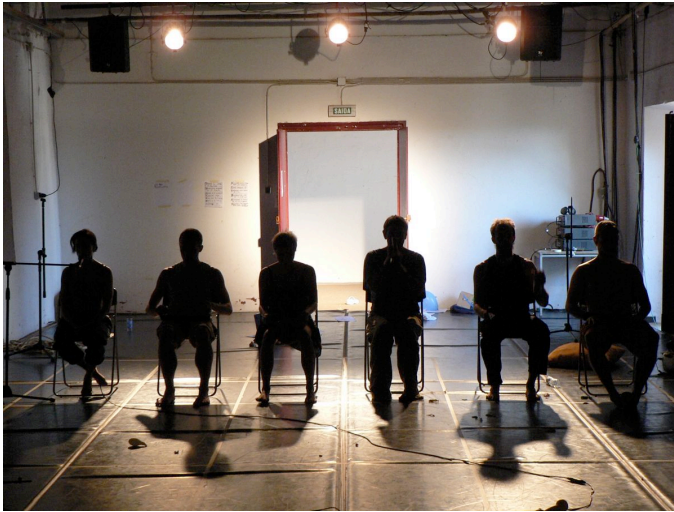


# If We Go On

Vincent Dance Theatre



The dark stretches before us.

There are people waiting.

We would like to show you something but we are not sure how.

I'm going to tell you about what it was like – doing and faking, and doing and not doing...

How does the show go on?

How do I take the step and still be me, and does that get harder as you get older?

And is it a different question for women and can we share that question and how?

I can see us asking that – can't you?

We could ask that.

The asking of it is the performance.

**Claire MacDonald, May 2008**

**If We Go On** is the next production by Vincent Dance Theatre, to be made in summer 2009 and touring from October 2009 including performances at Dance Umbrella 2009. A new middle scale work made by a collective of mature, international practitioners, **If We Go On** is directed by Charlotte Vincent, with text by Wendy Houstoun and Claire MacDonald and integrated live music.

Stripped bare of the theatrical and emotional soul-searching for which VDT is known, **If We Go On** asks of ten seasoned performers: If you had one last dance in you, what shape would it take? A still dance? A silent dance? A simple text? A song? A joke? A manifesto? A tearjerker?

Laying bare the mechanics of theatre, **If We Go On** allows the performers to embrace uncertainty, not knowing and forgetfulness, offering a glimpse into the constant internal striving that takes place within a performance. The performers here can be the age they are on stage, they can own hesitancy and uncertainty and not remembering, they can be partial, bitty and non-objective. They can be understated in their performance style, in fact they may not 'state' anything at all.

**If We Go On** questions the premise of dance as a subject always moving, apparently without effort, always energized and never stumbling. The work instead investigates theatrical failure as a kind of narrative, through investigating the relationship between language and movement, between music and silence and between moving and not moving at all.

**If We Go On** is co-commissioned by Sheffield Theatres, Newbury Corn Exchange and Montclair State University and supported by The Junction and Danceworks UK. Vincent Dance Theatre receives regular funding from Arts Council England, Yorkshire.

[www.vincentdt.com](http://www.vincentdt.com)

- **If We Go On** will be created in collaboration with:

**Collaborators** Claire MacDonald (Impact Theatre Co-operative/Space Between Words)  
 Wendy Houstoun (solo performer/ Lumiere and Son /DV8/ Forced Entertainment)  
 Valentina Formenti (Cholmondeleys / Simon Vincenzi)  
 Aurora Lubos (VDT)  
 Patrycja Kujawska (VDT / Kneehigh Theatre)  
 Scott Smith (Steve Paxton/Yvonne Rainer/Fin Walker)  
 Janusz Orlik (VDT/ Nigel Charnock)  
 Carly Best (Jonathan Lunn)  
 Robert Clark (B- Group, Bare Bones)  
 Paul Gazolla (Meg Stuart, Lone Twin)  
 Rachel Krische (Akram Khan, Aletta Collins/ Deborah Hay/ NSCD)  
 Darren Anderson (CandoCo/ VDT)  
 Toby Park (Spymonkey, Improbable)

**Dramaturgy** Ruth Ben Tovim  
**Lighting design** James Harrison (VDT)  
**Sound design** Alex Catona  
**Direction and design** Charlotte Vincent

- **Booking details and technical requirements**

Suitable for middle and larger small scale venues. Full tech spec will be available in October 2009.

**UK premiere** 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2009, Newbury Corn Exchange, UK  
**US premiere** 14<sup>th</sup> April 2010, Montclair State University, USA  
**Age recommendation** 15 years and over  
**Performance area** 10 metres wide x 8 metres deep  
**Running time** 90 minutes approx, no interval  
**Touring company** 10 performers, Artistic Director, 2 technicians on the road  
**Get-in** Day before with pre-rig  
**Get-out** 90 minutes approx

- **Vincent Dance Theatre** has toured to venues including:

Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, UK	The Place, London, UK
Northern Stage, Newcastle, UK	Patrick Centre, Birmingham, UK
Nottingham Playhouse, UK	Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff, UK
Nuffield Theatre, Lancaster, UK	Carriageworks Theatre, Leeds, UK
Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, UK	The Lowry, Salford Quays, UK
Barcelona Grec Festival, Spain	Montclair State University, New Jersey, USA

- **Contact details**

For more information or to make a booking please contact:

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