

LGI/

Lucy Guerin Inc
Artistic Director &
Co-CEO
Recruitment Pack

June 2026



Lucy Guerin Inc respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, the traditional custodians of the land on which we move, make and gather. We recognise that dance, story and ceremony have been created on this Country for tens of thousands of years, and that the body has always been a living archive of culture, knowledge and belonging.

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people's continuing relationship to this land and their enduring contribution to Australian artistic life, and we extend that respect to all First Nations artists who bring their practice to Lucy Guerin Inc. We are honoured to make dance on Country that has always known dance.

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Image: *Weather*. Photo by Heidrun Lohr

About LGI

Lucy Guerin Inc is a vital force in the creation and profile of new Australian contemporary dance — dedicated to challenging and extending the art form at every level.

Founded in Melbourne in 2002, LGI has become an influential voice in shaping the direction and growth of contemporary dance in Australia, building a substantial international following through touring and artistic collaborations that make a significant contribution to the worldwide reputation of Australian artistic practice.

LGI is renowned for its intelligent and innovative approach to choreographic concepts and movement language, producing work that communicates on an emotional and intellectual level to audiences across Australia, Asia, the Americas and Europe.

LGI exists to explore adventurous and experimental forms of dance that resonate between local and global culture, empowering a community of artists to create provocative performances that audiences experience as transformative.



Image: NEWRETRO. Photo by Gregory Lorenzutti

Our History

Founded in 2002 by Lucy Guerin, LGI emerged from one of Australia's most distinctive and internationally recognised choreographic practices. Lucy established the Company as a framework for creative exploration: to support the creation and touring of new work, and to build the conditions in which dance could be made with genuine freedom, experimentation and risk.

Over more than two decades, LGI has evolved from a structure that supports one choreographer's vision into an organisation that actively sustains and develops a broader community of dance artists. Since relocating to our purpose-built home, WXYZ Studios, in North Melbourne in 2018 thanks to the generous support of Dr. Terry Wu, the Company has deepened its artistic programs and established WXYZ as a vital hub for the independent dance sector — a place where new work, new ideas and new artistic voices are cultivated.

LGI's repertoire has toured to leading festivals and venues across Australia, Asia, the Americas and Europe, including Venice Biennale of Dance, Theatre de la Ville, Paris, Shanghai International Arts Festival, ImPulsTanz, Vienna, Brooklyn Academy of Music and Salihara, Jakarta. The Company is recognised internationally as a significant and influential voice in contemporary dance.

The Chloe Munro Bequest

In 2022, LGI received a bequest of \$2 million from former Chair Chloe Munro AO, the largest gift ever made to Australian contemporary dance. Of this, \$1.5 million was distributed as fellowships to 20 independent dance artists, with the remaining \$500,000 directed to LGI for the creation of Lucy's new work. The main studio at WXYZ Studios was renamed the Chloe Munro Studio in her honour. A defining act of belief in the future of Australian dance.

<https://lucyguerininc.com/>



Image: *Structure and Sadness*. Photo by Jeff Busby

Selected Highlights

- + **The Forest** World Premiere, Rising Festival/Australian Dance Biennale, June 2026
LGI's latest major work, premiering at Rising Festival as part of the inaugural Australian Dance Biennale, explores the many identities that forests hold in the human imagination: from our deep connection to the natural world to the dark reaches of the subconscious, where myth, folk tale and eco-horror manifest our anxieties about nature. Ambitious in scale and lush in choreographic and musical form, *The Forest* places LGI at the centre of Australian contemporary dance at a historic moment for the artform.
- + **NEWRETRO** 21 works, 21 dancers, 21 years in the making
A major performance installation at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA), Melbourne. Drawing on two decades of choreographic work, NEWRETRO brought together 21 dancers in a three-hour living archive of movement – retrospective and speculative in equal measure.
- + **One Single Action in an Ocean of Everything** Premiering at Rising Festival in 2024, this work has toured to Adelaide Festival, Biennale de la Danse in Lyon, France, SIPFest in Jakarta, Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat, and in 2026, SCOT Festival in Toga, Japan.
- + **Pendulum** An expansive performance installation co-created with percussive artist Matthias Schack-Arnott, *Pendulum* has played to sold-out audiences at the Théâtre National de la Danse – Chaillot in Paris as part of Go! Australia, at ARTRA, China Shanghai International Arts Festival and the Venice Biennale (Biennale Danza) as part of LGI's Italian debut season.
- + **Structure and Sadness** Premiered at the Melbourne International Arts Festival in 2006, *Structure and Sadness* won a Helpmann Award for Best Dance Work and an Australian Dance Award for Outstanding Performance by a Company. It toured to Perth Festival, Dance Theater Workshop NY, and the prestigious Jacob's Pillow in the US.
- + **Untrained**
One of LGI's most enduring and widely travelled works, *Untrained* has brought performers and audiences together in regional Victoria, Sydney Opera House (2009), Brooklyn Academy of Music in New York (2012), Hong Kong, Brazil, and in 2026, will be remounted at Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat.
- + **Split**
Created in 2017 for Dance Massive, *Split* has toured to more than 30 venues across five continents. Highlights include ImPulsTanz Vienna, Biennale Danza Venice, Théâtre de la Ville Paris, a season at the Baryshnikov Arts Center NY and in 2024, one of Europe's most prestigious contemporary dance festivals.

Company Structure & Governance



Images (left to right): *The Dark Chorus*. Photo by Gregory Lorenzutti | *Split*. Photo by Gregory Lorenzutti

Lucy Guerin Inc is an incorporated association with registered charity status. The Company receives multi-year funding from the Australian Government through Creative Australia, the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, and the City of Melbourne — a strong and stable foundation that reflects LGI’s standing as one of Australia’s most significant contemporary dance organisations.

The Company’s annual income is approximately \$1.2 million, with 59% of expenditure directed to supporting artists and creative outcomes. LGI maintains healthy financial reserves and is carefully managed to ensure long-term sustainability alongside continued artistic ambition. This strong foundation is further supported by a loyal community of private donors, led by major benefactor Dr. Terry Wu. The Commissioning Circle — a committed group of passionate dance supporters are dedicated to the ongoing development and creation of new work within the Company.

COMPANY STRUCTURE

LGI is led by two Co-CEOs working in close partnership: the Artistic Director and the Executive Director. Together they share responsibility for the Company’s strategic direction, organisational health, financial sustainability and culture — with the Artistic Director bringing creative leadership to bear across the full life of the organisation. This collaborative model ensures that artistic vision and organisational sustainability are always in dialogue.

The broader staff team includes a Producer, Office and Program Coordinator, Studio Coordinator, Marketing freelancer and Bookkeeper — an experienced and dedicated group who bring deep knowledge of the Company and its programs.

THE BOARD

LGI’s Board of Directors brings together arts industry experience, legal, financial, marketing and strategic expertise, and is actively and genuinely engaged in the life of the Company. The Board and outgoing Artistic Director are committed to a thoughtful, well-supported transition, and the incoming Artistic Director will step into a governance structure that is experienced, stable and invested in the Company’s next chapter.

Download recent annual reports [HERE](#).

Artistic Director & Co-CEO



Images (left to right): *Aether*. Photo by Rachelle Roberts | *Pendulum*. Photo Courtesy of La Biennale di Venezia

THE OPPORTUNITY

Lucy Guerin Inc (LGI) is one of Australia's most internationally regarded contemporary dance companies — a maker of bold, formally rigorous work and a steadfast champion of the artists who create it. With a founding vision that has shaped a generation of Australian dance, LGI now stands at a rare and galvanising moment of transition.

We are seeking an exceptional choreographer and artistic leader to step into the role of Artistic Director & Co-CEO; to inherit a company of genuine distinction, and to lead it forward with their own vision, voice and ambition.

This is a singular opportunity: to lead a company with deep roots in Australian dance, an enviable international profile, a committed community of dancers and staff, and a home in Melbourne's WXYZ studio, a vital creative hub for Melbourne's dance sector.

ABOUT THE ROLE

The Artistic Director & Co-CEO is the creative heart of Lucy Guerin Inc, responsible for shaping and driving the company's artistic vision, producing work of adventurous ambition, and ensuring LGI remains a vital and influential presence in the Australian and international contemporary dance sector. This is a role for a leader who is committed to the health of the broader dance ecology as well as their own practice.

As Co-CEO, the Artistic Director shares executive leadership of the organisation with the Executive Director, together holding responsibility for LGI's strategic direction, organisational health and financial sustainability.

Location: WXYZ Studios 130 Dryburgh Street, North Melbourne

Reports to: Board of Directors

Employment basis: Full-time

Artistic Director & Co-CEO

(continued)

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Artistic Leadership

- + Develop and drive a distinctive artistic vision for LGI, one that is adventurous, experimentally rigorous and alive to the dialogue between local and global contemporary culture.
- + Translate that vision into the company's short and long-term strategies, working in equal partnership with the Executive Director and Board to ensure artistic ambition and organisational sustainability are always in dialogue.
- + Create new works for presentation by the company, overseeing all aspects of their production from conception to stage.
- + Build and maintain strategic relationships with national and international presenters, co-producers, funders and collaborators that extend LGI's reach and deepen its creative ambitions.
- + Articulate the vision compellingly to stakeholders, peers, the public and funding bodies, including through the company's Strategic Plan.
- + Identify and engage designers, technical collaborators and creative partners to realise these works.
- + Remount existing works for regional, national and international touring; oversee productions on tour both artistically and technically.
- + Coordinate auditions and the casting of performers.

Programs and Nurturing Artistic Careers

- + Oversee the development and strategic direction of the WXYZ studio programs in close collaboration with the Executive Director, ensuring they remain a vital hub for the wider dance community.
- + Lead the selection of secondees, class teachers, Residents, Resident Director, workshop leaders and other program participants.
- + Curate the choreographers for PIECES, co-curate *Out of Bounds*, sign off on decisions of the curatorium for selection of residencies etc.
- + Mentor the Resident Director in their professional development, in partnership with the Executive Director.
- + Provide active mentoring and guidance to emerging artists across LGI programs — including *Out of Bounds*, PIECES and Residencies — empowering them to develop provocative, distinctive practices of their own.

Artistic Director & Co-CEO

(continued)

Organisational Leadership and Governance

- + Share with the Executive Director responsibility for the company's overall strategic direction, organisational health and financial sustainability.
- + Ensure that artistic practice and presentation remain central to the company's mission.
- + Lead and uphold the culture, identity and values of the company in all professional settings, modelling high standards of social responsibility, equity and artistic integrity.
- + Together with the Executive Director, select new staff members in consultation with the Board; participate in board and staff meetings, strategic planning days and other necessary duties.
- + Sign off on rehearsal and production schedules developed by company and production staff; oversee photo shoots and video shoots for promotional materials.
- + Jointly with the Executive Director, deliver reports to the Board and make informed recommendations for consideration and discussion.
- + Together with the Executive Director, assess risks to the company and ensure they are monitored and appropriately managed.
- + Set strategic goals and KPIs jointly with the Executive Director and Board, ensuring they are measurable and met.

Advocacy and Sector Leadership

- + Represent LGI and its work publicly across a range of forums, platforms and sector events; be a visible and engaged presence in Australian dance.
- + Identify and act on sector opportunities — local, national and international — that serve LGI's artistic and organisational goals.
- + Write grant applications in conjunction with the Executive Director and Producer; prepare artistic reports for funding acquittals.
- + Cultivate relationships with donors and participate actively in fundraising events and activities.
- + Actively develop and maintain relationships with key funders, presenters, co-producers and collaborators, nationally and internationally.

Artistic Director & Co-CEO

(continued)

WHAT WE OFFER

- + The creative platform and infrastructure of one of Australia's most internationally respected dance companies.
- + A purpose-built studio home in WXYZ — a central gathering place for Melbourne's dance community.
- + A talented, committed team of producers and administrative staff, and enthusiastic community of dancers.
- + Strong relationships with national and international presenters, funders and collaborators.
- + An organisation proud of its legacy and genuinely excited about its future.



Image: *How To Be Us*. Photo by Gregory Lorenzutti

Selection Criteria

Applicants are asked to address each of the following criteria in their application:

- 1 A bold and distinctive artistic practice**
You have created a significant body of work in contemporary dance — adventurous, experimentally rigorous, presented across a range of contexts — and are recognised as a leader and creator within the Australian dance sector nationally, and ideally internationally.
- 2 A practice that resonates between local and global culture**
Your work is in active dialogue with both the Australian context and the wider world, and you have a deep understanding of LGI's history and the national and international contemporary dance landscape.
- 3 A genuine commitment to building and sustaining a community of artists**
You are invested in what dance enables in others — you have a track record of nurturing emerging artists and understand LGI's role as a vital hub that empowers artists to create transformative work.
- 4 Track record in securing government and private support for dance projects, and a thorough understanding of how dance productions are resourced**
You have successfully navigated funding landscapes and understand the financial architecture of dance-making at a professional level.
- 5 Strategic and entrepreneurial skills in leading dance projects and teams**
You bring organisational intelligence to your creative work and have led dancer, creative and production teams and projects of scale and complexity with both artistic and logistical confidence.
- 6 Curiosity and interest in the workings of not-for-profit organisations, including an understanding of governance and board structures**
You are genuinely interested in how NFP organisations function and are ready to work constructively within governance frameworks as a leader who shapes them, not just an artist who works within them.

How to Apply

Provide the following in one PDF:

- + A cover letter (max 2 pages)
- + A statement (max 4 pages) addressing the selection criteria and demonstrating your experience, artistic practice and approach to leadership
- + Video documentation of two full length works plus a 1–5 min trailer of a particular work
- + A CV with three referees who can speak to your artistic and leadership experience

Before submitting an application you are encouraged to contact:

Michaela Coventry

Sage Arts

+61 (0)412 535 548

coventrymichaela@gmail.com

All enquiries are treated confidentially

To apply please email your application, consolidated within a single PDF document, to coventrymichaela@gmail.com

Applications are due by 5pm on Monday 27 July 2026

TIMELINE (subject to change)

- + Public advertisement and applications open: 23 June 2026
- + Deadline for applications: 27 July 2026 at 5pm
- + Shortlisted candidates notified: 31 July 2026
- + Round One interviews in Melbourne: 5 August 2026
- + Round Two interviews in Melbourne: 13 August 2026
- + Commence: Early December
- + Lucy Guerin final day: 18 December 2026



Lucy Guerin Inc /
WXYZ Studios

130 Dryburgh Street
North Melbourne VIC 3051
+61 (0)3 9329 4213
admin@lucyguerininc.com
lucyguerininc.com