



Nulungu

Research Institute

The University of Notre Dame Australia

Nulungu Talking Heads Seminar Series



Dance as a Practice of Listening to Country

Presented by Ms Dalisa Pigram and Ms Rachael Swain, Artistic Directors of Marrugeku Intercultural Indigenous Dance Theatre Company

Friday 3rd October

12:30 – 1:30pm

Venue: Kailis Room, The University of Notre Dame Australia
88 Guy Street, Broome, 6725

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About Dalisa and Rachael

Dalisa Pigram and Rachael Swain are co-artistic directors of Marrugeku, an intercultural-Indigenous dance theatre company founded in Kunbarllanjnja, Western Arnhem Land in 1995 and relocated to Broome in 2003. Dalisa and Rachael co-conceive Marrugeku's productions as practice lead research in consultation with custodians of country. Dalisa is a dancer, choreographer and Yawuru language teacher and Rachael is a director and researcher. Marrugeku's innovative multi art form productions have toured through remote communities and national and international arts festivals around the world. In 2014 Dalisa's solo *Gudirr Gudirr* is presented in Sydney, Brugge, Granada, Seville, Brisbane, Luxembourg, Glasgow, Amsterdam, Darwin, Nouméa and Kalgoorlie. In 2015 Marrugeku will premiere its new production, *Cut the Sky* with presentations in urban and remote Australia as well as Germany, Belgium and France, facilitate a trans-Indigenous choreographic lab in Nouméa and *Gudirr Gudirr* will tour to Canada.

About the seminar

Dalisa and Rachael will discuss the cultural, ethical and artistic concerns in the intercultural practice lead research which underpins the four productions Marrugeku has created in Broome, *Burning Daylight* (2006), *Buru* (2010), *Gudirr Gudirr* (2013) and *Cut the Sky* (to premiere 2015). The presentation will focus specifically on the company's *Listening to Country dance and dramaturgy research lab* conducted in June 2013 and hosted at Nulungu Research Institute. We will expand on this embodied research process, conducted both in country and in the studio, and how it is leading to the upcoming production, *Cut the Sky*.