

Elastic Hearts School Workshop - Garry Stewart's *Elastic Hearts*

A practical exploration of context and meaning - community, resilience and interconnectedness through the lens of Garry Stewart's *Elastic Hearts*.

Academic Years 7-12

Students experience how dance can reveal themes of community, resilience, vulnerability and interconnectedness through learning of adapted repertoire and *Elastic Hearts*-inspired choreographic tasks.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand Stewart's choreographic process and the themes of *Elastic Hearts*, exploring how dance can reflect ideas of community, resilience, vulnerability, and interconnectedness.
- Learn and perform a short excerpt of adapted repertoire from *Elastic Hearts*, developing technical and expressive skills and group cohesion.
- Collaborate to create original movement in response to stimulus, exploring use of production elements to enhance context and meaning.

In this workshop, students will explore Garry Stewart's new work *Elastic Hearts*, and his creative and collaborative dance-making processes. After a guided improvisational warm up, dancers will learn and perform a short sequence of adapted repertoire, drawn from *Elastic Hearts*, sharpening their contemporary technique, technical and expressive skills. They will then collaborate in small groups to devise original movement using production elements, experimenting with tension, release and the "invisible connections" between people and nature.

Mapped to ACARA Dance (Years 7–10) and QCAA General & Dance in Practice syllabus content, this workshop encourages students to refine technical and expressive skills, practise safe-dance techniques and expand their choreographic toolkit, while offering a rare opportunity to engage with a major Australian world premiere.

Relevance to ACARA V9 The Arts: Dance Strands, Content Descriptors and Elaborations:

Year 07 and 08:

Exploring and responding	Developing practices and skills	Creating and making	Presenting and performing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop contemporary dance skill/style-specific techniques, experimenting to extend own movement vocabulary through improvisation and choreographic tasks Explore use of expressive skills to communicate ideas, relationships and emotions through Garry Stewart's <i>Elastic Hearts</i> adapted repertoire Extend technical competence while learning, rehearsing and presenting adapted repertoire from <i>Elastic Hearts</i> Reflect on own participation and external 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore ways to use elements of dance and choreographic devices to portray ideas respectfully Experiment with ways to use elements of dance and choreographic devices to represent ideas through improvisation and use of production elements. Select, combine, refine and sequence movement using choreographic devices Apply technical skills to intensify the mood/atmosphere of <i>Elastic Hearts</i> adapted-repertoire Evaluate own and others' use of expressive skills when presenting <i>Elastic Hearts</i> adapted-repertoire and choreographic task. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan effective use of performance space during <i>Elastic Hearts</i>-inspired choreographic task Use production elements to share key ideas about the <i>Elastic Hearts</i>-inspired stimulus Use technical and expressive skills when performing <i>Elastic Hearts</i>-inspired repertoire and choreographic tasks Introduce choreographic ideas to audiences.

	feedback during <i>Elastic Hearts</i> adapted repertoire and choreographic tasks		
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Year 09 and 10:

Exploring and responding	Developing practices and skills	Creating and making	Presenting and performing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate Garry Stewart's collaboration with other artists and creatives throughout the creative process of <i>Elastic Hearts</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refine technical and safe dance practice skills during practical tasks Use experimentation and improvisation when considering expressive skills to portray intent in Garry Stewart's <i>Elastic Hearts</i>-inspired repertoire Practice and refine technical skills to develop proficiency in Garry Stewart's contemporary dance style through adapted repertoire Reflect on use of elements of dance to convey meaning Improvise using elements of dance to convey intent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiment with ways to use and combine choreographic devices Develop motifs, use choreographic devices and apply form in interesting ways to convey meaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan interesting ways to enter/exit space to suit/enhance mood and meaning Use rehearsal time to build confidence and accurately and fluently maintain spatial placement Use available production elements to enhance communication of ideas.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider how to use elements of dance and choreographic devices to reflect different influences in <i>Elastic Hearts</i>-inspired choreographic tasks 		
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QCAA General Dance (year 11 and 12)

<p>Unit 1 – Moving Bodies</p> <p>In this workshop we'll explore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> purpose and context of <i>Elastic Hearts</i> how Garry Stewart using his style of contemporary dance to communicate meaning using technical and expressive skills to convey meaning identifying and applying safe dance practices creating movement phrases, developing motifs in response to <i>Elastic Hearts</i>-inspired stimulus creating and presenting dance that 	<p>Unit 3 – Moving Statements</p> <p>In this workshop we'll explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> how Garry Stewart uses dance to communicate a social viewpoint an introduction to Garry Stewart 	<p>Unit 4 – Moving My Way</p> <p>In this workshop we'll explore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garry Stewart's movement style, influences and context Garry Stewart's personal preferences and aesthetic Using dance concepts to communicate a significant meaning through an <i>Elastic Hearts</i>-inspired choreographic task Identifying and resolving any choreographic problems Exploring, improvising and creating dance that conveys a personal response to stimulus, using own movement styles and Garry Stewart's influence, using production elements
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<p>communicates meaning by: improvising and selecting an idea in response to an <i>Elastic Hearts</i>-inspired stimulus that links connects to a purpose, context and viewpoint</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> perform <i>Elastic Hearts</i> adapted repertoire using technical and expressive skills 		
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QCAA Dance in Practice

Unit B: Industry

In this workshop we'll explore:

- Using dance concepts, including production elements, to choreograph in response to stimulus and to convey meaning, suiting identified purpose and context.
- Garry Stewart's style of contemporary dance through learning of adapted *Elastic Hearts* repertoire, using technical and expressive skills and safe dance practices
- The ethics around choreographing and performing dance works