

PRESS RELEASE | FESTIVAL FRINGE 2019
DANCE, PHYSICAL THEATRE and CIRCUS



DANCE BASE FESTIVAL 2019
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Full programme can be seen at dancebase.co.uk/festival19

Edinburgh's year-round Home of Dance announces its programme for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2019

This year's Dance Base Festival programme is a rich global tapestry of dance and physical theatre, shining a spotlight on themes of embodiment, grief, race, ritual, cultural exchange, and gender identity; welcoming 29 shows, from 10 countries, to perform as part of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2019.

In its 18th year in the Grassmarket venue, the Dance Base Festival programme boasts a spectacular mix of iconic festival favourites as well as thrilling companies and artists, some of who are making their Fringe debut at Scotland's foremost hub for dance.

Highlights of the 2019 programme include:

- An abundance of excellent new Scottish work from **Curious Seed**, **Company Chordelia**, **Claricia Parinussa**, **Tamsyn Russell**, **Bridie Gane**, **Alan Greig**, **Christina Liddell**, **Robbie Syngé** and **Lucy Boyes**, **Colette Sadler**, **Slanjayvah Danza**, **Oceanallover**, **PRIME**, **Lothian Youth Dance Company**, and **T.I.M Company**
- Award-winning theatre and dance from Ireland's **Fishamble: The New Play Company** and **CoisCéim Dance Theatre**, supported by Culture Ireland
- An extraordinary music and dance performance from Belgium, in which choreography by **Isabelle Soupart** interacts with three **Steve Reich** masterpieces, performed live by **MP4 Quartet** in *Steve Reich Project*
- **Basque Showcase** – the first-ever dedicated focus of dance from the Basque Country, with a triple bill in our theatre as well as pop-up performances across the city, including the commission *Atlantik 1050* – an outdoor performance of young dancers who have been exchanging skills combining high energy Basque and Scottish traditions with live music.
- Two works presented by iconic London venue, **The Place** – *Lost Dog's Juliet & Romeo*, and *The Forecast* by **Amy Bell**
- A tender rumination on loneliness from **Chiara Bersani**, approaching the figure and imagery of the unicorn from her own physicality
- Dance artist **Charlotte Jarvis** and award-winning author and poet **Ben Okri** collaborate on an exclusive performance work interweaving dance and poetry as a response to our times: *our lives, an infinite improvisation; poetry dancing*

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- Four works featured in the prestigious British Council Edinburgh Showcase 2019: **Colette Sadler's** *Learning from the Future*, *Like Honey* by **Becky Namgauds**, *The Forecast* by **Amy Bell**, and *Juliet & Romeo*, by **Lost Dog**
- Part of the Made in Scotland Showcase 2019, *Ensemble* by **Robbie Syngé and Lucy Boyes** explores the possibilities of multigenerational dance, as does *Fear Less Age Less* – a showcase featuring **PRIME**, **Lothian Youth Dance Company**, and **T.I.M Company**.
- The return of the ever-surprising Taiwan Season to Dance Base for the sixth year, with *Monster* by **Dua Shin Te Production** and *Floating Flowers* with **B.DANCE**.
- Dance Base Associate Artists past and present feature prominently in the programme, with current Associate Artists **Claricia Parinussa** and **Bridie Gane** performing in a triple bill with **Tamsyn Russell**, and 2017/18 Associate Artist **Robbie Syngé** bringing *Ensemble* to the Fringe, with co-creator **Lucy Boyes**.
- *Born to Manifest*, by **Joseph Toonga/Just Us Dance Theatre** is a responsive explosion of hip hop dance theatre that explores the experiences of black British men, featured in a double bill alongside *Like Honey*, by **Becky Namgauds**, which challenges the tangibility of the divine feminine and gendered shame of menstruation.
- *6 Feet, 3 Shoes*, by **Slanjayvah Danza**, a celebration of friendship across borders, mashing up traditional Scottish dance and music played live with percussive flamenco.
- Edinburgh dance artist **Christina Liddell** has created *Glimpsing Air Pockets* as a delicate reflection of her work with the young people of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, featuring creative contributions from the children and one of the young people as a performer in the show.
- *Transfigured – The Pack* by **Oceanallover** takes place in and around the Grassmarket and part of it can be seen for free, but in each performance, 13 audience members who buy a ticket will be dealt a card and will meet a character, who will then lead them on a journey and offer a unique, unforgettable guided insight into the show.
- **Agata Maszkiewicz**, produced by Avant Scene Cognac, brings *Still Life* to Dance Base, following the success of 2014's *POLSKA*. This is presented in a partnership between Dance Base and Poland's Adam Mickiewicz Institute.
- Iconic and legendary Fringe show, *The Hospital* by **Jo Strömngren Kompani** returns to Edinburgh by special request of Dance Base artistic director, Morag Deyes MBE, who said of this year's programme...

'At Dance Base, we are united in our love of the exquisite, subtle and deep communication that can be transmitted with the body. This year's programme is testament to that superpower of the dance maker to create an experience that stays with audiences long after the show is over.

'For 2019 we spill onto the thrilling Festival melee of the Grassmarket and surprise passers-by with movement and music to lift the spirits.'

The full programme is online at dancebase.co.uk/festival19

The Festival 19 brochure can be downloaded at dancebase.co.uk/brochures

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Notes for Editors

- Dance Base is Scotland's National Centre for Dance, situated in Edinburgh, and exists to encourage and celebrate the potential for dance in everyone. Providing classes and workshops for the community, masterclasses and residences for professional dancers, and an extensive programme of outreach work, Dance Base strives to inspire wellbeing and creativity, and cultivates a future for dance in local, national and international communities. Dance Base is a Creative Scotland Regularly Funded Organisation (RFO).
- Patron: HRH Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay KT KG
- Artistic Patron: Mark Morris
- Dance Base's Festival programme is curated by Artistic Director, Morag Deyes, MBE.
- Dance Base's Festival 2019 programme has 29 shows from 10 countries: the Basque Country, Belgium, England, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Scotland, Taiwan.
- During the Festival, Dance Base supports performers and visiting companies in Edinburgh with a special programme of classes and workshops. It offers a first-class venue for professionals to rehearse, a space for their practice and low-cost studio hire.
- Throughout the year, the £7m dance facility is visited over 50,000 times, for 130+ different classes and workshops. Alongside this, Dance Base's professional programme exists to support and nurture professional dancers and their work at all levels through classes, workshops, and a programme of residences.
- Dance Base is a member of the European Dancehouse Network (EDN) – the first Scottish dance house to be accepted to the network; opening opportunities for Scottish dance artists.
- Dance Base is a two-time winner of the Euan's Guide Accessible Fringe Award (2015 & 2016) and in 2018 became the first venue to be designated Level 3 (the highest level currently attainable) in the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society's Venue Access Award.
- Festival 19 at Dance Base is sponsored by FWB Park Brown Executive Search
- For all press requests and media enquiries, please contact Emma Lawford on press@dancebase.co.uk

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