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Photos (left and front cover): Jack Thomson

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Jocelyn Giles
 Director of Learning & Engagement,
 Sadler's Wells

Welcoming these groups from across England to perform on our stage this evening is a real highlight for Sadler's Wells. We hope you enjoy tonight's performance – please join us in showing appreciation for all the hard work and commitment of the young performers, their teachers and group leaders.

A key part of Making Moves is linking participating groups with professional choreographers to understand their individual creative processes. This has been achieved through a mix of in-person training, digital resources and feedback on each group's work. We are thankful to the four choreographers – Alesandra Seutin, Dannielle 'Rhimes' Lecointe, Jordan Douglas, and Oona Doherty – for their inspiration and support.

celebrating and showcasing work that has been created in this year's project. Tonight provides a chance to see new dance pieces choreographed and performed by nine groups from different parts of the country. 48 groups in total participated in Making Moves this year, and it has been incredible to witness the creativity, talent and passion for dance from the young people, teachers and group leaders.

We are delighted to welcome you to tonight's performance as the culmination of an ambitious project with schools and youth groups across England, which has taken place throughout the current academic year.

Welcome

9 July 2024

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Making Moves National Platform



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Making Moves

Making Moves choreographers



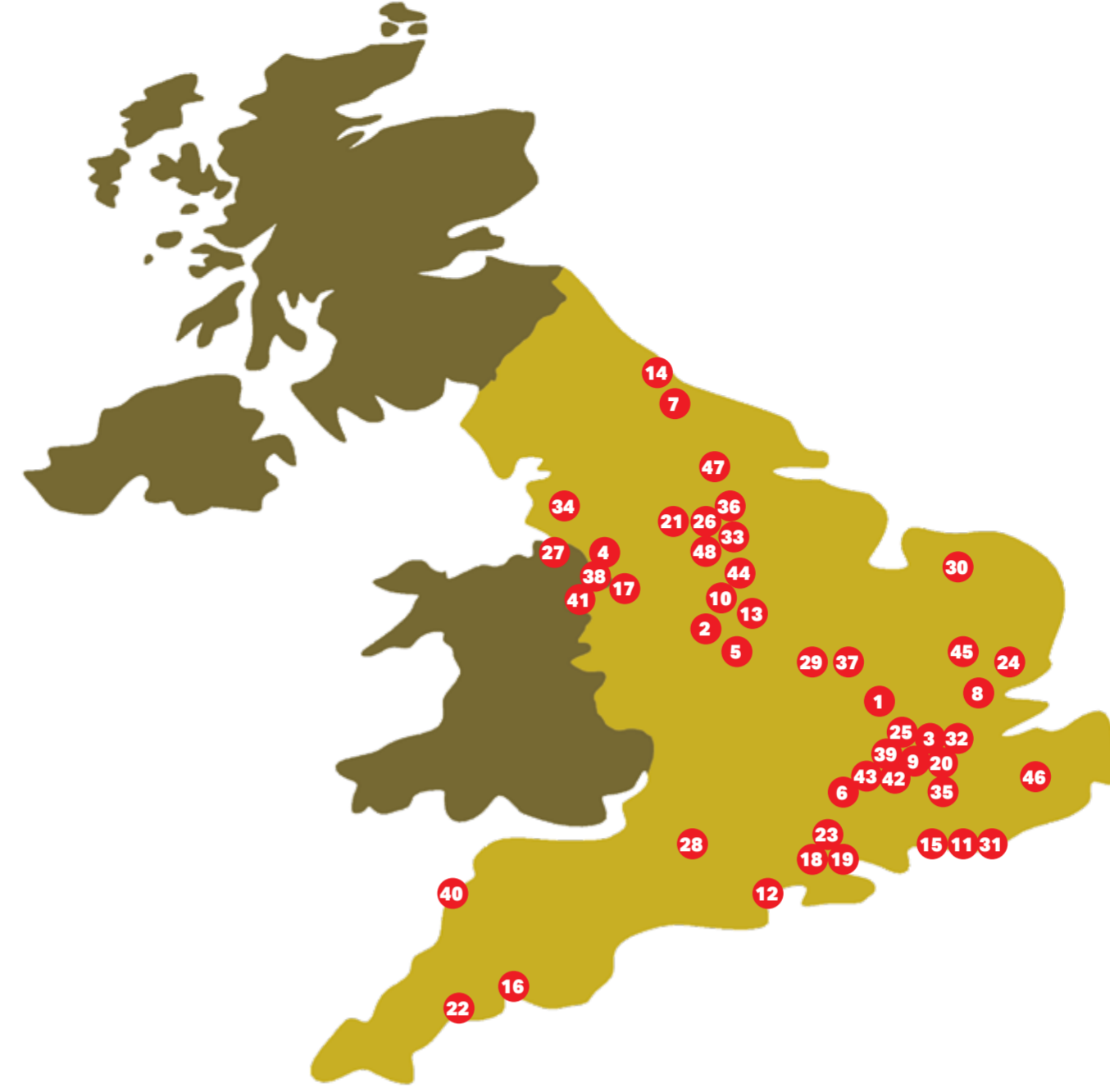
Making Moves is a celebration of the creative process and the art of making. Groups across England were provided with digital toolkits created by four inspiring professional dance artists connected with Sadler's Wells: Alesandra Seutin, Dannielle 'Rhimes' Lacoine (ZooNation: The Kate Prince Company), Jordan Douglas (Far From The Norm) and Oona Doherty.

For Making Moves

Projects Manager, Learning & Engagement Elaine Foley
Senior Projects Officer, Learning & Engagement Nancy Turner
Producer, Learning & Engagement Christopher Haddow
Projects Coordinator, Learning & Engagement Zeynep Gunaydin
Head of Production Adam Carrée
Lighting Designer Amelia Hawkes
Dance Education Consultant Lucy Muggleton
Film Director and Editor Paul Burt

Making Moves is run by Sadler's Wells and supported by Barclays.

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- 28 Dance Company, Welwyn Garden City
- ACE Youth, Birmingham
- Acland Burghley School, London
- Altrincham Grammar School for Girls - Silver Dance, Greater Manchester
- SUMMIT / Ascension Youth, Coventry
- Ash Manor School, Ash
- Barbara Priestman Academy, Sunderland
- The Boswells School, Chelmsford
- Big Deal, Barking Essex, London
- Burton and South Derbyshire College, Burton-on-Trent
- Ceyda Tanc Youth Dance, Brighton
- COAST Youth Dance Company, Dorset
- Curve Young Dance Company, Leicester
- Dame Allan's School, Newcastle
- Davison CE High School for Girls, Worthing
- Exeter College Dance Academy, Exeter
- Fallbroom Academy, Macclesfield
- FuzzyLogic Male Youth Dance Company, Southampton
- Hampshire Youth Dance Company, Hampshire
- The BRIT School, Croydon
- Dance United Yorkshire's Resi/Dance Youth Company, Bradford
- Ivybridge Community College, Ivybridge
- ORB Youth Dance Company, Eastleigh
- Kesgrave High School, Ipswich
- Haringey Shed, London
- Explosive UK, Leeds City College, Leeds City College, Leeds
- LIPA Sixth Form, Liverpool
- Matravers School, Westbury
- Northampton School for Boys, Northampton
- Obsidian, Dereham
- Priory School Lewes, Lewes
- Langley Park School for Boys, Beckenham
- High Storrs School, Sheffield
- Preston Youth Dance Company, Preston
- The Orpheus Centre, Godstone Surrey
- Phoenix Youth Academy, Leeds
- Fully Charged Dance Company, Sharnbrook Academy, Bedford
- Shockout Academy, Manchester
- Goop! Dance Company, Park High School, Stanmore
- Stacked Wonky, Porlock
- Stockport Grammar School, Stockport
- St. Angela's Ursuline School, London
- Woking College, Woking
- The Redhill Academy, Nottingham
- Thomas Gainsborough School, Sudbury
- X Drive Dance Company, John Wallis Academy, Ashford
- York Youth Dance, York
- CAPA college, Wakefield



Photo: Jack Thomson

28 Dance Company (Hertfordshire)

The Party

28 Dance Company is a not-for-profit organisation that provides a platform for young dancers to develop their skills on stage and screen. Founded in 2019 by choreographer Sophia Melvin, 28 has been charming audiences with their award-winning short films ever since. Making their Sadler's Wells debut today, Sophia and the company proudly present 'The Party'.

Our Making Moves toolkit was created by Oona Doherty, who we found to be funny, freeing, and inspiring. Her creative tasks helped us break out of our comfort zones and become emotion-led artists, rather than form-led dancers. At times we found this challenging, but overall we really enjoyed exploring this new way of thinking and moving.

The piece that we will be performing today is a homage to a child's birthday party. The company's choreographer and group leader, Sophia Melvin, developed this theme from the research and development we excavated in the studio. It was a scenario that we could all relate to and therefore contribute to, so it immediately felt the most fitting. With lived experience comes authenticity, so developing our narrative through games, memories and nostalgia allowed us to incorporate Oona's five spinal states into the piece with humour and ease.

This experience has been inspirational and eye-opening for all the participants, and we're incredibly grateful to have been gifted with this opportunity to express ourselves, thanks to Sadler's Wells and the Making Moves team. So, without further ado, it's time to party!

Dancers Abigail Bloomfield, Anya Rodionova, Cerys Winter, Ella Graves, Ella Mohan, Esmé Lawson, Lili Skye Howe, Matilda Course, Shivani Patel, Sienna Akore

Barbara Priestman Academy (Sunderland)

Cor Bellator

Our choreography in a contemporary/street style is based on the theme of heroes, an inspired theme from our choreographer, Rhimes. Through five scenes, we explore a range of abstract ideas in which some personal narratives appear. Dancers explored emotions, creating powerful movements to portray feelings, opinions, and beliefs. We have used the toolkit choreography in the style of a motif and two music tracks that we responded well to, for musicality. Leaders used inspiring, choreographic approaches from the training workshops such as visualization and explicit instruction.

Each young person has created either individual or ensemble pieces of choreography throughout the piece inspired by personal heroes and the positive effects they have on our lives and qualities they've passed on. Through being honest about our experience of life so far, we've explored overcoming obstacles, breaking down barriers and the determination and strength required to succeed. By coming together and uniting as one, we create our own future and the strength of warriors.

Dancers Chelsie F, Chloe E, Daniel SM, Dominic D, Emily J, Jack S, Nicol M, Rebecca S, Samuel C, Skye L, Tiago MR



Ceyda Tanc Youth Dance (Brighton)

UZAK

UZAK fuses Ceyda Tanc's unique movement inspired by traditional Turkish folk dance with powerful hip hop inspired rep from Far From the Norm. The work explores the notion that we are all searching to find human connections in a world driven by technology. The dancers move through personal rituals and seek to find a sense of community within an isolated landscape of individuals.

Drawing inspiration from Jordan Douglas' toolkit, the dancers explored themes from the monotonous ritual of being bound to technology, to the human experiences of searching for genuine physical connection amongst chaos and isolation. The dancers reflected on their own experiences throughout the process, taking ownership of their own narrative arc and interrelationships within the work.

Brighton-based Ceyda Tanc Youth Dance is part of the participation strand for professional company, Ceyda Tanc Dance. The company creates aesthetically-driven contemporary dance influenced by Tanc's Turkish heritage. Subverting the virtuoso movements of male Turkish dancers with an all-female company, their unique movement vocabulary combines athletic contemporary movement with traditional Turkish folk dance, conveying striking shapes and a strong yet sensual energy. Seeking to challenge traditional gender representation and highlight the intersection of cultures in modern Britain, Tanc's work embeds themes of feminism, community and ritual. Community and participation are at the core of the company's practice, encompassing a strong community of collaborators and participants with a focus on empowering women and girls, and reaching refugee and migrant communities.

Dancers Olivia Belzunce, Lily Britton, Romy Crabb, Mia Dubock, Emma Hodge, Imogen Hunt, Mirai Locke, Matilda MacCormick, Leila Miller-Jones, Gwen Moylett, Hannah Newman, Connie Thomas

Curve Young Dance Company (Leicester)

Endless Cycles

Our work is focused on the idea of the endless barriers we face within society and how, with all our different life experiences, we can come together to create a world that allows us to be an individual. What happens to those who walk before us, trying to make change happen; do they succeed, or do they fall back into the life society forces them to have?

Our process began exploring the tasks 'Remember Me' and 'Searching & Finding' from Alesandra Seutin's toolkit. We also looked at the imagery, and the poem, with the stimulus of 'breaking through barriers'. From the imagery, we looked at how we could translate the feelings of the imagery into the work, relationships to the space, and to those around us.

Throughout the process, we created our own poems to fit into the work; some poems discuss what their barriers are, others about the injustices in the world, and some about what they bring to the world. We have developed further by thinking about the transitions, the meaning behind every moment, and adding in text.

Spoken word poem: created by Shivan Kara-Patel, spoken by Lily Reyes

Dancers Annie Unwin, Bethany Taylor, Chloe Harris, Ebony Warden, Ellie Hayton, Kia Warden, Lily Reyes, Lily Scully, Lucie Ellard, Lucy Bosworth, Miles Marshall, Phoebe Ellis, Rachel Jordan, Zara Sura-Roberts



Hampshire Youth Dance Company (Eastleigh, Hampshire)

Somewhere in between

Hampshire Youth Dance Company, based at The Point Eastleigh, is dedicated to providing pre- professional training and performance experience of the highest quality for aspiring young dancers aged 13 - 19yrs from across the region.

The 'herd mentality' - the constant need and struggle to fit in - often leads us to neglect our individuality and feelings as we adopt the behaviours and actions of the people around us. We lose our sense of 'self' as we are swallowed by the herd.

Within the fight to conform are the versions we present of ourselves; It has been said that there are three versions of each of us: who we see ourselves to be, who others see us as, and the person we truly are.

"The truth is if you want to belong, if you want to learn to stand in the light you have to learn to run from the shadows" – Travis Lake

HYDC have taken inspiration from several key thoughts and feelings that evolved from the discussion of Alesandra Seutin's umbrella theme which is woven into our work. Dancers utilised their own personal experiences of this as well as drawing upon the content of Alesandra's toolkit, with a particular focus on the feelings that the images evoked and the questions that Alesandra asks us to consider when making work. Dancers described one of their biggest challenges is staying true to yourself, amongst the overwhelming pressure they feel to fit in, and the fear of failure as being suffocating.

Dancers Alice Lambon, Ava Sims, Ayesha Griffin, Bethany Ashley, Bethany Kelly, Chloe Chaffers, Crystal Stevens, Danielle Dixon, Erica Whittlestone, Flo Lemon, Gemma Hallam Anthony, Georgie Roberts, Hannah Bloxside, Imogen Gray, Isabelle Rosenthal, Kate Nitsch, Lucy Kelly, Molly Drewett, Orion Conning, Phoebe Mufushwa, Rosie Riley

Langley Park School for Boys (Beckenham, Bromley)

Ordinary to extraordinary!

We are from Langley Park School for Boys and are in year 8 to 10, and are all part of the dance club at school. Our choreographic idea has grown out of exploring superheroes and their alter ego counterparts. We may walk by these characters on the street and never know the amazing transformation they can make from ordinary to extraordinary. We used this to explore the idea that people may look at us and not realise the superpower we release when we dance on stage!

We created our own motifs based on superheroes alter egos and developed this into the opening section. Towards the end of this section we feel our superpower growing. For the second section the superhero powers are released. We used Dannielle 'Rhimes' Lecointe's set phrase and developed this to show the idea of the power of the superhero and the power of dance. Finally, we explored contact movements to show the power and freedom we feel when dancing.

Dancers Javier Avilia Pilar, Zain Aziz, Aaron Best, Leo Clarke, Oliver Clayton, Ianto Gwynne, Sascha O'Hara Simpson, Zachary Osei-Amoaten, Luke Payne, Oscar Phillips, Kai Robery, Daniel Rogers, Zidane Rohila, Samuel Sery, Nathaniel Trim, Tajaun Wint

Obsidian (Dereham, Norfolk)

Disconnect

Our choreography explores the theme of social media. Taking guidance from Jordan Douglas' toolkit, we discussed our different viewpoints when it comes to online platforms - some of the team had very positive perceptions whilst others extremely negative. We strived to make a piece with balance; representative of both. Our choreography explores addiction with moments of lightness placed in a dark landscape. The dancers invite you into their world in which we have attempted to blend Jordan's core action content of krump hits and whips amongst our contemporary movement vocabulary. We took great inspiration from the masses of music content available to us through Jordan's toolkit; a large amount of our choreography was created through improvisation to the sound. Finally, being able to receive feedback during the process was invaluable - it made us consider areas of our performance we hadn't before and understand our choices through someone else's eyes.

Dancers Bethany Payton, Elena Fairburn, Emma Daines, Gabriela Guarnieri, Gabriela Matavele, Kaylee King, Kyra Travers, Liliana Cott, Lily Watson, Verity King, Zak Surrell-Parfitt



Stacked Wonky (Porlock, Somerset)

You Don't Know Either

You Don't Know Either is a performance that responded to the kids in front of me and was specifically made after exploring who exactly they were as a group. The piece uses a sequence of structured improvisations to explore ideas of power: young people can feel controlled by those in authority but can also feel tremendously powerful. It's a non-narrative piece described by those who've seen it as being both calm and tense, with moments that are tightly held, as well as highly unpredictable. We also experimented with the use of voice, with one performer bravely electing to sing.

Dancers James Allenby, Minna Allenby, Erin Baker, Yoshi Cooper, Stanley Hayden, Luca Gasperini, Sophie Gasperini, Alex Johnson, Ethan Keal, Leo Konrad, Joshi Newberry, Louisa Rowe, Lenny Shorten, Iola Tomson

Director Benjamin Johnson, age 18

Artistic Support Sarah Shorten

Music Sebastian Tesouro

Lighting Arthur Puttock, age 16

Costume Isaac Lammiman, age 14

Toolkit Oona Doherty

Stockport Grammar School (Stockport)

The Place

Stockport Grammar School is a co-educational independent school which offers a wide variety of dance opportunities both in and beyond its curriculum.

The starting point for our piece was the shifting perspectives found in the Rob Gonsalves painting Sun Sets Sail. The image immediately made us think of the Stockport Viaduct, the biggest brick-build structure in Europe and our local landmark. We explored the physical shapes, structures and movement within the image and also the dualistic perspectives they represent: nature vs man-made, old vs new, poverty vs prosperity, solid vs fluid. This inspired us to create a piece about being from Stockport/Greater Manchester, common perceptions and stereotypes versus the reality of life here. We further developed this to consider and celebrate 'true' heroes from our region; people who have genuinely changed the world for the better.

We begin in the rain – the first thing everyone associates with Manchester! But sun breaks through and we have a moment to pay homage to LS Lowry's depiction of Stockport. We imagine what Stockport was like before industrialisation, Elbow's lyric 'everything has changed' alluding to what is to come. Cottage industry and the yearning for something better leading to the building of the viaduct and all that that enabled; connection, movement, increased wealth, hope, and still the river Mersey flows. The ships (as seen on Manchester City Football Club's badge) represent the first ships to bring cotton and coal up the Manchester Ship canal.

We then move more fully into industrialisation and an exploration of Greater Manchester's heroes. As the soundscape changes the style of choreography adjusts, using and adapting Rhimes' phrases, the lyrics and the music become the inspiration.

Dancers Anjali Abraham, Gaby Di Gennaro, Grace Ferguson, Phoebe Fox, Cecelia Hashmi, Eleanor Jones, Eleanor Margo, Alice Mills, Rosie Moore, Katy Parker, Cara Taylor, Alice Thomson

