



## **IAF GRANT REPORT**

**Lina Limosani & Daniel Jaber**

**Project: Projekt Moxie, 'Declivity'.**

With funding from the IAF, Projekt Moxie were able to contract four emerging dance artists to work alongside established choreographers Lina Limosani & Daniel Jaber in a 10-week program of creative development, training and mentoring.

The funding was spent on costs to support a season of a new double bill for the Adelaide Fringe Festival. These costs included: Fringe registration, marketing, publicist costs, music licensing costs, photographic shoots, programs, technical staff, production hire fees and costume/prop items.

The rehearsal dates ran from the 10th January through to March 13th 2022. Over these weeks the artists were lead through the creative development of two new works, and mentorships were facilitated to contribute to their ongoing future planning.

The performance season was scheduled to commence at The Odeon Theatre from March 15th - 19th as part of the 2022 Adelaide Fringe.

Despite taking appropriate measures against Covid-19 early on in the creative process through the commitment and establishment of an "artist bubble", the impact of Covid was present. We navigated the complexities of close contact regulations, RAT and PCR testing and the disruptions this brought to the process with more consistent than normal absences from rehearsals. We took extra measures to attempt to protect ourselves in the studio, including undertaking regular RAT tests.

Two days prior to the premiere of the show, two of the four dancers were taken ill and we had no choice but to cancel the season. It became inviable to continue the presentation of the show with no understudies to take the roles. In the process of cancellation, mental health was a priority. We have conducted regular zoom meetings and regular discussions around how to best move forwards, not to lose motivation, and how to take the experiences of the process to inspire future planning.

Recently we were able to re-negotiate a presentation date with Australian Dance Theatre for one weekend in May 2020, which was the ONLY date the company had available in their calendar to support our project before October this year. We discussed this with the dancers of Projekt Moxie, and unfortunately due to conflicting and clashing of other projects and work commitments, it appeared impossible for the team to come back together and deliver a season at this time.

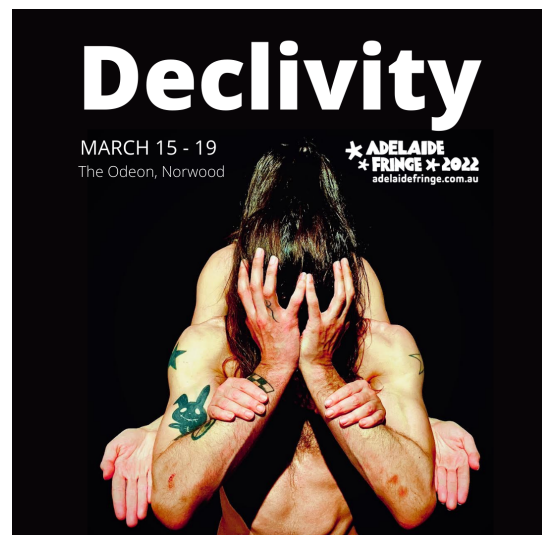
With much consideration, Daniel and I have made the decision to forfeit any attempt to present Declivity this year. Pursuing a season later in the year will require more rehearsal time for remount, and we believe we will be dealing with the same availability and financial concerns from the dancers, unless we apply for further funding. We are all saddened that we can not formally conclude the project via a presentation.

Although the performance season of Declivity did not eventuate, many outcomes were gained from both personal and professional levels. Each artist grew significantly in the context and environment of professional creative practice. Both processes saw distinctly different processes engaged - and the artists committed themselves to the contrasting methodologies to create and produce works of a high standard. Jaber's process embedded the artists in the techniques of improvisation as a generative tool for

choreographic content. Limosani's process explored the amalgamation of diverse performance techniques. Together these works were of a significant standard, that would have showcased these exceptional South Australian emerging artists.

The works created were outstanding and demonstrated a strong contribution from the young, emerging artists. They have proven their creativity and resilience to work in a professional environment and they are embarking on new projects locally and nationally as an outcome of the mentoring component. With the outcomes gained and lessons learned Projekt Moxie proves itself a worthy and necessary project and platform for bridging the gap between recent graduates and established artists in South Australia.

The artists have ongoing trajectories and leave their experience of being part of Projekt Moxie fulfilled by working in this professional atmosphere. Previously they were unskilled in areas of marketing, budgeting, application writing, choreographic development and how to produce independent works, particularly for the Fringe environment. These artists are now going on to a range of residencies, secondments and further study as an outcome of the project and also considering presenting their own works in festival environments.



## Emerging artist participants testimonials:



Gem Ivens:

*"Immersed in an interconnected web of art and it's relationship with the world, I find myself developing not only as a performer, but as an artist. Projekt Moxie is a platform that supports my visions, curiosities and artistry, by adapting with specificity to us as individuals, that fuels, inspires, and celebrates authenticity."*

*I see this as an integral part of navigating ourselves, our art, and the industry, not only as emerging artists, but existentially, for the longevity of creating."*



Jean Bennett-Hol:

*"As a recent graduate, Projekt Moxie holds incredible importance to my artistic development and personal career objectives within the arts industry. Having the opportunity to be mentored in a Professional environment, with two award-winning choreographers, not only holds indispensable value to me as an emerging artist, it simultaneously acts as a launchpad for my career within the arts industry. The collaboration and guidance across 'Projekt Moxie' nurtures my creative aspirations of becoming a multifaceted and versatile dance artist."*



Jess Minas:

*"Projekt Moxie has introduced me to a whole new world of philosophies and movement possibilities that I feel have already elevated the way I think, move and create. Forming bonds with the dancers and having the privilege to be inspired by individual movers everyday, as well as the invaluable guidance and mentorship from industry professionals Daniel Jaber and Lina Limosani, this has provided a safe space to delve further into performance and creativity, really exploring our physicality and mentality to discover our personal limitations and capabilities in order to improve our artistry."*



Amelia Watson:

*"Projekt Moxie is an important professional development opportunity that comes at a pivotal point in my career as an emerging dance artist. Thus far the creative process has involved: improvisation, thematic discussions, practical research and an epiphany or two along the way. Projekt Moxie has inspired and reignited my passion for dance making and performance."*



Projekt Moxie presents

# Declivity

March 15 - 19

The Odeon Theatre, Norwood

Two "emotionally-charged"  
contemporary dance works  
inspired by literature icon  
Edgar Allan Poe,  
created by

**LINA LIMOSANI**

and

**DANIEL JABER**



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