



Dance from Scotland

Meet the delegates

Welcome
Fàilte
Willkommen

Our fine delegation of independent dance artists and producers are keen to build on existing international connections and connect with new partners and programmers for current and forthcoming work. Selected through an open application process led by The Workroom working in partnership with Creative Scotland, our delegation features:

Aby Watson

Claricia Parinussa/ID.Y CIC

Danielle Fentiman - Shaper/Caper

Jack Webb

Laura Fisher

Penny Chivas

Romany Dear/La Compania

Shotput – Lucy Ireland and Jim Manganello

Tess Letham

Two Destination Language –

Katherina Radeva and Alister Lownie



Aby Watson

Aby Watson is a neurodivergent dance artist, performer, and researcher based in Glasgow, Scotland. She makes playful, sensuous and stimulating dance that expresses the neurodivergent energy and embodiment of her dyslexic, dyspraxic and ADHD body-mind. Through choreographic scores of movement, voice, and object, her dance work toys with tensions between virtuosity and the pedestrian; beauty and the grotesque; the silly and the serious. She has toured to venues including The Southbank Centre, London; Sophiensaele, Berlin; Tramway, Glasgow and Wales Millennium Centre. Her practice has been supported by The National Theatre of Scotland, Unlimited, and The Work Room. She trained in Contemporary Performance Practice at The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland where she is finishing her PhD, 'Disordering Dance', researching radical neurodivergent-centred contemporary dance methods and aesthetics.

Back and Forth and Forth and Back is a relaxed dance performance of joyous and sensual neurodivergent embodiment, as a dyslexic, dyspraxic and ADHD mind-body dances itself into being – and outside of neuronormative values.

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Claricia Parinussa, ID.Y CIC

Claricia Parinussa's artistic practice running under *nussatari* interweaves body-based processes involving performance, movement, sound, text, curation, producing and community organising. Current projects include *hologram 10.7* digital performance with nymity, Paradax Period; *eco-co-location* with Corin Sworn, The Common Guild, and *ember (5.5)* commissioned for Jupiter Rising 2022 by Alloysious Massaquoi.

ID.Y CIC is an evolving interdisciplinary project led by and focussed on Queer, Trans, Intersex People of Colour (QTIPOC). The cohort aims to nurture unique, experimental collaborations with more equitable and accountable relations by engaging decolonial approaches in the arts. Sounding board services aim to equip practitioners to make informed choices for their work including contracting support, artist development, and self-producing skills development alongside advocacy, producer training, sector research, facilitation between individual practitioners and cultural institutions.

ID.Y recently concluded phase 1 sector research Anti Racism in Practice (2020-2022) for Creative Scotland and Dance4: ReFraming Dance residency (2021). Recent artist collaborations include Hamshya Rajkumar, Divine Tasinda, and co-producing THREE60 at Dance International Glasgow 2022.

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Danielle Fentiman, Shaper/Caper

Shaper/Caper develops the work of multi-award winning choreographer, BBC Radio 2 Artist in Residence and Clore fellow Thomas Small. Their critically acclaimed performance work, such as *Within This Dust*, a piece inspired by the events of 9/11, has toured extensively across the UK over the past 10 years, as well as internationally to North and South America and across Europe. Shaper/Caper were commissioned by Cumbernauld Theatre to create *Paper Moon*, a work for children under 5 which has sold out every one of its 55 performances to date. They believe the arts play an intrinsic part in achieving a cohesive society and can spark civic action for social change.

Available for touring, *Within This Dust* is a cinematic performance comprising three live dance works blended with animation and survivors' accounts of 9/11. *Small Town Boys* – available for touring from Summer 2023 – follows a young gay man as he leaves his small hometown to find refuge in the bright lights and warm embrace of the big city. This brand-new interactive experience explores the 1980s AIDS crisis through dance and spoken word.

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Jack Webb

Jack Webb is an award-winning independent choreographer/director, movement director, dancer and teacher based in Edinburgh, Scotland. He has been working internationally for the past 15 years and creates evocative and compelling dance performance strongly rooted in the dancing and moving body. His practice is concerned with a variety of enquiries that explore ways in which to transform and deconstruct the body, states of consciousness and being, distortion of the body and creation of dynamic softness and flow. His work is often influenced by and attempts to connect to the goings-on in nature and society, is of an existential nature and zooms in on the inner and outer emotional and physical landscapes of the performer and audience.

Available for touring is *Sense of Centre*, a new solo work in association with Feral, that recently premiered as part of the Made in Scotland showcase 2022 at Dance Base during the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Sense of Centre is a moving and compelling solo combining dance, object manipulation and projection to explore our longing for home, need for connection and the body as a place of sanctuary from the modern world.

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Katherina Radeva and Alister Lownie, Two Destination Language

Led by Katherina Radeva and Alister Lownie, a Bulgarian and a Scot, Two Destination Language make bold, award-winning work about identity, belonging, community and celebrating difference. They tour extensively in the UK and internationally, their work taking place on stages, in galleries, empty shops and outdoors; combining artforms and working with professional and non-professional collaborators. Choreographing the mundane and transforming it into something extra-ordinary is a signature element of the company's work which is renowned for its accessible approach to complex themes. Past work includes the multi-award winning *Near Gone*, the critically acclaimed *Fault Lines*, *Fallen Fruit* and *Manpower* amongst numerous other works.

The company has just premiered a joyful celebration of dancing, *40/40*, which is available for touring. Kat has always danced, but she has never before been a dancer: the piece is the result of 40 years of joy and hardship; laughter and tears; super tunes and super moves.

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Laura Fisher

Laura Fisher is a queer, disabled dance artist from Glasgow. They work at the intersections of dance, sculpture, participatory practice and live art, with a conceptually rigorous approach to performance dramaturgy. Interested in crippling and queering the dominant aesthetics of dance, Laura is engaged in an ongoing practice of collaborating choreographically with materials, finding parallels, intimacies and shared aesthetic languages between the wayward forms and qualities of materials when engaged as collaborators, and the oft unpredictable and unruly nature of disabled and chronically ill bodies in movement, which challenge notions of who and what can dance.

FORGED (*in the tender heat of your embrace*) is a durational performance and installation for galleries and non-traditional performance spaces. In an intimate, choreographic collaboration between the artist's body and sheets of copper metal, the piece explores processes of body heat generation and exchange during movement and rest, drawing parallels between the material properties of the sheet metal and the artist's body which experiences chronic pain.

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Penny Chivas

Originally from Australia (Ngunnawal Country), Penny Chivas is a Glasgow based dance artist with a background in improvisation and multidisciplinary practices. As a performer she has worked with choreographers such as Ian Spink, Vanessa Grasse, Julia McGhee and Brian Hartley. Penny has also guest taught across the UK and internationally, and is currently completing the MEd programme at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. She is a graduate of WAAPA and VCA (Australia).

Most recently her concerns around the environment led her to create *Burnt Out*, a solo dance-theatre work based on her experiences of the devastating Australian bushfires which played to a sold-out week-long season at the Edinburgh Fringe 2021 and returned in 2022. *Burnt Out* is one Australian's experience of our changing climate, featuring original music by Paul Michael Henry and dramatic lighting of Great Snakes. An autobiographical dance-theatre work from the daughter of an environmental geochemist, bringing together fact and personal account, it is at once an intimate story and a universal meditation on climate change.

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Romany Dear / La Compania

Romany Dear's work is based on dance as a practice of collective and social action. Her work explores the ethics and practices of care, and the endless possibilities of caring for and with one another. Dear creates interdisciplinary performances that search for ways to connect and communicate between species within what she describes as an ecosystem or a relational ecology. Romany is a queer, freelance performance artist who works with somatic, improvised, choreographic and body-based practices within the varying contexts of arts, education and community activism. She has worked extensively with integrated dance companies in the UK, Colombia and the USA, and is passionate about challenging the construction of the dancing body outside of normative structures. She graduated with a Masters in Live Art and Performance from the National University of Colombia in 2021.

Dear continues to work and perform as part of the multidisciplinary group La Compania with the piece *Divide x 2* and her most recent work *Companionship Species*. She is currently developing a new solo work, *sound- body-ies* for The Movement Research Centre in New York City this November.

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Shotput

Shotput creates dance-theatre that investigates human relationships. Their mission is to create a commons, a place to explore the shared darkness and joy of contemporary experience. This fascination with interconnectedness manifests itself in themes of work, love, death and sex, and also in their collaborative process. They work not only in dance and theatre, but across podcasting, film, and photography – the medium is informed by the people with whom they are working and the inquiry at hand. They define their work not just as a collection of shows, but as a network of relationships with artists and audiences. Founded in Glasgow in 2018, Shotput is embedded in Scotland and committed to internationalism.

Ferguson and Barton is a hybrid of dance, theatre, and live cinema that uses Hitchcock's film *Vertigo* to unpick gender roles in relationships, taking a darkly satirical look at romantic love. Made in 2019, the show is touring in 2022-23.

shotput.org | [@/ShotputTheatre](https://www.instagram.com/ShotputTheatre)
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Tess Letham

Tess Letham is an independent dance artist based in Edinburgh, Scotland, working as a performer, teacher, dance-theatre maker and curator. Tess's creations focus on human experiences, constructing both obscure and deeply authentic environments, fully immersing the audience in an intriguing theatrical world. Her work combines passions for multi-disciplinary theatre, dynamic physicality and high-quality integrated design. Her inaugural show *How to Survive the Future*, was programmed at festivals across the UK. Her latest creation *Remedy for Memory* is a fantasy land which explores cosmic wanderings, corporate wellbeing and desire. Broadcast live from the abstracted realm of a TV talk-show, the show is a dance-theatre experience where four women undergo a journey of healing and discovery. The show was presented as part of the Dance Base Edinburgh Festival Fringe Programme 2022.

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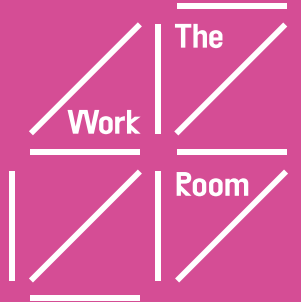
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