

the dance company

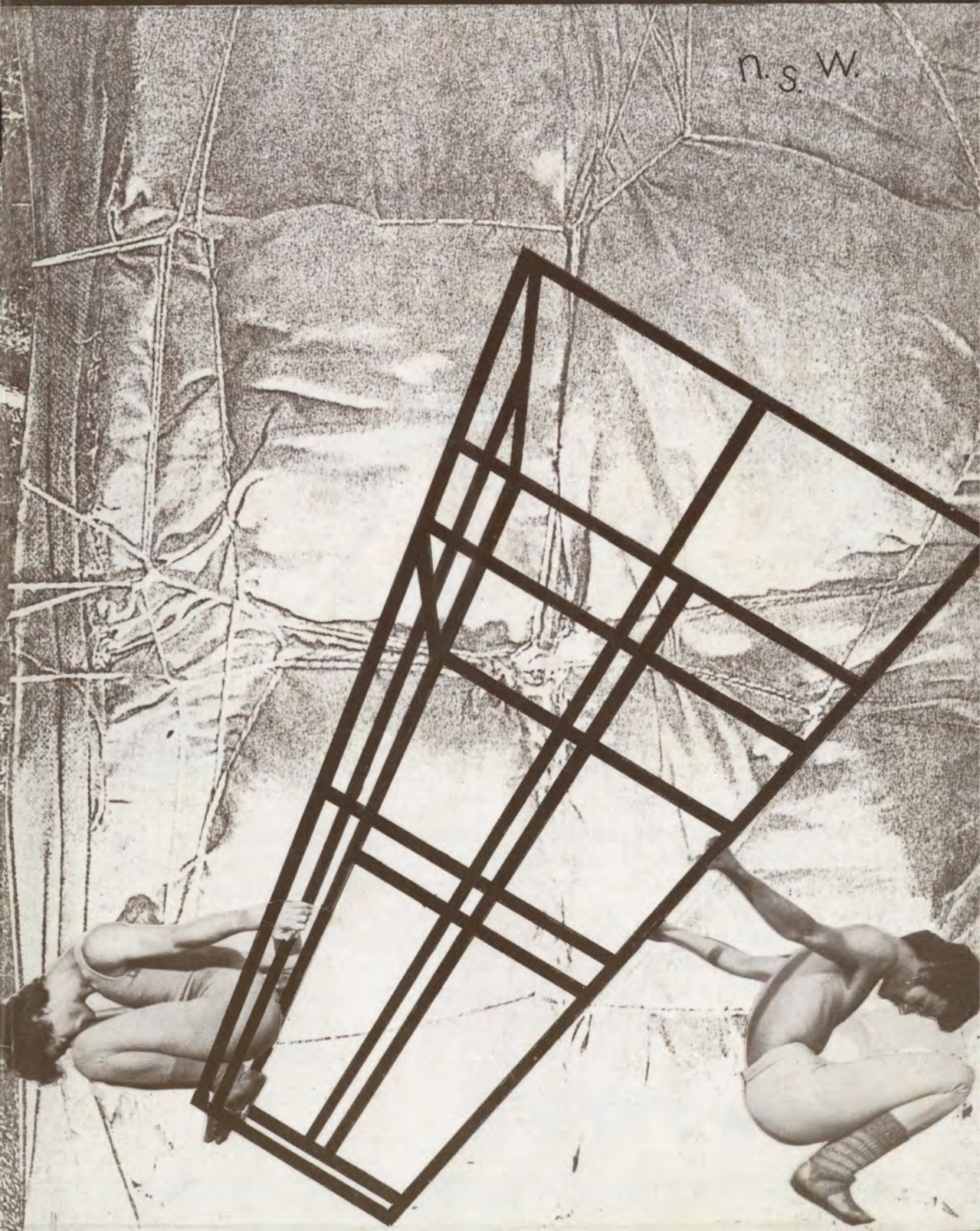




Photo: Ross Philip

the dance company

(n.s.w.)

Artistic Director: Graeme Murphy
Administrator: Michael Goodwin
Ballet Mistress: Janet Vernon
Technical Manger: Brian McLeod
Lighting Design: John Hoenig
Stage Manager: Gordon Brown
Publicity Officer: Janine Kyle (358-4600)
Wardrobe Assistant: Ivy Johnson
Bookkeeper: Christine Lenton
Secretary: Lee Kirkland

Dancers:
John Adams
Gary Hill
James McArdle
Ross Philip
Anthony Ryvers
Andris Toppe
Graeme Watson*

Eleanor Brickhill
Judith Haines
Marilyn Ledwidge
Kim Love
Merrilee Macourt
Stephanie St. Clair
Victoria Taylor
Nina Veretennikova
Janet Vernon

*Guest Artist

Programme Designed by Brian Crowther

The New South Wales State Conservatorium of Music has generously aided The Dance Company (NSW) in the preparation and staging of this evening's programme. We wish to thank the Board of Governors and members of the Conservatorium for this assistance.



Graeme Murphy

Artistic Director

In December, 1976, Graeme Murphy was appointed Artistic Director of The Dance Company (NSW). As a choreographer, he has been called the best working in Australia today, by his colleagues and by the Australian press. After as little as six months his ability to direct his own company can begin to be assessed.

Born in Tasmania, Graeme studied under Ken Gillespie and later joined The Australian Ballet School. As a member of The Australian Ballet company, he danced a wide variety of classical roles. Awarded an Australian Council grant in 1971 to study dance and choreography overseas, he headed first to New York where he observed first hand the wide spectrum of dance companies in the contemporary vein. He headed then for London and discovered, after less than a year with The Royal Ballet, that his future would lie in the contemporary dance field.

After two years with Ballets Felix Blaska, a contemporary company based in France, he returned to Australia via South East Asia as a member of the International Ballet Caravan.

During his first year back in Australia, Graeme choreographed for The Australian Ballet School, The Queensland Ballet, and The Tasmanian Ballet. He rejoined The Australian Ballet early in 1976 and accompanied them on the tour of Washington, New York and London. After taking part in the Armidale Choreographic Seminar he was invited to attend The Gulbenkian Foundation National Choreographic Summer School in England. It was also during this final year with The Australian Ballet that he choreographed his "Glimpses" which won The Canberra Times Award at The Canberra '76 Choreographic Festival. It is this ballet which proved so successful for The Dance Company (NSW) at The Sydney Opera House in March 1977.

The Dance Company (NSW) has taken on a new lease of life under Graeme Murphy's direction. The repertoire continues to be enriched by the works he has mounted for them. But this is only the beginning.

Photo by Geoff Swinburn

TIP, *n.* tip, the small pointed extremity of anything; a gentle hit; a hint or suggestion; an item of information; a small present; an anther [Bot.]; a dumping ground; a "wrinkle": *v.t.* to form a point to; to cover the tip, top or end of; to tap; to lower one end; to cant; to hit gently; to hint; to tell; to give a gratuity to: *v.i.* to fall headlong. **Tip off**, to warn a person; to kill. **Tip the wink**, to wink to another as a sign. (M.E.)

TIP-AND-A-RUN, *n.* tip-and-a-run, a form of ... the run must be ...

Choreography: Graeme Murphy
Music: "961 Ways to Nirvana" Carl Vine
Design: Brian Crowther

"Rapid and continual environmental changes.
 The result — bewilderment, insecurity."

Cast: Janet Vernon or Nina Veretennikova, Graeme Murphy or Andris Toppe, Ross Philip.

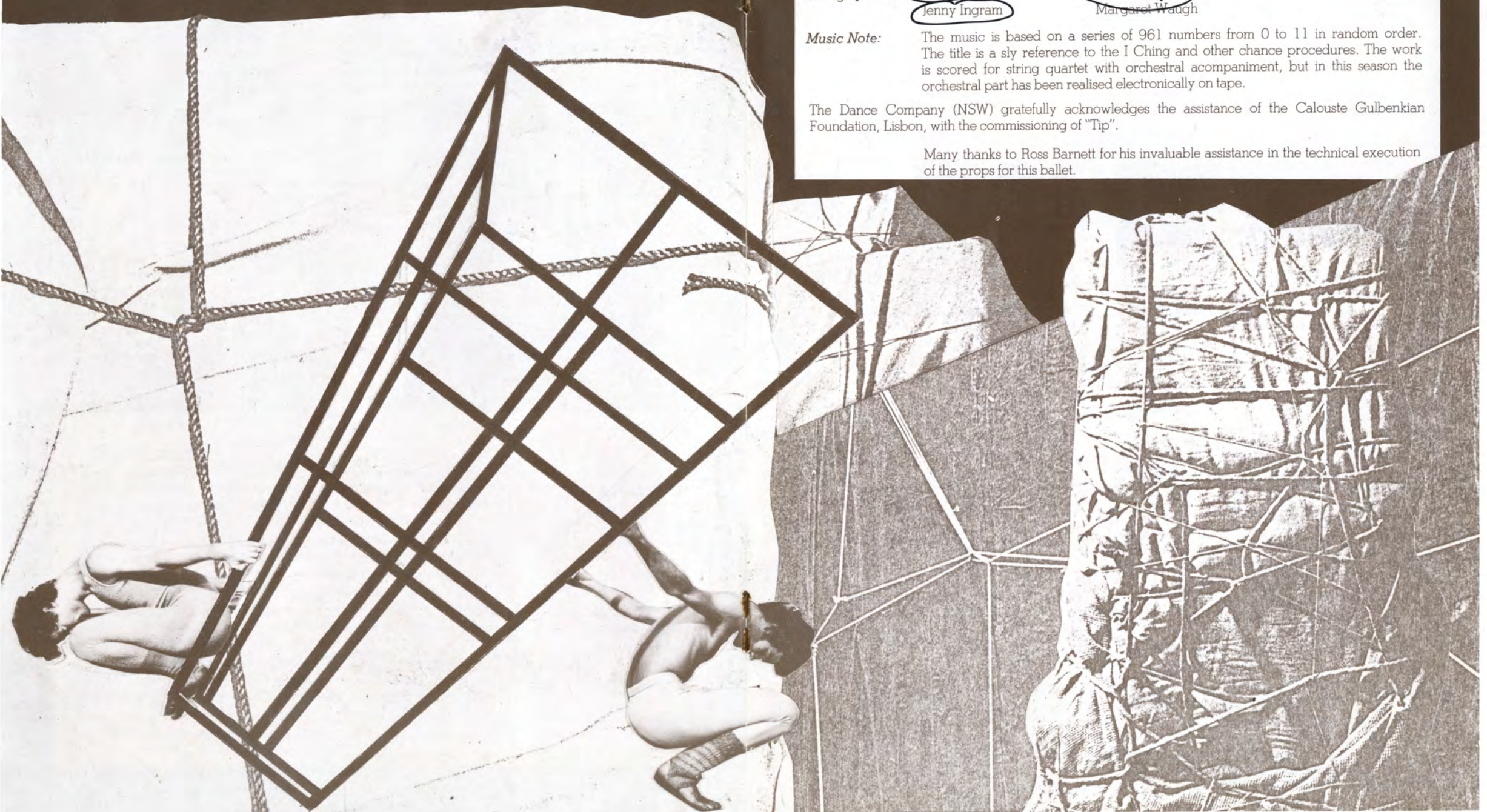
Nina Veretennikova	Gary Hill
Merrilee Macourt	James McArdle
Eleanor Brickhill	Anthony Ryvers

String Quartet: Margaret Beram, Jenny Ingram, Tessa Gordon, Margaret Waugh

Music Note: The music is based on a series of 961 numbers from 0 to 11 in random order. The title is a sly reference to the I Ching and other chance procedures. The work is scored for string quartet with orchestral accompaniment, but in this season the orchestral part has been realised electronically on tape.

The Dance Company (NSW) gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, with the commissioning of "Tip".

Many thanks to Ross Barnett for his invaluable assistance in the technical execution of the props for this ballet.





3RD CONVERSATION

Choreography: Graeme Murphy
Music: Adagio, Music for Strings, Percussion, and Celesta, Bela Bartok
Cast: Janet Vernon or Kim Love
 Graeme Murphy or Gary Hill
 with
 Judith Haines
 Eleanor Brickhill or Nina Veretennikova
 Marilyn Ledwidge or Merrilee Macourt
 Stephanie St. Clair
 Gary Hill

"3rd Conversation" is an excerpt from "3 Conversations". This one act ballet was commissioned from choreographer Graeme Murphy by The Queensland Ballet. "3 Conversations" was first performed in May 1975.

HI-KYO

Choreography: Jaap Flier
Music: Kazuo Fukushima
Flutist: Mardi McCullea
Design: Joop Stokvis
Cast: Judith Haines or Stephanie St. Clair
 Andris Toppe or Ross Philip

"Hi-Kyo means "Flying Mirror". It is the Japanese word for the moon and they consider mirrors sacred objects, a place where no-one lives, hidden place, adversity, distress, and many other meanings."

J.F.

Jaap Flier first created Hi-Kyo in 1972 for the Nederlands Dans Theatre. Part of his inspiration for this work was his fascination with the idea of placing his dancers "off balance". To achieve this, without the resultant effects of gravity, he set the ballet in a forest of ropes. Hi-Kyo was recently mounted by Jaap Flier on the famous Bat-Dor company in Israel.



Janet Vernon

Ballet Mistress

When Janet Vernon came to The Dance Company (NSW) as Ballet Mistress and dancer she brought with her a wealth of experience in the contemporary and classical dance worlds which has proven invaluable to her new position.

Janet was born in Adelaide and studied ballet with Cecil Bates before joining the Australian Ballet School. After graduating Janet toured with "Ballet in a Nutshell" which, under the direction of Suzanne Musitz, later became known as The Dance Company (NSW).

Janet spent five years in all as a soloist with The Australian Ballet and took part in three overseas tours. During the interim periods she joined Ballets Felix Blaska, a contemporary company based in France. She was given leave of absence from this company and was invited to once again join The Australian Ballet on its tour of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, in 1973. Janet then remained in Europe until returning to Australia in 1974. She rejoined The Australian Ballet in 1976 and took part in its most recent tour of America and London. Her roles include the "Queen of the Willis" in "Giselle". John Butler's "Threshold", and Glen Tetley's "Gemini".

Since joining The Dance Company (NSW) Janet has appeared in Graeme Murphy's "Glimpses", "3rd Conversation", and "Sequenza VII". She will make her debut this season in John Butler's "Carmina Burana" and will take the lead in Graeme Murphy's newest work, "Tip".

Photo by Geoff Swinburn



Dancers



John Adams



Eleanor Brickhill



Judith Haines



Gary Hill



Marilyn Ledwidge



Kim Love



Merrilee Macourt



James McArdle



Ross Philip



Anthony Ryvers



Stephanie St. Clair



Victoria Taylor



Andris Toppe



Nina Veretennikova



Graeme Watson*

*Guest Artist

4 world premieres

