



## Samantha Chester

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Website: [www.samanthachester.com.au](http://www.samanthachester.com.au)

Email: [s.chester@ecu.edu.au](mailto:s.chester@ecu.edu.au) |

Phone: + 61 0400098988

### SUMMARY

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- Co-executive Director Shark Island Institute 2025 Kangaroo Valley
- Nationally and Internationally recognised teacher in Movement for the Actor
- Nationally recognised Movement Director
- Currently Course Coordinator Bachelor Arts ( Acting) Movement Co-ordinator for Acting and Movement Lecturer for Acting at Western Australian Performing Arts Academy (WAAPA) in Perth.
- 20 Years' experience in education, theatre and creative practice
- Awarded theatre-maker and director
- Works nationally and internationally in her field of expertise recently; Amadeus with Michael Sheen at Sydney Opera House for the 50<sup>th</sup>
- Head of Movement and Associate Director at the Actors Centre Australia from 2008 – 2015
- Taught movement and directed extensively at National Institute of Dramatic Arts and throughout Australia.
- Awarded a Churchill Fellowship in 2013
- Founder Readymade works Dance Space
- Co-founder Queen Street Studio now BRAND X

### Education

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**2002:** Post Graduate Diploma in Movement Studies, NIDA

**1998:** Post Graduate Diploma in Arts Management, UTS

**1992:** Bachelor of Arts in Dance, University of Western Sydney

## Awards

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- 2003:** Mike Walsh Fellowship
- 2004:** NSW Ministry for the Arts International Program
- 2004:** American Australian Association, Dame Joan Sutherland Cultural Fund
- 2010:** ABAF City of Sydney Encouragement Award 2010 (Queen Street Studio)
- 2013:** Ausdance NSW Space Residency
- 2014:** Churchill Fellowship 2013
- 2018:** VC Staff Award (2018) Programs that Enhance Learning (Team)

## Other Training

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- 2023:** IDC Intimacy Co-ordination
- 2020** Ita O'Brien Intimacy Training
- 2019:** Mary Overlie Viewpoints, Rose Bruford, UK
- 2015:** The Future. New Ideas, New Inspirations UK Dance
- 2014:** Barcelona International Dance Exchange, Barcelona
- 2014:** UltimaVez Workshop, Belgium
- 2013:** Iyengar Yoga Teacher Level 1
- 2012:** Culminate Force Majeure
- 2015/2011/2010:** Viewpoints Intensive with Barney O'Hanlon and Laura Sheedy
- 2010:** Cultivate Force Majeure
- 2009:** Yoga Teacher Training Level 1 (Hatha)
- 2007:** Critical Path Choreographic Workshop with Lucy Guerin
- 2004:** Summer Intensive SITI co in Suzuki and Viewpoints Training, New York
- 2002:** Improvisation Workshop with Andrew Moorish, Sydney

## Professional Appointments

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- 2016:** Associate Artist Critical Path
- 2015:** Associate Artist Critical Path
- 2014:** Darlinghurst Theatre Artistic Advisory Members
- 2007–2009:** Critical Path Board Member: Artist Representative

## CREATIVE PRACTICE Movement Director | Consultation Theatre

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- 2024:** Beautiful Burnout, Dir Matt Edgerton
- 2024** Nora, Dir Sonya Soares
- 2023:** Amadeus for Sydney Opera House, Melbourne Theatre Company
- 2022:** Bell Shakespeare, Comedy of Errors, Mary Stuart Perth Festival
- 2022:** Mary Stuart; Perth Festival
- 2021:** Black Swan Theatre Company, The Tempest
- 2020:** Elephant Man; WAAPA
- 2018:** Possum Magic for Monkey BAA
- 2017:** Jungle Book for the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland,
- 2016:** The Matchmaker, Poetry, prose and songs from the South WAAPA
- 2015:** Mill on the Floss Dir Sandie Eldridge WAAPA
- 2015:** Caress Ache, Griffin Theatre, Dir Anthony Skuse Written by Suzi Miller
- 2015:** Orfeo ed Euridices, Spectrum Now Festival Dir Shannon Murphy
- 2014:** Every Second, Darlinghurst Theatre Dir Shannon Murphy,
- 2014:** The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Michael Sieders Presents

**2013:** Woyzech, NIDA, Dir Amara Savage  
**2013:** Tender, NIDA, Dir Craig Ilott and Andrew Ross  
**2013:** Game of Seven, Carriageworks, Force Majeure  
**2012:** Miss Julie, Darlinghurst Theatre Dir Cristabel Sved  
**2012:** The Husky Project, NIDA Dir Craig Ilott  
**2012:** Porn Cake, Griffin, Dir Shannon Murphy  
**2011:** City of Bright Lights TRS, Dir Stephen Nicolazzo  
**2011:** The Coming World, Darlinghurst Theatre Dir Caroline Craig  
**2011:** Cut, Belvoir Dir Sarah John  
**2011:** Fefu and Her Friends, NIDA Dir Caroline Craig,  
**2011:** Titus, ATYP Cry Havoc Dir Kate Revs  
**2010:** Intersection, Milk Crate Theatre, Dir Bek Ronkson  
**2010:** Three Sisters, Cry Havoc Dir Kate Revs

## Theatre Maker | Choreographer

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**2024:** Border Song; WAAPA  
**2023:** Between Us: Vei Keda FIJI WAAPA  
**2022:** The Brink WAAPA  
**2021:** Chasing Happy WAAPA, Feminism Without Borders, Perth Festival  
**2020:** The Politics of Feeling WAAPA  
**2018:** Atlas ( WAAPA) Hiro The man That sailed his House for the Blue Room Theatre  
**2016:** The Astronaut: The Blue Room Theatre, On Things that Matter 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Actors WAAPA  
**2014:** Game of Seven, Force Majeure  
**2014:** Safety In Numbers, Riverside Theatre  
**2013:** Night Circus co directed with Anthony Skuse  
**2013:** Safety in Numbers (In-Development)  
**2013:** The Vanishing Point. ACA  
**2012:** Culminate, Carriage Works, Force Majeure  
**2012:** Be With Me, ACA  
**2012:** Life Expectancy, ACA  
**2011:** This Includes You, ACA  
**2011:** Audience Watching Audience from 8.00pm – 8.40pm, Campbelltown Arts Centre  
**2011:** I Believe, ACA  
**2010:** The Forgetting, ACA  
**2009:** Love is the Thing So they Say, ACA  
**2009:** Trace, NIDA, 50th Anniversary Commission  
**2008:** The Natural Order of Things (Independent)  
**2009:** A Midsummer Night's Dream, NIDA, Co Directed with Darren Gilshenan, Sean Hall  
**2008:** Monster Forming, (independent)  
**2005:** The (Neo) Sun, Shopfront Theatre for Young People  
**2005:** The Men's Room, NIDA  
**2004:** Hotel Cassiopeia, Saratoga New York  
**2002:** Waiting for Elaine, NIDA  
**2010:** Our Town, Sydney Theatre Company Dir Ian Sinclair,  
**2010:** Orestia, Sydney Theatre Company Dir Tom Wright  
**2010:** R&J, Touring Riverside Theatre, Dir Craig Ilott  
**2010:** Wallabies Rugby Union Team Movement Consultant 2009  
**2009:** Thursday Child, Monkey Baa, National Tour, Dir Sandie Eldridge (Winner — Best Children's Presentation 2010 Helpmann Award)  
**2008:** Pool No Water, Darlinghurst Theatre Dir Anthony Skuse  
**2008:** The Fabulous Punch & Judy Show, Cleveland Street Theatre, Dir Anthoy Skuse  
**2008:** R&J, Riverside Theatre, Dir Craig Ilott  
**2006:** Go Pinocchio Theatre of Image Dir Kim Carpenter

**2006:** The Attic, NIDA (Movement) Dir Yoji Sakate  
**2002:** Roberto Zucco, Dir Helmut Baskiat; LOOT Dir Terence Clarke

## Teaching and Learning Experience

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**2022-** Currently Course Coordinator Bachelor of Arts (Acting) WAAPA  
**2015 - 2022:** Movement Co-ordinator Acting, Lecturer Movement Acting and Performance Making, WAAPA  
**2015:** Associate Director and Head of Movement Actors Centre Australia, Lecturer Movement Acting and Performance Making, WAAPA  
**2014:** Associate Director and Head of Movement Actors Centre Australia, PACT Theatre, East 15 Masterclass, UK  
**2013:** Associate Director and Head of Movement Actors Centre Australia, International Screen Academy, University of Notre Dame, NIDA  
**2012:** Head of Movement Actors Centre Australia, PACT, NIDA, AICM  
**2011:** Head of Movement Actors Centre Australia, PACT  
**2010:** Head of Movement Actors Centre Australia, NIDA Singer Dancer Actor  
**2009:** Head of Movement Actors Centre Australia, NIDA Singer Dancer Actor  
**2008:** Head of Movement Actors Centre Australia, Roseville College, ACTT, NIDA Singer Dancer Actor  
**2007:** NIDA Singer Dancer, TAFE NSW, Actors Centre Australia, Shopfront Theatre Mentor Arts Lab Ashfield Youth Theatre, Bodyline 2007, NIDA (Dramaturg/Director's Support)  
**2006:** NIDA Movement Teacher 3 months permanent part-time Acting Curriculum Years 1,2,3 & Directors Open Program: Singer Actor Dancer and Young Actors Studio TAFE NSW  
**2005:** Shopfront Theatre for Young People NIDA: Movement Teacher Acting Curriculum Open Program: Core Teacher NIDA Singer Dancer Actor  
**2004:** Shopfront Theatre for Young People NIDA: Movement and Yoga Teacher Acting Curriculum Open Program: Core Teacher NIDA Singer Dancer Actor  
**2003:** NIDA: Movement and Yoga Teacher Acting 3 and Acting 1 Open Program  
**2002:** NIDA: Yoga Teacher Technical production

## ADMINISTRATION

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**2024 - 2015** Senior Lecturer Course Coordinator Acting and Movement Coordinator  
**2017 - 2012:** Founder Director, ReadyMade Works Inc that manages programs and space for the Independent Dance Community in Sydney  
**2016:** Body of Ideas LAB and Forum – The Future Body, Critical Path  
**2013- 2014:** FUNPARK, Sydney Festival, Dir Creative **Position:** Producer  
**2005–2012:** Co-Founder and Programs Director Queen Street Studio that managed and programmed Fraser Studios, Heffron Hall and Queen Street Studio  
**2005 - 2008:** Regional Arts NSW Part–Time Position: Funding Officer  
**2003 - 2005:** Australia Council for the Arts  
**Position:** Program Officer Community Cultural Development (Community Partnerships)  
**January 2003:** Australia Council for the Arts: Dance Board Research  
**2001 -2002:** Australia Council for the Arts  
**Position:** Program Officer Community Cultural Development (Community Partnerships)  
**2000 - 2001:** Australia Council for the Arts  
**Position:** Dance Board  
**2000:** Ensemble Theatre **Position:** Production Assistant  
**1998 -2000:** Morrissey Management **Position:** Agents Assistant