

# EDUCATION GUIDE || the perception experiment

*The perception experiment* is an exploration of time and space through dance performance

Contemporary dance is a very eclectic form that draws from a variety of cultures and movement languages that often celebrate the uniqueness of the dancers and their individual bodies.

Before we could talk to each other, humans communicated through gesture and movement. What you will experience today is prehistoric – sharing concepts without using words.



Frankie Snowdon and Madeleine Krenak are the choreographers of *the perception experiment*, and co-directors of GUTS Dance, an experimental dance company based in Alice Springs. They believe strongly that where you live feeds into the work that you create, and that the work is therefore unique and unable to have been made anywhere else.

## What makes your art different?

Frankie and Maddy seek to create spaces that are full of dance and involve the audiences somehow in the experience with the performance stretching into as much of the space around them as possible. Their choreography is designed so that we can see the importance and power of movement (dance) as a form (shape/structure/style).

The lighting, sound, set and costume all contribute to building a three-dimensional (3D) experience for audiences. At one point in the show the dancers cannot see anything, so they place huge trust in us, their audience.

## Why do you think their costumes change through the show?

## What story are you being told by the sound?

## Prompts for your students before the show

Experimental art causes you to look at and experience the world differently

Trust yourself – you are more intuitive and creative than you give yourself credit for

Multiple interpretations exist

Use your senses – this show is about perceptions...what senses are being stimulated?

Awkward is beautiful – revel in the humanity of the experience, yours and the dancers

Not knowing is a good thing – when you think you have all the answers, you stop searching

## Prompts for after the show

1. What did the dancers make you “see” beyond the physical, when watching the show?
2. How was time being represented?
3. What was different about this show that you haven’t experienced before at another performance?
4. How did you feel when watching the show?

Interview with choreographers

<https://bit.ly/2UL2DtC>

More info about contemporary dance

<https://bit.ly/2HoVbw9>