

IVAN MICHAEL BLACKSTOCK

TRAPLORD

SADLER'S WELLS X 180 STUDIOS

A CO-PRODUCTION WITH THE FACTORY AND ALTRUVIOLET



SADLER'S
WELLS

180

MIF Manchester
International
Festival

ALTRUVIOLET

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

Supported using public funding by
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WELCOME

TRAPLORD began with the idea of having young black men tell their authentic truth. Speaking to other young men like myself, I found that we share a story of masculinity, identity, and connection, which is front and centre of this piece of work.

TRAPLORD is my story. And the stories of those around me. It's an exploration of my own mental health and journey to self-actualisation, told through the body. It's visceral and raw because that's what my story is.

The process of creating it has therefore been more about remembering and uncovering a truth that already exists, rather than finding something new. Working with this amazing team of creatives to deliver this vision has been an incredible collaboration, blending so many contemporary artforms to create the universe you are about to experience.

What we have found together is a fever dream: a constellation of ideas, questions, and explorations into what it means to live in this body. TRAPLORD is therefore non-linear, episodic, and chaotic, as all good dreams are.

My invitation to you is not to intellectualise but to feel. Immerse yourself in the stories we tell and enjoy the journey.

Ivan Michael Blackstock

Director and Choreographer

CREATIVE TEAM

Director and Choreographer

Ivan Michael Blackstock

Associate Choreographer

Chaldon Williams

Co-Designers

Chloe Lamford, Shankho Chaudhuri

Lighting Designer

Simisola Majekodunmi

Sound Designer

Luke Swaffield for Autograph

Video Designer

Ian William Galloway

Costume Designer

Saskia Lenaerts

Associate Costume Designer and Costume Supervisor

Jess Richardson-Smith

Dramaturgy

Jonzi D, Anthony Ekundayo Lennon,

Gbolahan Obisesan

Music Supervisor

Torben Sylvest

Music Producers

BRNSRGHT, Mindaugas Juozapavicius,

Torben Sylvest

Music by

Michael 'Mikey J' Asante, BRNSRGHT, CREATXR,

DOMINANT, Denzel Himself,

Mindaugas Juozapavicius, Torben Sylvest

Spoken Word

Magero

Rap Artist

UNDERWATERKASH

CAST

Ivan Michael Blackstock

Chantelle Dawe

Shannelle 'Tali' Fergus

Kanah Flex

Wild G

Kyron Jake

Magero

Robia Milliner

UNDERWATERKASH

Malachi Welch

Chaldon Williams

Additional Vocals

Shannelle 'Tali' Fergus

Robia Milliner



PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Manager

Adam Carrée

Company Stage Manager

Graham Michael

Assistant Stage Manager (Props)

Nicole Scott

Assistant Stage Manager (Book)

Ashleigh Weller

Head of Wardrobe

Jess Richardson-Smith

Production Electrician and Lighting Operator

Joe Pilling

Lighting Programmer

Tom Turner

Assistant Sound Designer

Isabel Mackintosh

Production Sound Engineer

Jim Douglas for Autograph

Assistant Production Sound Engineer

Ewan Exon

Sound No.1

Dylan Winn-Davies

Video Programmer

Salvador Avila

Video Technician

Caitlyn Russell

LED Technician

Alex Ramsden

Animators

Jáchym Bouzek, Barbora Šenoltová, Rena Iizawa

Video Editor

Jacob Krupolc

Additional Props

Lisa Buckley, Deadline

Fight Director

Kevin McCurdy

Production Dramatherapist

Wabriya King (@wkdramatherapy)

Physiotherapy

Richard Lewis

Executive Producer

Ben Cooper

Producer and General Manager

Emily Lunnion for DEM Productions

Assistant Producer

Steph Be for ALTRUVIOLET and DEM Productions

Production Intern

Elvira Parr for DEM Productions

Marketing

Jordan Archer for Sadler's Wells,

Chris Condrion for 180 Studios

PR

Tess Shennan for Sadlers Wells

Production Accounting

Ramin Sabi for DEM Productions,

Abbii Clark for DEM Productions,

Tina Wright for DEM Productions

Production Photography

Camilla Greenwell

Rehearsal Photography

Graham Michael

Hero Image Artwork

Furmaan Ahmed

Trailer

Zach Beech

Graphic Design

Gallusness

Set Construction by

Set Blue Scenery

Sound provided by

Autograph

Lighting provided by

Whitelight

LED Screens provided by

Blue I

Rigging Specialists

Suspended Illusions

Apparel and Footwear provided by

Nike

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PRODUCERS & MANAGEMENT

180 STUDIOS

Matt Elek
Neil Thomas
Chris Condron
Alex Flowers
Nikki Durrant
Alisha Mir

SADLER'S WELLS

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Alistair Spalding CBE

Executive Producer
Suzanne Walker

Head of Producing & Touring
Bia Oliveira

Tour Producer
Aristea Charalampidou

Head of Production
Adam Carrée

Technical Production Manager
Pete Maxey

Marketing Manager
Jordan Archer

Marketing Assistant
Chantal Edwards

Senior Press Officer
Tess Shennan

Assistant Producer

Hannah Gibbs

Production Accountant

Guy Thomas

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John McGrath

Executive Producer

Tracey Low

Producer

Mai Komoriya

Technical Director

Jack Thompson

Creative Engagement Director

Julia Turpin

Head of Press & PR

Emma Robertson

Marketing Manager

Natalie Forrester

ALTRUVIOLET

Artistic Director & Chief Executive

Ivan Michael Blackstock

Head of Operations

Rochelle Graham-Castillo

Executive Assistant to Ivan Michael Blackstock

Angie Sylvia

Assistant Producer

Steph Be

Head of Content

Izaak Brandt

DEM PRODUCTIONS

Executive Producer

Ramin Sabi

Producer and General Manager

Emily Lunnon

Associate Producer and Head of Finance

Abbii Clark

Assistant Producer (TRAPLORD)

Steph Be

Finance and Payroll Administrator

Tina Wright

Production Intern

Elvira Parr





THANKS

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Mark Wadhwa
Suzanne Walker

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Mark Ball
Andy Beardmore
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Natasha Clayton
Chris Condron
Dazed
Pauline Edondo Etim
EM Acoustics
FACT Magazine
Dan Fenton
Sarah Georgeson
Georgina Harper
KYNGATHAMONSTAS
Nike

Regent's Park Open Air Theatre

Tim Robinson

Emily Rudge

Soho Works

The Vinyl Factory

Thanks To

Creative Collective and Members

Anthony Andrews

Tobi Balogun

Eva-Grace Bor

Izaak Brandt

Ffion Campbell-Davies

Darnell Depradine

Joy Gharoro-Akpojotor

Anna Higgs

Myah Jeffers Jeffers

Lorenzo Levrini

Henrique Paris

Taz Tron Delix

Previous TRAPLORD Cast and Collaborators

Stefano A. Addae

Simeon Campbell

DOMINANT

Glenn Hudson

Lisandro

Bill Litambola

Nathan Marsh

Glodi Miessi

Kofi Mingo

Theo 'Godson' Oyolade

O'Neil Rochester

Tyron Isaac Stuart

Unkle TC

Kieran Warner

And to the countless others who have contributed to this journey. Thank you.

CREATIVE TEAM



IVAN MICHAEL BLACKSTOCK

**Director and Choreographer
/ Performer**

Ivan Michael Blackstock is a South London-born multidisciplinary creative, whose work as an artist, mentor, and cultural innovator has been seen across the UK's most iconic venues and beyond.

Rising from the underground dance community to being an established professional dancer and choreographer, Ivan has worked with Kylie Minogue, the Pet Shop Boys, Adidas, BVLGARI, The X Factor UK, Dancing with the Stars USA, to name a few. Building on his successful commercial career, Ivan went on to choreograph his own work and collaborate in stage productions and Hip Hop dance theatre, presenting work at the Roundhouse, National Theatre and Breakin' Convention.

This led to the creation of the critically acclaimed, sell-out production A Harlem Dream at The Young Vic, after which he was appointed an Associate Artist of the theatre. Since then, Ivan focused on his work as an independent artist, creating thought-provoking and political artistic expressions. His work has been presented at Sadler's Wells, Latitude Festival and La Villette Theatre in Paris and is proudly recognised in his award for Breakthrough Cultural Excellence in Film and Video (Nowness Awards 2019), 2021 Dazed 100 shortlist and his role as contributing editor at Fact Magazine.

His growing success has catapulted his career into a multidimensional innovative space, and he has since founded CRXSS PLATFXRM, an organisation platforming talent that constructs new paths to creative sub-cultures. CRXSS

PLATFXRM also delivers high-profile partnership events and consultancy with major cultural venues, brands and independent businesses such as The Southbank Centre, Peckham Festival, Nike, and Red Bull.

In 2021, Ivan designed and delivered a paid internship programme, mentoring and up-skilling young black filmmakers and content creators, giving them the opportunity to meet with industry professionals that have worked with the likes of Stormzy, Spike Lee, Nowness, BAFTA and Film4. Most recently, Ivan created TRAPLORD BLK MEME/RA for Channel 4 Random Acts, Autumn 2021, now extending his creativity by tapping into the world of film and media.

Some of his biggest highlights to date have been choreographing for Beyonce's Black Is King, appointment as Artistic Director of 180 Studios, as well as founding his very own production company ALTRUVIOLET, for which TRAPLORD is the premier work.



CHALDON WILLIAMS

**Associate Choreographer
/ Performer**

Creative Artist & Choreographer. Chaldon discovered his passion for Hip Hop at a very young age. Born and raised in South East London he developed his talent for the creative arts through dance. A multi disciplined artist who now creates intricate and unique work to lead movement into new spaces. He is massively influenced by different styles and cultures which fuels his innovative mind. Among his personal goals, Chaldon has worked with brands and artists such as Adidas, Jason Deurlo, Rita Ora, Ariel and many more. With Hip Hop being his base, Chaldon continues his journey to push the boundaries of creative movement.



CHLOE LAMFORD

Co-Designer

Chloe trained in Theatre Design at Wimbledon School of Art and is currently a resident of Somerset House Studios.

Her work in theatre includes: Get Up, Stand Up! The Bob Marley Musical (Lyric Theatre); The Antipodes (Co-Director - National Theatre); Hilary and Clinton (Broadway); John, Amadeus, Rules for Living and The World Of Extreme Happiness (National Theatre); J'OUVERT (Co-Designer - Harold Pinter Theatre); The Song Project, Shoe Lady (Royal Court); Europe (Donmar Warehouse); The Duchess of Malfi (Almeida); The American Clock (The Old Vic); Our Ladies of Perpetual Succour (National Theatre, West End and National Theatre Scotland); The Crucible (Theatre Basel); Hamilton Complex (Schauspielhaus Bochum); Jubilee (Royal Exchange Theatre and Lyric Hammersmith); 1984 (Headlong, West End and Broadway); Shakespeare's Last Play, Atmen and Ophelia's Zimmer (Schaubühne Berlin); De Maiden (Toneelgroep Amsterdam); The Cane, Pity, Gundog, Road, Victory Condition and B, Unreachable, The Twits, God Bless the Child, How to Hold Your Breath, Circle Mirror Transformation, The Internet is Serious Business, 2071, Open Court (Royal Court); Britney and Goofy, The Hamilton Complex (Hetpaleis Antwerp and Lift Festival); The Events (ATC and Young Vic); Disco Pigs, Sus and Blackta (Young Vic); The History Boys (Sheffield Crucible).

Her work in Opera includes: Theodora (ROH); La bohème (ENO); Innocence (Festival d'Aix-en-Provence); Pelléas & Mélisande (Festival d'Aix-en-Provence and Teatr Wielki Opera Narodowa) and Ariadne auf Naxos (Festival d'Aix-en-Provence and Finnish National Opera).



SHANKHO CHAUDHURI

Co-Designer

Shankho is a Set and Graphic designer based in London. He graduated from Imperial College London with an MEng in Mechanical Engineering, followed by a joint MA MSc in Global Innovation Design from the Royal College of Art and Imperial.

Previous work as Designer includes: Five Plays (Young Vic); Ghost Walk (Poltergeist Theatre); Final Farewell (Tara Theatre); Inside (Orange Tree Theatre); Living Newspaper (Royal Court Theatre) and Art Heist (New Diorama Theatre). As Associate Set and Graphic Designer: Is God Is (Royal Court Theatre). As Assistant: Death of England: Delroy and Death of England (National Theatre).

He is currently Staff Associate Designer for New Diorama Theatre.



SIMISOLA MAJEKODUNMI

Lighting Designer

Simisola graduated from RADA with a specialist degree in Lighting Design.

Her work in theatre includes:

Jungle Rumble (Fortune Theatre); Human Nurture (Sheffield Theatres); The Wiz (Hope Mill Theatre); Is God Is (Royal Court

Theatre); J'ouvert (Theatre 503 & Harold Pinter Theatre); Lucid, Tiger under the skin (New Public Company); Driving Miss Daisy (York Theatre Royal); Invisible Harmony (Southbank Centre); Just Another Day and Night (The Place Theatre); Living Newspaper Edition (Royal Court Theatre).

Her work as an Associate includes:

The Shark is Broken (Ambassador's Theatre); Carousel (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre); Shoe Lady (Royal Court Theatre); 15 Heroines (Jermyn Street Theatre); Herding Cats (Soho Theatre).



LUKE SWAFFIELD

**(For Autograph)
Sound Designer**

Luke has worked on a variety of theatre and events as a Sound Designer for the past 12 years.

Past sound design credits include: Pride & Prejudice* (*sort of) (Criterion, London); Doctor Who Time Fracture (Immersive LND, London); Monopoly Life-Sized (London); Catch Me & The Limit (Embassy Theatre); Anything Goes (The Other Palace); The League of Legends European 10th Anniversary (Excel Centre), Parade (The Other Palace); Shakespeare's Rose Theatre (Blenheim Palace); Forgotten (Arcola); The Full Monty (UK Tour); The Legend of Sleepy Hollow (The Other Palace); Big Fish The Musical (The Other Palace); Billy The Kid (Curve); Not Moses (Arts Theatre); Stay Awake, Jake (The Vaults Waterloo); The Wasp (Trafalgar Studios).

Luke also works as Sound Designer for Secret Cinema and has designed many of their past productions including; Stranger Things (London & Los Angeles); Casino Royale (London & Shanghai); Romeo & Juliet, Blade Runner, Moulin Rouge, Dirty Dancing, 28 Days Later and Dr Strangelove.

As an Associate his credits include: The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time (West End and International, UK, US & Tours); A Taste of Honey (Trafalgar Studios); Fatherland (Lyric Hammersmith); Committee... a new musical (Donmar Warehouse); Fracked! (UK Tour); Big The Musical (Plymouth & Dublin); Les Enfants Terribles Presents: Stella Artois Time Capsule (London); The Girls (Leeds Grand & Lowry, Salford); Kiss Me, Kate (Leeds Grand, London Coliseum & UK Tour 2015 & 2018); The Elephant Man (Haymarket Theatre); The Vote (Donmar Warehouse/Channel Four, London); Sweeney Todd (English National Opera); The Nether (Duke of York's Theatre); Shrek The Musical (UK Tour).

Luke is a full-time member of the Sound Design team at Autograph Sound. Autograph are Europe's leading sound design and supply company with an unparalleled 45-year history. They are currently designing and/or supplying, amongst others: Frozen, Hamilton, Mary Poppins, Dear Evan Hansen, Tina and Harry Potter and the Cursed Child. For a full list of current and past productions please visit www.autograph.co.uk.

Luke is a graduate of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.



IAN WILLIAM GALLOWAY

Video Designer

Ian is a designer and director working with all forms of video and projection for live performance.

As a theatre designer, he has created productions in the West End and on Broadway, for the National Theatre, Royal Shakespeare Company, National Theatre of Scotland and National Theatre Wales, among others. In opera, he has designed for the English National Opera, Royal Opera House, the Metropolitan Opera, Teatro alla Scala (Milan), the Mariinsky

Theatre (St. Petersburg), Opera de Lyon, Scottish Opera, Bremer Oper and The Opera Group.

He works extensively in immersive and interactive productions, mixed media, virtual and online production and large-scale public events for Secret Cinema, Disneyland and Manchester International Festival.

He is a creative director of Mesmer, a creative studio whose clients have included Alexander McQueen, Louis Vuitton, the V&A museum and many others.



SASKIA LENAERTS

Costume Designer

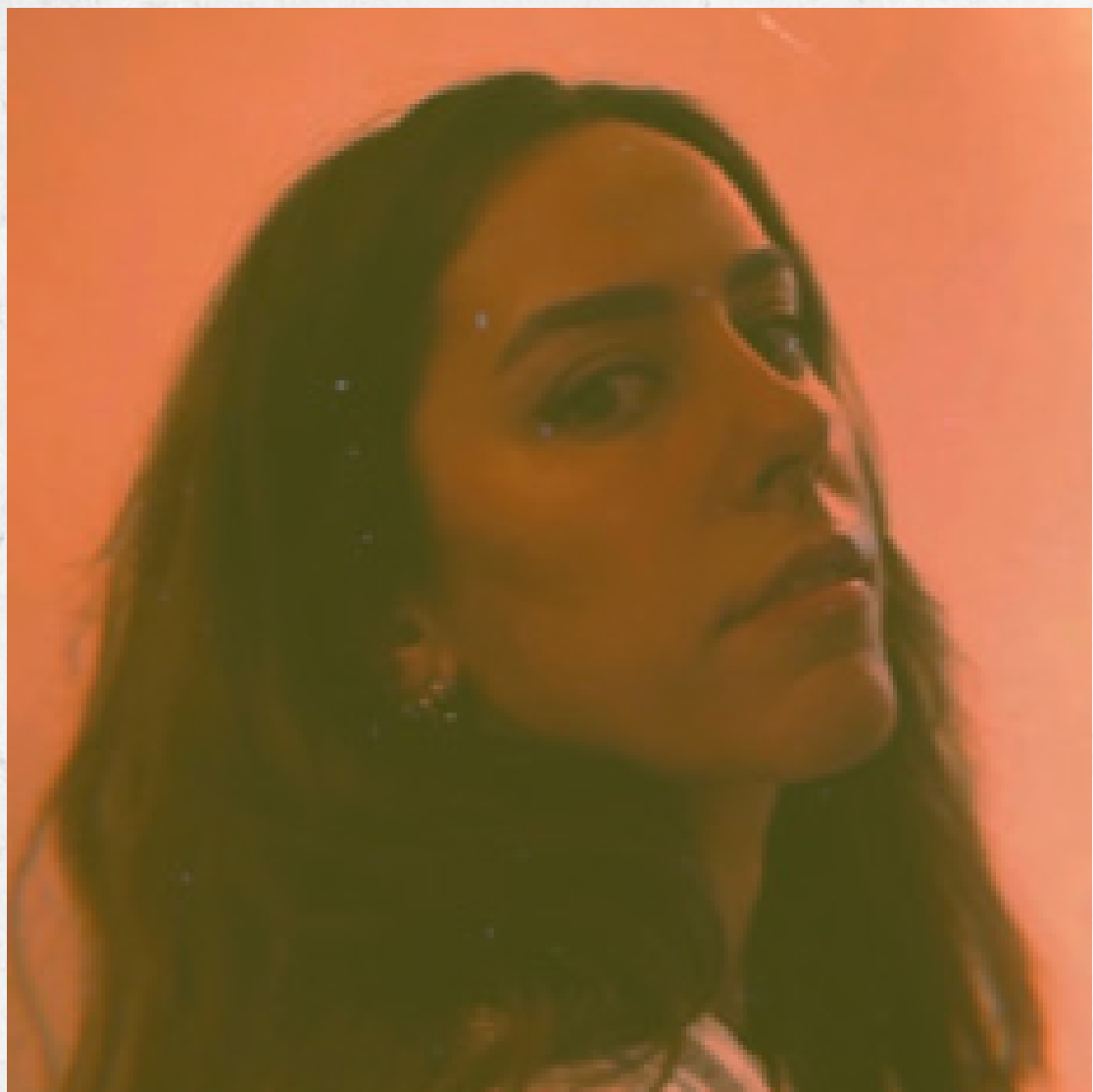
Saskia Lenaerts (1993) is a trans-national activist designer.

As an advocate for a cross-cultural and borderless world, Saskia uses fashion to impact society. Her work aims to help disarm prejudice. By re-purposing and de-commissioning surplus, she re-defines and re-designs garments with a brutal past for a brighter, more accepting future. Demonstrating both our cultural differences and commonalities, her work is a celebratory juxtaposition of diversity.

Saskia holds a Master's degree in Fashion from Central Saint Martins.

She is a recipient of the 2018 Considered Design Award by Johnstons of Elgin and the 2019 L'Oréal Professionnel scholarship.

She has collaborated with Birkenstock 1774 and Alexander McQueen and has worked for Burberry and Toogood.



JESS RICHARDSON- SMITH

**Associate Costume Designer
/ Costume Supervisor**

Jess is a Fashion Stylist and Costume Supervisor working between Paris and London.

She has worked on a number of UK Theatre productions including, Beautiful Thing (Arts Theatre and UK Tour); 9 to 5 (The Savoy); Love (European Tour); Faith, Hope & Charity (European Tour) and The View Upstairs (Soho Theatre). As a stylist, she has worked in New York, London and Paris, on a range of projects with clients including: ITV, Tech 21, Adidas, Mercedes, Paramount Plus, Elle Brasil and Vogue Taiwan, as well as various editorial, personal and celebrity styling projects.



TORBEN SYLVEST

**Musical Supervisor /
Music Producer / Contributor**

Torben Lars Sylvest is a music producer and composer creating original scores for dance, theatre and film.

Sylvest's unique musical voice grows out of his passion for building worlds. By collaborating with artists with important things to say and sensitively crafting scores, he helps to develop and facilitate urgent narratives.

Self-taught in his teens, he is now a leading figure in UK Hip Hop dance theatre with internationally touring works and a list of collaborators that include some of the most exciting choreographers and companies working in dance today, such as: Scottish Dance Theatre, National Youth Dance Company, Danza Contemporanea de Cuba, Ivan Michael Blackstock, James Cousins, Kwame Asajo-Adjei, Matthew Robinson (VERVE).

Sylvest scored extensively for Botis Seva, whose collaboration BLKDOG earned the 2019 Olivier Award for Best New Dance. He also worked with Botis Seva to produce a number of short films, including the award winning CAN'T KILL US ALL, commissioned for the BBC and Art Council England's 'Culture in Quarantine' programme (2020).

Sylvest has worked with a number of up-and-coming London-based vocal artists, producing the break out single Creeping for the critically acclaimed Obongjayar.



JONZI D

Dramaturg

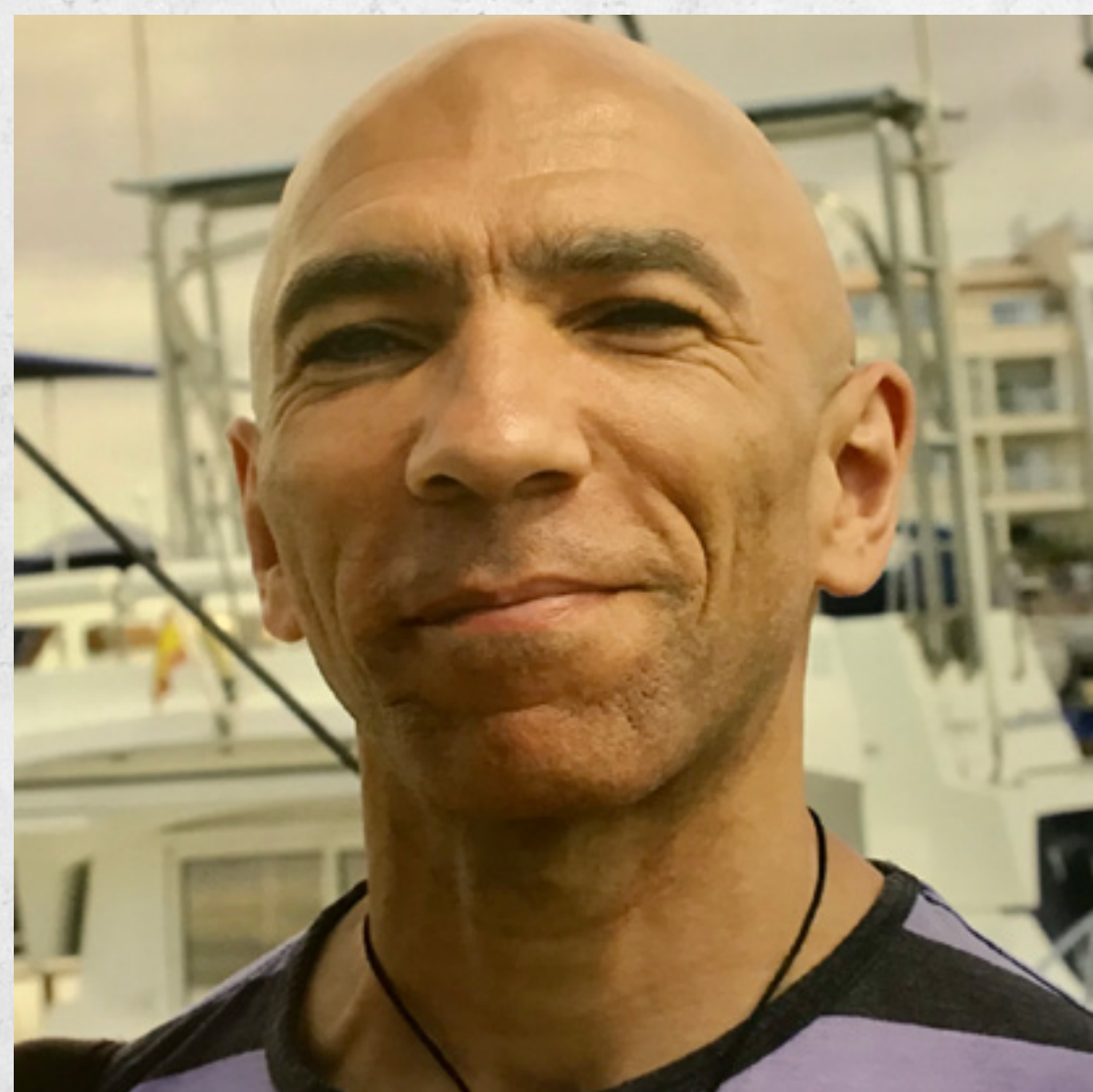
An MC, dancer, spoken word artist and director, Jonzi is the foremost advocate for hip hop who has changed the profile and influenced the development of the UK British hip hop dance and theatre scene over the last two decades.

Jonzi has triumphed in platforming the profile of hip hop disciplines since founding Breakin' Convention in 2004, which has subsequently gained worldwide recognition as the vanguard of the development of the art form. Through professional development projects 'Open Art Surgery' and 'Back to the Lab', Jonzi has supported hundreds of hip hop dance and rap/poetry artists on their journey to creating theatre.

His critically acclaimed works include 1995's Lyrikal Fearta; 1999's Aeroplane Man; 2006's TAG... Just Writing My Name; 2009's Markus the Sadist and 2013's The Letter: To Be Or To MBE?

Jonzi has been featured in HBO's Def Poetry Jam, had his short films Silence da Bitchin' & Aeroplane Man screened on Channel 4, toured his work extensively all over the world and delivered his own TED Talk about the influence and evolution of hip hop culture.

In 2021 Jonzi directed Our Bodies Back which won 'Best Artistic Film' as part of the Detroit Black film festival. He also wrote Here/Not Here, a short film directed by Bim Ajadi which was nominated for 'Best Film' in Deaffest 2022.



ANTHONY EKUNDAYO LENNON

Dramaturgy

Anthony's training took place at Weekend Arts College, Old Vic/Lyric Youth Theatres and Double Edge Theatre.

He was Staff Director at the National Theatre (Moon on a Rainbow Shawl) and Associate Director at Talawa Theatre. During this time, he successfully completed artistic director training whilst simultaneously assistant directing Nikolai Foster's musical An Officer and a Gentleman (Curve, UK tour). Directing credits include the sell-out production of Hatch (Talawa Theatre), his re-visioning of Othello set in a world of 'black ops', eavesdropping and surveillance (Birmingham Hippodrome), Layla's Room, Welcome to Thebes and Contractions (actor training work at St. Mary's University).

Anthony has also worked at Soho Theatre, Theatre 503, Royal Court, Kiln Theatre, Theatre Royal Stratford East and Almeida, among others. He is a leading co-mentor for Open Art Surgery

& Back to the Lab (Breakin' Convention) with other career highlights including assistant directing for the Black cast production of Cat On A Hot Tin Roof, directed by Debbie Allen (Broadway to West End transfer) and assisting Iqbal Khan on his historically ground-breaking production of Othello (Royal Shakespeare Company). He was recently appointed Associate Director at Lyrici Arts theatre company.

Anthony is a guest speaker, workshop facilitator and educator in relation to exploring 'race', identity, culture, positive self-reflection, empowerment and authentic human connection/empathy.



GBOLAHAN OBIESEAN

Dramaturgy

Gbolahan Obisesan is the Artistic Director and joint CEO of Brixton House Theatre and was a Genesis Fellow of the Young Vic Theatre.

Writing credits for theatre include: The Fishermen (New Perspectives, UK Tour, adapted from the Booker nominated novel by Chigozie Obioma); Hansel & Gretel (Uchenna Dance/The Place); Zaida & Aadam (Bush Theatre); Feast (Royal Court/Young Vic); How Nigeria Became: A Story and A Spear That Didn't Work (Unicorn Theatre); Pigeon English (Bristol Old Vic/Edinburgh Festival, adapted from the novel by Stephen Kelman); Mad About The Boy (Edinburgh Festival and UK tour).

Directing credits include: the world premiere of the stage adaption The Last King of Scotland (Sheffield Crucible); Random (Leeds Playhouse); Yvette (China Plate, Bush Theatre); Cuttin it (Olivier Nominated - Young Vic, Sheffield Crucible, Birmingham Rep, Yard Theatre, Royal Court); We Are Proud To Present... (Bush Theatre); 66 Books (Bush Theatre); SUS (Young Vic & UK tour - Jerwood Award for directing); Eye/Balls, Hold it Up (Soho Theatre).

In 2009, his Jerwood Directors Award-winning production of Barrie Keefe's SUS subsequently received a revival in 2010, ran at The Young Vic and had a successful UK tour. Gbolahan was previously Director in Residence at the National Theatre Studio as the recipient of the Bulldog Princep Director's Bursary in 2008.



BRNSRGHT

Music Producer / Contributor

BRNSRGHT (pronounced Burnsright), is a Lithuanian born and London-based Producer Artist.

Classically trained, he is known for his technical dexterity as a singer, songwriter, music producer and multi-instrumentalist. With his unique vocal tone, versatile approach to performance and affinity to words, creator explores music freely.

BRNSRGHT's chimeric sound serves ancient-future perspective in a post-modern aesthetic — subconscious sub-woofing, eerie beats and dirty 808s, frosted with shimmering synths — sourced from the liminal shores of euphoria and nostalgia, leaning into alternate states of awareness, illuminating darker passageways in the psyche with a self-empowering attitude.

A voracious devotee of the musical process, BRNSRGHT's ever-evolving body of work represents a genre-bending integration of alternative, self-taught and free-form expression.



MINDAUGAS JUOZAPAVICIUS

Music Producer / Contributor

Mindaugas Juozapavicius is London based music producer with music featured on Radio1, BBC 1XTRA, Capital XTRA, Channel 4 & more.

Besides production, he can often be seen performing with diverse range of artists including Etta Bond, Benny Atlas and London Garage Orchestra.

@mjuozapavicius



MICHAEL 'MIKEY J' ASANTE

Music Contributor

Michael 'Mikey J' Asante MBE is a renowned producer, composer and DJ, whose 20-year career history is firmly etched in the UK black music industry.

As co-artistic director of hip hop dance theatre company Boy Blue, founded in 2001 with Kenrick 'H2O' Sandy, Asante is credited with the direction and composition of REDD (2019), the film R.E.B.E.L (2018), Outliers (2018), Blak Whyte Gray (2017), The Five & the Prophecy of Prana (2013), Touch (2011), Legacy (2011) and Pied Piper (2007).

As a producer, Asante has worked with major label artists

including Delilah, Raleigh Ritchie, Estelle and George The Poet. Notably Asante has worked extensively with Kano including engineering and production on the critically acclaimed album Made In The Manor and the albums Home Sweet Home, London Town and 140 Grime Street. Recent television and theatre work includes composition for Tree, a Kwame Kwei-Armah and Idris Elba creation for Manchester International Festival, composition for Clotilda: Last American Slave Ship a National Geographic documentary special, the BBC documentary The Three Lives of Michael X, and a collaboration with Brian Eno over two series of Netflix's Top Boy.

Outside of the studio, Asante mentors and delivers master classes in directing, choreography and music and is also found residing in the Guildhall School of Music and Drama's faculty as a Professor of electronic music, from where, in 2018, Asante was awarded an Honorary Fellowship (HonFGS). Asante received an MBE to Hip Hop Dance and Music in the 2022 New Year's Honours.

CREATXR

Music Contributor

Dilyon also known as 'Creatxr' is both a dancer and music producer born and raised in south London.

Being inspired by Timberland, Wondagurl, Kanye west and Pharrell, Dilyon wanted to take his music to another level and began to be more involved in the dance and music community.

For this years instalment of TRAPLORD, Dilyon is part of the music production Team.

Dilyon has worked with UK artists Denzel Himself, C Cane, Ricky Banks, Nics, S.A.M, Miss La Familia, Saskilla and Jo Joey. He's worked with Breakin' Convention (Back to the Lab 2020). Dilyon Has also had his music featured on UK radio stations BBC one Xtra, Represent and Rinse FM.



DOMINANT

Music Contributor

DOMINANT is an artist and director, focusing on movement, music and film.

Made in Portugal and London raised, DOMINANT is one of the Pioneers and Founder of the collective 'Wet Wipez UK', an independent art organisation created in 2008 which contributed to the birth of the British Krump scene.

DOMINANT was part of the original cast for TRAPLORD's first instalment in 2015.

Now focusing on sound shaping/design, DOMINANT is now part of the TRAPLORD new instalment music production team.

DOMINANT has featured & collaborated with various brands and artists such as: Rimmel; GAP; Mulberry; Audi PowerWalk Commercial with Noam Murro; Culture Shock (Dazed & Confused Magazine); FKA twigs (Congregata Tour Y&Y - Palo; Santo Tour); ROOMS (Wet Wipez Film); Rita Ora (Phoenix Tour); Danny Boyle's Children's Monologue; The Shoes Time to Dance featuring Jake Gyllenhaal & FKA twigs (Brit Awards). DOMINANT has worked with institutions such as Tate Modern and the XX Century Hannover TansKongress.





DENZEL HIMSELF

Music Contributor

Denzel Himself is an interdisciplinary artist from outer-London. His gothic, hardcore, take on hip hop makes him no archetypal rapper, and has elicited plaudits from i-D “the unconventional future star we’ve been waiting for”, Noisey “your new favourite rapper”, Hypebeast “an auteur in every sense of the word” and Wonderland. Described as “Dilla’s brain in Manson’s skull”, Denzel has carved his own distinct aesthetic and sound, a result of the synaesthesia he experiences, and an undiagnosed psychological disposition which both skews and intensifies the way he views life and art.

Denzel’s multifaceted creative prowess has resulted in his apt moniker, Denzel Himself. Debut release, ‘Pleasure’ encompasses 10 tracks written, recorded and produced by Denzel, alongside 4 self-produced, self-directed accompanying videos. The dichotomy of Denzel’s music can be seen no clearer than in the hardcore infectious distortion of ‘BANGIN’, juxtaposed with the nostalgic hip hop sonics of ‘Chevi’. Most recent release ‘Baphomet James’ subverts the assertive aggression of his 2017 output, with Denzel Himself delivering a nuanced, menacing output that twists genre conventions at will. To accompany the release of ‘Baphomet James’, Denzel teamed up with labelmate KEYAH/BLU to film an exclusive COLORS show. The EP has seen an array of praise, with support from BBC 1Xtra’s Jamz Supernova, i-D, The Quietus, Dummy, TRENCH, and additions to Spotify frontline playlists ‘One Week One Playlist’ and ‘Free Form’.

Previous live highlights include supporting Yellowdays at Scala, Rejjie Snow in Berlin, Wiki in London, a sold out headline show at Birthdays, Latitude and Boiler Room, with forthcoming shows including London hardcore festival Upsurge, CHART Art Fair (Copenhagen) and more.

An artist in complete control of his creative destiny, Denzel Himself is one of the UK's most important emerging creative minds. With more music set to drop in 2022, the outer-London rapper, producer and director will once again exhibit his distinctive style of gothica, hip hop and hardcore. Expect Denzel's innovative visuals, expect his unique sound, and expect him to have meticulously crafted his output, himself.



M A G E R O

**Spoken Word Writer
and Performer**

Magero is an award-nominated poet, playwright, workshop facilitator and Co-Founder of 'The Brotherhood Creative Collective'.

Aiming to provoke thought and emotion, Magero is a vivid storyteller who incorporates a fusion of poetry, music and acting within his artistry. Known for his intricate writing style and ability to misdirect audiences by manipulating their perception within his narratives, his work often includes unexpected plot twists. Much of Magero's work is based on his lived experiences and beliefs.

He is featured in the therapeutic theatre play So U Think Im Crazy? and has performed at events such as The BBC Children's Global Summit, Breakin' Convention Festival, CRXSS PLATFXRM Festival and The BBC Music Radio Awards. His debut release Climate Change Need Not Become The Legacy We Leave is available to watch via BBC Ideas. Magero was most recently nominated for The Best Poet 2021 at the UK Entertainment Awards. His writing credits include VICE (Ukweli Roach) and his debut play He said She said is currently touring schools and PRU's around the country with Synergy Theatre Project

@magero_tbh



UNDERWATERKASH

Rap Artist and Performer

UNDERWATERKASH is a multidisciplinary artist specialising in trap and hip hop. Born in Birmingham, he has spent most of his life in and around Atlanta.

Upon turning 18, he moved to Manchester where he built a small network that allowed him to perform in many shows around all corners of the U.K. This has recently inspired him to further his opportunities by moving to London. His personal message is to never forget that you can do anything you put your mind to and that you can be any version of yourself you choose.

@underwaterkash



CAST



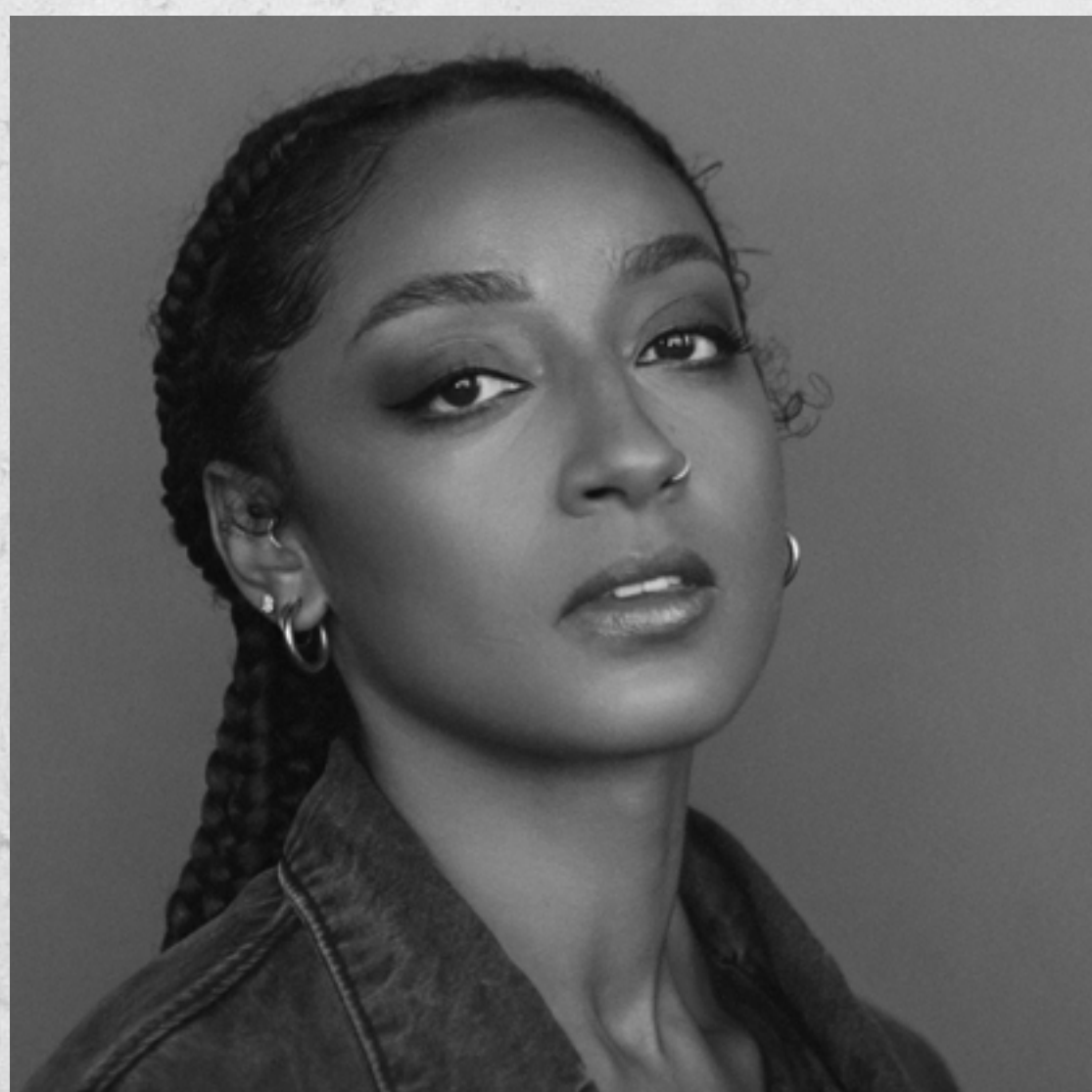
CHANTELLE DAWE

Chantelle Dawe aka AMP is a professional Choreographer and Dance Artist specialising in Krump and Hip Hop.

With over 10 years of experience, she is the Founder and Director of AMP-DANCE. Chantelle has performed and competed around the UK and Europe, introducing people to the powerful art form that is Krump.

She has performed for artists such as Kylie Minogue, Rita Ora and Little Sims and in shows such as Breakin' Convention and the Jingle Bell Ball. Most recently she battled at the finals for Redbull UK Dance Your Style as a wild card.

@chantelle_dawe



SHANNELLE 'TALI' FERGUS

Shannelle 'Tali' Fergus is a movement artist with over 15 years' experience in the commercial world as both a performer and choreographer with the UK's most successful hip hop theatre

companies (Boy Blue, ZooNation: The Kate Prince Company, BirdGang Ltd.) and as a teacher, artist and mentor in her own right.

Choreography and Movement Direction credits include: Elliott and Harper & Catherine Schreiber's The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe; Son Of Cloud's Please Don't Love Me music video; Rita Ora's Phoenix World Tour (contributing); Rita Ora's music video Let You Love Me; Years & Years' Palo Santo World Tour (contributing); X Factor Italia (contributing).

Her performance credits include: Redd (Boy Blue Entertainment); VICE (Ukweli Roach); Rita Ora, Anne-Marie, P!nk, Rihanna and Kylie Minogue.

Tali has delivered choreography classes across Europe, the US and Asia. She is the founder and lead facilitator of identity. ideas. industry., a programme and method designed to encourage dance artists' curiosity about their creativity and the industry at large through movement, conversation and literature.

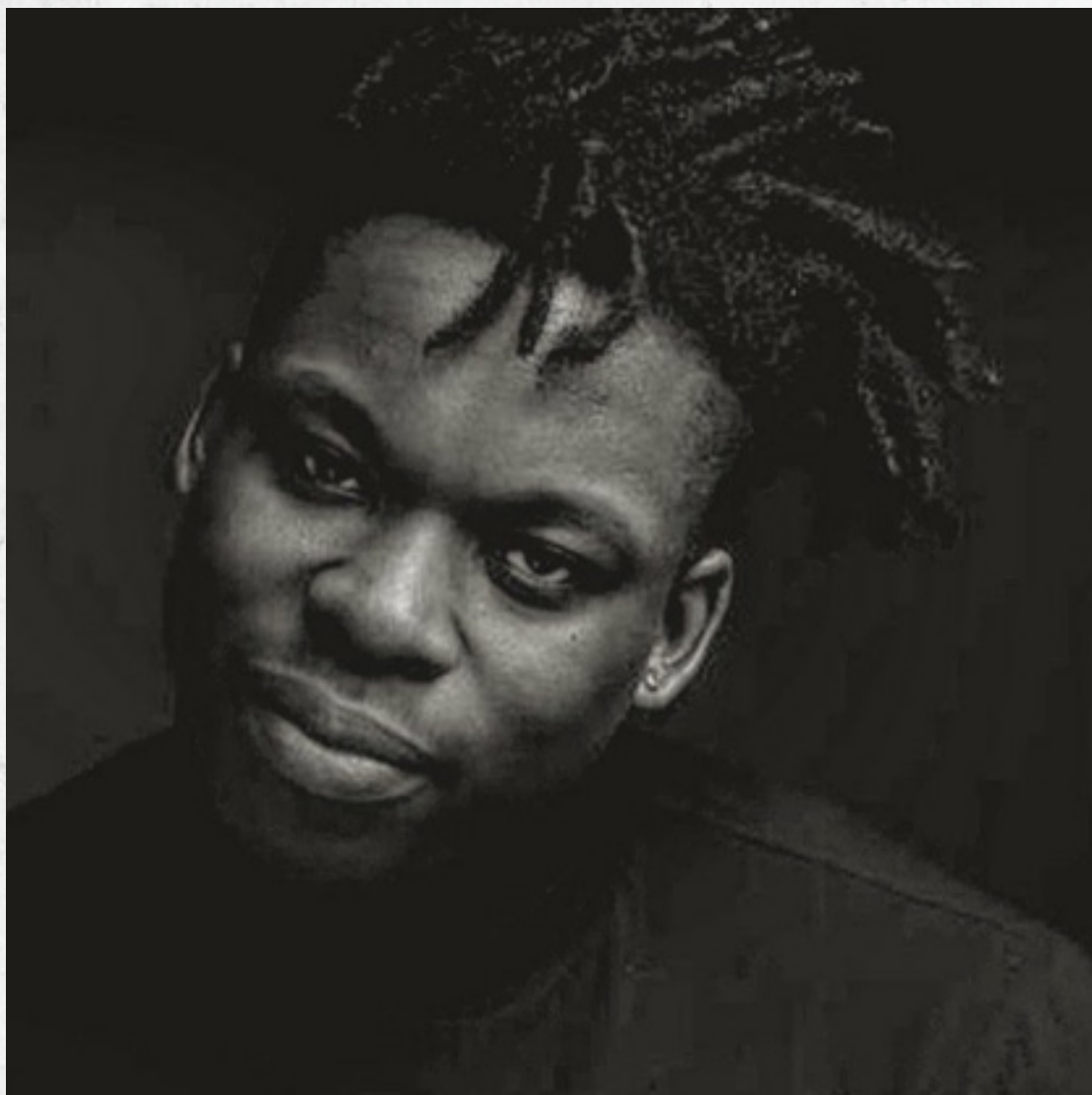
@tali_1301



KANAH FLEX

A young man
Born and bred autism
Raised in London
Who had the chance
To advance
Through dance

@kanahflex



WILD G

Warren ' Wild G' Gordon-Powell is a performing dance artist and artistic director. Performing 20 years strong from street parties, community events, dance studios to stadiums, theatres and big screens. Warren started his performing arts journey at age 14 showing off his best James Brown and Michael Jackson impressions at family events, local talent shows and Notting Hill Carnival.

Since, Warren has toured and performed with English rapper Plan B: The Defamation of Strickland Banks and The Brits Award 2011 (O2 Arena). He has worked with Drum and Base music producers Alesso, Myro and The Prototypes and performed with artists such as Mz Bratt, FKA Twigs, Exapmle, Mike Jagger, Madonna and Koje Radical. Warren has also worked with brands such as Desperados, Paco Robanne, Nike, Pringles, Lynx and Dazed n Confused.

In 2013, he was a semi finalist on the Got To Dance TV show, moving the judges to tears of expression! When not performing on stage, Warren is the artistic director of Rain Crew UK, an interational organisation which primarily focused on community lead projects aimed at bringing people together through music, culture and dance and Lieutenat General at Wet Wipez UK, a multifaceted abstract collective of professionals brought together from the love of Krump.

"TRAPLORD changed my life ans now I'm here.
My Eyes, My Mind, My Soul :
Only you can See it,
Only you can Think it
And
Only you can Feel it,
So be forever as Wild as you Wannbe ".

@wildgstyle_ / @mr_wild_17



KYRON JAKE

Kyron Jake Anthony also known as Ky is a professional dance artist, dancing since the age of 7.

Kyron grew up competing with the International Dance Organisation (IDO) winning world and European titles. Since graduating from the University of East London (UEL), he has gone on to perform with the likes of Anne Marie on The Greatest Dancer, supporting headline artist Stormzy at Reading & Leeds festival and performing internationally in Lithuania and in Athens Greece Nostos festival.

Kyron also performed in Boy Blue Entertainment's Sky Blue Arts film Project Rebel and with Just Us Dance Theatre's Born To Protest at the City Hall as part of the Mayor of London's celebration of Black History Month.

@kyron_jake



ROBIA MILLINER

Robia has been performing, choreographing and teaching in London for over 10 years.

Having trained at the Brit School, Robia's choreography is a blend of Hip Hop, Contemporary and Jazz. She believes dance

is her life and life is her dance.

She has worked with companies and choreographers such as Hofesh Schecter & ZooNation A Kate Prince Company, as well as creating work as a solo artist. She has taught masterclasses globally from Poland to Japan.

Over the past few years she has taken a big interest in Movement Directing, working on HYMN (Almeida Theatre) and An Unfinished Man (The Yard Theatre). She has worked as an assistant choreographer in the commercial dance scene with the likes of Beyonce, assisting Ivan Michael Blackstock, and Rita Ora. She currently works with dance organisation FUBUNATION as rehearsal director.

@robiamilliner



**MALACHI
WELCH**

Malachi started dancing at 3.5 years old and performed for the first time in front of a live audience at Her Majesty's Theatre in 2006. He trained at the Brit School learning ballet, contemporary, Jazz and Tap.

Malachi has performed in musicals and with several dance companies around the UK. He performed as Young Simba in the West End Show The Lion King (Lyceum Theatre); Matthew Bourne's Lord of the Flies and most recently in the new musical Everyone's Talking About Jamie (West End).

Interlude Dance, Boy Blue Entertainment, Zonation a Kate Prince Company and Rebirth Dance are all dance companies and organisations that have shaped Malachi into the strong dancer and performer that he is today, alongside the guidance from Kymberlee Jay who taught him the basics of street dance technique as a young boy.

At present, Malachi is studying Dance at Kingston University and also choreographs work for Kingston University's dance association (KUDS). Malachi is TRAPLORD youngest cast member. He has a very strong passion for dance in all forms and is always working to perform to the very best of his ability.

@__wxves.__



PRODUCERS AND MANAGEMENT

SADLER'S WELLS

Co-Producer

Sadler's Wells is a world-leading dance organisation. We strive to make and share dance that inspires us all. Our acclaimed year-round programme spans dance of every kind, from contemporary to flamenco, Bollywood to ballet, salsa to street dance and tango to tap.

We commission, produce and present more dance than any other organisation in the world. Since 2005, we have helped to bring close to 200 new dance works to the stage, embracing both the popular and the unknown.

Each year, over half a million people visit our three London theatres - Sadler's Wells Theatre, Lilian Baylis Studio and Peacock Theatre. Millions more attend our touring productions nationally and internationally or explore our digital platforms, including Sadler's Wells Digital Stage. In 2023 we're opening a fourth London venue in Stratford's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Sadler's Wells East will house a 550-seat mid-scale theatre, as well as facilities for the Choreographic School and Hip Hop Theatre Academy.

Supporting artists is at the heart of our work. We have associate artists and companies, which nurture some of the most exciting talent working in dance today. We host the National Youth Dance Company, which draws together some of the brightest young dancers from across the country. Sadler's Wells Breakin' Convention runs professional development programmes to champion and develop the world's best hip hop artists, as well as producing, programming and touring groundbreaking hip hop performances.

Around 30,000 people take part in our learning and engagement programmes every year. We support schools local to our theatres in Islington and Stratford, designing experiences for children and young people to watch, explore and critically engage with the arts. We also run Company of Elders, a resident performance company of dancers aged over 60 who rehearse with renowned artists to make new work for public performances locally, nationally and internationally. Sadler's Wells is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation.

www.sadlerswells.com

Stay up to date with everything Sadler's Wells on social media

Facebook: @SadlersWells

Twitter: @Sadlers_Wells

Instagram: @sadlers_wells

YouTube: Sadler's Wells Theatre

180 STUDIOS

Co-Producer

180 Studios is the emerging centre of London's creative community - housed at 180 The Strand, an iconic Brutalist building that has been transformed into a cultural hub. Throughout its network of spaces, 180 supports new talent and facilitates creative growth.

180 Studios curates and stages major exhibitions by established artists and new commissions by emerging creatives. In 2021, 180 Studios exhibitions were seen in person by over 200,000 visitors, with millions more experiencing the shows virtually. Most recently, 180 curated and staged LUX: New Wave of Contemporary Art, in collaboration with Fact and SUUM. The exhibition featured three new 180 Studios commissions - BLUESKYWHITE by Es Devlin, This is the Future by Hito Steyerl and Breathe by Julianknxx. These hugely popular works are the most recent additions to 180 Studios' ongoing commissioning program; working in close collaboration with artists to realise ambitious, innovative artworks. 180 Studios commissions include other inspiring,

acclaimed works by artists such as Jenn Nkiru, Jeremy Deller, Cecilia Bengolea and Richard Mosse.

Supporting and showcasing new and emerging talent remains an intrinsic part of 180 Studios' DNA – in 2021, 180 Studios commissioned and presented In Praise of Still Boys, a new film installation by Julianknxx, and in early 2022 180 Studios will present another new commission, the first film by photographer and artist Gabriel Moses.

MIF & THE FACTORY

Co-Producer

Manchester International Festival (MIF) is an artist-focused festival of original, new work and special events reflecting the spectrum of performing arts, visual arts and popular culture, staged every two in venues across Greater Manchester – from theatres, galleries and concert halls to railway depots, churches and car parks. MIF works closely with venues, festivals and other cultural organisations globally, whose financial and creative input helps to make many of these projects possible and ensures that work made at MIF goes on to be seen around the world. MIF also supports a year-round Creative Engagement programme, bringing opportunities for people from all backgrounds, ages and from all corners of the city to get involved during the Festival and year-round, as volunteers, as participants in shows, through skills development and a host of creative activities.

MIF will also run The Factory, the landmark new cultural space currently being built in the heart of Manchester, designed by the internationally renowned Rem Koolhaas' Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) and backed by Manchester City Council and HM Government. The Factory will commission, present and produce one of Europe's most ambitious and adventurous year-round creative programmes, featuring bold new work from the world's greatest artists and offering a space to create, invent and experiment. At 13,300 square metres, The Factory will be ultra-flexible, enabling large-scale artistic work of invention and ambition that isn't made anywhere else in the world: from large-scale multimedia performances to epic installations, to intimate performances and ground-breaking digital experiences.

Attracting up to 850,000 visitors annually, The Factory will add £1.1 billion to the economy over a decade and create up to 1,500 direct and indirect jobs. Its pioneering programme of skills, training and engagement will benefit local people and the next generation of creative talent from across the city, whilst apprenticeships and trainee schemes are already underway during the construction phase. Located in the St John's neighbourhood next to the River Irwell, The Factory will be at the heart of a burgeoning city centre hub for culture, creativity and digital innovation.

ALTRUVIOLET

Co-Producer

ALTRUVIOLET is the unseen wave, highlighting the hidden creative genius; a multi-faceted studio and talent incubator, bridging the gap between youth subculture and the mainstream. Founded in 2020 by Ivan Michael Blackstock as a response to the contemporary cultural climate, ALTRUVIOLET seeks to elevate the voices of the creative avant-garde via online and offline transmissions. TRAPLORD is the flagship live performance piece from ALTRUVIOLET, with a universe of content yet to come.

DEUS EX MACHINA PRODUCTIONS

General Manager and Production Accountant

DEM Productions was formed in 2014 to produce new writing and acclaimed revivals of plays and musicals and has grown to provide first-class general management and production accounting services across the industry. DEM won the 2016 OffWestEnd Award for Best Producer and our own productions include: RIDE (Workshop Production, Garrick Theatre); BROTHER (Streamed Production, Southwark Playhouse); Sue Townsend's The Secret Diary Of Adrian Mole Aged 13 3/4 - The Musical (Ambassadors Theatre, West End); Dust (Nominated

2019 WhatsOnStage Award for Best New Play and Best Off West End Production, Trafalgar Studios, New York Theatre Workshop); the European Premiere of Stephen Schwartz's Working (Nominated 2018 WhatsOnStage Award Best Off West End Production and 2018 OffWestEnd Award for Best Production, Southwark Playhouse); first major UK revival of Spring Awakening (2019 WhatsOnStage Award for Best Regional Production, Hope Mill Theatre); BLOWHOLE (Soho Theatre / Pleasance); the world premieres of Karagula (Styx/ Soho Theatre); twenty-eight, Clickbait, Four Play and Sense Of An Ending (Theatre503) and six other play revivals.

Current and previous external General Management clients include: Golden Toad Theatre: Errol's Garden and Mudpuddle Farm (UK Tours); The Rink (Southwark Playhouse) and The Wild Party (The Other Palace).

Current and previous Production Accounting clients include: Hartshorn-Hook Productions with shows including Amélie (West End), The Choir of Man (Arts Theatre), immersive shows The Great Gatsby and Doctor Who: Time Fracture; Selladoor Worldwide including Footloose (International Tour), Bring It On (Southbank Centre), immersive experience Monopoly Lifesized; Aria Entertainment including The Last 5 Years (Southwark Playhouse), HAIR (UK and Intl. Tour) and The Night of the Living Dead; Sadler's Wells Productions; CanadaHub Season (Edinburgh Fringe, Summerhall); Three Sisters (Maly Drama Theatre, Vaudeville Theatre); Counting Sheep (Belarus Free Theatre, Vaults); Tartuffe (Wild Yak, Theatre Royal Haymarket); and Maly Drama Theatre Russian Season (Theatre Royal Haymarket) .

www.demproductions.co.uk

@DEMProduction5



SUPPORT

If you are affected by any of the themes in TRAPLORD, there are a number of organisations which can offer help and support:

Mind

www.mind.org.uk

Samaritans

www.samaritans.org

Black Minds Matter

www.blackmindsmatteruk.com

ArtsMinds

www.artsminds.co.uk

