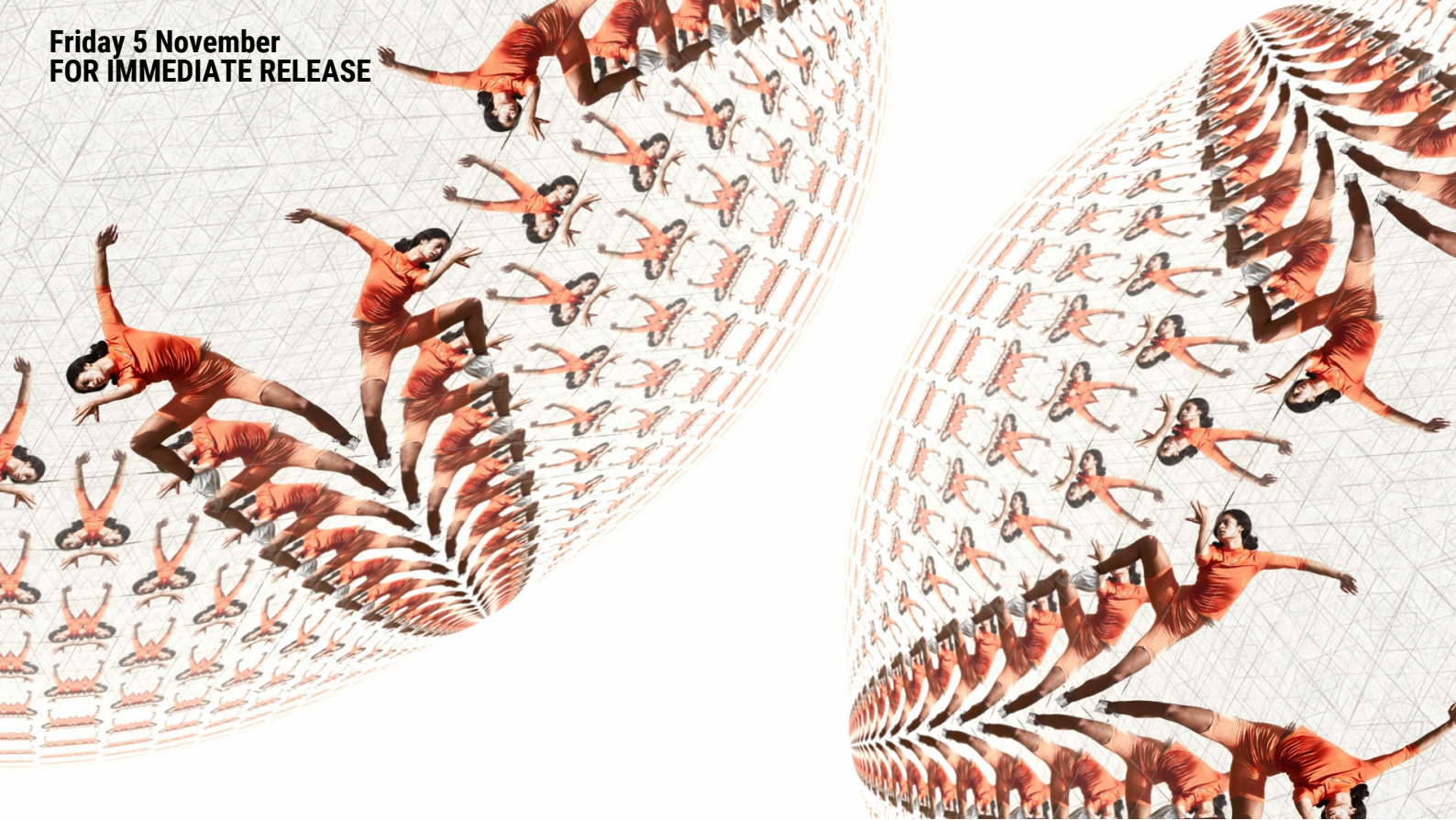


Friday 5 November
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE DICTATES THE DANCE IN LATEST DANCENORTH WORK

What happens when a machine controls the moves? From 18 – 20 November Townsville audiences will have the opportunity to witness the outcomes of this daring artistic experiment as Dancenorth presents their final performance season of the year.

Test Subject is a live dance experiment that employs a computer as the dictator of a dance show.

Designed and directed by the award-winning choreographer, sound designer, and software coder, **Alisdair Macindoe**, the Dancenorth Ensemble will engage in a live dance experiment where they will follow and respond to the outputs of an intelligently designed computer system.

Inspired by personality cults and the obedience experiments conducted by Stanley Milgram throughout the mid to late 20th century, *Test Subject* re-contextualises human behaviour experiments inside contemporary dance in the tech heavy 21st century to examine our relationship with supercomputers.

Each performance will be unique as the dancers will respond to new instructions each night during the season, which they will hear for the first time live on stage.

The ideas in *Test Subject* were conceptualised and developed by Macindoe during an artist residency at Dancenorth in 2020, where he explored the relationship between computer code and the performing body.

Dancenorth's **No Show** program provides Australian choreographers and directors the opportunity to work full time with the Dancenorth ensemble free from the need for outcome, product and performance.

Alisdair Macindoe was the inaugural No Show residency recipient (2020) and this year's expanded program welcomed Chris Dyke, one of Australia's leading disability dance artists, as well as highly respected independent Melbourne-based choreographer, performer and teacher Jo Lloyd.

Dancenorth has become an epicentre of cultural exchange to support dancemaking in Australia via residencies, secondments, and creative developments. Dancenorth's artistic capacity and leadership development program is generously supported by The Ian Potter Foundation.

Dancenorth Executive Director and Co-CEO Hillary Coyne said Dancenorth's investment in the presentation of *Test Subject* demonstrates the company's deep commitment to creating professional pathways for independent artists.

"We take seriously our role to support the health and vitality of the Australian arts and cultural sector more broadly by continuing to find ways to offer opportunities to the many independent artists around the country," Ms Coyne said.

"This year we welcomed over 70 guest artists and more than 40 secondments to work and spend time with the company," Ms Coyne said.

Macindoe has received 5 Green Room Awards; a Helpmann Award and a New York Performing Arts Award 'Bessie'. He was formerly Resident Director for Lucy Guerin Inc, the 2019 Ausdance Peggy Van Praagh Fellow and a 2020-21 Sidney Myer Foundation Creative Fellow.

Test Subject runs from 18 – 20 November at Dancenorth Theatre with bookings via dancenorth.com.au

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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