

MEDIA RELEASE

Level 5, 10 Hickson Road The Rocks
Sydney NSW 2000 Australia
Phone 61 2 8248 6500 Fax 61 2 8248 6599
sydneyfestival.org.au



Blood on the Dance Floor

ILBIJERRI Theatre Company & Jacob Boehme, Australia



Photo by Dorine Blaise

"Boehme is marvellous: his charismatic presence and easy smile, graceful movement and the emotional intelligence behind his storytelling make this an entertaining, moving work that elicits as much empathy as laughter. 4½ stars"

The Age

We hold memories in our blood. It connects us. It defines us.

Following a sell-out premiere season, *Blood on the Dance Floor* explores the legacies and memories embedded in our bloodlines. Examining the ways in which blood defines a person, **Jacob Boehme** questions how our most precious life source can both unite and divide us in our quest for community and connection.

Boehme is a choreographer, dancer and writer from the Narangga and Kaurna nations of South Australia. When Jacob was diagnosed with HIV in 1998 he reached out to his ancestors in search of answers.

Blood on the Dance Floor is a passionate and unapologetic physical monologue told in a contemporary voice. It pays homage to the ceremonies of Boehme's ancestors, whilst dissecting the politics of being gay, Blak and HIV Positive.

Blood on the Dance Floor is produced by the award-winning **ILBIJERRI Theatre Company**, Australia's leading and longest-running Indigenous theatre company. ILBIJERRI create, present and tour challenging and provocative theatrical works that describe with empathy and honesty the experiences of Indigenous people in Australia today. Their work empowers and enlightens audiences, urges discussion and brings Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices into the foreground of the national conversation.

Jacob Boehme is a Melbourne-based multidisciplinary theatre maker. He trained in dance at NAISDA and is an alumnus of the Victorian College of the Arts, graduating with a Master of Writing for Performance (2014), and Master of Puppetry (2007). He is also an alumnus of the British Council's ACCELERATE Indigenous Leadership Program and has recently been appointed Creative Director of the Melbourne Indigenous Arts Festival. *Blood on the Dance Floor* is Jacob's debut as a playwright, first developed as part of ILBIJERRI's Black Writers Lab.

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Written and performed by	Jacob Boehme
Director	Isaac Drandic
Choreographer	Mariaa Randall
Movement Coach	Rinske Ginsberg
Dramaturge	Chris Mead
Projection Designer	Keith Deverell
Costume Designer	Kelsey Henderson
Sound Designer	James Henry
Spatial Design	Jenny Hector

Where	Carriageworks Bay 20
When	21–25 January 21 & 25 January at 7:30pm 22-24 January at 6pm
Duration	60mins, no interval
Tickets	General Admission \$41/ \$37 + booking fee Warning: coarse language
Bookings	Sydney Festival on 1300 856 876 sydneyfestival.org.au/blood

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