

DANCE 4

Business Plan 2018 – 2022

Mission

Through exploration of new territories in dance and choreographic practices Dance4 provides inspirational artistic experiences, by artists from across the world, engaging people of all ages across Nottingham, the Midlands and beyond. Dance4 has a unique national voice in the development of new discourses, knowledge and practices that are informing the future of the dance and choreographic field, from its home at the international Centre for Choreography in Nottingham.

As a strategic agent for dance, Dance4 provides local, national and international leadership, working in partnership with venues, local authorities, education, creative industries and other providers to connect the most extraordinary dance and choreographic practices to the widest possible audience.

Values

Curious – we are interested in what dance can be and how it can be made. We encourage artists to be curious and explore the boundaries of their practice. We are a reflective organisation that enjoys meeting new people, interrogating our ways of working and questioning the status quo.

Nurturing – we seek to develop those we work with. We support young people’s development as dance artists, grow opportunities for everyone to experience dance, and create the conditions for artists to flourish.

Trusting – we trust the people we work with and support them to be able to take risks. We allow artists to imagine and try things that have not been done before.

Open – we seek to form partnerships with others and are honest and open when working together. We want to learn from others (including those outside the dance sector) and are open to sharing our knowledge with them.

Grounded – we are proud to be a dance organisation in Nottingham and are passionate about working to promote our artform and our city. We support artists to access the resources they need to be able to live and work here.

Artistic Vision 2018-2022

Emanating from a city of rebellion, a place of making and innovation, Dance4 has sought to reflect its home, Nottingham, right at the heart of its drive to reveal new knowledge, approaches and practices. These are formed through the inspirational and pioneering voices of artists that are informing the present and future of dance and choreographic practices locally, nationally and internationally.

Emboldened by the move to the international Centre for Choreography (iC4C), Dance4 is now poised to increase its national leadership in developing new knowledge, extending discourse, investing and producing new choreographic practices for local, national and international audiences.

Strategic ambitions

Dance4's artistic vision for this period will ambitiously set-out to establish Dance4 and iC4C as the leading UK choreographic research and creation centre. This will be achieved by:

Research

Leading knowledge development by establishing an environment for developing and disseminating choreographic research. Leading the field in discourse and knowledge across all areas of Dance4's work, seeking to uncover unknowns and answer questions that inform the present and future practices of artists and the development of the art form.

Creation and production

Commissioning the research, development and production of new choreographic works that present current choreographic perspectives from artists and producers.

Distribution and market development

Increasing the dissemination and reach of work commissioned and produced by Dance4 through activating national and international markets to extend the influence of Dance4's curatorial priorities, art works it produces and the artists it supports. Lead on the showcasing of independent artists based in England, targeting international market places, building long-term relationships to deepen and broaden the presence of independent artists across the world.

Learning

Dance4 prides itself on being a learning organisation, creating environments where people of all ages can find their own route into dance, developing their experiences and skills to increase employability, knowledge and opportunities. Through direct delivery and through long-lasting partnerships the organisation will confirm its position as a learning provider of pre-vocational training, local specialist learning and skills pathways, postgraduate research programmes and accredited skills development programmes. This will achieve the aim of offering alternative learning opportunities and routes in to careers in the arts.

International Centre for Choreography

Dance4's move to iC4C has created a distinctive and inspirational environment for the company, its staff, artists, partners and audiences. The centre is also making an important contribution to the national dance scene and to the development of the art form by ensuring new ideas and creative output can be generated in the best conditions. Dance4 will continue to improve the working conditions for artists, building on the success of the first 18 months of operation in the new facilities and will also seek to disseminate knowledge and learning to a broader artistic community and the public, including through developing its digital capacity and capability, and curating discourse and research activity.