

QPAC PRESENTS

YA'DJIN SPIRIT WOMEN

BREAKING CYCLES OF SILENCE



30 JUL - 1 AUG 2026 | CREMORNE THEATRE, QPAC

AS PART OF
CLANCESTRY

qpac
QUEENSLAND
PERFORMING
ARTS CENTRE



Artwork by Casey Coolwell-Fisher

YA'DJIN SPIRIT WOMEN

By The First Creatives

Ya'Djin Spirit Women is the first full-length production from The First Creatives – a multidisciplinary, intergenerational work led by First Nations women.

Born from the creation of the **Ya'Djin Women's Collective** – a grassroots sisterhood of First Nations women survivors of sexual assault and domestic and family violence – the production is grounded in the shared stories of two Aunties. It weaves dance, theatre and film to traverse colonial violence, dispossession, abuse, motherhood, Blak joy, connection to Country and healing.

Ya'djin, meaning 'speak', is both a call and a commitment to truth-telling, resistance and breaking cycles of silence. This unapologetic work honours our Aunties and sisters who create space and pathways of healing – calling on our men to stand tall and listen deep – to come together and create safer futures for our jarjums, our way.

GATHER LISTEN CONNECT

Smoking Ceremony

Your performance will begin with a smoking ceremony as you enter the theatre.

Post-Performance Artist Talk

Stay for a free post-performance yarn with the artists behind the stories, themes and creative process of **Ya'Djin Spirit Women**.

Ya'Djin Spirit Women was never created by one woman alone. This work has been carried, nurtured and birthed by the stories of many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women who have trusted us with pieces of themselves. Every yarn, every tear, every laugh, every act of courage and every truth spoken has become a part of this living work.

This show has grown collectively. It has been conceived through community, carried with love and continues to evolve each time another sister contributes her voice, her wisdom and her experience.

We honour the women who came before us, the women who stand beside us today and the young girls who will one day carry these stories forward. We thank every Aunty and sister who has helped shape **Ya'Djin Spirit Women** into what it is and what it is still becoming.

We honour the previous women involved in this work:

Aunty Sharyn Malone • Aunty Ruth Ghee • Kahli Coolwell • Vanessa Coolwell • Rebekah Holdaway

CAST AND CREATIVES

YA'DJIN SPIRIT WOMEN | CLANCESTRY 2026

Aunty Chantay Link Film Storytelling

Aunty Patience Link Film Storytelling

Aunty Jenny Maartinelli Song

Allirah Fisher Artistic Director & Performer

Madison Fisher Lead Choreographer & Performer

Erika Jayne Goldsmith Creative Producer & Performer

Sanaa Cobbo George Performer

Aamilah Kindt Performer

Amarli Ngere Performer

To attend Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women's healing groups with **Ya'Djin Women's Collective** reach out via admin@yadjin.com or yadjin.com

Duration 1 hour no interval, subject to change without notice.

CONTENT & CULTURAL ADVISORIES

CONTENT WARNING

Contains coarse language with references to rape, violence, family abuse, domestic abuse, and substance use, includes smoke and haze effects.

AGE RECOMMENDATION

Recommended for ages 15+. Children younger than 15 can attend at the discretion of parents. This show presents adult themes, however, they are presented in abstract ways. Adults may need to be prepared to have mature conversations with their children after the show.

CULTURAL CONTENT ADVISORY

Please be advised, this performance contains images of First Nations women who have passed away.

QUEENSLAND PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

PO BOX 3567, SOUTH BANK, QUEENSLAND 4101 T: (07) 3840 7444 W: QPAC.COM.AU

Chair Ian Walker

Trust Members

Leanne Coddington, Dr Sophie Galaise,
Rebecca Pini, Susan Rix AM, Patrice Scott

Executive Staff

Chief Executive: Rachel Healy

Executive Director – Philanthropy and Partnerships: Zoë Connolly

Executive Director – People and Culture: Gemma Davidson-Butler

Executive Director – Marketing and Ticketing: Roxanne Hopkins

Executive Director – Venue Infrastructure and Production Services:

Bill Jessop

Executive Director – Curatorial: Ellen Kavanagh

Executive Director – Venue Services and First Nations Strategy:

Kurt Schulte-Schrepping

General Counsel: Scott Pugh

Chief Financial Officer: Brett Walker-Davies

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Queensland Performing Arts Trust is a statutory body of the State of Queensland and is partially funded by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland.

The Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP

Minister for Education and the Arts

Sharon Schimming Director-General, Department of Education

QPAC FOUNDATION

Patron Gina Fairfax AC **Chair** Professor Peter Coaldrake AO

Foundation members:

Ian Walker, Brendon Mann, Holly Livingstone, Bryce Camm AM

FIRST NATIONS TEAM

Festival Director and Head of First Nations Programming: Bradley Chatfield

Producer: Natalie Smith

Associate Producer: Andrea Prestidge

Project Officer: Alicia Mellor

Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) rests on the lands of the Yuggera and Turrbal peoples.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this country and recognise their rich cultural heritage and enduring connection to the land, waters and skies. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are this country's original storytellers, and it is our privilege to continue to share stories and be a place of gathering on this land that has been a meeting place for millennia.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Thank you to all our donors for their generous support of the QPAC Foundation, which enables us to reach beyond the stage and bring a sense of belonging, community engagement, and joy to all Queenslanders.

Tim Fairfax AC and Gina Fairfax AC, Carolyn Vincent – Ubuntu Foundation, The Jelley Family Foundation, Dr Cathryn Mittelheuser AM, Robbie Cooke, I&C George Family Foundation, Parascos Eagles Family, Marion Pender in memory of Grace Lott, The Shepherd Family Foundation, YFG Shopping Centres, Dr Lee Coaldrake and Professor Peter Coaldrake AO, Philip Bacon AO, Sandi Hoskins, Leigh Tabrett PSM, Susan Rix AM, Ian Gough AM and Ruth Gough, Lance Hockridge and Suzanne Hockridge, Dr Colin Kratzing and Mrs Noela Kratzing, The Honourable John Logan AM RFD KC and Mrs Jan Logan, Brendon Mann and Brendan Smith, Alida Rae Mayze and John Mayze, Dr Robb Musgrave, Siganto Foundation, Bob and Lena Tisdall, Leigh Wheeler, Lynne and Paul White of the PW Foundation, Julian Myers, Barbara Snelling, Sherry Hogan Foundation, Ningana Trust, Dare and Andrea Power, Dr John de Groot AM and Margot de Groot AM, Virginia Bishop, Joachim Erpf and Paula Erpf, Professor Andrew Lister and Ms Kate Lister, Greg and Wendy O'Meara, Laura and Kevin Perkins, Rebecca Pini, Dr Ailbhe Cunningham and Dr Frank Cunningham, In memory of Doc and Fritz Hirst, Greg Vickery AO and Dr ESally Vickery, Terri Butler, Frank and Karen Alpert, Rodd and Wendy Chignell, Catherine Gordon, John White and Judith Hoey and Alana Jensen.

We also would like to thank all our donors who wish to remain anonymous.

To find out more about the QPAC Foundation and how you might support its work please email philanthropy@qpac.com.au

We give heartfelt thanks to QPAC's Principal Partners Hyundai and MinterEllison and we acknowledge the valued support of all our corporate partners who help make our work possible.

SUPPORTING PARTNER OF CLANCESTRY

