



NEWS RELEASE - MARCH 2012

THE BORDER PROJECT ARTISTIC DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES DEPARTURE

After ten years as Artistic Director of The Border Project, **Sam Haren** has announced that he will be leaving the company at the end of 2012 to pursue new opportunities in the performing arts as well as in convergent media.

Sam will continue in his role until September when he will hand over to a **newly formed Artistic Directorate** of founding members who have co-created and performed in the company's work over the past decade, and who will lead the company into the future.

After three years working for Cate Blanchett and Andrew Upton as part of the Sydney Theatre Company's permanent ensemble, **Cameron Goodall** returns to Adelaide to lead the Artistic Directorate, consisting of company members Amber McMahan, David Heinrich, Katherine Fyffe and Alirio Zavarce.

Sam said "I am so incredibly proud of all the work we have achieved over the past decade with The Border Project. During my time with the company, I have been part of many different, unique and exciting projects, created with so many inspiring artists. The company members of The Border Project are some of my dearest friends and oldest colleagues, and they will all continue to be a part of my creative life. I will miss many aspects of my role, and these incredible people that I have worked with for so long, but after ten years leading the company I'm ready for new challenges."

Sam Haren began as one of nine founding members of The Border Project in 2002, and has either directed or co-directed the company's nine works, most recently *I Am Not An Animal*, which premiered to a sold out audience in the 2012 Adelaide Festival of Arts. Over the course of ten years he has steered The Border Project team from a small project-funded company to its current position as a nationally recognised innovator, which collaborates with some of Australia's biggest companies and festivals.

"We're really sad to see Sam go. He has contributed so much to the life of the company and worked hard to position it so positively as we move into the future. We're excited for him and the new challenges he is pursuing, and we will honour his work with our commitment to the future of the company. It will now be my job to facilitate the group vision of The Border Project and I'm excited about starting that this year". Cameron Goodall said.

Since inception The Border Project has been driven by a shared vision to engage an audience that traditional theatre has left behind, and to explore the future language and possibilities of a live performance. The company has enjoyed a period of rapid growth in recent times, with continually expanding audiences and operational growth with the appointment last year of Executive Producer Nichola Miles. As well as being an Emerging Key Organisation of the Australia Council's Theatre Board and an Arts Organisation of Arts SA, the company reports exciting things in the pipeline for audiences next year.

“The five company members of The Border Project have always been intrinsic to the vision of the company, and at the centre of its bold and unique approaches to making work. Headed by Cameron Goodall, this new Artistic Directorate will no doubt achieve amazing things as the company continues into an exciting new phase.” said Sam.

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The Border Project is assisted by the Australia Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding advisory body and by the Government of South Australia through Arts SA.



Government of South Australia
Arts SA

THE BORDER PROJECT ADDITIONAL INFO

The Border Project is driven by a creative passion to explore the possibilities of a live event and explore the future language of live performance. We are committed to creating risky, inventive work at the fringes of traditional theatre practice that is playful, engaging and smart. Like our audience, we participate in the sophisticated aesthetics of popular culture. We see theatre as an intersection point for other popular forms, engaging with this to make theatre that genuinely speaks about the complexities of the world we live in.

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