

DANCE AUDIT

Autumn 2017 Update

Theatre Bristol

CONTENTS

0. INTRODUCTION - WHAT HAVE WE GOT IN BRISTOL?	2
1. PROGRAMME - FESTIVALS	2
2. VENUES	3
3. SPACE TO MAKE DANCE	6
4. PUBLIC SPACE	6
5. PROFESSIONAL CLASS	6
6. DANCE CLASSES	7
7. HEALTH, EDUCATION, HERITAGE, SOCIETY	8
8. PRODUCERS / MANAGER / PROMOTERS/ ADVOCATES	8
9. YOUTH DANCE	9
10. SCHOOLS	10
11. PLATFORMS	10
12. ARTISTS	11
13. NETWORKS	20
14. LEGACY FROM...	20
15. REGIONAL PARTNERS	21
16. NATIONAL LINKS	22
17. HIGHER EDUCATION	22
18. INVESTMENT	23
19. POLITICAL WILL	23
20. SWOT	23

0. INTRODUCTION - WHAT HAVE WE GOT IN BRISTOL?

The main research below was carried out in Summer 2016. The sector and the city change fast - we have made some updates that reflect major changes in 2017, but it's impossible to capture everything. That's why it's a live document, and we invite people to share their work so it can be included. Please email miriam@theatrebristol.net with any contributions.

1. PROGRAMME - FESTIVALS

Dance Village at Bristol Harbour Festival by ReStaged & Swindon Dance - contemporary performance, social and cultural dance. The biggest free dance festival in the South West reaching weekend audiences of 120,000 with a main stage, public realm performance zone, the Big Screen and a participation area. Annual commissioning has supported: the Original Spinners & Misfits Theatre, Rise YDC with Helen Parlor, Second Hand Dance *Grass*, Trash Dolls *Cape Alley*, Joli Vyann *Imbalance*, Zoie Logic *Ride*

Did not take place in the same form in 2017 due to unsuccessful funding application and changes to Bristol City Council strategy and staffing. The reach and profile of Dance Village are unique, and a legacy and future strategy need to be secured.

Previous programme:

Dance Village 2016 saw Protein Dance in residence for a week to work with apprentice dances, community based dance groups and local musicians for a series of short performances in the week of BHF culminating in a mass finale. Also co-commissioning ZoieLogic's 'Ride' with BIDE & Gulbenkian, Joli Vyann's new duet and training for 4 local dancers with Tim Casson for The Dance WE Made.

In 2015: Stopgap, *Billy & Bobby*; Boy Blue Entertainment; Jolie Vyann, *H2H*; Noir Dance Company, *Change*; Trash Dolls, *Cape Alley*; Irie Dance Theatre, *-Four Stages*, Corey Baker, *Headphones*; James Wilton Dance, *Last Man Standing*; Jade & Shango, *That Ain't Right*; Upswing, *Red Shoes*; Ballet Black, *To Fetch a Pail of Water*, and 2Faced Dance, *Kapow*

In Between Time Festival (from IBT Productions)

Respected international biennial and one of the UK's most significant events in which to experience genre-defying performance and unusual contemporary artwork. Dedicated, experienced, ambitious curators with expertise and contacts internationally. Dance has always been key to the programme. In 2017: *Ghost Dance*, Lone Twin; *Voodoo*, Project O; *Dancing With Strangers: From Calais to England*, Instant Dissidence; *OUT*, Rachael Young. In 2015: *Le Temps Scelle*, Nacera Belaza; *Twenty Looks or Paris is Burning at the Judson Church*, Trajell Harrell; *An Ecstatic Ritual of Life and Death*, Peter McMaster; *Niyizi*, Ishimwa; and *Project O* - dancers Alexandrina Helmsley and Jamila Johnson-Small.

Mayfest

Acclaimed international theatre festival from producing company MAYK say that their answer to the problem of dance in Bristol is "to programme it." In the 2016 Programme: *Paradise Lost*, Lost Dog; *Idiot-Syncrasy*, Igor and Moreno; *Da Da Darling*, Impermanence Dance Theatre; *Of Riders and Running Horses*, Still House (also produced by MAYK); and *It Folds*, Brokentaklers & Junk Ensemble

In 2015, Mayfest had sell out audiences for Hofesh Schecter's *Political Mother*, Laura Dannequin's *The Secret Slowness of Movement* and the premiere of *Of Riders and Running Horses*.

[Bristol International Jazz & Blues Festival](#)

3 day festival every March, and one day in September. Swing Dance Bristol works with the festival on the dance elements, usually a main theme on one of the three days in March and the September event. SDB have also been involved with the festival's programme before the March festival of taking jazz music and swing dance into schools in the months leading up to the festival. In 2018 schools workshops students will learn solo jazz steps as well as getting hands on with swing music.

[Bristol Swing Festival](#)

Four day festival every Easter running 6 yrs, attracting about 300 swing dancers from across UK/Europe and beyond - completely sold out in 2017. dance village Blends swing dance (Lindy Hop) and Circus in daytime workshops, and evening cabarets and participants' dance contest. Ethos of festival is to share and exchange skills, so dance professionals learn in circus classes and vice versa. Festival mainly aimed at experienced dancers but also small beginner track.

[New Year Swing & Blues Festival](#) Four/five day festival every NY running 7 years, attracting about 150-200 swing dancers from across UK/Europe. Blend of (mainly) swing dance and blues dance. Daytime workshops and long dancing hours, plus participants cabaret and professionals film clips. Festival mainly aimed at experienced dancers, (sometimes) with a small beginner track.

[Redfest](#)

Redfest it is based in St Georges Park and attracts around 10000 visitors. South West Dance Theatre hosted Redfest's first dance stage in a packed tent this year – 12 acts giving workshops and performances in jazz, Swing dance, Irish, African, street, breakin, krump, salsa, tango and bhangra ballet over 7 hours.

Hip hop and Social dance battle events and weekend festivals – eg. **Bring it Bristol, Battle Royale, Afro Cuban Explosion**

KSSB – Kizomba, salsa, semba and bachata festival, last took place 2016.

Other Festivals

Cross over with dance:

- Circus City (2017: Swing Circus; 2015: international artist Nathan Israël performed *l'homme de boue*, local artist Ziggy Slingsby performed a trilogy of ariel work/dance)
- Bristol Festival of Puppetry
- Bristol Biennial.
- St Pauls Carnival (has been on hiatus, starting again as a new NPO 2018)
- Bristol Food Festival – State of Emergency performance and Project 'Hive' 2015

2. VENUES

[Circomedia](#)

Fulfilled a commitment to dance programming made in 2010/11, underwritten to some extent by Theatre Bristol and PDSW until 2017 and sometimes in partnership with Moko (Dance East, Sadlers Wells, Theatre Bristol, PDSW and other venues). Artistic Director (2015) Nic Young is a hugely experienced programmer with knowledge in the art-form. 2016 programme included *Yerma* by Amina Khayyam Dance Company. From 2018 there will be three professional productions a year where Circomedia may have a co-producing role, or hosting of an associate as with Avant Garde, in addition to two Testing Ground platforms. A strong focus on cultural diversity and disability, with key relationships with Avant Garde and Extraordinary Bodies. Currently exploring Stop Gap as a model for youth dance groups.

Bristol Old Vic

Hugely exciting programme of work as a producer and receiving house. Priority is theatre but 2016 dance highlight was Candoco and in March 2017 - Ballet Boyz. Artistic Director Tom Morris has the ambition to work with Emma Gladstone of Dance Umbrella to bring more world-class dance to the theatre if they can find the resource and capacity (perhaps in partnership with independent producer Lina B Frank). Availability of space in the programme will always be an issue too.

Bristol Old Vic Ferment

Significant support from Producer Emma Bettridge (space, platform, commissioning money) to Bristol dance artists including Dan Canham, Laura Dannequin, Laila Diallo and Pinch (Isabelle Cressy & Hannah Kew)

The Station

Performance space (to be developed) and dance studio plus new buildings (old court rooms) included in their ambition to become an arts centre created by and for young people. Run by Creative Youth Network. CYN works with young people through the arts to provide opportunities to explore who they are and who they'd like to be, as well as helping them become practicing artists in their own right.

Producer Emily Bull has a background in dance. Artistic Director Nick Young is a theatre director with strong interest in physical theatre. Resident dance company: Tribe Dance Theatre (Liam Wallace and Deepraj Singh). Partnership with Attic Dance in progress.

Trinity Centre

Evolving from a community centre and independent music venue to a multi-use arts centre. Recently opened up new space well suited to making and presenting dance, including sprung floor. Strong connection with local communities. Recently awarded Arts Council England support to further develop the links between centre users and the arts audience. Ambition to provide a flagship model of inclusivity for the sector. Trinity is a vital partner for IBT and Mayfest. They hosted residences with dance artists including Laura Dannequin, Laila Diallo and Ella Mesma in 2017. Producer Rhiannon Jones is committed and ambitious for dance.

Has worked in partnership with ADAD and support from Theatre Bristol to present Adesola' Akinleye's *Light Steps* and programmed Uchenna Dance's *Our Mighty Groove* in November. Home of Hype Dance Company.

Tobacco Factory Theatres (TFTs)

Popular theatre and expert team. Current focus on building creative community through artist support with dance as a priority, facilitated by the [new studio space](#) from 2018. Commitment to programming where either artists can work with physical restrictions of the Factory (pillars etc) or in new studio – primarily non-narrative more abstract work, which is a programming shift. Mark Bruce was resident company for a number of years and TFTs produced Sky Arts Award winning show *Dracula*. Executive Director, Lauren Scholey is formally Exec Director of Candoco – capable and strategic with a strong interest in dance development.

Bristol Hippodrome

Commercial theatre operated by ATG. Present Birmingham Royal Ballet, Matthew Bourne, Russian State Ballet, Adventures in Motion Pictures, English National Ballet and English National Ballet School's *My First Ballet*. Akram Khan's *Giselle* presented in 2016.

Arnolfini

Period of change since NPO disinvestment in 2017. Working in partnership with the University of the West of England so students use much of the space during term time, but when available the studio is a good space for dance. Presented Siobhan Davies Company, *Table of Contents* in Gallery One (April 2014) *Edge And Shore*, a work by visual artist Helen Carnac and performer Laila Diallo

(July 2015); Dance artist & choreographer Fernanda Munoz-Newson with electronic music producer Shelley Parker and dancer Jamila Johnson-Small (June 2016); Long-time supporter and venue for Inbetween Time Festival and significant history of dance presentation from Rosemary Butcher to Adventures in Motion Pictures.

New Director Claire Doherty is committed to building on Arnolfini's dance legacy in its new strategic plan from 2018.

The Cube

Independent programming of film and small-scale live performance. Often used for dance artists and producers self-producing work

Colston Hall

Formerly promoted as 'all singing all dancing', the soon-to-be-renamed Colston Hall has a history of dance presentation, and continues to platform Breakin Convention, Stages – home of Bristol Plays Music, which also oversees Kinesis Youth Dance Company and schools dance

Watershed

Cultural cinema and digital creativity centre. Opportunities via themed seasons eg conversations with ADAD around jazz dance / Miles Davis film, Afrika Eye season etc.

The Pervasive Media Studio (PMS)

PMS at Watershed hosts a community of over 100 creative practitioners, researchers and technologists exploring ideas at the intersection of culture, technology and academia. The Studio is a three way collaboration between Watershed, University of Bristol and UWE Bristol. It has fostered multiple cross-discipline projects that explore movement and physical interaction with spaces including Di Maidstone's *The Human Harp*, *Danceroom Spectroscopy*, Guerilla Dance Project (*Transference*, *Kicking the Mic*, *Slow Into Motion*, *The Rolling Stones*), Mass Crane Dance, Magicians in Residence, RAM camp (in partnership with YCAM, Japan), *Touch Diaries*, *Being There* (Humans and Robots in Public Spaces). Residents Lisa May Thomas and Laura Kriefman are leaders in interdisciplinary dance and technology.

The Wardrobe

Small independent venue which has presented some small scale dance theatre shows during Mayfest and IBT. This season HIccup Theatre present comedic dance theatre *It's Ok I'm Dealing With It*.

Southbank

Arts bar and music venue hosting weekly & monthly swing dance nights. Also full class programme of varied dance styles, and occasional performances.

No 1 Harbourside

Restaurant bar with a range of inclusive dance events on Sundays.

Bristol Arena

New 12,000 capacity entertainment arena, which will be located on former diesel depot site adjacent to Temple Meads. Originally due to open in October 2018, there have been significant challenges and delays and may now be 2020. Operator will be Live Nation with SMG and primarily focus on live music. Arena is primarily designed for end stage set-up.

Brief from Bristol City Council to design team is that the plaza surrounding the Arena have the capacity to host external events during event and non-event days.

Other Spaces

- [BV Studios](#) - primarily visual arts studio with links to Lea Anderson (The Cholmondeleys and The Featherstonehaughs)
- [Kings Weston House](#) – private home open to the public, home to Impermanence Dance
- [The Loco Klub](#) – underground arts venue at Temple Meads, run by Invisible Circus and Artspace Lifespace
- [Hamilton House](#)- rented and managed by Co-exist, includes studio spaces and hosts artists R&D and performances. [Ongoing negotiation](#) with building owners about possible redevelopment of the building.
- [Redgrave Theatre](#) - Clifton College, commercial space for hire
- Olympus Theatre - 250 seat theatre at SGS College, Filton
- Churches – e.g. Svetlana
- Bristol University Wickham Theatre - occasional programming, mainly used by students
- Malcolm X Centre - regular community dance classes
- Riproar - Forra and salsa festivals

There is a significant gap around the mid scale (400+) in Bristol.

3. SPACE TO MAKE DANCE

Audit of all performing arts spaces being undertaken by Theatre Bristol and BCC during 2017.

- Puppet place rehearsal space near Spike Island (to hire)
- Trinity Centre (to hire)
- Hamilton House studios (to hire)
- Jubilee Hall as a studio for hire (Dancevoice)
- Big Act Studios (to hire)
- South Bank Studio (to hire)
- The Island, Dance Space (large, centrally located, with natural light and a Harlequin Allegro dance floor) available to hire.

There is a huge amount of pressure on making space for dance at present, with spaces previously available for dance (Dance Space, Jacobs Wells Baths) either now no longer prioritising dance or not available.

4. PUBLIC SPACE

- Queens Square for Dance Village
- Millennium Square – Mayfest, Dance Village
- Portland Square – eg The Bristol Do
- Parks
- Arena Island plaza

5. PROFESSIONAL CLASS

Since January 2016, and after a short pilot held at Trinity in Autumn 2015, Lisa May Thomas and Laila Diallo took turns leading a weekly morning class. Having outgrown the small studio hired at University of Bristol's Student Union, they relocated to Hamilton House for the Autumn term. These

classes are on hold while a viable model for managing them is explored.

Over the last two years, Helen Wilson, Batel Magen, Karla Shacklock and Luke Antysz amongst others have all run discounted and regular professional classes at Dancespace Bristol.

3rd Stage Dance Company hold adhoc professional classes which are open to guests from around the region, these have been held in Brewery Studio, Dancespace and South Bank. It also provides weekly advanced classes suitable for professional dancers and advanced community dancers.

6. DANCE CLASSES

Funk it up

Street dance and commercial styles of dance. An inclusive space where people of all ages and levels learn how to dance and enjoy funky fresh dance routines, mainly in after school clubs

DanceSpace

Has a huge base of community dance classes! The space is fully booked most nights offering a range of classes from Bollywood, handstand, contact, contemporary, ballet, world fusion and Capoeira.

Hamilton house

Offer lots of different world styles such as Salsa, African and Tango. Weekly contact jams on Sundays - big contact following and live music. This group has organised National Contact Jams in the past

Southbank centre

Offers weekly contemporary, ballet and salsa amongst others.

University of Bristol

Has a dance society that is open to the public as well as their students.

Malcolm X

New home to Afro – latin classes in Kizomba, bachata and Cuban salsa.

Riproar

Offers weekly x-body salsa classes.

Steam cafe bar

Offers weekly Brazilian Forro Classes.

The Big Act studios

Weekly house, funk, locking and popping classes from Funk Supreme and ballet with 3rd stage dance and Aaron Hatherall teaches lyrical contemporary and Jazz.

Movement Mash up

Twice yearly event held by RISE Youth Dance inviting local and visiting artists to teach for the dance community.

Bristol Samba School

Host dance and drum classes at Trinity on a Monday night.

Fresh Dance Company

Offers a wide range of Street Dance classes and workshops for teenagers and adults.

Swing Dance Bristol

Swing dance (Lindy Hop) classes & events- Regular dance nights at Southbank, No 1 Harbourside, The Old Duke, and All Hallows Hall. Occasional dance nights at other venues including Trinity Centre and Kings Weston House. Average 1-2 events per week. Occasional workshop weekends with visiting national/international guests.

7. HEALTH, EDUCATION, HERITAGE, SOCIETY

Linkage Bristol

Dance involved in most of their activity for older people

Bristol Aging Partnership

Lerato Dunn at BCC and Zannah Doan of PDSW have discussed partnership opportunities. Lerato is currently on maternity leave.

Norma Daykin at the University of the West of England (also leads a dance class for LinkAge. Nationally respected evaluator of arts and health.

Alive Activities Activities for older people including dance and movement.

International **Arts & Health Conference** held in Bristol June 2017 with a strong dance theme on day 1.

Ruth Hecht at Bristol Culture

Hosted the first Dance and Museums Conversation in September 2015 and worked with 3rd Stage Dance to create performances linked to the Death exhibition with support from PDSW. Has also worked with other dance practitioners over the last two or three years and is committed to using performance to animate Bristol's museums.

Dance Voice

Formerly the home of Dance Movement Psychotherapy in the South West. Dance Voice closed in 2017. The future of their dance studio Jubilee Hall is uncertain.

8. PRODUCERS / MANAGER / PROMOTERS/ ADVOCATES

Fiona Millward

ROLF movement practitioner and dance artist.

Katy Noakes

Katy is a crucial connector in Bristol. She knows everything and everyone. Dedicated and generous, she was the Artistic Producer of Dance Village, the South West Programmer for ADAD (Association of Dance of the African Diaspora) One Dance UK, a project manager for Big Dance and Summer Reading Challenge (for PDSW) and State of Emergency's Re:Position amongst others. She produces her own projects and also produces or project produces for a number of Bristol-based artists/companies – 3rd Stage, Julia Thorneycroft, Neshima, RISE and works as an evaluator and consultant. Katy has a flourishing freelance business and is a key player in several regional dance networks but often connects people and places in her own time. She works a great deal more than she is paid for.

Lina B Frank

Director & Executive Producer of Ausform, Co-Director of Circus City and Independent Producer based in Bristol and Malmö, Sweden. Interested in circus, live art, dance and theatre. Respected self-starter with an excellent network in Bristol and internationally. Produced for Bristol-based dance company Pinch.

Ruth Holdsworth

Independent Producer, Academic and Writer. Produced Impermanence Dance Theatre. Formally at LIFT, Corali Dance Company Arts Admin and Mayfest.

Jan Winter

Freelance Executive Director roles with Karla Shacklock Dance Company and Impermanence Dance Theatre. Currently based in Dundee but informally supports the work of many more cultural leaders in the city. Passion for dance.

Katherine Hall

Dance Artist and Producer - currently for Hannah Sullivan, formerly produced Lisa May Thomas. Supported Theatre Bristol's Testing Ground platform and Bath Dance, Bath Spa and Theatre Bristol's graduate platform Evolve.

Theresa Bergne

Field Art Projects Independent curator and producer. Background in contemporary dance (ex drama & dance officer British Council; Combined Arts department Arts Council of England; programmer at South Bank Centre, Canary Wharf Arts & Events etc) Current focus on public art commissioning mainly visual arts based but sometimes cross over (ie Work as Movement Archive with Serena Korda/Rosie Heafford)

TB has a list of 24 producers currently interested in being matched with artists

9. YOUTH DANCE

RISE – To develop industry skills to help members progress professionally, i.e. leadership, teaching, communication, creative and administrative skills

To provide and platform city wide dance training access and progression for young dancers age 8 – 19 via Rise and Rise juniors. Rise provides skills for members through dance in classes, performances and teaching through rigorous training, visiting artists, intensives, performances and relationships with partner dance groups and organisations. RISE has represented the south West at Udance 3 times in 2012, 2013 and 2015. (see Helen Wilson in 'Artists')

Kinesis – schools company managed by Bristol Plays Music, led by Julia Thorneycroft. (see Julia Thorneycroft in 'Artists')

Hype – Easton based hip hop/street dance company, 11 years old, represent Bristol around the country, regular faves at Dance Village and Breakin Convention.

Swindon YDA Contemporary and Urban – Part of Dfes funded National centres for advanced training, many young Bristol dancers attend, have previously run successful Urban Satellite in Bristol as outreach development.

Bristol Old Vic Theatre School

This summer they hosted a five day summer school delivered by Northern School of Contemporary Dance, for young dancers 14-18 years. The summer school ran alongside the BOVTS's Technical Summer School working with young technical students to produce a performance piece at the end

of the five days.

Annual **Stages** for dance in schools at Colston Hall.

Network of youth dance companies including a showcase / competition U Dance organised by Bath Dance, PDSW

10. SCHOOLS

Cotham School – Libby Charlton

Cotham is a leading school for performing arts and work with dance, although closed their A Level course in 2017. They have in house youth dance companies Synapse and Vivid as well as GCSE. All their teachers have come through dance training. They also run PULSE a junior company bringing together local primaries and working with professional dancers.

Fairfield High School

3 teachers, two of whom did professional dance training. They offer GCSE but have no 6th form (though they are in talk about opening a sixth form). Until recently RISE was based there. They also run in house groups.

Bristol Met

Do GCSE and hire local artists to lead sessions.

Ashton Park

Do a lot of dance with annual platforms for south Bristol schools. Highly energetic teachers who encourage teaching skills in their older students, many of whom go on to to University to do choreography.

Bristol Grammar

New performing arts facility 1532 with a 250 seat theatre and dance studio. They run lots of dance and have in house youth dance company *Surge*.

St Brendan's Sixth Form College

Recently launched a new Performing Arts Academy (3rd Stage Dance are their partner for dance) Their aim is to make good strong links with the youth dance companies in Bristol, providing their own students with further choices of dance study.

11. PLATFORMS

Testing Ground is a dance platform, set up by Karla Shacklock and Jan Winter in 2009 and then led by Emma-Jane Benning (Producer for Dance - associate at Theatre Bristol). Now led by TB and Laila Diallo in partnership with Circomedia. Twice a year at Circomedia.

Prototype at TFTS is all live performance

Ferment at BOV – show work in progress in January and July

VOLT presented by Ausform in partnership with Circomedia – dance and circus cross-over

REACH (RISE Youth Dance) – An annual platform for RISE that invites guest youth dance companies, young graduates and a professional company. - Not just youth orientated as many think.

TREE a platform for returning or under practiced choreographers, with the aim of using community dance artists for performers. Run by 3rd Stage Dance, it connects choreographers with community dance artists in the region, but also opens it's doors to returning choreographers from around the country

12. ARTISTS

Julia Thorneycroft

The Programme Leader for the Dance Foundation Degree with City of Bristol College (see Higher Education), Julia combines her academic work with Artistic Director roles for Kinesis Youth Dance Company (a city wide company supported by the local education authority) (see Youth Dance), Julia Thorneycroft Young Dancers Company and Julia Thorneycroft Dance – a company that reaches out beyond the traditions of a theatre space. Julia also runs a company for older dancers.

Laura Kriefman

Laura Kriefman: Architectural Choreographer. known for her groundbreaking work in Augmented Dance: The fusion between movement and technology. Kriefman's most recent work includes Mass Crane Dance (www.masscranedance.org) which was launched as part of her Creative Fellowship with WIRED Magazine. Mass Crane Dance is a spectacular meeting of music, light, and synchronised construction cranes dancing across the skylight at night, our inaugural event Crane Dance Bristol was seen by 10,000 people and reached 4 million people online.

Guerilla Dance project.

Kriefman founded her award-winning and innovative dance company Guerilla Dance Project to specialise in Augmented Dance. They are resident at the Pervasive Media Studio, in Bristol, and create installations and spectacle shows. The company have been commissioned worldwide including USA, Brazil, Ireland, Croatia, Dubai and Indonesia. They are currently working with 7 UK and European Universities on our new touring shows *Slow Into Motion*, *Kicking the Mic* and *Transference*.

Laura Dannequin

Performer, choreographer, performance maker is Bristol. Currently on tour with her own piece, *Hardy Animal*, Laura also works as a creative/choreographic consultant for other artists. Recently employed one day a week (year contract) by Theatre Bristol as an Artist Support Associate.

Dan Canham

Contemporary performance maker and choreographer. He works as a choreographer or movement director for other artists and companies (e.g. Sally Cookson's *Jane Eyre*, Bristol Old Vic and National Theatre) and is Artistic Director of his own company Still House. *Of Riders and Running Horses* (Still House) opened this year's British Dance Edition and has toured internationally with more international dates likely to follow.

Lisa May Thomas

Contemporary dance artist specialising in improvisation techniques for space and on screen. As a director and writer her award-winning work has been presented at national and international film festivals and events, broadcast for digital TV channels and the web and presented within the Community and Education sectors.

Karla Shacklock

Award winning choreographer, performer, lecturer, writer and instigator. Currently on a national tour with her own work as Karla Shacklock Company. Associate Company at PDSW. Movement Director for other artists and companies e.g. Tom Morris at Bristol Old Vic. Actively involved in developing the dance scene in Bristol, the South West and on a National Level, through instigating initiatives such as Out of the Box... How to Survive as a Dance Artist, Testing Ground, Bounce,

Dance Hub.

Katherine Hall

Dance artist, teacher and producer (see producers)

Brenda Waite

Performance practitioner, teacher and movement director. Brenda has created and presented work in Australia and Europe for over 20 years in diverse settings from theatres to public spaces collaborating with artists from different creative disciplines. She teaches and facilitates spaces for artistic exchange, physical training and performance practice such as the Flummery Room, Bristol.

Kathleen Downie

Physical performer whose work crosses disciplines of dance, live art, circus and theatre. Currently leads collective project The Working Group and is supporting Rosemary Lee's project Rising. Performed in January 2016 Testing Ground (see x).

The Flaming Feathers

Professional dancers providing burlesque, cabaret and vintage dance entertainment across the UK.

Sambazinhas

Specialising in authentic Brazilian dance, including Samba no pé - the classic Rio carnival style dance, Samba reggae and Afro-Brazilian dance. Sambazinhas perform a variety of choreographed shows and freestyle dance at festivals, parades, private functions and corporate events.

The Original Spinners

Combining clowning, dance, music, puppetry and storytelling to create honest, simple and magical experiences for audiences of all ages.

Tribe Dance Theatre

Liam Wallace and Deepraj Singh. Both former Kinesis and Swindon Dance CAT scheme alumni, recent graduates from LCDS and NSCD. Currently supported by CYN (see The Station in 'Venues') and have choreographed on CYN's past two productions (Cinderella and A Thousand Dreadful Things). Tribe Dance Theatre recently performed on the main stage at harbourside festival (funded by Swindon Dance) and at Rise Youth Dance's Fundraiser event. As well as working on their company, Tribe recently worked with secondary schools, creating pieces on the students (Orchard Academy and Cotham School). They have also worked on other media platforms including choreography for a music video (Twenty Toes – Tom Rosenthal) and are interested in working more with dance film. Both Liam and Deeps work as freelance independent artists and Deeps (also an amazing beat boxer and funk styles dancer) – worked with the Tim Casson project at Dance Village.

Helen Wilson

Exciting choreographer, expert at mass participation events e.g. Rugby World Cup. Sustained, high quality young people's dance with RISE (see x). Generous and hard working, signposting for other artists and young artists. Vast knowledge and trust re community practice.

Batel Magan

Artistic director of Neshima Dance, choreographer, teacher, practitioner with Dance Voice (see Dance Voice in 'Dance and Health'), adolescent mental health specialist and lecturer on the Creative Arts Therapies foundation course at Bristol City College.

Remi Tawose- DMAC UK

Director of DMAC UK and EiProduktionz. As theatre, dance and performance companies they have supported and produced shows around the UK. Remi uses movement to tell stories, express emotion and interpret music, whilst combining performance with other activities such as coaching,

choreography and community dance. NB currently in Sweden

Jodelle Douglas

Currently working with Jukebox in Cardiff. BBC young dancer 2015. Breakin conventions tour 2016

Svetlana Ovsyannikova

Choreographer, dancer and teacher. One of her current projects is a show / session for families, employing other dancers as well as presenting her own work. Self-produced in non-dance spaces. Generous and strategic.

Ballet Bristol

Ballet Bristol is a community based, adult amateur ballet company. Non-profit making and self-supporting. They perform free of charge in residential homes and at community events.

Judith Jarvis: GYROSCOPIC

Interest in movement, physical theatre, film and related arts.

3rd Stage

Hugely dynamic company set up with returning choreographers and dancers in mind. Proven success with Choreographic Platforms and Screen Dance. A go-to company for researchers and health commissioners. Demand for their expertise from professionals and the public in both Bristol and Bath (not just from returning dancers) has led them to expand their portfolio – working with education and outreach in schools and colleges, partnering with museums, signposting and supporting other dancers and artists of many disciplines (some of whom originally trained as dancers), running classes at all levels and leading community companies (3Motion Bristol & 3Motion Bath) as well as making ambitious professional shows happen – they generally produce a show with 20 professional dancers every 12 – 18 months.

Provides professional and community classes, beginners, intermediate and advanced through the week, 52 weeks of the year in Bristol and Bath supporting and representing a large population of adult dancers in the cities. It specialises in Ballet and Contemporary dance technique.

Luke Antysz

Luke graduated from London Contemporary Dance School in 2009. During his training he performed in works by Merce Cunningham, Siobhan Davies and Richard Alston, touring London and Europe with LC3 Company. Luke is a dancer, choreographer and teacher with 3rd Stage Dance Company, teaching professional and community classes in Bristol and Bath. For the company he also leads outreach projects within healthcare and educational settings, and works as a freelance performer for various choreographers. Luke teaches contemporary technique for adults and young people at Swindon Dance, including the YDA CAT Scheme students. He is also a lecturer in contemporary technique for Bath Spa University.

Polly Crockett-Robertson

Director of 3rd Stage Dance Company CIC, contemporary dance technique teacher, performer, choreographer, screen dance maker, guest lecturer Bath Spa University, specialises in Health Care (deafness, disability, hearing loss, disability equality, rehabilitation, counselling and psychology) and Social Model of Dance.

Sara Mather

Teacher of Contemporary Dance technique and Ballet, performer, choreographer. Teaches, choreographs and performs for 3rd Stage, Rise Youth Dance Company, Bristol Russian Ballet School, Bath Spa University, 1:1 tuition for students preparing for further dance training.

Lea Anderson MBE

Choreographer and artistic director. With Teresa Barker and Gaynor Coward, she co-founded

internationally renowned The Cholmondeleys and The Featherstonehaughs. Close Bristol connections.

Tribe of Doris

Creating opportunities for cultural understanding and a sense of belonging through music, dance, song and ceremony from around the globe. Tribe of Doris have been awarded a grant from Arts Council, to run a South West Diverse Artists network with 3 meetings for this and next year.

Kieran Warner/ Simple Cypher

National circus school graduating this year and returning to Bristol, Breaking Convention tour 2012 & 13, solo at BC at Sadlers Wells 2016, combines circus (cyr) with hip hop dance. Also teaches and produces Battle Royale events, curator for Dance Village Funk the Quay 2014 & 16. Mature, organised, connected and skilled!

Rubba (Norman Stephenson)

Co founder of DMAC, West African dance practitioner, hugely experienced and knowledgeable in techniques, ex Adzido and Ekome. Regular tutor for Carnival

Kenzi Ireland

An experienced dance artist, specialising in African dance forms with over 8 years' experience as a professional performer, choreographer and teacher. Kenzi is a member of West African dance theatre company 'Ballet Nimba' and has studied and worked with various established artists in Senegal, Ghana, Gambia and the UK. Kenzi is involved in delivering dance programs and events in community settings, schools, youth organisations, mental health services and festivals and has just delivered and led a mass 'Thriller flashmob' at Shambala Festival. Kenzi is currently teaching weekly Afro-fusion classes in Bristol, delivering dance and performance opportunities within schools and is involved in developing new and exciting projects with other artists.

Cleo Lake

Artist and activist, presents and produces a weekly radio show on Ujima 98fm – Carnival Corner, teaches at Kuumba and has worked with St Paus Elders, fusion styles

Laila Diallo

Performance maker and performer. Often involved in inter-disciplinary projects. Regularly working as movement director/choreographer in theatre and opera. Also frequently working as an educator within the university and vocational sectors, with children, youth and community groups. A new work commissioned by Skanes Dance Theatre will premiere in Spring 2017 in Malmo, Sweden. Director on the Board of Theatre Bristol. Also part of the Dance Village programming discussion group.

Frankie Johnson

LCDC Graduate, scholarship recipient, House dance specialist, performs with Boy Blue and Plague, battles and judges world wide, former Kuumba, Kinesis and YDA alumni

Rebecca Marta D-Andrea

As well as creating work, Rebecca teaches elements of her research, and co-organizes performative events to promote dialogue across art forms. (Reconnections 2015, Kuumba Live Creations 2014-16, Inside Out Dance Classes 2013-16). She has performed and researched internationally, often in collaboration with visual artists and musicians. Some of her writings about dance research have been published recently in Italy. She is currently completing an MA in Creative Practice at Trinity Laban, Independent Dance and Siobhan Davies Studios with the support of a Gill Clarke Bursary, of Leverhulme Arts Scholars Awards.

Winston Pyke

Trained with 2Faced and Upswing. Solo at BC tour 2014 and Lyrikal Fearta at Circomedia, also

acting.

Lee Bolten

Lee is involved in embodied presence dance practice and Contact scene. He has co-designed a series of classes and workshops that interweave the teachings of fundamental movement, contact improvisation and presence based on the Movement of Being teachings.

Jamus Wood

Embodied Presence Dance Practice and involved in Contact scene. Jamus Wood guide's classes in Contact Improvisation, Instinctual Movement, Somatic Yoga and perform with the Touch Down Dance.

Silvia Carderelli-Gronau

Silvia is a dancer and a Dance Movement Psychotherapist with experience in groups of all ages. She has worked as a dancer and a movement therapist in the UK, Italy and Brasil and is currently a MA Dance student at Bath SPA University.

Paul Clayden

Paul is a Lecturer at Bath Spa and runs The Bureau of Random Acts. He moved to Bristol where he began teaching and working for Circomedia. Paul teaches full time on the Single Honors Dance Course at Bath Spa University where he initially formed the Bath version of The Bureau of Random Acts in 2009 with students. This was quickly followed by the creation of the professional Bristol based collective, The Bureau of Random Acts in conjunction with Rose Jackson.

Rose Jackson - Co-runs the Bureau of Random Acts

Rose is a physical theatre performer and dancer from Cornwall. Having trained at Bath Spa University, she went on to collaborate with Paul in 2009 to create and develop 'The Bureau of Random Acts'. She currently teaches contemporary dance throughout Bristol and works as a choreographer for various circus performers in the city.

Lex Rooney

Lex is a lecturer at Bath Spa and involved in the Bureau of Random Acts. Over the past 10 years she has performed in productions including, Petite Mort, Protein Dance, Strictly Visions, Falling Wide and Kit & Kaboodle. In 2010 she founded Crowded Mouth Productions, where she collaborated with Jaime Bullock on the film, A Glutton for Love. As well as her love of The Bureau, Lex also performs with Swerve Dance Theatre Company and Afidance and has recently performed in Willi Dorner's Bodies in Urban Spaces. She is currently Head of Movement on the FDA in Contemporary Circus & Physical Performance at Circomedia and a Lecturer on the BA(hons) Dance at Bath Spa University.

Saskia Chaplin

Saskia has been teaching contact improvisation since 2011 and since then, she has organised many CI events and classes in Bristol and beyond. Saskia is currently running contact improvisation classes at the Willow Studio, in St Werburghs Primary School.

Jessica Rose May - instrumental in setting up dance space at the Island and supporting Dance Hub

Linzy Na Nakorn

Freelance choreographer, performer and producer. Linzy has delivered workshops to all ages and abilities inclusive of 'contact and weight sharing' workshops, 'choreography and devising' and somatic and contemporary techniques.

Tilly Webber

Dance artist, teacher, performer based in Bristol. She studied at London Contemporary dance school and has performed with many artists /companies, nationally and internationally. Giving her a varied

career in theatre, opera, film and music video. Alongside performing she has taught workshops and classes, including at Bath Spa University. Tilly is currently touring with Dan Canham's company Stillhouse.

Impermanence Dance Theatre

Hugely dynamic young company: Kevin Spacey Foundation artists of choice for 2017, part of British Council showcase at Edinburgh 2017. Live performance work, tour to theatres, pubs, music festivals and are starting to develop ways to run events. They have recently collaborated with The Invisible Circus for a commission for Glastonbury Festival.

Kip Johnson

Contemporary dancer and has worked with Lea Anderson, Vincent Dance Theatre, Funny Bones, Tilted Productions, Seke Chimutengwende, Protein and Ultima Vez. He has also taught professional classes at Greenwich Dance Agency and The Place.

Isabelle Cressy

Before commencing professional dance training Isabelle worked as an aerialist and circus performer. Trained at The Northern School of Contemporary Dance, graduating in 2009 and have since been working with Mahogany Opera, Dante or Die Physical Theatre, Telling Tales, Cscape Dance Theatre, Peut-etre Theatre, Karla Shacklock Company and Still House.

Hannah Kew

As an actor: TV, Radio and Film, guest leading in various TV series and most recently playing the lead in a feature film selected for Busan International Film Festival. Moving into Physical Theatre work, following residencies with Song of the Goat Theatre Company, Hannah spent time training in Growtowski Ensemble work with Para Active and performed in their London run of 'Hotel Medea'.

PINCH Theatre

PINCH create original work that seeks to comment on the world we live in. Part two-hander comedy act, part dance-comedy-theatre duo. See Hannah Kew and Isabelle Cressy above.

Itta Howie

Movement artist specializing in cross-disciplinary improvisation and site-specific performance. Itta is also a pilates teacher.

Kyra Norman

Independent dance artist. She has worked on a wide variety of dance, theatre and film projects since 1998. Kyra is regularly credited as a dancer, performer, director, choreographer, organiser, video editor, camera operator, manager, researcher and creative producer.

Hannah Sullivan

Hannah's practice is based in contemporary theatre and consists of working with movement, singing, autobiographical writing, research and interdisciplinary collaborations to create solo performance. She is also a creative producer programming into existing platforms such as the Ausform Microfest or creating frameworks in which to curate performance such as her current project Speeches to the city.

Jess Langton

Jess is both a facilitator and a creative. She has extensive experience project managing and producing live events in community arts, and currently she works in community organisation development across all sectors.

Fresh Dance Company

Specialising in Street / Commercial style dance. Street Dance is one of the fastest growing styles of dance (see also 'Dance Classes')

Movema

Dynamic community focused company operating around Bristol and Liverpool, specialising in dance and arts from around the globe. The company uses world dance to increase cultural cohesion through engagement, education and entertainment.

Movema has received the support of Arts Council England, BBC Children In Need, Awards For All - Big Lottery Fund, Carillon Fund & British Council. And has received awards from Community Foundation, Epic Awards, ADAD & Merseyside Black History Month Group

Penny Caffrey

Co-Director of Movema (see above), HE Musical Theatre lecturer at SGS College and a freelance artist. As well as theatre dance, Penny specialises in world dance styles and yoga. Local links include Mean Feet dance, Rise Youth Dance, Action Track, Dance Voice, University of Bristol, Mundi Dance, The Island and Harbour Festival.

Twisted Theatre

Twisted Theatre make full scale works for film and theatre as well as creating custom made pieces of theatre for festivals and events.

David Zilkha / Swing Dance Bristol

David has been running Swing Dance Bristol (see 'Dance Classes') since 2009, before that having organised similar swing dance/blues dance events in London. In the past 15 years he has taught Swing/Blues dance across the UK and internationally. Before partner dance styles, he originally trained/performed in contemporary dance. He mostly concentrates on social partner dancing, performing only occasionally (most recently as part of the Swing Circus show at the Edinburgh Fringe).

Tameka Mortimer

Tameka was approached to start a contemporary/ urban dance class for under privileged 11-18 year olds She is co-founder of Guilty Party Theatre Company and co-founder of NOW Dance.

Martha Lock

Movement artist and improviser with an interest in making and creating work that speaks to the heart of what it is to be human. She also studied circus and physical Theatre.

Holly Beasley-Garrigan

Choreographer, performer and maker with a diverse disciplinary background. She has worked with award-winning theatre company Fine Chisel, is a founding member of female-led performance collective The Housing Project, and is currently touring with The Flanagan Collective.

Alessandro Marzotto Levy

Alessandro Marzotto Levy is a dance maker working solo and within ensemble Impermanence Dance Theatre.

South West Dance Theatre

South West Dance Theatre is a Bristol-based not-for-profit group that aims to foster and support a strong and vibrant dance culture in the South West. Performers at South West Dance Theatre perform largely on a voluntary basis to promote dance and support charities and local community groups. In addition to regular performances, South West Dance Theatre provides a base for dancers to develop and gain experience.

Jess McCormack

Jess is Artistic Director of Vex Dance, a performance and education Company. Currently Teaching Fellow in Theatre and Performance at University of Bristol.

Bella Fortune

Bella Fortune is a Bristol-based poet, actor, dancer, choreographer, reviewer, singer and solo theatre maker. She is co-founder of No One's Watching (NOW) Dance

Raquel Meseguer

Raquel and Ben Duke formed Lost Dog in 2004, with the aim of creating work that is both theatre and dance. Now part of Unchartered Collective, Raquel received an Unlimited award in 2017 for *A Crash Course In Cloudspotting*, highlighting the invisible disability of chronic pain.

Issie Lloyd

Issie has trained with a variety of street dance pioneers such as Tony Gogo, Ken Swift, The Electric Boogaloo's, Scoo B Doo and The Realness. She has travelled the world in order to gain further knowledge in her focus styles spending time in Brazil, LA, New York and Europe. She performed in the opening of the Olympic ceremony and has since produced strong networks and further opportunities within the dance field. Issie aims to build the street dance scene throughout Bristol, specifically focusing on the social element of each style. She is eager to strengthen networks with other local artists and to create further opportunities in the city.

Funk Supreme Dance

Funk Supreme Dance is a community dance company based in Bristol that specialises in a variety of street dance styles such as Funk socials, locking, popping, house, hip hop socials and more. They offer a variety of weekly dance sessions for children and adults of all ages and abilities. They collaborate with other local artists throughout Bristol, bringing in guest teachers every 6 weeks to deliver masterclasses alongside their regular sessions.

Sophie Sheldrake

Sophie Sheldrake is an experienced jazz dancer and teacher from Bristol, and has in recent years been working closely with the legendary Jenny Thomas to launch a new solo dance troupe The Bristolettes!

Bristolettes

The Bristolettes are an authentic jazz and charleston dance troupe in association with Jenny Thomas.

Louis-Roger

Louis-Roger is an African contemporary dancer, performer and teacher. He started dancing at the age of fifteen, and has continued both in public performances in Africa and in Europe. He is experienced in teaching both in schools and in higher-education institutions. Moreover he works in a number of social institutions in training adults in dance and movement. He now ranks among the leading African dancers in the South-west of England.

Mundi Dance

Mundi dance is a afro-contemporary dance company. African dance group Mundi Dance was established in 2010 by Louis-Roger Eboa and students at the Bristol Dance Centre in Jacob Wells Road Bristol.

Joel Daniel

One half of Champloo dance which was a bristol based Bboying company. He has recently moved back to Bristol and has been working on movement direction projects at the old vic as well as teaching locally and mentoring young graduates choreography.

Mary Eddowes

Mary Eddowes is a dance and street theatre artist based in Bristol. She graduated from the Northern School of Contemporary Dance in 2008 and in 2010 became interested in clown and physical theatre. She now runs Pestiferous, an outdoor and site-specific theatre company which tours nationally across the UK.

Will Pegna

Ex-student of Joel. He is in between Uni but has been doing lots of dance work in and around Bristol. Originally a bboy. Recently performed Illuda: Plant Perception at Dance Village

Bryn Thomas

Bryn Thomas recently graduated from the Northern School of Contemporary Dance with an MA in dance performance, he previously trained at London Contemporary Dance School working on contact improvisation with teachers including Rick Nodine and Charlie Morrissey.

African Sambistas

The African Sambistas are a community based drum and dance troupe running weekly classes at City Academy Bristol in Lawrence Hill, plus workshops in schools and performances at many of the local and national events, including Womad and Shambala. They pride themselves on being able to make everyone dance.

Rachel de Garang

She is well known as one of the South of England's leading practitioners of African Dance styles, with a proven ability to promote intercultural learning. She has expanded the range of her work and now regularly organises dance and music related events.

Ilu Axé

Ilu Axé is an Afro-Brazilian drumming and dance, performance / education organisation. They run a series of ongoing courses in Bristol at three different levels, Beginner, Intermediate and Stage Group.

Aaron Hatherall

Young graduate in Bristol focusing on lyrical styles and Jazz. He teaches at Fishponds 344 school and is highly passionate and wanting to push dance in Bristol further. His main contacts are with other Urban dancers.

Holly Thomas

Holly Thomas is a dancer, performer and teacher specialising in improvisation and performance. Holly is also visually impaired. Her dance interests include contact improvisation, somatic movement, integrated and inclusive practice. Outside of her dance work Holly regularly performs with Natural Diversions – a branch of the world famous Natural Theatre Company. Diversions are a company of professional disabled performers creating high quality interactive street theatre. As a teacher Holly worked as a lecturer in performing arts and music, developing and teaching an inclusive performing arts curriculum for students with sensory and physical impairments, autism and learning difficulties. She continues to work as a freelance teacher/facilitator and lecturer.

Laura Street

Dancer, Choreographer, Performer, Teacher and Artistic Director of aboutNOWish. She trained at The Northern School of Contemporary Dance and furthered her training in New York City at Alvin Ailey Studios, Cunningham Studios and Perridance Center. Experienced teacher and specialises in continued professional development (CPD) workshops, early years creative dance classes and mother and baby classes. She is currently leading for Choices for You (adults with learning disabilities charity in South Gloucestershire) and the ICIA at The University of Bath leading on their 'Create' and 'Make' workshops.

Laura is currently dance lead on a [Cultural Curriculum for Bristol](#), hosted by Theatre Bristol.

aboutNOWish

Makes interactive dance and music for young children and young people with disabilities. Their first show *Under Foot* was awarded Arts Council Of England funding to tour in Autumn 2015, visiting theatres, special schools and community spaces.

Other artists:

Tengku Nurul
Tom Kindel
Jude Whitburn
Anna Arnold
Herbert DesLauriers
Bristol Russian Ballet School and their performing artists

13. NETWORKS

Theatre Bristol

- Theatre Bristol has long recognised the need for intensive development to enable dance to flourish in the city. In 2016 we stepped up our thinking and planning to help make this happen, talking to loads of people connected to dance in Bristol and the South West about their needs and priorities, and the gaps and opportunities they're seeing right now. This dance audit is one of the many outputs - you can read about current plans on [TB's dance page](#) and in the [Dance Futures 2](#) document.
 - TB is facilitating the Dance Futures Steering Group and hosting the Dance Futures Advocate role.
 - It continues to support artists through its Artist Support Associates, and makes a commitment to employ at least one dance artist in this role.
 - TB has developed the performance ecology and gained trust from artists, national and international contacts in performing arts.
 - TB's future ambition is to help artists make and develop relationships outside of arts and culture – in health, education, heritage etc, re-positioning artists in society by putting them upstream so they are involved as leaders not only deliverers. Its role within the Cultural Curriculum for Bristol is an example of this.
 - Long term TB aims for dance to be integrated in the same it works with all forms of live performance, from puppetry to live art. In the meantime it will continue to focus energy on dance as an art form to help it reach its potential in the city.
-
- Interval - independent artists
 - Residence - independent artists
 - Independent Dance Managers Network – currently in contact with Theatre Bristol
 - Facebook group [Dance In Bristol....let's get it sorted](#) - 1901 members
 - Theatrebristol.net
 - Bristol Dance scene
 - Swing dance Bristol
 - Contact Improvisation Dance in Bristol
 - DanceSpace Bristol
 - Bristol Dance Centre
 - 3rd Stage
-

14. LEGACY FROM...

Bristol Community Dance Centre ([Jacobs Wells Baths](#))

After 40 years of consistent Dance services with 36 of them at the old Jacobs Wells baths, the Centre no longer had the resources to continue. Many supported a lengthy campaign to keep the

centre open but it closed in 2016. There has been a recognition that there is a need for a Dance House and many felt Jacob Wells premises to be an ideal place for it.

In the autumn of 2016, the Central, Clifton and Harbourside Neighbourhood Partnership commissioned a First Stage Feasibility Study to inform the long-term future of the Jacobs Wells Baths building, carried out by Vivid Regeneration, Jacobs Wells Community Hub and Artspace Lifespace (summary of results [here](#).) In 2017 [Bristol City Council invited expressions of interest](#) for a Community Asset Transfer. There were extensive conversations across the city, including with the dance community. Proposals by Spike Island and Fusion were shortlisted and are currently being assessed to go through to final stage. It looks unlikely that dance will be a significant part of the building's future. Artspace Lifespace continue to manage the building in the interim, hiring it out for performance development and presentation, including Impermanence Dance's *SEXBOX*.

Dancespace / Dance Hub

Dance Hub, with shared office space and connection to Dancespace, existed for a year. It has now stopped but its [facebook page](#) is still active and a useful connector. The less tangible legacy of Dance Hub seems important to highlight, it takes the different shapes of all the new or closer connections between practitioners that it afforded. Significant new collaborations arose as a result of Dance Hub as well more fluid peer-to-peer exchanges and a programme of morning classes at The Island (until recently).

15. REGIONAL PARTNERS

Fleur Hoefkens at [Bath Dance](#)

Based at The Edge, Bath University, 2 days a week. In 2017 received GFA funding for a further two years.

[Pavilion Dance South West](#)

Artistic Director Zannah Doan is a significant regional partner, particularly in the new Dance Futures Steering Group and via investment in the Dance Futures Advocate role. Shift n Share (strategic touring project in small scale dance touring) includes relationships with Bristol venues. Coinvestment support to State of Emergency's 'Re:Position' talent development project (2014) and Bristol Museum (2016). Recently received Ambition for Excellence funding to develop Surf The Wave - national dance platform and strategy.

[Edge Arts at Bath University \(formerly ICIA\)](#) Arts and community hub with occasional dance programming. Increasingly geared towards student work and commercial use.

[Swindon Dance](#) Excellent training opportunities and pathways to link up artist development.

Others:

- Sue Davies
- Alison @ South Glos
- G Dance
- Dance in Devon
- Plymouth Dance
- Sacha Lee, the Point
- Strike A Light Festival, Gloucester
- Rose Theatre, Tewkesbury
- Take Art
- Activate
- The Octagon Theatre, Yeovil

Bristol reps at regional Dance Matters meetings – Theatre Bristol, BCC, Katy Noakes, Karla Shacklock, Katherine Hall

Breath and Bounce Action Groups – Bristol invitees include 3rd stage and Helen Wilson

Wales

Opportunity to explore potential partnerships Wales re touring and commissioning dance, e.g. National Dance Company Wales, Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff, Riverfront, Newport
Groundwork Pro collective in Wales has strong links with many Bristol artists and offers an interesting artist-led model to consider.

16. NATIONAL LINKS

ADAD is now part of One Dance UK

Dance Umbrella

PDSW is an important conduit to other national partners and strategy.

17. HIGHER EDUCATION

Bristol Old Vic Theatre School

Bristol Old Vic Theatre School has a dedicated dance studio and three other studios used for movement alongside other actor training. The movement and dance department is headed up by Jonathan Howell (period movement, combat, fight arranger) with regular visiting tutors Michelle Gaskell and Clare Fox. Dance and movement form about 25% of first year actor training. Their productions frequently incorporate movement and dance - most recently they worked with Jane Gibson (former Head of Movement at the National Theatre) on our production of King Lear at BOV and with George Mann (Theatre ad Infinitum / Pink Mist). They have past SM/Tech students working with English National Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet and Rambert currently. One of the eight affiliated schools in the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama

City of Bristol College

Foundation Degree

Performance based programme which aims to provide students with the skills required to create, perform and engage in contemporary dance theatre practice..

Successful completion of this Foundation Degree provides the opportunity to apply to the final years of the BA (Hons) Dance Theatre or BA (Hons) Theatre and Performance Degree programmes at the University of Plymouth. Previous graduates have also progressed to top up years at Middlesex, Bath Spa, Newcastle, Chichester, UWIC, Leeds Met and Falmouth Universities.

Level 3 Diploma in Dance Instruction

South Gloucestershire and Stroud College

Foundation Degree in Dance (FdA)

This programme offers opportunities for students in the practical and academic understanding of

the key areas of Dance.

University of Bristol – Dance Lecturer Kate Elswit

Bristol also benefits from **Bath Spa University graduates**

18. INVESTMENT

NPO 2018-2022 with specific dance remit

The Mark Bruce Company, Pavilion Dance South West, Swindon Dance

NPO 2018-2022 organisations in Bristol:

[Acta Community Theatre Ltd](#), [Action Hero](#), [Asian Arts Agency](#), [Bristol Cultural Development Partnership](#), [Bristol Museums](#), Bristol Music Consortium ([Colston Hall](#) and [St Georges](#)), [Bristol Old Vic and Theatre Royal Trust Ltd](#), [Academy of Circus Arts & Physical Theatre \(Circomedia\)](#), [In Between Time](#), [Knowle West Media Centre](#), [MAYK Theatre CIC](#), [OpenUp Music](#), [Paraorchestra and Friends](#), [South West Museum Development](#), [Spike Island ArtSpace](#), [ss Great Britain Trust](#), St Paul's Carnival CIC, [Theatre Bristol Ltd](#), [Tobacco Factory Theatres](#), [Travelling Light Theatre Company](#), [Watershed Arts Trust Ltd](#), Wise Children

Dance artists have continued to receive Grants for the Arts funding for Bristol based projects in 2017 but are finding it harder to access match funding.

Bristol City Council Key Arts Providers with specific remit for dance

Theatre Bristol.

Bristol City Council Key Arts Providers:

Acta, Arnolfini, Artspace Lifespace, Asian Arts Agency, Bristol Cultural Development Partnership, Bristol Old Vic, Circomedia, Cirque Bijou, Encounters Festival, In Between Time, Knowle West Media Centre, MAYK, Royal West of England Academy, Spike Island, St George's Bristol, St Paul's Carnival, Theatre Bristol, Tobacco Factory Theatres, Travelling Light, Trinity Community, Watershed
Bristol City Council has launched a [new 3-tier funding programme](#) that will replace Key Arts Providers, intended to align with the city's new [Cultural Strategy](#), launched in 2017. Decisions about the top two funding tiers will be made in December 2017.

19. POLITICAL WILL

Marvin Rees – Bristol Mayor, holds the portfolio for culture and has a particular interest in equalities and cultural diversity.

Katie Noakes and other cultural representatives have met with MP for Bristol West, Thangam Debonnaire, formerly Shadow minister for arts and culture. Thangam is keen to promote the link between culture and wellbeing, having had personal experience of arts for health interventions.

20. SWOT

Strengths

- The festivals in Bristol especially Mayfest and IBT have the expertise, knowledge and desire to programme more national and international dance

- Audiences for performing arts in Bristol are strong
- The venues are keen to programme more dance
- Fantastic artists and independent spirit
- Peer to peer support between artists
- Growing community – graduates coming to Bristol
- Massive opportunities around interdisciplinary work because of the strength of the live performance scene in Bristol; artists of quality from all art-forms
- Dance artists are ahead of the (performing arts) curve in working outside of arts and culture e.g. in health and in education.
- Commitment and expertise of individuals working for BCC and ACE: Lerato Dunn (on maternity leave until March 2018) and Anneliese Slader
- Support for public realm performance and potential to build connections to public art programmes

Weaknesses

- Venue size and infrastructure
- Severe shortage of making space
- Lack of cash on the table right now
- National and international companies find it hard to tour to Bristol
- Artists and companies in the city need more performance opportunities
- Health commissioners etc report that it is hard to find dance artists to work with (even though they'd like to)
- Lack of diversity in the industry
- Artists struggling to make livings
- Lack of clear development strategy and capacity for partnership development
- Fractured/ silo nature of work between dance disciplines
- Dependence on key individuals - lack of continuity when they leave
- No organisation/NPO with a remit to lead on dance strategy or support joining up across the city

Opportunities

- More connection and exchange with others
- Regular training / artist development for practitioners
- Studio space for makers
- More inter-disciplinary work
- Regional delivery
- Future evidence base
- Dance artist consortia – 'offer' for health, education, libraries, museums etc
- Opportunities to present work
- Theatre Bristol could help 'join the dots'
- More help for audiences to navigate the city's programmes

Threats

- Perceived problem investing in Bristol
- SPACE is a very real threat to ambition
- Decline of creativity and courses in our schools
- Lack of diversity in the industry
- Artists leaving the industry mid career
- Failing to keep young artists in Bristol
- Lack of leadership and capacity means opportunities are missed

Dance Futures 2 identifies a way forwards taking this SWOT into account.

Dance Futures Steering Group is the mechanism that has been created to make this happen.

Co-authors and contributors

With thanks to:

Katy Noakes, independent
Helen Wilson, Artist & RISE
Zannah Doan, Regional Producer Pavilion Dance South West (PDSW)
Sophie Turner, Administrator, Theatre Bristol using theatrebristol.net
Laila Dialio, Artist & Theatre Bristol Board
Karla Shacklock, Choreographer
Itta Howie
David Zilkha
Anna Demming
Katherine Hall
Brenda Waite
Batel Magen
Rachel de Garang
Polly Robertson
Theresa Bergne
Laura Kriefman

And welcome edits from Dan Canham, , Ruth Holdsworth, Kenzi Ireland, Dina Ntziora, Tilly Webber, Penny Caffrey, Funk It Up Dance, Issie Lloyd, Luke Antysz, Tribe Dance Theatre, Ann Peskett, Saskia Chaplin