

APRIL 29, 2018

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By Nicole Elphick

SUNDAY SNAPSHOT & THE WEEK AHEAD

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TODAY APRIL 29

All the right moves for the Big Dance

As Frances Rings prepares to lead about 1000 amateurs for Sunday's Big Dance, the Indigenous choreographer has a simple piece of advice for her would-be students. "Just trust yourself," she says. "I love that we're all different shapes and have different ways of moving."

For the event, which began in London in 2006 before launching in Australia in 2014, Rings worked with New Zealander Craig Bary to create the steps for the Big Dance routine, which draws on contemporary Aboriginal dance.

"We both wanted to bring non-Indigenous and Indigenous people together to celebrate what it means to be Australian," says Rings.

The work has also been designed to be suitable for people of all different skill levels - even those with zero sense of rhythm are welcome - with standing and seated versions of the moves available to be learnt online.

Rings has heard there could be 1000 people turning up to take part in

performance in front of St Mary's Cathedral, and she is particularly joyous at the prospect of seeing non-trained dancers caught up in the flow of movement on the day.

"What's exciting is that we're telling a story, we're coming together," she says.

"That means for a moment we can escape and think about something other than those hard things in our life.

"That's what dance offers us. It's a moment of meditation to contemplate and to allow art to speak to us."

Big Dance, noon-3.30pm, Cathedral Square, College Street, city, free, bigdance.org.au



Clockwise from main: Frances Rings (centre) will lead Sunday's Big Dance; Chihiro from Spirited Away; Alexis Okeowo. Photos: Amanda James, Krisanne Johnson



selection. 9am-4pm, Marton Park, Captain Cook Drive, Kurnell, free, kurnellvillagefair.com.au

ART Site and Sound Arts is an annual program that gives creatives space in Leichhardt Town Hall to show off their works. Today, view artist-run initiative the Agar Dish presenting a series of interactive pieces themed around exploration. 2-4pm, Leichhardt Town Hall, corner Marion and Norton streets, Leichhardt, \$5, innerwest.nsw.gov.au

COMMUNITY Get along to the inaugural Kurnell Village Fair with an entertainment line-up featuring rockabilly trio BonneVillains and kids show Bunny Racket. Shoppers can browse market stalls from local artisans or a street food

STAGE Catch the premiere run of Manifesto Theatre Company's Youth and Destination (until May 12) as it examines life in the 21st century through more than 60 dreamlike scenes. 5pm, Kings Cross Hotel, 248 William Street, Potts Point, \$25, kingsxtheatre.com

COMEDY Following on from scoring Netflix special Double Negative last year, American jokester Ari Shaffir is in town for the Sydney Comedy Festival with his show Heretic. 6.30pm, Factory Theatre, 105 Victoria Road, Marrickville, \$39.80, sydneycomedyfest.com.au



MUSIC While on tour supporting the Killers, songwriter Alex Cameron plays a few headline shows of his own. He is joined in the opening slot by Body Type. 8pm, Manning Bar, Manning Road, University of Sydney, Camperdown, \$30, manningbar.com

THIS WEEK

MONDAY, APRIL 30 FILM Grab a seat for the final day of Luna Park Sydney's Rooftop Cinema with a screening of Hayao Miyazaki's otherworldly 2001 animation Spirited Away (rated PG). 6.30pm, Luna Park Sydney, 1 Olympic Drive, Milsons Point, \$22, rooftopcinemasydne.com

TUESDAY, MAY 1 BOOKS Bookworms will be out in force for the commencement of the Sydney Writers' Festival. Listen to authors Andre Aciman, Min Jin Lee and Alexis Okeowo discuss literature's ability to counteract power imbalances at the SWF Opening Address. 6.30pm, Carriageworks, 245 Wilson Street, Eveleigh, \$35, swf.org.au

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2 MUSIC English grime rapper Lady Leshurr plays a Groovin the Moo sideshow to share her quick-witted rhymes with fans. Her Queen's Speech freestyle series went viral. 8pm, Oxford Art Factory, 38-46 Oxford Street, Darlinghurst, \$46.10, moshtix.com.au

THURSDAY, MAY 3 EXHIBITION Reigning Men: Fashion in Menswear, 1715-2015 (until October 14) surveys three centuries of masculine style with more than 130 garments from designers such as Alexander McQueen, Jean Paul Gaultier and Yves Saint Laurent. 10am-5pm, Powerhouse Museum, 500 Harris Street, Ultimo, \$20, maas.museum

FRIDAY, MAY 4 STAGE Triple Helpmann Award winner Sharon Millerchip returns to the Sydney theatre scene to play Willy Russell's housewife heroine in his 1986 comic monologue Shirley Valentine (until June 9). 8.15pm, Ensemble Theatre, 78 McDougall Street, Kirribilli, \$69, ensemble.com.au

SATURDAY, MAY 5 MUSIC Catch up with Scottish indie pop outfit Belle and Sebastian, as frontman Stuart Murdoch delivers tunes from their recent EP trilogy release How to Solve Our Human Problems, as well as back catalogue favourites. 8pm, Sydney Opera House, \$69-\$104, sydneyoperahouse.com

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