

# Seamless

WHERE COSTUME MEETS DANCE

A FREE EXHIBITION  
19 JULY – 26 OCTOBER  
the Arts Centre, Gallery 1

AN ENGAGING INSIGHT  
INTO THE CREATIVE PROCESS  
OF DESIGNING COSTUME  
FOR DANCE

Lucy Guerin's *Melt* is a highly focused duet for two women that describes a rise in temperature from freezing to boiling point, with each degree explored temperamentally and physically. As the work progresses the movement becomes more fluid and increasingly passionate. By the time the dancers reach boiling point the work has become almost aggressive, until finally 'it's an intense flurry of movement that they can barely keep up with.'<sup>14</sup>

'I originally didn't think of working with projection. I imagined there would be this big full skirt made up of segments of ice ...'<sup>13</sup> Guerin's initial vision for *Melt* was soon discarded when the logistics of touring a set made largely from ice proved prohibitive. Her decision to incorporate projection into the work was informed by the limited area to which she had confined the choreography. Much of the work focuses on the upper bodies of the dancers and is neatly contained within the beam of a projector.

Designer Michaela French used the medium of motion graphics to apply traditional costuming techniques such as colour to create mood and patterns to imply texture. Her medium allowed her to go even further than the bodies of the dancers to create an illuminated environment that acts as costume and set in one. The overall effect is so seamless that we are left wondering how any one element ever existed without the other.



RIGHT From left: Ros Warby and Stephanie Lake in *Melt*  
Lucy Guerin Inc. 2002  
Photograph by Virginia Cummins  
Courtesy of Lucy Guerin Inc.

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