

NEW CREATIVE GUNS BUNKER DOWN AT SEYMOUR

Emerging choreographic dynamo **Shaun Parker** and new cutting-edge music group **Chronology Arts** have taken up residence at Sydney's Seymour Centre in 2010, as part of an expanded **Arts Bunker** program, dedicated to fostering Australia's next creative heavy hitters.



The Seymour's **Arts Bunker** program, supported by the City of Sydney, provides these emerging arts innovators with free office and rehearsal space, taking them out of the bedroom and into their first professional facility; combined with invaluable ongoing mentoring in all areas of arts management - from marketing to technical production - with Seymour staff.

Seymour Centre Artistic Director and General Manager **Tim Jones** says the Seymour is committed to fostering the growth of the creative industries and Australia's future innovators.

"Our Bunker program has a vision to provide these rising companies with what they really need to grow and become the major arts companies of the future. In 2010 all three companies will produce a new work showcased at the Seymour, with the aim to each produce a full-scale production in 2011."

Shaun Parker, fast becoming one of Australia's leading choreographers/theatre makers, says he is thrilled to be selected for the **Arts Bunker**.

"Having worked solidly for seven years as an independent choreographer in Sydney, this opportunity allows me to move to the next level with the planning of my new work, touring past works, and creating opportunities for Sydney based independent dancers," he says.

Parker scored an Australian Dance Award in 2008, and the Robert Helpmann Scholarship for his work; and has toured nationally and internationally to critical acclaim. **Happy as Larry** (Sydney Festival 2010), **This Show is about People** (Sydney Festival 2009), **Blue Love**, **Love Installment** (for Sydney Dance Company), and **Tenebrae III** (for The Song Company) are just some of his credits.

Chronology Arts, voted one of Sydney's top 100 Creative Catalysts by **Creative Sydney** part of Vivid Sydney last year, are equally as excited about the opportunity a residency allows.

"Seymour's **Arts Bunker** allows us the space to mature as a company and ultimately succeed in our goals to nurture and promote emerging artists in art-music, and collaborate with other art forms to create a vibrant, diverse future arts scene," says co-founder **Andrew Batt-Rawden**.

Established by **Alex Pozniak** and **Batt-Rawden** in 2007 to support, promote and perform contemporary art music by emerging composers and performers; Chronology Arts has been hailed as "the birth of...a historical movement..." (Musique Art Magazine, Feb 2010) and as "adding breadth and complexity to a new music scene" (Keith Gallasch, RealTime).

In three years the company has produced over 12 events of new art music by emerging composers; and collaborated with filmmakers, choreographers, dancers, digital artists, poets and lighting designers on a host of productions. In 2010 the company instigated a series of groundbreaking panel discussions - the '**Commissioners' Circle**', to link leading temporal arts practitioners with private-sector sponsors and educating those new to commissioning on how it works.

The up-and-comers add to Seymour's existing and vibrant community of arts companies provided residence at the Centre - joining **White Box Theatre Company** (also part of the Arts Bunker), **Monkey Baa Theatre for Young People** and **SIMA** to make five!

White Box Theatre Company has enjoyed success since joining the Bunker in 2008; producing **The Hatpin** starring Caroline O'Connor, the new musical **Love Bites**, and an innovative revival of **A Day in the Death of Joe Egg**, which tours nationally this year, including a run at the Seymour from 21-30 October.

The Seymour Centre (www.seymourcentre.com) presents an eclectic mix of the best of contemporary performing arts, in the heart of Sydney University.

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