

restless

DANCE THEATRE

Counterpoise

by Michelle Ryan

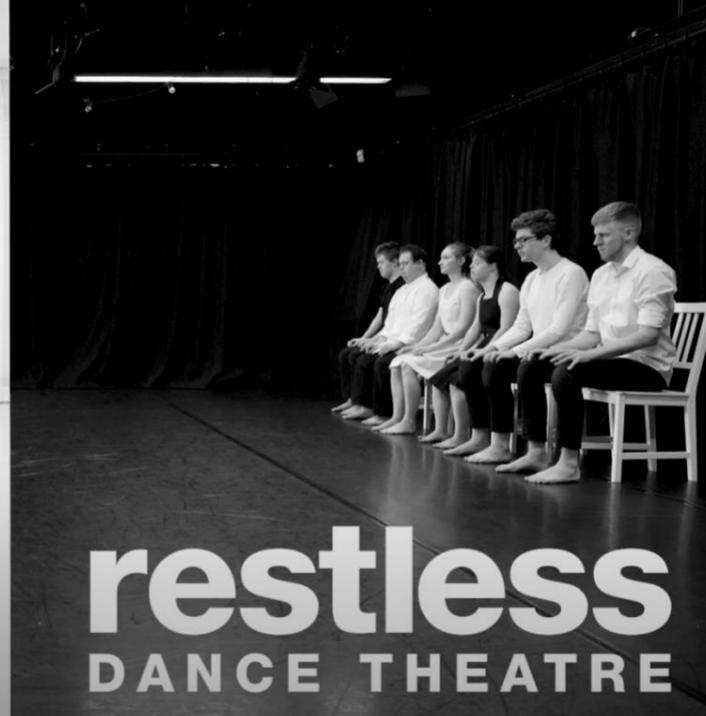


Definition/Meaning

(Noun) a weight, force, factor, or power/influence that acts to balance or oppose another.

(Noun) a state of symmetry, balance, or equilibrium.

(Verb) to balance or oppose something, or to present a contrast to something.



29 DANCE THEATRE

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About the work

Counterpoise a work for 4 Restless dancers and 4 Korean dancers.

Counterpoise, a bold new dance theatre work, will bring together an exciting creative team including, Michelle Ryan, Artistic Director of Restless, Sngkn Kim, Korean Music Project and Sunyoung Lee, Artistic Director of 29Dong Dance Theatre and their respective artists.

With so many opportunities for connection and exposure to different cultures, our separate identities have started to blur at the boundaries. The ease in which we can communicate, has helped to highlight our similarities and our differences. *Counterpoise* asks the question, what is our universal culture? Are we heading to a tipping point of a vastly similar human experience, irrespective of the lines that divide us?

In a distinctive black and white world this bold new dance theatre work explores the similarities and difference between our two cultures; what brings us together and what separates us, while celebrating diversity and cultural collaboration on the world stage.

The nature of Michelle's collaborative working methods will celebrate the differing voices of the Australian and Korean dancers, both with and without disability. Working together as equals, this non-verbal dance theatre work will eloquently address and express their individual voices allowing audience members to reassess both dance and disability and differing cultures at the one time.

Counterpoise has completed 2 developments of the work on zoom. Please refer to Media to view the work developed so far.

"All overt and covert emotions would shrivel without the beam of contrast and comparison to supply context and implication. We need the value of counterpoise to recognize and distinguish between similar and dissimilar concepts. How do we identify the importance of hope if we never felt despair? How do we appreciate the value of society and companionship until we experience solitude and loneliness? What would any relationship be unless draped with the boughs of thoughts and feelings, without the ongoing interaction between conscientious action and unreserved devotion, without endless empathy fused with boundless love? In the ring of time, without the verve supplied by both the real and the imaginary, life would be bland, insipid, and lacklustre."

— Kilroy J. Oldster, *Dead Toad Scrolls*

Creative Team

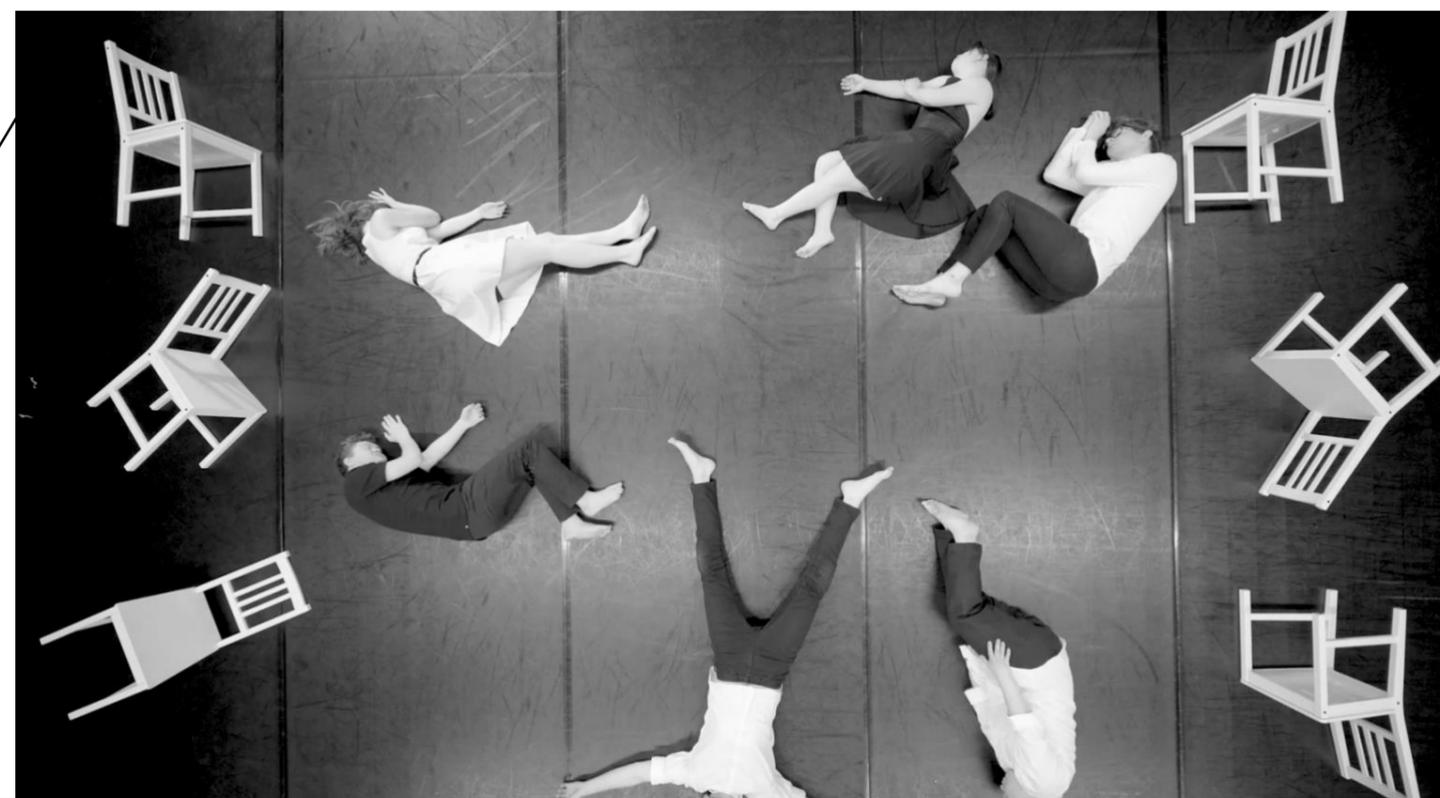
Artistic Team
 Artistic Director – Michelle Ryan
 Assistant Director – Larissa McGowan
 Assistant Director – Sunyoung Lee
 Assistant Instructor– Youngchan Kim

Australian Dancers – 4 Restless dancers
 Darcy Carpenter, Michael Hodyl, Alexis Luke, Madalene Macera (understudy) Michael Noble

South Korean Dancers – 4 29Dong dancers
 Minsoo Kim, Sangseo Park, Myeongji Lee, Yeonhee Cho

Korean Music Project
 Producer - Sngkn Kim
 Company Manager – Yool Lee
 Artistic Director – Sunwha Lee

UniSA Connect2Abilities
 Collaboration Coordination - Dr Boram Lee
 Collaboration Support - Professor Ruth Rentschler



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Cultural differences should not separate us from each other, but rather cultural diversity brings a collective strength that can benefit all of humanity.

Robert Alan (American writer, artist and social activist; 1922-1978)

Restless Dance Theatre is an Australian dance theatre company working with 7 dancers with and without disability led by Artistic Director, Michelle Ryan, artist with disability. Their artistic voice is loud, strong and original. Restless invigorates, influences and diversifies dance by creating innovative and highly distinctive works of dance theatre. Restless is a place where diversity is celebrated, and all artists thrive creatively.

29Dong Dance Theatre, based in Seoul, is a contemporary dance theatre company led by choreographer Sunyoung Lee. 29Dong, strives to fulfill the motto "contain the times with an awakening consciousness," and prioritizes those living contemporaneously. The company promotes artistic value and makes work that share lives while breathing art. 29Dong works with dancers with and without disability.

KOREAN MUSIC PROJECT is a project-based music company. They are pioneers, creating a new genre of music by embedding digital technology into their music practice. The company aims to share their musical expertise to further social innovation and to become ambassadors for Korean culture worldwide.



Restless Awards

***Special Commendation** Ruby Award 2022 - **Best Work or Event Within a Festival** *Guttered*

***Winner** Ruby Award - Sustained Contribution by an Organisation 2019

***Winner** Ruby Award - Artistic Innovation and Enterprise 2017 *Intimate Space*

***Winner** Adelaide Critics Circle Award - Group Award (Professional Theatre) *Intimate Space*

***Nomination** Ruby Award – Best Work or Event outside of a Festival *Seeing Through Darkness*

***Nomination** Helpmann Award - Best Dance Production 2017 *Intimate Space*

***Nomination** Helpmann Award - Best Dance Production 2018 *Intimate Space*

***Nomination** Ruby Award - Best New Work 2017 *Intimate Space*

Media

Counterpoise 8 min edit

<https://youtu.be/drCevgBq8-Y>

Counterpoise Teaser Trailer

<https://youtu.be/L9tyCiqn64M>



C O U N T E R P O I S E

Current Timeline

August 2022	Zoom development in Seoul and Adelaide	Confirmed
November/December 2022	Adelaide 2-week development	Confirmed
March 2023	Zoom Rehearsals	Confirmed
September/October 2023	Final rehearsals	TBC
October 2023	Premiere	TBC

For more information please contact:

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Website/Socials

Restless Dance Theatre website: www.restlessdance.org

Restless Dance Theatre Instagram: [@restless_dance_theatre](https://www.instagram.com/restless_dance_theatre)

Restless Dance Theatre Facebook: [@RestlessDanceTheatre](https://www.facebook.com/RestlessDanceTheatre)