



VINCENT DANCE THEATRE

ACT ONE

ACT ONE is VDT's first ever double bill and features three of Vincent Dance Theatre's outstanding Polish performers and guest musician Matt Howden.

Test Run was created for Dance Umbrella in 2006. This piece investigates how live music can be integrated with movement and, pushing dancer Janusz Orlik to his physical limits, asks the question 'does the dance lead the music or the music lead the dance?'

Look At Me Now, Mummy was made in late 2007, 8 months after Aurora happily gave birth to her first son. It's a dark and intimate portrait of a woman tangled up in her own imagination, caught between conflicting roles as a performer and as a mother.

ACT ONE is a chance to see Vincent Dance Theatre up close and personal. I hope you enjoy the work.

Charlotte Vincent, Artistic Director.

TEST RUN

Direction & Design Charlotte Vincent
Lighting Design James Harrison
Devised & Performed by Janusz Orlik, Patrycja Kujawska, Matt Howden

LOOK AT ME NOW, MUMMY

Direction & Design Charlotte Vincent
Lighting Design James Harrison
Devised & Performed by Aurora Lubos
Understudy/Rehearsal Director Valentina Formenti

ACT ONE is commissioned by **Danceworks UK**, **The Point** (Eastleigh), **Lakeside Arts Centre** (Nottingham) and **The Tron** (Glasgow).

Don't forget to post your own review after the show at www.VDTActOne.co.uk

Vincent Dance Theatre

Artistic Director Charlotte Vincent
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Administration Assistant Katie Crookes
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Tour print design Camilla Hall

VDT Board of Directors

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VINCENT DANCE THEATRE

Founded in 1994 and based in Sheffield, Vincent Dance Theatre has made and toured fourteen original productions to date, as well as live, video and interactive installations, short films and video works, art publications, a large and informative website and comprehensive contextualising packs.

Vincent Dance Theatre is a diverse company with an international outlook. Under the direction of Charlotte Vincent, the company works as an ensemble and places great emphasis on the devising process, encouraging the personal contributions and nurturing the individual skills of the collaborators involved. Touring work is raw, passionate, humorous, emotionally bold and physically demanding. The work challenges conventional expectations of what dance can be, jamming together sophisticated physicality with theatricality, live and originally composed music and visually striking scenography to find a language that moves and surprises audiences with its emotional, physical and visual impact.

The company is involved in a wide range of teaching practice in professional development, community and formal education contexts, and supports the development of dance artists through mentoring and artistic apprenticeships.

JANUSZ ORLIK - PERFORMER (POLAND)

Janusz trained at the ballet school in Warsaw and in contemporary at Bruckner Konservatorium in Linz (Austria). He was a founding member of x.IDA Dance Company (Austria), touring internationally in work by Olga Cobos (E), Peter Mika (AL), Catherine Guerin (D/USA), Rebecca Murgi (I), and Nicole Caccivio (D). Janusz met Charlotte Vincent in 2001 whilst she was making work with x.IDA and he has since made and toured **On the House** (2003), **Let The Mountains Lead You To Love** (2003), **Punch Drunk** (2004), **Broken Chords** (2005), and **Test Run** (2006) with VDT. Janusz also choreographs his own work, making **Exerese Monobloc** with Pia Libicka in 2005 and **And Thy Neighbour As Thyself** in 2006. Janusz lives in Poznan.

PATRYCJA KUJAWSKA - VIOLINIST (POLAND)

Patrycja studied at the Academy of Music in Gdansk, graduating in violin. She was a guest performer at the City Theatre in Gdynia and sang in the Non-Cabaret of Maciej Nowak in the Baltic Sea Cultural Centre. She has performed with Dada von Bzdulow Theatre and composed the music to Dada's performance **The Doom of the People or My Liver Has No Sense**. In 2000 she was awarded a Gdansk Theatre Scholarship from the City of Gdansk to create a recital **The Ninth Lover of Katarzyna Foster**. She performed in **Papugaj**, choreographed by Tatiana Baganowa and in **Avi Kaiser's Endstation – ZASPA**. With Aurora Lubos she co-founded KLM group and created **Te Takie Te** and in 2008 Patrycja is collaborating with French sculptor Sabrina Gruss. With VDT she has made and toured **Drop Dead Gorgeous** (2001), **Let The Mountains Lead You To Love** (2003), **Punch Drunk** (2004), **Broken Chords** (2005), **Fairy Tale** (2006) and **Test Run** (2006). Patrycja lives in Sheffield.

MATT HOWDEN – VIOLINIST (UK)

Matt is a critically acclaimed multi-instrumentalist, vocalist and producer who records primarily as Sieben. Based in

Sheffield, Matt has released six Sieben albums, **Desire Rites**, **Forbid the Sun's Escape**, **The Line and the Hook**, **Our Solitary Confinement**, **Sex and Wildflowers** and **Ogham Inside the Night**. He also composes and records neo-classical work, and has released **Hellfires**, **Intimate and Obstinate**, **Spurge the Sun** and **Voyager**. Using loop pedal, violin, and voice, Matt layers melodies and harmonies, singing and playing over the top. He tours internationally and also records and performs with HaWthorn, Raindogs and previously with Sol Invictus. **Test Run** is Matt's first collaboration with VDT.

AURORA LUBOS - PERFORMER (POLAND)

Aurora worked extensively with Dance Theatre of Gdansk and has collaborated with Avi Kaiser on **In the Body** in 1999 and **Endstation – ZASPA** in 2002. She made a duet, **Uff...!** with Leszek Bzdyl and performed in **Papugaj** choreographed by Tatiana Baganowa. With Patrycja Kujawska, Aurora co-founded KLM Group and created **Te Takie Te**. Aurora first met Charlotte when she was invited to Gdansk to workshop choreographic ideas for Baltic University of Dance Winter Explosion festival. For VDT Aurora has performed in **Caravan of Lies** (1999), **Drop Dead Gorgeous** (2001), **Let The Mountains Lead You To Love** (2003), **Punch Drunk** (2004), **Broken Chords** (2005), **Fairy Tale** (2006) and **Look At Me Now, Mummy** (2008). Aurora lives in Gdansk.

VALENTINA FORMENTI – UNDERSTUDY/ REHEARSAL DIRECTOR (ITALY)

Valentina trained at London Contemporary Dance School 1991-94 and joined the 4D Performance Group in 1994-95. She has worked with The Cholmondeleys & Featherstonehaughs, Bock & Vincenzi, Protein Dance Company, Matthew Bourne's New Adventures, Mark Bruce, Bedlam Dance Company, Aletta Collins, Jazz Exchange, Royal Opera House and English National Opera. An experienced teacher, Valentina teaches contemporary classes at The Place, for New Adventures and English National Opera. She also works as a camera-operator at The Place. Valentina's first collaboration with VDT was **Punch Drunk** and **Broken Chords** in 2007. Valentina is based in London.

CHARLOTTE VINCENT – ARTISTIC DIRECTOR (UK)

Charlotte Vincent formed Vincent Dance Theatre in 1994 and has directed all the company's work to date. Productions include **Look At Me Now, Mummy** (2008), **Test Run** (created for Dance Umbrella 2006), **Shifting Intimacies** (interactive installation 2006), **Fairy Tale** (2006), **Broken Chords** (2005), **Punch Drunk** (2004), **Let The Mountains Lead You To Love** (2003), **On The House** (2000/03), **Drop Dead Gorgeous** (2001), **Glasshouse** (16mm film) and **Body:Ink** (art publication). She performed with VDT until 2002, and returned in 2006 to replace TC Howard in **Broken Chords**. She has designed the company's work since 2005. ICA/Capture 4, Year of Photography and the Electronic Image, The Place, Arnolfini, Tramway, Green Room, Sheffield Theatres, Hall for Cornwall, Site Gallery, Yorkshire Dance, Dance Exchange, Swindon Dance and Danceworks UK have all commissioned Charlotte's work with VDT. Charlotte has also choreographed productions for x-IDA Dance Company (Austria), Senza Tempo (Spain), Teeside Dance Initiative (UK), Taipei Crossover Dance (Taiwan), Welsh Independent Dance (UK), Anjali Dance Company with TC Howard (UK)

and Cloudgate 2 (Taiwan). In 2008 Charlotte is making **Shift**, a new work with Gravity & Levity aerial dance company and later this year will direct a production for EDge Dance Co. Charlotte teaches at higher education level in the UK and abroad at universities, colleges and dance agencies. She has taught extensively in the community, leading projects with young offenders, long-term unemployed, women, people with disabilities, people with learning difficulties and has choreographed projects with young people across the UK. She contributes to the documentation of female arts practice through lecturing and publications and is engaging in mentoring emerging artists on a regular basis.

JAMES HARRISON - LIGHTING DESIGN (UK)

James began his training in lighting and sound at Sheffield University (1994) and went on to graduate in Theatre Design at Bretton Hall College (1999). He has designed lighting for Third Angel (**Where from Here**, **Believe the Worst**, **Leave No Trace**, **Presumption**) Dead Earnest (**Stalingrad**, set & lighting), Point Blank (**Roses & Morphine**, set and lighting) and all Vincent Dance Theatre's productions since 2001. As a Production/Technical Manager, James has toured nationally and internationally with theatre and dance companies Third Angel, Blast Theory, Scarlet Theatre, Vincent Dance Theatre, Wendy Houstoun and Forced Entertainment. James lives in Sheffield.

HUW WILLIAMS – PRODUCTION MANAGER & SOUND ENGINEER (UK)

Huw was Head of Sound for Sheffield Theatres from 1991-2003. At the Crucible his favourite sound designs included **Boys Stuff**, **Blue Remembered Hills** and **Angels in America**. Other designs include **Brassed Off** and **The Heiress** (National Theatre and national tours), Brian Friel's **Lovers** (Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh), **The Tempest** (Old Vic) and **Spoonface Steinberg** (New Ambassadors). Before joining Sheffield Theatres Huw worked at Oxford Playhouse, Worcester Swan, Cheltenham Everyman, Watford Palace and the Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park and for companies including Ad Hoc, Artifice, Third Angel and Comunicado. He has also recorded soundscapes and installations for exhibitions at Sheffield's Millennium Galleries. **Broken Chords** was Huw's first collaboration with VDT. He lives in Sheffield.

CHLOE KENWARD – LIGHTING OPERATOR (UK)

Chloe graduated with a first class degree in Drama from the University of Hull in 2006. Last year she won the Michael Northern Bursary from the Association of Lighting Designers for showing "exemplary talent in lighting design." Chloe has worked as a lighting designer and technician for various companies including The Royal National Theatre, Royal Albert Hall, Peepolykus, Quicksilver, Louder than Words, Universal Arts and Laban Dance. Most recently Chloe toured through 21 states in the USA with Tall Stories Theatre Company.

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