



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GUTS Dance x Ashleigh Musk & Artback NT Present:

SUB – A Ground-breaking Contemporary Dance Experience

*In a world full of uncertainty, we dig deeper - literally. **SUB** takes us underground, where movement and sound collide with the raw forces of nature.*

TOURING NATIONALLY WITH ARTBACK NT:

ALICE SPRINGS/MPARNTWE, CAIRNS/GIMUY, COFFS HARBOUR/GARLAMBIRLA, DARWIN/GARRAMILLA

Artback NT, GUTS Dance and Ashleigh Musk are proud to present **SUB**, a powerful and experimental contemporary dance work that invites audiences into the heart of the earth's depths. Premiering at Araluen Arts Centre, Mparntwe on 23 May 2025, **SUB** immerses viewers in an intense, multi-sensory journey beneath the surface, where the human body meets natural and industrial forces.

SUB explores humanity's relationship with the earth in a time of ecological crisis. As the surface world becomes increasingly burdened with environmental and societal challenges, we descend into soil and stone, burrowing into the underground to seek shelter and survival. The performance blends body, sound, objects, and lighting, creating a world where pressure mounts, the earth shifts, and the inhabitants navigate an underground realm of both terror and beauty.

Portrayed through stunning choreography by Ashleigh Musk, **SUB** explores the contradictions and contrasts of life beneath the earth's crust—wet versus dry, hot versus cold, soft versus strong. Musk, along with dancers Frankie Snowden, Madeleine Krenek and Jennie Large, take us on a journey of endurance, resilience, and soft defiance as they, the inhabitants meet precious materials, respecting and giving life to discarded objects, while also learning to care for each other and their environment.

*" **SUB** is a continuation of my obsession with futuring and creating worlds for a future where our planet is uninhabitable... **SUB** somehow envelopes contradicting landscapes into its own sensorial universe." – **Ashleigh Musk***

*"**SUB** was an aestheticization of industry... Flexible aluminium ducting was dropped like tentacles onto the dancers, the silver tubing caressing their bodies. The ubiquitous material was transformed into an object quite beautiful and almost anthropomorphic, exaggerating the dynamism as the dance became increasingly violent and the tubing began to shred." - **Festival Review: The Unconformity, Queenstown by Lucy Hawthorne, Oct 2023***

Performance Details

23 May 2025	ARALUEN ARTS CENTRE, MPARNTWE, (ALICE SPRINGS) NT
30 May 2025	BULMBA-JA ARTS CENTRE, GIMUY, (CAIRNS) QLD
31 MAY 2025	BULMBA-JA ARTS CENTRE, GIMUY, (CAIRNS) QLD
07 JUNE 2025	JETTY THEATRE, GARLAMBIRLA, (COFFS HARBOUR) NSW
08 JUNE 2025	JETTY THEATRE, GARLAMBIRLA, (COFFS HARBOUR) NSW
13 JUNE 2025	DARWIN ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE, GARRAMILLA, (DARWIN) NT



Artback NT

14 JUNE 2025 DARWIN ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE, GARRAMILLA, (DARWIN) NT

Creative Team

Concept & Choreography: Ashleigh Musk, in collaboration with the entire team

Performers: Madeleine Krenek, Frankie Snowdon, Jenni Large, Ashleigh Musk

Sound Design & Performance: Anna Whitaker

Lighting & Spatial Design: Jen Hector

Dramaturgy & Concept Development: Pierce Eldridge & Léuli Eshrāghi

Costume Design: Elliot Rich

Costume Manufacturer: Lizzie Verstappen

Choreographic Intern: Toni Lord

ABOUT SUB

SUB engages audiences with the world beneath our feet, reflecting on our place within the shifting forces of nature. Don't miss this thought-provoking, visceral dance experience, which promises to transport you into a subterranean world of sound, movement, and emotional depth. GUTS Dance has long been at the forefront of contemporary dance innovation, and with SUB, continues to lead the charge in experimental artmaking and community-driven engagement.

About GUTS Dance

Based in Mparntwe (Alice Springs), GUTS Dance is a leading hub for contemporary dance, providing a vital platform for the creation, performance, and investigation of new dance works across Australia. Co-founded by dance artists Frankie Snowdon and Madeleine Krenek, GUTS Dance serves as the only contemporary dance platform within a 1500km radius, fostering resilience, creativity, and collaboration in a regional and remote context.

About Artback NT

Artback NT develops and presents creative works from across the Northern Territory – to and from some of Australia's most remote locations. We work collaboratively with artists and communities to create and present high quality arts and cultural experiences not readily available to regional, remote, and very remote communities who are often left off the touring map.

Our Performing Arts Development and Touring Program delivers dynamic theatre, music, and dance performances, as well as creative workshops to audiences around Australia.

Working primarily with NT based artists, producers, and companies, Artback NT is passionate about sharing the strong and unique stories of the Northern Territory and providing a lens into life experienced in this part of the world.

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body and proudly supported by the Northern Territory Government, Arts NT.

For media inquiries and interviews, please contact:

Juran Timu-Adams

Marketing and Communications Manager | communications@artbacknt.com.au | +61 (0) 8941 1444

For touring inquiries, please contact:

Evan Saunders

Performing Arts Manager, Artback NT | performing@artbacknt.com.au | +61 (0) 8941 1444



Artback NT

For more touring and show information visit www.artbacknt.com.au

About the Artists

Ashleigh Musk is a dancer, choreographer, dramaturg, and community arts facilitator whose practice explores sensitive interactions with place and landscape. Her works examine ecological crises, re-imagining the body's relationship with the earth through experimental performance and radical care.

Madeleine Krenek, co-founder of GUTS Dance, is a dancer, choreographer, and educator passionate about human connection and the endless potential of the body. She is committed to championing dance as a powerful vehicle for personal and community transformation.

Frankie Snowdon, also co-founder of GUTS Dance, is a dance artist whose work spans performance, choreography, and community engagement. She is dedicated to fostering bravery, risk-taking, and collaboration, empowering diverse voices within the dance community.

Jenni Large, is a dancer, teacher, and award-winning choreographer based in Launceston. Known for blending experimental and entertaining movement, Jenni has performed and presented works nationally and internationally. Recent works, "Body Body Commodity" and "Wet Hard Long," received 5-star reviews from Arts Hub.