Welcome to 2003 at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts

Housed in a beautiful heritage building in the heart of Perth, the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA), is often described as the jewel in Perth’s cultural crown. PICA provides a space where visitors can experience art and performance created by local, Australian and international visual, performing, new media and hybrid artists, groups and companies.

In 2003 PICA is proud to celebrate its newly completed universal access including lifts, toilets, signage, a new entrance and a waterproof roof. PICA wishes to thank the Government of Western Australia for recognising the necessity and importance of providing access with dignity for all.

PICA invites you to enjoy and be stimulated by our exhibition and performing arts programs and to participate in the free artists’ talks, public lectures and symposia that seek to strengthen the relationship between art, artists and audiences.

PICA’s exhibitions are distinguished by a mix of emerging and established artists working across a range of media, disciplines and styles. Exhibitions such as Mirage and the Hatched: Healthway National Graduate Show showcase the work of young Australian artists working across a diversity of media, whilst solo exhibitions focus on the work of some of Australia’s more highly regarded visual artists.

Exhibitions such as the touring Gulliver’s Travels explore specific trends in contemporary Australian art and culture.

In performance, PICA is delighted to present the best of contemporary dance, live art, new music, physical theatre and puppetry, visual and experimental theatre. From the romance and passion of Perth Theatre Company’s Skin Tight, to the immediacy and rawness of Putting on an Act, the poignant absurdity of The Hunting of the Snark and the disturbing and transfixing Blood Relations, WA’s theatre and dance artists encourage us to expand our views of ourselves and the world we live in.

PICA is proud to present the fifth fabulous Dancers are space eaters festival featuring some of Australia’s leading dance artists, the best of our emerging talent and international artists of renown; to support the celebration of diversity experienced in DADA’s festival 24 / 7 and to produce the 60’s cult classic film, Alphaville, by Jean Luc Goddard with a live sound mix by UK electronic artist, Scanner.

It’s an exhilarating mix into which we’re delighted to welcome you – to be delighted, entertained, informed and sometimes challenged. Enjoy!

Sarah Miller, Director
Dancers are space eaters 2003

PICA's Dancers are Space eaters festival invites you to immerse yourself in a heady mix of live performance, exhibition, intensive movement workshops and both formal and informal opportunities for discussion and debate. Three weeks of innovative and inspiring dance and movement theatre featuring some of Australia's leading dance artists, the best of WA's emerging talent and international guests of renown.

In 2003, featured guests include the Melbourne based Lucy Guenn Company performing their critically acclaimed 'The Ends of Things' & 'Melt' prior to their European tour. 'Melt' describes a rise in temperature from freezing to boiling with each degree explored physically and temperamentally. It is an intensely focused and dynamic duet performed by Ros Warby & Stephanie Lake. Conversely, 'The Ends of Things' is the narrative of an ordinary man whose life is drawing to a close. Exquisitely performed by Trevor Patrick with Stephanie Lake, Byron Perry & Ros Warby, "The Ends of Things" explores the emotional resonances of endings, which occur more often in quiet than in crisis.

Dancers are space eaters is delighted to present the New York based John Jasperse Company with the Australian premiere of a new duet, 'Out There', whilst Victorian dance artist Helen Herbertson in collaboration with Ben Cobham will present a subtle and sophisticated dance/installation work. Performances by WA's independent dance network, STRUT, and platform showings by emerging choreographers and dancers makes Dancers are space eaters an emotionally resonant, conceptually sophisticated, physically dynamic experience. Be There!

Full program details available May 2003

This project has been assisted by the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body with sponsorship by Healthway, the WA Health Promotion Foundation to promote the FPWA's "Play it Safe" message.

October 29 - November 16

Image: Melt by Lucy Guenn Dance Company. Dancers: Ros Warby (left) and Stephanie Lake. Photo: Virginia Cummins.