

2023 rise

dancenorth
scotland

Festival of
contemporary
dance and
performance

Fri 26 – Sun 28 May

Tickets:

Weekend Performance Pass (3 days) **£45**

1-day Performance Pass **£18**

Workshops **Pay What You Can**

Location:

Indoor performances at
The Universal Hall and
outdoor performances around
The Park Ecovillage, Findhorn

info@dancenorth.scot

www.dancenorth.scot



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL



Join us as
we celebrate
Dance North's

20th
Birthday!

Dance North is 20! Originally called Bodysurf Scotland and founded in 2003, the organisation has been a nexus for all things contemporary dance in Moray and the North-East for two decades.

For much of that time, RISE has been at the heart of Dance North Scotland's creative programming, and this year's festival of contemporary dance and performance is a true celebration of past, present and future. An examination of lives lived, of ritual and grief. An exploration of who we are, and who we could be. A delve into feelings of exclusion and of welcome, of connection with home and with biome. It's a programme that encompasses life within a community, and it's an invitation to join us in taking a breath, sharing a smile and having a dance.

Times you can dance with us are:

Friday 26 May | 9.45pm – 1am | Dance North's 20th Birthday Party (p3)

Friday 26 & Saturday 27 May | 9am – 9.30am | Getting Ready (p4)

Saturday 27 May | 9pm – 11pm | Fireside Gathering (p3)

Sunday 28 May | 10am – 11am | Family Friendly Workshop (p9)

Sunday 28 May | 11.30am – 1.30pm | Sunday Picnic (p9)

Sunday 28 May | 3pm – 5pm | Jam (p10)

 **#DanceNorthIs20**

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Dance North's 20th Birthday Party

Friday 26 May | 9.45pm – 1am | Phoenix Café
Entry is included with your 1-day or 3-day pass

When we need to celebrate, our first choice will always be to dance. Join the Dance North team and the artists of RISE 2023 at a very special birthday party which will kick off our celebrations of two decades of Dance North.

Join us for a drink and a dance at the Phoenix Café, with DJ sets from Jake Jay-Lewin and Steve Gasgarth, aka Monkey Magic, and possibly some pop-up performances through the course of the evening!



Fireside Gathering (BYO)

Saturday 27 May | 9pm – 11pm
Behind Dance North Scotland's office at The Hive
Entry is included with your 1-day pass or 3-day pass

Taking a more ruminative approach to the ongoing birthday celebrations, we'd love to invite you to a gentle fireside gathering behind our offices. Bring along some drinks and join the Dance North team and the artists as we unwind beside the fire after the second day of performances.



READY Matthew Hawkins

Fri 26 May, 4pm | Sat 27 May | 5pm | Meeting Point: Universal Hall Foyer | 5+ (guideline)

READY is a fine state for a lone dancer. But what might readiness look like? How is it maintained? Are there prospects? It seems Matthew Hawkins has never not been immersed in these questions – as now, in a beguiling 70-minutes of his signature action. And it matters to him that his solo dance is super-portable. He turns up with his second-hand CDs – Beethoven piano sonatas this time – *READY* for anywhere, inviting your glance and your gaze.

Thanks to Dance Base Scotland for residency support

GETTING READY | Workshop

Fri 26 May, 9am – 9.30am | Sat 27 May, 9am – 9.30am

Pay What You Can, Booking Required | The Sunshine Room | Open to all

Get ready for the day with a gentle somatic movement session with Matthew Hawkins.

Enjoy a gentle but telling arc of continuous moves, with focus on the body: gradually opening your mind to a day of dance performances.

This workshop is also an opportunity to feel Matthew's devised dance impulses and rediscover them later, framed in the experience of his solo performance, *READY*.

www.matthewhawkinsdance.co.uk/



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2023

A Sensoral Lecture

Sindri Runudde

Friday 26 May | 7pm | Universal Hall | 13* (guideline)
Entry is included with your 1-day or 3-day pass

A Sensoral Lecture is a solo performance by and with Sindri Runudde, in which we encounter five voices through metaphoric dating scenarios. The show deals with auditory romance and love at first frequency, an exploration of sound, and especially the voice, as touch. Through dance, dialogue and movement exercises, the audience is invited to a sensual and sensory lecture with humour, imagination and sensitivity.

Together with composer Marta Forsberg, Sindri explores the concept of a voice message, and the culture of audio versus text-based communication. Curiously examining the intimacy of the voice message, with observational humour – we discover that a voice message can be way more intimate than a nude picture.

The performance is based on Sindri's exploration of the tactile and auditive-based movement practice, 'Centered Adventures'. With guidance from Sindri, the audience will be invited to try this practice during the performance.

This performance involves audience participation.

A production by Sindri Runudde. Supported by Swedish Arts Council, The Swedish Arts Grants Committee, Stockholm Municipality, Stockholm region and Malmö Municipality.



Image by Graham Adley



Image by Rosie Powell Freelance

Tits & Teeth

Thick & Tight

Friday 26 May | 8.45pm | Universal Hall | 14* (guideline)
Entry is included with your 1-day or 3-day pass

Thick & Tight present *Tits & Teeth*; a collection of performed portraits of famous and infamous people, brought back to life through dance, mime, drag and lip syncing. Expect to be entertained by the likes of Barbara Cartland, Andy Warhol, Grace Jones – and everyone's favourite avant-garde duo, John Cage & Elaine Paige. *Tits & Teeth* celebrates high and low art in all its variety, splendour and stupidity.

Thick & Tight (Daniel Hay-Gordon and Eleanor Perry) are thrilled to bring their work to RISE festival and to be joined by Harry Alexander and Azara Meghie, two stars of British dance and performance.

"a true masterclass in dance and satire" ★★★★★ The Stage

www.thickandtight.com/titsandteeth

This performance includes sexually suggestive language and movement, strong language/swearing

Co-commissioned by London International Mime Festival and Duckie. Supported by Arts Council England, Rambert School, Trinity Laban, Vauxhall Gardens Community Centre and Sadler's Wells.

My-co-listening Simone Kenyon

Saturday 27 May | 10am | 16+ (guideline)
Meeting Point: Universal Hall Foyer
Pay What you Can, Booking Required

Myco from Greek *mukēs* means fungus, denoting a relationship to fungus. Mycology is the scientific study of fungi.

My-co-listening is a sound work/meditation event that invites you to explore collectively and individually ways of relating to fungi. This event will specifically focus on cultivated fruiting bodies (aka mushrooms) and if possible, the wider woodland within our reach. Through deep listening and attending to our own bodily resonances, *My-co-listening* creates a moment for us to encounter and develop our sense of kinship towards our fungal communities and wider ecologies.

www.simonekenyon.com

Simone Kenyon is an Arts in Moray (AIM) artist in residence with Dance North and this event is part of Fruiting Bodies, Simone's current research in development.

Arts in Moray (AIM) is a Culture Collective supported by Creative Scotland and designed to support artists.



Image by Simone Kenyon



Image by Solomon Hughes

I am from Reykjavik Sonia Hughes

Saturday 27 May | 11am – 6pm
Meeting Point: Universal Hall Foyer
All ages | Entry is included with your 1-day or 3-day pass

It's simple really. I come to Findhorn, I find a spot, I build myself a shelter, I take it down.

Another day I try somewhere else in the world. I'm trying to feel at home anywhere. I want to know what is required of a stranger in a new city and what is required of a city when the new arrival appears.

There are questions about entitlement, identity, belonging, freedom, home. Part sculpture, part protest, part ceremony.

The invitation is to witness me and your neighbourhood. Come and go, pass by, stay – it takes me a while. See how well Findhorn and I meet. It could be that any one of us may soon have to find elsewhere to live, how will that go?

www.iamfromreykjavik.com

*A Spill Festival, Jerwood Arts and Lift Commission
In Partnership with Festspillene I Nord-Norge, Spring Performing Arts Festival, Ilt Festival and Royal Docks. Supported by Arts Council England.*

Kirstie Simson

Talk: Musings on the importance of listening to our embodied intelligence during these turbulent times

Saturday 27 May | 11.30am

The Sunshine Room | 16+ (guideline)

Pay What you Can, Booking Required



What practices and behaviours cultivate the wisdom we need today?

It seems critical that we share lived experiences of diverse ways of being, knowing and understanding as we journey together in a time which is urgently calling for our transformation. My own path is one of learning through the body.

All I will ever need to know in this life is already inherently present within me.

In a state of alert relaxed surrender and a quietness of being, an intense listening facilitates deep communion – where the movement of life and who I am are experienced as one and the same.

Being vulnerably immersed in the overwhelming act of living, continuously discovering who I am through my responses to the challenges that life will always present us with, I return again and again through the living, breathing corporeality of my body, to this life-affirming practice.



AFTER ALL

Solène Weinachter

Saturday 27 May | 3pm | Universal Hall | 14+ (guideline)

Entry is included with your 1-day or 3-day pass

AFTER ALL is a celebration of our vulnerable and courageous existence, Solène melds dance, comedy, storytelling, and theatre to ask - what happens in the end?

Through a series of impassioned re-enactments of the funerals of those she's loved – as well as imagining her own – Solène attempts to conjure a better space, to be with death, dying and loss.

AFTER ALL is a heartfelt exploration of the death rituals we have; the ones lost and those that need invented. Joyously bringing us together to explore the role that dancing might play in healing.

This performance involves gentle audience participation and explores themes of death and grief

www.soleneweinachter.com/after-all

Screen Programme

Curated by Gail Sneddon, with Dance North Youth Company

Sat 27 May, 1.30pm | Sun 28 May, 1.30pm & 3.30pm | The Sunshine Room | 12+
Entry is included with your 1-day or 3-day pass

A look at dance in film from a new perspective. Following their experience in making a film version of the wildly successful dance theatre performance, SAVAGE, Dance North Youth Company have curated a programme of dance on screen that captured their collective imagination.

In a time when we have more than 40 years of music videos in the public consciousness, and when social media platforms thrive on the daily creation, reproduction and revision of choreography, what does dance on screen mean to the next generation of dance makers?

Image by Harry Jordan



AIRE For My Mother

Kirstie Simson

Saturday 27 May | 8pm | Universal Hall | A16+ | Entry is included with your 1-day or 3-day pass

Kirstie Simson (UK) shares her passion for the exploration of freedom in this autobiographical dance solo/duet performance.

Through the use of humour, eye contact, dialogue and proximity, the performer invites the audience to join her on a journey as she negotiates her way through present moment decision-making that is inherent in improvised performances. With light-hearted spontaneity, through the use of movement and text, this master performer affirms the fundamental positivity of life. She draws on the wisdom of her ancestors as she weaves her parents' stories with her own recent confrontation and subsequent healing from a life-threatening illness, in a work that celebrates the depth of human connection and potentiality.

Kirstie always invites an older woman from the place where she performs to be alongside her on stage as a witness, translator, and co-performer. Part of the charm of the piece is the unfolding of the relationship of these two women who meet for the first time just one hour before the show begins.

This solo explores themes of death and cancer with an uplifting perspective that goes beyond taboos around these subjects.

www.kirstiesimson.com



Movement Play for Families

Led by Ruth Kent & Neil Callaghan

Sun 28 May | 10am | Universal Hall | Pay What You Can
Entry is not included with your 1-day or 3-day pass
Open to all, but children should be accompanied by an adult

Music. Props. Collaboration. Fun! Join us for a creative movement session for all the family, from tots to grandparents. Be prepared to take off your shoes and socks, to connect with each other, and to explore different ways of moving! Led by DN's Dance Development Lead, Ruth Kent together with guest artist, Neil Callaghan.

Sunday Picnic (BYO)

Sun 28 May | 11.30am – 1.30pm | The Dancing Green | All Ages
Entry is included with your 1-day or 3-day pass

You're invited into the extended Dance North family as we gather on The Dancing Green for a wholesome Sunday picnic, with a chance to dance together in the sunshine (we hope!) and connect with our community and environment.

You bring anything you'd like to eat and drink and we'll bring music and movement. We'll have some blankets and seats available but you're welcome to bring your own if you prefer.



One Woman – I Hear YOU (excerpt)

Salma Faraji

In collaboration with Fleur Darkin

Sunday 28 May | 1.30pm | Universal Hall | 12+ (guideline)
Entry is included with your 1-day or 3-day pass

This sharing is drawn from my ongoing research: *The Silence Project* inspired by Fleur Darkin's film production and performance of *My Friends Take Care of Me*.

In breaking my silence, I revisited my learning of British Sign Language, exploring a language and mode of expression that encourages my healing as a mature woman, with a childhood story to share. I have encountered hurdles directly relating to race and culture. I gain strength in recognising these obstacles, challenging my needs and ways of communication.

I invite you to a sharing of my work so far, the process of a vulnerable journey:

A short solo. A reading of prose, with British Sign Language (BSL) interpretation. Some thoughts on my experiences as an AIM Artist in Residence. A chance to ask questions.

Salma Faraji is an Arts in Moray (AIM) artist in residence with Dance North and this event is part of The Silence Project. Salma's current research in development.

Arts in Moray (AIM) is a Culture Collective supported by Creative Scotland and designed to support artists.



Image by Miss Lydella Photography

JAM

Open to Everyone | Led by Kirstie Simson
Sun 28 May | 3pm – 5pm Pay What You Can

Kirstie Simson will lead a gentle warm up and then guide us into moving with the music – exploring the space with freedom, play, presence and awareness.

A jam is not a taught class, but a space for individual and collective expression and creativity. Families are welcome, but due to the free-flowing nature of the movement, we would ask that parents keep close watch over their young people, to avoid any collisions or calamities.



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Dance North is 20!

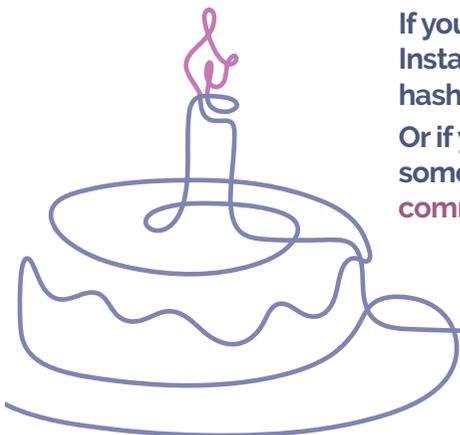
Reflecting on 20 years of Dance North, the thing that really stands out to us is a feeling of a very personal history, and connection with a community.

A big part of the way we'd like to celebrate, as we approach our 'official' birthday in November is to acknowledge the many people who've been part of this organisation's history, and to invite you to share any memories you might have of Dance North events and experiences, whether they were performances, youth company rehearsals, professional workshops, artist residencies, contact jams, or walks on the dunes, we'd love to hear from you.

If there's anything that Dance North has hosted over the last couple of decades that makes you think 'I was there!', then please do share it with us. This could be a sentence or two, a photo from the depths of your camera roll, or even a video response if you feel inspired.

If you want to share something on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter, then just use the hashtag #DanceNorthIs20 and we'll see it.

Or if you feel the urge to send us something longer, you can email it to communications@dancenorth.scot



day planner

2023
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Friday 26 May

9am	Workshop: Getting READY, Matthew Hawkins*	p4
4pm	READY, Matthew Hawkins	p4
7pm	<i>A Sensoral Lecture</i> , Sindri Runudde	p5
8.45pm	<i>Tits & Teeth</i> , Thick & Tight	p5
9.45pm – 1am	Dance North's 20th Birthday Party	p3

Saturday 27 May

9am	Workshop: Getting READY, Matthew Hawkins*	p4
10am	Workshop: My-co-listening, Simone Kenyon*	p6
11am – 6pm (drop in)	<i>I am from Reykjavik</i> , Sonia Hughes	p6
11.30am	Talk: Kirstie Simson*	p7
1.30pm	<i>Screen Programme</i> , curated by Gail Sneddon & DNYC	p8
3pm	<i>AFTER ALL</i> , Solène Weinachter	p7
3.30pm	<i>Screen Programme</i> , curated by Gail Sneddon & DNYC	p8
5pm	READY, Matthew Hawkins	p4
8pm	<i>AIRE: For My Mother</i> , Kirstie Simson	p8
9pm – 11pm	Fireside Gathering (BYO)	p2

Sunday 28 May

10am – 11am	Workshop: Movement Play for Families, led by Ruth Kent & Neil Callaghan*	p9
11.30am – 1.30pm	Sunday Picnic (BYO)	p9
1.30pm	<i>Screen Programme</i> , curated by Gail Sneddon & DNYC	p8
1.30pm	<i>One Woman – I Hear YOU</i> (excerpt), Salma Faraji	p10
3pm – 5pm	Dance Jam, led by Kirstie Simson*	p10
3.30pm	<i>Screen Programme</i> , curated by Gail Sneddon & DNYC	p8

* Workshops and the talk require separate bookings to your 1-day or 3-day performance pass. These are available on a pay what you can basis.