

Information for Touring Autumn 2013

DE Dance



DARREN
ELLIS
DANCE

DOUBLE BILL, RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

Darren Ellis Dance

Double Bill, Residency Programme

Darren Ellis Dance (DED), Associate Artist at DanceEast, cofounded by Darren Ellis and Martin Collins in 2007 to produce high quality dance in collaboration with other art forms. The company have worked with a variety of composers, film makers, visual artists, writers and designers as well as actors and dancers to create dance for a wide spectrum of performance related work that captures Darren's interest in movement, music and visual arts.

Darren's background is as a trained percussionist as and dancer, which has had an influence on many of the works both thematically and choreographically; the company aims to have a live music element within its performances. The company have a commitment to the development of its education programme, delivering high quality creative workshops and projects for a wide variety of the community and have great experience in making dance for all ages and abilities.

<http://www.darrenellisdance.co.uk/>

The Show

An evening of dance, live music and a light and sound interactive installation. This double bill of work by Darren Ellis Dance brings together elements of rock music, contemporary dance and visual arts.



Revolver

Revolver takes its inspiration from the 1966 Ingmar Bergman film *Persona* the piece is a relentless dance duel which creates a tension building battle between two exceptional female dancers Hannah Kidd (Richard Alston Dance Company) and Joanna Wenger recently seen in the Darren Ellis Dance production *Long Walk Home*. As the dance unfolds we see the women rhythmically repelling against each other with an almost magnetic energy that is controlled by a powerful yet stark music score for two electric guitars played live on stage by THE TURBULENT EDDIES. The

musicians drive the dancers on until they connect and move as one, creating the image of two sides of the same person merging together.



After Effects

After Effects is a solo work for Darren Ellis himself and it utilises both his skills of dance and drumming to create a work that explores the interplay between movement and the rhythm of light and sound. Specially modified drums that have light bulbs inside and digital triggers on the skins that when hit produce sounds of light; a fire, a projector, the sounds of people, heart beats and voice. These elements are built up together on stage by the dancer to create an interactive installation of light and sound. The dancer controls the drum installation until it is brought to life and then a

play of power between human and light and sound begins until the dancer is taken over and controlled by the drums where we see him lost in music and light.

Martin Collins

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The Performance Information

Double bill performance information:

- 1 duet performance of Revolver with live music (The Turbulent Eddies)
- 1 solo performance of After Effects
- Total Performance time 45mins
- Optional meet the artist chat in the venue (almost immediately following the performance)
- Fee: upon request

What Promoters can expect:

Marketing pack will include

- Posters
- A5 Leaflets
- Press releases
- Web-copy
- Colour images supplied as J-PEGs and ESP
- Email Marketing support
- Education copy and support (downloadable booking forms and web support)

Post Show Talk:

10 minute Post-show discussions with the dancer/choreographer (on stage) immediately following the performance (must be agreed in advanced of the performance)

Residence Programme

The company can be in residency the week before a show to create a short piece on a group to be performed alongside Darren Ellis Dance based on either or both of the works.

The residency can also be opened up to music participants to develop the score for the piece alongside the dancers again based on the music from the show.

The drum kit can be up as an installation in a suitable area of venue for the week before to gain audience interest in the show.

Both dance pieces can be used as stimulus for workshops with people from a wide variety of backgrounds, ages and experience.

Dance material from *Revolver* can be learnt and people get to experience the feeling of connecting and disconnecting with each other through rhythm and phrasing of movement and creating rhythmical patterns of their own. Also participants can learn how to put phrases together and structure movement creating their own dance duet duets using repetition of movement and gaining an understanding of relationship to each other within space.

After Effects can be workshopped with the installation so that participants get to experience the interaction of movement sound and light. The kit itself is a great tool for learning about rhythm, coordination and also the effect of light on the body as well as dance. Whether it's hitting drums to create sound and movement or dancing a duet with your own shadow *After Effects* workshops are fun and stimulating for all.

The residency will involve a technique class (Cunningham), a repertory and creative session each day with a focus on the performance but be interactive with the set, drawing from the research Darren Ellis Dance has been doing over the past four years. Each participant will not only learn the choreographic language of Darren Ellis Dance but also have the chance to work creatively with Darren and his company dancers to enhance their own development as a dance artist. The residence programme is sold in three options.

Option 1 – 1 Day residence, £625

This is 1 day, for one group, working with Darren or a Company Dancer, working on repertoire

Option 2 – 2 Day residence, £725

This is 2 days, for one group, working with Darren or a Company Dancer, working on repertoire

Option 3 – 1 week residence, £1000

This option will allow Darren or Company dancers to work with a group for the whole week, before the performance date. They will learn the repertoire, and will develop a short piece as a curtain raiser. They can be professional, student or community dancers.