

Muscle Memory

Collusion Music and Dance Ensemble



Presenters Information

COLLUSION

MUSIC & DANCE ENSEMBLE

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COMPANY PROFILE

Collusion is an Australian fine art music and dance ensemble. Collusion's cultural practice is underpinned by a respect for traditional art forms whilst contributing new perspectives through which to experience and enjoy fine art. Whilst this intersection of new and old sensibilities informs Collusion's original compositions and choreography, the energy of the ensemble itself imparts heart, beauty, warmth and colour.

Collusion's values balance excellence and inclusivity across its creative, commercial, educational and community-based projects. Collusion creates a magical world of imagination, engagement and immersion whether performing at cultural arts venues, for private events or in other community arts settings. Their diverse body of works offers programming suitable to audiences of all ages and cultural persuasions.

ABOUT THE SHOW

Muscles flex and memories resurface in this dynamic evening of chamber ballets by Gareth Belling and Collusion Music and Dance Ensemble.

This is a show of heartfelt and captivating works for Collusion's formidable string quartet, alongside two of Queensland's most talented ballet dancers. Experience the heightened synchronicity of dance and live music in these lyrical, muscular and intimate chamber ballets.

Muscle Memory creates a varied evening of the best Australian chamber ballets set to inspiring live music by Australian composers Elena Katz-Chernin and Paul Stanhope, with international masterworks by Petēris Vasks, and Vivaldi.

Expect a feast for the eyes and ears, where "exciting is an understatement" (Cut Common).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Artistic Director: Benjamin Greaves

Choreographer/Producer: Gareth Belling

Musicians: Benjamin Greaves, Camille Barry, Bethan Lewis and Cellist

Lighting Design: Ben Hughes

Costume Design: Noelene Hill, Gareth Belling

Prop Design (Contact Point): Rhiannon Walker

Composers include Elena Katz-Chernin, Paul Stanhope, Petēris Vasks, Antonio Vivaldi and others.

PERFORMANCE SPECIFICS

DURATION

Act 1 – 35 mins

Interval – 20mins

Act 2 – 30mins

SUITABLE VENUES

Muscle Memory is adaptable to most theatre venues.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERFORMANCES PER WEEK

6 performances

MINIMUM BREAK BETWEEN PERFORMANCES

120 minutes

TOURING PERSONNEL

The touring party consists of 8 people.

Name	Role
Gareth Belling	Tour Manager/Producer
Benjamin Greaves	Musician
Camille Barry	Musician
Bethan Lewis	Musician
Cellist - TBC	Musician
Dancer 1 - TBC	Dancer
Dancer 2 - TBC	Dancer
Crew	Stage Manager/Technician

PERFORMANCE HISTORY

Year	Venue	Number of performances
2016	Judith Wright Centre	4
2017	Brisbane Powerhouse	2

AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT

OVERVIEW

Collusion offers the chance for up to six local ballet students to perform in selected duets from the *Muscle Memory* program.

Dancers will be selected through a locally based audition, and rehearsed by Collusion's Resident Choreographer Gareth Belling in short group sections from his ballets, *Contact Point* and *Before*. This will leave a lasting legacy in your community for dance students and their families.

Collusion can also provide workshops aligned with *Muscle Memory's* music and dance content, to enhance your school or community group's learning experience.

Collusion musicians are leading professional string tutors in South-East Queensland. From beginner to advanced, Collusion offers Workshops and Masterclasses string students, school string ensembles and community orchestras.

Collusion offers Workshops and Masterclasses in ballet, contemporary dance, and choreographic elements of *Muscle Memory* with Gareth Belling and Collusion dancers, for your school or dance studio.

DESCRIPTION / DETAILS

Ballet Workshop: 1.25 hour classical ballet workshop with Gareth Belling or a cast member. Tailored for beginner, Intermediate or Advanced

Contemporary Workshop: 1 hour workshop on fundamental technique elements in the *Muscle Memory* repertoire.

Choreography Workshop: 1.5 hour workshop for secondary school students in Gareth Belling's choreographic practice. Can include motif development and manipulation, chance procedures for choreography, and partnering creation.

Upper Strings Masterclass: One hour masterclass open to audience and teachers, delivered in two 30 minute sections for two violin or viola students.

Lower Strings Masterclass: One hour masterclass open to audience and teachers, delivered in two 30 minute sections for two cello students.

Strings Workshop: 2 hour workshop led by Benjamin Greaves or Camille Barry for your string ensemble or community orchestra on performance practice and tone production.

COST

Workshop costs can be negotiated with Presenters to best service your community.

MARKETING

MARKETING COPY

One line

Muscles flex and memories resurface in this dynamic evening of chamber ballets.

Short

Muscles flex and memories resurface in this dynamic evening of chamber ballets by Gareth Belling and Collusion Music and Dance Ensemble.

This is an evening of heartfelt and virtuosic works performed by Collusion's formidable string quartet, alongside two of Queensland's most talented ballet dancers. Experience the heightened synchronicity of dance and live music in these lyrical, muscular and intimate chamber ballets.

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MEDIA QUOTES

"With a formidable string quartet made up of Benjamin Greaves (violin), Camille Barry (violin), Bethan Lewis (viola), and Dan Curro (cello), the music did not disappoint. From the first menacing trills of Vasks' string quartet, listeners seemed immediately drawn in. And, equally convincing, the Kats-Chernin pieces were played with vibrancy and an impressive rhythmic verve." - CELINE CHONG, Cut Common

"Belling's choreography belongs squarely in the classical domain, while creatively exploring a contemporary aesthetic, delivering crisp, clearly defined movement that is very much in harmony with the music." - DENISE RICHARDSON, Dance Australia

"The strength and assurance of the Collusion musicians' performance and the music they played were spellbinding." - RUTH RIDGEWAY, XS Entertainment

IMAGES

Images available at

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3b2f1gobue5i4yl/AAC5hcac16lvDuXw6Zqf18Sla?dl=0>

MARKETING MATERIALS

Collusion will provide:

- High-res poster and publicity images
- Web quality
- Marketing copy and media releases
- Interviews with key creatives and cast members
- Edited video highlights of the show

PRODUCTION DETAILS

TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Muscle Memory is a two act live music and dance show for four musicians (2 x violin, viola and cello) and two dancers.

Sections of *Muscle Memory* may be performed with an additional six (6) local dance students where appropriate.

STAGING

Muscle Memory can be staged for various types of venues, but requires a minimum performance area of 8m wide and 6m deep excluding stage cross-over.

The stage must be a sprung, wooden floor. Collusion can provide black or dark-grey Tarkett dance floor to be laid during bump-in.

The production requires a full black mask (legs and borders) and black back cloth.

Collusion will provide

Four (4) music stands and four (4) battery operated sconces.

One hung element (gauze curtain) will be used for a portion of the show. A bar to hang this on is required upstage centre.

Venue to provide

Four black orchestral chairs.

SOUND

Muscle Memory requires a PA system capable of high quality reproduction of highly dynamic music. Reproduction of live sound for four musicians (violin x 2, viola and cello) via fixed overhead ambient mics, and radio microphones appropriate to the instruments is required.

Collusion will provide four (4) wireless radio microphones - Sennheiser XSW 12-A/B. It is the responsibility of the presenter to confirm that these are approved for use at your venue and if not, supply an appropriate replacement system.

Equalization, Dynamics and Reverberation processing is required.

LIGHTING

The lighting plan will be in consultation with the Production's Lighting Designer. A pre-rig to a supplied lighting plan will minimise bump-in time. Collusion will provide this plan on confirmation with your venue.

The designer will work within the Venue's standard rig, with some additions. This production will require side lighting via side booms.

Six (6) dancer operated LED light tubes may be used during the performance of Contact Point in the event that local dance students are included in the production.

A very light and gentle haze effect is required. MDG Atmosphere machine preferred.

EXAMPLE SCHEDULE

9:00 Bump-in, LX Focus and floor laid
11:00 LX plot
13:00 Dancers arrive at the venue for short ballet class on stage.
14:00 Sound check with quartet
14:30 Tech/Dress rehearsal with dancers and musicians
16:30 Break
18:00 Tech tidy
18:30 Stage available for dancers and musicians
19:15 Doors open
19:30 Show up
21:00 Show down
22:30 Bump-out complete

CREW REQUIRED FROM VENUE

Two technicians to assist with bump-in, LX plot.
One technician to operate show with sound and/or lighting experience.
Show operator to assist Collusion team with bump-out.

WARDROBE

Access to laundry facilities including washer and dryer for costumes. If this can not be arranged, please contact Collusion to make other arrangements.

Collusion to supply

All costumes for dancers (including community dancers) and Musicians.
Steamer.

Venue to supply

Washing Machine and dryer.
Two dressing rooms (second to double as Production Office).

FREIGHT NOTES

Collusion will travel with tarkett dance floor, all costumes, props and scenic elements. Access to loading dock appropriate to your venue will be required.

CONTACTS

Producer and Tour Manager - Gareth Belling
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Email - gareth@collusion.com.au