

BRISBANE FESTIVAL

BRISBANE FESTIVAL AND
QUEENSLAND PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE PRESENT

Leviathan

Circa/QUT Dance Performance/Circa Zoo

Playhouse, QPAC

3 – 12 Sept

Queensland Premiere



Principal Partner



Brisbane Festival is an initiative of the
Queensland Government and Brisbane City Council

Brisbane Festival Artistic Director's Note

I am thrilled to welcome our major commission, CIRCA's *Leviathan*, to Brisbane Festival this year. Having followed the journey of this work since the beginning, I can say with hand on heart, Yaron has created a masterpiece. Witnessing 36 bodies working harmoniously together really brings home the absolute necessity for community and human connection. How poignant for these truly unusual times that *Leviathan* celebrates the extraordinary richness of humanity. Brisbane, I hope you will join me in being proud of our Boldly Brisbane Artists who are international superstars calling this city home. – **Louise Bezzina**

Queensland Performing Arts Centre Chief Executive Note

Of the arguments put forward by 17th century philosopher Thomas Hobbes in his book *Leviathan*, the idea of a 'social contract' between leaders and communities is one that has endured. Arguably it has become even more relevant in the 21st century as we face simultaneous challenges – health, economic, social – as a global community. In reference to Hobbes, Circa's *Leviathan* celebrates the power of togetherness, focusing on the good that can be achieved through cohesion and collaboration. Circa's fearless, brazen energy never fails to elicit appreciative gasps from audiences and I hope that you will leave *Leviathan* both inspired and uplifted. – **John Kotzas**

Director's Note

Thirty-six might not seem like a huge number but if we took a photo of every arrangement of the artists who appear in *Leviathan*, printed them on A4 paper and stacked them, the pile of photos would span ten thousand trillion times across the Milky Way Galaxy. And that is just where they artists stand – not each finger, toe, strand of hair or facial expression. This almost unfathomable complexity is the basis of *Leviathan* – are we free or oppressed by our interconnectedness, do we define ourselves as individuals or part of a society? Productions of this scale don't happen without support and Brisbane Festival have been our lead creation partners. Thanks to Louise, Charlie and the team for helping us celebrate the extraordinary richness of humanity. – **Yaron Lifschitz**

Brisbane Festival

Chair **Alison Smith**

Deputy Chair **Philip Bacon AM**

Artistic Director **Louise Bezzina**

Chief Executive Officer **Charlie Cush**

QPAC

Chair **Professor Peter Coaldrake AO**

Deputy Chair **Leigh Tabrett PSM**

Trust Members

**Dr Sally Pitkin, Dare Power, Georgina Richters,
Susan Rix AM, Leanne de Souza**

Chief Executive **John Kotzas**

Acknowledgement of Country

Brisbane Festival expresses its respect for and acknowledgement of the Brisbane Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. We pay our respects to the Traditional Owners of country, including the custodial neighbouring communities on whose land works are created, performed and celebrated by Brisbane Festival. We acknowledge the continuing connection to land, waters and communities. We also pay our respects to Elders, past and emerging.

Be COVID Safe

Brisbane Festival is delivered under a COVID Safe plan. Patrons should download and run the Federal Government's official COVIDSafe app before attending Festival events. Do not attend events if you are experiencing symptoms. Our COVID Safe plan will be updated to align with the changing situation. Visit our website for more detailed COVID safe information.

Yaron Lifschitz

Director

Yaron Lifschitz is a graduate of the University of New South Wales, University of Queensland, and National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA), where he was the youngest director ever accepted into its prestigious graduate director's course. Since graduating, Yaron has directed over 80 productions including large-scale events, opera, theatre, physical theatre, and circus.

His work has been seen in 40 countries and across six continents by more than one million people and has won numerous awards including six Helpmann Awards and the Australia Council Theatre Award. His productions have been presented at major festivals and venues around the world including Brooklyn Academy of Music, the Barbican, Les Nuits de Fourvière, Chamaleon and all the major Australian festivals. His film work was selected for the Berlin and Melbourne Film Festivals. He was founding Artistic Director of the Australian Museum's Theatre Unit, Head Tutor in Directing at Australian Theatre for Young People and has been a regular guest tutor in directing at NIDA. He was Creative Director of Festival 2018: the arts and cultural program of the 21st Commonwealth Games.

Since 1999 Yaron has been Artistic Director and CEO of Circa. Recently Yaron has directed the world's first acrobatic staging of Beethoven's *9th Symphony*, *Orpheus and Eurydice* in collaboration with Opera Queensland and *Leviathan* whose cast of thirty-six featured Circa ensemble members performing with community-based artists. He currently has nine creations in pre-production and rehearsal and fourteen touring in Circa's current repertoire.

Owen Belton

Composer

Owen Belton lives in Vancouver, Canada and graduated from Simon Fraser University with a degree in Fine and Performing Art. His studies included acoustic, electroacoustic and computer music composition, film sound and dance. He has been writing music for dance for the last 25 years, working with many Canadian choreographers including Crystal Pite, as well as choreographers from Europe and the USA. Dance companies he has created scores for include Kidd Pivot, The National Ballet of Canada, Nederlands Dans Theatre, Ballet Nuremberg, The Royal Ballet and 420 People (Prague). Owen also creates sound design and composition for theatre and has scored several short films, as well as movies and documentaries for television. He is excited to be having his first foray into the world of the circus with Circa.

Performers/Circa Ensemble

Caroline Baillon

Nathan Boyle

Rhiannon Cave-Walker

Jessica Connell

Marty Evans

Piri Lee Goodman

Keaton Hentoff-Killian

Bridie Hooper

Hamish McCourty

Alice Muntz

Daniel O'Brien

Kimberley O'Brien

Kathryn O'Keeffe

Paul O'Keeffe

Jarrold Takle

Luke Thomas

Georgia Webb

Billie Wilson-Coffey

Performers/Circa Zoo

Rosie Albina
Charmain Bennetton
Tallulah Bennetton
Anisah Collins
Christina Godwin
Anabella Gregory
Brynn Holmes-Clarke
Levi Hunter Dan
Zoe Joiner
Anisa Monsour
Miranda Shapcott
Charlie-Diva Stevens
Violet 'Scout' Thorp
Eve Timmins

Performers/QUT Dance

Maddison Bowyer
Kerrod Box
Tahlia Craig
Madi Farrell
Kirrah Jobst
Sophie Roberts
Kai Taberner
Rachel Wat

Creative Team

Set and Costume Designer **Marg Horwell**
Associate Designer **Libby McDonnell**
Lighting Designer **Amelia Lever-Davidson**
Technical Director **Jason Organ**
Producer **Danielle Kellie**



PO Box 3567, South Bank, Queensland 4101 T: (07) 3840 7444 W: qpac.com.au

Queensland Performing Arts Centre Acknowledgment

The Queensland Performing Arts Trust is a statutory body of the State of Queensland and is partially funded by the Queensland Government.

The Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP, Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts.

Director-General, Department of Environment and Science: Jamie Merrick

QPAC respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the Lands across Queensland and pays respect to their ancestors who came before them and to Elders past, present and emerging.

**Major
Festivals
Initiative**



**Australia
Council
for the Arts**

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government's Major Festivals Initiative, managed by the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, in association with the Confederation of Australian International Arts Festivals Inc, Brisbane Festival, Perth Festival, La Strada Graz Festival and Stanford Live.

CIRCA



Circa acknowledges the assistance of the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body and the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

[THE FANTAUZZO]



**THE
SPAGHETTI
HOUSE**
TRATTORIA



This project is supported through the Giving Program by Philip Bacon AM.

QPAC Emergency

Patrons are advised that the Performing Arts Centre has EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES, a FIRE ALARM system and EXIT passageways. In case of an alert, patrons should remain calm, look for the closest EXIT sign in GREEN, listen to and comply with directions given by the in house trained attendants and move in an orderly fashion to the open spaces outside the Centre.
