



MEDIA RELEASE

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, BEIJING

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Australian contemporary performance hits Shanghai for festival season

This October, audiences in Shanghai, Wuzhen and Wuxi will be wowed by Australian contemporary dance and theatre, with leading Australian companies performing at the prestigious 19th China Shanghai International Arts Festival, Shanghai Interactive Festival of Theatre and Wuzhen Theatre Festival.

Australian Consul General to Shanghai Graeme Meehan says there are an unprecedented number of Australian performing arts companies touring to China, and in particular the Shanghai region, coinciding with the 45th anniversary of Australia-China diplomatic relations this year.

“I am delighted Chinese audiences in and around Shanghai will get a window into the vibrancy of contemporary Australia during this exciting festival season,” said the Consul General.

Australian companies with upcoming tours include Sydney Dance Company; Polyglot; THE RABBLE; Dislocate, and choreographer Victoria Chiu.

Over 22 other Australian performing arts companies will attend the Shanghai Performing Arts Fair (ChinaSPAF), pitching ideas and making valuable connections with Chinese and international presenters, producers and artists at this industry-focused event.

The ChinaSPAF delegation is led by the Australia Council for the Arts, providing Australian producers with opportunities to gain a better understanding of how to position their work in the Chinese market.

Rhen Soggee, an early-career Adelaide-based producer interested in social change through arts, will participate in the Atelier for Young Festival Managers Program, part of the China Shanghai International Arts Festival.

For more details on Australian performance in China in 2017, including dates and venues, visit the *Australia Performs* program: china.embassy.gov.au/bjng/australia-performs.html

Australia Performs is a promotional program profiling Australian performance in China in the 45th year of Australia-China diplomatic relations, an initiative of the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Australia Council for the Arts.

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