



IF WE GO ON

UK premiere: 2 October 2009

US premiere: 15 April 2010

Available for UK bookings: 4 October 2009-27 March 2010

US and Canada tour: 12th April- 15th May 2010

For more information or to book please contact:

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Vincent Dance Theatre, Workstation, 15 Paternoster Row, Sheffield S1 2BX

www.vincentdt.com

IF WE GO ON

Directed and Designed by Charlotte Vincent

With text by Wendy Houstoun

Composed by Alex Catona

The dark stretches before us. There are people waiting. We would like to show you something, but we are not sure how. We are going to tell you what it is like, doing and faking, and doing and not doing. The dark stretches before us, but here we are, faced with the question, how do we go on?

If We Go On is a series of individual acts that lay bare the mechanics of theatre, placing the investigation of language at the centre of the work. Through miniature dances and stuttering songs, militant manifestos and extended exits, **If We Go On** embraces uncertainty, hesitancy and not knowing with a dark, intelligent humour.

An exceptional ensemble of multi-tasking performers and musicians morph words into movement, shunt gesture into sound and at times burst into song to create a performance they can believe in. In a relentless succession of splintered transactions, where words lose their strength, music strains to be heard and movement meanders into exhaustion and incoherence, **If We Go On** asks: If you had one last dance in you, what shape would it take?

Conceived with Claire Macdonald and Wendy Houstoun. Devised and performed by Janusz Orlik, Patrycja Kujawska, Aurora Lubos, Carly Best, Henry Montes, Scott Smith, Valentina Formenti and Alex Catona.

If We Go On is funded by Grants for the Arts through the Arts Council of England. Co-commissioned by Sheffield Theatres, Newbury Corn Exchange, Hull City Arts and Peak Performances@Montclair State University. Supported by The Junction and Danceworks UK.



- **IF WE GO ON** company

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Collaborators | 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/Chisato Minamimura) Henry Montes (Siobhan Davies/Jonathan Burrows) |
| Dramaturgy | Ruth Ben Tovim |
| Text | Wendy Houston (solo/DV8/ Forced Entertainment) |
| Lighting design | James Harrison (VDT) |
| Sound design | Alex Catona |
| Direction & design | Charlotte Vincent |

- **IF WE GO ON** schedule:

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|-------------------------------|---|
| Devising and rehearsal | May – September 2009 |
| UK Premiere | Friday 2 nd October 2009, Corn Exchange, Newbury |
| Autumn 2009 UK tour | 2nd October - 28th November 2009 |
| Spring 2010 UK tour | 8th February – 27th March 2010 |
| US premiere | 14 th April 2010, Peak Performances@Montclair State Uni. |
| US & Canada tour | 14th April- 15th May 2010 (If We Go On and Broken |
| Chords) | |

- **IF WE GO ON** booking details and technical requirements:

IF WE GO On is suitable for middle-scale and larger small-scale venues. A full technical rider will be available following the premiere in October 2009. During the devising and rehearsal period in summer 2009, we will keep autumn tour venues regularly updated regarding technical requirements for the show.

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| Performance area | 10 metres wide x 8 metres deep minimum |
| Running time | 90 minutes approx, no interval |
| Touring company | 13 on the road: 10 performers, Artistic Director, Production Manager and technician |
| Get-in | Day before with pre-rig |
| Get-out | 90 minutes approx |
| Lighting | A detailed LX plan will be supplied |
| Sound | As the show includes live music, the sound control position must be in the auditorium (i.e. not behind glass or in a booth) |
| Staffing | At least 2 technicians required for get-in/out and fit up. Only 1 technician is needed for each performance and rehearsals. |

- **IF WE GO ON** audiences

IF WE GO ON is accessible to diverse audiences, over 15 years of age and with differing experiences of dance. Use of character, evocative set and costume, the spoken word and live score make VDT's work accessible to new dance audiences and to crossover audiences, especially attenders of drama and music.

- **IF WE GO ON** marketing

VDT's marketing team will supply a marketing support pack (including draft marketing campaign, sample emails, direct mail letters and press releases, box office information and full production and company details) and discuss targeted campaigns with each venue. We provide high quality production photos, print(leaflets, posters and programmes) and e-marketing including a tour mini-site supporting venue websites, viral marketing competition through HTML template and CD ROM. Button ads, venue specific HTML and emailing services will also be available. Our press agent will deliver a national and regional press campaign.

'About the most harrowing yet inspiring transmutation of personal pain into artistic achievement that I have encountered.' **The New York Times on Broken Chords**

'Brave, intelligent entertainment... the multinational cast is unflinching and gifted.' **The Times on Broken Chords**

- **IF WE GO ON** education and professional development

VDT offers a range of educational and participatory workshops, classes and residencies. Led by Artistic Director Charlotte Vincent and core company members, VDT's participation activity emphasises three major strands of work.

- Within the **formal education system** (students in schools, colleges, universities)
- Within the **wider community** (young people; disability groups; over 50's)
- Within the **dance profession** (technique; professional development; mentoring)

'A whole bodily experience - by that I mean physical, vocal, aural, sensory. A really exciting and fresh opportunity - rarely available. Would love to work more with these ideas.' **Student, University of Winchester, 2008**

'Really relevant and delivered at just the right level. The workshop leaders listened to what we needed and delivered exactly that.' **Teacher, Rawmarsh Comprehensive School, Rotherham, 2008**

- **IF WE GO ON** post show discussions

Post show discussions are available at no additional cost to help develop audience links with the work and the company. A chairperson from the venue is required and discussions are run according to Liz Lerman's Critical Response Technique.

- **VINCENT DANCE THEATRE** previous productions

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| Double Vision (Charlotte Vincent/Liz Aggiss) | 2009 |
| Look At Me Now, Mummy | 2008 |
| Test Run | 2006 |
| Fairy Tale | 2006 |
| Broken Chords | 2005, re-toured in 2007 |
| Punch Drunk | 2004, re-toured in 2007 |
| Let the Mountains Lead You to Love | 2003 |
| Drop Dead Gorgeous | 2001 |
| Caravan of Lies | 2000 |
| On the House | 1999, re-toured 2003 |
| Falling From the High Rise of Love | 1999 |
| In Optimo City, The Almost Perfect Town | 1997 |
| Chthonian Pleasures | 1996 |
| Noli Me Tangere | 1994, reworked 2000 |
| Intercourse | 1994 |

- **VINCENT DANCE THEATRE** productions have toured to venues including:

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|---------------------------------|---|
| Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, UK | The Place, London, UK |
| Patrick Centre, Birmingham, UK | Corn Exchange, Newbury, UK |
| Nottingham Playhouse, UK | Carriageworks Theatre, Leeds, UK |
| Northern Stage, Newcastle, UK | Nuffield Theatre, Lancaster, UK |
| Mercury Theatre, Colchester, UK | Harrogate Theatre, UK |
| Arnolfini, Bristol, UK | The Point, Eastleigh, UK |
| Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, UK | The Tron, Glasgow, UK |
| The Lowry, Salford Quays, UK | Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff, UK |
| Barcelona Grec Festival, Spain | Montclair State University, New Jersey, USA |

- **VINCENT DANCE THEATRE** contact information

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| Charlotte Vincent Artistic Director | 0114 2210369 admin@vincentdt.com |
| Jane Whitehead General Manager | 0114 2210369 jane@vincentdt.com |
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