



Media Release: June/July 2008

***A MARRIAGE OF MUSIC AND DANCE
Leigh Warren & Dancers and Zephyr Quartet Team Up for IMPULSE –
an Exhilarating New Double Act***

On the back of a successful premiere season of their production *Seven* at the 2008 Adelaide Fringe (Winner - Fringe Award for Best Dance) – Leigh Warren & Dancers return to the Adelaide stage late this month (June) and early July with *Impulse* - a new collaborative production celebrating the unique and often unpredictable relationship between music and dance.

Impulse sees Leigh Warren & Dancers working once again with the innovative South Australian string ensemble, Zephyr Quartet – to present two separate dance works: *Impulse* and *Shimmer* – the latter a reinvention of a production first presented to Adelaide audiences in 1997.

Shimmer was highly acclaimed in its premiere season - winning both the inaugural Adelaide Critics Circle prize in 1997 and 'Best Choreography' at the Australian Dance Awards in 1999. Set to a sumptuous score by SA composer Graeme Koehne - *Shaker Dancers*, which explores the ecstatic dances of the American Shakers – this mesmerising work has been reworked for the 21st Century.

Shimmer's original creative team – Leigh Warren (artistic director/choreographer), Mary Moore (set & costume design) and Geoff Cobham (lighting design) – has regrouped and the trio has been busy adapting the production to its new venue.

"In 1997 we performed *Shimmer* at the Norwood Concert Hall – but this time we're thrilled to be presenting the show in the wonderful Space Theatre at the Adelaide Festival Centre," says Warren. "In this new venue we'll be able to realise the work in a more intimate staging, drawing the audience deeper into the experience."

Needless to say - fans of the original work can expect a few surprises - while re-living Graeme Koehne's wondrous musical score.

Shimmer will be paired this year with a second dance work - *Impulse*, featuring the witty and dynamic strains of Michael Nyman's *Second Quartet*. The name *Impulse* is inspired by the relationship between music and dance. The production explores how music can propel dance, inspire it, direct it and shape it – and how movement becomes the materialisation of the sound itself.

For Warren, one of the joys of bringing *Impulse* to the stage is the opportunity it presents for his company to work in a live format with the talented Zephyr Quartet.

"Our first project with Zephyr Quartet was a performance called *From Tango to Techno* – which we presented in Adelaide as the finale to the 2006 Musica Viva Ménage Concert Series," says Warren. "That was a mutually rewarding experience and I'm sure Adelaide audiences will once again enjoy the energy created in *Impulse* – through the fusion of live music and dance."

In a special addition to the *Impulse* program – an after-show forum will take place immediately following the Thursday 3 July performance – in the Space Theatre. Leigh

Warren will join the production's dancers and musicians for a lively 20 minute discussion with the audience about the creation of this extraordinary show. This after-show forum is free to all those attending the 3 July *Impulse* performance.

***Impulse* – 2008 Performance Details**

WHEN:

8pm: 28 June / 3 - 5 July, 2008

4pm: 29 June, 2008

Duration: 1 hour 20 minutes (20 minute interval)

WHERE:

Space Theatre, Adelaide Festival Centre – King William Road, Adelaide, SA

TICKETS:

\$40 adult; \$30 concession; \$25 students & Fringe Benefits

BOOKINGS:

Book at BASS 131 246 or www.bass.net.au

LINE-UP:

Shimmer Dancers:

Deon Hastie, Jo Roads, Lisa Griffiths, Kynan Hughes, Gala Moody & Craig Bary

Impulse Dancers:

Deon Hastie, Jo Roads, Lisa Griffiths & Kynan Hughes

Zephyr Quartet:

Belinda Gehlert, Emily Tulloch, Anna Webb & Jonathan Webb

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***Issued for Leigh Warren & Dancers by Foster Hill PR & Marketing.
For more info, interviews or images – contact Skye Murtagh on 08 8231 3555.***