



WEST AUSTRALIAN
BALLET

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release – Wednesday 8 May 2019

WIDDISON-JACOBS TAKES HER FINAL BOW

West Australian Ballet (WAB) Principal dancer Brooke Widdison-Jacobs has announced her retirement from dance after an acclaimed career spanning 18 years, including the past eight years with West Australian Ballet.

Patron:
The Honourable Kim Beazley AC
Governor of Western Australia

Artistic Director:
Aurélien Scannella

Widdison-Jacobs, who has been on maternity leave since September, will transition into a role in West Australian Ballet's Access team, which works to deliver a multitude of educational programs and opportunities for Community and School groups across Western Australia.

Just some of her credits in lead roles at West Australian Ballet include; Giselle in the Company's *Giselle* (2014), The Sylph in *La Sylphide* (2013), Cinderella in *Cinderella* (2015), Juliet in *Radio and Juliet* (2015), Beauty in *Beauty and the Beast* (2016), Jordan in *The Great Gatsby* (2017) and as the lead role in multiple *Ballet at the Quarry* works such as *Mona Lisa* (2014), *Ambiguous Content* (2016), *The Clearest Light* (2017) and *Ghost Gum* (2018).

Aurélien Scannella, Artistic Director of West Australian Ballet, credits Widdison-Jacobs as a brilliantly talented and driven artist, who left her mark on the world-class Company.

"Brooke's contribution to West Australian Ballet was incredibly significant, she was the cornerstone of many WAB productions and set incredibly high standards across her career," says Scannella, "I am overjoyed that Brooke will continue with West Australian Ballet in our Access team, bringing joy to a whole new generation of dancers".

Widdison-Jacobs, originally from Narrogin in the State's Wheatbelt, danced with multiple world-renown companies including the English National Ballet, Leipziger Ballett, Royal Ballet of Flanders and Zurich Ballet, prior to returning to her home State to dance with WAB.

"It is hard to believe that my life as a professional ballet dancer has taken me around the world, at West Australian Ballet in particular, I have had the great privilege to lead and represent our incredible Company as a Principal dancer," Widdison-Jacobs states.

"I have been lucky to be a part of countless wonderful productions and have worked with too many inspiring artists to mention, I have created my most cherished memories as an artist", continues Widdison-Jacobs. "I acknowledge the eight years I have spent at WAB with special thanks to Aurélien Scannella for the incredible opportunities I have been given to delve into the company's many great productions in roles that have truly shaped the artist I am".

"While retirement was not an easy decision, I couldn't be happier or more excited about my future with West Australian Ballet as part of the Access team. This role will allow me to continue to contribute to the future of arts and dance in WA," says Widdison-Jacobs.

Widdison-Jacobs also looks forward to time at home with her two daughters, four year old Emilia, and six month old Madeline, with her husband, former ballet dancer and WAB Remedial Masseur, Jesse Jacobs.

- Ends -

IMAGES: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/z3cfxbnddz3oj6h/AACwbvP4Ez73KADBVgnLVwEla?dl=0>

Please note that image credit is in the title of the image.



WEST AUSTRALIAN
BALLET

For further information please contact:

Rosita Stangl

Phone: 9367 8884

Email: rositapr@inet.net.au

Patron:

The Honourable Kim Beazley AC
Governor of Western Australia

Artistic Director:

Aurélien Scannella