

ANTI— GRAVITY

17 - 26 MAR

A black and white photograph of a person's arm and hand reaching upwards, set against a background of thick, swirling smoke or mist. The image is split diagonally from the bottom right corner, with the upper-left portion being dark grey and the lower-right portion being solid black.

CHUNKY
MOVE

**MALTHOUSE
THEATRE**

17 - 26 MAR
MERLYN THEATRE

CONCEPT,
CHOREOGRAPHY
& DIRECTION /
Anouk van Dijk
CO-CREATOR & CONCEPT /
Ho Tzu Nyen
VISUAL DESIGN /
**Ho Tzu Nyen, Paul Jackson,
Anouk van Dijk**
LIGHTING DESIGN /
Paul Jackson
COMPOSITION &
SOUND DESIGN /
Jethro Woodward
COSTUME DESIGN /
Harriet Oxley
CREATED WITH &
PERFORMED BY /
**James Batchelor
Marlo Benjamin
Sarah Ronnie Bruce
Tara Jade Samaya
Niharika Senapati
Luigi Vescio**

PRODUCTION MANAGER /
Michael Carr
STAGE MANAGER /
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ASSISTANT /
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ANTI-GRAVITY is supported by the
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is a joint initiative of the Sidney Myer
Fund and Arts Centre Melbourne and
is supported by the Australian and
Victorian Governments.



**DANCE
MASSIVE**



**CHUNK Y
MOVE**

**MALTHOUSE
THEATRE**

ANOUK VAN DIJK: CAUGHT BETWEEN GRAVITY AND ELEVATION

Welcome to *ANTI-GRAVITY*, Chunky Move's main stage production for 2017.

To create this work, I collaborated closely with Singaporean visual artist and filmmaker Ho Tzu Nyen. Tzu and I first met in 2015, when the Company was performing *Complexity of Belonging* at the Schaubühne theatre in Berlin. Tzu described his work to me as a process of distillation, where deeply investigated ideas are then boiled down to their essence. 'I work slow' he told me, 'very slow'. He was immediately interested in my movement method, Countertechnique, which is the result of years of extensive investigations into how to move with less effort and more efficiency.

Tzu and I had long conversations about choreography, filmmaking, work methods and the impact of cultural differences on the creative process. His process involves meticulous preparation and refining of the smallest details, while mine is one of collaboration and structured freedom, letting the outcome emerge in rehearsal. Tzu said to me, 'In my films performers always move very slow and yours move very fast'. We fell silent. We could not be more different. And so sparked the

conversation, what would happen if we were to bring our practices together?

Using Tzu's research on the iconographic representation of clouds as a springboard for a new work, we started our journey into medieval paintings, historic meaning and symbolism. Paul Jackson joined our conversations to collaborate and assist in translating our research into a unique visual design. Together with Jethro Woodward and Harriet Oxley, the team have created a stunning environment, which enables the six extraordinary performers to continuously build and break down worlds like an *engine in flux*.

Caught between gravity and elevation, the cloud resembles the moving body. In a state of constant change, it endures extreme pressure before returning to an airy form. Like particles in a cloud unable to attain a stable form, people can find and lose coherence too. *ANTI-GRAVITY* is a work on stability and transience, on isolation and connection, a journey of sweat, labour and conquering.

I hope you enjoy our world of cloud busting, matter forming and bodies gliding.





Anouk van Dijk
CONCEPT,
CHOREOGRAPHY,
DIRECTION &
VISUAL DESIGN

Anouk van Dijk is the Artistic Director of Chunky Move. She is a choreographer, director, dancer and the creator of the movement system Countertechnique. Her debut work for Chunky Move, *An Act of Now*, premiered in 2012 and won The Age Critics Award for best new Australian work in Melbourne Festival. For the Company she has since created 247 *Days*, *Embodiment 1:1:1* (2013), *gentle is the power*, *Complexity of Belonging* (2014), *Depth of Field* (2015), *Rule of Thirds* and *L U C I D* (2016). Before relocating to Australia, she had an extensive career in Europe, touring worldwide with her company anoukvandijk dc. The company presented at Festival d'Avignon, Adelaide Festival, Sydney Opera House, MASS MoCA, PIAF, Dance Triennale Tokyo, American Dance Festival and Festival TransAmériques. Her collaborative partnership with German writer and director Falk Richter has resulted in six critically acclaimed productions that have toured across Europe and internationally. In 2012, she was awarded the Golden Swan (Gouden Zwaan), the Netherlands' most prestigious dance accolade, in recognition of her outstanding contribution to dance in her home country.



Ho Tzu Nyen
CO-CREATOR, CONCEPT
& VISUAL DESIGN

Ho Tzu Nyen is a renowned multimedia artist based in Singapore. He makes films, videos and theatrical performances that reconstruct and reimagine texts and artefacts. Solo exhibitions have been presented at Guggenheim Bilbao (2015), DAAD Galerie (2015), Mori Art Museum in Tokyo (2015), the Singapore Pavilion at the 54th Venice Biennale (2011) and Artspace, Sydney (2011). His festival work includes: Shanghai Biennale (2014), Kochi-Muziris Biennale (2014), Moscow Biennale (2015) and Asia TOPA (2017). His works have been shown at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Tokyo, Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw, the Guggenheim in New York, Witte de With in Rotterdam, ZKM in Karlsruhe and Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin. His theatrical works have been presented at the Asian Arts Theatre, Gwangju, Wiener Festwochen, Theater der Welt, the KunstenFestivalDesArts and the Singapore Arts Festival. His films have been presented at the Berlin Film Festival, Sundance, Cannes, Venice Film Festival, Locarno Film Festival, and IFFR. He was awarded the 2014-15 DAAD Scholarship in Berlin and the Grand Prize of the Asia Pacific Breweries Foundation Signature Art Prize 2015.



Paul Jackson
LIGHTING &
VISUAL DESIGN

Paul Jackson is an award winning lighting designer and theatre maker based in Melbourne Australia, whose practice encompasses theatre, opera, dance, music theatre, concerts and live events. Paul has designed lighting, sets and performance environments for a number of companies and organisations, and collaborated with a diverse range of directors and choreographers within Australia and worldwide. His work has featured in festivals and programmes in the United States, Asia, Europe and the United Kingdom. Listed in *The Bulletin's* Smart 100 for 2004, he was the Gilbert Spottiswood Churchill Fellow for 2007 and was an Artistic Associate at Malthouse Theatre from 2007-2013. Paul has received a Helpmann Award, five Green Room Awards, a Sydney Theatre Award and an Australian Production Design Guild Award. He is a graduate of the University of Melbourne and RMIT.



Jethro Woodward
COMPOSITION
& SOUND DESIGN

Jethro Woodward is a Melbourne-based composer, musician and sound designer recognised for his expansive and highly layered film, theatre and dance scores. He was the Sound Designer for Chunky Move's *Rule of Thirds* and *L U C I D* (2016) by Anouk van Dijk. He has also worked with some of Australia's leading major and independent companies including Malthouse Theatre, MTC, STC, Belvoir St Theatre, Arena, Chamber Made Opera, Windmill, MSO, Rawcus, Stuck Pigs Squealing, Fragment 31, Lucy Guerin, Australian Dance Theatre, KAGE and more. Jethro won Green Room Awards for *Meow Meow's Little Mermaid* (Malthouse Theatre), *The Bloody Chamber* (2013), *Moth* (2011), *Goodbye Vaudeville Charlie Mudd* (2009) and *Irony Is Not Enough* (2010). Recent works include, *Permission to Speak* (Chamber Made Opera) and *Rumpelstiltskin* (Windmill).



Harriet Oxley
COSTUME DESIGN

Harriet Oxley has designed and created costumes for contemporary dance productions across Australia. She designed costumes for Chunky Move's *Assembly* (2011) and *Mix Tape* (2010). Harriet has collaborated with award-winning choreographers Lucy Guerin, Gideon Obarzanek, Stephanie Lake, Michelle Heaven, and Ros Warby. She recently designed *Attractor* for Lucy Guerin Inc. and Dancenorth as part of Asia TOPA (2017) and the multiple Green Room nominated *Dark Chorus* for Lucy Guerin Inc as part of Melbourne Festival (2016). For Victorian Opera Harriet has designed six productions, including the co-production with Circus Oz *Laughter and Tears* (2016) and won a Green Room Award for design in Opera for *The Bear/Angelique* (2011). Harriet has also collaborated with Tamara Saulwick, Dislocate, NICA, VCA's music theatre department, and designed the big-budget musical *Moonshadow* (2012). Harriet is a graduate of VCA Theatre Design and Fashion at RMIT.



Tara Jade Samaya
PERFORMER

Tara Jade Samaya has previously performed in Chunky Move's *Rule of Thirds* (2016), *Depth of Field* (2015), *Complexity of Belonging* (2014), *247 Days* and *Embodiment 1:1:1* (2013). She was appointed Artistic Associate at Chunky Move for 2016. Tara has also performed with the Douglas Wright Company in *The Kiss Inside* (2016) and in all productions with Australian Dance Theatre from 2007-2012, which saw her nominated for the Helpmann Award for Best Female Dancer for *Be Your Self* and *Proximity*. Tara and Pippa Samaya's collective The Samaya Wives won the international 60second dance film competition in Denmark and Finland with *The Knowledge Between Us* (2016).



Sarah Ronnie Bruce
PERFORMER

ANTI-GRAVITY is Melbourne based dancer Sarah Ronnie Bruce's debut work with Chunky Move. A graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts, she was awarded Most Outstanding Undergraduate in 2013, and the inaugural Choreographic Scholarship in 2014. Sarah performed in James Batchelor's work *Enterprise Park* (2015) for Lucy Guerin Inc's *Pieces for Small Spaces*. She is currently studying Countertechnique with Anouk van Dijk, attending the One Body One Career workshop since 2013.



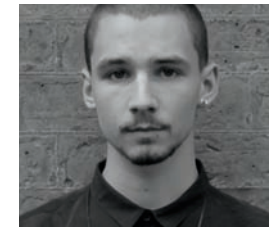
Niharika Senapati
PERFORMER

Niharika Senapati has previously performed in Chunky Move's *Rule of Thirds* (2016) *Depth of Field* (2015), *gentle is the power* (2015), *Embodiment 1:1:1*, *247 Days* (2013) and *An Act of Now* (2012). She was Choreography Assistant for Anouk van Dijk's *Safe Places* (2016) and *Complexity of Belonging* (2014). Niharika has also worked with many choreographers and artists around Australia, including Lucy Guerin, Emma Fishwick and Rachel Arianne Ogle. She is also a passionate Countertechnique teacher, teaching nationally and internationally. Niharika is a graduate of the Western Australian Academy of the Performing Arts.



Marlo Benjamin
PERFORMER

Marlo Benjamin performed in Chunky Move's *Assembly* (2012) by Gideon Obarzanek, and *It Sounds Silly* (2014) by Adam Wheeler. She has performed in Force Majeure/Sydney Theatre Company's *Never Did Me Any Harm* (2012, 2016) and *The Age I'm In* (2008, 2009). Marlo was also a dancer on Baz Luhrmann's feature film *The Great Gatsby* (2011). She performed in Arabella Frahn Starkie's work *Choose Your Own Adventure* (2014) and worked with Martin Del Amo on his development of *CHAMPIONS* (2016). She also performed for Rafael Bonachela of Sydney Dance Company at Sydney Arts Festival (2017). Marlo trained at the Victorian College of the Arts and Sydney Dance Company's Pre Professional Year (2015).



James Batchelor
PERFORMER

James Batchelor's debut with Chunky Move was *AORTA* (2013). He has worked with various choreographers and companies including Antony Hamilton, Stephanie Lake, Sue Healey, Prue Lang, Chunky Move and Tasdance. He is also a choreographer and is premiering his new work *DEEPSPACE* in Dance Massive (2017). His recent work *METASYSTEMS* (2015) has toured extensively in Australia, Thailand, France, Italy and China. He recently completed a two-month residency at sea, studying remote sub-Antarctic islands and is set to present a full-length commission as part of Chunky Move's *Next Move* season in November this year. James trained with the QL2 Quantum Leap Ensemble and is a graduate of Victorian College of the Arts.



Luigi Vescio
PERFORMER

Luigi Vescio is a performer and choreographer who joined Chunky Move in 2015 as Choreographic Secondment in *Depth of Field* (2015), *L U C I D* (2015) and performed in Anouk van Dijk's *Rule of Thirds* (2016). Luigi's original creations include *Human Together*, *BOILING POINT*, and *One Of Them*. Luigi has collaborated with Portuguese theatre director John Romão on *Teorema*. He has performed and collaborated with a diverse range of international artists and companies including Rafael Alvarez, James Batchelor, Tasdance, Graeme Murphy AM, Stephanie Lake, Footnote NZ, Otto Ramstad and Olive Bieringa. Luigi is a graduate of New Zealand School of Dance.



#ANTIgravity17

#ANTIgravity17

CHUNKY MOVE

ABOUT

Chunky Move is Victoria's flagship contemporary dance company. Over the past 20 years, it has earned an enviable reputation for producing a distinctly unpredictable brand of genre-defying dance performance. Led by internationally acclaimed choreographer, Anouk van Dijk, Chunky Move's multi-tiered programming initiatives underpin a vibrant dance culture in Melbourne, creating popular productions for national and international presentation. The Company has toured to 40 countries and 117 cities and its international collaborations have become an essential part of its identity.

Chunky Move believes in providing opportunities and creative challenges for dance artists at every stage of their career. To this end, the Company runs an extensive program of development initiatives for performers and choreographers, including the celebrated Next Move program, which commissions a new work by an independent choreographer each year.

DONATE SO WE CAN CREATE

Support our matched funding campaign. Join us as we embark on an exciting collaboration between **Anouk van Dijk** and New York based Australian artist **Ian Strange**. Uniting contemporary dance and visual arts, new work *INTERIOR* will explore the idea of home, decay and the ghosts of human dramas contained within everyday architecture.

This project is supported by Creative Partnerships Australia through Plus1. All donations are tax-deductible and will be matched dollar for dollar.

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For more information, contact Pauline Robert, Development Manager, on 03 9645 5188 or via email at pauline@chunkymove.com.au.

It's easy to donate online at
chunkymove.com.au/support

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Chunky Move would like to acknowledge the generosity of our donors who support the Company's work. A warm thank you to our major donors: Jane Badler, Daniel Besen (Next Move Leader), Leigh O'Neill, Jeremy Blackshaw, Rosemary Forbes and Ian Hocking, Rose Hiscock, Rhodri Ellis-Jones, Roger Poole, Mary Barlow, Naum Tered.

And to our supporters: Adrian & Pamela Lombardo, Annie Dawson, Annie Carey, Bruce Griffiths, Cameron Lewis, Clive Scott, Dennis Freeman, Helen Forrester, Jason Craig, Jerry Remkes, Johann Brinckmann, John Carr, Les & Monique Williamson, Margaret Parker, Margaret Anderson, Michelle Brooks, Min Li Chong, Samantha Poole, Sean Jameson, Stephanie Poole, Sue Westwood, Sue Donnelly, Tony Matthews, Anonymous (51).

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Chunky Move is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australian Council, its arts funding and advisory body; and supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria.

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WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

At Malthouse Theatre we collaborate with local and international artists to create inventive performances that cut to the core of the human experience.

Theatre has the power to interrogate, disrupt and to be an agent of change—and we think it always should. At Malthouse Theatre the work we produce explores the world personally, socially and politically.

Based in a dedicated venue, The Coopers Malthouse in Melbourne, we are a home for live experiences that entertain and provoke a dialogue with and within audiences.

Welcome to Malthouse Theatre.

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*Malthouse Theatre acknowledges we
are on the Land of the Boon wurrung
Peoples within the Kulin Nation.*

JOIN US FOR MORE BOLD WORKS OF AUSTRALIAN THEATRE



PIECE FOR PERSON AND GHETTO BLASTER

15 – 26 MAR

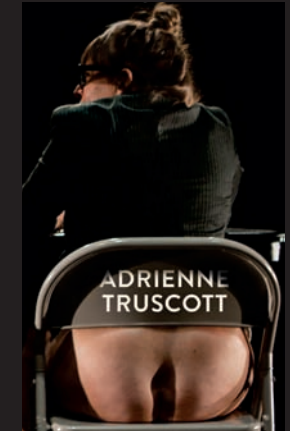
This Helpmann Award winning show comes to you from Nicola Gunn; whose offbeat blend of physical comedy, satire and self-reflection was last seen at Malthouse Theatre in *A Social Service*.



AWAY BY MICHAEL GOW

3 – 28 MAY

Matthew Lutton unleashes the intimacy of Michael Gow's epic tale of family, darkness and hope. This production of one of Australia's greatest classics pits the internal conflict of family life against the struggle of a country shaping its indeterminate future.



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ASIA TOPA

Asia TOPA is a festival celebrating our relationship with contemporary Asia. Vital, fresh and always unpredictable, Asia TOPA offers a city-wide window onto the creative imaginations fuelling the many cultures of our region.

—
ASIA TOPA.COM.AU
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Asia TOPA is a joint initiative of the Sidney Myer Fund and Arts Centre Melbourne and is supported by the Victorian and Federal Governments

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SCENE & HEARD

The balloons you see on stage are weather balloons, which are traditionally used to collect data such as atmospheric pressure and wind speed.

 MalthouseTheatre

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// what happens next.

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