

# RURAL TOURING DANCE INITIATIVE



# 2024-25 MENU

**THE PLACE**

highlights  
rural touring scheme



National Rural  
Touring Forum

soniasabri  
company

take  
art *A*

ef Esmée  
Fairbairn  
FOUNDATION



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

# INTRODUCTION





## Rural Touring Dance Initiative: Back on Tour!

The Rural Touring Dance Initiative (RTDI) is a national project which supports dance artists and rural promoters to make great dance performance events happen in rural spaces.

RTDI was launched in 2015 when The Place, National Rural Touring Forum (NRTF), China Plate and Take Art joined forces to tour more dance to rural areas.

Over the years, RTDI has transformed UK rural dance touring. An evaluation report of the project's second phase, published in 2022, highlighted that **98% of audiences enjoyed watching the performances**. Further, **88% reported that the experience made them want to see more dance**, demonstrating a clear demand for high quality touring dance.

In July 2022, the current RTDI partners (The Place, Highlights, NRTF, Sonia Sabri Company, Take Art) were awarded major grants from Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Arts Council England to continue the project from 2023 to 2026.

At the time of curating this new menu, the autumn 23 tour has just come to an end, and we are delighted to be back on tour! From Falmouth to Aberdeen, and from Aberdovey to Stansfield, we have had the wonderful opportunity of meeting audiences from across the country, and enjoying some of the best touring dance productions on offer. A huge thank you to the artists, schemes, promoters and RTDI team who work hard to make it possible.



# THE 7<sup>TH</sup> MENU

## What you are reading is the seventh national menu of dance supported by RTDI. It includes seven shows which are available to tour in Autumn 2024 and Spring 2025.

The partners announced a national open call for dance makers with tour-ready shows in July 2023. Artists who wanted to tour their work to rural areas applied, and the seven shows on this menu were selected by a panel which included representatives from the rural and dance touring ecology: Mary Coles (promoter, Somerset), Christina Elliot (The Place), Alison Lord (Take Art), Kate Lynch (Highlights), Emily O'Shea (National Rural Touring Forum), and Sonia Sabri (Sonia Sabri Company).

Making the selection for the menu is a huge privilege, and it is always exciting to read and watch so many exceptional applications from dance makers who really want to connect with rural audiences. We are continually listening to feedback on the menu, and aim to offer a range of shows to connect to the huge diversity of rural audiences across the UK. A show which is perfect for audience development in one part of the country, might not fit with local priorities in another. Some schemes tell us that they want more family shows, whilst others rarely programme for this audience. We hope we have found a balance which responds to the plurality of needs in the sector.

**“RTDI is a brilliant scheme that encourages and supports artists of all experiences and backgrounds to develop their work for rural touring, including first-timers! Personally, the rewards of touring my work across rural communities through previous RTDI years and before, have been some of the most emotionally nourishing, that feeling that every dancer wants after a performance, of self-fulfilment. Through rural touring one has the opportunity to have a greater personal connection with the audience and the audiences are always keen to let you know how they experienced your performance.**

Sonia Sabri, RTDI Partner/ Artist

These companies are mainly new to rural touring, but have all been attendees on our RTDI Artists Lab to help them 'Rural Touring' proof their shows and practice. As we all know, the cost of touring work has increased alongside the cost of living. Due to this, and due to having more multi-performer shows on the menu, all the companies came to RTDI at the top end of our budget for performance fees. However, for this menu RTDI will be increasing our subsidy for some of the shows to over 50%, in order to ensure that we can still provide a tiered pricing option. We have kept the financial commitment for the schemes and promoters the same, despite rising costs for artists. The additional cost is covered by increased fundraising from RTDI.

**We are really excited by the choice of companies and shows on offer - we hope you will be too!**

# BOOKING SHOWS



## This section is most relevant to scheme managers and associate venue programmers.

We are very pleased to say that our regional approach to booking has worked well in the first year of this iteration of RTDI. We would once again like to thank everyone who originally and has continued to consult with us on improvements to the design of RTDI, to allow touring to be coordinated regionally, and to build a better touring experience for artists.

For RTDI 3, we have three coordinators, based at Take Art, NRTF and Highlights, and each of them is responsible for booking and supporting touring in their area of the country. The coordinators and their contact details are:

**Beccy Lloyd** (Take Art, South West Region) | [beccy@takeart.org](mailto:beccy@takeart.org)

**Susan Coffey** (Highlights, Northern Region) | [susan@highlightsnorth.co.uk](mailto:susan@highlightsnorth.co.uk)

**Emily O'Shea** (NRTF, Central Region) | [dance@nrtf.org.uk](mailto:dance@nrtf.org.uk)

There is an RTDI Producer, **Courtney Beadle**, [Courtney.Beadle@theplace.org.uk](mailto:Courtney.Beadle@theplace.org.uk), who oversees the project. Please contact Courtney if you're unsure which coordinator to speak to about touring in your region.

In addition to the menu you will receive an expression of interest form. **The deadline for returning the expression of interest is Friday 23 February 2024.**

Our aim is to organise touring for artists so that they get to know one part of the country in more depth, and to minimise illogical and lengthy travel. We are encouraging an approach in which schemes and associate venues coordinate with other schemes that are geographically close to them when deciding which companies to present.

Please note that we are working to a timeline designed for both schemes and dance companies that enables them to contract dancers well in advance of bookings. We are aware that this might not fit into some schemes' customary booking timeline and are happy to negotiate these if any issues arise.

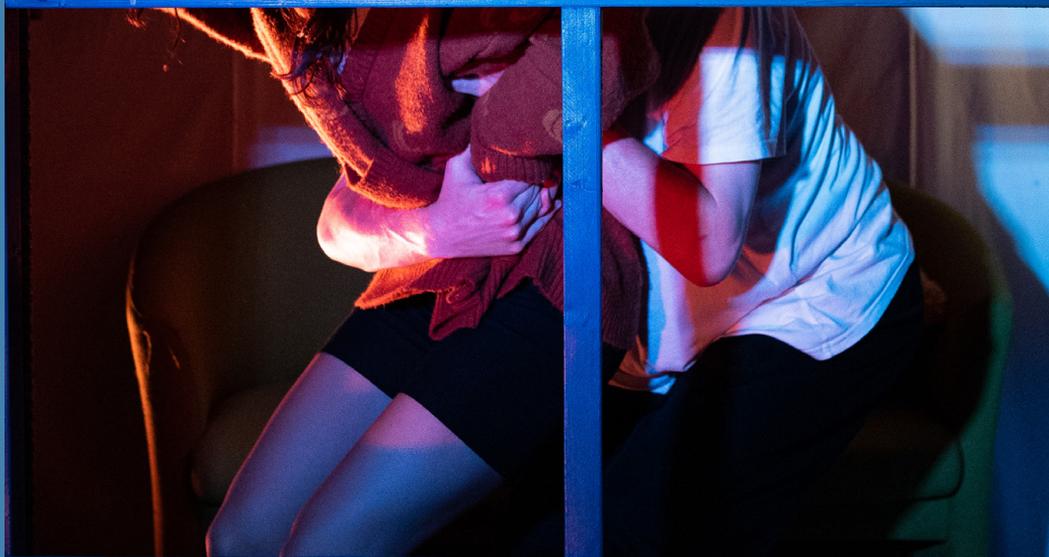
Once we have the expression of interest bookings, we will create a series of touring schedules for each company, aiming to offer schemes as many first choice options and dates as possible.

**We aim to confirm touring dates for Autumn in May 2024.** We hope that between the launch and May 2024, we have given schemes adequate time to discuss the programme with local promoters. Therefore the expectation is that once a show has been allocated to a scheme, they will find a venue and audience for it, avoiding 'grey areas' where dates are taken by schemes and subsequently cancelled due to a lack of take up from village promoters.

RTDI will support a minimum of two shows per scheme/associate venue in each menu. It may be possible to book additional shows once a company is in the geographical area, depending on scheme demand.

If you have any questions, please phone/email Courtney or your local coordinator to talk through your queries.

# HOW IT WORKS



## WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

Each company will be offering 'wraparound' activities for their shows. This menu contains tasters of what each company can offer. At the point of confirming scheme dates, we will circulate each company's full wraparound offers inclusive of costs, target audiences, timings and venue requirements. We hope that by providing this information earlier on in the booking process, promoters can be presented with an offer that includes built-in additional activity. In this case, both the wraparound and the tour performances could be secured simultaneously. We are keen to support more activity alongside that of the RTDI, in order to deepen the impact of the artists within the area.

Many of our companies are also open to bespoke offers, depending on the audiences you are looking to reach. If you have any thoughts around how our shows may fit into the wider context of your scheme or venue's programming in 2024/25, we would be happy to have these conversations at any stage throughout the booking process.

## RESIDENCY OPPORTUNITIES

Through RTDI we also offer 4 of our artists the opportunity to undertake a residency within a rural community/small-scale venue. During these week-long residencies, the companies will receive £4000 from RTDI to cover the artist's time. The residency will be an opportunity for our artists to develop their current production with rural touring in mind or to develop new work for small-scale touring in the future. In our previous menus, these residencies have been used to connect with other community hubs such as schools, support groups and food banks. We will be looking for venues to host the residency. If this is something a venue within your scheme would be interested in hosting, please make your regional coordinator aware of this.

## RTDI RESPONSIBILITIES

RTDI will be responsible through its regional partners NRTF, Take Art and Highlights for providing financial support for shows, contracting and paying companies, providing marketing support and resources, liaising on tour dates with companies and schemes, collating data and evaluating the success of tours.

## **SCHEME/ASSOCIATE VENUE RESPONSIBILITIES**

For those schemes that supported the RTDI 3 Arts Council England application, your commitment is to take at least one performance from each menu, with our expectation being that most schemes will take up to four performances. You will also enter a contract with your regional RTDI partner to pay the agreed fee for each performance. We will ask you to participate in a limited amount of quantitative data collection (such as audience data for each performance) and qualitative evaluation at both audience and scheme level. Our overall target for average audience attendance is 66% and we would like to exceed this. The RTDI partners will work with you, the artists, and the local promoters to achieve successful, high-quality experiences for audiences and a growing interest in dance performance.

## **PROMOTER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Promoters are responsible for choosing, booking, publicising (locally) and selling tickets for shows; ensuring venues are safe, accessible and comply with all insurance and licensing regulations; liaising with companies leading up to performances and managing the show on the day; hosting the companies if appropriate and paying the local scheme an agreed fee.

## **TICKET PRICES**

Decisions regarding ticket prices rest with the scheme and local promoter. We are keen to value the professionalism of the companies while at the same time understand that there might be local circumstances that influence your decision on ticket prices.

## **MARKETING**

Our marketing coordinator will be the point of contact between our dance companies, schemes and venues. They will coordinate the supply of print materials (sent directly from companies to venues) and marketing packs, containing copy, images, press releases and more, well in advance of the show date.

Companies are provided with guidance and support in order to get their marketing materials rural touring ready. This includes financial assistance to create new trailers and to adapt their print marketing.

In addition to the support for companies, we offer support for venues and promoters looking to find new ways to engage local audiences. This includes one-to-one discussions about potential target audiences in their local area, assistance with using marketing materials, and general support.

Marketing Coordinator: Eamon Foreman  
admin@nrtf.org.uk

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Children and Young People's participation is a particular priority of the project. Following consultations with schemes and venues, we are committed to using our resources to promote activities and engagement opportunities for young people with our artists. In the past, some of the most successful proposals have connected with local dance clubs or schools, engaging the visiting artists with local existing community groups. On this menu, we have some artists already offering opportunities for community engagement within their performances or choreographed curtain raisers with local groups. If you would like to propose a project which engages young people, please contact your regional coordinator. We will prioritise proposals that aid these opportunities with financial support and planning.

## ASSOCIATE VENUES

As many of you will know, we are running a pilot programme within this iteration of RTDI to introduce nine associate venues to the project. These associate venues are a mix of community venues and arts centres based in towns and small urban settings. Having these venues has allowed us to build more performances into our tour schedules and create more eco-friendly touring routes across the large areas some of the schemes cover.

## GO AND SEE GRANTS

We have grants available ranging from £150 to £500. We would like to support scheme managers, marketing teams and promoters to:

- Visit other schemes who are marketing dance shows to see how they do it
- See a show prior to it being performed locally
- See shows at the annual NRTF Conference if they are programmed, or any festival



# SOLÈNE WEINACHTER AFTER ALL

AFTER ALL is a celebration of our vulnerable and courageous existence. Solène melds dance, comedy, storytelling, and theatre to ask - what happens in the end?

Through a series of comedic re-enactments of the funerals of those she's loved - as well as imagining her own - Solène attempts to conjure a better space, to be with death, dying and loss.

AFTER ALL is a heartfelt exploration of the death rituals we have; the ones lost and those that need to be invented. Solène joyously brings us together to explore the role that dancing might play in healing.

**AFTER ALL is a Dance-Theatre solo. The show contains a strong narrative told through speech, movement and comedy**

---

## UNIQUE SELLING POINTS

- Themes connect to universal experiences through the sharing of life experiences that audiences can relate to
- Audience and performer connection – Solène will greet audiences on arrival to the venue, and speaks directly to them throughout the performances, and post show
- Show aims at creating a supportive and generous atmosphere to soften the taboo around grief and death - there is a space for audiences who wish to have further conversations available after the show
- Solène is experienced on the rural touring circuit having performed as part of Romeo and Juliet (Lost dog) and Antigone Interrupted (Scottish Dance Theatre)
- Multi-art form
- Comedic and light hearted

---

## TRAILERS

- **View trailer**  | **View video interview**  | **Full length video available on request**

---

## WEBSITE AND SOCIALS

 [soleneweinachter.com](http://soleneweinachter.com) |  [@SoleneWeinachterDance](https://www.facebook.com/SoleneWeinachterDance) |  [@SoleneWeinachterDance](https://www.instagram.com/SoleneWeinachterDance) |  [@SWeinachter](https://twitter.com/SWeinachter)

---

## TARGET AUDIENCE

- Dance, Theatre and Comedy audiences
- Anyone with experience of loss
- Multigenerational audiences (12+)

---

## AGE RESTRICTIONS

- Recommended for 12+

---

## WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

- Conversations 1-2-1 beginning with an invitation to share music that is significant to members of the public for either their or someone else's funeral
- Hosting a Death Café: A Death Café is a space for people, often strangers, to gather to eat cake, drink tea and discuss death in a way that is accessible, respectful and confidential
- Dance workshops for all ages depending on who the scheme or venue would like to reach
- Other pre and post-show discussions available to explore the show's themes

---

## PRESS REVIEWS

★★★★ **'Bursting with vitality.'** The Times

★★★★ **'Confidently warm and funny.'** The Guardian

## TECHNICAL / TOUR INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 55 minutes
- **Minimum performance space** (width x depth): 6m x 5m
- **Is there a maximum audience capacity?** No – sight line dependent
- **Is it performed on stage or a floor space?** On the floor
- **Get in / Get out:** 4 hours / 2 hours
- **Number of people on the road:** 3-4
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** The show requires as close to a black out as can be achieved
- **Accessibility options:** BSL interpreted & Audio Described (with touch tour)

---

## FEE TO SCHEME/ VENUE

£650

---

## AVAILABLE DATES

- September to mid-October 2024
- December 2024
- January to April 2025

---

## LOCATION OF COMPANY

Dundee, Scotland

---

## CREDITS

### **Creative Team:**

Director & Performer: **Solène Weinachter**  
Artist Companion & Dramaturgy: **Neil Callaghan**  
Outside Eye & Engagement: **Lisa Fannen**  
Scenographer: **Matthias Strahm**  
Lighting Design & Production Manager: **Emma Jones**  
Filmmaker: **Rachel Bunce**  
Script Adviser & Dramaturgy: **Chris Thorpe**  
Producer: **Helen McIntosh**  
Production & Stage Manager: **Amy Steadman**  
Documentation: **Genevieve Reeves**  
BSL performance Interpreter: **Yvonne Strain**  
Audio Description: **Raquel Meseguer**  
Marketing and Communications: **Karen Steel**

### **PR: Storytelling PR**

Supported by: **Creative Scotland, Dance North, Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre, The Work Room, Dance Base, The Space, Made in Scotland**



# PAGRAV DANCE COMPANY AUNUSTHAN

Aunusthan is a joyous celebration of classical Indian dance presented for a modern audience, performed by the very best home-grown British-Asian talent, who've taken this show to cities across the UK.

The performance showcases the brilliance of classical tradition through dazzling spins and speed-of-light, bell-jangling footwork - moving with the powerful and mood-lifting sounds and colour of South Asian culture to create an hour of pure delight.

The soaring melodies and riotous beats of the music carry your mind to far-off places and bring you home again, exhilarated. This show is a vibrant and dazzling experience for all - whether you're already familiar with Kathak or not.

**Aunusthan is an upbeat Kathak (Classical Indian Dance) ensemble show**

---

## UNIQUE SELLING POINTS

- Suitable for all ages
  - Everyone can enjoy Aunusthan without prior knowledge of Indian dance
  - Will brighten any day, no matter the weather
  - Warm and friendly dancers who will enjoy a cup of tea with the audience
  - A showcase of Indian classical dance featuring the best of home-grown talent
  - An energising and dazzling display of Kathak dance, with soaring melodies and riotous beats
- 

## TRAILERS

- **View trailer** 
- 

## WEBSITE AND SOCIALS

 [pagravdance.com](http://pagravdance.com) |  [@PagravDanceCo](https://www.facebook.com/PagravDanceCo) |  [@PagravDanceCo](https://www.instagram.com/PagravDanceCo)

---

## TARGET AUDIENCE

- Family audiences across all generations
  - Local dance and performing arts schools/colleges
  - World Music enthusiasts
  - Those open to experiencing new styles of dance
- 

## AGE RESTRICTIONS

- Open to all ages
- 

## WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

### **For young people (14-18 yrs) - at venue or local schools**

- A pre-show rangoli workshop delivered in collaboration with a local craftsperson
- A creative dance class for young people based on the choreography of Aunusthan- 1 hour

### **For everyone - community**

- An open-level Indian folk-dance class - 1 hour
  - A pre-show rangoli/ diya craft workshop delivered in collaboration with a local craftsperson
  - A post-show Q&A
  - We can also offer bespoke plans for particular learning outcomes or demographics
- 

## AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

**'Utterly mesmerising and magical performance by @pagravdanceco... I haven't been able to stop thinking about this piece.'** Nirmala Menon (via Instagram)

**'The perfect Winter serotonin boost'** Archita Kumar

## PRESS REVIEWS

'I did not anticipate just how sensational and emotive the piece was going to be, and the extraordinary skill and artistry I was being granted the privilege to witness.' Sorcha Drumm for The Strand Magazine

'An exhilarating 60-min kathak ride.' Donald Hutera, Critic

---

## TECHNICAL / TOUR INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 60 minutes plus interval (ideal length 20 min)
- **Minimum performance space** (width x depth): Adaptable to 6m x 8m (preferred 8m x 8m)
- **Is there a maximum audience capacity?** N/A
- **Is it performed on stage or a floor space?** Adaptable to either, preferably presented end on
- **Get in / Get out:** 4 hours / 90 minutes
- **Number of people on the road:** 5
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** Smooth, clean, solid floor surface for dancing barefoot
- **Accessibility options:** Audio Description, Touch Tour, Easy Read Visual Guide

---

## FEE TO SCHEME/ VENUE

£750

---

## AVAILABLE DATES

- 9 September - 4 October 2024
- 28 October - 17 November 2024
- March - June 2025

---

## LOCATION OF COMPANY

Milton Keynes

---

## CREDITS

Choreography: **Urja Desai Thakore**

Music: **Alap Desai** and **Atul Desai**

Costume: **Urja Desai Thakore** and **Abha Desai**

Lighting Design: **Urja Desai Thakore** and **Chris Burr**

Executive Producer: **Lia Prentaki**

Performed by (full cast):

Dancers: **Ishira Shah** (she/her), **Meera Patel** (she/her),

**Mira Salat** (she/her), **Parbati Chaudry** (she/her),

**Shyam Dattani** (he/him), **Urja Desai Thakore** (she/her),

**Vishesh Mehta** (he/him)

Music recording features:

**Gurdain Singh Rayatt** @gurdain (he/him),

**Hiren Chate** @hirenchate (he/him),

**Kaviraj Singh** @kavirajsingh (he/him),

**Satwinder Pal Singh** @sardarsatwinderpalsingh (he/him)

Produced by **Pagrav Dance Company**

Supported using Public Funding by

**Arts Council of England** and **Milton Keynes City Council**



# LÎLA DANCE FAULT LINES

## **As our planet's voice gets louder, are we ready to listen?**

Fault Lines pulls at the tension in our relationship with nature. Our constant pursuit of progress, increasing the speed of life, has left us out of sync with the natural world.

When it feels like we are racing towards an unknown future, with rising tides and changing landscapes in far off places, it's easy to feel disconnected from nature.

Follow our characters as they navigate the changing landscape, through sun-scorched plains, roaring waves, and smoking forests in pursuit of unravelling their connection to our planet's fate.

Witness the dancers moving amongst digital projections of living landscapes and playful illustrations that dissolve and re-emerge before your eyes.

Local community members are invited to dance in the show, joining the professional cast in an uplifting celebration within the show.

**Fault Lines is a contemporary dance ensemble piece that also incorporates speech and projection to tell its story**

---

## UNIQUE SELLING POINTS

- A highly physical dance show with an international cast
- An imaginative integration of digital imagery and digital illustrations
- The show explores the climate crisis, but leaves the audience with a message of hope - what if we all did our small part in making change?
- The show invites a local community cast (local to your venue) to share in the closing section of the show where we come together to 'rewild' the space and find hope together
- The show has been made to be eco-touring friendly

---

## TRAILERS

- **View trailer** 

---

## WEBSITE AND SOCIALS

 [liladance.co.uk](http://liladance.co.uk) |  [@LilaDanceCo](https://www.youtube.com/@LilaDanceCo)

---

## TARGET AUDIENCE

- First time audiences of dance - the show has strong visual and thematic elements so is accessible to all
- Anyone interested in the climate debate, groups that are involved in looking after their local environment or would like to get involved
- Family group, particularly if a member of the family is taking part in the community cast experience
- Local artists and art students across genres due to the interdisciplinary nature of the show

---

## AGE RESTRICTIONS

- We recommend the show as 12+ but at parents' discretion

---

## WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

- We embed community casts into all of our theatre shows, where people from the local community can join us for a 2-day intensive workshop (minimum 4 hours per day plus show) to have fun whilst learning repertory, getting creative making movement responses, and connecting with people from their community. This culminates in them joining us on stage, dancing alongside our cast in a section of the work.
- We can also deliver 1 off workshops additional to the community cast, or instead of, where a venue can't support a community cast set-up. These can be delivered to CYP, adults and specific groups.

---

## AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

**'That was an incredible experience - new for me. I want to see more!'**

**'My wife finds abstract dance difficult to watch but loved Hotel Experience.**

**The loose narrative and familiar situations helped her to engage better.'**

## RTDI EVALUATION (ON THE HOTEL EXPERIENCE)

**Memorable for 100% of Rural Touring audiences, relevant to 72%, 49% had never seen dance before the show made 97% want to see more dance.**

**'The company were very respectful and understanding of the context in which they were performing. They really believe in rural touring. It was a very special evening and a highlight of the project for me.'**  
(Ralph Lister, Take Art)

---

## TECHNICAL / TOUR INFORMATION

**Show duration:** 1 hour

**Minimum performance space** (width x depth): Any space from 8m x 7.5m

**Is there a maximum audience capacity?** No

**Is it performed on stage or a floor space?** It can be performed on either, but most effective on a floor space.

**Get in / Get out:** 4hrs for get in. An additional 2hrs would be needed to rehearse the local cast in the space if included. Get out time 2hrs.

**Number of people on the road:** 5 people.

**Additional comments regarding performance space:**

- We come with our digital projectors. The projector is set up at the front so we will work with the venue to organise how this works with the audience seating.

**Accessibility options:**

- Audiences: We will provide a printed version of the text in large print as standard for those who are D/deaf and those with hearing loss. We would happily include BSL interpretation if this is something that is able to be covered in the costs.
- Participants: We welcome disabled participants. Our team are experienced in adaptation around movement and have lots of experience working with disabled dancers and participants.

---

## FEE TO SCHEME/ VENUE

£750 for the show and community cast. Alternative rate available if no community cast can be sourced.

---

## AVAILABLE DATES

- Available for touring from September 2024 - May 2025

---

## LOCATION OF COMPANY

Southwest, England

---

## CREDITS

Choreography and Direction: **Abi Mortimer, Carrie Whitaker**

Producer: **Lou Rogers**

Composer and Sound Designer: **Dougie Evans**

Assistant Composer: **Cam Gallaher**

Dancers: **Joe Darby, Amy Morvell, Ivan Merino Gaspar**

Writing and Dramaturgy: **Nick Walker**

Digital design: **Zach Walker**

Digital Illustrator: **Courtney McCarthy**

Lighting Design: **Natalie Rowlands**

Production Management and Technician: **Natalie Rowland**



# ALETHIA ANTONIA INSCRIBED IN “ME”

Inscribed in “Me” is a solo contemporary dance performance with a distinct physical prowess, powerful vocals, and captivating music that explores both personal and historical experiences related to boundaries of feminine blackness. It is a journey of self-discovery, authorship and healing in the midst of adversity; a pursuit that leaves audiences moved, impacted, and wanting to know more.

“As I do my best to navigate this world, I become more aware of all of the stories I carry. So Inscribed into “Me” is a reflection of the ways I must negotiate the complexities of race, gender, and so much that is deeper.”

Alethia Antonia is an award-winning dance artist and academic, who creates and performs in theatres, galleries, and outdoor spaces internationally.

The performance Inscribed in “Me” includes a 20-minute post-show discussion, giving audiences an opportunity to learn more about the work and reflect with Alethia on its content.

## Inscribed in “ME” is a contemporary dance solo production

---

### UNIQUE SELLING POINTS

- Highly physical and virtuosic dance performance from one of the UK's most exciting and distinct artists
  - In addition to the exciting dance elements, the performance is visually and sonically, engaging with pulsing music, emotive vocals and striking costume design
  - It is a meaningful yet accessible exploration of blackness, femininity and British Caribbean identity, along with universal themes of reimagining and healing
  - This offers an experience that is rarely offered to rural audiences; giving them insight into elements of culture and identity that may be the same or different to their own
- 

### TRAILERS

- **View trailer**  | **Full length video available on request**
- 

### WEBSITE AND SOCIALS

 [alethiaantonia.com](http://alethiaantonia.com) |  @alethiaantonia

---

### TARGET AUDIENCE

- Anyone 12+ interested in movement, voice and music
  - Black women (including trans) and non-binary people
  - Wider groups of people from the Global Majority may relate to some themes
  - Wider groups that are interested in themes related to Blackness and Femininity
  - Wider groups that have had little to no previous access to different cultures and identities but who want to experience new things
- 

### AGE RESTRICTIONS

- Recommend for 12+
- 

### WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

#### **Included as part of standard show package:**

Post-show talk with Alethia Antonia and their Rehearsal Director and Dramaturge, Joanne Bernard, including Q+A

#### **Additional offers**

- Standard raffle to be organised by venue. For Inscribed in “Me” we can also provide some themed raffle prizes that will link to the themes of the work. Options might include a Caribbean Hamper (Rum, spiced bun, cheese etc), Items of Inscribed in “Me” merchandise (postcard selection, lyrics book, clothing), 1-2-1 movement session with Alethia (Online).
- A post-show dinner for ticket holders, where there will be cooked Caribbean food and the opportunity to talk more with Alethia or fellow audience members or to simply enjoy the food, have a drink, process and have fun
- There is a potential to include the film adaptation of the work (Re)Inscribed as part of an offer
- A number of different workshops, developing on the themes used in Alethia's performance. Including self-authoring through artistic practice, and dance workshops

## AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

'It is the most moved I have ever been by a performance.' (at Dance East)

'One of the best pieces of work I have seen on this stage.' (at Sadler's Wells)

## PRESS REVIEWS

'This was a powerful, stunning, and exceptional performance... well-deserved standing ovation.' Grapevine

★★★★★ 'With athletic prowess, Alethia performs an extraordinary ritual of self-acceptance.' DanceTabs

## TECHNICAL / TOUR INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 50 mins, 15 min interval, 20 min post-show discussion (included as part of standard show offer)
- **Minimum performance space** (width x depth): 6m x 6m (x 3m height)
- **Is there a maximum audience capacity?** At the venue's discretion
- **Is it performed on stage or a floor space?** Flexible
- **Get in / Get out:** 4 hours / 1 hour
- **Number of people on the road:** 3
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:**
  - Can be performed both end-on and 3-sided
  - A sprung or semi-sprung floor is preferable but the company will bring its own dance floor
  - The capacity to have a blacked out space is preferable but not essential
  - Ceiling height needs to be more than 3m height
- **Accessibility options:** Audio description of the film adaptation (Re)Inscribed is available

## FEE TO SCHEME/ VENUE

£650

## AVAILABLE DATES

- **Autumn:** September - December
- **Spring:** February - April (unavailable 28 April - 4 May)

## LOCATION OF COMPANY

West Yorkshire

## CREDITS

Choreographer and Performer: **Alethia Antonia**

Co-Composers: **Akeim Toussaint Buck, Mikel Ameen**  
and **Alethia Antonia**

Rehearsal Directors: **Joanne Bernard, Sadé Alleyne**

Voice Coach: **Emma Bonnici**

Lighting Designer: **Ali Hunter**

Dress Design: **Elena Milani**

Box Design: **T.Davis, Re-Claimed**

Hair Mask Design: **Jose Rodriguez**

Technical Stage Manager: **Stacey Nurse**

Producer: **Reece McMahon**

Commissioned by **The Place**

Supported by **The Place, NSCD, Dance4**  
and **Yorkshire Dance**

Funded by **Arts Council England**



# SLiDE JACK & FRIENDS

Grab your party wear and join Jack and his friends for an interactive dance show with live music!

Jack loves musicals, pantomimes and Strictly Come Dancing. He's on a quest to make his dream dance show and you are invited to help make it happen. This uplifting and joyous celebration ponders friendship and belonging, acceptance and independence. There will be plenty of opportunities to join in or watch and take in the magic.

This is a relaxed performance in an informal environment. You can be yourself, move around and come and go from the performance space. This environment may be particularly suitable for children, young people and adults with neurodivergence such as autism, learning difficulties and other sensory or communication needs.

## Comedy dance show with various fun styles

---

### UNIQUE SELLING POINTS

- It's a good time show with nostalgia, glitz and glam
  - Live music and a great soundtrack with jazzy tunes and well known hits from musicals
  - A good night out
  - It has plenty of chances to join in and dance alongside the professionals
  - Everyone gets to dance at the end and join in with the disco
  - Diverse performers including a dancer with down syndrome
- 

### TRAILERS

- **View trailer**  | **Full length video available on request**
- 

### WEBSITE AND SOCIALS

 [slidedance.org](http://slidedance.org) |  [@danceslide](https://www.facebook.com/danceslide) |  [@dance\\_slide](https://www.instagram.com/dance_slide)

---

### TARGET AUDIENCE

- Children aged 5+ and their families
  - Primary and SEN schools
  - Neurodivergent young people and adults who may not often see themselves represented in dance production
  - Any audience member that would benefit from a more relaxed introduction to dance both via the environment and more familiar movement styles being performed
- 

### WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

Family dance workshops or dance workshops for ages 5-11, either in a community venue or in a local school, SEN or mainstream.

---

### AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

**'Charming, inclusive. The musicians were incredible, I liked the Miles Davis trumpet. Loved the gold outfit and the disco at the end. Thank you!'**

**'Totally enjoyed it. My kids were completely engaged.'**

**'It was so much fun, I loved all the sparkly costumes. Music was crazy good I couldn't stop tapping my feet!'**

**'So great to be part of the dance routine. A fun family show.'**

---

### LOCATION OF COMPANY

London

## TECHNICAL / TOUR INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 45 mins plus family disco
- **Minimum performance space** (width x depth): 6m x 4m, but we can do smaller
- **Is there a maximum audience capacity?** 80-100
- **Is it performed on stage or a floor space?** Floor space
- **Get in / Get out:** 2 hours / 1 hour
- **Number of people on the road:** 6
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** Audience will be set on three sides of the performance space.

---

## FEE TO SCHEME/ VENUE

- £750

---

## AVAILABLE DATES

- **Autumn 2024:**  
September: Week of 9th, 16th, 23rd (inc weekends)  
October: Week of 30th September - 6th October. Week of 21st October (inc weekend)  
November: Week of 25th November (inc weekends)
- **Spring 2025:**  
March to June

---

## CREDITS

Dancers: **Eleni Edipidi, Jack Conie, Takeshi Matsumoto**

Musician: **Rob Howart**



# ROSEMARY LEE OBE MOVING WORLDS

**An evening of dance on film presented by renowned choreographer/film maker Rosemary Lee**

These award-winning, magical dance films transport you to beautiful places whilst highlighting the grace and individuality of every performer. From a nine-year-old boy leaping through sand dunes, to a little girl dancing in a forgotten garden, to over seventy performers of all ages gliding through a cathedral of trees, they reflect our humanity and unspoken connection to each other and the environment.

In a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere, Rosemary informally presents a selection of her films, all made with a range of collaborators from the 1990s to the present day, with several commissioned by the BBC. Known for her articulacy, she reveals how and why she made them and answers audience questions.

**Moving Worlds is an evening of sharing contemporary dance films with their choreographer and director  
Rosemary Lee**

---

### **UNIQUE SELLING POINTS**

- Chance to see a wide variety of ground-breaking international renowned dance films rarely seen
- Opportunity to hear and talk to a friendly, award-winning, choreographer/film maker with forty years' experience who is committed to her audiences and to revealing how her films relate to us all
- Rosemary creates an informal, intimate, and welcoming atmosphere
- Previous rural audiences and programmers have loved this show
- Adaptable to a wide variety of settings and audiences
- This show can be a great entry way into contemporary dance
- Featuring performers of all ages from nine-year olds to seniors

---

### **TRAILERS**

- Trailer in development

---

### **WEBSITE AND SOCIALS**

 [artsadmin.co.uk/profiles/rosemary-lee/](https://artsadmin.co.uk/profiles/rosemary-lee/)

---

### **TARGET AUDIENCE**

- General local audience particularly those that like the arts and nature
- Families
- Primary and secondary schools, colleges, further education
- Older audience including over 60s interest groups, care homes, day care settings etc
- Interest groups such as nature lovers including environmentalists, gardeners, walkers, conservationists, film groups, art groups
- Community focused groups, particularly those that bring people of all ages or of different cultures together
- Well-being groups
- Film makers and film students, dance makers, teachers and dance students, geographers, and students

---

### **AGE RESTRICTIONS**

- 7+

---

### **WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY**

As well as the discussion and question time during the show and Rosemary being available to chat before during and after the show, Rosemary can offer these workshops before or after the event:

- A gentle, meditative movement workshop outdoors (weather permitting) adaptable for full range of age groups
- A family movement and workshop outside and inside
- Bespoke workshops for dance, theatre and film students in higher education

## AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

'It's opened my eyes to the accessibility of dance.'

'An amazing body of humanitarian, nostalgic and very beautiful work. Made my heart race at times.'

---

## PRESS REVIEWS

'It was revelatory.' Sanjoy Roy, The Guardian

'The real deal... one of the most gifted, level-headed, and articulate artists in the UK.' Donald Hutera, Animated

---

## TECHNICAL / TOUR INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** Two hours including an interval – length adaptable for each venue
- **Minimum performance space** (width x depth): 4.5m x 3.5m, adaptable
- **Is there a maximum audience capacity?** No – just depends on sight lines
- **Is it performed on stage or a floor space?** Either – adaptable depending on best sight lines for the screen. The space is informally set up with tables and chairs -cabaret style.
- **Get in / Get out:** Up to 3 hours / 1 hour
- **Number of people on the road:** 2
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:**
  - Rosemary would appreciate if refreshments were available before, during the interval and after the show
  - Space needs to be as dark as possible
  - We will provide projector, screen, and sound equipment where necessary
  - Venue to provide tables and chairs
- **Accessibility options:** There is a possibility of a BSL interpreter should the venue require it. Please note, the evening is relaxed and informal and the audience members may get up and down if they need to.

---

## FEE TO SCHEME/ VENUE

£750

---

## AVAILABLE DATES

- Autumn 2024
- Spring 2025

---

## LOCATION OF COMPANY

London

---

## CREDITS

The films were created with a range of collaborators including, film makers, **Peter Anderson, David Hinton, Roswitha Chesher**, composers **Graeme Miller, Terry Mann, Adrian Johnson**, Designer **Louise Belson**, they feature a wide range of performers from aged 9-80+ years old

**Moving Worlds** was commissioned by **The Place**

The films were supported by a range of funders including **Arts Council England, Arts Council of Northern Ireland, ArtsAdmin, Culture company 2013, BBC, Greenwich Dance, Greenwich Council, Dance Umbrella, Big Dance, Royal Philharmonic Society, PRS Foundation, NPS Holland, RVW Trust**



# NORTHERN RASCALS SHED

SHED is a dance-theatre show that uses visual art, spoken word and contemporary dance to raise awareness of the mental health issues many young people face.

Performed by a cast of four skilled dancers in a wooden shed, the show invites its audience to be on the outside and look in. Together, witness real-life experiences told in a series of three shorts, each giving a different insight into the stories that make us.

SHED is engaging, ultimately uplifting, and beautifully written. The show is a choreographed portrait of confused emotions, love and loss, and the essential humanity that resides in us all.

**SHED is a contemporary dance-theatre show. The four performers tell their stories through movement, spoken word and visual projections**

---

## UNIQUE SELLING POINTS

- Made with and by young people across the UK
  - Original stories that feel personal but are collectively shared
  - Highlights themes of mental health in a way that speaks to young people and adults alike
  - Blends digital technologies with live dance
  - A unique blend of contemporary dance, spoken word and projection
  - By being told in 3 bite-size stories, it's a great introduction to contemporary dance
  - Considers thought-provoking and emotional themes with care and lightness
- 

## TRAILERS

- **View trailer** 
- 

## WEBSITE AND SOCIALS

 [northernrascals.com](http://northernrascals.com) |  [@northernrascals](https://www.facebook.com/northernrascals) |  [@northernrascals](https://www.instagram.com/northernrascals)

---

## TARGET AUDIENCE

- SHED will resonate with all ages 14+ but will be particularly prominent for those aged 14-30
  - Older people with children aged 14-30
  - Local centres for young people e.g activity clubs, local dance schools, drama clubs
  - Local mental health charities with initiatives for young people
  - People with lived experience or who know someone with experience of struggling with their mental health
  - Audiences that want to connect and have shared experiences, specifically those who enjoy performances with clear storylines and narratives and enjoy theatre performances
- 

## AGE RESTRICTIONS

Recommended age of 14+. SHED has been enjoyed by audiences as young as 8, however we recommend that parents/guardians read the content advice sheet before attending with children younger than 14.

---

## WRAPAROUND ACTIVITY

- 'SHED A Layer' - Touring workshop programme that runs alongside SHED. Join Northern Rascals for an exclusive 1hr30 workshop to explore the method behind the making of their new dance theatre show, SHED.
- Curtain Raiser - Working with a group over a minimum of 3 days, NR will create a bespoke performance with the designated group of young people to perform before the professional show. Perfect for dance school groups and students in surrounding schools and colleges.
- Regular sessions in dance, theatre and spoken word, preferably lead weekly in the run up to the show
- Commissions to create a new show for groups of young people

### **No Additional Cost Wraparound**

- Post show / pre show talk available

## AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

'It genuinely blew my mind.'

'A highly accessible doorway into contemporary dance for the unfamiliar.'

---

## PRESS REVIEWS

'Like peeping through a key-hole into someone else's world... powerful and poetic.' Dance Art Journal on SHED 2023

★★★★ The Guardian

'Provocative, SHED has a powerful drive to tell stories that matter.' Theatre Reviews Hub

---

## TECHNICAL / TOUR INFORMATION

- **Show duration:** 67 minutes approximately (no interval)
- **Minimum performance space** (width x depth): 5m x 5m (x 3m height)
- **Is there a maximum audience capacity?** No
- **Is it performed on stage or a floor space?** Either
- **Get in / Get out:** 4 hours / 1 hour
- **Number of people on the road:** 5 / 6
- **Additional comments regarding performance space:** The pieces of the shed can fit through a standard sized door. If access to space requires turning a sharp corner with a low ceiling, then the largest piece of set may not fit through. Space needs to be as dark as possible (ideally blackout).
- **Accessibility options:** We aim to develop captioning and audio description for the how, and to plan touch tours.

---

## FEE TO SCHEME/ VENUE

- £750

---

## AVAILABLE DATES

- **Autumn 24** From October
- **Spring 25** February to May

---

## LOCATION OF COMPANY

West Yorkshire

---

## CREDITS

Creation & Direction: **Anna Holmes** and **Sam Ford**  
of Northern Rascals

Original Performing Cast: **Grace Ford, Flora Grant, Ed Mitchell, Soul Roberts**

Digital Artist: **Aaron Howell**

Writer: **Anna Holmes**

Lighting Design: **Kieron Johnson**

Set Design: **Tabitha Grove**

Voice Actors: **Lamin Touray, Brendan Barclay, Anna Holmes**

Dramaturg: **Geoffrey Colman**

Production Manager: **Adam Goode**

Access & Inclusion Officer: **Adam Fenton**

PR: **Steve Forster** for SFP Communications

Marketing: **Jess Rooney**

Photographer: **Elly Welford**

Videographer: **Genevieve Reeves**

# RURAL TOURING DANCE INITIATIVE

I am a promoter for Take Art in Somerset, and have been for many years. My 'patch' is the village of Roadwater in West Somerset which is some distance from Bristol and Exeter where there are commercial theatres. We have had the privilege of accessing RTDI shows in the latter years and have been assisted in our choice by the directors of rural touring at Take Art.

We have a small group of enthusiastic people in the village who help with the hospitality and organisation of the performances. These take place in our village hall or outdoors on the recreation ground which is adjacent. We have had some wonderful companies and dancers entertain us, including Joan Cleville, Vicky Igbokwe and Shane Shambu. That's not to say every show has been an 'out of the park' success, but our stoic and interested audience returns despite this!

In 2019, I was invited to the NRTF Conference in Bangor which was a wonderful experience for me. I met so many promoters and artists from all over the country and it helped to expand my knowledge of contemporary dance, and also provided the chance to see so many different facets of this genre.

I count myself an extremely fortunate person to be involved in this field of entertainment (if only on the periphery) of which I had no previous knowledge, and from which I have met so many fascinating people and learnt so much!

## Mary Coles

Voluntary promoter and member of the selection panel for the 24/25 menu

---

**The Rural Touring Dance Initiative** is supported by **Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grants** and **Esmée Fairbairn Foundation**. The project is run by partners **Highlights, NRTF, Sonia Sabri Company, Take Art** and **The Place** along with rural touring schemes, in England, Wales and Scotland.

Find out more at: [ruraltouringdance.com](http://ruraltouringdance.com)



National Rural  
Touring Forum

