

Media Release: 21 September 2017

Make it @Merrigong & Performing Lines present

## A CALL TO DANCE

By Amrita Hepi

A FREE participatory dance workshop for young local women.

**Workshops 21 – 25 October | Performance 27 October**

**A Call To Dance** invites young women of Wollongong and surrounding areas to meet professional dancer and choreographer Amrita Hepi and workshop a movement that is all about them. The 45 minute workshop sessions will involve time spent one-on-one answering a series of questions and working with young women from our community to create a movement or a gesture that articulates something about them. Something uniquely their own.



Photography by Lester Jones

From each workshop Amrita will collect the individual movements and unite them to form a dance sequence to be showcased to the participants in a private, one-off event at 6:30pm Friday 27 October - Bruce Gordon Theatre IPAC.

The initial development of this work took place as a part of the **YIRRAMBOI First Nations Arts Festival** in May this year. This is the second stage of the project, where the central idea is to engage with young women from our local community and empower them with the confidence to move their body. Amrita is an impressive role model and this free participatory dance workshop is a truly rare and exciting opportunity for young women in the Illawarra.

Amrita Hepi is a professional dancer, choreographer, writer and activist descending from the Ngapuhi tribe in northern New Zealand and the Bundjulong people in northern New South Wales.

Amrita's work explores the importance of dance, the idea of ownership around a dance move, and how we all move together in society.

## MORE ABOUT AMRITA HEPI

Amrita Hepi's has exhibited and performed at the **Sydney Opera House, Nextwave Festival, Australia's Museum of Contemporary Art, Banff Centre** in Canada and hosts a radio show about independent dance on FBi radio.

She has joined Western Australia's Indigenous Contemporary dance company OCHRES while she continues to also teach pop culture dance classes around the country. She presented her talk 'To Be A Good Dancer, Don't Give a F\*\*k' at **TEDxYouth** in May 2016. A women in demand, she has just directed four dance films in **collaboration with ASOS**, performed at **Dark Mofo** and landed her dream job at Marrugeku Dance Company. She even features in the latest issue of **Instyle Magazine** in association with OCRF Australia – Amrita Hepi is definitely on the move!

[www.amritahepi.com](http://www.amritahepi.com)

## GET INVOLVED

Local women between 13 – 30 years of age (age limits are not strict) are invited to register for a 45 minute one-on-one workshop with Amrita Hepi. Please note that only 40 places are available. Participants are invited back to see the performance showcasing their unique movements in a private, one-off event at 6:30pm Friday 27 October - Bruce Gordon Theatre IPAC.

## A CALL TO DANCE

**Work Shop Venues:** North Wollongong Surf Club - 1A Cliff Road, Wollongong  
Illawarra Performing Arts Centre - 32 Burelli Street, Wollongong

**Performance:** By invite only, Friday 27 October 6.30pm - Bruce Gordon Theatre IPAC

**Running time:** Workshops: Approx. 45 mins

**To reserve your FREE workshop session** please visit [merrigong.com.au/shows/a-call-to-dance.html](http://merrigong.com.au/shows/a-call-to-dance.html)

Click BUY TICKETS and choose your preferred workshop.

**Website Link:** <http://merrigong.com.au/shows/a-call-to-dance.html>

**Media enquiries:** Please Contact Amandine Faggotter on 02 4221 0801 or email [afaggotter@merrigong.com.au](mailto:afaggotter@merrigong.com.au)



Facebook



Twitter



Instagram

