

THURSDAY 14 MARCH 2019

ROSIE DENNIS APPOINTED AS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND CEO OF BLEACHED ARTS

The Board of Bleached Arts today announced Rosie Dennis as the incoming Artistic Director and CEO. Rosie will be relocating from Western Sydney where she will be leaving her 6-year tenure as Artistic Director and CEO of Urban Theatre Projects (UTP). She will commence with Bleach* in June 2019 and present her first festival in April 2020.

Bleached Arts Chair, Leigh Tabrett said, "It is a measure of Bleach Festival's standing in the arts community, that we had an exceptional field of candidates for this position. Rosie grew up on the Tweed and has maintained a lifetime of connections to the Coast. She is passionate about the work that Bleach* does, and about continuing to build its impact in this community.

Rosie has built a national reputation for her work as an artist, as a partner and collaborator, and in her work within her community in Western Sydney, and we are really looking forward to what she will bring to Bleach*, and to the Gold Coast, over the next few years.

It is an exciting new stage for Bleach*, and we are confident that Rosie will make wonderful contribution in this role".

Rosie has been instrumental in transforming Urban Theatre Projects into a significant Western Sydney arts organisation that has delivered an exceptional inclusive program while growing and diversifying the business.

During her tenure with UTP she has been influential in developing new and long-standing partnerships with local councils, local business such as Barangaroo Development Authority, Western Sydney University and nationally working with Ten Days on the Island Festival.

Prior to UTP, Rosie held the position of Live Art Curator at Campbelltown Arts Centre and prior to that worked as a successful independent artist from 2006-2012, where she wrote and performed in a number of new works which were presented at more than 25 festivals internationally – predominantly in the UK and Central Europe. She has self-produced more than 6 international tours.

Rosie’s work has attracted considerable acclaim. She has been the recipient of a number of awards, acquisitions and commissions which include: the Zest Award for Home Country (Director) (2017); the FBI SMAC Award for BANKSTOWN:LIVE (2015) and One Day For Peace a documentary which she directed was acquired by ABC TV (2016).

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The direction and vision of Bleach* over the last 8 years, led by Louise Bezzina, who moves into an exciting new role as Artistic Director of Brisbane Festival in May 2019, has continued to wow audiences locally, nationally and internationally.

Rosie said, "I'm thrilled to be joining Bleach* at such an exciting time and looking forward to growing the Festival into one of Australia's leading arts and cultural experiences for audiences."

"Growing up just south of the border, I have many fond memories of the Gold Coast and I've watched with keen interest as the region has developed over the last 10-years into a contemporary, cosmopolitan place. I'm very much looking forward to contributing to this narrative with an ambitious program of arts and culture for the City."

Bleach* The Gold Coast Festival returns 17 – 28 April 2019. Full program available to download now at www.bleachfestival.com.au

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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