

CURATORIAL POLICY FOR RESIDENCIES

Dance4 is proud of the breadth of support we can, and do, offer artists from our home at the international Centre for Choreography [iC4C]. Our collaborations with artists intend to be mutually supportive in order to truly make a difference to the artist and to the development of dance. Engaging in deep relationships with artists is incredibly important to us.

Dance4 supports and nurtures artists from a philosophy of risk, curiosity and doubt. We seek to support work that challenges perceptions of dance, blurs disciplinary boundaries and that explores current and future choreographic practices. At iC4C we house, support and facilitate residencies, actively support artistic research and facilitate artists to connect with local communities and global audiences. Furthermore, we develop new ways for artists based in England to connect with local and international markets and actively pursue reciprocal exchange.

What are Dance4's priorities?

Dance4 supports artists that contribute new ideas and approaches in choreography, as well as work that positions an artist's choreographic practice within the gallery, museum and public space, enabling our collaboration with artists to explore different ways that people encounter and watch dance. We will continue to create an environment that brings artists and non-professionals together in the creation and presentation of new dance works. Furthermore, at a time when the world seems ever more divided, our desire is to support artists to bring urgent social and political questions to iC4C, our programmes, and hold conversations with many people from a wide range of perspectives. It feels vital that artists are the activists, the pivotal commentators and thinkers in helping us all question and see the world differently.

Developing a choreographic research environment

Informed by our philosophy of curiosity, risk and doubt, Dance4's engagement with choreographic research is a core manifestation of the organisation's values and approach to supporting artist and art form development. Central to Dance4's contribution to the field of dance and choreography is its openness to the cultivation and enquiry of its boundaries through engaging artists and audiences in research processes. We ask questions about the extent of what dance is, what dance could be, and how it may develop, be seen and experienced?

For Dance4, developing the art form means we seek to extend the range of dance and choreographic practices, artist experiences, processes, art works and dialogues that create the possibility for dance to question itself and society, informing actions that bring the public into dance through participation, learning and watching.

It is important to Dance4 that knowledge development within higher education is in dialogue with artistic research activity taking place outside of the academy. Dance4 desires, and sees value in, holding physical, digital and conceptual environments to ensure that this dialogue happens.

Dance4 invests in artists' practice, facilitating contexts for artists and the public to engage in a rich range of artistic research, languages and knowledge. We do this in many and varied ways by delivering specialist support and space for choreographic research at iC4C as well as supporting the production and distribution of new choreographic work.

Public Programmes

Dance4 invites artists in residence to be part of its public programme to meet the public as spectators, participants, contributors, makers and commentators through:

Sunday Supplement	A hosted sharing of practice and discourse event
Sneak Peek	A hosted early evening preview of work in development
Participation	Professional classes, development opportunities, open classes and community workshops
Artist dinners	Artists hosting dinner and conversation with the public
Public-as-makers	Projects where non-professionals engage in the creation and/or presentation of new work
In conversation with	Discourse with other experts about dance
Pre-vocational training	Dance4's Centre for Advanced Training in dance 11-18 yrs and routes in for 7-11 yrs

How can artists access iC4C?

Aside from other areas of Dance4's work, access to space at iC4C for artists manifests in a number of ways. Aligned to our priorities, Dance4 invites up to 30 artists/companies to be supported in residence at iC4C each year to focus on their own practice.

Dance4 residencies are offered as follows:

- 6 x financed and supported research residencies for an independent artist 2-4 wks
- 12 x supported research/production residencies for an independent artist/company 2-4 wks
- 6 x in-kind space for an independent artist/company 1-2 wks
- 6 x 'get to know you' visits by an independent artist/company 4 days

Access to iC4C is also available by hiring the studios with reduced rates available for independent artists/companies with no funding, or standard price or commercial rate hires.

Supported residencies are programmed primarily in one of three ways

- Through invitation by Dance4
- Open call defined by particular areas of enquiry that arise from observed gaps in provision
- Through collaborative partnerships

How to apply

There is not currently an open application process as we are still managing offers and delivery that has been rescheduled from whilst we were closed. It is our hope that we will have an open call available in early 2022 for residencies from Spring onwards.

The door at Dance4 (iC4C and Zoom) is always open, and the kettle is always on, so please get in touch if you would like to arrange a time to meet and share with a member of the team at any time.

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