



# PRESS RELEASE

Special screening of short film STUPENDOUS - Dancing Through Parkinson's

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*Premiere of short film with reception and Q&A at Swinburne University Wednesday 18 July at 6pm for a 6:30 screening.*

**Hawthorn, 28 June, 2018** – Local Dance artists Paris Wages, Katrina Rank and filmmaker Andrew Garton will be premiering their short film “STUPENDOUS - Dancing Through Parkinson's” at Swinburne University in Hawthorn, VIC.

The project began with the combination of two community grants from Boroondara and Bayside Councils. Longtime dance professionals Rank and Wages both teach ongoing Dance for Parkinson's classes in the Melbourne area. The collaboration brought individuals with Parkinson's disease together from both their classes. Garton, an Adjunct Industry Fellow, Media and Communications, Swinburne University, assembled a crew of students to assist with filming. The 7-minute film was shot at the historic Kew Courthouse over the course of two days. Along with the producers, participants were encouraged to

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play an active role in the creative process. The film boasts an art-for-art's-sake approach to broadening the awareness of Parkinson's disease, giving participants a creative voice.

Rank and Wages were both professional dancers and have training in the Dance for PD® program out of Brooklyn, NY. Rank is a graduate of the Australian Ballet School and performed with Northern Ballet Theatre (UK). She holds a Bachelor of Education and a PhD in Contemporary Arts (Deakin University). Wages has professional dance experience from Los Angeles and has performed with the San Francisco Opera Ballet. She holds a Master of Fine Arts Degree in dance from Florida State University.

Garton is an acclaimed filmmaker, musician and artist. His most recent feature, Ocean in a Drop, was written and directed in India. It was launched at the Chennai International Film Festival in 2017 and screened on national Indian television mid-2018. Garton co-directed and the edited the film as well as composing its score. He holds a Master of Fine Arts in Animation and Interactive Media from RMIT University.

## Where

The event starts at 6:00pm and the screening begins at 6:30pm, Wednesday 18 July, 2018 at the Sky Lounge, Lecture Theatre 301, Level 3, AMDC Building, 453-477 Burwood Rd, Hawthorn.

Enter via McLeod Lane, wheelchair access via William St.

The event is free, supported by cities of Bayside and Boroondara, Rotary Club of Balwyn, and Media and Communications, Swinburne University. No bookings necessary.

## Contact

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Download media stills:

[secessionfilms.com/stupendous](http://secessionfilms.com/stupendous)