

Press Release
October 2020

vincent dance theatre

Vincent Dance Theatre launch their powerful new production,
In Loco Parentis, online, in partnership with five UK venues.
7-11 October 2020



Aurora Lubos and Child Performer in VDT's *In Loco Parentis*; Photo Bosie Vincent

Critically acclaimed for translating real-life testimonies into beautifully crafted performance work, Vincent's *In Loco Parentis* sheds light on the extraordinary resilience of care-experienced young people, their parents and carers, demanding that their stories be seen and heard.

Three adult and two extraordinary young performers combine movement, strong visual imagery and spoken word to explore the cycles of rupture and repair that drive children into care, reflecting everyone's need to feel safe and to belong.

In Loco Parentis will be available to watch **FREE ONLINE** from **6pm, 7 October – midnight, 11 October** in partnership with Arts Depot, Falmouth University, MÓTUS, South East Dance and Stamford Arts Centre.

Age Guidance 14+

Running Time: 90 minutes (full length production)

For more information contact:

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Directed and designed by **Charlotte Vincent**, filmed and edited by **Bosie Vincent**, composed by **Jules Maxwell**, with text by **Wendy Houstoun** and featuring testimonies from care-experienced young people, neo-natal doctors, psychologists, foster carers and adoptive parents, Vincent's hard-hitting, moving production is a timely reflection on what 'home' means to children living outside of conventional family structures.

- "Agonisingly visceral and often beyond words" – **The Psychologist**
- "I watched your show online and was utterly gripped. I found it beautiful, highly emotional... It has really stayed with me" **Online Audience Member**
- "Political and poetic dance theatre" **London Dance**
- "Vitaly important social messages way beyond the parameters of theatre and dance" **DanceTabs**

In Loco Parentis was originally co-commissioned by Worthing Theatres and PDSW and captured at The Connaught Theatre, Worthing on 3 March 2020, the production's premiere.

Free Online Discussion/Q&A Friday 9 October, 3pm

Hosted by South East Dance: Q&A with Artistic Director Charlotte Vincent, about her socially engaged practice and the making of *In Loco Parentis*, chaired by Caroline Anstey, from Pavilion Dance South West.

www.vincentdt.com/project/in-loco-parentis-online

Twitter: @VincentDT

Facebook: /VincentDance

Instagram: VincentDanceTheatreUK

#VDTInLocoParentis

In Loco Parentis Trailer

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVWUbp4OL3E&list=PLZwZDyS_uOXqd8-oXKeivqU4kbcg6v6R9&index=1

In Loco Parentis Explained

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSRU8ITCuro&list=PLZwZDyS_uOXqd8-oXKeivqU4kbcg6v6R9&index=13

Charlotte Vincent says: "*In Loco Parentis* explores what happens to children when their parents aren't able to look after them. These are young people impacted by trauma in childhood so the work also aims to raise public awareness and encourage greater empathy towards some of the most vulnerable young people in our society whose 'life chances' are often seen as limited at an early age because of the difficult start they have had in life."

In Loco Parentis is the company's fourth production created using a highly participatory, socially engaged model of research to form the production, in which collaborators' voices feature

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strongly in the creative process and the finished work – either in the soundtrack or performing live on stage.

For further information, reviews, images, film clips and to arrange interviews, please contact Holly Morris, Vincent Dance Theatre’s Administrator on 07525 233965 or holly@vincentdt.com

Notes to Editors

About Vincent Dance Theatre – www.vincentdt.com

Led by Artistic Director Charlotte Vincent, Vincent Dance Theatre (VDT) has been ‘moving people and making them think’ since 1994. VDT’s productions make significant claims for gender politics, and increasingly for social change. Vincent’s **Productions** are formed from a socially engaged research process and are accompanied by a wide range of **Participation** activity, including; **Professional Development, Social Engagement, Teaching & Learning & Dialogue & Debate**. Vincent’s practice explores the complex tensions between ‘community’ and ‘professional’ practice and has developed a research process that produces extraordinary new work that the company distributes **on stage, on film and online**.

Vincent Dance Theatre is a National Portfolio Organisation, funded by Arts Council England and Associate Company at Brighton Dome.

Statistics (source <https://www.homeforgood.org.uk/statistics>)

- This year in the UK, around **40,000** children and young people will enter the care system. That’s **109** every day.
- There are currently around **99,000** children in the UK who are classified as looked-after away from home. An increase of **3%** from the previous year.
- More than **65,000** children live with almost **55,000** foster families across the UK.
- The UK urgently needs to recruit **8,600** more foster families to meet the need.
- At 31 December 2018, there were **2750** children waiting for adoption in England. **39%** of these had been waiting **eighteen months or more**.
- There are approximately **78,000** looked after children in England.
- **56%** of looked after children are male and **44%** are female.
- **72%** of looked after children are in foster placements. **7,220** foster families need to be recruited over the next year. In 2019/20 **10%** of fostered children have had **three or more** placements.
- **3,570 children ceased to be** looked after due to adoption, a **7%** decrease from 2018.⁹
- **63% are looked after due to** abuse or neglect, **14%** Family dysfunction, **8%** Family being in acute stress, **7%** Absent parenting.
- **Nearly half** of all men aged 21 and under in custody have experience of the care system.
- **One third** of care leavers become homeless within the first two years of leaving care and **25%** of homeless people are care experienced.
- **39%** of care leavers aged 19-21 were NEET* compared to **12%** of all 19-21 year olds.



Artistic Director Charlotte Vincent discussing *In Loco Parentis*, Post Show Discussion, Worthing Theatres, March 2020.

PRESS RELEASE ENDS

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