



CALL OUT FOR COMPOSERS

The Choreographers and Composers Lab 2019

Key Dates:

Week One: Tuesday 2 July to Saturday 6 July 2019

Week Two: Tuesday 9 July to Saturday 13 July 2019

Phoenix Dance Theatre is delighted to announce its second Choreographers and Composers Lab in July 2019; a two-week intensive in our state-of-the-art dance centre in Leeds.

Four choreographers and four composers will be selected to participate in an immersive creative process of experimentation on cross-disciplinary collaboration and artistic partnerships. The choreographers and composers will work with 12 professional dancers and four musicians who will assist them over the two-week period in the exploration of their collaborative visions.

Details of the Course

The course will be led by Phoenix Dance Theatre's Artistic Director & Choreographer Sharon Watson and Independent Music Director & Composer Shirley J. Thompson, who throughout the duration of the course will also act as mentors to participants.

The focus will not be the creation of finished works; rather the course will encourage participants to think about creation in different and challenging ways. Initially through task-based exercises and in the later stages of the course, collaboratively developing ideas to enhance choreographic and composition practice. The spirit of the course is to provide a secure structure while remaining flexible and responsive to the needs of participants. An informal sharing to an invited audience will provide an opportunity to gain feedback at the end of the two-week course.

Lectures and workshops delivered by invited industry professionals will punctuate the course aiming to provoke discussion, 'inject' fresh perspective, encourage questions and support the creative process across the two-week period.

Successful participants will have the opportunity to work with a range of instrumentalists.

The Choreographers and Composers Lab provides:

- A bursary contribution of £900.00 to participating composers for accommodation and per diem.
- Contribution towards the participant's travel.
- Support, advice and presentations from industry professionals.
- Access to resources to facilitate learning and experimentation.
- Recording of their delivery

Criteria for selecting composers

Composers will need to be available for the whole duration of the course: 9.00am – 6.00pm, Tuesday 2 – Saturday 6 July and Tuesday 9 July – Saturday 13 July. Please note, on Saturday 13 July there is potential that the day will be extended to facilitate the studio sharing.

Essential - Composers must:

- Have at least one experience working with ensembles, performers or an instrumentalist outside a purely educational environment in notated and/or improvised performance formats.
- Show distinctiveness in their artistic voice (*we are also interested in artistic voices representative of, or influenced by multi-cultural 21st century Britain*).
- Be interested and able to collaborate effectively with choreographers, musicians and other creatives to determine technical details for a new dance work.
- Be at the critical stage of their musical career and be within the first ten years of starting their professional practice.
- Be based in the UK – primarily live and work in the UK.

Desirable but not essential- Composers may:

- Be able to play at least one musical instrument competently.
- Be able to use computers and synthesizers to compose and arrange music.
- Have experience guiding musicians during rehearsals, performances, or recording sessions.
- Have formal qualifications in the study of music, focusing on music theory, composition, and music interpretation.

Please use your discretion to determine if this description fits you. Some applicants might be within 10 years of graduating from an educational course, whilst others might have changed direction or career and mark their entering into their professional composition practice differently. There is no age limit to apply. If your situation is not immediately clear, please explain your position in your application.

Application

To apply please submit the following:

- A C.V (maximum of 2 A4 pages) to include your contact details and the name and email of a professional reference we can contact prior to the offer of a place.
- A statement of intent (maximum of 1 A4 page) responding to the following:
 - i. What does collaboration mean to you?
 - ii. How would taking part contribute to your artistic professional development?
 - iii. Why is this the right moment for you to participate?
 - iv. What do you expect to gain or achieve from participating?
- Links to no more than two works (a maximum of 15 minutes) via an audio platform such

as Soundcloud or via a video platform such as Vimeo or YouTube. Please list the title of each work, the date it was premiered, names of collaborators and the date of the performance on a separate sheet. All works should have been created within the last five years.

Selection will be by invitation only.

Please note applications which do not include all of this information or arrive after the closing date will not be considered.

Requirements

- Composers to sign an Agreement with Phoenix Dance Theatre incorporating the course guidelines; participating in informal presentations and the documentation of work produced on the course.
- Participants are required to contribute to the evaluation process.
- Phoenix Dance Theatre reserves the right to use video recordings and photographs for promotional, educational and fundraising purposes.

Submission

Please send your application to: platform@phoenixdancetheatre.co.uk

Please use the subject line: Composers Application

The closing date for applications is 11 January 2019.

Applicants selected for interview will be notified by 31 January 2019.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to interview on the 21 and 26 February 2019.

Please indicate on your application if you are not available for interview on these dates.

Participants will be chosen by the Artistic Director and the Music Director. Their selection decision is final.

For more information about the Choreographers and Composers Lab please visit the Phoenix Dance Theatre website: www.phoenixdancetheatre.co.uk/work/cclab/

(Please complete and email Equal Opportunities Form to bev.ibbetson@phoenixdancetheatre.co.uk)

Supported by:

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Leeds Dance Partnership is a group of organisations and individuals who are working together to develop the city as an international centre of excellence for dance. Leeds Dance Partnership is supported by Arts Council England and Leeds Bid. For more information please contact Partnership Director Shirley Lundstram shirley@leedsdancepartnership.com