

MEDIA RELEASE: 9 November 2017

## DANCE REBEL MICHAEL CLARK CELEBRATES MUSIC ICONS

Michael Clark Company (UK)

*to a simple, rock 'n' roll . . . song.*

**“Mixing the sacred and profane, the classical and the raw, to sophisticated and often hypnotic effect.”**  
**The Guardian (UK)**

Britain’s wild child of dance **Michael Clark** and his award-winning company make their Perth debut with the latest creation that has fans and critics raving.

Described by *The Evening Standard* as ‘an adrenaline shot that sends you away buzzing’, *to a simple, rock’n’roll . . . song*, is a potent cocktail of dance, iconic music and stunning visuals.

**Erik Satie, Patti Smith** and **David Bowie** provide the soundtrack for Clark’s gorgeously arresting choreography. His power-driven dance work in three acts starts with a cool reflection on **Satie**, before pulsating with the punk rock of **Smith**. The sensational finale features an intricate and sublime **Bowie** tribute that will move your mood from melancholy to joyous rebellion.

Enjoying its world premiere at the Barbican, London in 2016, the Olivier-Award nominated *to a simple, rock 'n' roll . . . song* is complemented by Charles Atlas’s dazzling lighting design, which features a stage adaptation of his multi-channel video installation *Painting by Numbers*.



‘Michael Clark’s work spans classical ballet, contemporary, dance, fashion, rock and roll and visual art,’ Perth Festival artistic director **Wendy Martin** says.

‘In this exhilarating new work Clark’s precise and arresting choreography is made compelling by his astonishing company. This is exceptional dance with the popular appeal of a soundtrack from three music icons.’

Hailed as ‘British dance’s true iconoclast’, Michael Clark is a defining cultural figure. Since emerging in the 1980s as a prodigy at London’s Royal Ballet School, he has remained at the forefront of innovation in dance, collaborating with such compelling artists as Sarah Lucas, Leigh Bowery, Peter Doig, Charles Atlas, Jarvis Cocker and The Fall – among many others – winning rave reviews and countless awards.

From the outset, Michael Clark's performances have been marked by a mixture of technical rigour and experimentation, intense and fine-tuned choreography intersecting with elements of punk, Dada, pop and rock. His productions repeatedly break new ground, provoking and electrifying audiences.

Clark founded his own company in 1984. It has since toured worldwide to perform at leading houses in Europe, North America, South America, Asia and Australia, as well as on its home stage at the Barbican in London, where it has been a resident company since 2005. Michael Clark Company has introduced dance to new audiences by performing at unorthodox venues such as the Glastonbury Festival, the legendary Barrowland Ballroom in Glasgow and contemporary art museums, including Tate Modern in London and the Whitney Museum in New York, as well as through its collaborations with leading artists, fashion designers, musicians and filmmakers.

**WHAT: to a simple, rock 'n' roll . . . song.**

WHERE: His Majesty's Theatre

WHEN: Wed 14 Feb – Sat 17 Feb

TICKETS: Adults from \$36 – \$82/Friends \$36 – \$73/Concession \$36 – \$67/Students \$25

**BOOKINGS AND FESTIVAL INFO:** 08 6488 5555 – perthfestival.com.au

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*Wendy Martin is the Artistic Director 2016–19.*

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