It is a pleasure to present the Annual Report of Second Echo Ensemble for 2019. Based in Hobart, SEE is guided by three core principles: 1 - CELEBRATING DIVERSITY - We are a curiosity-driven ensemble that values and grows creative relationships, unique perspectives, and group devised physical theatre practice. 2 - CHALLENGING ASSUMPTIONS: Our mission is to create and present exceptional performance that challenges assumptions, shakes up stereotypes and gives voice to untold stories. 3 - MAKING THEATRE HAPPEN We don’t make performance about having a disability or not having a disability. We make work about life, about its surroundings, its imaginings, its rhythms, its angers and its celebrations.

2018 was a busy year in which we have increased our profile in the community, refined our aims and direction, and initiated a number of activities to raise our awareness in both ordinary and extraordinary places. 2018 has been a year of growth and consolidation, with a focus on redefining the artistic methodology of the company. In 2018 we prioritized the creative vision and growth of the SEE ensemble, both individually and as a collective. We ran four periods of ensemble workshops throughout 2018. This served as way for all members to access regular performance training, as well as a way for us to hone in on creative ideas offered up by members in the group.

Some of the achievements over the past year have included:

- The fourth iteration of CONTESTED LAND by Charlie Smith in the Moonah Moves Festival.
- The debut of new work BY MY HAND by Luke Campbell in Dark Mofo. This work also toured to Finland in November 2018.
- The first round development of LET ME DRY YOUR EYES by Alma and David.
- Securing one year of program funding from Arts Tasmania for 2019, and a significant philanthropic contribution to the company from the Alcorso Foundation
- Performance at multiple Mona Markets and Festival events, and SoHo open days

We had outstanding feedback throughout the year, with the well-attended events and an increase of profile through innovative activity. Relationships were extended between performers, our audiences, sponsors, supporters and our funding bodies.

A constant challenge for SEE is the resourcing of the organisation to support the day to day running of the organisation and adequately pay our Creative Producer and Artists. In 2018 we successfully started to diversify our income streams and build a strong base of support for the organisation, including the successful application to receive a yearlong program of funding from Arts Tasmania for 2019, which is a hugely positive step in the right direction, and afford some security for SEE’s creative team.

I would personally like to thank Kelly and the ensemble for their incredible work throughout 2018. They have shown outstanding commitment and passion, which continues to contribute to the SEE vision. I also want to extend my thanks to the parents and carers connected to SEE who understand the importance of the work we do and who support us at every step of the way. Finally to all of the Board member’s that have given up their time and energy to help keep this organisation moving in the right direction - its a massive commitment and we couldn’t do it without you!

This marks my final meeting as Chair of the SEE Board - It’s been an honor to serve this vital organisation as since 2017 and I wish the company every success in the future

Emma Porteus
Outgoing Chair of the Second Echo Ensemble Board , March 2019