



annualreport2009



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transforming lives through theatre

No Strings Attached is based in Kurna Country.

We acknowledge the Kurna people as the traditional custodians of the Adelaide Plains, and we honour their living culture, their continuing relationship with this land, and their unique role in the life of this region.

Cover and inside cover photo Rodney Magazinovic



This year has been a very successful one for the Board. We have consolidated membership and held a very productive all day strategic planning workshop facilitated by Anne Skipper. The workshop enabled the Board to re-assess our goals and objectives and to focus on new directions that are more allied to them and to the future success of the company.

We have prioritised strategic development in areas covering Financial Management and Good Governance, and we continue to monitor NSA's meeting of Occupational Health and Safety regulations, maintaining NSA's compliance with Service Excellence Standards, the development and monitoring of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for NSA's development in all areas, as well as supporting staff in appropriate planning.

In May Board Member Kelly Vincent interviewed individual participants in workshops to assess their satisfaction with the workshop. The satisfaction rating was 100%.

In November we circulated our first Newsletter and intend for this to be a regular publication.

The annual *connect!* event was again a popular event throughout the disability community and was attended by 400+ who were treated to seven workshop performances, dance music, a free BBQ and improvised comedy from those rascals in Preparing the Garden.

We welcome Melanie Hrvatin to the Board and I thank all Board members for their commitment and contribution to the successful year.

I am proud to have led NSA through this planning year of new artistic adventures, consolidation of Board Membership, and the securing of accessible premises for the future.

2010 will see our cottage at 66 Nelson Street and our workshop space at the St Peters Youth centre renovated by Norwood Payneham St Peters Council. While this will mean vacating for a period, and may cause some interruption to our programming, we eagerly anticipate the benefits that will follow.

Fij Miller

### vision

We lead the way in training, services and opportunities for theatre artists affected by disability.

### mission

We create world-class theatre by artists affected by disability.

### principles

We share an unconditional determination to discover and develop the creative impulses participants offer. Our purpose is to foster self-expression and support members to realize their unique creative potentials.

We are guided by six principles –

- 1 We model and promote self-determination for members to participate in and contribute to the artistic life of the community;
- 2 We develop members' skills in all aspects of theatre performance, production and administration;
- 3 We produce theatre of high quality so members become artists in their own rights and create work that contributes to the larger community;
- 4 We produce theatre that raises awareness for and about people with disabilities;
- 5 We collect information and network resources to assist ourselves and others who work in areas related to theatre and disability;
- 6 We value entertainment and advocacy, individuality and community, unity and diversity.

## our practice



We're a community-based theatre company of people with disabilities who perform on stage, back stage and in the office. We produce locally, tour nationally and discover new talent in weekly workshops tailored to the individual needs of participants. We create original theatre through the unique perspectives of our members. We produce an average of one new production a year, developed from the interests and skills of company members who are mentored by theatre professionals.

## our goals

- To create career paths in the performing arts for NSA members.
- To create and sustain a professional performance ensemble.
- To be recognised for the artistry of that ensemble and the strength and variety of its collaborating artists.
- To support individual ensemble members as original creators and valuable contributors to broader cultural and political debates.
- To empower and skill people with disabilities in all areas of the performing arts on both professional and recreational levels.



The No Strings Attached logo was designed by Shadia from the traced hands of three participants. These hands seem to be tossing the letters of our name in the air as if the letters are dancing. We like that, and we like that these raised and fluttering hands are also the international sign language gesture for applause.

**Applause** is what everyone associated with No Strings Attached deserves. While our core drama workshops and pilot professional training project stimulated participants in Adelaide and 45 surrounding suburbs, 2009 was also a year of travel.

- Board member Gaelle Mellis and I attended the excellent Art of Difference international arts festival in St Kilda in March;
- *Tom the Loneliest* enjoyed seasons in Adelaide and Melbourne in June;
- *Steak n' Chelsea Out to Lunch* presented a showing in London in September;
- *Trapped* was invited by Wansmolbag Theatre to perform in Vanuatu.

*Trapped* was one of our first mentoring projects, created and performed by Kym Mackenzie and Alirio Zavarce for *2connect* in 2005. *Trapped* portrays two incarcerated men (we don't know where or why) in a room with bunk beds and security monitors; one 'looks funny' and the other 'has an accent'.

Five years later, *Trapped* remains a relevant and moving piece of contemporary theatre, in continuing development for new audiences. With support from Loose Canon Arts Services and Arts SA, the Vanuatu tour is scheduled for late 2010.

Alirio and Kym share a history in the Men's Ensemble workshop, and it was an unexpected improvisation in the Men's Ensemble (2006) that inspired the idea for *Tom the Loneliest*. In 2007, mentor Julian Crotti partnered with Duncan Luke to create the first incarnation of *Tom the Loneliest* for our duet series called *Tempted*.

In 2008, *Tom* enjoyed a second creative development and five public showings in the shed off the car park in the Dunstone Grove (Stepney SA). Those showings generated national critical interest, and that interest supported our application to the Australia Council Theatre Board to bring *Tom the Loneliest* to full production in 2009.

As you'll see when you read about the production, *Tom the Loneliest* met great success in both Adelaide and Melbourne, garnering Duncan a Melbourne Green Room nomination as Male Performer in the Independent Theatre Category (one of five nominees out of 80 productions seen by the judges). At our 2009 AGM, Duncan was awarded the inaugural No Strings Attached Professional Achievement Award, an award hereafter known as 'The Duncan'.

Creating good theatre takes time, and time costs money. We're grateful that Arts SA (especially the Richard Llewellyn Arts & Disability Trust and Community Arts Development) recognises the need to invest in early stages of research and development. We're also grateful that Disability SA recognises the need to support universal access to recreational drama activities.

Our most public professional successes have their roots in weekly recreational drama workshops. All of our activities help build a community of disabled artists who find NSA a safe place to explore their creativity, express themselves with dignity, and be treated with respect as participants in the arts.

Congratulations to NSA tutors who make drama workshops so challenging and engaging. Congratulations to all performers and collaborators. And special thanks to the generous volunteers who make major events like our year-end disability arts party connect! and our annual tour to Awakenings possible.

Please take a bow.



Dr PJ Rose



## Tom the Loneliest

the centrepiece of our 2009 production season

### 19 performances

Adelaide's Bakehouse Theatre, 3-13 June

LaMama's Carlton Courthouse Theatre in Melbourne, 16-27 June

<i>director</i>	Paulo Castro
<i>performer/creators</i>	Duncan Luke & Julian Crotti
<i>writers</i>	Duncan Luke & Julian Crotti (dialogues) Paulo Castro (monologues)
<i>visual designer</i>	Bryan Tingey
<i>lighting designer</i>	Kerry Ireland
<i>stage/production/tour manager</i>	Lenny Ceniuch
<i>mentor</i>	Gaelle Mellis
<i>Adelaide Auslan interpreters</i>	Pip Cody & Imran Webb
<i>Melbourne Auslan interpreters</i>	Daniel Hatley & Paul Heuston

Artur Rubenstein plays Schubert's Piano Trio I E-flat, Op. 100,  
No 2 D 929,II, Andante con moto, Silver Mount Zion performs  
This Gentle Hearts, Like Shot Bird's Fallen

*Tom the bearded*  
*Tom the brave*  
*Tom the phone sex addict*  
*Tom the psycho*    *Tom the foul-mouthed*  
*Tom the poet*  
*Tom the fool*  
*Tom the f\*\*\*king loneliest*

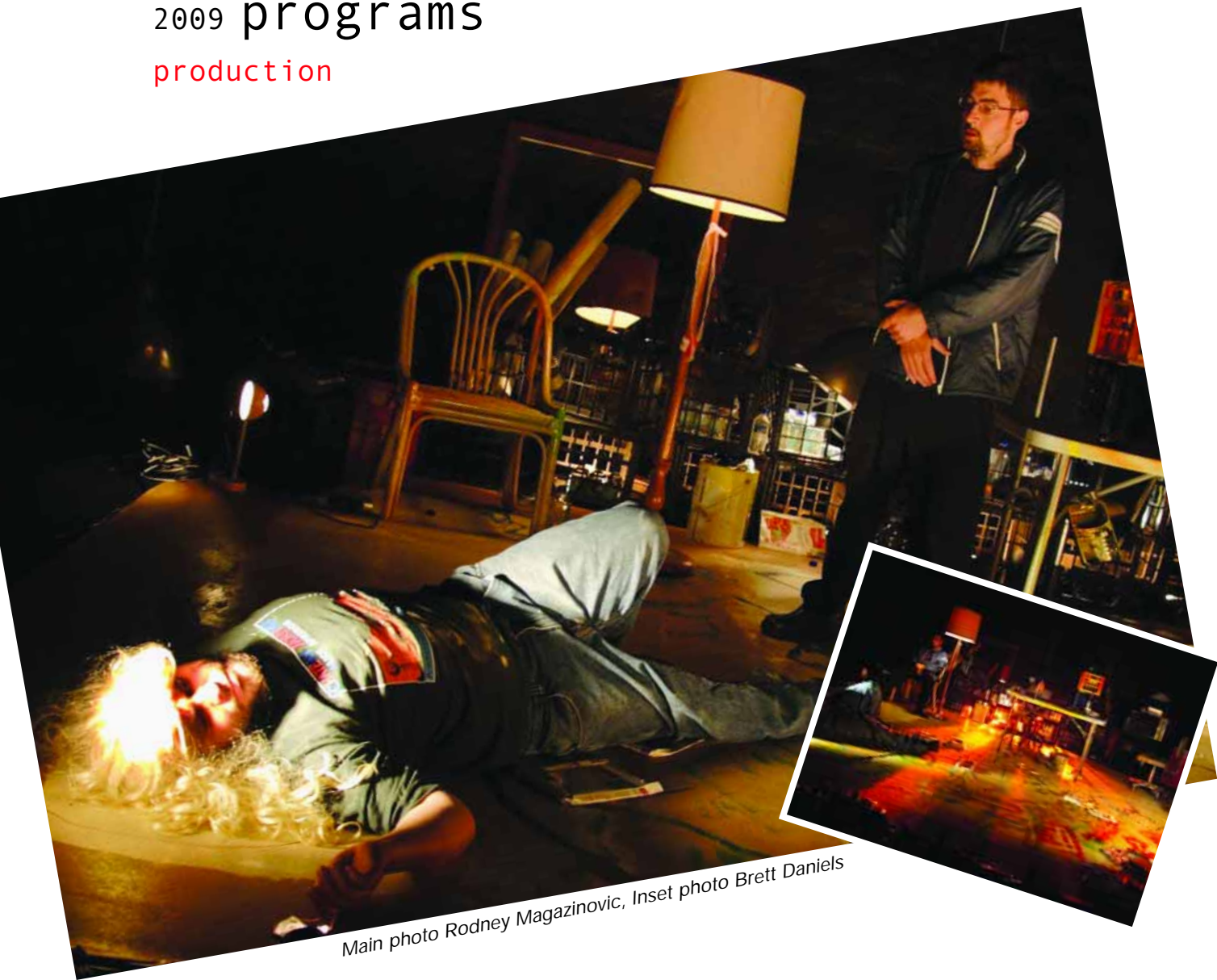
**Tom the lonliest** garnered two Green Room Award nominations in the Independent Theatre category: Duncan Luke for Male Performer and Kerry Ireland for Lighting Design.

A groundbreaking production, Tom generated sizzling word-of-mouth buzz and consistently positive reviews.

### ADELAIDE REVIEWS

- There's a car crash quality about this show that makes it watchable - enter at your own risk! Matt Byrne, Sunday Mail
- ... a wonderful pulse of mordant humour beats through Tom the lonliest.... John Wells, Adelaide Theatre Guide
- Several times the opening night audience reacted with appreciative gasps; a high tribute indeed. Myk Mykyta, Radio Adelaide
- You leave the theatre feeling you have had a fresh experience. Samela Harris, Adelaide Advertiser





Main photo Rodney Magazinovic, Inset photo Brett Daniels

**MELBOURNE REVIEWS**

- A weird, powerful, consistently funny show. Born Dancin,' blog
- There are plenty of bigger shows I could be writing about, but none as memorable as this little wonder. John Bailey, The Sunday Age
- The show's black energy derives from the actors' uncanny onstage rapport. ... What strikes you most ... is the illumination of male vulnerability – something we've all been conditioned to ignore. Cameron Woodhead, The Age
- The play ... stages an experience of mental health, dependence and isolation which is sobering, moving and, at times, bleakly and irreverently funny. Brooke Babington, City Search
- Toms are jobless, depressed, desperate, 'disabled', living in a fantasy land and oh so lonely. But they are also in your face, challenging and very funny. Melynda Woodward, Theatre Blog
- ... As the saying goes, it's the quiet tragedies behind countless suburban doors that resonate loudest. ... *Tom the loneliest* resonates as the loudest of them all. Tony Reck, www.tonyreck.blogspot.com/

**supporting partners**

Arts SA, Australia Council Theatre Board, Richard Llewellyn Arts & Disability Trust, LaMama, Loose Canon Arts Services, Enjoyo Meals, Australia Business Arts Foundation & Harris Scarf

**Steak n' Chelsea out to lunch**

developed and performed by Rachel High & Julie McNamara

**2008 work in progress**

Feast's "Just a Nibble" program, Higher Ground (Adelaide, SA) 21-23 November  
Director / designer Paulo Castro

**2009 showing**

Brady Arts Centre, London, 2 September  
Director Caglar Kimyoncu  
Set designer Charlotte Picton  
Lights Gursen Houssein

**Review of London showing**

*With a glimpsed history of bitterness, jealousy and vulnerability, the two of them begin to reinvent their dysfunctional relationship. But Chelsea not only holds her ground in the face of Steak's wheedling and bullying, but turns it around - using tests, rules and manners to reset the power balance. From poetry and table manners to dance lessons, she puts the bemused Steak through her paces. And later it becomes clear that Chelsea has actually had the power for quite some time. ... The show will go into further development next year and certainly has the scope to be worked up into a breath-taking full production.* Kate Larsen, Disability Arts Online [www.disabilityartsonline.co.uk/?location\\_id=1056](http://www.disabilityartsonline.co.uk/?location_id=1056)

**supporting partners**

Richard Llewellyn Arts and Disability Trust, Arts Council England, Feast, Adelaide's annual festival of queer arts and culture.



Steak n' Chelsea on stage at the Brady Arts Centre, London. photo Charlotte Picton

## 2009 programs

### professional training

#### Preparing the Garden

nurturing new growth

How do disabled artists with serious career interests in the performing arts break into the profession?

In February 2009, 22 performers auditioned for our pilot training program called Preparing the Garden. Ten seedlings were selected for their capacity and passion to grow as artists: Abner Bradley, Rachel High, Kyra Kimpton, Mel Kelly, Duncan Luke, Kym Mackenzie, Ad'm Martin, Donna Schliwa, Matt Shilcock, Kelly Vincent.

Jo Zealand was Head Gardner, and she called in experts to help fertilise the ground around the budding performers so they could develop a wide variety of skills.

Tutors included Amy Bodossian (performance poetry), Michaela Cantwell (voice), Seb Carboncini (character), Corinna Di Niro (Commedia), Catherine Fitzgerald (acting), Heather Frahn (music), Gabrielle Griffins (Pilates), Victoria Marcellis (Yoga), Rob Marchand (film), Steve Noonan (clown), PJ Rose (stagecraft), Stephen Sheehan (clown), Helen Tiller (voice), Bonnie Williams (movement).

The seed-to-bloom cycle is being documented by Closer Productions.

The Garden will continue to grow through June 2010.

#### 2009 partners

Community Arts Development, Arts SA



photos Rodney Magazinovic



## 2009 programs

### community workshops

#### Weekly Drama Workshops

The NSA drama workshop program is a safe environment in which participants:

- develop communication skills through creative expression;
- improve self esteem with new skills, support and encouragement;
- expand social skills amongst a committed group of peers;
- connect to wider social networks via performance;
- showcase their achievements and unique perspectives on stage.

In 2009, ninety-nine (99) performers joined us from suburbs including Adelaide, Blackwood, Bridgewater, Brighton, Brompton, Campbelltown, Clovelly Park, Davoren Park, Enfield, Flagstaff Hill, Gawler, Gilles Plains, Glenelg East, Glenside, Greenwith, Henley Beach, Holden Hill, Hyde Park, Ingle Farm, Kilburn, Klemzig, Largs Bay, Mile End, Mitchell Park, Mylor, Nailsworth, Norwood, Oakden, Oaklands Park, O'Sullivan Beach, Para Hills West, Pasadena, Port Adelaide, Prospect, Queenstown, Rostrevor, Salisbury North, Seaview Downs, Smithfield Plains, St Agnes, Stepney, Stockwell, Tea Tree Gully, West Hindmarsh, Windsor Gardens, Woodville Gardens.



L-R Jack Buckskin, Rebecca Rankin, Daniel Meyer, Robert Taylor, Mary Wells. photo Peter Jewett

## 2009 programs

### weekly workshops, public

four ten-week terms

#### Mad Women

Participants chose this name when they first came together in 2004. They are a core of eight writers, poets and performers, 30 to 80 years old. All have continuing experience in community mental health systems and all have something to say about their singular relationships to 'madness'. In 2009, Mad Women received a Community Development grant from the Adelaide City Council to develop their own version of *Alice in Wonderland* for public performance during Mental Health Week in 2010.

Mad Women is a workshop point of entry for interested women who identify with its name.

#### 2009 participants (8)

Lesley Booth, Sharon Cheney, Helen Keene, Mel Kelly, Williamina Miller, Donna Schliwa, Mary Skinner, Lee Witczak.

#### 2009 tutors

PJ Rose, Curtis Weiss

#### 2009 partners

Forsyth Foundation (Uniting Care Wesley), Mental Health Coalition

#### 2009 special performance of *Alice in Wonderland*

November 25 *connect!* 6th annual disability arts showcase



## 2009 programs

### weekly workshops, public

four ten-week terms

#### Men's Ensemble

This group of fourteen men (20 to 55 years old) includes some of the most senior members of NSA as well as some of the most junior. Exercises in performance skills, improvisation and the devising of new work ensure that participants are capable and confident to creatively express their own stories, their own issues, and their unique view of the world in a safe, all male environment. Our successful 2009 production of *Tom the loneliest* began as an improvisation in this workshop.

The Men's Ensemble is invited to perform at community events and creates new performances for the Awakenings Festival in Horsham and for NSA's annual disability arts party called *connect!*

In 2010, selected members of the Men's Ensemble will participate in the creative development of our next production, *Sons & Mothers*.

The Men's Ensemble is a workshop point of entry for interested men.

#### 2009 participants (14)

Paul Bennier, Abner Bradley, David Buzzacott, Adam Corner, Eddie Jenkinson, Duncan Luke, Kym Mackenzie, Simon Macrow, Keith Powell, Ryan Rowland, Richard Samai, Troy Sorgini, Damien Turbin, Ben Wishart

#### 2009 tutors

Alirio Zavarce, Edwin Kemp Attrill, Alison Currie

#### 2009 workshop support

Greg Gamlin

#### 2009 student placement

Adrian Skewes

#### 2009 partners

families, support workers, disability support agencies

#### 2009 special performance of *Black White & Read All Over*

October 23

*Awakenings Festival, Horsham Victoria*

November 25

*connect! 6th annual disability arts showcase*



## 2009 programs

### weekly workshops, public

four ten-week terms

#### Mixed Doubles

This is a developing ensemble of 14 rambunctious, independent men and women, 19-55 years old. Of six men and eight women, some are newcomers; some are experienced performers who have been with NSA since 1998.

Mixed Doubles presents workshop demonstrations for community events, and creates new performances for the Awakenings Festival in Horsham and NSA's annual disability arts party called *connect!*

Mixed Doubles is a workshop point of entry for interested people of all genders.

#### 2009 participants (14)

Marc Daniel Berry, Natalie Binks-Williams, Bryan Clarke, Kathryn Hall, Rachel High, Jasmine Jones, Megan Long, Jennifer Low, John Mack, Kym Mackenzie, Leigh Malthouse, Amanda Petter, Anton Sagrillo, Melissa Smith.

#### 2009 tutors

Amelia Barnes, Edwin Kemp Attrill, Alison Currie, Victoria Marcellis, Donna Schliwa

#### 2009 partners

families, support workers, disability support agencies

#### 2009 student placement

Adrian Skewes

#### 2009 special performance of *If the hat fits ...*

October 22 Awakenings Festival, Horsham Victoria

November 25 *connect!* 6th annual disability arts showcase



## 2009 programs

### weekly workshops, sponsored

four workshops, 46 weeks February-December

#### Northlink Day Options

Funded by Disability SA's Developmental Services, Northlink commissions NSA to provide three separate drama workshops. Participants from Adelaide's disadvantaged northern suburbs develop performance skills that can become life skills and employment skills. Each workshop creates a new performance for NSA's annual disability arts party called *connect!*

#### 2009 participants (44)

Peter Aspinall, Nouha Bechara, David Biro, Scott Bithell, Michael Brokensha, Tammy Brooks, Narith Chea, Rebecca Chereda, Sarah Clarke, Luke Coppins, Peter Costopoulos, David Drewko, Kimberly Edge, Ryan Evans, Robyn Felmingham, Ben Fergusson, Danielle Gepp, Gary Gill, Andrew Harris, David Hyde, Toni Ann Johncock, Bill Johnson, Veronica Karlsson, Rebekah Kemp, Melinda Kleine, Debbie Klimentou, Kayla Lettau, Matt Lohde, Jennifer Low, Kylie Lubcke, Karita Martin, Kylie Mason, David Miller, Alex Pantellic, Kyra Rigney, Paul Roberts, Ben Romanelli, Anton Sagrillo, Kristy Seal, Ashlee Tenraa, Adam Thayne, Eric Vlahodimos, Brindsley Weniton, Kristopher Wood

#### 2009 tutors

Helen Keene, Abner Bradley, Donna Schliwa

#### 2009 workshop support

Carina Bonney, Martina Drummond, Rosie Gbintor, Brad Johnson, Christine Moorcraft, Lynne Nicholson, Alex, Jenny, Mia, Sam, Sonja, Tony

#### 2009 partners

Developmental Services, Disability SA

#### Special performances of

*Friendship Dance*

*Rainbow Shuffle*

*Hiding*

November 25

*connect!* 6th annual disability arts showcase

## 2009 programs

### weekly workshops, sponsored

four workshops, 46 weeks February-December

#### Tracking Culture

Kura Yerlo Inc (KY) is a leading community-managed Aboriginal organisation offering holistic services to Indigenous people of all ages within the Adelaide region. Among its many programs, KY runs a visual arts and crafts program called *Karrarendi* for 30 disabled Aboriginal participants. In the Kurna language, *Kura Yerlo* means 'by the sea'; *Karrarendi* means 'to be proud and rise above'.

No Strings Attached (NSA) is KY's artistic partner in a performance workshop called *Tracking Culture*. Since 2005, NSA and KY have been collaborating to bring the stories of *Karrarendi* participants to the public stage in quality productions that incorporate the performers' original arts and crafts.

*Tracking Culture* performs regularly for disability and Aboriginal conferences. Our production of *Mar the Cockatoo Man* won Port Adelaide's 2007 Celebration of Ability 'Outstanding Achievement Award for the Arts'.

In 2009, Port Festival 09 commissioned Tracking Culture to create a Kurna Greeting for the opening of the Festival in October. That Greeting is now regularly performed at public disability events.

#### 2009 participants (19)

Ruth Anangka, Jazzma Barnes, Anthony Barrett, Brian Blencowe, David Buzzacott, Lorraine Campbell, Maria Edwards, Jordan Falla, Bradley Graham, Jan Kanda, John Mack, Daniel Meyer, Dot Moodoo, Malley Owen, Rebecca Rankine, Elva Tappengetti, Juna Wells, Mary Welsh, Carissa Wilson.

#### 2009 tutors

Alexis West, Nazaree Dickerson, PJ Rose

#### 2009 workshop support

Sue Castledine, Kaylene Demell, Trudie Foster, Jo Grimond, Lisa Klingberg, Jessika Scott, Chris, Elijah

#### 2009 supporting Indigenous artists

Jack Buckskin, Josephine Dickerson, Les Giles, Jamie Goldsmith, Robert Taylor

#### 2009 partners

Aboriginal Inclusion Unit, Community Benefit SA, Disability SA, Kura Yerlo

#### 2009 special performances of Mar the Cockatoo Man

April 29 premiere of *Mar* DVD at state wide Aboriginal Disability Conference

## 2009 programs

### weekly workshops, sponsored

four workshops, 46 weeks February-December

#### Tracking Culture

##### 2009 special performances of the Kurna Greeting

June 2	preview of work-in-progress, Reconciliation Week, The Governor Hindmarsh Hotel
October 9 & 10	premiere, Port Festival 09
November 25	perform, to open <i>connect!</i> 6th annual disability arts showcase
December 3	perform, International Day of Disability, Minda

#### Vale

Bradley Graham (1964-2009)

member of NSA's Tracking Culture and KY's Karrarendi workshops

Dear Bradley, our brother,  
You loved the sun, your family, your people.  
You loved us all.

And we loved you when you said  
with pride and humility,  
*I was born for greatness.*

You were great as Mar the Cockatoo Man.  
You were splendid greeting the  
Kurna Spirits of your Land.

But painting was your true calling.

*This painting is about my life.  
The colours and the movement show my  
life story of growing up, of overcoming polio.  
I've overcome the world.  
This is my painting.  
I hope you enjoy it.  
Thank you very much.*

Thank you, Bradley



photo PJ Rose

**Awakenings Festival, 22-25 October 2009**

The Awakenings Festival in Horsham Victoria is the only Australian regional disability arts festival held annually. NSA has been touring to Awakenings since 1998, and has become well respected in national community cultural development and disability arts communities.

*Awakenings* is an occasion to network with peers around the country. It is also an opportunity to trial new work for interstate audiences. In 2009 we travelled with 31 performers, tutors, supporters and volunteers. Disability SA provided vans, petrol and contributed to accommodation costs.

Why do workshop performers look forward so eagerly to this annual event? Is it being away from home? Is it living with friends in a motel for three nights? Is it dancing at The Ball? Is it seeing other theatre companies perform? Is it the NSA pizza and award night in the beer garden?

It's performing! Performing in front of an audience of 200 peers!

The Mixed Doubles workshop presented *If the Hat Fits ...*, directed by workshop leader Amelia Barnes. Performers were Marc Berry, Natalie Binks-Williams, Kathryn Hall, Rachel High, Jasmine Jones, Edwin Kemp Attrill, Megan Long, Jenn Low, John Mack, Kym Mackenzie, Leigh Malthouse, Adrian Skewes.

The Men's Ensemble presented *Black White & Read All Over*, directed by workshop leader Edwin Kemp Attrill. Performers were Paul Bennier, Abner Bradley, David Buzzacott, Adam Corner, Greg Gamlin, Eddie Jenkinson, Duncan Luke, Kym Mackenzie, Ryan Rowland, Adrian Skewes, Ben Wishart.

Both pieces were further developed for *connect!*

**Staff**

Amelia Barnes, Edwin Kemp Attrill, PJ Rose, Alexis West

**Support workers and volunteers**

Dennise Abnett, Deborah Barnes, Fernando Figueroa, Greg Gamlin, Lynn Harding-Roots, Hazel Raethel, June Turbin

**Student placement**

Adrian Skewes

**2009 partner**

Disability SA



photo June Turbin

**connect! 6th annual disability arts showcase**

Named 2007 Community Event of the Year by The City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters, *connect!* celebrates death-defying feats of imagination and provides public performance opportunities for all workshop participants.

*connect!* is a showcase for performance outcomes of seven weekly drama workshops, to:

- reward the hard work of participants
- show performers the work of their peers
- entertain families, friends and carers
- promote NSA and its partner organisations
- stimulate interest in new community partnerships.

*connect!* also functions as a safe place to try out new performance ideas that might develop into fuller length and more elaborately produced touring shows.

Many community events are scheduled on International Day of Disability (IDD), every December 3rd. NSA schedules *connect!* on the Wednesday before IDD to ensure access cabs and support workers are available. We schedule the program from 11 am to 2 pm to prevent transportation conflicts with school runs and to avoid staff shift changes.

The 6th annual *connect!* was held on Wed, 25 November 2009 and featured:

- |                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • 7 original devised theatre pieces | • 12 creative personnel |
| • 99 performers                     | • 22 support staff      |
| • 3 Fine Lines musicians            | • 30 volunteers         |

*Preparing the Garden* performers delighted audience members as new emcees, and 400+ audience members danced to Fine Lines (those 'rock 'n blues villains who've survived mental health') on a grass-level wooden stage under the cool shade of Dunstone Grove, Stepney.

Audience members included:

- families and friends of the performers
- adults from a homeless men's shelter
- children from local kindergartens
- residents from the Kura Yerlo Elders Village
- participants in various Day Options programs
- students from special schools in the metro area
- colleagues who work in disability arts
- Council elected members and staff
- politicians and local candidates
- intrigued passersby who stayed ...

**2009 partners**

ANZ Norwood, City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters, Disability SA, kneeHIGH Spectacle Theatre Company



## 2009 programs

### special projects

#### 2009 special DVD project

SHine SA wanted to create DVD about healthy friendships and healthy dating relationships for young people, so they commissioned NSA to provide actors.

In April and May, six performers participated in the filming of *Friendships and dating: information about relationships for parents, carers and young people with a disability*.

Actors were selected from three NSA workshops:

Men's Ensemble: Ryan Rowland

Mixed Doubles: Kathryn Hall, Megan Long

Preparing the Garden: Ad'm Martin, Matt Shilcock, Kelly Vincent

SHine SA launched the Friendships and dating DVD in April 2010.

It can be ordered directly from SHine SA, [www.shinesa.org.au/](http://www.shinesa.org.au/)

Guitarist Ryan Roland, Drummer Megan Long, Videographer Ashley Starkey. photos PJ Rose



Your Board submits the attached accounts of the Association of the financial year ended 31 December 2009.

1 Board Members at the end of the reporting period are:

Fij Miller, President

Filomena Impagnatiello, Vice President

David Stokes, Treasurer

Rosemary Luke, Secretary

Anna Lee

Kym Mackenzie

PJ Rose

2 Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were to provide opportunities in the performing arts for people with disabilities.

3 Significant Changes

There were no significant changes in the nature of the activities of the Association during the year.



4 During the financial year ended 31st December 2009, no officer of the Association, or firm of which the officer is a member, or body corporate in which the officer has a substantial financial interest has received or become entitled to receive a benefit as a result of a contract between the officer, firm, or body corporate and the Association; and

5 During the financial year ended 31st December 2009, no officer of the Association has received directly or indirectly from the Association any payment or other benefit of a pecuniary value, except for the fixed salary as an employee of the Association.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Management

Fij Miller, President

25 May 2010

<p>Kirsten Accountants Pty Ltd Taxation and Accounting Services ABN 29 120 012 697</p>	 <p>The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia</p>	<p>178 Fullarton Rd DULWICH SA 5065 Telephone : 8332 9292 Facsimile: 8332 9192</p>
<p><b>NO STRINGS ATTACHED INC</b></p>		
<p><b>INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT</b></p>		
<p><b>FOR THE PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2009 to 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2009</b></p>		
<p><b>TO: THE MEMBERS</b></p>		
<p><b>Scope</b></p> <p>I have audited the financial report of No Strings Attached Inc. for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 as set out on the following pages. The Committee is responsible for the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the organization. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of the organisation. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.</p> <p>My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. My procedures include examination on a test basis of the evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report. The evidence comprised cheque books, bank statements, expenditure invoices, deposit books and other financial records. These procedures were undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, whereby revenue is recorded as it is received and expenses are recorded as they are paid and no assets other than cash and bank balances are recorded. Accounting Standards and other professional reporting requirements (UIG Consensus Views) are not applicable to the cash basis of accounting adopted by the organization.</p> <p>The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.</p>		
<p><b>Audit Opinion</b></p> <p>In my opinion the financial report of No Strings Attached Inc. gives a true and fair view of the organisation's financial position as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 and the results of its operations for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.</p>		
<p> ..... Per E D Kirsten Accountants Pty Ltd Date 19.12.2010</p>		
<p>Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation</p>		

NO STRINGS ATTACHED THEATRE OF DISABILITY INC		
Balance Sheet		
as at 31st December 2009		
	<u>EQUITY</u>	
2009		2008
(-\$ 2,841.29)	Current Earnings	(-\$ 5,393.49)
(-\$ 2,226.11)	Retained Earnings	3,167.38
(-\$ 5,067.40)	<b>Total Equity</b>	(-\$ 2,226.11)
<p>Made Up By: -</p>		
	<u>ASSETS</u>	Made Up By: -
175.57	ANZ - Charitable Donations Account	205.57
52,000.00	ANZ V2 Plus Account	88,000.00
4,440.02	Business Cheque	1,467.15
97.39	Cash on Hand	100.00
3,167.38	Debtors	-
<b>59,880.36</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>89,772.72</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>LIABILITIES</u></p>		
2,538.66	ANZ Visa Card	635.03
59,262.09	Grant Received in Advance	86,672.37
1,033.57	GST Collected	2,992.06
(-\$ 1043.99)	GST Paid	(-\$ 1,209.88)
-	BAS Clearing Account	-
-	PAYG Withholding Tax Payable	-
568.42	Payroll Liabilities	1,078.00
2,496.00	Trade Creditors	1,140.22
20.96	Tax Office Adjustments	20.96
81.00	Uni Super Payable	880.15
	Australian Super payable	34.87
	Super Salary Sacrifice	(-\$ 236.00)
	Community Business Bureau	-
(-\$ 8.95)	Workcover Payable	(-\$ 8.95)
<b>64,947.76</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>91,363.80</b>
(-\$ 5,067.40)	<b>NET ASSETS</b>	(-\$ 2,226.11)

NO STRINGS ATTACHED THEATRE OF DISABILITY INC		
Profit & Loss Statement		
for the year ended 31st December 2009		
page 1 of 2		
2009	INCOME	2008
	<b>Government Grants / Arts</b>	
\$35,000.00	Arts SA Annual	\$28,800.00
\$43,929.02	Arts SA Comm. Arts Dev Fund	\$1,070.98
\$5,000.00	Arts SA Premier's Matching Fund	\$5,000.00
\$34,405.49	Arts SA Richard Llewellyn	\$11,444.51
\$43,545.00	Australia Council	\$0.00
\$1,000.00	City Councils	\$1,000.00
	<b>Government Grants / Other</b>	
\$9,756.52	Community Benefit SA	\$10.86
\$54,306.64	Department of Family and Community	\$34,365.79
	<b>Foundations</b>	
\$3,500.00	Forsyth Foundation	
	<b>Sponsors</b>	
\$5,000.00	Enjoyo Meal	
\$0.00	Monjava Coffee	\$5,000.00
\$8,400.00	Loose Canon Arts Services	
\$2,082.03	<b>Donations &amp; Fundraising</b>	\$2,824.17
	<b>Earned</b>	
\$6,673.62	Box Office	\$1,078.10
\$48,400.45	Fees	\$43,223.00
\$3,624.09	Interest Received	\$1,687.74
\$160.00	Membership	\$165.00
\$224.00	Miscellaneous	\$164.00
<b>\$305,006.86</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$145,834.15</b>
2009	EXPENSES	2008
	<b>Personnel</b>	
\$23,517.14	Administrator	\$5,288.47
\$520.00	Auditor	\$520.00
\$2,580.00	Book Keeper	\$1,385.00
\$250.00	Choreographer	\$0.00
\$10,770.14	Coordinator Project	\$0.00
\$10,218.52	Designers	\$150.00
\$62,253.54	Director - Artistic	\$60,452.73
\$8,749.00	Director - Production	\$3,860.00
\$3,702.27	Documentor	\$1,027.46
\$3,058.00	Interpreter	\$0.00
\$3,475.00	Manager - Productions	\$647.50
\$3,700.00	Manager - Stage	\$200.00
\$4,940.00	Musicians	\$3,025.00
\$17,406.20	Performers	\$9,080.00
\$2,197.50	Publicist	\$166.00
\$1,090.00	Technician (Sound/Lights)	\$250.00
\$33,697.50	Workshop Leader	\$18,255.00
\$13,941.00	Workshop Tutor	\$13,430.00
\$3,160.00	Writer	\$0.00

NO STRINGS ATTACHED THEATRE OF DISABILITY INC		
Profit & Loss Statement		
for the year ended 31st December 2009		
page 2 of 2		
2009	EXPENSES	2008
	<b>Overheads</b>	
\$11,024.16	Accommodation	\$4,486.36
\$104.25	Bank Charges	\$196.02
\$2,154.72	Catering	\$2,080.41
\$549.77	Computing	\$31.97
\$1,186.36	Conferences/Festivals/Workshops	\$774.55
\$295.10	Council Rates	\$0.00
\$600.00	Documentation	\$0.00
\$2,569.20	Insurance	\$1,936.35
\$2,336.44	Internet / Phone / Fax	\$2,877.63
\$285.91	Membership/Registration/Subscriptio	\$414.09
\$245.38	Merchant Fees	\$222.65
\$3,671.50	Per Diem	\$0.00
\$881.36	Postage and Courier	\$286.55
\$1,533.63	Professional Development	\$1,268.98
\$1,037.73	Registration	\$200.00
\$5,963.42	Rent	\$0.00
\$98.36	Research	\$0.00
\$7,839.78	Superannuation	\$5,916.73
\$4,002.12	Transportation/Travel	\$688.58
\$1,648.73	Utilities	\$0.00
\$4,789.55	Venue Hire	\$3,494.76
\$3,342.01	Workcover	\$2,807.39
	<b>Materials</b>	
\$263.22	Costumes	\$94.09
\$614.63	Lights	\$670.66
\$4,050.21	Photocopying/Printing	\$1,392.53
\$430.74	Props	\$55.88
\$2,079.85	Sets	\$1,366.50
\$796.72	Sound	\$589.09
\$1,345.54	Supplies	\$611.69
\$342.55	Other	\$670.66
	<b>Equipment</b>	
\$276.18	Equipment Hire	\$44.54
\$313.46	Equipment- Maintenance	\$0.00
\$1,050.96	Equipment - Minor	\$311.82
<b>\$276,949.35</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$151,227.64</b>
<b>\$28,057.51</b>	<b>PROFIT / LOSS</b>	<b>(\$5,393.49)</b>
<b>(\$30,898.80)</b>	Adjusting transfer of funds to Grants	
<b>(\$2,841.29)</b>	Received in Advance	

As noted in the Auditor's Report, the Association is not a reporting entity, and these Accounts are therefore 'Special Purpose Financial Reports' that have been prepared to meet the requirements of the Board of Management, the Associations Incorporations Act, and the Members of the Association.

In the Treasurer's opinion:

- a) The accompanying Financial Statements dated 31 December 2009, and the Auditor's Statement and Notes to those accounts, present fairly the state of financial affairs as 31 December 2009, and the results of operations for the year then ended;
- b) The year-end deficit figure -(\$2,841.29) is apparent rather than actual. As stated in the Auditor's Note, the Association uses a cash accounting system rather than accrual and, in cash accounting, it is often the case within any two dates that more money goes out than comes in, or more money comes in than goes out. It is a matter of timing;
- (c) The amount of \$30,898.80 noted as an expense in the Profit and Loss Statement represents an adjusting entry whereby funds received and booked as income during the year, but not expended by the end of the accounting period, are transferred to the liability account Grants Received in Advance;
- d) The Board of Management has reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made with a resolution of the Board of Management and is signed for on its behalf by the Treasurer.



David Stokes, Treasurer  
25 May 2010

### Patron

Rolf de Heer

### Board Members

Fij Miller	President
Filomena Impagnatiello	Vice President
David Stokes	Treasurer
Rosemary Luke	Secretary
Anna Lee	
Kym Mackenzie	
PJ Rose	Artistic Director

### Board Members, terms completed June 2009

Gaelle Mellis  
Kelly Vincent

2009 Board Meeting Attendance			
Member	Status	No. Eligible Meetings	Attended
Filomena Impagnatiello (Vice President)	Current	10	7
Anna Lee	Current	10	7
Rosemary Luke (Secretary)	Current	10	7
Kym Mackenzie	Current	10	8
Gaelle Mellis	Retired June 09	4	2
Fij Miller (President)	Current	10	9
PJ Rose (Artistic Director)	Current	10	9
David Stokes (Treasurer)	Current	10	5
Kelly Vincent	Retired June 09	4	2
<b>Ex-officio</b>			
Carol Atkinson (October-December)	Administrator, Minutes Secretary	2	2
Clare de Bruin (January-August)	Administrator, Minutes Secretary	7	5

## 2009 personnel

### Staff

PJ Rose, Artistic Director  
 Carol Atkinson, Administrator  
 (from October 2009)  
 Clare DeBruin, Administrator  
 (January-August 2009)

### Artistic Associates

Jack Buckskin  
 Paulo Castro  
 Julian Crotti  
 Leslie Giles  
 Kerry Ireland  
 kneeHIGH Spectacle Theatre Company  
 Gaele Mellis  
 Robert Taylor  
 Bryan Tingey

### Auslan Interpreters

Pip Cody  
 Daniel Hately  
 Paul Heuston  
 Heather Loades  
 Imran Webb

### Tutors, weekly

Amelia Barnes  
 Abner Bradley  
 Alison Currie  
 Nazaree Dickerson  
 Edwin Kemp Attrill  
 Donna Schliwa  
 Curtis Weiss  
 Alexis West  
 Jo Zealand

### Tutors, occasional

Amy Bodossian  
 Jack Buckskin  
 Michaela Cantwell  
 Seb Carboncini  
 Corinna Di Niro  
 Catherine Fitzgerald  
 Heather Frahn  
 Jamie Goldsmith

Gabrielle Griffins  
 Victoria Marcellis  
 Rob Marchand  
 Steve Noonan  
 Stephen Sheehan  
 Robert Taylor  
 Helen Tiller  
 Juniper Van Den Ende  
 Bonnie Williams  
 Alirio Zavarce

### Workshop Support Staff

Deborah Barnes  
 Greg Gamlin  
 Hazel Raethel  
 June Turbin

### Student Placements

Adrian Skewes, Tabor Adelaide  
 Sean Watters, Christian Brothers College

### Suppliers

Auditor	ED Kirsten Chartered Accountants
Bookkeeper	Karen Thompson
Graphic Design	Shadia Design
Photographers	Rodney Magazinic, Brett Daniels, Peter Jewett, NSA staff
Production Management	Michael 'Lenny' Geniuch, Robert Petchell
Sound Engineering	Big Cactus
Stage hire	Rennicks
Venues, office & workshop	City of Norwood Payneham St Peters
Video <i>Tom the loneliest</i>	Nathan Little, Pixel Pro
Video <i>Preparing the Garden</i>	Closer Productions
Webhost	DIRC

## 2009 supporting partners

### 2009 government partners, federal

Australia Council for the Arts  
 ArtSupport  
 Theatre Board

### 2009 government partners, state

Arts SA  
 Community Arts Development  
 Industry Development for Organisations  
 SA Premier's Arts Partnership Fund  
 Richard Llewellyn Arts & Disability Trust  
 Department of Family & Community  
 Community Benefit SA  
 Disability SA  
 Office for Disability and Client services

### 2009 government partners, local

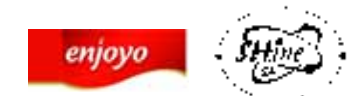
City of Adelaide  
 City of Norwood Payneham St Peters

### 2009 corporate partners

ANZ Bank Norwood  
 Australia Business Arts Foundation  
 Enjoyo Meal  
 Harris Scarf

### 2009 community partners

Arts Council England  
 Disability Consultancy Services Pty Ltd  
 Disability SA Developmental Services,  
 Northlink Day Options  
 Forsyth Foundation (Uniting Care Wesley)  
 Kura Yerlo  
 LaMama  
 Loose Canon Arts Services  
 Mental Health Coalition  
 SHine SA  
 Shadia Design



SHADIADESIGN



please take a **bow**

**No Strings Attached Theatre of Disability**  
ABN 30 433 646 981  
66 Nelson Street Stepney South Australia 5069  
phone 08 8363 5970  
mobile 0439 811 200  
contact.us@nostringsattached.org.au  
www.nostringsattached.org.au

*photo Rodney Magazinovic*