

# restless

DANCE THEATRE



**Shifting Perspectives**

# About the Work

Shifting Perspectives isn't just a dance performance; it's a multi-dimensional experience. Part dance performance, part lighting installation, Shifting Perspectives features the diverse dancers of Restless Dance Theatre performing in conversation with incredible lighting within a forest of 24 mirrored plinths. The mirrored plinths can swivel allowing the dancers to control what the audience sees as well as bouncing the light around the performance space in visually exciting ways. The audience are at times invited into the installation/dance work or they observe from the perimeter. The mesmerising 30-minute dance work, highlighting diversity on stage, is viewed in a multiplicity of ways as the dancers are seen live or reflected in the revolving mirrors. The work premiered to a captivated audience in [Illuminate Adelaide 2023](#).

“

*I am interested in how mirrors reflect and distort the human form and the trickery of light and reflection. The moving mirrors enable the dancers to control what the audience see, challenging perception of space, form and movement. The performance uses light and reflection to produce illusions that blur the lines between reality and trickery.*

”



# About Restless Dance Theatre

Restless Dance Theatre is Australia's leading creator and collaborator of dance theatre by dancers with and without disability. Led by Artistic Director Michelle Ryan, an award-winning artist with disability, and Creative Producer Roz Hervey Restless creates loud, strong, and original dance theatre nationally and internationally. The work is collaboratively devised, inclusive and informed by disability. Our artists invigorate, influence, and diversify Australian dance. Restless brings artists with diverse minds, bodies, and imaginations together to create contemporary dance theatre from everyday lived experiences; manifested into beautiful art, embedding inclusion into our screens, on our stages and in unexpected places. Restless Dance Theatre is a place where diversity is celebrated, and all artists thrive creatively.

## Creative Team

Director **Michelle Ryan**  
Concept & Lighting Design  
**Matthew Adey – House of Vnholy**  
Sound Design **Sascha Budimski**  
Costume Design **Renate Henschke**  
Assistant Director **Larissa McGowan**  
Assistant Director **Josephine Fitzgerald**

## Restless Team

Chief Executive Officer **Julie Moralee**  
Artistic Director **Michelle Ryan**  
Creative Producer **Roz Hervey**  
Finance Manager **Theresa Williams**  
Marketing Manager **Radh  Osborn**

## Performers

- 7 Restless Dance Theatre Company Dancers
- 1 Guest Dancer
- 1 Front of House Performer



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# Marketing Information

## Copy

Shifting Perspectives is an immersive lighting performance showcasing the unique personalities of the dancers from Restless Dance Theatre. Created by light artist Matthew Adey and director Michelle Ryan the work asks the audience to contemplate how a stationary body can become a moving body and vice versa.

The dancers move amongst a forest of swivelling mirrored plinths as the audiences' catches glimpses of different performances from different aspects even while being still. The moving mirrors enable the dancers to control what the audience see and challenge the audience's viewpoint.

Being exposed and obscured the audience is free to wander while experiencing the constant changing environment.

The work explores how we can play with bodies in the context of mirrors and how the dancers can become an extension to replicate each other while being completely separate.

**Duration:** 45 minute experience including a 30 minute performance

**Media:** [Dropbox](#)

**Content Warning:** Dynamic Lighting (no strobe) plus haze

**Age Suitability:** All ages

## Images:

Hero imagery [Dropbox](#)

Production images [Dropbox](#)

Restless Logo Pack [Dropbox](#)

## Videos:

Trailer [Dropbox](#)

Full Video [DropBox](#)

## Mandatory acknowledgements for *Shifting Perspective* presentations:

This work was originally commissioned and presented by Illuminate Adelaide 2023 and made possible through the generous support of James Darling and Lesley Forwood, the Restless Donor Circle, Australia Council for the Arts, Arts South Australia, and the BankSA Foundation.

## Marketing Summary: Who's the Audience?

Shifting Perspectives is a contemporary dance performance/interacting lighting experience for all ages. The show features symbolic storytelling that explores light and reflection to create a new innovative installation and dance theatre work.

While its symbolic nature captures the attention of adults, its visual appeal means that young audiences enjoy the pieces as well. Shifting Perspectives is perfect for school performances.

Restless Dance Theatre's Adelaide audiences were highly engaged through its premiere season at the Illuminate Festival with 790 tickets sold over 12 sessions. The abstract nature of Shifting Perspectives means there is ample opportunity to engage audiences and further reach for future seasons.

### Demographics

- 25-44 years old
- Instagramable moments
- Appreciating for fusing art, innovation and technology
- Pushing boundaries and they way we think

### Location:

- Urban areas with access to cultural events

### Education:

- High school graduate, often with interests in the arts, humanities, or social sciences

### Occupation:

- Employed full time work or study
- Professionals, creatives, and students

### Psychographics

#### Interests:

- Passionate about the performing arts, particularly modern and experimental dance forms
- Young families looking for an event to wow every age group

#### Values:

- Appreciation for creativity, expression, and innovation in the arts

#### Lifestyle:

- Active participants in the cultural scene, attending performances, galleries, and festivals

#### Behaviours:

- Engage with the arts through both attendance and social media, often sharing their experiences and advocating for the arts community

# Marketing Information cont.

## Goals:

Seeking novel and thought-provoking experiences, personal enrichment through the arts, and opportunities to connect with like-minded individuals.

## Challenges:

Finding unique and cutting-edge performances that resonate on a personal and intellectual level.

## How can you reach them:

- *Arts:* Theatres, dance companies, art galleries, and music venues and organisations that create and showcase artistic projects and performances.
- *Education:* Academic institutions and schools focusing on teaching and research in humanities and arts disciplines.
- *Entertainment:* Film, music, television, and interactive media.
- *Media and Communication:* Journalism, writing, editing, and content creation for various media platforms that focus on human interest stories, cultural critique, and analysis.
- *Philanthropy and Non-profit Sector:* Organisations that support humanitarian causes, education, cultural development, and social services.
- *Government and Public Policy:* Departments and agencies that work on cultural policies, arts funding, education policy, and public engagement.



# Current Timeline

27 July – 30 July 2023	Premiere Illuminate Adelaide	Completed
29 May – 1 June 2024	VIVID Sydney	Confirmed

## Tech Specs

(detailed tech specs available on request)

Duration - 45 minute experience including a 30 minute performance

Capacity - approx. 100 - 200 dependant on space

Accessibility - Audiences stand and are encouraged to move around the space if they choose. Some seating to be made available for those who require it.

Auslan - Auslan interpretation is incorporated into the performance.

Audio Description - Describers need to be placed so that they have a clear view of the cast but so that audience members do not hear them describing. This position will need to be venue specific.

*Shifting Perspectives* can take place outside of traditional dance theatre spaces. The plinths and dancers require a flat, black, level, dance-suitable performance surface, minimum performance area must be 12m x 12m. Performance orientation and audience location/s can potentially be flexible pending venue layout. Audience are encouraged to walk through the performance space at times during the performance. Audience can engage with the work as a stand-alone installation following the performance.



# Reviews



*Shifting Perspectives was a beautiful mind-bending experience that expanded and stretched our reality.*

*- Arts Hub*

*Shifting Perspectives provides an escape into an alternative space where the two dimensional expands into three, perhaps even more, providing the respite needed in these speeded-up, conflicted days. Highly recommended.*

*- InReview*

*Their infectious enthusiasm never fails to delight.*

*- The Advertiser*

*Mesmerising and immersive study of light and darkness, shape and movement, perception and reality.*

*- CityMag*

*Restless Dance Theatre champions for self-expression and accessibility*

*- LimeLight*



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# Project Supporters

## Acknowledgements

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### Government Funding



Government of South Australia  
Arts South Australia



Australian Government



### Foundations and Trusts



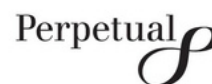
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### Memorial Donation

IN MEMORY OF  
JIM AND LORRAINE RYAN



## Restless Awards

**Winner** Brand South Australia - Absolute Best Social Impact Award 2023

**Winner** PAC Australia - Wendy Blacklock Industry Legend Award 2023

**Special Commendation** Ruby Awards - Best Work Within a Festival Guttered 2022

**Winner** CINARS International Collaboration Award Écoute Pour Voir - Listen To See 2022

**Winner** Michelle Ryan Australian Council Award for Dance 2020

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

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

**Winner** Adelaide Critics Circle Award - Group Award Intimate Space 2017

For more information please contact:

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**Website/Socials**

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[@restless\\_dance\\_theatre](https://www.instagram.com/restless_dance_theatre)

[@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.