



## Dance and Civil Rights Symposium

Phoenix Dance Theatre is delighted to offer a unique multi-media symposium – including dance, presentations, film and audience discussion – that celebrates 50 years of the Civil Rights Act and explores how dance and choreographic works can address strong political issues.

The Civil Rights Act was an act that has allowed voices to be heard and actions to have meaning and **Tenacity Phoenix @ Home 2014 season**, is curated from the works in Phoenix's repertoire that resonate and reflect different ways to connect with that message.

This symposium, organized by Christy Adair and Ramsay Burt, considers the history in this programme not only in the selected works but in the dancers engaged to deliver them and explores how movement can approach historical moments and express the forces and debates that fuelled them.

The day will include short presentations and reflections on **Tenacity** which includes, **1976** a work delivered in 2009 and choreographed by Alesandra Seutin about the atrocities in South Africa; **Longevity** choreographed by Gary Lambert in 1994 to the speech 'I have a Dream' by Martin Luther King and **The Audacious One** choreographed in 2008 by Warren Adams based on the 'Audacity of Hope' speech by Barack Obama.

Participants will include: **Sharon Watson, Christy Adair, Ramsay Burt, Laura Griffiths, Kathy Williams and dancers from Phoenix Dance Theatre.**

Following the symposium there will be a performance in the Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre of **Tenacity** presenting the works discussed during the day.



## Programme for the day

12.00 – 12.30	Coffee and Registration
12.30 – 2.00	<p><b>1964 the US context and its impact in the UK</b></p> <p>The afternoon begins with Ramsay Burt, Professor of Dance History at De Montfort University looking back at how the Civil Rights Act of 1964 became a catalyst for change and what effect this has had on UK society and culture over the last five decades. This is followed by a look at the significance of The Civil Rights Act of 1964 for dance and human rights in conversation with Phoenix Artistic Director Sharon Watson and Christy Adair, Professor of Dance Studies at York St John University. There will also be a chance to ask questions and for open discussion.</p>
2.00 – 2.30	Coffee Break
2.30 – 3.45	<p><b>Open Rehearsal</b> Sharon Watson, Phoenix Dance Theatre Artistic Director, will lead an open rehearsal and discussion with dancers and choreographers about dancing and choreographing works with political and social themes.</p>
4.00 – 4.30	Coffee Break
4.30 – 6.00	The afternoon will end with a panel discussion facilitated and led by Christy Adair and Ramsay Burt with dancers Tanya Richam –Odoi, Andile Sotiya, Kathy Williams and Stephen Derrick
6.00 – 7.30	Supper break – please note that food is not provided but can be ordered in advance from the on-site café. Alternatively the venue is just 10 minutes' walk from Leeds' busy shopping centre.
7.30	<b>Tenacity Performance</b>

## Price & Location

£35 full price / £20 students\*

\* Please note these tickets will need to be collected from Box Office with proof of student ID.

The Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre, Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7PA

This is a fundraising event in aid of Phoenix Dance Theatre Ltd

[BOOK TICKETS](#)