

VINCENT DANCE THEATRE

BROKEN CHORDS

Broken Chords was conceived in late 2004, when I knew my marriage was in deep trouble, and made in late summer 2005 after a long, painful and very public separation. The work is full of momentary fusions, fragmentation and chaos and cannot shake off a sense of sadness and weight. The piece malfunctions and circles around itself as the performers slide in and out of control, coming together and falling apart.

Broken Chords reflects a kind of private/public schizophrenia that existed in me at the time. It is two pieces in one - a fictional, abstract dance that describes the dark side of love and loss, and a series of interruptions that attempt to save the work from its own self-indulgence. These parallel and contradictory strands go some way to describing how the show must go on, at times in your life when the overwhelming desire is to stop. I nearly didn't make it. I nearly did not make it at all.

Following national and international critical acclaim, **Broken Chords** hits the road for one last time in the UK, with three new cast members working alongside five of the original creative team. I hope you enjoy the work.

Charlotte Vincent
January 2007

BROKEN CHORDS

Direction and Design	Charlotte Vincent
Composer	Alex Catona
Additional Music	Colin Elliot John Avery Johann Sebastian Bach Heinrich von Biber
Lighting Design	James Harrison
Devised by	Darren Anderson, Alex Catona, Lee Clayden, TC Howard, Patrycja Kujawska, Aurora Lubos, Eleanor McDonald, Janusz Orlik, Charlotte Vincent
Performed by	Darren Anderson, Lee Clayden, Stefano Fogher, Valentina Formenti, Rachel Krische, Patrycja Kujawska, Eleanor McDonald, Janusz Orlik
Dramaturgy	Ruth Ben-Tovim
Production Manager	James Harrison
Technical Manager	Dom Martin
Sound Engineer	Greg Akehurst

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Artistic Director	Charlotte Vincent
General Manager	Jane Whitehead
Administration & Marketing	Katie Rodgers
Production Manager	James Harrison
Marketing & Press Manager	Tiffany Evans
Press Agent	Paul Sullivan
Tour Website Design	Hans de Kretser Associates
Publicity Design	Camilla Hall at White Space Design
Photography	Hugo Glendinning
VDT Board of Directors	Christy Adair, Lisa Buckley, Deborah Chadbourn (Chair), Garry Dunmore, Simon Evans

Broken Chords was originally commissioned in 2005 by Sheffield Theatres and the Nuffield Theatre Lancaster and funded by Arts Council England and the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation. Vincent Dance Theatre is regularly funded by Arts Council England, Yorkshire and this tour is funded by Arts Council England. Vincent Dance Theatre is a registered charity no. 1091615.



Photo Hugo Glendinning

COMPANY HISTORY

Founded in 1994, Vincent Dance Theatre produces live, filmed, digital and published work which challenges conventional values in dance. Under the artistic direction of Charlotte Vincent, the work addresses issues of contemporary relevance and insists on finding meaning in movement. Often text informed, productions steal from reality to create a believable universe in which a series of events take place that reflect the personal stories, individual physicality and geographical diversity of the artistic collaborators involved. In recent years Vincent Dance Theatre has explored the integration of dance and music in live performance.

Vincent Dance Theatre makes and tours live work to small scale and middle scale theatre venues, installation work to non-theatre spaces and dance on film to festivals in the UK and internationally.

The company delivers high quality professional development work, engages a diversity of people in a varied and creative programme of participation work and advocates dance as an important creative, political and social art form in the wider social context.

Vincent Dance Theatre

The Workstation
15 Paternoster Row
Sheffield S1 2BX
t: 0114 221 0369 e: admin@vincentdt.com

www.brokenchords.info

After you have seen this performance of **Broken Chords** why not send us your own review? Go to www.brokenchords.info and you can send us your comments as well as letting your friends know about the show - you could win an Apple iPod nano!

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BIOGRAPHIES

For biographies of original 2005 collaborators, please visit www.vincentdt.com.

Greg Akehurst (UK) - Sound Engineer

Greg has worked as Sound Designer and Production Manager for companies including Quarantine, The Ashton Group and Contact Theatre. Sound Designs include **Susan and Darren, Something a Taxi Driver in Liverpool Said** and **Playing Field** for Quarantine, **Love Letters** for the Ashton Group and **Everybody Watches TV** for Contact Theatre. Greg also composes and produces music and is Sound Design Tutor for the Arden School of Theatre. This is Greg's first collaboration with Vincent Dance Theatre. He is based in Manchester.

Darren Anderson (Australia) - Performer

Originally from Australia, Darren studied at the Queensland University of Technology and the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts. After graduating in 2004 he worked with Jam-Bird Co lab in multi media performance pieces **Dispatch** and **Dispatch 2**. In 2005 Darren performed with Company 44 in Resolution! at The Place, London. In 2006 he worked for Welsh Independent Dance on the Dance Bites Tour and the Chris Haring Project. He is also working on a series of short dance films with sonic artist Vine Duarte. Darren first devised and toured **Broken Chords** in 2005, which was his first collaboration with Vincent Dance Theatre. Darren is based in London.

Lee Clayden (UK) - Performer

Lee trained at London Contemporary Dance School and after graduating danced with 4D, the LCDS company where he worked with choreographers including Wayne McGregor, Sue MacLennan and Henri Oguike. Since then Lee has worked with Ricochet, Darshan Singh Buller, Richard Alston Dance Company, Companhia de Bailado Contemporaneo (Lisbon), and most recently Walker Dance Park Music and Gravity and Levity. In 2004 Lee appeared in Rafael Bonachela's duet **E2 7SD**, which won the inaugural Place Prize, and was nominated for the Critics' Circle National Dance Award for Outstanding Male Artist. Lee first devised and toured **Broken Chords** in 2005, which was his first collaboration with Vincent Dance Theatre. Lee lives in Brighton.

Stefano Fogher (Italy) - Performer/Cellist

A performer, composer and musician, Stefano was born in Trieste, Italy and studied music at the Academy of Trieste. In 1983 Stefano moved to France where he continued his music studies at the Academy of Avignon and with Barre Phillips, Joelle Léandre, Alain Joule and Pierre Favre. With Totem he played Eschyle and Molière. In 1987 Stefano was a composer and actor in Gerd Christiansen's **Dreams**, was directed by Tadeus Kantor in **O Douce Nuit** in 1994 and has performed with the Herbert Agath Isair Trio, winning first prize in the Tournoi de Musique Improvisée à Poitiers. As a musician and actor Stefano has worked on two Paris productions by Jean-Jacques Lemetre, composer for Théâtre du Soleil. He wrote and performed **Francis of Assisi** and **Other Stories** in French, English and Italian, touring in France and the US. Stefano also works with Act Kobe, an association which works on exchange projects between Marseilles and Kobe, Japan that have included a production involving more than forty artists from Japan, France, Taiwan, Switzerland and the United States. This is Stefano's first collaboration with Vincent Dance Theatre. He is based in France.

Valentina Formenti (Italy) - Performer

Originally from Italy, Valentina trained at London Contemporary Dance School 1991-94 and joined the 4D Performance Group in 1994-95. As a professional performer she has worked with The Chomondeleys & 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. This is Valentina's first collaboration with Vincent Dance Theatre. She is based in London.

James Harrison (UK) - Lighting Design/Production Manager

James began his training in lighting and sound at Sheffield University (1994), working primarily with live bands, and went on to graduate in Theatre Design at Bretton Hall College (1999). He has designed lighting for several Sheffield-based companies, including 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 Vincent Dance Theatre's **Drop Dead Gorgeous** (2001), **Let the Mountains Lead You to Love** (2003), **On the House** (2003), **Punch Drunk** (2004), **Broken Chords** (2005), **Fairy Tale** (2006) and **Test Run** (2006). 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. In 2003 James set up his own production company Unknown Productions, which has produced large-scale sound and light installations in Sheffield's Winter Gardens, and the opening party for the World Embassy snooker tournament (2004). His work also includes teaching and implementing sound, set and lighting designs to community and school groups in and around Yorkshire, as well as production management within this context and regular work with Danceworks, supporting international dance companies visiting Sheffield Theatres. James lives in Sheffield.

Rachel Krische (UK) - Performer

Rachel Krische graduated from London Contemporary Dance School in 1992. Since that time she has toured extensively and internationally with over 20 different choreographers including Aletta Collins, Bedlam, Amp, Victoria Marks, La Ribot, h2 Dance, Colin Poole and Akram Khan. In 2002 she won a Jerwood choreography award with Ben Wright and formed Krische/Wright Company from this creative alliance. She has taught contemporary dance internationally for the past ten years to professionals, vocational students and non-professional dancers. Rachel has also been rehearsal director for Bare Bones, Shobana Jeyasingh Dance Co and Henri Oguike Dance Co. Most recently she premiered her duet **Odyssey**, co-choreographed with Ben Wright and is working on two further duets with Wendy Houstoun and Anna Williams. Rachel first collaborated with Vincent Dance Theatre on **Chthonian Pleasures** in 1996 and rejoins the company to tour **Punch Drunk** and **Broken Chords** in 2007.

Patrycja Kujawska (Poland) - Performer/Violinist

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 since 1994 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**. Patrycja has created **Drop Dead Gorgeous** with VDT (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.

Dom Martin (UK) - Technical Manager

Dom graduated in Theatre Design at Bretton Hall in 2000 and has since worked extensively as Production/Technical Manager nationally and internationally for companies such as Jasmin Vardimon, Rafael Bonachela, Sulayman Al-Bassam and as a technician for Random Dance, Jonzi D, The Royal Opera House and the Institute of Contemporary Art, London. He is also a freelance designer and video artist specialising in VJ'ing, sampling and new technology. He co-founded the physical theatre/new technology company, 7K, and tours its work internationally. This is Dom's first collaboration with Vincent Dance Theatre. He is based in St Albans.

Eleanor McDonald (UK) - Performer

Eleanor trained at the Laban Centre and after graduating danced with Transitions, Laban's graduate company, where she worked with choreographers including Henri Oguike, Jasmin Vardimon, Robert Moses and Maresa von Stockert. She has since worked with Welsh Independent Dance in **Surrender Yourself To Me** directed by Charlotte Vincent, the Chris Haring Project, Lamat Dance, including **Contratiempo** (shortlisted for The Place Prize 2004) and is currently working with Jean Abreu for his new production **Aequus**, this spring. Eleanor first devised and toured **Broken Chords** in 2005, which was her first collaboration with Vincent Dance Theatre. She lives in London.

Janusz Orlik (Poland) - Performer

Born in Konin, 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) dancing and touring internationally with productions by choreographers such as Olga Cobos (E), Peter Mika (AL), Catherine Guerin (D/USA), Rebecca Murgi (I), and Nicole Caccivio (D). He met Charlotte Vincent in 2001 in Linz whilst she was making work with x.IDA. Janusz 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). Janusz also choreographs his own work in Poland, making **Exerese Monobloc** with Pia Libicka in 2005 and **And Thy Neighbour As Thyself** in 2006. Janusz lives in Poznan, Poland.

Charlotte Vincent (UK) - Direction/Design

Charlotte formed Vincent Dance Theatre in 1994 and has choreographed and directed all the company's live productions to date, including **Test Run** (2006), **Fairy Tale** (2006), **Broken Chords** (2005), **Punch Drunk** (2004), **Let The Mountains Lead You To Love** (2003), **On The House** (2000/03) and **Drop Dead Gorgeous** (1999). She performed with the company until 2002 and returned in 2006 to perform in **Broken Chords**. She co-produced and devised **Glasshouse** (16mm film) with Forced Entertainment's Richard Lowdon, and **Body:Ink**, an art publication commissioned by the Year of Photography and the Electronic Image, both in 1998. In 2005 Charlotte was awarded an ICA/Arts Council England Capture4 commission to create the interactive installation **Shifting Intimacies** with digital artists Keith Armstrong and Guy Webster. She has also performed with Volcano Theatre, Stan's Café and Dance Republic. Charlotte has also choreographed new work for x-IDA Dance Company (Austria), Senza Tempo (Spain), Teeside Dance Initiative (UK), Taipei Crosspover Dance (Taiwan), Welsh Independent Dance (UK), Anjali Dance Company with TC Howard (UK) and Cloudgate 2 (Taiwan). Charlotte teaches extensively in universities, dance agencies, community settings and at professional level in the UK and abroad. Charlotte is based in Sheffield.