

# 2021 SYD FEST



Photos: James Green and Brett Boardman

## THE LAST SEASON

FORCE MAJEURE | WORLD PREMIERE



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CARRIAGEWORKS

6–10 JANUARY

75 MINS

**Presented by** Sydney Festival

**Commissioned by** Carriageworks

**Produced by** Force Majeure

**Devised by** the Company

### CREATIVE TEAM

**Director** Danielle Micich

**Choreography** Danielle Micich in collaboration with the Youth Company

**Music** Kelly Ryall

**Text & Dramaturgy** Tom Wright

**Set & Costume Designer** Marg Horwell

**Lighting Designer** Damien Cooper

**Assistant Director** Liesel Zink

**Youth Company Rehearsal Director** Elle Evangelista

**Design Assistant** Emma White

**Creative Producer** Colm O'Callaghan

### PERFORMERS

**Paul Capsis** (Autumn)

**Olwen Fouéré** (Winter)

**Pamela Rabe** (Summer)

### YOUTH COMPANY

Isabel Bantog, Owen Beckman-Scott, Luka Brett-Hall, Maddie Brett-Hall, Imala Cush, Niamh Cush, Nicholas Edwards, Ember Henninger, Piper Kemp, Poppy McKinnon, Julia Piazza, Tallulah Pickard, Louis Ting

### LIVE MUSIC ENSEMBLE

**Voice & Violin** Susie Bishop

**Percussion** Niki Johnson

**Electronics** Kelly Ryall

**Cello** Freya Schack-Arnott

### CREW

**Production Managers** Cliffie Rosenberg, Jason Thelwell

**Stage Managers** Brooke Kiss, Natalie Moir

**Rigger & Head Mechanist** Garnett Obstill

**Chaperones** Milly Grindrod, Emma Squires

**Stage Management Secondment** Leia Loisa

**Creative Development Contributors** Ursula Yovich, Ellen Lauren

**Photography:** James Green and Brett Boardman

**Concept and Art Direction:** Andrew van der Westhuyzen

### FORCE MAJEURE TEAM

**Artistic Director** Danielle Micich

**Executive Director** Colm O'Callaghan

**Associate Producer** Charlotte Barrett

**Accounts Manager** Rhanda Mansour

**Marketing Consultant** Luke de Zilva

**Financial Consultant** Emma Murphy

### CREDITS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Board of Directors of Force Majeure, Australia Council for the Arts, Create NSW, Carriageworks, Opera Australia, Sydney Festival, Sydney Theatre Company, Belvoir, Kate Blackmore, Brett Boardman, Ashley de Prazer, James Green, Thom Smyth, Scott Fisher, Ben Stewart, Judy Tanner, Jenny Irwin, Monica Smith, Fiona Holley, Bridget James, Danielle O'Keefe, Lauren A. Proietti, Kabuku Public Relations, Collider, Grainne Brunsdon, the parents of the Youth Company.

Force Majeure's Youth Company was made possible by strategic funding from the NSW government through the Ministry for the Arts.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Set in the future and drawing on our past, *The Last Season* is made up of the old and the new and explores how we got where we are today. Old ideas and attitudes clashing with new ways of thinking and moving forward – we are in a tug of war.

*The Last Season* is inspired by Vivaldi's famous work *Four Seasons* and uses the framework of a continuous four-part cycle. Composed at the start of the second agricultural revolution, Vivaldi's music masterpiece was considered revolutionary in form and concept at the time. Three centuries later it endures.

Perhaps Vivaldi could foresee the great changes that would be brought about by the revolution. Today, his work feels like a message to future generations to remind us that change is constant and cyclical. The music reminds us of a world that once existed but is rapidly disappearing before our eyes.

For generations, children have been led to believe that the kind of idyllic world in Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* still exists. The music depicts this, it wants to believe in this idea. But when the music stops, young people are confronted by a bleak reality. The deception is exposed. They realise that we may never return to eden.

**Danielle Micich, January 2021**

## ABOUT FORCE MAJEURE

One of Australia's most celebrated arts companies, Force Majeure produces critically acclaimed dance theatre. Using its unique blend of storytelling and movement, the company creates award-winning works by exploring and questioning contemporary culture.

A resident company at Carriageworks, Force Majeure's original works are created through collaboration and partnerships with leading Australian artists and companies. Through a rigorous devising process, Force Majeure works with multidisciplinary artists to produce unforgettable theatrical experiences that ignite curiosity in audiences, and inspiration in artists.

As an industry leader, Force Majeure invests deeply in artform and artist development through the company's INCITE program. INCITE offers invaluable training in the company's devising process and sets the standard in our artform for young, emerging and mid-career artists.

The company is led by Artistic Director Danielle Micich and was established in 2002 by Founding Artistic Director Kate Champion.

