



Performing Lines WA

Company Information

About Jambird

Jambird is a multi-dimensional dance company whose work is located by its fascination with artifice, contemporary art and technologie féminine.

Integrating concepts and techniques from dance, music and theatre, and applying them in new and unusual ways with new media technology, they create hybrid works which go beyond formal choreographic techniques.

Jambird was co-founded in 2001 by Chrissie Parrott - a highly prolific, multi-award winning dance choreographer, and Jonathan Mustard - an experienced composer, working with computer music, mixed media and visual arts.

Jambird's style spans a broad range of musical, choreographic, visual and theatrical presentations, and their creative process is driven by a reflexive conversation between all media deployed in each work.

Press Quotes

"Chrissie Parrott and Jonathan Mustard's Jambird... consistently combines great concepts, exciting dance and dancers and new media technology." Voted most Interesting Australian Group or Artist by Rita Clarke (The Australian), Dance Australia 2010

"Parrott's plot is visually seductive, witty, entertaining and ultimately compelling because of the strength of her choreography and the magnetism of her dancers." The Garden, Rita Clarke, The Australian, 2009

Chrissie Parrott has created a magical garden. The intricate detail of the set, the costumes, and the choreography, in combination with Mustard's rich tapestry of music and sound, is a sensual feast. This is one not to be missed. The Garden, Nina Levy, The West Australian 2009

"...one of Australia's most adventurous choreographers" David Hough, The West Australian, 2008

2008 Citation for WA Dance Award for Design and/ or Composition in Dance Nancy Jones, Jonathan Mustard and Chrissie Parrott

"Nancy Jones, Jonathan Mustard & Chrissie Parrott's visual and digital imagery for Metadance created a mesmerising and magical world on stage. This beautifully crafted work blended light and dance seamlessly blurring the line between reality and illusion. Jones, Mustard and Parrott's design was not simply a means to illuminate and illustrate a dance work, but a work of art in itself."

Quotes from 2008 Citation for WA Dance Award for Outstanding Achievement in Choreography

"Moving seamlessly from the eerie to the sexy, the languid to the frenetic, Parrott demonstrates, one again, why she is one of W.A's most respected contemporary choreographers."

Core artist biographies

Chrissie Parrott Choreographer

Chrissie Parrott's distinctive choreographic style draws equally upon her foundations in classical dance and the richness of the 20th Century contemporary dance vocabulary.

She has created a repertoire of over 80 works - most particularly within the context of the Chrissie Parrott Dance Company [CPDC] which include *Terra*, *Life Love & Beauty*, *Tower*, *Terminal Velocity* and *Deco Dance*.

Choreographic commissions include works for WA Ballet, Australian Dance Theatre, Queensland Ballet, Sydney Theatre Company, Tasdance, Sinfionetta de Lorraine France, Theater Vorpommern in the Baltic city of Stralsund and Tanz Forum Cologne touring to the Avignon festival in France.

Chrissie danced with the West Australian Ballet, One Extra Company - Sydney where she was also Assistant Director, Festival Ballet Nicic de Monte Carlo - Basel, Switzerland, Kent Opera Ballet, Crameer Balletten - Stockholm, and Tanz Forum - Cologne.

Chrissie's outstanding contribution to contemporary dance-associated arts has been significantly acknowledged by the presentation of the Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award, Swan Gold Award Sounds Australia Award, Western Australian Citizen of the Year 2000, and a Centenary Medal. In 2005 she was nominated for a Green Room award for her stage design for *Swimming the Luna Sea*. She was nominated by Live Performance Australia for best choreography for *A Midsummer Nights Dream* that in 2006 won the Ausdance award for outstanding choreography.

Jonathan Mustard Composer

Jonathan Mustard has been placing the performer at the centre of electronic music since 1991, bringing a heart and liveliness to a medium often accused of lacking these very qualities.

Whether he is using dancers, or musical instruments to manipulate sound and video in real-time, there is a strong commitment to the fundamentals we value in live performance and a unique approach to his often-quirky sonic and visual materials.

Since collaborating with choreographer Chrissie Parrot, ongoing from 2003, he has extended his crossover into visual arts, making video and animation for and about dance. This, now rich partnership continues to explore new territory in the collision between sound, dance, technology and visual media.

Mustard is active in the field of audiovisual installation, theatre and education as well as composing for traditional instrumental and vocal ensembles.

He has been widely commissioned in Western Australia and his work is regularly presented overseas.

Resources

[Garden of Wild Things](#) The Australian, (2009)

[Parrott Flourishes in Garden](#) The West Australian, (2009)

[Chrissie Parrott interviewed by Shirley McKechnie in Conceiving connections oral history project \[sound recording\]](#) National Library of Australia (2003)

[The Light Between by Sue Moss](#) Realtime Arts, Issue # 61

[Jonathan Mustard Channel](#) Youtube

Images of selected works

The Garden (2009); Images by Eva Fernandez



Metadance (2007); Images by Jon Green



Swimming the Luna Sea (2004)



Dispatch (2004)

