

*An exquisite immersion of dance, music and film exploring the science of the Universe presented in partnership with Ausdance ACT and Inspiring Australia for Australian Dance Week 2025*

STELLAR  
*presents*

# STARS *in 3D*



**A Block Theatre, Gorman Arts Centre, Braddon**

**6.30pm 29th April** - *followed by Dance Week opening*

**6.30pm 30th April** - *pre show talk with Dr Brad Tucker  
and Distinguished Professor Susan Scott,  
followed by the show @ 7.30pm*

Featuring the Chamaeleon Collective with special guests Hilal Dance Australia

**[www.thestellarcompany.com](http://www.thestellarcompany.com)**

Photo: Andrew Sikorski

# STARS *in* 3D

Stars in 3D is an exquisite experience of immersive beauty – visuals, movement and music, founded in extraordinary science and technical skills and presented by women of all abilities.

A celebration of the Universe, from chromosomes to mapping the galaxy. The very essence of humanity explored within stunning visualisations of the universe featuring the music, movement and technology.

Featuring the Chamaeleon Collective with special guests Hilal Dance Australia. We are honoured to host Distinguished Professor Susan Scott and Dr Brad Tucker for a pre show talk on the 30<sup>th</sup> April.

Created in collaboration with ASTRO 3D and supported by Ausdance ACT, Inspiring Australia, Recovery VR, QL2 Dance and Sidestage Production Services.

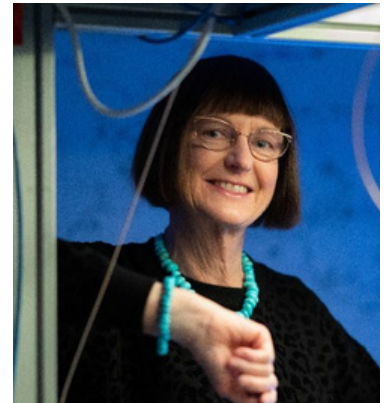
Initially co-commissioned and presented as part of the Uncharted Territory Festival, 2023.

*The Stellar Company acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land where we meet and work, the Ngunnawal and Ngambri people, and the many other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from across Australia who have now made Canberra their home. We celebrate and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of the ACT and region.*



# Speakers, Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 6.30-7.20pm

**Distinguished Professor Susan Scott** is Professor of Theoretical Physics in the Centre for Gravitational Astrophysics at the Australian National University. Her research expertise is in gravity, general relativity theory, cosmology and gravitational waves. She is a member of the international team which achieved the first direct detection of gravitational waves in 2015. Her research has been recognised by her receipt of the 2020 Prime Minister's Prize for Science, and the international Dirac Medal for Theoretical Physics in 2020 and Blaise Pascal Medal for Physics in 2022.



Susan is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science, the European Academy of Sciences, and the International Society on General Relativity and Gravitation. She is passionate about science and science education, and as a woman and the proud mum of two daughters, cares deeply about the participation of women in science and policy making which will determine the future health of our planet.

**Dr Brad Tucker** is an Astrophysicist/Cosmologist at the Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Mt. Stromlo Observatory and the National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science, at the Australian National University. Brad received Bachelor's degrees in Physics, Philosophy, and Theology from the University of Notre Dame and a PhD in Astrophysics and Cosmology from Mt. Stromlo Observatory at the ANU. He's leading programs using the NASA's Kepler Space Telescope and TESS to understand why and how stars blow up. He's also building a network of ultraviolet telescopes in the upper atmosphere, and a search to find Planet 9.



Brad frequently gives talks to school groups and the public about Astronomy and has regular segments on various radio and TV stations. He has also developed a series of Astronomy coins with the Royal Australian Mint, consulted on science fiction movies, and has been featured in TV specials. He is currently in the process of writing his first popular book and has developed an online Astronomy course.

# STARS<sub>in3D</sub>



# In the Beginning

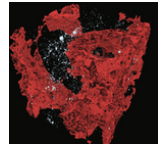
Performers: Chamaeleon Collective

Choreography: the Company

Music: Quicksilver - DJBC and Liberty, Doppler - Charlotte de Witte

Performers: Brydie Bulley, Anna Connelly, Katie Senior, Milly Whitehead, Neave Darmody, Lateasha Marsden, Patricia Hayes Kavanagh, Sarah Long, Emily Smith, Karin Adriansdatter and Liz Lea

## Film: The Epoch of Reionisation



Computer Simulation - Paul Geil & Simon Mutch - University of Melbourne.

Not long after the Big Bang, the universe was filled with an extremely dense fog of neutral hydrogen atoms (a proton, a neutron and an electron). As the first stars emerged, their energy heated the surrounding hydrogen gas, causing ionisation (or removing the electrons). At first, these areas were like small bubbles, and as the bubbles grew and punched ever-larger holes into the neutral universe, they eventually began to overlap, enabling ionising

## Film: The First Stars



Computer Simulations - John Wise, Tom Abel, Ralf Haehler (Kavli Institute for Particle Physics and Cosmology) Sajay Sunny Mathew, Christoph Fedderath and Amit Seta (Australian National University)

The dynamical and changing nature, and the involvement of a wide range of complex physical mechanisms make acquiring a comprehensive picture of first star formation a challenging task. This hydrodynamical computer simulations use the laws of physics, mathematical algorithms and our understanding of gravity, turbulence, magnetic fields, radiation and feedback mechanisms to simulate the creation and evolution of the first stars in the universe.

## Film: Galaxy Evolution



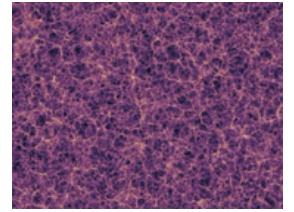
Computer Simulations - Nathan Gouldbaum (University of Illinois)

These simulations of Milky-Way like disk galaxies are to understand how global properties of disk galaxies influence the formation of stellar nurseries and how the energy deposited by newborn massive stars feeds back into global disk scales, creating a steady-state system, much like our galaxy has experienced for billions of years.

# Origins

Performers; Karin Adrainsdatter and Eva Kolak  
Music: Parsal, John Metcalfe

**Film: Matter Evolution**

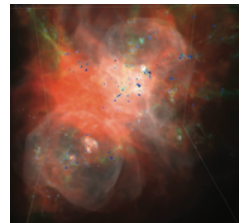


Computer Simulations - Virgo consortium. The Millenium run is a computer simulation used to investigate how the distribution of matter in the universe has evolved over time and how observed galaxies were formed. It traces over 10 billion “particles” - each particle represents approximately a billion solar masses of dark matter. The region of space simulated is a cube of about 2 billion light years as its length and contains about 20 million galaxies.

# Gemini

Hilal Dance Australia bring their signature elegance to take us on a languid odyssey from cosmic explosion to the intricate beauty of human affinity.

Choreography: Rachael Hilton  
Performers: Rachael Hilton and Melissa Lee  
Music: Discipline - A New Dawn by HRDY



**Film: Galaxy Formation**

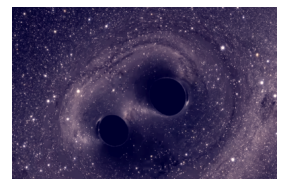
Computer Simulations - Lars Hernquist (Harvard Smithsonian Centre for Astrophysics) and Volker Springel (HITS)

The IllustrisTNG project is an ongoing series of large, cosmological magnetohydrodynamical simulations of galaxy formation. These simulations aim to illuminate the physical processes that drive galaxy formation - to understand how galaxies evolve into the structures that we can observe in the night sky. The simulations use state-of-the-art numerical code which includes a comprehensive physical model that runs on some of the largest supercomputers in the world.

# Dance Off!

Distinguished Professor Susan Scott explain how Gravitational Waves are formed and Chamaeleon bring it all to life!

**Film: Gravitational Waves simulation, LIGO**



Simulating eXtreme Space Times (SXS) Project. [www.black-holes.org](http://www.black-holes.org)  
California Institute of Technology, California State University Fullerton

# The Universe

Dr Brad Tucker leads us through the creation of the Universe

Performed by Karin Adriansdatter, Patricia Hayes Kavanagh, Sarah Long, Eva Kolak

## Opsimath - never stop

A collaboration from dancers and a celebration of connection and community, Hilal Dance Australia explores the threads that bind us together.

Choreography: Rachael Hilton

Performers: Melissa Lee, Rachael Hilton, Gretel Burgess, Jennie Della, Suzanne Carroll

Music: Experience by Ludovico Einaudi re-imagined by 1. Sameer Paracha & 2. Angèle Dubeau & La Pietà

## The Big Freeze

Dr Brad Tucker continues his dialogue, leading us to the big freeze

Performed by Karin Adriansdatter, Patricia Hayes Kavanagh, Sarah Long, Eva Kolak, Liz Lea,

## that extra 'some

Nature, wonder, reflection

Performers: Katie Senior, Liz Lea and Milly Whitehead

## Orion's belt

Three stars connect and light up the night sky

Performed by Anna Connelly, Lataesha Marsden and Katie Senior

Music: Vincent, Starry Night, Don McLean, Starman: David Bowie, Starlight: Taylor Swift, A Sky Full Of Stars: Coldplay, Lucky Star: Madonna

# Chamaeleon

A gathering of women, under the stars, moving in formation reflection the constellation Chamaeleon.

Chamaeleon is part of the Southern Sky project directed by Michael Sollis

Directed by Liz Lea

Edited by Arianna Bosi

Performed by Chamaeleon Collective | Brydie Bulley, Anna Connelly, Neave Darmody, Emily Knight, Lataesha Marsden, Katie Senior, Karin Adriansdatter.

Music: Chamaeleon from Southern Sky

Composer: Urmas Sisask

Arranger: Michael Sollis

Performers: The Griffyn Ensemble: Kiri Sollis – flute; Wyana Etherington – vibraphone; Laura Tanata – harp; Matthew O’Keeffe – clarinet

Created with the support of CAPO – Capital Arts Patron Organisation



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# Moon Shadow

Under the light of the full moon...

Performed Lataesha Marsden

Music: Moon Shadow by Cat Stevens

# Danse de la Lune (Moon Dance)

A film created by Chamaeleon Collective and Melanie Lane. After a 4 day workshop exploring the spirit of the moon, its energy and the imagination it conjures, the Chamaeleon dancers celebrate its power through dance, dreams and togetherness.

Directed by Melanie Lane

Performed by the Chamaeleon Collective | Brydie Bulley, Anna Connelly, Neave Darmody, Emily Knight, Lataesha Marsden and Katie Senior

Producer | Liz Lea

Rehearsal Assistants | Karin Adriansdatter, Sheriden Newman and Sabrina Madaffari, Vicki Murray

Cinematographer | Creswick Collective

Editing | Creswick Collective and Melanie Lane

Music | "Danse Macabre" Kevin MacLeod ([incompetech.com](http://incompetech.com))

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Created with the support of artsACT and The Stellar Company. Filmed at QL2 Dance and Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres.

Melanie is an Australian choreographer and performer of European/Javanese heritage working between Naarm (Melbourne) and Ngunnawal/Ngambri country (Canberra). She is one of Australia's leading choreographic voices with commissions from Australasian Dance Collective, Dance North, Chunky Move, Sydney Dance Company, Schauspiel Leipzig and West Australian Ballet (among others). Melanie won the prestigious Keir Choreographic Award in 2018 and the 2017 Leipziger Bewegungskunstpreis in Germany. Lane has been nominated for Green Room and Helpmann awards as both a choreographer and a dancer.

## Golden Ratio

The Chamaeleon Collective share the concepts that sit behind the Fibonacci Sequence – what defines beauty and how do we define ourselves?

Director: Liz Lea

Cinematographer: Andrew Sikorski

Editor: Arianna Bosi

Performers: Brydie Bulley, Anna Connelly, Katie Senior, Emily/Rainbow Knight, Neave Darmody, Tara Nguyen, Lataesha Marsden



# Spirals

An illustration of the connections and spirals that weave through nature

Choreography: Hay - Karin Adriandatter, Spiral - Liz Lea & Karin Adriandatter

Music: Concerto No. 2 in G Minor, Summer, Allegro, Vivaldi

Concerto No. 1 in E Major, Spring, Allegro, Vivaldi

Performers: Brydie Bulley, Anna Connelly, Katie Senior, Milly Whitehead, Neave Darmody, Lateasha Marsden, Patricia Hayes Kavanagh, Sarah Long, Eva Kolak, Karin Adriansdatter and Liz Lea



The Chameleon Collective are a boutique offering of artistic excellence in the inclusive and accessible arts field. The collective epitomizes the vision of a forward looking, Canberra. The next generation of artists being invested in by the current generation of artists living with and without disability. The Chamaeleon Collective was founded in 2020, named after the constellation and reptile, both constant and adaptable. They are part of The Stellar Company.

Chamaeleon arises from the need for community dancers living with disability to channel their energies and talents into a professional parts development program that is supportive, accessible and at the leading edge of contemporary performance. We want to see equal access and employment opportunities for artists living with disability - Professional, Capable and Fabulous.

Chamaeleon have performed across the ACT including AStellar Lineup at Belco Arts, Enlighten, Floriade and head lining at the 2024 National Folk Festival. In 2024 they represented the ACT at the World Down Syndrome Congress, Brisbane.

**Stellar Director,** Liz Lea is an award winning artist with an international practice spanning 30 years, having toured internationally with commissions in India, UK, Australia, South Africa, Singapore, Kuwait and USA. She directs the BOLD and DANscienCE Festivals and The Stellar Company. She was the 2017 the ACT Artist of the Year and toured her one woman show RED internationally for 5 years. She works across Australa/Asia and delights in creating new collaborative connections. She is an Access Advisor for Accessible Arts, has provided Audio Description for Dan Daw, Rebus and Sydney Dance Company and is developing ShowGO, an app to support access services.

# Chamaeleon Collective

**Karin Rønning-Meagher**, (Karin Adriansdatter) Chamaeleon Co Director, is a diversely skilled visual and performing artist who trained in the US and was danced professionally in New York. Since 2013, Karin has been a performer & participant at the annual Canberra 'Precipice Festival', held at Gorman Arts Centre each September. She studies Action Theatre with Danielle Cresp in Melbourne. Karin is a member of the Ausdance ACT team as Assistant Stage Manager for the Youth Dance Festival. Most recently, she was production assistant for Australian Dance Party's 'Move to Zero' film series. In 2018, she performed and toured in Liz Lea's solo work, Red. In addition, Karin is a certified Montessori Model United Nations teacher coordinator and recently led a group of students through a 6 month preparation to attend the annual MMUN conference in NYC in March 2019. Karin currently works as a disability support worker and is a certified Montessori Model United Nations (MMUN) teacher coordinator. She is Co Director of the Chamaeleon Collective and facilitates a movement classes on the NDIS for mental health.

**Patricia Hayes Kavanagh** is an alumni of QL2 Dance who went on to further her training at the Sydney Dance Company Pre-Professional Year in their two year course. Since graduating she joined ADP as joint ADP/QL2 Dance Intern in 2021 before joining the company as a Junior Party Artist in 2022. Patricia has recently joined the ADP Team designing company merchandise and enhancing her creative talents. Patricia began properly training in contemporary at 15. At QL2, Patricia was able to expand her knowledge and understanding of dance, herself, and the world that she lives in. Graduating Year 12 in 2018, she went on to complete her Advanced Diploma in Elite Performance at Sydney Dance Company's Pre-Professional Year in 2020. Since returning to Canberra, she began an internship with QL2 and Australian Dance Party to further develop her artistry and practice. She has since been promoted to Party Artist and continues to develop herself in dance and in visual arts. Pat has been dancing with Stellar and Chamaeleon for 3 years.

**Sarah Long** has been dancing since she was four years old, first taking ballet classes and later progressing into contemporary dance. She has performed in five Quantum Leap shows from 2018 to 2022, and has choreographed four times in QL2's Hot to Trot. She now teaches young dancers, and is studying a Bachelor of Science, majoring in environmental science, at the ANU. Sarah is very interested in the intertwining of the arts and technology in the modern world, particularly looking at the ways we can use art to better communicate about the climate crisis. She has been working with the Stellar Company since 2023, and has performed in Stars in 3D (2023) and A Stellar Lineup (2024) as well as at the National Folk Festival. Working with the Chameleon Collective has been a powerful reminder that dance is for everyone, and by everyone.

**Eva Kolak** grew up training in a range of styles from classical ballet, jazz, tap through to acrobatics. Through her training she completed her advanced ATOD exams, competed nationally winning scholarships and awards, and took part in workshops and events like the Brisbane International Contemporary Dance Prix. This and her further training at Sydney Dance Company (PPY 2023) where she received her Diploma of Professional Dance (Elite Performance) shaped her passion and understanding of classical ballet technique and the world of contemporary dance. She has a passion for movement and is eager to explore this through future work and as she studies a Bachelor of Physiotherapy.

**Anna Connolly** has been dancing for 6 years CDTribe at Canberra Dance Theatre and does many sports. She also represents Australia in the Basketball at the Special Olympics. Anna is a dancer who embraces the fun of movement. She loves the opportunities as part of the Chameleon Collective in the Stellar Company & also dances with Canberra Dance Theatre. She plays basketball and won a junior athlete award with Special Olympics before playing in National competition. She has worked in retail and is currently undertaking a traineeship with Hotel Etico to expand her skills for work in hospitality and independent living. Anna loves family, friends, animals, music & movies. She also enjoys applause.



**Brydie Bulley** has been dancing for 13 years and for four years with the CDTribe at Canberra Dance Theatre. She works and volunteers across Canberra in 3 different jobs and is a leader in the access and inclusion space for people of all abilities.

**Milly Whitehead** graduated from College in the ACT at the end of 2023 and is now exploring new opportunities working towards her vision of a 'Good Life'. This includes valued employment, further study, community connections, and strong and freely-given relationships. And one day, perhaps, a home of her own. Milly recently joined the Chameleon Collective. She enjoys learning new dance routines, making friends, and performing in fabulous, colourful costumes. Milly also dances with the CD Tribe at the Canberra Dance Theatre. Her love of all music and movement are her motivators. 'Just Dance' on the Xbox is one of her favourite pastimes. In addition to dancing, Milly works as an office assistant and runs her own microenterprise, Made By Miss Milly (@madebymissmilly). She is a skilled sewist, a dog lover and walker, a zookeeper, an artist, a student and an active member of the GGs community. Milly is kind friend, a loving and cheeky daughter and sister, enjoys 1000-piece puzzles, TV comedies, and not-too-scary 'whodunnits.'

**Neave Darmody** has been dancing for 15 years and dances with the CDTribe at CDT. The hardware aisle, a verandah, in the shower. Neave willingly dances, anywhere, She enjoys dancing with peers in the Chamaeleon Collective, ballet and with Canberra Dance Theatre. After dance, Neave's next love is work, in hardware and hospitality. At present she has a traineeship with Hotel Etico to extend her skills and develop independence. In her spare time she likes to do zumba, basketball, read, play music, enjoy friends and family.

**Lateasha Marsden** is a positive young woman who loves dancing, singing, playing netball, her boyfriend Archie, Taylor Swift, Disneyland Anaheim, Waikiki, Minecraft, Special Olympic Bowling, swinging at the park, lactose free hot chocolates and her loving extended family and amazing friends all over the world! Lateasha represents the ACT in Netball and works for GG's flowers and loves her life!

**Katie Senior** is a Canberran artist and athlete with Down Syndrome. She has been dancing and performing since age five and represents Australia as a paralympic swimmer. She has choreographed and performed two solos since 2010: All For One was performed at Belconnen Arts Centre to celebrate International Day of People with Disability in 2011 and In The Corner Where The Shadows Meet was for 'Short and Sweet Dance.' It was Katie's first choreographic and dance mentorship project with Liz Lea was funded through the Australia Council's Jump! program. Katie is also an actress. She is a member of Rebus Mixed Ability Theatre Company and was lead actress in Beautiful, a movie directed by Genevieve Clay and produced in Canberra. Beautiful featured in the Other Film Festival in 2012. Katie and Liz spent all of 2017 working together on a mentoring program which led to the duet 'that extra 'some''. This took place under the auspice of Belconnen Arts Centre's IGNITE program. The work premiered in Ausdance ACT's Escalate II. Katie was awarded the honour of being the 2017 ACT Dance Artist of the Year and nominated as Young Person of the Year at the 2018 Inclusion Awards. Katie runs dance classes across Canberra and was a founding member of the Dream Team. She went on to establish the Xtreme Stars Dance Group for adults who live with disability and is a founding member of the Chamaeleon Collective. Katie participated in Stellar's Virtual View project in Penang and recently performed and spoke at the World Down Syndrome Congress, Brisbane.



# Hilal Dance Australia

Hilal Dance Australia members Rachael and Melissa develop theatrical works with a modern edge drawing on the essence of Egypt's indigenous dance cultures and Arabic aesthetics through the language of Hilal Dance, developed by international Egyptian dance artist Suraya Hilal.

Rachael Hilton is one of Australia's leading Hilal Dance practitioners, beginning her studies with dance founder Suraya Hilal in 1997. Rachael assisted in establishing Hilal Dance in Australia through her own teaching and by organising workshops for Suraya Hilal in Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne. Rachael with a teaching career of over 28 years, runs a weekly class at Canberra Dance Theatre.

Melissa, a qualified Occupational Therapist (Bachelor of Applied Science, 1985) has studied a variety of dance forms as well as the use of dance in therapy. Melissa began Hilal Dance classes with Rachael in 2003 and was invited to join the Hilal Dance Professional Course in 2008. She is particularly interested in the expressive potential of Hilal Dance.

## The Stellar Team

**Director, Producer & Film editing: Liz Lea**

**Stage Manager: Rhiley Winnett**

**Technical Consultant: Craig Dear**

**Social Media: Olivia Wikner**

**Auslan Interpreter: Brett Olzen**

**Deep thanks for Stars in 3D go to Ingrid McCarthy for initiating the dream and keeping it alive, Yolanda Norris for our 2023 Uncharted Festival commission, Alana Stewart and Natasha Lee Rogers for their initial creative input, our Stellar Board, Ruth Osborne and the Ausdance ACT, QL2 Dance and Inspiring Australia teams.**

**The Stellar Company** is a non for profit arts organisation based in the ACT with a 16 year history. We activate professionally produced, quality arts practice through a lens of cultural equity, embedded accessibility, social inclusion and sustainability.

Directed by Liz Lea we have a vision to work in a full inclusive, intercultural and intergenerational capacity to bring the social, physical and mental benefits of arts practice to all members of our community. Our programs reflect the face of Canberra. We run projects that speak to and serve people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds across the ACT, Australia and Asia. The Stellar Company is supported by the ACT Government and is a registered Charity.

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