

## Dancers bounce into Bleach\* Festival

Dancers will run, bounce, flip, soar and ricochet across Burleigh Beach in an adventurous performance unlike any seen before on the Gold Coast.

Using 180 fit balls embedded in the sand, **Tectonic** is a free 15-minute performance installation staged twice a night from April 17-28 as part of Bleach\* The Gold Coast Festival.

Performers from award-winning Townsville contemporary dance powerhouse **Dancenorth**, will use the partially-buried balls as micro-trampolines to ignite the energetic production which unites sculpture, movement and sound in a dazzling site-specific performance.

The fit balls remain buried across the Easter weekend of the Festival, providing a large-scale interactive installation for the public. Workshops will also be held during the day, offering the community opportunities to engage with the space outside performance times.

*Tectonic* Director & Choreographer **Kyle Page** and Rehearsal Director **Amber Haines** said *Tectonic* was inspired by the plight of the tiny Poruma Island community in the Torres Strait whose island home is eroding and sinking due to climate change.

“Poruma Island is home to 180 residents and is about as close to paradise as you can get. However as global sea levels begin to rise, Poruma Island is disappearing,” Page said.

“*Tectonic* breathes life into the stories of the Poruma Island community, which has nurtured a deep connection with the natural environment for generations, choosing to live in concert with the world around them.”

Haines said *Tectonic* was an examination of shifts – shifts in land, sea, time, space and thinking – staged poignantly against the backdrop of the Pacific Ocean.

“*Tectonic* is a collective journey, a shared responsibility, toward creating a sustainable future,” Haines said.

“Together we unravel the often-imperceptible shifts that surround us day-by-day, drawing attention to the accumulative effect of these changes and their potential to disrupt a viable future.”

Bleach\* Artistic Director and CEO **Louise Bezzina** said the visually arresting production also highlighted an urgent issue for many Pacific Island communities.

“This is a fitting show for Bleach\* given we’re a coastal community on the Pacific Ocean and *Tectonic* is staged on the stunning Burleigh Beach,” Bezzina said.

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"I know the community will love this work, and leave thinking about immediate, very real environmental issues.

Bleach\* 2019 marks Bezzina's eighth and final festival following her appointment as Artistic Director of Brisbane Festival. Her first Brisbane Festival program will be presented in 2020.

Full program available at [www.bleachfestival.com.au](http://www.bleachfestival.com.au)

*Bleach\* – The Gold Coast Festival is proudly supported by the City of Gold Coast; the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, part of the Department of Environment and Science; and Tourism and Events Queensland.*

~ ENDS

## TECTONIC

By Dancenorth

Presented by Bleach\*, City of Gold Coast and Griffith University.

Supported by Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and Australian Federal Government through Australia Council for the Arts.

FREE EVENT – [bleachfestival.com.au](http://bleachfestival.com.au)

Nightly shows 6:30pm & 7:30pm 17 – 21 April 2019 at Bleach\* at Burleigh, Burleigh Heads

Free Jump & Play 10:00am – 4:00pm 22 April 2019

Workshops 9:00 – 10:00am 18 – 21 April 2019

## ABOUT THE DANCENORTH | <http://www.dancenorth.com.au/>

As a major champion of the arts in regional North Queensland, Dancenorth balances a dynamic regional presence with a commitment to creating compelling contemporary dance that tours the globe. Led by Artistic Director Kyle Page and Associate Artistic Director Amber Haines, Dancenorth is an integral part of the Australian dance ecology making a significant contribution to the dance sector and building literacy around contemporary dance nationally.

Dancenorth empowers and supports artists by providing a creative hub for many artistic voices including a diverse range of choreographers, guest collaborators, artists in residence and dancers.

## ABOUT BLEACH\* FESTIVAL | <https://www.bleachfestival.com.au>

Bleach\* Festival is the Gold Coast Festival, taking place annually across the City in April. The program is one of Australia's leading and most exciting site-specific contemporary arts programs. Quintessentially Gold Coast, Bleach\* Festival celebrates the city's most dynamic and adventurous artists, welcomes renowned Australian and international collaborators and engages a broad audience through a range of events.

Utilising the Gold Coast's world-famous natural landscape as unconventional venues, Bleach\* Festival aims to deliver incredible arts and cultural experiences that challenge expectations, change

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perceptions and provide a unique and authentic sense of place, inspiring both locals and visitors alike.

Bleach\* Festival has attracted more than 470,000 people since its inaugural year in 2012. The program features work across all genres including dance, theatre, contemporary music, opera, installations, circus and major public events.

*"The city's largest cultural event [Bleach\* Festival] reflects the growth in the glitter strip's arts and culture scene..."* – The Australian

*"Bigger and more spectacular than ever..."* – mygc.com.au

*"Bezzina has made the annual Bleach\* Festival the heart and soul of the party, and this year's program is the best yet..."* – The Courier-Mail

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