



JOEL BRAY DADDY



 **Brown's Mart Theatre**



Fri 6 – Sun 8 Aug 5.45pm **Sat 7 Aug** 1pm **Duration** 1hr 15mins

You are invited to move around during the show. There is limited seating but if you require a seat, please speak to our friendly front of house staff. Daddy offers light audience participation for those who like that kind of thing.

Darwin Festival takes place on the land of the Larrakia people.

We wish to pay our respects to the traditional owners of this Country and to their ancestors. As the Festival welcomes contemporary artists and art from around Australia, we also celebrate the continuing culture of the Larrakia.

Scroll through to read more about this performance of Daddy.

Enjoy the show!

CONTENTS

A Note From the Creator	2
Biographies	4
Credits	8
Darwin Festival	10

A NOTE FROM THE CREATOR

Daddy is the third solo in a series. *Biladurang* was a song of dislocation; a cry for the Wiradjuri lands and waters that were stolen from my ancestors, and thus from me and my kin. *Dharawungara* was a lament of dispossession; a yearning for the ritual dances and songs that were silenced by the Coloniser and that I am unable to learn.

In *Daddy*, I set out to celebrate that which I do have, and that which I do know. But it wasn't to be. Settler Australia is so all-consuming, I found myself once again writing a lament, this time a song of disinheritance. Of all the weapons the Europeans brought with them, perhaps the most vicious (and most enduring) has been sexual violence. Every Black family in this country whisper histories of rape and torture on the missions and in the Children's Homes.

And in 2021, every Black family is still dealing with the consequences – mental illness, addiction, absent parents and abandoned children. And every Black person in this country has their own ways of dealing with the dispossession, dislocation and disinheritance. In my case, I use sex.

I offer myself up as an object of sexual idealisation, in the vain hope that some man will come along and ‘plug the hole’.

This is my story, and that of my family.

BIOGRAPHIES

Joel Bray

Creator, Choreographer & Performer

Joel Bray is a proud Wiradjuri dancer, writer and performance-maker. Joel uses a contemporary toolbox to breathe life into ancient ritual practice to create work that surfs between spoken text and textured improvisation movement. His work is conversational and confessional and is often made for intimate settings that create unique person-to-person encounters between performer and audience. His work *Biladurang* (Darwin Festival 2018) is touring nationally.

Dharawungara was commissioned and produced by CHUNKY MOVE to five-star reviews. Trained at NAISDA and WAAPA, Joel was engaged as a technical and virtuosic dancer with companies in Europe and Israel, including Hofesh Shechter and Yoram Karmi. He has danced and toured with CHUNKY MOVE since 2014.

Naretha Williams

Composition & Sound Designer

Naretha Williams is a First Nations experimental and interdisciplinary artist with a primary focus on music and audio arts practice. A Wiradjuri woman of mixed lineage, Naretha's work intersects installation and contemporary music, exploring themes around identity, place and the unseen.

Katie Sfetkidis

Lighting Designer

Katie Sfetkidis is an award-winning lighting designer and contemporary artist who works across theatre, dance and experimental performance.

Katie has designed for Little Ones Theatre, Aphids. Melbourne Theatre Company, Malthouse Theatre and Belvoir Theatre amongst others.

James Lew

Set & Costume Designer

James Lew is a theatre-maker and designer from Melbourne whose work has been seen at Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Brisbane Festival and HotHouse Theatre. He is a recipient of the Orloff Family Charitable Trust Scholarship, participant of the Besen Family Artist Program with the Malthouse Theatre and a Green Room Award nominee.

Stephen Nicolazzo

Collaborating Director

Stephen Nicolazzo is the Artistic Director and founder of Little Ones Theatre. He has worked extensively with companies and arts festivals across Australia and has received a Green Room Award for Best Direction (*The Happy Prince*) and been nominated a further three times (*Psycho Beach Party*, *Dracula* and *The Moors*).

Niharika Senapati

Collaborating Choreographer

Niharika Senapati is a freelance artist who works in a variety of contexts, as a dancer, actor, sound designer and teacher. She performed and toured extensively with Chunky Move and continues to work closely with director Anouk van Dijk as a rehearsal and choreographic assistant. Alongside performing, Niharika is a Senior Counter technique teacher, teaching extensively around the world.

CREDITS

Creator, Choreographer & Performer

Joel Bray

Composition & Sound Designer

Naretha Williams

Lighting Designer Katie Sfetkidis

Set & Costume Designer James Lew

Collaborating Director Stephen Nicolazzo

Collaborating Choreographer

Niharika Senapati

Dramaturge SJ Norman

Audio Technical Support Daniel Nixon

Lighting Associate Nicholas Moloney

Piano Niv Marinberg

Voices Josh Price & Jason Tamiru

Technical & Stage Manager

Lucie Sutherland

Producer Josh Wright

Daddy was commissioned by the City of Melbourne through Arts House, YIRRAMBOI Festival and the Arts Grants Program; and by Performance Space, Sydney.

It was developed for YIRRAMBOI's KIN Commissions and the Liveworks Festival 2019.

Thanks to the Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation for the recordings from the Wiradjuri Language App, based on the research of Dr Stan Grant and Dr John Rudder.



DARWIN

FESTIVAL

5-22 AUGUST 2021

Darwin Festival is the centre piece of what makes August in Darwin the best time of year. Loved by locals and adored by visitors, this tropical winter festival invites you to experience the very best in First Nations, Territory, Australian and international art, culture and music – not just as a spectator but to be one with it.

DARWIN FESTIVAL 2022

RUNS 4 – 21 AUGUST

Sign up to our e-news for all the latest updates and information.



LOVING YOUR FESTIVAL EXPERIENCE?

Post a review to TripAdvisor



#DARWINFESTIVAL
#HOTAUGUSTNIGHTS