

Intimate Space Restless Dance Theatre



Restless Dance is one of a handful of Australian companies which defy pigeon-holing. The work they do with performers of differing physical and intellectual abilities is useful and heart-warming: but the point is that the work itself is exceptionally beautiful and highly skilled, often funny, and always moving - Robyn Archer

Intimate Space Proposal

Intimate Space is a series of experiential site-specific solo and duet works of dance theatre presented within a hotel.

On this travelling adventure, a Hotels sophisticated bar and lush rooms with views are contrasted by the stark undertones of the nooks and crannies of its back-of-house operations. Guided by an evocative soundscape by Jason Sweeney, the physical conversation takes a similarly diverse journey. Guests will witness a tender and cheeky duet in a private room then an urgent physical explosion in the laundry. All looks neat and tidy but what is going on behind the scenes of these emotional dance vignettes?

Presented in a transient place unsuspecting guests unknowingly form the backdrop to the performance by going about their everyday business in the hotel space.

Challenging themes of visibility, authority, self-worth and relationships, the dancers ask you to uncover meaning in the delicately crafted movement. Both elegant and humorous, be surprised and enchanted by this exquisite performance experience.

The Restless dancers are charming, engaging and unique. The individuality of the artists is a major strength of the company. They may not fit the stereotypical dancer image but it is in their difference that you see their beauty and creativity. Audience members will be surprised, perplexed and enchanted by the exquisite performance experience.

From Michelle Ryan – Artistic Director of Restless Dance Theatre

Hotel spaces have always intrigued me; rich with private stories and intimate exchanges but existing within the public realm. I have frequently been touched by the tenderness and surprised by the intensity of people’s connections that I have seen while sitting in the hotel bar or lobby next to my home.

I see people watching these private moments too, bringing their own stories to each situation they witness. Sometimes seeing themselves in what they see.

So, I’m a voyeur. I can’t help but look at people and I’m aware that people look at me too - because I’m different to them. Perhaps they are trying to find a way to see themselves in something or someone unfamiliar to them?

The show is an invitation: to look... or look away?

Creative Team

Michelle Ryan – Director
Josie Were – Assistant Director
Jason Sweeney – Music Soundscape
Geoff Cobham – Lighting Design
Meg Wilson - Designer
Roz Hervey – Project Manager

There are 3 models for touring this work

1. To tour the full cast of 21 Restless dancers.
2. To tour 11 Restless dancers with 10 local dancers.
3. A residency model whereby Michelle and the Production team work with a fully local cast for 6 weeks to develop a unique version of the show.

Please note the show may change slightly depending on each hotel layout.





Reviews from Adelaide Festival 2017

“★★★★★ Dynamic world premiere is a close encounter that charms and disarms. Innovative, potent, bold and beautiful, *Intimate Space* is an extraordinary and highly entertaining experience.” – Limelight Magazine

“Brilliant theatrical ideas don’t always translate into successful performance. *Intimate Space* does.” - The Australian

"By turns tender and provocative, *Intimate Space* invites us to contemplate questions of public and private activity in a work that is insightful, touching and compelling." - Arts Hub

“Each vignette is a moving experience, some poignant, some comical but with a deeper meaning underneath...a remarkable work” - Broadway Now

"*Intimate Space* is exquisite, daring, compelling, profound, thrilling, funny, cheeky and sweet." - The Advertiser

“Using the iconic Hilton Hotel as its live canvas, *Intimate Space* is a stunning exploration of the balance between the realms of public and private. *Intimate Space* is an absolutely remarkable experience.” – The Adelaide Review

“Immaculately produced and studded with wonderful performances, **Intimate Space** is a triumph that is at turns mischievous, tender and outraged but is deeply moving throughout.” – Glam Adelaide



Full reviews

<http://www.limelightmagazine.com.au/live-reviews/intimate-space-restless-dance-theatre-adelaide-festival>

<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/entertainment/adelaide-festival/adelaide-festival-review-2017-intimate-space/news-story/c5781651e06dfee2b70d4f90e6674ccb>

<https://adelaidereview.com.au/arts/performing-arts/review-intimate-space>

<http://www.glamadelaide.com.au/main/festival-review-intimate-space/>

<http://www.broadwayworld.com/adelaide/article/BWW-Review-ADELAIDE-FESTIVAL-2017-INTIMATE-SPACE-at-Hilton-Hotel-20170305>

<http://performing.artshub.com.au/news-article/reviews/performing-arts/richard-watts/intimate-space-253293>

Photographs by – Shane Reid

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