

restless

DANCE THEATRE

Guttered

by Michelle Ryan

Seven men and women.

One bowling alley.

Different lanes.

Photo by Shane Reid



Michelle Ryan

Artistic Director

Why don't we allow people with disability to have the dignity of risk? Disability Service Providers often program bowling into daily living programs however guards on the sides of the lanes restrict failure. Failure is a key motivation to develop and learn.

A bowling alley is such a theatrical setting, the noise of the pins falling, the smell of the oil from the hot chips, the classic bowling shirts and shoes and the raucous interaction of the bowlers, it is almost a sensory overload. In this work we share the dancer's intimate stories of winning and losing in this intimate but public context.

Creative Team

Director Michelle Ryan	Creative Producer Roz Hervey
Assistant Director Josephine Fitzgerald	Rehearsal Director Larissa McGowan
Lighting Design Geoff Cobham	Dancers 7 Restless Dancers
Musical Score Jason Sweeney	
Designer Meg Wilson	



Photo by Roy Vandervegt

About the work

Guttered explores the notion of being a winner or a loser within the context of ten pin bowling and reunites the award-winning creative team from *Intimate Space*. Set in a classic bowling alley, with the mesmerising sights and sounds, the audience are up close to the action as the performers put themselves on the line for success or failure.

Set in a classic bowling alley, with the mesmerising sights and sounds, the audience are immersed in the competitive and social interaction of a game.

Guttered further develops the presentation of work in non-traditional venues, which Michelle explored so successfully in her work: *Intimate Space* set in a working hotel.

The unusual venue helps audiences sidestep their own prejudices and see the dancers as what they are: dancers performing exceptional work – who happen to have disability.

Michelle Ryan with her quirky and emotionally charged directing style questions how a social game can bring out the best and worst in people and explores the sometimes delicate edge between competitiveness and camaraderie.

Think Pina Bausch meets Punchdrunk!

Previous presentations

March 2021	Premiere Adelaide Festival
September 2022	Brisbane Festival
January 2023	Sydney Festival

Guttered premiered at the 2021 Adelaide Festival and with the support of MFI funding toured to Brisbane Festival in 2022 and Sydney Festival in 2023.



Photo by Shane Reid

Site Specific Performance

Guttered has a broad appeal, especially for audiences interested in site specific work, dance and inclusive work. The work appeals to all ages. Presenting in a non-traditional space is exciting for audiences. They get to discover their city anew and experience the traditional bowling alley through a different lens. For audiences it's not only the show, it's the full immersive bowling experience. Have a drink, buy some hot chips and stay on after the show for a game with friends. *Guttered* connects the Festival to new audiences and the festival audience to new communities.

We have developed a strong relationship with the Head Office of Kingpin, Australia. The Kingpin brand is part of TEEG, one of the world's largest Family Entertainment and Edutainment Centre groups, with operations across 7 countries and over 250 locations and growing. We would love to present the work in festival contexts around the world.... there is a bowling alley in most cities!



Photo by Roy Vandervegt



Tech Specs

Detailed specifications available upon request

Audience capacity - 40-50

Running time - 60 mins

8 shows per week

Reviews

Many magical moments...Guttered is both affirming and assertive, and an absolute delight **The Advertiser**

"Themes akin to being permitted to risk-take and the gaze of the onlooker emerge among vignettes of hatred, love, victimisation, sensuality, winning, losing, and well-meaning intentions. Each is articulated with passion and professionalism by the ensemble.....an event not to missed" **HiFiWay Live**

"These dancers work seamlessly as a team and tell stories of rejection, care, aggression and underestimation of people with disability. This is an extremely clever piece of theatre and quite mesmerising for the hour-long performance. Well done again Restless Dance on making theatre that makes us really think." **Stage Whispers**

"another terrific work by Ryan and the company, well deserving of inclusion in an international festival anywhere" **Dance Australia**



Photo by Shane Reid

Media

Guttered 2021 Teaser

<https://youtu.be/1J1rN1g3SP8>

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*



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For more information please contact:

Roz Hervey

Creative Producer, Restless Dance Theatre

roz@restlessdance.org

+61 402 227 920

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)

Restless acknowledges the family clans of the Kurna Nation and we shall walk softly and with respect as we feel the footprints of their ancestors

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