

MEDIA RELEASE - 20 July 2008

De Quincey Co presents

embrace: GUILT FRAME

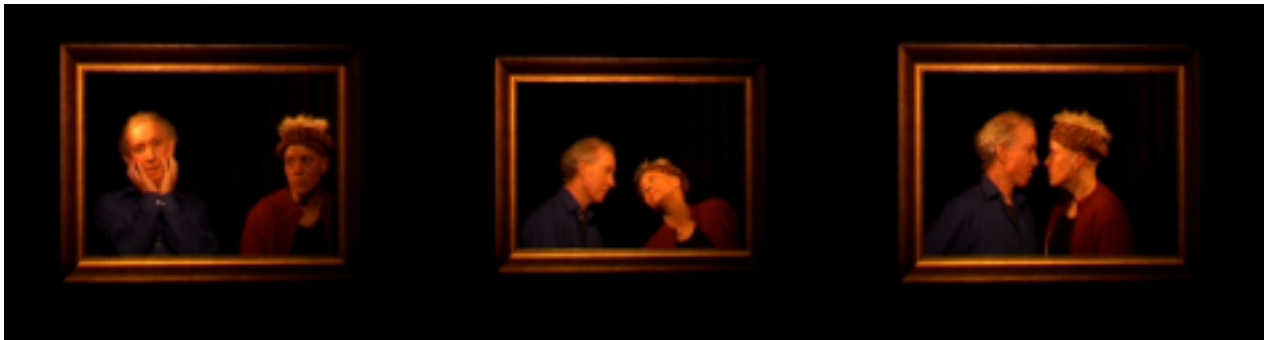
Created and performed by Tess de Quincey and Peter Snow
Sound Design by Michael Toisuta Lighting Design by Travis Hodgson
Design by Russell Emerson and Steve Howarth.

embrace: GUILT FRAME enthralled audiences at Sydney Theatre in early 2008:

...the 40-minute journey is as mesmerising as it is inexplicably profound. ...the work is elegant, simple, complex, profound, stark, elusive - yet never daunting. It is wonderfully easy to watch and very effecting. ...a wonderful journey of shared discovery. James Waites, **Australian Stage**, March 2008.

...together they are mesmerising. Deborah Jones, **The Australian**, February 2008.

The two faces in front of you, scarcely moving, are plunging through a sea of emotions... drawing you into an intense 40 minutes of observation and response... It is something to see - and feel. Jill Sykes, **The Sydney Morning Herald**, February 2008.



For a captivating and intensely intimate hour, two performers are literally 'framed' as they create a fascinating living portrait, playing out various heightened states of emotion.

Drawing on *The Natyasastra*, the ancient Indian treatise on artistic practice, the production is part of De Quincey Co's ongoing 'embrace' exchange between international artists, exploring eastern and western performance vocabularies. Integral to the piece is Michael Toisuta's evocative *Homage to Ligeti* which takes its inspiration from Gyorgi Ligeti's *Poeme Symphonique for 100 Metronomes*.

Having worked extensively in Europe, Japan, India and Australia, Tess de Quincey is one of the country's most admired, maverick choreographer/performers. For several years she was a dancer with Min Tanaka and his Mai-Juku Performance Company in Japan and later introduced the *Bodyweather* performance philosophy to Australia, forming De Quincey Co in 2000. Most recently her company wowed audiences with site-specific event *The Stirring* at the Carriageworks in November 2007. Peter Snow is a theatre-maker, director, performer and academic with a background in both text-based and new work. He has helped to create over 40 professional productions in Australia and overseas.

At the end of each performance of ***embrace: GUILT FRAME*** the audience is invited to a discussion with the artists over a glass of wine.

embrace: GUILT FRAME was originally co-produced by Sydney Theatre Company and De Quincey Co and presented at Sydney Theatre 27 February to 9 March 2008. It was the opening production of the 2008 **Wharf 2LOUD** program, the first programming venture of Cate Blanchett and Andrew Upton as new Artistic Directors of Sydney Theatre Company with a desire to unravel theatrical expectations.

Blanchett and Upton said: "*We're thrilled De Quincey Co launch this year's Wharf 2LOUD program. We want to challenge what we all think we know about theatre. Innovative artists with different approaches to performance will make Wharf 2LOUD a bold program full of intrigue and possibility for regular and new audiences.*"