

## RE-FRAMING DANCE PRODUCER-LED PROJECT APPLICATION PACK

**UPDATED ON 1 SEPTEMBER 2020/21. PREVIOUS GUIDANCE NO LONGER APPLIES**

It is our intention that this project will come to fruition with flexibility and responsiveness to the situation as it evolves and not be postponed again in the future.

It is essential that producers are willing to adapt their project if required, due to changes in the situation with COVID-19, to enable us to continue to safely continue the delivery of the research. If this was required, the partners and Dance4 would support you to take a changed direction.

Projects will need to observe social distancing, follow the relevant guidance from [Public Health England](#) and the safety measures in place at host organisations. Successful proposals will consider the steps required to make the research COVID-secure.

---

### OVERVIEW

Dance4 is seeking 3 independent producers to undertake a paid action-research project focusing on choreographic practices in galleries

Re-Framing Dance considers in what ways independent producers can be supported to enhance the current presentation of dance in the gallery. This project aims to utilise the city of Nottingham and its enviable and vibrant museum and visual art sector, with a potential to realise an extraordinary range of works and practices.

Galleries are increasingly a site for the public to witness, explore and even participate in choreographic practices. They are sites where artists working in this field seek to develop and present their work. Stemming from Dance4's philosophy of curiosity, risk and doubt, we ask, what can be realised by independent artists if producers provide skills and capacity to bring about new work in the gallery?

Re-Framing Dance is supported by Jerwood Arts Development Programme Fund which provides funding for transformative opportunities for artists, curators or producers within the first 10 years of establishing their professional practice.

### VISUAL ARTS IN NOTTINGHAM

The following organisations are in partnership with Re-Framing Dance, 3 of which will be hosts.

**Potential hosts:** Lakeside Arts/University of Nottingham, National Justice Museum, New Art Exchange, New Midland Group (comprising of Backlit, One Thoresby Street and Primary) and Surface Gallery.

**Contributing to the wider project but will not be hosting:** Bonington Gallery and Nottingham Museum Services & Nottingham Castle Trust in collaborative partnership.

Practices and contexts for new projects found across Nottingham's visual arts include: Artist-led, museum, heritage, higher education, outdoors, environmental, artistic research, community, socially engaged practice, diversity, digital, young people, families, social justice and permanent collections.

There are a range of facilities including galleries, public spaces, cafés, studios, workspaces and the outdoors.

## WHAT IS INVOLVED

After an open call for responses, 3 producers will be matched with hosts in Nottingham with which to collaborate and undertake their research during a three-week producer residency.

If producers have a specific partner they would like to be hosted by due to a specialism, context or facility, they can identify them in the application. We anticipate that this might not be known at this stage and that a pairing (with one or more spaces) will be brought about for you. Alongside Dance4, there will be a mentor to guide and support the selected producers to get to know the visual arts community and organisations in Nottingham.

This initial phase culminates at *Talking, Thinking, Dancing*, Dance4's biennial discursive event interrogating a collection of approaches to practice-based research in dance and choreography, this time with a focus on those in the museum and gallery context. Alongside a wider programme (to be announced) this 'online summit' will platform the learning from the action-research residencies shared by producers.

Dance4 will appoint a local filmmaker to work with each producer to create a short summary video of each project as a talking point for a discussion at the event. The filmmaker will be working to the same brief for each project and is likely to contain a combination of interviews from producers, collaborators/participants, host organisations and footage captured during the residencies. Our ambition is to present the videos and discussions at iC4C in Nottingham and stream them live. If this is not possible due to COVID-19 then we will host these remotely through a platform like Zoom.

We have additional budget to enable each producer to invite an external panel member(s) to speak to specific elements in the research, to be negotiated with Dance4. Dance4 and/or gallery partners will chair/host the event. Depending on the guidance around COVID-19 and the shape of the research, it may be possible to share some practice in addition to the discussions (costs will need to be found from the £3000 residency budget), but we cannot guarantee this.

During the action-research the producers will contribute to and create a tool kit for the sector that will be ready to launch at the event. Producers will also contribute to an evaluation of the overall project and should allocate one day to this work.

Each producer will get a fee and be allocated with a residency budget to support their action research and to invite collaborators. It is imagined that this could translate to 3 collaborators for 2 weeks.

Dance4 will work with the producers to support next steps and a legacy to individuals' training plans that are developed throughout this project with the mentor. As a development of this project, Dance4 is committed to selecting one of the proposed ideas to be a new commission to come to fruition and be presented in 2021.

## COMMITMENT AND TIMELINE

Call out opens	14 September 2020
Call out closes	26 October 2020 (10 AM)
Skype interviews	Before 11 November 2020
Selected producers publicly announced	30 November 2020

3-day introduction residency (producers, partners, mentor & D4)	1, 2, & 3 December 2020
4-day independent planning & project development:	December 2020
3-week residency in Nottingham at a host gallery(s):	January – February 2021
2-day independent planning and project development:	Post residency
3 days around <i>Talking, Thinking, Dancing</i> (see below): (TBC)	Thursdays in March 2021
Deadline for proposal for 2021 commission:	Friday 2 April 2021
1 day working on evaluation:	April 2021
Evaluation submission:	Monday 3 May 2021

Exact dates and activity for the 3-week residency (at £550 per week) is to be agreed between producers and gallery partners once in place.

6 days (at £110 per day) of project planning and 1 day on evaluation (at £110 per day) should take place out of Nottingham, in your own timeframe before and after 3-week residency.

The 3-day residency, 3-week residency and 3 days (at £110 per day) working on *Talking, Thinking, Dancing* will take place in Nottingham.

*Talking, Thinking, Dancing* 'online summit' is on 4 Thursdays in March 2021. Within this programme, each producer will present on their project. Dance4 will spread the presentations over the month. We ask that all applicants are available for all 4 Thursdays in March 2020 until the programme is shaped further. We anticipate that the projects will lend themselves to different themes and days when they are known. Producers will present on 1 Thursday only and have 2 days before to develop their contribution. We will confirm which Thursday by 7 December 2020, after the 3-day introduction residency.

Producer fee for the project:	£3080 (28 days)
Residency budget (to include materials and fees for collaborators):	£3000

A limited budget for travel costs and accommodation are available in addition, to be agreed in advance.

Accommodation will be a private room in a shared house.

A detailed budget of the proposed activity will be agreed in advance of the residency with Dance4 within the resources made available.

Space at Dance4's international Centre for Choreography and at partners spaces is provided in-kind.

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

We are seeking applications from producers who:

- are working within the first 10 years of their professional practice as a producer;
- are willing to adapt their project if required due to COVID-19;
- commit to working responsibly within Dance4's and partners' COVID-secure measures;
- have at least 2 years' experience working as a producer in the arts;

- are independent freelancers (not working within an institution) who work and live in the UK;
- are currently working with at least two artists as their producer;
- if you are a self-produced artist, you must be working with at least two additional artists as their producer;
- have an interest in dance in the gallery context;
- have a keen interest in contemporary practice;
- understand the needs of professional artists and practitioners, in a wide range of contexts;
- have a good knowledge of the contemporary arts scene in the UK;
- have excellent communication and interpersonal skills with people of all ages and abilities;
- have confidence to negotiate and problem solve;
- are committed to teamwork and delivering the programme;
- are highly organised;
- have some experience in budgeting, logistics, writing proposals and contracting;
- have some experience of partnership working;
- are collaborative, proactive, and motivated;
- have the ability to manage time effectively to deliver objectives;
- have a commitment to and understanding of diversity and equal opportunities practice;
- identify a strong need for this opportunity;
- propose initial ideas that are relevant to the Re-Framing Dance project and Dance4's public programme;
- propose initial ideas that could be realised by at least one of the partners available;
- propose initial ideas with a potential to offer a unique contribution to the research;
- possess the skills, or a willingness to learn how, to develop their initial ideas through to production;

#### Things to note:

- Any collaborators invited into this project by producers must also be within the first 10 years of their professional practice;
- Sharing findings is essential as part of this project. Producers must be willing to and allow us to document their action research (for example - film, photography, in writing) and publicise key learnings (for example - online, in print and verbally at events).

## **HOW YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE ASSESSED**

Dance4 will share your application (not your monitoring form) with all the hosting partners in Re-Framing Dance as listed above.

Additional questions may be asked at interview where you have not been given the opportunity to explain points further or where we seek clarity or expansion.

Dance4 will make an initial short list of 15. The artistic leadership from each partner organisation will be involved in the final selection process and as a collective, without Dance4, will have the final decision on the three selected producers and their paired host.



Applications will be shortlisted based on meeting the person specification, the quality of the proposal and our priorities as Dance4. Monitoring form data may be used in the final stage to ensure there is balance and diverse representation across the 3 places.

We are committed to ensuring equality of access for all. We work to celebrate and encourage diversity in our workforce, artistic programme and our audiences to better reflect society. Please see our [Equal Opportunities Policy here](#).

Dance4 is committed to equality of opportunity and diverse candidates are encouraged to apply.

## HOW TO APPLY

### Online form

We advise you answer the questions first in a Word document and then copy and paste your answers over to the online form to submit, as it is not possible to save your progress in the form as you go.

There are no additional pages to the application than those you can see when you open the form.

If you navigate away from the form your changes will not be saved.

**Application form can be found here:** <https://dance4.wufoo.com/forms/z7y5s8y0gv7v08/>

**Monitoring form here:** <https://dance4.wufoo.com/forms/z1u49ej115j27ix/>

Please note: After completing the application form you will be directed to a monitoring form in your browser. Completing it is required but there is always an option to "prefer not to say" or leave a question without a response. You can also access this form via the link in the Application Pack.

### Alternative formats

You can also apply by submitting a voice recording. You must answer all of the questions from the online form in no longer than 5 minutes. This should be sent to [freya@dance4.co.uk](mailto:freya@dance4.co.uk) by WeTransfer or similar before the deadline.

If you need assistance with completing the application or monitoring form, please contact us on 0115 924 2016 or by email ([freya@dance4.co.uk](mailto:freya@dance4.co.uk))

**Closing date for applications:** Monday 26 October 2020 (10 AM)

**Online interviews:** before Wednesday 11 November 2020

**All applicants will be notified:** before Friday 13 November 2020