

Hold Tight

Directed & Designed by
Charlotte Vincent

Composer
Jules Maxwell

Lighting Designer
Nigel Edwards

Rehearsal Director
Janusz Orlik

Production Managers
Mat Ort, Steve Collis

Performed & Devised by
**Robert Clark, Antonia Grove,
Aurora Lubos, Janusz Orlik
Charlotte, Tia, Hannah**

Understudy
Sorrel

Film Maker and Photography
Bosie Vincent

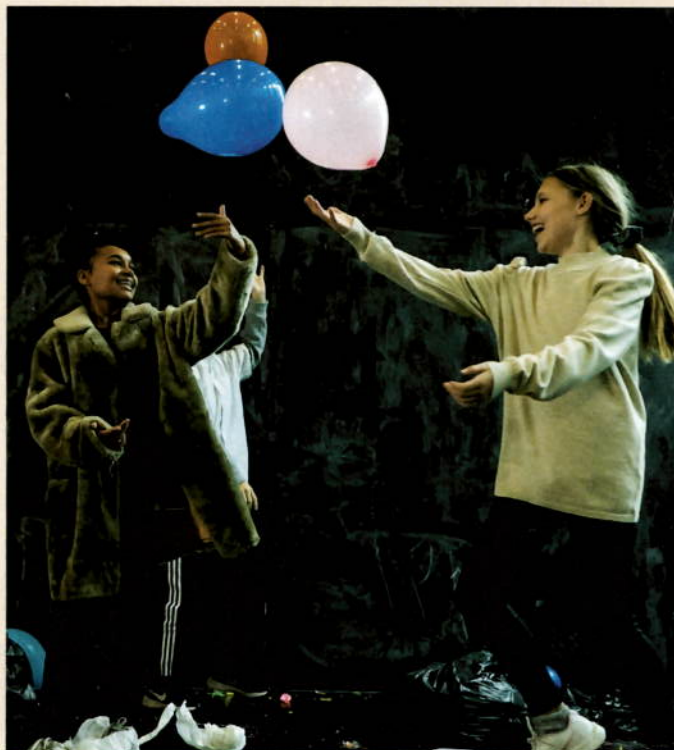
Ukrainian Child Refugees Voices
recorded in Poland by ARBUZ via
an Audio Visual workshop funded
by VDT and facilitated by:
**Iwona Skwarek, Ania Do,
Oskarp Piotr Martin, Aurora Lubos**

Director's Note

Hold Tight has been made in response to the past three years of isolation and dislocation, a period where global events have weighed heavy on my mind and on this process. I was unsure whether to make this, whether the conditions were right, whether the moment had passed, or might never come.

The work is broken, unfinished and fragmented, attempting to piece together something in a hostile environment, conjuring images from rubbish, with our imagination and the children the only pathways out of the darkness and into the light.

Charlotte Vincent



The Company

Led by Artistic Director Charlotte Vincent, Vincent Dance Theatre has been moving people and making them think since 1994, producing new, socially-engaged dance theatre work on stage, on film and online.

'Funny, fearless and flintily determined, Vincent is one of the most important feminist artists working in Britain today' (The Observer), creating *'astonishingly original'* (New York Times), productions with a *'crackling intellectual core'* (The Guardian).

VDT explores the complex tensions between 'community' and 'professional' practice, embedding the voices and lived experience of under-represented community groups and individuals in each new work made. Professionals, non-professionals and young people collaborate at every stage of the creative process to create work that is distributed to live, film and online audiences. The work is then applied and explored in a wide range of participatory contexts, including professional development, mentoring, teaching and learning, social engagement and dialogue events.

VDT uses its public platform to provoke debate around sexual politics, equality of opportunity, trauma informed artistic practice and social change. The company places safeguarding and a protective mindset at the heart of all its practice and operations and Vincent is a vocal advocate for improving conditions for parents and carers working in the performing arts.

Hold Tight has been made possible by VDT's National Portfolio Organisation funding from Arts Council England. VDT is an Associate Company at Brighton Dome. Vincent is currently writing a PhD by Publication about her work with VDT at Canterbury Christchurch University.

VDT Staff / Freelance Team

Artistic Director / Chief Executive
Charlotte Vincent
Participation & Digital Development Director
Sian Williams

Senior Finance Manager
Katie Bough
General Manager
Holly Morris

Project Manager for Hold Tight
Kim Johnson
Tour Booker
Sarah Trist

Digital & Administration Assistant
Orla Connolly

Fundraising Consultant
Tom Ryalls (Boy & Pen) www.boyandpen.com

Marketing / Graphic Design
Meg Edwards / Jo Briggs at HdK Associates
www.wearehdk.com

VDT Board of Trustees

**Giulia Mazzei, Pauline Rutter, Ella Burns,
Casey Scott-Songin**

Special Thanks from AD, Charlotte Vincent
Sincere thanks to VDT's current and past Trustees, especially former Chair Rose Kigwana, who worked with VDT for 7 years and whose support has been deeply significant and profoundly felt. Much gratitude also to the dedicated staff team at Vincent Dance Theatre, past and present: Katie, Holly, Sian, Orla and Judith Hibberd, whose commitment and guidance for over a decade has been much appreciated.

Thanks to my closest collaborators, especially Polish Artistic Associates Janusz Orlik and Aurora Lubos, who continue to inspire and delight me with their ingenuity and craft after more than two decades working together and Film Maker/Editor Bosie Vincent, whose brilliant eye gives new life to everything we create.

vincent
dance
theatre


'Brave, intelligent entertainment...'
The Times





'Really beautiful... very, very moving'
Audience Feedback

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#VDTHoldTight

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 VincentDanceTheatreUK

 VincentDT



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and to book tickets

Hold Tight

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Lighting Design by Nigel Edwards

Home is where our story begins. It's not always a place – it's a condition, a feeling, a sense of connection. It shapes who we are. **Hold Tight** explores how adverse childhood experience, abrupt change and enforced separation impact on young people's lives.

VDT's new production is driven by testimonies from care-experienced teenagers in the UK and features lullabies recorded this summer with Ukrainian refugees living in Poland. Four adults and three young people reflect on home, family and belonging and how, when we long for intimacy and connection, sometimes we just have to **Hold Tight**.

Age Guidance 14+ This production may contain scenes that some people might find upsetting.

Brewery Arts, Kendal

Weds 02 Nov, 8pm

01539 725133 / breweryarts.co.uk

Unity Theatre, Liverpool

Fri 04 Nov, 7.30pm

0151 709 4988 / unitytheatreliverpool.co.uk

The Arts Centre, Edge Hill University, Ormskirk

Tues 08 Nov, 7.30pm

01695 584480 / edgehill.ac.uk/artscentre

Barbican Theatre, Plymouth

Sat 12 Nov, 7.30pm

barbicantheatre.co.uk

Robin Howard Dance Theatre, The Place, London

Tues 15 & Weds 16 Nov, 7.30pm

020 7121 1100 / theplace.org.uk

Riley Theatre, NSCD, Leeds

Sat 19 Nov, 7.30pm

0113 219 3000 / rileytheatre.com

Norwich Theatre Playhouse

Thurs 24 Nov, 7.30pm

01603 630 000 / norwichtheatre.org

www.vincentdt.com

'The depth of the work
is just remarkable'
(Audience Feedback)

VDT is a National Portfolio Organisation, funded by Arts Council England. VDT is an Associate Company at Brighton Dome. **Hold Tight** is supported by South East Dance. Performer: Aurora Lubos / Photography: Bosie Vincent Design & Marketing: HdK Associates



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