

NRTF in association with **CHINA PLATE, TAKE ART** and **THE PLACE**
present the **RURAL TOURING DANCE INITIATIVE's** fourth

DANCE PERFORMANCE MENU



September **2019**
to May **2020**

Welcome to the fourth menu produced by the Rural Touring Dance Initiative (RTDI)

BACKGROUND

In 2015 The National Rural Touring Forum joined forces with The Place, Take Art and China Plate to launch a brand new 3 year initiative designed to assist in the making and touring of contemporary, accessible dance to rural areas. The project has been made possible by a grant from Arts Council England's Lottery funded Strategic Touring Programme. Due to RTDI's success, we were delighted to hear in November 2017 that the project has been granted just under £417,000 to continue the work for another 3 years.

THE 4TH MENU

The 4th menu follows the same format as menus 2 and 3. Therefore we have 2 sections:

1. New shows
2. Returners.

NEW SHOWS

These shows have gone through a rigorous selection process from an open call out that attracted over 120 applications. They represent an incredibly diverse canon of work that offers a very current and exciting view of what is contemporary dance.

"We have been delighted with the enthusiasm with which venues and audiences have embraced dance through this project. This enthusiasm is matched by the artists taking part. In many cases it has been a revelation of what touring can be - warm welcomes, open minds and hearts, and an intimate connection and conversation between an

audience and the work on stage. In those moments when the magic of live performance is palpable, it's clear that, despite the different priorities and challenges we might juggle, we - artists, promoters, programmers, producers - are all working towards this same uniquely special moment.

We are hearing a growing confidence in scheme managers and promoters in programming dance. In some cases we're being asked for 'more dance', and we're enjoying the provocation of 'what is dance?'

There's no one answer to this, and it seems to us that the question, and answer, matters less to audiences than to those of us concerned with programming. In the devastating final moments of Lost Dog's Paradise Lost, whilst sharing food with Protein, or grooving to Uchenna Dance's infectious beat, it only matters that the performers have reached out and touched us in some way.

When asked to talk about their practice, many of the artists featured in this menu start with the idea they want to communicate, before delving into how they go about exploring it on stage. For lots of them dance is only one way in which they do this. They combine movement with circus, words, humour, conversation, music and design, and they don't dance for the sake of it. Movement is in there because it's the right way to explore a particular idea in a particular moment, and it's all the richer and more meaningful as a result.

We're drawing from a rich and diverse sector of makers who are playing with physicality in different ways to bring you a menu of shows which we think will connect with the diverse and equally undefinable rural touring audience. In this menu we're not just exploring what dance might work in rural locations, but also the huge potential of what dance can be - we hope you enjoy our choices."

Christina Elliot (Senior Producer at The Place and RTDI Partner)

These companies are mainly new to Rural Touring but have all been attendees on our RTDI Artists' Lab to help them 'rural proof' their shows and practice.

While the cost and resourcing of the different shows might vary from company to company you will see that the cost of most performances

remains constant at £650/700. The fee is based on offering an opportunity for you to book all companies on an equal basis. These companies are contracted by NRTF via RTDI.

THE 'RETURNERS'

We instigated this section in the last two menus to acknowledge the experience a company and show accumulates having toured once. If a show has been a success its positive to allow other schemes/promoters to benefit from that knowledge by offering it again. These companies are directly contracted to and paid for by schemes. Schemes can claim back a proportion of the fee from RTDI to help pay for the show.

We are really excited by the choice of companies and shows on offer - we hope you will be too...



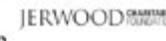
SURFTHEWAVE UK Dance Showcase 16-19 May 2019 Bournemouth & Poole

If you programme or intend to programme dance at your venue or festival, you won't want to miss the UK Dance Showcase. See performances, listen to talks, take part in pitching sessions and network with peers at this unique event.

RTDI 'Go and See' Bursaries available to help NRTF schemes/promoters to attend. Contact claire@nrtf.org.uk

REGISTER NOW AT:
www.surftthewaveuk.org.uk

UK Dance Showcase sponsor & supporter Surf The Wave is supported by



Powered by





Photo: Lost Dog's Juliet & Romeo, by RB Films

BOOKING SHOWS

This section is most relevant to scheme managers

There is a separate booking form included with the menu. Please note that we are working to a timeline which has been requested by the dance companies to enable them to contract dancers well in advance of bookings. **We are aware that this might not fit into some schemes' customary booking timeline.**

The deadline for returning expressions of interest bookings is **Monday 18th February 2019**, allowing time for information to be circulated to promoters, choices and options discussed by schemes with promoters and returning of the booking form. We will then create a series of touring schedules for each company, aiming to offer schemes as many first choice options and dates as possible. Schemes may find it useful to speak to fellow schemes in their region and beyond to coordinate shared interests.

We aim to confirm touring dates by **1st April 2019**.

We aim to offer companies as much certainty as possible with bookings and wish to avoid 'grey areas' where dates are taken by schemes and subsequently cancelled due to a lack of take up from village promoters.

We hope we have given schemes adequate time to discuss the programme with local promoters. Therefore the expectation is that once a show has been allocated to a scheme they will find a venue and audience for it.

Please list the companies (and preferred touring dates for that company) that your scheme wishes to book in order of preference. In order to moderate and plan national tours it may not be possible to offer you your first choice company or date. Please consider taking mid-week dates which will help to make tours viable. Please only indicate the companies that you are definitely interested in and indicate the total number of shows that you would ideally like to book. We are planning to support 65 shows over this second touring period and it may be possible to offer approximately

1 to 4 supported shows per touring scheme depending on scheme demand. It may be possible for you to book extra shows at a full fee cost and we can support you in your discussions with the companies. There will be a contract between the scheme and the NRTF relating to bookings and schemes will pay the agreed fee to the NRTF.

If you have any questions please phone or email Claire to talk through your queries: claire@nrtf.org.uk / **07720 032546**.

WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

Each company will be offering 'wraparound' activity for each of their shows and this will vary from show to show. This could take the form of a workshop for people local to the venue in advance of a show and/or an informal post-show discussion with the artists. It is important schemes commit to these activities alongside the shows.



Photo: Altered Skin

NRTF RESPONSIBILITIES

The NRTF will be responsible for providing financial support for shows, contracting and paying companies, providing marketing support and resources, liaising on tour dates with companies and schemes, collating data and evaluating success of tours. Please also see additional support noted over the page.

SCHEME RESPONSIBILITIES

For those schemes that wrote a letter of support, your commitment is to take at least one performance from each menu. You will also enter into a contract with the NRTF to pay the agreed fee for each performance. Those schemes who will be Dance Ambassador Schemes in RTDI 2 have agreed to a higher degree of responsibility around the development and sustained programming of dance in their scheme. They have also committed to programming a minimum of 2 companies off each menu and 3-4 performances overall.

We will ask you to participate in a limited amount of quantitative data collection (such as audience data for each performance) and qualitative evaluation at both audience and scheme level. Our overall target for average audience attendance is 66 and we would like to exceed this; Claire and the partners will work with you, the companies and the local promoters to achieve successful, high quality experiences for audiences and a growing interest in dance performance.

PROMOTER RESPONSIBILITIES

Promoters are responsible for choosing, booking, publicising (locally) and selling tickets for shows; ensuring venues are safe, accessible and comply with all insurance and licensing regulations; liaising with companies leading up to performances and managing the show on the day; hosting the companies if appropriate and paying the local scheme an agreed fee.

TICKET PRICES

Final ticket price decisions rest with the scheme and local promoter. We are keen to value the professionalism of the companies while at the same time understand there might be local circumstances that might influence your decision on ticket prices.

MARKETING

Companies will send posters and fliers to each promoter direct. Companies will send schemes a press release for them to distribute to local promoters well in advance of performances. In addition to the publicity the companies will provide, we are offering an enhanced package of support.

An exciting development for this Menu is that we have Stephanie Jessop on board as our part time Marketing Manager. She will be 'rural proofing' copy and images that come from companies and can be on hand to support schemes and promoters with advice. She will be running RTDI's social media.

Photo: Patfield & Triguero's Gibbon, by Stanislav Briza



YOUTH

Children and Young People's participation is a particular priority for the next 3 years. Each year we are offering 24 workshops (linked to ticket deals) and 6 x 2-4 day residencies. Workshops will be heavily subsidised but we will be asking schemes for a contribution of £100 per workshop and £200-£400 towards the 2-4 day residencies.

Claire Smith, Project Manager
(claire@nrtf.org.uk)

Ralph Lister, NRTF

Ed Collier, China Plate

Alison Lord, Take Art

Eddie Nixon & Christina Elliot,
The Place

We have resources to make rural touring friendly trailers for most of our companies and provide financial assistance if they need to adapt their printed marketing. Contact her on stephie@culturapedia.co or **01254 674777**.

'GO AND SEE' GRANTS

We have grants available ranging from £150 to £500. We would like to support scheme managers, promoters and loyal audience members;

- To visit other schemes who are marketing dance shows to see how they do it
- To see a show prior to it being performed locally
- To see shows at the annual NRTF Conference if they are programmed, or any festival.



Photo: Tom Dale Dance by RB Films



Photo: Proteins The Little Prince by Chris Nash



Photo: Fabio Affuso

NIKKI AND JD : Knot

Physically exhilarating and touchingly poignant, *Knot* is the internationally acclaimed circus and dance work by **Nikki Rummer and JD Broussé**. These talented performers use hand-to-hand circus skills to tell the tale of an impossible choice: How can we be honest with ourselves without hurting those we love? *Knot* is a finely crafted theatrical journey through the struggles of commitment.

Created in collaboration with award-winning choreographer Ben Duke of Lost Dog Dance Company, *Knot* is a very modern affair told with delicate sensitivity through breath-taking acrobatics and heart wrenching dance.

"Acrobatic prowess mixed with soulfulness"

Culture Tiger

★★★★★ *"Surprisingly funny. The true success of Nikki and JD's Knot lies in the sensitive portrayal of a strong and dynamic human bond"*

Eve Ryan, North West End

★★★★ *"A show of great complexity and breathtakingly-effortless acrobatic skill"*

Peter Jacobs, The Review Hub

SHOW INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 55 minutes. No interval.
- **Min. performance space (width x depth):** 6m x 6m x 4.5m height. The height clearance and knowing about possible obstructions is important.
- **Performed on floor or stage:** Floor or stage. Please note that the company needs height clearance of 4.5m between the surface of any stage and any fixtures hanging from the ceiling.
- **Get-in / get-out:** Get-in 6 hours tbc / Get-out 1 hour
- **Technically self-contained?** Yes
- **Accommodation required?** For 3 people (two performers and one technician). Can share rooms but not beds. Preferably 3 single rooms if possible, but 1 twin and 1 single will also work.
- **Target audience:** All ages. Mainly aged 10+. Younger children are welcome and often enjoy it, but please be aware the show is not designed to be a children's performance.
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** A flat, even surface is needed with no holes. The company will lay dance floor on top of this. Wooden floors are preferred to concrete (please tell us if the floor is concrete or stone at the time of booking). Seating on one side of the stage (long side) or, to maximise numbers, in an 'L' shape on two sides of the stage. Please no more than two rows deep because the quality of the experience will deteriorate for audience members if they have limited sightlines (max 50 people unless the seating is raked). The company can also provide floor mats to sit on if this is appropriate.
- **Fee (to the rural touring scheme):** £700
- **Website:** www.nikkiandjd.com
- **Trailer:** vimeo.com/261517258
vimeo.com/164266455

DATES AVAILABLE

- **2019:** Monday 23rd September – Sunday 13th October (3 weeks)

PROMOTERS HOOKS

Quality acrobatics, good storytelling, surprising twist, wide appeal.

WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

The artists would be delighted to do post-show Q&A. This could involve a behind-the-scenes explanation of life as an acrobat. No cost.

2-hour acrobatic workshops with young people/children 7+/adults parents are available. See p7: YOUTH. Max 20 participants. Not on day of performance.



Photo: Holly Revel/ Rich Rusk

DAN WATSON : VENUS

As a child Dan lost a British holiday-camp dance competition. Largely because he totally misunderstood what competitive dance was, and they didn't play his song of choice, *Venus* by Bananarama. This performance enacts the version of the event that he would have liked to happen, the dance he would have performed had he known better, been braver, had a Little Miss Sunshine moment.

VENUS is a combination of contemporary dance, confessional and comedy, inviting members of the audience to take on the roles of the judges, other contestants and enthusiastic family members at the competition.

This is an opportunity for us all to win, if only for the duration of one song by an 80s girl group.

"VENUS from Dan Watson was a standout show for us. We loved the fun energy that immediately filled the audience as soon as Dan took to the stage. It was a struggle to stay in our seats and not get up and join the 80s Pontins dance competition recreation."

Pulse Festival 2018 Blog

SHOW INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 50 mins (TBC) plus a 20 min 'interval' - in this interval audience will be invited to create "props" to be used in the second half.
- **Min. performance space (width x depth):** 6m x 6m
- **Performed:** Floor preferable, with audience on three sides / horseshoe (as appropriate).
- **Get-in / get-out:** Get-in min 5 hours TBC / Get-out 1 hour
- **Technically self-contained?** Yes
- **Accommodation required?** Two single rooms please
- **Target audience:** Appreciators of dance, theatre and 80s music. Those who have experiences of holiday camps, childhood competitions. Pushy parents, nostalgia seekers and amateur enthusiasts.
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** Flooring suitable for dancing. Preferably not concrete /carpet.
- **Fee (to the rural touring scheme):** £650
- **Website:** danwatsonperforms.co.uk
- **Trailer:** danwatsonperforms.co.uk/venus Please note new trailer to be commissioned by RTDI.

DATES AVAILABLE

- **2019:** September (excluding 19th, 20th and 21st); December.
- **2020:** April - May

PROMOTER HOOKS

- This is a show for appreciators of dance, theatre and 80s music.
- It taps into our national interest in programmes like *Britain's Got Talent* and our love of the 'underdog'.
- Will appeal to comedy, dance and theatre audiences

WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

- Encourage audiences to bring childhood photos and trophies along (an adhoc display could be assembled).
- Disco: The promoter could organise an 80s disco post-show - company happy to keep music playing but additional lighting might be needed.
- Themed 80s raffle or quiz.
- Dan happy to have an informal Q&A in the bar after the show (no charge).
- Workshops: Depending on scheduling (Dan doesn't drive) he could offer a workshop based on the show or more open dance workshops for ages 16+, max 20 people (depending on space). Additional fee required; see page 7: YOUTH.



Photo: Mark Peppercall

SADHANA DANCE : Under My Skin

Under My Skin is a show about surgery and operating theatres. Three highly-skilled dancers invite the audience to share an insider's perspective on surgical procedures, where intricate detail, timing and precisely controlled exchanges are not just an artistic goal, but a matter of life or death.

Under My Skin is a neatly stitched together evening of highly physical dance, medicine and science, which explores the unseen world of the hospital operating theatre and lifts the veil on a closed, clinical and tightly choreographed world.

Developed in association with a leading surgeon and professor, *Under My Skin* draws on the classical Indian dance technique Bharata Natyam and real-life surgical procedures.

"This is an enchanting and very unexpected dance, and you won't think of surgery in the same way again."

Sanjoy Roy, Pulse Magazine

"Mesmerising and thought provoking. A wonderful piece of dance"

Audience member

SHOW INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 55 minutes. No interval
- **Min. performance space (width x depth):** 6.5m x 6.5m, min height 3m
- **Performed:** on the floor
- **Get-in / get-out:** 4 hour Get-in and 1 hour Get-out.
- **Technically self-contained?** Yes.
- **Accommodation required?** For 5 please in a twin and 3 single rooms. (RTDI understand this is a lot of people to accommodate so we can help if this is a disincentive to book).
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** seating configuration can be adapted to maximise sight lines according to each venue.
- **Target audience:** Ages 8+
- **Fee (to the rural touring scheme):** £700
- **Website:** www.sadhanadance.com
- **Trailer:** www.sadhanadance.com/under-my-skin

DATES AVAILABLE

- **2019:** October and November
- **2020:** February and March

PROMOTER HOOKS

Show has been made with leading surgical professor, Professor Kneebone, uniquely bringing science and dance together.

WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

Post-show Café Scientifique

Suba Subramaniam, the choreographer and creator, a company dancer and a surgeon will engage in an informal discussion over a drink about the closed intimate world of the operating theatres. Audiences can ask a real life surgeon all the things they've always wanted to know about operating theatres and also to talk about the unique collaboration between a surgeon and a choreographer. (This is included in the show fee).

An interactive event on the "Art of Surgery" can be arranged on request. Events can include a surgery simulation and learning to suture (stitches holding together the edges of a wound or surgical incision). Fee £250.

Creative movement workshops: Explore the ancient dance form of Bharata Natyam and how it can be used to convey the art of surgery. Workshops are available 2 days before the shows and can be tailored to all ages and needs and can be science curriculum specific, as Suba Subramaniam is also a science teacher. Additional fee for workshops – fees vary; see page 7: YOUTH for more info.



Photo: Andy Phillipson

PATFIELD & TRIGUERO : Gibbon

Breakout juggling stars **Chris Patfield & José Triguero** present *Gibbon*, a humorous and surreal show combining mesmerising juggling with dance and physical theatre. Together they explore the absurd and comedic in what it is that drives us to try and try again.

Performers as skilled as this make juggling look easy, effortless even, but just how many times do you have to fail before you make something perfect? Lifting the veil on the rehearsal room *Gibbon* shows how two charming performers work at working as one.

Poetic and original, *Gibbon* is devastatingly slick and a wonderfully thought-provoking production.

"The combination of mesmerising manipulation and dry comedy left me wanting more"

Circus Diaries

★★★★

"Seriously interesting and wryly amusing"

The Guardian

SHOW INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 50 mins. No interval
- **Min. performance space (width x depth):** 6m x 4m; min height 4.5m but this is all negotiable
- **Performed:** On stage or on floor and can be adapted to unusual spaces.
- **Get-in / get-out:** Get-in 5 hours (probably less); Get-out 1 hour.
- **Technically self-contained?** Yes
- **Accommodation required?** 3 singles please
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** floor should be flat not raked. The company will try to arrange tiered seating depending on what is available at venue and may bring futon style benches for low level front row seating.
- **Target audience:** all ages interested in Circus, Dance and theatre
- **Fee (to the rural touring scheme):** £650
- **Website:** www.gandinijuggling.com/en/our-shows/view/36/gibbon
- **Trailers:** www.vimeo.com/301166520
www.youtube.com/watch?v=_KyrGZha8zQ

DATES AVAILABLE

- **2019:** September - November
- **2020:** Spring - flexible availability.

PROMOTER HOOKS

- This is world-class juggling
- Mixing awe-inspiring tricks with comedy is sure to be an audience pleaser
- 'If at first you don't succeed, try and try again' is something everyone can relate to
- It's a show the whole family can enjoy - not just for kids, not just for adults.

WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

The company will do an upbeat Q&A after each show and will be happy to do a post-show demo on how they learnt some of the juggling tricks featured in the show. They will be open to workshop participants doing a curtain raiser if this is appropriate. The activity above will be included in the fee.

Juggling workshops can be offered to children's activity groups, schools, dance groups or enthusiasts. The company will include ball making tutorial video for workshop leaders and a starter video workshop. People interested could make their own balls before our arrival to use in the workshop and keep them to practice in the future. Workshops are available, costs vary; see p7: YOUTH.



Photo: Irvyn Lewis

ALLEYNE DANCE : A Night's Game

How does it feel to have your freedom taken from you? Would you spend every waking hour longing to be free again? Or would you fight against it?

Inspired by true life events, including stories of escaping the world-famous Alcatraz prison, *A Night's Game* reflects the turmoil and strife when faced with the prospect of incarceration.

Alleyne Dance brings to the stage dynamism and athletic strength delivered with grace and beauty. Explore the journey of these two athletic movers as they create a dark, atmospheric and abstract show that is as thrilling as it is powerful.

"The Alleyne twins, Kristina and Sadé, deliver dance that demands respect"
Graham Watts, Dance Tabs, UK 2018

*"Their movement manifests all the power and beauty
that the human body can create"*

Nora Turpault, Artistic Director, Festival de Danse Traces Contemporaines

"Alleyne Dance are rising stars of the contemporary dance scene"
Pawlet Brookes Serendipity UK

SHOW INFORMATION

- **Duration:** 47 mins *A Night's Game*; 20 min interval; 5 min *Testimonies* film excerpt (this is another of the company's shows on film); 15 min Rhythm & Exchange (some audience participation included); 15 min Q&A (optional).
- **Min performance space:** 6m x 6m min, but ideally 8m x 8m. Min height 4.5m.
- **Performed:** On floor. Black dance floor covering the entire performing area ideally supplied by venue, if none available clean hard wooden floor.
- **Get-in / get-out:** Get-in 6 hours / Get-out 2 hours (approx).
- **Technically self-contained?** Yes
- **Accommodation required?** For 3: one twin room plus one single please
- **Target audience:** 8+ years and above
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** Stage: Ideal set up - audience sitting on 3 sides - if not possible audience seated in front of stage. Seats: Ideally raked style seats - if not possible, company can discuss other possible strategies for seating audience. Haze/smoke machine will be used.
- **Fee (to the rural touring scheme):** £650
- **Website:** www.alleynedance.com
- **Trailer:** vimeo.com/183558141

DATES AVAILABLE

- **2019:** From 9 September
- **2020:** June

PROMOTER HOOKS

Alleyne Dance are twin sisters with a background in high level athletics who display incredible physicality. The company are brilliant and passionate about participation work and are keen to engage with community, older people and student groups.

WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

Pre-show and post-show talks are available. Alleyne Dance has developed a world class reputation for their education work. Workshops that cater to all abilities and age ranges are available leading to possible curtain raisers. The company are very keen to work with local groups/schools. Workshops/talks delivered on the same day as a performance are included in the performance fee. Outside of that, workshops can be offered at a rate specifically for Rural touring; see p7: YOUTH.

Workshop Types

A number of workshops are available, taster sessions, Afro-fusion, tailored workshops and workshops that lead to a curtain raiser. All workshop combine Afro-Caribbean, Hip Hop, Kathak, Latin and Circus with a contemporary style.



Photo: Chris Nash

PROTEIN: The Little Prince

Welcome to the incredible story of *The Little Prince*, retold in this dance and theatre show by a pilot stranded in the desert. Find out how the Little Prince leaves behind his own tiny asteroid and beloved rose and journeys through the universe, coming face to face with the baffling world of grown-ups!

Upon landing on planet Earth, the Little Prince is welcomed by a mysterious snake and a truly wise and friendly fox before encountering the lone pilot. Together they discover the power and beauty of friendship and the complexity of love.

Based on the world-famous story by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, *The Little Prince* is brought to life using **Protein's** award-winning mix of dance, humour and spoken word. **Protein's** new show invites us to look at the world through one's heart and to reconnect with our inner child.

This show was originally co-commissioned by The Place and DanceEast, and supported by The Point, Eastleigh, Warwick Arts Centre and Dance City.

*"St-Exupéry's enigmatic tale [...] delivered with quirky charm."
"Prendergast is touchingly excellent in the title role."*

★★★★ The Observer

SHOW INFORMATION

- **Duration:** 1.5 hours. The show will have participatory elements mixed seamlessly into the work, audience will meet the characters, explore through drawing, and enjoy a finale! No interval.
- **Min performance space:** 6m depth x 7m wide.
- **Performed:** On floor or stage if large enough. Can be presented in a horseshoe shape, with a max of three staggered rows. However, this can change for halls with an unusual layout.
- **Get-in / get-out:** Get-in 5.5 hours / Get-out 2 hours.
- **Technically self-contained?** Yes
- **Accommodation required?** 5 single rooms please (RTDI realise this is a challenge so could possibly help with costs).
- **Target audience:** Suitable for age 5 – 105 years. Siblings and 'babes in arms' welcome.
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** Flat floors please – no carpet or concrete. If you have access to mats, cushions, benches, chairs it would add different levels and better sightlines. Chairs should be staggered, rather than one in front of the other. The show may contain haze.
- **Fee (to the rural touring scheme):** £650
- **Website / Trailer:** proteindance.co.uk/productions/touring-productions/thelittleprince/

DATES AVAILABLE

- **2020:** 25 January – 9 February (others may be available)

PROMOTER HOOKS

This show is based on a famous story and performed by a company with a national reputation and previous RTDI experience. A great show for all the family, from 0 – 100 years old.

WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

Protein have devised a number of fun, creative and accessible ways to build additional activities around the show when it comes to your venue, tailored for varying budgets. This will assist you with engagement but also allow you to target specific audiences, open up dialogue and conversations and increase awareness and ticket sales. There will also be ideas and information for you to use when approaching your local primary schools. Protein can send you mini lesson plans for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 teachers linked to the show.

For example; 10 minute pop up performance, family workshops, residencies etc (more information available on request).



Photo: Jorge Lizalde

MR & MRS CLARK :

Louder Is Not Always Clearer

Meet Jonny. Jonny is a teacher, a workshop leader and an avid football fan. He's an artist, a campaigner, he's just become a father, and he is deaf. He loves to dance, but he can't hear the music unless the bass is turned right up. Jonny was born deaf and grew up in a hearing family, surrounded by hearing friends who did not use the word deaf. In fact some of those people didn't know Jonny was deaf until they saw this show.

Louder Is Not Always Clearer focuses on the importance of connection with others and the struggle to do so affectively. This one-man show is an honest portrayal of a man perceived to be full of confidence and who is outwardly social, but inwardly vulnerable and at times isolated. In a hearing world Jonny is different and *Louder Is Not Always Clearer* highlights those differences in a warm and humorous way.

★★★★ The Stage ★★★★★ Buzz Magazine

"Simply I was moved. Thank you for your bravery in sharing your world with us"

Audience member, Experimentica, Cardiff

"Louder Is Not Always Clearer is really inventive and funny"

Pulse Festival, Ipswich

SHOW INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 80 minutes including 15 minute interval
- **Min. performance space (width x depth):** 4m x 4m
- **Performed:** Adaptable, can perform on stage or floor (preferably floor).
- **Get-in / get-out:** Get-in 4 hours / Get-out 45 mins.
- **Technically self-contained?** Yes
- **Accommodation required?** 4 single beds (4 x single or 2 x twin room)
 - 1 technician, 1 sound, 1 driver, 1 producer/spokesperson to accompany performer.
- **Target audience:** All ages, but please note there are some references to sex and some strong language used in context. The show has a strong theatre /dance crossover so would work well for both theatre and dance audiences. It is a fully accessible performance to a deaf audience with the use of a combination of BSL translation and captioning.
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** The show is end-on and can be performed on any type of floor.
- **Fee (to the rural touring scheme):** £650
- **Website:** www.mrandmrsclark.co.uk
- **Trailer:** vimeo.com/261149900

DATES AVAILABLE

- **2019:** October, November, December
- **2020:** February, March, April

PROMOTER HOOK (description of show):

Louder starts with Jonny, sat at a laptop, attempting to communicate with the audience through sign and actions. Some people get it, most don't. Some, especially children, laugh. This initial attempt to make contact is the premise for Jonny's story about his life. He converses through typed words that are projected on a screen but also through speech and movement. You hear the story of his 21st birthday told like a stand up in a nightclub (a good opportunity for the audience to get a drink and join the party). We learn how he held down jobs whilst hiding the fact that he was deaf and the audience gets to sing/sign a song at the end of the show. Sound can play an important part in the deaf world. The company will help promoters with outreach work to contact local deaf schools and groups.

WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

Post-show talk/discussion included in the fee for the show. Theatre workshops are available for all ages and abilities. Jonny is keen to share his practice with local deaf groups.



Photo: Zoe Manders

Returner

LOST DOG : Juliet & Romeo

Lost Dog's new show reveals the real story of Romeo and Juliet. It turns out they didn't die in a tragic misunderstanding, they grew up and lived happily ever after.

Well they lived at least.

Now they are 40ish, at least one of them is in the grips of a mid-life crisis, they feel constantly mocked by their teenage selves and haunted by the pressures of being the poster couple for romantic love. They have decided to confront their current struggles by putting on a performance – about themselves. Their therapist told them it was a terrible idea.

With **Lost Dog's** blend of dance, theatre and comedy this stunning duet, directed by Olivier Award nominated Ben Duke, takes on our cultural obsession with youth and our struggle with how things are supposed to be. A humorous and heartfelt investigation into love, loss and longevity.

"Pure pleasure. Smart, subversive and sexy" ★★★★★ The Guardian

"Superb. Devastating realism and dark humour" ★★★★★ The Stage

"Insightful, funny and rich. Smoulders with equal parts lust and loathing" ★★★★★ Time Out

SHOW INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 80 minutes. No interval.
- **Min. performance space (width x depth):** 5m x 5m
- **Performed:** Either – stage helps sightlines, on floor max audience of 50.
- **Get-in / get-out:** 7 hours get in
- **Technically self-contained?** Yes
- **Accommodation required?** 4 singles please (2 performers & 2 technicians)
- **Target audience:** Theatre, dance, comedy. For ages 13+, has adult themes.
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** If seats are unraked on the floor then audience numbers will be limited to 50 due to ensuring adequate sightlines. No smoke.
- **Fee (to the rural touring scheme):** £950, subsidy of £200 can be claimed from RTDI.
- **Website:** www.lostdogdance.co.uk
- **Trailer:** www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUEpgt8IBpc

DATES AVAILABLE

- **2019:** TBC
- **2020:** TBC

PROMOTER HOOKS

This is a sell-out show being produced with all the humour and skill of the first Lost Dog show to be toured via RTDI, *Paradise Lost*. A full recording of the show is available on request, to see how the show fits into a space, and to help market the show confidently to audiences.

WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

Post show discussion available (free).

The company is happy to offer additional workshops if scheduling permits. Choreographic workshop / literature workshop. Fees: £100 (2 hours) - £300 (6 hours). Can offer shorter activity e.g. a 30 minute talk for audience development for free if timing permits.

Important to note

RTDI is keen to include this sell-out show – but retouring the show will be dependent on a suitable new cast being found. This will be known mid January.

"Squirmingly funny and no less heartbreaking" ★★★★★ The Times

"Glorious. Full of warmth and intimacy" ★★★★★ The Independent

"Wonderful. Shakespeare's lovers live on" ★★★★★ The Observer



Returner

JAMES WILTON DANCE: Leviathan

Leviathan follows Ahab, a ship captain hell-bent on capturing the white whale: Moby Dick, a beast as vast and dangerous as the sea itself, yet serene and beautiful beyond all imagining. Ahab's crew are drawn into the unhinged charisma of their captain, blindly following him on his perilous adventure towards almost certain destruction.

Multi-awardwinning choreographer **James Wilton** re-imagines Herman Melville's seminal novel, *Moby Dick*. Featuring a cast of 6, Wilton's trademark blend of athletic dance, martial arts, capoeira and partner-work, *Leviathan* will have you on the edge of your seat. It will leave you gasping for air under the sheer ferocity of movement, all accompanied by a powerful electro-rock soundtrack by Lunatic Soul.

Leviathan is man versus nature; be careful what you fish for.

"Extraordinary" **The Stage**

"Handsomely crafted, ambitious and exciting" **The Times**

"Leviathan is an ambitious piece of dance from a distinctive choreographer who really knows how to let the body tell a story – and it's a whale of a tale"

Peter Jacobs, Reviewshub

SHOW INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 90 mins including 20 minute interval
- **Min. performance space (width x depth):** 6m x 6m at least (preferably 8m x 8m though)
- **Performed:** adaptable, can perform on stage or the floor
- **Get-in / get-out:** Ideally get-in from 9am. Minimum of 4 hours.
- **Technically self-contained?** Yes. A minimum of 4 months notice is required if the company needs to supply a dance floor (due to other touring activities). The company will use inhouse lighting if available.
- **Accommodation required?** 5 single beds in any configuration please (twins, singles etc). Accom for 4 of the performers and 1 technician.
- **Target audience:** All.
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** A floor that is not solid concrete is desirable. Larger spaces work better however they are very adaptable. Haze can be used if the theatre is technically able to facilitate (the company have their own haze machine). Would require isolation to do this to avoid setting off smoke alarms.
- **Fee (to the rural touring scheme):** £1300 plus VAT; subsidy of £600 can be claimed from RTDI.
- **Website:** www.jameswiltondance.org.uk
- **Trailers:** vimeo.com/241380697
vimeo.com/185697032

DATES AVAILABLE

- **2019:** Weeks of the 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th November
- **2020:** Spring - all availability - but would really prefer to tour in autumn

PROMOTER HOOKS

- 6 incredibly athletic dancers on stage
- *Leviathan* is based on the story of *Moby Dick*
- Publicity is superb
- Great workshops

WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

Post-show talk available.

Full education programme available at request. Ideally workshops would be in the week of or after performances. See p7:YOUTH.

Returner



Photo: Martin Dewar

ALTERED SKIN : Confessions of a Cockney Temple Dancer

Shane Shambhu will have audiences laughing out loud as he reveals his past through a vivid display of characters, lived experiences and comical stories. This funny and honest show uses dance, storytelling and comedy to reveal how Shane became an Indian dancer in Britain, from unlikely roots in East London. Using his informal witty performance style, Shane reflects on his life journey and how race, language, identity and cultures have defined him and his career.

This 70-minute show has been successfully touring with RTDI during 2018-19 and is returning for the 4th menu.

Cockney Curry House is a 30-minute post-show event in which Chef T and sous chef Dave introduce families and friends to South Indian cuisine through food tasting and spice smelling. Chef T will reveal the way that curry dishes have made their way into British cuisine making Tikka Masala as popular as fish & chips. But what makes a British Indian curry from the South so special? Come and taste for yourselves!

"Shane's show is stunning, a really good quality dance experience with some very strong themes and messages"

Kerry Bartlett, Executive Co-Director, Artsreach Dorset

SHOW INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 70 minutes; no interval. Optional post show event: *Cockney Curry House*: 30 minutes + 20 mins interval .
- **Min. performance space (width x depth x height):** 5m x 6m x 4m
- **Performed:** Stage or floor but must be splinter free wooden or lino/ synthetic floor as dancer performs the show on the floor on the flat in bare feet.
- **Get-in / get-out:** 6 hour get in / 2 hour get out
- **Technically self-contained?** Yes. We require 6 x 13 amp plug sockets and we will bring extension leads. Space to set up projector at least 6.5m away at a height of 4m. A ladder would be appreciated.
- **Accommodation required?** Two single rooms for 2 males please
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** Set design consists of a 3m diameter circle which hangs on a set of pipe and drape. At the highest point the circle is 4 meters. End on seating with potential to rake the last rows of seating so that the screen and floor work of dance can be seen.
- **Target audience:** Age 7 + families and adults.
- **Fee (to the rural touring scheme):** Fee will be £850 for 70 minute show of *Confessions of a Cockney Temple Dancer*. £150 can be claimed back from RTDI. *Cockney Curry House* will be £200 additional cost to include all ingredients and food tasting. £50 can be claimed back from RTDI.
- **Website:** www.altered-skin.org | www.movingsouls.dance
- **Trailer:** vimeo.com/306890733

DATES AVAILABLE

- **2019:** 9th September - 9th December
- **2020:** 13th January - 6th April (no Mondays or Tuesdays in Jan - March)

PROMOTER HOOKS

- A very human and humorous insight into British Asian culture
- Echoes of '*Bend it like Beckham*' and incredible top drawer Indian Dancing

WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

Q&A session could be added in with *Cockney Curry House* post show or a Q&A could be offered post-show as FREE event.

“ Being part of the Rural Touring Dance Initiative has brought performances to village halls that we would never have thought possible. Companies have embraced rural touring and discovered new audiences and new ways of working. The work has enthralled and amazed audiences and encouraged Promoters to be more ambitious in their programming, responding to audience feedback.

Young people have benefitted from associated workshops and residencies, some experiencing dance for the first time and some adding to their dance studies. The RTDI project fits perfectly into the rural touring ethos of providing work of the highest quality to audiences who would not otherwise have the opportunity to see it. ”

Barbara Slack,

Co-Director of Highlights Rural Touring Scheme and NRTF Board Member

The **Rural Touring Dance Initiative 2** is a second 3-year national strategic touring project, as part of a 10-year partnership led by the National Rural Touring Forum, with China Plate, Take Art and The Place, along with rural touring schemes, primarily in England but also in Wales and Scotland. RTDI 2 has the additional support of Arts Council Wales, associate partners, Pavilion Dance South West and DanceEast. Find out more at: www.ruraltouringdance.com



Supported by Arts Council England via their Strategic Touring Fund



Supported using public funding by
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Making the best dance happen in small spaces