

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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## **EVERYDAY GOLD COASTERS LOSE THEIR INHIBITIONS AND BUST A MOVE WITH YES, WE DANCE!**

Can a Gold Coast local resident start the next global dance craze? We're about to find out!

**Yes, We Dance!** sees 10 everyday Gold Coasters, each with extraordinary ways of expressing themselves through dance, matched with two professional choreographers and an ensemble of hundreds of community dancers. Together they create dance sensations which say to the world, *'We are the everyday people of the Gold Coast and yes, we dance!'*

Premiering 12 – 15 April 2018 as part of Bleach\* at Festival 2018, **Yes, We Dance!** invites audiences to lose themselves in a humorous, revealing, uplifting and ecstatic production as their neighbour, bricklayer, barista and local school teacher become dancing greats and Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) heroes.

An anthemic pop soundtrack created by members of Queensland indie pop group and triple j favourite **The John Steel Singers** will lay the beats, performed live for these unsuspecting dancing queens and kings to take the party to the streets.

Bleach\* Festival Artistic Director **Louise Bezzina** said this year's festival program sought to unite everyday people through artistic experiences as the world focuses its attention on the Gold Coast for GC2018.

"This year, Bleach\* Festival has joined forces with Festival 2018, the GC2018 arts and culture program, to create artistic experiences that bring locals and visitors together to connect and interact through grand spectacle and intimate experiences," Bezzina said.

Created by Australian performance collective **Everybody NOW**, **Yes, We Dance!** is a truly unique project that explores what it means to be truly free in your body.

Dance Captain and Choreographer, **Bec Reid** said **Yes, We Dance!** was a celebration of human expression, diversity and inclusion.

"At its heart, **Yes, We Dance!** celebrates people's very personal and individualised dance signatures; their dance DNA."

**Yes, We Dance!** is one of 10 world premieres on the program for this year's 7th annual Bleach\* Festival – a genre-defying program of more than 140 live music, theatre, dance and free family entertainment events at 31 Gold Coast locations from 29 March – 15 April. Bleach\* Festival will present 20 works within the Festival 2018 artistic program from 4 – 15 April.

**Yes, We Dance!** moves and grooves at Bleach\* at Festival 2018, 12 – 15 April at the Festival 2018 Roundabout Stage, Surf Parade Broadbeach.

For more information, visit [www.bleachfestival.com.au](http://www.bleachfestival.com.au)

### **ENDS**

*Yes, We Dance!* is co-commissioned by Bleach\* Festival, Festival 2018 and City of Gold Coast, produced by Bleach\* Festival.

*Bleach\* Festival is proudly supported by the City of Gold Coast; the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, part of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet; and Tourism and Events Queensland.*



### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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# YES, WE DANCE!

## FACT SHEET

A production by **Everybody NOW!**

### PRODUCTION OVERVIEW

Season Dates  
Venue

Thursday 12 – Sunday 15 April 2018  
Roundabout Stage  
Victoria Ave and Surf Parade  
Broadbeach  
Free Event

Tickets

Creators  
Creative Producer  
Director and Emcee  
Choreographers and Lead Dancers  
Musical Direction, Composition and Live Band

Everybody NOW!  
Kate McDonald  
Ian Pidd  
Bec Reid and Luke Smiles  
Luke McDonald, Tim Morrissey, Scott Bromiley and Pete Bernoth of  
The John Steel Singers  
Michelle Xen  
Dan Black  
Claudio Kirac

Art Direction  
Lighting Designer  
Photography

### ABOUT YES, WE DANCE!

- 10 everyday Gold Coasters, each with 10 extraordinary ways of expressing themselves through dance, are matched with two choreographers and an ensemble of hundreds of community dancers. Together they will create 10 of the newest dance sensations which say to the world, 'We are the everyday people of the Gold Coast and yes, we dance!'
- *Yes, We Dance!* is a large-scale participatory performance experience.
- A free event performed with a live band taking place across four nights on the Festival 2018 Roundabout Stage, Broadbeach, which is presented by The Star Gold Coast.
- *Yes, We Dance!* is commissioned by Bleach\* Festival, Festival 2018 and City of Gold Coast, produced by Bleach\* Festival

### ABOUT EVERYBODY NOW!

[WWW.EVERYBODYNOW.COM.AU](http://WWW.EVERYBODYNOW.COM.AU)

- **Everybody NOW!** led by **Ian Pidd**, **Kate McDonald** and **Bec Reid** along with a cohort of talented collaborators, is a collective of performance makers and producers who create participatory and large-scale experiences that are celebratory and playful, propelled by passion and curiosity.
- **Everybody NOW!** is dedicated to the creation of high quality, community engaged, participation-based, performance and art experiences created on and from the Gold Coast, Australia, that reach out to collaborators nationally and internationally.
- **Everybody NOW!** work with real stories and real people.
- *Yes, We Dance!* is the newest in a series of large scale social dance projects which include; Bleach Festival's 2015 sell out show and now nationally toured *The Inaugural Annual Dance Affair* and *You Should Be Dancing* commissioned by Brisbane Festival and toured to Darwin Festival.
- Everybody NOW is supported by the City of Gold Coast through the ACCELERATE Triennial Grant Program as part of the growing professional arts sector on the Gold Coast.

### ABOUT IAN PIDD (DIRECTOR & EMCEE)

[WWW.IANPIDD.COM.AU](http://WWW.IANPIDD.COM.AU)

- Ian is a freelance director of theatre and festivals and is based in Melbourne.
- He has a particular interest in creating works that are highly participatory and feature professional and vernacular artists working side by side.
- His work tends to be musical, accessible, playful and genre-hopping, and are regularly seen throughout Australia and in Europe and Asia.
- Ian has directed Moomba, chaired Melbourne Fringe and founded Junction Arts Festival and The Village to name a few. He is currently Artistic Director of new family music and arts festival, The Lost Lands.



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