



Welcome to nottdance08

This year we have decided to try something new. We decided to let others make many of the choices, in terms of the content of the festival. From asking artists to be curators, to asking audience panels to select the work that they thought should be in the festival, to asking artists to share their own choices in the actual making of work. And so far, what an eye-opening experience we have had along the way! It's now up to you to make your own choices.

Here is a listing of performances as a preview before our brochure is out. Hope you'll find something of interest. We look forward to seeing you during the festival!

The Dance4 team

For more information and group bookings contact linzi@dance4.co.uk

PERFORMANCES

Kate McIntosh (New Zealand / Belgium)

All Natural

Date: Friday 17 October

Time: 8pm

Venue: Sandfield Theatre

Audience Panel's choice

This powerful solo performance flickers between stand-up comedy and a Vegas dance routine. The showgirl on stage seems to have emerged from a month lost in the forest – muddy, dishevelled, and more animal than human. Imaginary characters are brought to life and destroyed, and some odd rituals develop. Along the way there's pregnancy, a restless dance, an exploding biscuit, an ear bursting laugh, foreign accents, surgical procedures, and some attempts at "honest" contact with the audience.

Juan Domínguez (Spain)

All Good spies are my age

UK premiere

Date: Saturday 18 October

Time: 8pm

Venue: Lakeside Arts Centre

Artist curator: Maria La Ribot's choice

The set up of this solo performance is deceptively simple: on stage, a man elegantly dressed in a white suit displays a series of small note cards in front of the lens of a video camera. Projecting the text of the cards onto an old fashioned screen, we can read what is written on them. The performer remains silent. We read. And the journey begins. It takes us from his personal desires, to improbable advertising of travel out of space, to numerous creative ideas aborted due to funding issues, repeatedly punctuated by a rather entertaining obsession with age.

This unusual performance relies on the sheer power of words. How they trigger our imagination. How they bring us together in this unique shared experience of time in the theatre. As the cards follow one another, we wonder if anything else is going to happen. The subtle twist is that *this is the show*: The making of it in real time, together with the witty insight we are given into the making of it. Is that where the spying comes in?

DOUBLE BILL

Taldans (Turkey)

Mustafa Kaplan and Filiz Sizanli

Sek Sek

Date: Tuesday 21 October

Time: 8pm

Venue: Lakeside Arts Centre

Young People's choice

Mustafa Kaplan is one of the most innovative choreographers to have emerged from Turkey. Together with Filiz Sizanli he has developed an intense work of physicality, energy and risk. In this duet, a man and a woman investigate different states of instability that emerge as they interact with each other. Their fascinating balances and enigmatic presence provoke us to see the body as a surface, a measuring instrument, a place to question and in the end, play. This is an invitation to look at pure movement differently.

Gabriele Reuter (Germany/UK)

Inventory/(Räumung)

World premiere

In this solo, the performer explains her world in word and gesture. She opens invisible doors, explores empty places and uncovers forgotten corners. Blending text and movement with philosophies on time and space, *Inventory/(Räumung)* investigates the process of continuous listing, defining dance and the space in which we dance. Charming, humorous and honest, this piece is a personal journey across a completely empty stage. She has worked as a dancer and choreographer in the UK and Germany since 2001. This is Gabriele Reuter's first solo work. It was developed during a residency at Dance4 in Nottingham in 2008.

Post show talk: this will be led by some of the young people who chose the work

Improvisation evening

Artists will be confirmed online shortly

Date: Friday 24 October

Time: 8pm

Venue: Lakeside Arts Centre

In a festival where the idea of choice is the central question this year i.e. how we chose an artist or a piece, who can chose and why; we also wanted to explore what making artistic choices is for dance artists themselves. And one way to investigate this is to actually witness artists making choices live on stage, before our very eyes.

This is the starting point for this evening where three international artists are given the theatre space for 20 minutes each.

Post show talk: artists taking part will be joined by regional artists to discuss the evening's outcome.

Vincent Dupont (France)

Hauts Cris (miniature)

UK premiere

Date: Saturday 25 October

Time: 8pm

Venue: Sandfield Theatre

Artist curator: Alain Buffard's choice

Hauts Cris means literally "high pitched scream" in French. This visually arresting piece shows us a man in what at first seems like just a normal flat: table, chairs and a picture on the wall. But our perspective on this set up rapidly changes as all is not as it seems. The high pitch sound of a scream slowly increases as everything changes under our very eyes

Post show talk: this will be led by artist curator Alain Buffard

Fumiyo Ikeda, Alain Platel, Benjamin Verdonck (Belgium)

Nine Finger

UK premiere

Date: Sunday 26 October

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Lakeside Arts Centre

Artist curator: Jonathon Burrow's choice

Nine Finger is inspired by the story of a child soldier somewhere in Africa, based on the novel by American writer of Nigerian origin Uzodinma Iweala. The book *Beasts of No Nation* looks at the perversity of war through the eyes of a child. In this piece, two performers use their own resources to tell this story together. They do so with great physicality and poetic mastery. Under the surface the great question is: how can we, through our art, relate to the cruelty of the world?

Post show talk: Jonathon Burrows will be in conversation Fumiyo and Benjamin

IN THE CITY CENTRE

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Matsune & Subal Production (Japan/Austria)

UK premiere

Date: Thursday 23 – Saturday 25 October

Time: 11am - 2pm / 3pm - 6pm

Venue: A top secret venue in the centre of Nottingham – details to be announced!

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EMERGING ARTISTS SHARINGS

nottdance dialogue

in partnership with Springdance, and National Dance Centre Bucharest (CNDB)

Dance4 has joined forces with two partner European organisations to bring together twelve international young emerging artists in a series of dialogue events. nottdance dialogue is part of three events taking place in Utrecht (Holland), Nottingham and Bucharest (Romania).

We have chosen to do this because we believe in the power of artists meeting face to face beyond the barriers of different countries. We believe in the potential of a true exchange of ideas and experiences to create meaningful art for our time.

Artist sharings

All the artists taking part in the nottdance dialogue will be showing work during the festival. Some will be sharing work in progress, some more finished extracts of existing work revisited for nottdance08.

Each night brings an exciting mix of double and triple bills with representatives from the UK, Holland and Romania.

Artists taking part are:

UK: Athina Vahla, Frauke Requardt, Lucy Cash, Jiva Parthpan

The Netherlands: Jack Gallagher, Tabea Martin, Jenny Beyer, Pia Meuthen

Romania: Carmen Cotofana, Alexandra Pirici, Eduard Gabia , Ana Costea

Saturday 18 October

Venue: Siobhan Davies Studios, London

Time: 7.30pm

Monday 20 October, Wednesday 22 October and Thursday 23 October

Venue: Sandfield Theatre, Nottingham

Time: 8pm

EVENTS IN LONDON**Thomas Lehmen (Germany)*****Heromatik*****UK premiere**

Date: Friday 24 October

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Siobhan Davies Studios, London

The starting point for this solo comes from the recurrent elements found in all hero-stories where in order to redress the balance in his world, the Hero goes on a journey where he is constantly tested. In this piece, Thomas Lehmen draws an analogy between the archetype of the Hero and the work of an artist, both operating in known and unknown territories, grappling with the paradox of freedom.

Heromatik challenges the conventional way of creating and presenting a piece of work. Instead of focusing on showing a finished piece, Thomas uses fixed parameters that form the core of the piece, but for each performance he creates a new set of possibilities, developing the work under the very eyes of the audience. This leads to a conglomerate of ideas that eventually form the piece. This is a personal take on artistic creation, a call to question what it means to be an artist today.

Tuesday 21 October**Independent Dance*****Crossing Borders***

Venue: Siobhan Davies Studios, London

An opportunity to engage in a critical debate about how one nurtures our young performance makers, and in particular how we develop their artistic voice in today's international context. Thomas Lehmen (Germany), an established choreographer, performer and mentor for the nottdance dialogue, will be in conversation with dialogue co-mentor and independent arts producer Rose Fenton, co-founder and co-director of London International Festival of Theatre (LIFT). Artists taking part in the nottdance dialogue will also join them.

**The Witness as Dramaturg
Artist Symposium**

Martin del Amo (Australia)

Richard Hancock (UK/US)

Traci Kelly (UK)

& guest speakers

Saturday 25 October

Venue: Arts Admin, Toynbee Studios, London

Artists Martin del Amo, Richard Hancock and Traci Kelly have taken part in an International exchange programme between October 2006 and November 2007, made possible by a partnership between Dance4 and Critical Path (Australia). The aim of this project was to facilitate a critical space for artists to investigate a personal research question collectively. The panel will include Artist Frank Bock, Dance Theatre Journal Editor Martin Hargreaves and Lawyer Steve Skiba of Berryman Solicitors in Nottingham.