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## Touring Fund for Theatre and Dance

### Recipients' announcement Dec 2021

Issued under strict embargo for publication on 00:01 Friday 10 Dec 2021

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## ABOUT THE PRODUCTIONS

The 17 production companies and artists receiving over £1.72m funds in this round of the Touring Fund for Theatre and Dance are: Ailie Cohen Puppet Maker and Lewis Hetherington; Alice Mary Cooper; Company of Wolves; Cutting Edge Theatre; David Colvin; Dudendance; Farah Saleh and Oğuz Kaplanqi; Julia Taudevin; Katie Armstrong; Kirsten Newell; Raw Material Arts; Rob Heaslip; Sleeping Warrior Theatre Company; The Audio Story Company; Tortoise in a Nutshell; White & Givan and Wonder Fools.

### NEW WORK (x6):

#### Dance

*Alien Species* by [Dudendance](#) (£102,029)

*A Wee Journey* by [Farah Saleh](#) and [Oğuz Kaplanqi](#) (£119,618)

*MaMa* by [Kirsten Newell](#) (£67,247)

#### Theatre

*The Bush* by [Alice Mary Cooper](#) (£72,750)

*Working Title* by [Raw Material Arts](#) (£292,181)

*Ginger* by [Tortoise in a Nutshell](#) (£69,765)

### RESTAGINGS (x11):

#### Dance:

*Worn Tour* by [White & Givan](#) (£58,453)

*Move* by [Julia Taudevin](#) (£117,008)

*SKETCHES* by [Katie Armstrong](#) (£111,320)

*Strawboys* by [Rob Heaslip](#) (£74,127)

#### Theatre:

*Rocket Post!* by [Lewis Hetherington](#) and [Ailie Cohen Puppet Maker](#) (£71,448)

*Unbecoming* by [Company of Wolves](#) (£66,083)

*Downs with love* by [Cutting Edge Theatre](#) (£67,146)

*Thunderstruck* by David Colvin (£77,000)

*Happiness Collectors* by [The Audio Story Company](#) (£52,866)

*Crocodile Rock and A New Life* by [Sleeping Warrior Theatre Company](#) (£121,154)  
*549:Scots of the Spanish Civil War Tour 2022* by [Wonder Fools](#) (£187,121)

## NEW WORK

### DANCE

#### 1. ***Alien Species*** by [Dudendance](#)

*Alien Species* is a highly visual site-specific performance intervention for natural locations and Scotland's Coastline from [Dudendance](#) in association with producers [FERAL](#).

Performed along the Scottish coast, audiences will discover Alien Species as they evolve out of the sea and sand. In an era where human waste is devastating the landscape *Alien Species* will see plastic trash mutated into living beings.

#### 2. ***A Wee Journey*** by [Farah Saleh](#) and [Oğuz Kaplanji](#)

*A Wee Journey* is a choreographed musical journey of migration - following those who have made the journey to Scotland from choreographer [Farah Saleh](#) and composer [Oğuz Kaplanji](#).

Throughout the 60-minute performance, six performers seek to expand minds, challenge perception, stimulate reflection & compassion and celebrate diversity and belonging through dance, physical theatre and live ethnic-electronic music.

The project is a collaboration of artists with lived experience of migration, together telling, portraying, and sharing an authentic experience that reflects many of those living in Scotland and around the world.

#### 3. ***MaMa*** by [Kirsten Newell](#)

Inspired by dancers [Kirsten Newell](#) and [Oxana Banshikova](#) personal experience, *Mama* is a South Asian Dance production which explores the journey of pregnancy and early motherhood.

Weaving together Bharatanatyam dance, immersive lighting, and an irresistible blend of Celtic-Carnatic music, *MaMa* supports and connects mothers in their vulnerability, as well as shining light on the truly universal experience of motherhood.

### THEATRE

#### 4. ***The Bush*** by [Alice Mary Cooper](#)

*The Bush* is a new show by actor, writer and theatre maker [Alice Mary Cooper](#) in partnership with award-winning Artistic Director, Caitlin Skinner.

*The Bush* tells the incredible true story of how a ten-year campaign by thirteen 1970 housewives helped save a piece of bushland in Sydney, Australia, Coopers hometown. The show is a celebration of community action that promises to

entertain, encourage and empower activists and would-be activists across Scotland.

5. **Working Title** by **Raw Material Arts**

A Scottish tour of a new large-scale musical (title tbc) written by [Morna Young](#), concept by Alan B McLeod, produced by [Raw Material](#) & Eden Court and directed by Luke Kernaghan.

6. **Ginger** by **Tortoise in a Nutshell**

*Ginger* tells the tale of a misshapen gingerbread person, marked for the bin. A multi-sensory performance combining puppetry and immersive design to create an anarchic adventure for 3-7s and their families.

*Ginger*, will bring together families and communities for an hour of puppetry, performance and play, creating moments of joy-filled connectivity and imaginative escape.

## **RESTAGED WORK**

### **DANCE**

1. **Worn** by **White & Givan**

Choreographed and performed by acclaimed duo, Errol White and Davina Givan, *Worn* is an exquisite and emotive dance, that explores how the body is affected by the experiences, marks and scars that make us who we are.

*Worn* is inspired by the ancient Japanese art of kintsugi, where broken pottery is mended with gold or silver.

2. **Move** by **Julia Taudevin**

*MOVE*, which premiered to critical acclaim as part of the Made in Scotland international showcase at this year's Edinburgh Fringe Festival, is a breathtaking choral drama inspired by ancient keening rituals, a Gaelic tradition of singing performed by women in mourning the dead.

Staged in a unique, open-air production and weaving storytelling, choral soundscape and Gaelic song, a diverse cast of women portray the ebb and flow of people across the globe throughout the ages in this moving production about hope, migration and communal healing.

3. **SKETCHES** by **Katie Armstrong**

*SKETCHES* is a brilliantly abstract dance piece incorporating live dance, strings and a DJ - inspired by Bach's Violin Concerto in A Minor.

The performance is bookended by [SKETCHES Film Project](#) – a longer term aspect which connects with audiences/communities, capturing excerpts in locations considered important and meaningful to those communities.

The work was premiered in Feb 2020 to a sold-out audience at Manipulate Visual Theatre Festival at Edinburgh's Summerhall.

4. **[Strawboys](#)** by **[Rob Heaslip](#)**

Inspired by folk figures once said to frequent homes to provide merriment, four dancers will perform Rob Heaslip's pop-up work, *Strawboys*.

A vibrant and energetic work that blurs the traditional and the contemporary through re-imagined straw costumes, music and dance.

Following its successful 2021 tour, performances will take place at outdoor public spaces across Shetland, Orkney and the Borders in 2022.

## **THEATRE**

5. **[Rocket Post!](#)** by **[Lewis Hetherington](#)** and **[Ailie Cohen Puppet Maker](#)**

1934. The Outer Hebrides. An eccentric German scientist wants to bring the world together by launching a rocket full of letters from Scarp to Harris - what could possibly go wrong?

A raucous mix of songs and storytelling for everyone aged 6+, *Rocket Post* is a tale of miscommunication and the joyous discoveries that happen when things go wrong.

Originally produced by National Theatre of Scotland in 2017, *Rocket Post* has been reimagined, to tour across Scotland once more.

6. **[Unbecoming](#)** by **[Company of Wolves](#)**

Company of Wolves presents a solo work by [Anna Porubcansky](#), in song, sound, myth and movement.

*Unbecoming* is a performance about motherhood and womanhood, about loss and rage. Rage at all we become when we don't feel like we have a choice. Loss of all we haven't become. And how we unbecome.

*Unbecoming* originally premiered in 2018 with support from Creative Scotland and in association with Cumbernauld Theatre, Platform, and The Work Room. The production and tour will be accompanied by a series of community workshops.

7. **[Downs with love](#)** by **[Cutting Edge Theatre](#)**

*Downs with Love* is a profoundly moving drama about love, adversities and social pressures.

*Downs with Love* tells the story of Beth who meets her first love Mark at their local pub where he sings. On the same night Mark meets Tracy and begins to fall for her. Tracy is Beth's new social worker tasked with supporting and protecting this young woman with Down's Syndrome from risk and stigma.

Originally premiered at Edinburgh International Fringe in 2016, the play is a warm, fun, tender, powerful and realistic look at some of the issues that disabled people face especially in relationships.

8. **[Thunderstruck](#)** by **[David Colvin](#)**

*Thunderstruck* is an international award-winning production concerning the legacy and mythology of working-class folk musician, composer and innovator, Gordon Duncan, who tragically died in 2005.

Written and performed by writer and Fifer, David Colvin, it was originally premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2019 where it scooped the Herald Angel Award and Scottish Arts Club award. The production will now be performing in theatres across Scotland as part of Scotland's Year of Stories 2022.

9. ***Happiness Collectors*** by [The Audio Story Company](#)

Happiness Collectors is an audio-immersive live experience for family audiences. With audiences on wireless headphones, a Happiness Instructor takes you on a journey out with the realms of your physical space and into the extraordinary. We explore tropical beaches, olympic stadiums and the circus before making our way to the Happy Place, where you learn how to share the happiness you've collected.

10. ***Crocodile Rock*** and ***A New Life*** by [Sleeping Warrior Theatre Company](#)

*Crocodile Rock*, a one-man musical about finding yourself and coming out, will be presented alongside *A New Life* - a musical about the challenges of motherhood.

Both plays started life at the world famous a Play a Pie and a Pint and offer a great night out whilst also tackling important social issues.

11. ***549: Scots of the Spanish Civil War Tour 2022*** by [Wonder Fools](#)

549 is a contemporary theatre production that will tour to midscale and small-scale venues telling the true stories of four working class miners from Prestonpans who went to fight as part of the International Brigade. The production and outreach work aims to connect with communities around the country and pass down their stories to future generations.

549 premiered at Prestonpans Town Hall and the Citizen Theatre's Circle Studio, produced by Wonder Fools in association with Brunton Theatre and the Citizens Theatre, in February 2018.

**ENDS**