

MARKED

EXIM DANCE COMPANY

CHOREOGRAPHY ADAM BENJAMIN AND DANCERS

AVAILABLE FOR TOURING APRIL 2020 ONWARD

" I HEARD NOT A WORD AND ONLY ONE COUGH FROM THE AUDIENCE DURING THE ENTIRE PERFORMANCE. OTHERWISE, PRETTY MUCH THE SOUND OF PEOPLE HOLDING THEIR BREATH."

"ABSOLUTELY MIRACULOUS"


"BRILLIANT PIECE OF INTELLIGENT, PLAYFUL AND AUTHENTIC CHOREOGRAPHY"

AUDIENCE RESPONSES FROM PREMIER



IMAGE: STEVE TANNER

THE COMPANY

A photograph of a man in a wheelchair on the left and a person lying on the floor on the right. The man in the wheelchair is wearing a light-colored patterned shirt and brown pants, looking down. The person on the floor is shirtless and lying on their side with their head on the floor. The background is dark and reflective.

Exim Dance Company tour nationally and internationally creating live performance that draws on the creativity and individuality of the company dancers. With a thirst for adventure and a dedication to collaboration, Exim work across art forms, with multi dimensional work that reaches new audiences. Stripping away pre-conceived ideas and being real about who we are and what we do, we aim to reveal the visceral nature of dance - what it is to move and be moved.

Formed in 2011 in the South West of England, Exim rapidly established itself as a vibrant, exciting and inclusive company creating professional dance theatre with regionally based choreographers.

The company provides a range of professional development opportunities for local artists and students in partnership with University of Plymouth and Next Steps Southwest.

TOURING

In 2018 the company performed in the UK, Russia and South Korea presenting 'The Birth of Memory' choreographed by Adam Benjamin. In 2019 Benjamin's latest work for the company MARKED premiered in the UK and toured to Italy.

MARKED will be Exim's third UK touring production, following the success of The Birth of Memory, Impact 2014/2015 and Etch 2016/2017.

Exim Dance Company is supported by Arts Council England, University of Plymouth, Plymouth Dance, Next Steps Southwest, Plymouth School of Creative Arts and The Barbican Theatre Plymouth

The Birth of Memory
"A piece that elicited heart felt emotions"
Artistic Director
KIADA festival South Korea 2018



MARKED: THE PERFORMANCE

MARKED is a piece about what happens when we draw lines and divide people one from another. It is about partition and the borders we cant cross over, or think we cant. The work speaks to the current European zeitgeist, and echoes the concerns of ordinary people living in increasing divided times.

"We're just marking this, not full out, just a run through before the real thing. We're marking out the spaces that we're going to move through, that we have permission to move through, marking out the territories that belong to us, and those that belong to you, because we need to know, and you need to know where the lines are drawn; who is to be marked up and who is marked out; destined for the margins."

Reviews of Benjamin's previous works'

"...one of the most soul-stirring and inspirational pieces of contemporary dance I have ever seen."

Disability Times

"An extraordinary example of integrated dance. Darkly lyrical, epic yet intimate, it flows like a disorienting, episodic dream."

THE TIMES



MARKED:

DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES



EXIM CREATIVE LEARNING: WORKSHOPS AND RESIDENCIES

We have experience delivering workshops across all stages of education and offer a full creative learning package tailored to suit the needs of your organisation.

We build partnerships with performance venues, dance development organisations, learning and or physical disability settings, education providers and dance companies/teachers.

We offer professional development and/or mentoring for dance artists who lead or wish to establish integrated projects or groups.

Development work can take place ahead of the performances and or during a residency. Support can also be offered post project to ensure continuity and legacy after the company's visit.

PERFORMANCES

- Marked [1 hour] Promotional performances/ extracts
- 20- 35 minutes suitable for mixed bills or gala programmes, alternative settings - events
- Bespoke curtain raisers enabling local groups to perform alongside Exim Dance

WORKSHOPS

- Adam Benjamin is available to lead workshops/master classes if dates are arranged in advance.
- Taster sessions for people with learning and or physical disabilities
- CPD for dance practitioners and community facilitators
- Aspirational workshops for existing integrated and non integrated groups, lead by Exim Dance educational team and company dancers

PARTNERSHIP & ADVOCACY

- Partnerships with local education providers, local services.
- Facilitating new partnerships or developing existing ones
- Advocacy and profile-raising opportunities with local stakeholders and decision makers

MARKED:

Previous tours have been successful in building relationships with venues and with our audience. Two venues that struggle to get a dance audience, took a risk and booked us. In both, 90% of the audience had never been to their venue before and told us they would return to see Exim.

MARKETING AND AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT

- The disabled community interested in dance who may not normally feel able to access it.
- Current university and college students and graduates of Dance, Theatre, Drama, Music, Media, Art and other performance related subjects.
- GCSE, A level and BTEC Dance, Theatre and Music students
- Youth Dance Companies
- Past attendees to your venue.
- Past attendees to Exim Dance Company (Performances, Classes and Workshops)
- The venues existing audience for Dance Theatre, Contemporary Dance and Physical Theatre.
- Dance and Theatre Professionals and Practitioners.
- Arts professionals.
- Employees and audience members of other dance and theatre venues.
- Live music attendees.



Exim has strong online image and presence through our use of social media and our strong portfolio of images. As avid Facebookers, tweeters and bloggers our online audience is around 2000 and growing. This is how most of our marketing will be done; through social media and direct email and mailchimp invites to our performances. In addition to utilising social media we have a range of printed marketing available for venues.

WHAT EXIM CAN DO

- Exim Dance Company can help partners to develop new audiences and participants by connecting with local care and Learning Disability settings and communities
- Bespoke targeted marketing campaigns will be devised with each partner to maximise audience and participant engagement
- High quality print and electronic marketing materials will be available for distribution
- All workshops, events and talks will be used to build audiences, with those who attend being kept informed of performances
- A press consultant will support local profiling with a national campaign
- The project can include training and/or specific guidance for venue marketing and Front of House staff in attracting and retaining people with learning disabilities as audience members



WHAT CAN BE AVAILABLE

Press Release: Available on request from tour@eximdance.org.uk

A5 Flyers: Available on request from tour@eximdance.org.uk

A4 and A3 posters: Available on request

Additional footage of the company's work available:

:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AUUYnHG4bag&t=8s>

Gallery of images: please go to our website:

<http://eximdance.org.uk/productions/marked/>

E-flyer: Available on request from tour@eximdance.org.uk

Company website: www.eximdance.org.uk

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/exim.dance

Twitter: @eximdance

Instagram: @eximdance

#MARKEDTour #EximDance

THE TEAM

Laura Nightingale - Artistic Director & Producer

Laura graduated from University of Plymouth in 2013 in Dance Theatre, she has embedded herself in the dance community of the South West of England, specialising in working in intergenerational community settings, delivering dance to disadvantaged young people and people with disabilities as well as touring nationally and internationally as a performer. Her passion is breaking the social-political barriers that surround dance. One of Laura's main focuses is to help improve the health and well-being of all the participants she works with and to make dance accessible for all. In 2016 she took on the role as Artistic Director for Exim Dance Company and has since helped build the company which now has its own office and studio space and is employing more core staff than ever before. The company is and is now on the international touring circuit and is forming long lasting partnerships with both local and national partners. In 2019 Laura was elected by Active Devon to be a 'This Girl Can' ambassador for the South West campaign and was chosen for the 2018/19 cohort 'Women in Leadership Programme' lead by Women's Resource Centre London where she was invited to deliver a speech at The House of Lords in March 2019 around 'Women in Leadership Roles'

Lucy Freeman - Company Dancer

Based in the South West of England, Lucy embarks on her second year as company dancer for Exim Dance Company, having previously toured with Claire Summers Work 'Etch'. Lucy graduated from Falmouth University in 2014 with a First Class Honors Degree in Dance Performance. She then went on to join Postgraduate, international touring company Mapdance and gained her Masters Degree with Distinction in Dance Performance from Chichester University. Lucy has since worked with London's Coegi Company, performing at the Stockholm Fringe Festival, Efferus Collective, Performing at Theatre Royal Plymouth, as well as working on various other regional projects for Far Flung Dance Theatre, Spindrift Dance Collective, Chhaya Collective and Plymouth Dance. She has also recently begun working with Brighton based Katie Dale-Everett Dance.

Adam Benjamin - Choreographer

Adam Benjamin was joint founder and artistic director of CandoCo Dance Company and founder member of 'Five Men Dancing'. He teaches internationally and independently and in collaboration with Kirstie Simson and Russell Maliphant. Adam has choreographed for companies such as CandoCo, Vertigo Dance Company (Israel), Kyo (Japan) and Scottish Dance Theatre. In South Africa, shortly after the dismantling of apartheid, he founded the award winning Tshwaragano Dance Company, the first South African dance company integrated on both racial and disability lines, working in collaboration with Nelson Mandela's choir. In Ethiopia he developed the integrated strand for the Adugna Dance Theatre Company. He has been an Associate Artist at The Place, a Wingate Scholar, Rayne Choreographic Fellow and recipient of an Arts Council International Artist Fellowship. He was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship (Plymouth University 2013), and was named a Change Maker by the South Bank Centre in 2015. His book Making an Entrance (Routledge 2002) considered a seminal text. Adam recently collaborated with Japanese sustainable fashion designer Usaburo, and the performance group USATO.ZA and worked on Europe Beyond Access in partnership with Codarts and Artez universities, Holland Dance and CID. www.adambenjamin.co.uk

Kevin French - Company Dancer

Kevin is a disabled dance artist who has had cerebral palsy since birth and uses a spell board or iPad to communicate. He works as a life model using nudity to explain his disability. Kevin was the first person to complete a dance theatre degree at University of Plymouth and has recently completed a masters in Performance Training at Plymouth Conservatoire. Kevin has been one of the longest serving company dancers with Exim performing in The Birth of Memory and was a part of IMPACT tour. He has also choreographed on the company.

ANIA JUREK - COMPANY DANCER

Ania grew up in Poland where she achieved a BA in Dance Composition and Social Policy. She recently graduated from Northern School of Contemporary Dance in the UK via an exchange program and is currently finishing her studies in Dance and Pedagogy at Bruckner Privatuniversität in Austria. Ania has been touring in Austria, Ukraine and Poland with ARTIL International Residency Program performing with works by up-coming choreographers. She is an experienced manager of interdisciplinary events including Face Festival 2019 UK, and creates her own and collective works including collaborations with art galleries and musicians. Since 2014 she became a member of STW School as a company dancer and pedagogue working with disabled and non-disabled adults and young people. She has worked with, amongst others ; Jason Jacobs, Regina van Berkel, Jinan Qu, Maciej Kuźmiński, Natalia Iwaniec, Natalia Draganik-Franke and Vinicius Salles. Ania joined Exim in 2018.

NATHAN MATTHEWS - COMPANY DANCER

Nathan trained for 3 years at University of Plymouth in Dance Theatre, where he engaged with integrated dance through workshops with companies such as Stop Gap and Candoco Dance Company, before graduating with a 2.1 Degree. He has gained experience in a variety of dance projects/companies including Spindrift and since graduating he teaches contemporary dance in local schools in the South West and at University of Plymouth, developing his own style of contemporary dance and working in diverse communities in the dance sector. He has worked with Instep Dance Company based in Kent, teaching the professional youth company performing.

ANTONI ANDROULAKIS - COMPANY DANCER

Antoni started dancing Hip Hop at the age of eleven, later on discovering contemporary dance. He graduated from the Royal Conservatoire of Antwerp under the direction of Iris Bouche progressing to his next degree in La Manufacture (Switzerland) where he focused on choreographic and pedagogic research. During his training he performed for David Zambrano, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Wim Vandekeybus, Agostina d'Alessandro. Antoni has also worked with Rakesh Sukesh for the creation of 'Kurukshestra', was choreographic assistant for company Cocoon during the creation of 'Attaque' and also performed in acrobatic circus with Alexander Vantournhout, Jordi L. Vidal, Michelle Cheung & Julie Pecard amongst others. Antoni now leads workshops in various countries across Europe.

TIM HARDY - TECHNICAL DESIGN

Tim graduated with a degree in Lighting Design from Rose Bruford College and has since built a successful career in Production Management and Lighting Design. Technically managing venues such as The Place (London), The Gardner Centre (Brighton), The House (Plymouth) and Pavillion Dance South West. Tim is committed to supporting established and developing companies to realise their technical aspirations. He has worked with Richard Alston, Heather Walrond, Five Men Dancing, Impermanence Dance Theatre & ZoieLogic. As a lighting designer Tim has been with Exim Dance Company since the start of their journey and is proud and privileged to be able to light their newest touring work MARKED.

MATHEW EMMETT- VIDEO & SOUND DESIGN

Architect-artist, Mathew Emmett, works across audio-visual installation, sound, film and architecture. He re-configures space into intensities of affect. Among other collaborations and international commissions, Emmett works with choreographer Adam Benjamin, Eberhard Kranemann (co- founder of Kraftwerk), composer Dave Bessell (Node), Perception Lab and Charles Jencks. In June 2016 Emmett performed 'Sender Receiver' using a digitally augmented bullroarer at the opening of the Tate Modern Blavatnik Building, London.

MELAINE LE BARS - TECHNICAL DESIGN

Melaine's work spans Theatre, Performance, Dance & Music. After working in venues such as the National Theatre in France, Melaine developed his craft in his role of technical manager for La Maison du Theatre in Brest over 6 years. In parallel, he co-owned an events decoration company 'Stelladecor' in France before gaining his post of Theatre Technician and Production Lighting at the University of Plymouth. He now coordinates UK tours and is a member of several creative teams producing site specific outdoor performances in the South West such as Burn the Curtain and WildWorks. Most recently as a lighting designer, he has collaborated with Broken Spectacles, Exim Dance Company & Heather Walrond Dance Company. He investigates light, colour and movement.

MEIER WILLIAMS - COSTUME DESIGN

Meier Williams has worked in theatre/film as a theatre/costume designer over the past 30 years. Trained at Wimbledon School of Art and Croydon College London in the late 80' early 90's. Meier says 'I just adores fabric, when sculpted in to a garment a voice can be heard of who what when where why how.... the character comes to life'. Based in Cornwall, her work has taken her all over the country designing set & costume. Meier is also an experienced costume supervisor for : Scary Little Girls, WildWorks, Kneehigh, Exim Dance, Golden Tree Production, The Eden Project, Burn The Curtain. National Theatre, London, Theatre Royal Plymouth, Barbican Theatre, Plymouth.

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