

THE CHRONICLES

Sydney
Festival
2025



Daniel Boud

THE CHRONICLES

Stephanie Lake Company
WORLD PREMIERE SEASON

Roslyn Packer Theatre
16-19 January
1 hour (no interval)

CAST AND CREDITS

Choreographer Stephanie Lake
Composer Robin Fox
Lighting Designer Bosco Shaw
Set Designer Charles Davis
Costume Designer Harriet Oxley
Dancers Max Burgess, Rachel Coulson, Tra Mi Dinh, Tyrel Dulvarie, Marni Green, Ashley McLellan, Darci O'Rourke, Harrison Ritchie-Jones, Robert Tinning, Georgia Van Gils, Kimball Wong, Jack Ziesing
Solo Vocalist Oliver Mann
Children's Choir (Sydney Festival)
Sydney Children's Choir
Conductor (Sydney Festival) Lachlan Massey
Producer Beth Raywood Cross
Rehearsal Director/Bodywork Therapist Paea Leach
Production Managers Emily O'Brien and Lisa Osborn
Associate Lighting Designer/Console Programmer
Rhys Pottinger
Sound Engineer James Wilkinson
Dancer Understudy Georgia Rudd
Costume Makers Fiona Holley, Emma Ikin, Jo Foley and Kym Yeow
Set Design Secondment Andrea Knezevic

Sydney Children's Choir
Artistic Director Lyn Williams
Executive Director Louisa O'Toole
Artistic Associate Lachlan Massey
Choir Coordinator Lara van den Dolder

Children's Choir Director for Creative Development
Renee Heron, The Yarra Voices

ABOUT THE SHOW

Once again Stephanie Lake Company delivers a blood-pumping, heart-as-bomb-ticking, breath-stealing exploration of what it means to be human. Within the space of an hour, we see not just a birth but inside the viscera and sinew of a body. We could be watching the neural pathways, the heart's thumping ventricles, the urgency of sex. We begin in utero, freefall into adolescence, then inside an arcade game of virtual reality, the dancers becoming their own best and worst avatars. We're in the rat race of adulthood, all burnt out automatons. We're in a receiving line of condolence that turns to a violent *danse macabre* – and because there's always, *always* a love of the absurd running through Lake's work, we're in a pillow fight as well as a maelstrom; a Pietà that becomes a science fiction story. How could we not be mesmerised? Lake offers a virtuosic dance of ideas. Electrified by Robin Fox's score, the imagery and emotion of *The Chronicles* implants in the brain, to remind us that we're always remaking ourselves.

– Chloe Hooper

A NOTE FROM STEPHANIE LAKE

From the womb to the tomb.

That's how Robin Fox described *The Chronicles* one day and it feels entirely apt. Starting from the tiniest embryonic movement, through explosive, pulsating life-force and all the way back to the final quiet – this piece grapples with life and mortality, the fragility and the frightening power of human beings. I've been thinking about the things we leave behind and the ways in which we destroy and rebuild in a constant cycle. Most of all I have been thinking about our one precious life.

Creating *The Chronicles* has been an enormous, joyful team endeavour. I'm moved and forever grateful to everyone who's made it happen. To the dancers, singers, collaborators and the entire team behind the scenes, thank you, thank you, thank you.

Please enjoy.



STEPHANIE LAKE COMPANY

Stephanie Lake Company is a multi-award-winning contemporary dance company based in Melbourne. Known for a gutsy, original choreographic style and striking visual aesthetic, Stephanie Lake Company's highly acclaimed works include *Manifesto*, *Colossus*, *Monsters*, *Skeleton Tree*, *Replica* and *Pile of Bones*.

Working in collaboration with Australia's leading dancers and designers, the company has performed in major festivals and venues across Australia and the world, touring internationally to France, Germany, Hong Kong, Denmark, Singapore, Scotland, Canada, Switzerland, Argentina, Geneva, Ireland, Taiwan and beyond.

Stephanie Lake Company collaborates across theatre, film, music video, opera and visual art and has created several mass-scale public participation projects for over fifteen hundred participants. Stephanie Lake Company is supported by Creative Victoria, Creative Australia, Canny Quine Foundation, The Humanity Foundation, Arts Projects Australia and generous individual donors.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Stephanie Lake Company would like to acknowledge that *The Chronicles* has been assisted by the Australian Government's Major Festivals Initiative, managed by Creative Australia, its arts funding and advisory body, in association with the Confederation of Australian International Arts Festivals Inc., commissioned by RISING,

Sydney Festival, Brisbane Festival and Adelaide Festival.

The Chronicles is also generously supported by Creative Australia, Creative Victoria, Sidney Myer Foundation, Canny Quine Foundation, The Humanity Foundation, Michael Kantor, Arts Projects Australia, Barry and Deborah Conyngham, Masha Lewis and Stephanie Lake Company's Commissioning Circle of donors: Linda Herd, James McCaughey, Zoe & Vafa Ferdowsian, Fiona Griffiths & Tony Osmond, Fiona Sweet, Jenny Kinder, Rosemary Walls, Ziyin Gantner, Carole Lander and Anonymous.

The Company would also like to thank The Australian Ballet for providing studio residencies, and Samantha Hines for her contributions to *The Chronicles*.

Additional music:

"Ah Poor Bird" (trad) Arranged by Robin Fox

"Forever Young" (Alphaville)

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SUPPORT STEPHANIE LAKE COMPANY

Stephanie Lake Company is a small company doing big things. Your donation will directly support Stephanie Lake Company to continue to create new shows, employ artists and tour our works all over the world.

Read more and donate [here](#). Thank you!

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