

CERCLES

Boris Charmatz | Terrain

february
26-28

Program

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STRUT recognises Australian First Nations people as Australia's first dancers and acknowledges that all dance in Australia sits within the context of the continuum of First Nations and Torres Strait Islander culture. We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land upon which we create and work, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation, who continue to nurture a deep and respectful relationship to land and sea. It is a great privilege and honour to create with them on their country.

We also respectfully acknowledge neighbouring groups throughout WA and honour their Elders across time.

Boris Charmatz is a dancer, choreographer and creator of experimental projects such as the ephemeral school Bocal, the Musée de la danse and Terrain.

Keen to connect his own questions to the state of contemporary bodies, he seeks dance in unusual places, and designs hybrid shows and formats which combine creation and repertoire, theory and transmission, in a wide variety of spaces.

From 2009 to 2018, Boris Charmatz was the director of Musée de la danse / Centre chorégraphique national de Rennes et de Bretagne. In January 2019, he launched Terrain, a structure based in Région Hauts-de-France, developing a project of choreographic experiments without walls or roofs, inserted into the city and public space.

After studying at the Paris Opera Ballet School and the Lyon Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse, he co-wrote his first piece with Dimitri Chamblas in 1993, *À bras-le-corps*. He then created several landmark works, including *Aatt enen tionon* (1996), *enfant* (2011) created for the Cour d'honneur at the Festival d'Avignon, *10000 gestes* (2017) and *SOMNOLE* (2021). *A bras-le-corps* and *20 danseurs pour le XXe siècle* (2012) have entered the repertoire of the Paris Opera Ballet.

Boris Charmatz is the author of several books (*Entretenir*, 2003, co-written with Isabelle Launay; *Je suis une école*, 2009), alongside working as a performer and improviser with various artists (among whom Odile Duboc, Médéric Collignon, Anne Teresa De Keersmaecker and Tino Sehgal). His work is shown around the world, and has been the subject of retrospectives at MoMA (Museum of Modern Art, New York) and Tate Modern (London). As part of the Portrait dedicated to his work by the Festival d'Automne à Paris, he created in 2021 *La Ronde* in the Nave of the Grand Palais before it was closed for renovation, and *Happening Tempête* for the opening of the Grand Palais Ephémère. The same year, he opened the Manchester International Festival with *Sea Change*.

From 2022 to 2025, Boris Charmatz is the director of Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch. Together with Terrain, he builds an artistic project between Germany and France, dedicated to the joint development of his choreographic work and Pina Bausch's repertoire. He presented several events in the public space in Wuppertal, including *Wundertal/Sonnborner Strasse in a street* (2023), and *CERCLES* on a football field (2024).

In September 2023, he created his first piece with the Ensemble, *Liberté Cathédrale*. In 2024, he was the Artiste Complice of the 78th Festival d'Avignon, where he presented *CERCLES*, a public workshop for 200 participants, an outdoor version of *Liberté Cathédrale*, as well as *Forever (Immersion dans Café Müller de Pina Bausch)*.

In 2026, he will create *Muette*, his second solo piece.



French choreographer Boris Charmatz extends our perception of dance by breaking away from traditional formats.

An exciting choreographic emergence that builds day after day. A collective energy that radiates and carries away both participants and spectators. Boris Charmatz invites 150 amateurs to a six-day workshop exploring circular movements of dance.

Together with a dozen professional dancers from Europe and Australia, Boris Charmatz transmits a collection of circle dances set within the expanse of Forrest Place. *CERCLES* explores the circle as a cocoon, as a raging crowd or a wall of bodies – agile, determined.

Propelled by a soundtrack by Meute, a Hamburg-based techno brass band who reinterpret electronic music classics in their own unique way, this communal movement experience extends our perception of what dance can be.

For its first edition the project was realised at Festival d'Avignon 2024 and was then presented in Wuppertal the same year and at Grand Palais in Paris in July 2025. Now it comes to Perth, in an Australian Exclusive, with 150 local participants, as part of STRUT Dance's Perth Moves.



Credits

Concept : Boris Charmatz

Choreographic assistant : Magali Caillet Gajan

Professional dancers : Alice Cummins, Annmarie Clifton-James, Guilhem Chatir, Laura Bachman, Laura Boynes, Linton Elethios, Luther Wilson, Matthew Morris, Régis Badel, Tara Gower, Tatiana Julien and Zendra Giraudo

And Participants : Aleisha Loh, Gryphen Billington, Sanna Ansaldo, Tara Booth, Cassandra Podbury, Josh Chiat, Tamara Rojas Urquieta, Dee Burkardt, James Foster, Yasmin Sheriff, Jacqueline El-Saleh, Mariann Nemeth, Milly Ingate, Laura Stump, Ruby Willis, Oliver Savariego, Evangeline Mintargo, Beatrice Stotzer, Rania John Gomez, Lucile Allegre, Charlie Lee, Rebecca O'Neil, Ella Daniel, Alice Ding, Dale Kelly, Leon Salam, Liz Woods, Dallas Howell, Lauren Strange, Kim Bourne, Vanessa Best, Jacqui Otago, Charlee Osborne, Jessica O'Toole, Yanina Altamirano, Monia Allegre, Vu Vo, Ogg Hill, Katie Curo, Lauren Catellani, Olivia McGregor, Tom Camp, Emily Hill, Kathryn Lefroy, Maria Palladino, Angela Perry, Caroline Muscat, Catherine Antulov, Geoffrey Leeder, Jessica Bolden, Antoine Minni, Su Lin Wan, Georgia Douvartzidis, Lara Dorling, Keely Bourke, Hannah Blampied, Jessica Raper, Nooshin Hosseini, Robert Malcolm, Scarlet Rose, Zahra Zanusi, Andrew Outhwaite, Anna Nagy, Loren Holmes, Jane Cresswell, Michelle Hall, Monique Pettavino, Martin McMorrow, Sahaja Springer, Olivia Taliangis, Ilsa Crosdale, Sienna Strle, Tooi Ng, Damon Ward, Freya North-Hickey, Lillany Weber, Gabriela Mijova, Toni Moran, Wren Jessica Richards, Sophie Regnier, Young Eun Choi, Bryn Edwards, Marga Betancor, Jen Thomas, Janice Min, Sian Carvell, Lara Dorling, Matilda Backus, Leila Zaknich, Angus Patterson, Claire Stewart, Ethan Thomas, Rhianna Dunaiski, Graziella Guerra, Janine Oxenham, Seanne Sparrow, Kirsty Townsager, David Sparrow, Salmiyah Fiedorowicz, Asia Rovizzi, Shantelle Petrie, Jessica Gaskin, Naomi Cox, Madeline Rohde, Elsa Bignell, Alyce Dimond, Becca Attwood, Jolane Hlavaty, Iris Hera, Shan Navajan, Marica Matteini, Yesica Florez, Daiana Divin, Rowan Worth, Stephanie Slack, Anne Kohler, Cheryl Wolfe, Michael Grau, Lynnette Kohler, Alisha Subritzky, Michaela Davidson, Millani Booth, Shelley Crewe, Patrick Gunasekera, Allysha Kwok, Michaela Boss, Jaspreet Pooni, Michelle Gadellaa, Pierre Bessiere, Harriet Sawyer, Maija Raittinen, Mala Abdul Malek, Sarah Aubault, Catherine Macfarlane, Karly Chow, Christina Kadmos, Anthony King, Jessica Smart, Megan Lamb, Rebecca Andrawes, Vivelle Kenzler and Malati Angus.



Choreographic materials: Boris Charmatz, *Étude révolutionnaire* by Isodora Duncan and dances suggested by the professional dancers.

Music: Meute

STRUT Dance

Co-Directors: James O'Hara and Sofie Burgoyne

Production Manager: Peter Young

Stage Manager: Emily Stokoe

Sound Engineer: Kellan Starkie

General Manager: Deborah Robertson

Communications Manager: Cameron Park and Natalie Chambers

Finance Officer: Sherry Quiambao

Terrain

Technical direction: Fabrice Le Fur

Deputy Director: Hélène Joly

Production, development of projects: Lucas Chardon, Martina Hochmuth, Briac Geffraut, Lola Serre

Presented by: STRUT Dance with Perth Festival and Terrain

Coproduction: Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch, Pina Bausch Zentrum, Kunststiftung NRW, Festival d'Avignon

Created on June 29, 2024 Festival d'Avignon, in the framework of the invitation of Boris Charmatz as « artiste complice » of the Festival

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WAAPA proudly supports the presentation of CERCLES.





**STRUT
DANCE**

A local, national and global network of dynamic dance artists whose work reflects and contributes to our understanding of the world and celebrates dance as a driver of human connection.

A choreographic centre based in Boorloo, Western Australia, STRUT nurtures and sustains a thriving community of diverse dance artists and connects them with audiences to share their work.



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All images by Thomas Earnshaw.