

Media Release: March, 2009

Buzz Dance Theatre

Depth Charge

The Playhouse Theatre, Perth May 6 to 16



Media Contacts:

John Michael Swinbank 0414 743 418 pr@johnmichael.com.au

David Hall 0423 083 004 david@johnmichael.com.au

Special AV technologies enhance dance in real time

Buzz Dance Theatre's world premiere of *Depth Charge* on May 6 at The Playhouse Theatre in Perth will break new ground when sophisticated audio-visual technology is used on stage in real-time with live and projected dance performances. Developing DATADrum software, a novel application of existing technology including motion capture, electronic percussion and Isadora software are deployed to enhance the futuristic story of a world where dancers are genetically engineered.

In this new world, dance ensembles are engineered by a scientist who test-drives the artistry of five 'techno sapiens'; investigating their physical and imaginative capacity by pushing them towards beauty, chaos and creative energy. New and old prototypes coexist in his laboratory ready to be tested, cloned, or destroyed. But some can't be ...

BDT's leading company dancers, Paul Blackman, Sharlene Campbell, Rachael Hare, Joshua Mu (Outstanding Male Dancer – WA Ausdance Awards 2008), and Rachel Ogle will perform the work in a blend of live and projected choreography created by Claudia Alessi and Felicity Bott.

Artistic Director of BDT, Felicity Bott said that *Depth Charge* is an exciting collaboration between dance and design, incorporating live and projected performances with live sound, enhanced visuals and special effects. "This production will be visually explosive with giant LED screens enhancing the choreography by relaying enhanced images of the performer's dances in action," she said. "The project is a journey of the imagination that has seen a team of designers in all disciplines, lighting, set, sound and audio-visual technology working together to create a work that takes dance to a heightened level of performance."

The design team comprises Sohan Ariel Hayes (audio-visual), Paul Wakelam (set), Holly Boyton (costumes), Mike Nanning (lighting) and local bad boy of rock 'n' roll and acclaimed theatre composer, Leon Ewing (score), who will also perform the work live on stage.

The design process of the show also involved the input of over 200 students, described as Youth Artistic Associates, from Bunbury Senior High School, Kinross SHS, Lumen Christi College, Rossmoyne SHS, St Brigid's College, Seton Catholic College and Wanneroo SHS.

Depth Charge runs for a strictly limited season from May 6 to 16 and is suitable for ages 12+ and their families. Tickets are on sale now through BOCS on 9484 1133 or www.bocsticketing.com.au For more information, please visit www.buzzdance.com.au

Founded in 1985, BDT is Australia's premier dance theatre company for children and young people. It is nationally awarded as a leader in its field, with innovative performances and workshops designed to foster creativity in all shapes and forms. Over 20,000 children, young people, teachers, families and communities are involved with the company's annual program.

Excellent photo and interview opportunities are available.

Please contact John Michael Swinbank 0414 743 418 jm@johnmichael.com.au

David Hall 0423 083 004 david@johnmichael.com.au

LISTINGS:

Depth Charge – Combining ground-breaking audio-visual technology with live and projected dance, Australia's leading dance theatre company for young people BDT explores a world where dance ensembles are genetically engineered. Perfect for ages 12+ and their families.

The Playhouse Theatre May 6 to 16, various times (11am, 1pm, 7pm)

Tickets: Adults \$25 / Children & concession \$18 / Student groups (10+) \$16

Bookings: www.bocsticketing.com.au or 9484 1133