

SECOND ECHO ENSEMBLE INC www.secondechoensemble.org secondechoensemble@gmail.com It is a pleasure to present the Annual Report of Second Echo Ensemble for 2019. Based in Hobart, SEE is guided by three core principles: 1 - CELEBRATING DIVERSITY - We are a curiosity-driven ensemble that values and grows creative relationships, unique perspectives, and group devised physical theatre practice. 2 - CHALLENGING ASSUMPTIONS: Our mission is to create and present exceptional performance that challenges assumptions, shakes up stereotypes and gives voice to untold stories. 3 - MAKING THEATRE HAPPEN We don't make performance about having a disability or not having a disability. We make work about life, about its surroundings, its imaginings, its rhythms, its angers and its celebrations.

2018 was a busy year in which we have increased our profile in the community, refined our aims and direction, and initiated a number of activities to raise our awareness in both ordinary and extraordinary places. 2018 has been a year of growth and consolidation, with a focus on redefining the artistic methodology of the company. In 2018 we prioritized the creative vision and growth of the SEE ensemble, both individually and as a collective. We ran four periods of ensemble workshops throughout 2018. This served as way for all members to access regular performance training, as well as a way for us to hone in on creative ideas offered up by members in the group.

Some of the achievements over the past year have included:

- The fourth iteration of CONTESTED LAND by Charlie Smith in the Moonah Moves Festival.
- The debut of new work BY MY HAND by Luke Campbell in Dark Mofo. This work also toured to Finland in November 2018.
- The first round development of LET ME DRY YOUR EYES by Alma and David.
- Securing one year of program funding from Arts Tasmania for 2019, and a significant philanthropic contribution to the company from the Alcorso Foundation
- Performance at multiple Mona Markets and Festival events, and SoHo open days

We had outstanding feedback throughout the year, with the well-attended events and an increase of profile through innovative activity. Relationships were extended between performers, our audiences, sponsors, supporters and our funding bodies.

A constant challenge for SEE is the resourcing of the organisation to support the day to day running of the organisation and adequately pay our Creative Producer and Artists. In 2018 we successfully started to diversify our income streams and build a strong base of support for the organisation, including the successful application to receive a yearlong program of funding from Arts Tasmania for 2019, which is a hugely positive step in the right direction, and afford some security for SEE's creative team.

I would personally like to thank Kelly and the ensemble for their incredible work throughout 2018. They have shown outstanding commitment and passion, which continues to contribute to the SEE vision. I also want to extend my thanks to the parents and carers connected to SEE who understand the importance of the work we do and who support us at every step of the way. Finally to all of the Board member's that have given up their time and energy to help keep this organisation moving in the right direction - its a massive commitment and we couldn't do it without you!

This marks my final meeting as Chair of the SEE Board - It's been an honor to serve this vital organisation as since 2017 and I wish the company every success in the future

Emma Porteus

Outgoing Chair of the Second Echo Ensemble Board, March 2019

It is a pleasure to present the 2019 Chair's Annual Report on behalf of the Second Echo Ensemble.

SEE, guided by its three core principles; Celebrating Diversity, Challenging Assumptions, and Making Things Happen, has again successfully delivered in 2019; popping up in new ways, in new places, and engaging and connecting with new people across both our home state and the Big Island.

Relationships have continued to be extended between performers, creatives, audiences, supporters, community groups and our funding bodies.

I have attended ensemble rehearsals, happenings, explorations and showings in warm, cold, ancient & spiritual, indoor and outdoor, crowded and expansive and small and intimate places. In these places I shared with audiences a tapestry of responses to the work of the ensemble - trepidation, surprise, captivation, confusion, insight, curiosity, laughter and tears to name a few ...

This is SEE in action - what we do, is deeply affecting. What we do creates questions and new perceptions. What we do, helps to lead us to a better world where diversity and inclusion is our everyday.

The 2019 board started the year with a consultant led review of our strategic plan which resulted in refining our strategy, aims and direction. This assisted in better articulating who we are, why we are, how we do 'stuff' and what we as a board needed to focus on moving forward. In 2019 we prioritised the articulation of the creative and company vision; professional growth of SEE ensemble members; and positioning SEE as a significant contemporary performance company in the Australian landscape, working to grow visibility and attract industry attention, locally and nationally.

Where Kelly, as usual, submitted a vast number of grant applications and performance proposals - which *she* will summarise, the board assisted Kelly in focussing concerted effort into our relationship with key industry players and funding applications to Arts Tasmania and the Australia Council.

The effort, in partnership with the growing industry acknowledgement and letters of support for the inspiring work of the ensemble members, bore fruit - it is true to say that achieving our first one-year Arts Tasmania *organisation* funding was a BLAST! We also received a letter of recommendation from the Australia Council - Hallelujah! We have their attention.

Recognition of the value of our company built on the hard work that Kelly, the Ensemble, past and present board members and our families have put into this wonderful company over the past five plus years, certainly came with immense relief, gratitude, and excitement, though tempered also with a sprinkling of up-coming performance anxiety. Big year ahead.

Arts Tasmania's organisation funding affords SEE in 2020 the means to offer one year full-time employment to our Creative Director (the visionary and engine room of the company - gratefully ours - Kelly Drummond Cawthon) - we are in capable hands. We are also proudly

able to sign year long professional employment contracts with three of our artists. This is BIG!! Congratulations to Kelly, Charlie Smith, Luke Campbell and Bryony Geeves.

As we move forward, in these especially unusual times, we will continue to look for innovative and new ways to be seen and heard, reach audiences and bring funds and opportunities to our company. We will work to be 'new world' smart and effective in operating our company. We will continue our focus to shine brightly in the eyes of our peers, Arts Tasmania and the Australia Council but will also work equally hard to diversify our income by seeking out private sector sponsorship and patrons, utilise the NDIS, and increase income generating activities.

#### In finishing I wish to extend my, and SEE's sincerely thank you's to the following:

Our intrepid leader, Kelly - your dedication to the ensemble members and The Vision is without peer. You are entrepreneurial and your creativity is brave and exhilarating. We are immensely grateful for all that you are - Thank you

Our ensemble, artist and creatives - we are so lucky to have so much generosity and talent in and engaging with our company - You each bring something wondrously unique and irreplaceable. You rock our world! Thank you!

Our SEE family - the parents, carers and supporters who understand the importance of the work we do and who continue to be there tirelessly cheering us on - you also rock! - Thank you!

Last but not least our voluntary Board whose generosity, belief, skills and knowledge is what ensures focus, accountability and momentum. We absolutely wouldn't be here without you! - Thank you

I wish to individually acknowledge board members that have resigned from positions in 2019 in order of years of service.

- Secretary Carolyn Coates 2015 2019
- Vice Chair Peta Heffernan 2017 2019
- General Member Marketing Rosie Voglino 2017 2019
- Chair Sue Hayes 2019
- Treasurer Taryn Townsend 2019

Carolyn Coates Chair of the Second Echo Ensemble Board March 2020

## Creative Producer Report Second Echo Ensemble Annual General Meeting March 19, 2019

#### The year past

- TSO recording project; Original works commissioned and recorded for Contested Land.
- The Beauty Project; Elise- Creative Development and sharing at Kickstart Arts
- Luke Campbell- Critical Path Residency and Murmuration Contract
- Creative Hobart Stall at Salamanca Market
- Intensive workshop and performance at Moonah Arts Centre with Philip Channells
- By MY HAND presented at Dark MOFO 2018 and Lonely in the Rain Festival, Finland; ITAK collaboration with Anna-Maria Varsinnen
- Improvisation performance at Moonah MOVES in the In The Making Series
- Professional Development workshops at Moonah MOVES
- Bella Young to Workshop with Back to Back Theatre
- Contested Land presented at Moonah MOVES [Chigwell Barn]
- Performance as part of Ability to Create with MOSAIC at Moonah Arts Centre
- Performance with Mosaic at Mawson's Pavilion
- Performance at Salamanca Lawns
- Renewed workshop program with increased enrollment

### The year ahead

### Let Me Dry Your Eyes

- Dave, Alma, Sandi and KDC made a site visit to Handbuilt Creative to look at their technology and projects
- Alma has completed the first round of aerial classes with Adie Delanie
- We had a first creatives meeting on 7.2.2019 to discuss the plans for the year. Dark MOFO have pushed us to 2020 so that frees up the creative process.
- Alma met with Rebecca Holmes at MAC to discuss the June exhibition. It will feature some of her work traditionally hung on the wall as well as a weekly live painting where Alma will paint Dave's back.
- We were onsite at Nayri Niara March 6-10. The core team spent 5 days in an artist exchange program run by Ruth Langford, and work with indigenous and first nations artists including Bunna Lawrie, whos drive for the protection of the environment and his sacred totem, the Southern Right Whale, became the subject of the inspiring film 'The Whaledreamers', winner of 8 documentary awards. At the water's edge of Cloudy Bay we listened to country, researched and begun our creative journey.
- April/ May we will work weekly in the pool.
- June is the exhibition and weekly live paintings at the MAC
- July school holidays we will go to Townsville for ART. [funding TBC Artsbridge] In the dry tropics adjacent to the central section of the Great Barrier Reef we will dive into rivers, creeks and freshwater wetlands. Supported by the Dancenorth A.R.T Program we will

have uninterrupted time to bring all the elements together before returning to Hobart for a showing. [funding TBC City of Hobart]

• I have submitted an application to DesertFest to present the work in the October school holidays in Alice Springs. [funding TBC Australia Council]

## Other

- 15th National Rural Health Conference have invited SEE to be a part of the Arts + Health Program. [\$1500 fee provided]. SEE will present the BY MY HAND in the making film for 1500 delegates at this national conference being held at the Grand Chancellor on Tuesday 26 March at 3:30pm. Luke + KDC will also perform a short excerpt of the work in one of the Arts + Health Concurrent Sessions on Wed 27 March at 11am. Thefull ensemble will do a way-finding improvisation that leads conference-goers from the GC to the Woolstore on Tue 26 March at 12:45pm and be a part of the closing ceremony on Wed 27 March at 3:30pm
- MADE fundraiser. SEE have been invited to perform at the MAC with MADE, Liz Lea and Katie Senior [artists from Canberra] on Friday 29 March at 7:00pm. Sue is working on an excerpt of WMYB for the event.
- Liz Lea workshop. Liz will be offering a workshop on Friday 29 March at 4:30pm. All SEE core and SEE workshop participants are welcome to attend. I will include info about both MADE opportunities in the next newsletter.

# **Financials**

Grants Received:

- Arts Tasmania
- Regional Arts Fund

### Artist Fees Received:

- Invited by the National Rural Health Alliance to be a part of the 15th National Rural Health Conference March 24-27 at the Grand Chancellor.
- Invited by Dancenorth to bring the LMDYE core team to Townsville for an ART residency in July. Waiting for photos/ support material from Nayri Niara to submit. [Due 16 March]
- Donation received from FB follower.
- Alcorso supporting the 2019-2020 program

# Applications currently awaiting notification:

Tasmanian Regional Arts; What Makes You Beautiful Australia Council: Let Me Dry Your Eyes Arts Tasmania Artsbridge: Let Me Dry Your Eyes to Townsville

# Grants Acquitted:

• Artsbridge grant for Finland successfully acquitted.

<u>Grants upcoming:</u> Australia Council Disability Mentor Scheme: Due April 2

#### Administration

Website:

• updated to include new projects, workshops and note Sue Hayes as creative producer

Newsletter:

- Upgraded website to include mail out templates.
- Sent 1 to all current subscribers
- Sent 1 to all current SEE core members
- Next newsletter to be about funding successes and new projects in more detail Question: Are all AGM attendees subscribers?

Workshop/ Membership form:

- created and distributed to all current members and new workshop participants
- Carolyn tracking payments into SEE bank

Revenue			
	Workshop fees, memberships and external performances	\$8,638.00	
	Grants	\$52,742.42	
	Donations	\$1,198.63	
	Other	\$50.00	
	TOTAL REVENUE		\$62,629.05
Expenses			
	LMDYE	\$45,033.37	
	WMYB	\$7,846.00	
	N&TN	\$979.80	
	Professional Development	\$2,826.75	
	Rent	\$2,145.00	
	Strategic Planning session	\$550.00	
	Teaching	\$400.00	
	Gsuite	\$275.44	
	Website annual licence & upgrade & flicr PRO	\$894.99	
	Shipping Container shelving	\$550.00	
	Artist fee - Health Conf	\$938.00	
	Mosiac workshop	\$1,008.00	
	Asset - Shipping container	\$2,000.00	
	Stationery	\$59.00	
	Bank Fees	\$2.50	
	Luke Mobile	\$1,800.00	
	TOTAL EXPENSES		\$67,308.85
Net Income	(Loss)		-\$4,679.80