Theatre creates high quality real, raw and uninhibited dance theatre. It is Australia's leading dance theatre company working with young people with and without disability to collaboratively create outstanding inclusive dance theatre informed by disability. The company presents unexpectedly real dance theatre works in multiple mediums to diverse audiences. Restless artists enliven and diversify Australian dance. The dancers create original and remarkable work that extends the definition of what dance is.