

DAREBIN ARTS

**SPEAKSY**

proudly presents as part of FRAME: A biennial of dance



# Slip

by Rebecca Jensen

**FRAME** ■ A biennial of dance



**Darebin Arts**

# Darebin Arts Speakeasy: Celebrating 10 years of supporting local art

Darebin is thrilled to celebrate 10 years of supporting local artists through the Darebin Arts Speakeasy program. Since 2013, the program has been an influential hub for performing artists to develop and present innovative new work across contemporary dance, circus, theatre and multi-disciplinary work that speaks to issues that matter to the community and celebrates cultural diversity.

As we celebrate 10 years of the Darebin Arts Speakeasy program, it is with great pride and joy that I reflect on its impact and success. Over the past decade, Darebin Arts Speakeasy has supported over 1,500 artists to create over 150 original works presented to over 75,000 patrons, receiving 40 creative industry awards and a further 116 nominations. It has been a highlight of our cultural calendar and has brought people together in a way that has enriched our city and our lives.

The Darebin Arts Speakeasy is not just a program, but a reflection of the vibrant arts precinct that exists across our suburbs. It showcases the rich talent and creative energy that we are so lucky to have in our community.

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the artists, partners and patrons who have made this program a resounding success!



Cr. Julie Williams

# A note from the artist

As we have been making *Slip* my home city Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland has been inundated by water. A friend's house is slipping off a cliff edge - "It's as if climate change is real lololololol" she texts. Another friend sent through a video - "POV: waist-deep in flood water," zooming into her flooded ground floor apartment. I watched the shaky footage like other videos I'd seen on twitter, feeling like it's only a matter of time before I am the one holding the phone.

Action!

The next video is a photo shoot @modelsdoingballet. The model obviously hasn't trained in ballet, and it's funny. I am weirdly absorbed. Entangled between multiple locations, space-time travelling.

Clear air turbulence.

Technology and climate change are both hard to see, consequently hard to understand and act on. Technology is often buried underground, in a cloud, written in code, we don't see the extent of its networks or who's in power. Climate change is happening at scales of time and geography that are barely possible for us to comprehend. It's easy to miss what's really going on.

Everywhere there is noise.

Through data sets and computation, we are encouraged to think in empirical facts, distancing embodied experience. We are evolving from mechanics to magicians, holding, stroking, gesturing toward seemingly inert objects. Our memories are stored in our devices, if there was a power outage would we find ourselves in another dark age?

In *Slip* we find pockets of unbound time. Like the space between here and the blue of the horizon, or we could choose to look down on it from above. Sound and movement separate, loop and return to each other, asking us to be attentive to new ways of seeing and relating to our environments, amplifying what is less perceptible. We zoom back in, navigating partial landscapes, reconfiguring and calibrating, it's confusing, complex, and cloudy but it's all interconnected.

Rebecca Jensen  
Dancer & Choreographer

# About the production

*Slip* has been developed and presented on the lands of the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation and the lands of the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. This always was and always will be Aboriginal land.

This production was initially commissioned as a 20 minute work for the 2022 Keir Choreographic Award by Dancehouse, the Keir Foundation, and Australia Council for the Arts, with presenting partner Carriageworks. Further development was supported by Lucy Guerin Inc 'Moving Forward' Residency, and the Chloe Munro Fellowship.

Huge thank you to Thomas Muratore, Hillary Goldsmith, Daniel Arnott, Justin Marshall, Bethany J Fellows, Arts House, Malthouse Theatre, the Darebin Arts Speakeasy Team and all friends and loved ones who have supported this project and those involved in it.

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Performer & Choreographer:** Rebecca Jensen

**Performer, Composer & Collaborator:** Aviva Endean

**Visual Design:** Romanie Harper

**LX Design:** Jennifer Hector

**Inside Eye & Animated Dancers:** Lana Šprajcer

**Animation:** Patrick Hamilton

**Image credit:** Gregory Lorenzutti



# Artist Bios



**Rebecca Jensen** is a dancer, choreographer, and teacher from Aotearoa, based in Naarm/Melbourne. Her practice considers the equally speculative and practical forces of dance practice, with sustaining interests in multiplicity, memory, time, and the influence of expanding digital technologies. In 2013, Rebecca co-founded participatory project *Deep Soulful Sweats* with Sarah Aiken. Their collaborative work investigates and subverts the roles of performance, considering complicity and commonality of audience and performer. Rebecca is informed by her work as a dancer and cross-disciplinary collaborator across an array of projects in galleries, theatres, and on-screen. She has worked with Jo Lloyd since 2010 and more recently Shelley Lasica and Lucy Guerin. This year she is the Resident Director of Lucy Guerin inc.



**Aviva Endean** is an artist dedicated to fostering a deep engagement with sound and music, with the hope that attentive listening can connect people with each other and their environment. Trained as a clarinettist, she now works as a composer, sound artist, performance-maker, curator and collaborator on interdisciplinary projects. Her solo music is released on Room40 (Australia), and SOFA (Norway) and has been presented at festivals in Australia, Europe and North America. She has been artist in residence at The Peggy Glanville Hicks house (Sydney), the Banff Centre (Canada), *The Unconformity* (Tasmania), *OMI* (New York) and she has worked as associate artist with The Australian Art Orchestra, Chamber Made, and as composer for Chunky Move (*Token Armies*, *Rewards for the Tribe*).





A graduate of VCA, **Jenny Hector**'s designs have been experienced nationally and internationally.

Her lighting for Wilks, Dee and Cornelius's *RUNT*, Fraught Outfit's *Exodus II*, Prue Lang's *Stellar*, Sandra Parker's *Out of Light* received Green Room nominations for best lighting and Jo Lloyd's *Overture*, Jacob Boehme's *Blood on the Dance Floor* and Jodee Mundy's *Imagined Touch* received Green Room Awards for Best Production, which Jenny realised both the lighting and set designs for.

Jenny is the recipient of two Green Room awards for Balletlab's *Miracle* and Jenny Kemp's *Madeleine* and the 2016 Award for Technical Achievement.



**Romanie Harper** is a designer from Naarm/Melbourne working across theatre, dance and experimental performance. Recent design credits include *Nosferatu* (Malthouse Theatre), *8/8/8:WORK* (Rising Festival), *Hercules* (Arts House), *The Cherry Orchard* and *Packer and Sons* (Belvoir), *What Am I Supposed to Do?* and *Equinox* (Deep Souful Sweats), *Australian Realness*, *Trustees*, *Good Muslim Boy*, *Little Emperors* and *Turbine* (Malthouse Theatre), *The Violent Outburst That Drew Me To You* (MTC), *Die! Die! Die! Old People Die!*, *We All Know What's Happening* and *Never Trust A Creative City* (Arts House), *Contest* and *Moral Panic* (Darebin Arts Speakeasy), *Runt*, *This Is Eden*, *Resident Alien* and *Triumph* (fortyfivedownstairs) and *M+M* (Daniel Schlusser Ensemble).



**Lana Šprajcer** is a dance artist and teacher who enjoys performing and experimenting in choreographic thinking and writing. Born in Zagreb, Croatia, Lana graduated with a BA in Contemporary Dance and a BA in Comparative Literature. Since moving to Naarm in 2018, Lana had the pleasure of working with choreographer Shelley Lasica and other artists she conglomerated for *If I Don't Understand You* (2019) and *When I Am Not There* (2022). Lana is also a co-founder of a collective of visual/dance artists based in Zagreb with whom she continues to collaborate.

# Coming up at Darebin Arts Speakeasy



## **A Certain Mumble**

by Amelia Jean O'Leary

**15 - 19 March**

Wed - Fri 7.30pm | Sat 2pm & 7.30pm | Sun 5pm

Northcote Town Hall Arts Centre

*as part of FRAME: A biennial of dance*



## **Body of Work + QWERTY**

by Atlanta Eke, RDYSTDY & Daniel Jenatsch

**23 - 25 March**

Wed, Thurs & Fri 7.30pm

Darebin Arts Centre

*as part of FRAME: A biennial of dance*

**BOOK NOW**

[arts.darebin.vic.gov.au](https://arts.darebin.vic.gov.au)

*Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people who are the Traditional Owners of the land on which Darebin stands. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging*