

MEDIA RELEASE

Level 5, 10 Hickson Road The Rocks
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sydneyfestival.org.au



Cypher

Nick Power, Australia

Witness the raw energy of hip-hop's most important ritual.



Photo: Cypher

"Cypher is raw skill, strength and talent... and yet the work is also beautiful and astounding"
Planet Arts *****

"Cypher is a thoroughly entertaining demonstration of the 'breaking' subculture"
Realtime Arts

Choreographed by **Nick Power**, one of Australia's leading hip-hop dance artists, *Cypher* is an ultra-skilful, high energy, dance work set to get the pulse racing at Riverside Theatre in Parramatta.

A 'cypher' is hip-hop's most important ritual, a circle where dancers vie for the open space in the centre to perform their set. Nick Power's *Cypher* is a raw celebration of hip-hop culture, adapting the traditional conventions and expressions of break-dancing, and battling it out in a supple symphony of movement.

Four battle hardened b*boys push the boundaries of movement to the booming beats of sound designer **Jack Prest**. Keeping the crowd deliberately close to experience the real deal, the dancers look the audience in the eye, inviting them into their world.

Breaking was born out of the block parties and street gangs of the ghetto youth in New York in the early seventies. While the dance form has evolved to become one of the most acrobatic styles on the planet it still retains the wild spirit and energy of its origins. *Cypher* uses this energy and movement coupled with cutting edge choreography to give the audience a glimpse into the depth of b*boy culture.

Cypher has just returned from a tour of Europe and Australia taking in URB Festival in Helsinki, a season in Melbourne and a string of dates through the Northern Territory including the remote Aboriginal community of Lajamanu where Nick Power has worked on various projects over the past 10 years.

Nick Power was the Artistic Director of the Platform Hip Hop Festival from 2008-2012, an annual celebration of hip-hop culture produced by Carriageworks. He has choreographed three shows for Stalker Theatre Co and has worked extensively with Tracks Dance as well as producing his own independent work.

Cypher invites you to step to the edge of the circle and witness the skill, culture and raw energy that exists within.

Where Riverside Theatre, Parramatta

When 19-23 January at 7.30pm
23 and 24 January also at 3pm

Duration 50 minutes no interval

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Price General Admission \$35
Standing tickets only

Bookings Sydney Festival on 1300 856 876
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