



INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL BIRMINGHAM 2012

SPONSORED BY



BREWIN DOLPHIN

Monday 23 April – Saturday 19 May 2012

**In venues and public spaces across Birmingham
and the West Midlands**

INFORMATION PACK

Festival Producers



Festival Funders





IDFB 2012: Our vision

Produced by DanceXchange and Birmingham Hippodrome, IDFB is a major biennial festival that presents a world-class programme of performance and participation in theatres and public spaces across Birmingham and the West Midlands.

IDFB is unique in its diversity and internationalism, programming exceptional dance from around the globe, fostering new collaborations with international choreographers and artists, and producing innovative participatory projects for people of all ages. IDFB is the West Midlands' biggest festival and, after just two festivals in 2008 and 2010, is already one of the largest dance festivals in the world.

Through the outstanding quality of its work, the partnerships that support it, and its ability to foster collaboration, IDFB capitalises on and brings worldwide attention to the wealth of arts organisations and venues in Birmingham, and to the rich dance scene in the West Midlands.

IDFB benefits from the combined strengths and expertise of DanceXchange and Birmingham Hippodrome, and enables both partners to take their work to a new level and to be ever more ambitious in their dance programming, commissioning, production, collaboration, and public engagement.

IDFB is also an integral part of the West Midlands Culture Programme for 2012, and the forthcoming Festival is ideally timed, presenting an incredible opportunity to connect people with the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games through dance.

Building on the successes of 2008 and 2010, IDFB 2012 will be even more distinctive, engaging more deeply with people from Birmingham and the West Midlands, working with new partners, attracting more visitors from across the UK and beyond, and benefiting the local economy.

Retaining its strong international focus, IDFB 2012 will celebrate artistic excellence, promote artistic exchange, and express the youthful, diverse and energetic spirit of Birmingham. IDFB will animate the city and capture the imagination, enabling audiences to see a vast array of stimulating international work that would otherwise be out of reach, and introducing people of all ages to healthy dance activity through exciting participatory events.

Through four weeks of breathtaking international dance, IDFB will inspire local pride and will play a powerful role in celebrating Birmingham as a world centre of dance, and a diverse, vibrant and dynamic creative city.

International Dance Festival Birmingham 2012... follow the story at www.idfb.co.uk

Image: *Invisible Dancin'* performing during International Dance Festival Birmingham 2010, photographer Ed Moore



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DANCEXCHANGE AND BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME LAUNCH INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL BIRMINGHAM 2012

The streets of Birmingham will come alive with dance next April when International Dance Festival Birmingham (IDFB), the UK's biggest dance festival, takes place across the city. Now a well established, biennial event co-produced by DanceXchange and Birmingham Hippodrome, IDFB 2012 will include a world-class programme of international performers, world premieres, new commissions and a range of participatory events in venues and public spaces across Birmingham and the West Midlands.

Building on the success of IDFB 2010, which generated over 66,000 audience and participatory experiences, IDFB 2012 aims to create even more opportunities for people to get involved, and attract more national and international visitors to the city.

IDFB 2012 is being delivered by working in partnership with a wide range of arts organisations and venues in the region including Birmingham Hippodrome, The Patrick Centre, Town Hall, Ikon Gallery, Warwick Arts Centre, mac, Flatpack Festival, the Crescent Theatre, Sampad, Bullring, Victoria Square along with parks, playgrounds and the streets of Birmingham city centre.

Performance highlights include *Artifact* by William Forsythe from the **Royal Ballet of Flanders**, the controversial *Un peu de tendresse bordel de merde!* by Canadian choreographer **Dave St-Pierre**, a new commission by **Birmingham Royal Ballet** for US choreographer **Jessica Lang**, the vibrancy and vigour of **Danza Contemporanea de Cuba**, plus *Breakin' Convention* produced by **Sadler's Wells** and hosted and curated by eminent UK hip hop theatre artist **Jonzi D**.

In addition, there will be performances by Canadian dance icon **Louise Lecavalier**, plus a collaborative work with **David Toole**, **Lucy Hind** and integrated dance company **Remix** from South Africa – an Unlimited commission (part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad). The talents of amateur dance groups in the region will also be profiled through youth dance showcase **International Raw Energy** and Punch Records' **Midlands Asian Showdown**.

Families are in for a treat over the May Bank Holiday weekend as the IDFB 2012 **Family Weekend** takes over mac and Cannon Hill Park. A regular feature of the festival programme, activities will include dance workshops and performances by companies including **Aracaladanza** from Spain with their work *Clouds*, especially created for

children. The weekend will also feature the premiere of a new outdoor production by celebrated Australian artist Shaun Parker, created using existing children's playground equipment as the set for a family-friendly performance piece. Playground is part of DanceXchange's Outdoor Dance Programme funded by Dancing for the Games.

There are two brand new commissions in IDFB 2012, created by the Festival and drawing on stories, experiences and locations unique to Birmingham. Launched today, **Home** is based around the theme of 'home' and what it means to each of us. It will be developed using ideas, inspirations and dance material contributed by 1000 individuals through workshops, open days, and uploading films online. Individual doormats, chosen for their reference to home, will act as miniature stages on which community participants and professional dancers will perform.

Moving through the streets and squares of Birmingham city centre, **Home** will culminate in a promenade-style performance event, engaging thousands of people and presenting a diversity of dance styles. Taking place over a three-week period during IDFB 2012, the performances will begin quietly with a string of solos one after the other, evolving into group pieces and eventually becoming one large-scale spectacular finale performed on a landscape of connected doormats.

The finale of the Festival will be a major outdoor dance theatre spectacular in Birmingham's Victoria Square, building on the popular acclaim of *Watch This Space* in IDFB 2008 and *Utopia* in IDFB 2010. A free event, the performance will be a collaborative venture between Australian circus ensemble **Circa**, dramaturgist **Alan Lyddiard**, architectural mapping projection experts **Seeper** and Hereford-based **2Faced Dance Company**. The performance will be based on stories contributed by Birmingham residents built into a dance piece, accompanied by live music with a spectacular architectural mapping projection transforming the whole facade of Town Hall.

Artistic Director of DanceXchange and Co-Artistic Director of IDFB 2012, David Massingham said, "The city's existing dance offering provided by DanceXchange, Birmingham Hippodrome and Birmingham Royal Ballet has already created the biggest dance hub in the UK. IDFB 2012 not only creates a window to what is now a world centre for dance, but extends our reach to new, young audiences by breaking free from traditional venues and providing opportunities to participate in many different ways.

"The central IDFB 2012 productions will bring together the positive aspects of community and engage thousands of people across the region. With many of the Festival's events being free of charge, IDFB 2012 is a great opportunity for us to work with our partners to help promote and celebrate Birmingham's rich cultural offering to a wide audience."

Stuart Griffiths, Chief Executive of Birmingham Hippodrome and Co-Artistic Director of IDFB 2012 added, "With IDFB 2010 creating £6.2m worth of economic activity, it is well recognised that this festival makes a significant contribution to the economic growth of Birmingham and the West Midlands. It is a great example of a successful partnership working to enrich the cultural offering in the city.

"Once again, Arts Council England, Birmingham City Council and Advantage West Midlands have provided generous support to the festival. We are also pleased to attract funding this year from the European Union via the Investing in the City Region ERDF project managed by Marketing Birmingham. The 'Home' participation project is funded by Dancing for the Games, part of the Cultural Olympiad in the West Midlands and inspired by London 2012.

We are also very grateful to our sponsor, investment and wealth management consultancy Brewin Dolphin which is continuing its support having joined us in 2010.”

For more information on IDFB 2012 and to get involved now, visit www.idfb.co.uk

Ends

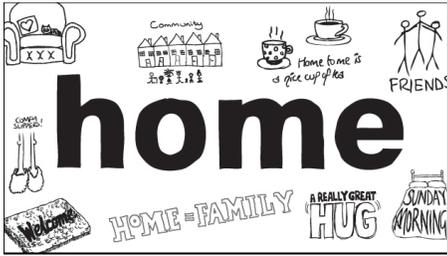
Notes to Editors

- IDFB 2012 is produced by DanceXchange and Birmingham Hippodrome.
- DanceXchange (dx) is a power house of dance with excellence, innovation, education and inclusion at its heart – and, together with Birmingham Hippodrome and Birmingham Royal Ballet, is part of the largest dance partnership in Britain. dx takes the best British dance to a worldwide stage, brings outstanding artists from across the world to Birmingham, and has a growing reputation as a producing house. dx also engages people from all backgrounds in healthy dance activity, and nurtures gifted young people to help shape the dance artists of the future.
- Birmingham Hippodrome is the busiest single theatre in the UK, welcoming c500,000 paying visitors every year. It is unique in being the home of a classical ballet company, Birmingham Royal Ballet and dance house DanceXchange. Birmingham Hippodrome sells more seats for dance than any other theatre outside London.
- IDFB 2012 is funded by Advantage West Midlands, Arts Council England, Birmingham City Council, and the European Union via the Investing in the City Region ERDF project managed by Marketing Birmingham. The principal sponsor for IDFB 2012 is Brewin Dolphin.
- Brewin Dolphin is one of the UK's largest independent private client investment managers. The stockbroking firm is supporting the event to further build a bridge between the city's thriving professional community and its innovative arts offering.
- Additional partners for IDFB 2012 are media partners The Independent and BBC WM, and accommodation partner Crowne Plaza Birmingham.
- Venues hosting IDFB 2012 include Birmingham Hippodrome, The Patrick Centre, Town Hall, Warwick Arts Centre, mac, the Electric Cinema, the Crescent Theatre, Bullring, Victoria Square along with parks, playgrounds and the streets of Birmingham city centre.
- IDFB first took place in 2008 and saw almost 25,000 people watch over 60 performances.
- IDFB 2010 provided over 66,000 audience and participatory experiences with 48 ticketed performances and 101 free performances. It created economic activity of £6.2m.



Festival Firsts – brand new commissions for 2012

Monday 23 April – Sunday 13 May // Birmingham City Centre
Home



Home is a bold, inventive new production that will animate public spaces across Birmingham city centre. The piece is based around the theme of 'home' and what it means to each of us. It will be developed using ideas, inspirations and choreographic material contributed by 1000 individuals through workshops, open days, and uploading films online.

Moving through the streets and squares of Birmingham city centre, *Home* will engage thousands of people and present a diversity of dance styles. The performances will begin quietly with a string of solos one after the other, evolving into group pieces and eventually becoming one large-scale spectacular finale. Individual doormats, chosen for their reference to home, will act as miniature stages on which community participants and professional dancers will perform.

Home is part of the Dancing for the Games programme, which is part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad. It has been granted the prestigious London 2012 Inspire mark, the badge of the London 2012 Inspire programme which recognises exceptional and innovative projects inspired by the 2012 Games.

Wednesday 16 – Saturday 19 May // Victoria Square, Birmingham city centre
Outdoor Dance Spectacular



This major outdoor dance theatre spectacular in Victoria Square builds on the popular acclaim of *Watch This Space* in IDFB 2008 and *Utopia* in IDFB 2010. Made in Birmingham for Birmingham, this internationally ambitious production will transform the city square from the ordinary to the extraordinary.

Incorporating dancers, rock climbers, circus, soundscape and architectural projection, the production is a celebration about the city of Birmingham – its voice, its heart, its sadness, its past and its aspiration. The audience will stand and watch the production from the centre of Victoria Square with the action taking place on all sides and on/in the buildings around the square.

World famous Australian company Circa (pictured) will realise the circus part of the production, with dance by Hereford-based 2Faced Dance Company. A DJ will create a stunning soundtrack to the action that will incorporate stories from local Birmingham people and surround audience members during the event. Architectural projection experts, Seeper, will create stunning visuals for the facade of Town Hall.

Image: courtesy of Circa

Thursday 3 May & Friday 4 May // The Crescent Theatre
Birmingham Royal Ballet presents a new commission by Jessica Lang, plus *Take 5*



This breathtaking programme includes a work from Birmingham Royal Ballet's award-winning Director, alongside a new commission from US choreographer Jessica Lang.

Take Five is the most recent jazz creation from Company Director and great lover of jazz David Bintley. Set to the iconic music of the legendary Dave Brubeck, this light hearted, laid-back, elegant ballet takes life calmly in its stride. Former Twyla Tharp dancer Jessica Lang choreographs widely in the USA and around the world. This special commission for the company, premiering during IDFB, will be set to music by Edvard Grieg. The programme will also include a third piece, as yet to be announced.

Image: Bill Cooper

Performance highlights in venues and public spaces

Wednesday 25 & Thursday 26 April // Birmingham Hippodrome

Royal Ballet Flanders (Belgium)

Artifact



In 1984, after becoming Director of the Frankfurt Ballet, William Forsythe created *Artifact* and changed the way we look at expression through dance forever.

Artifact is a four part ballet set to piano music by Eva Crossman-Hecht and Johann Sebastian Bach's Chaconne from Partita No.2 in D minor for solo violin. Enhanced by Forsythe's own brilliant lighting design, this magical groundbreaking work contains an extensive repertoire of sign language, spoken word and pure dance, sometimes with wild combinations of all of these.

Image: Johan Persson

Thursday 26 – Saturday 28 April // Warwick Arts Centre

Dave St-Pierre Company (Canada)

Un peu de tendresse bordel de merde!



Un peu de tendresse bordel de merde! (A little tenderness for crying out loud!) explores the moment of wandering between two love relationships; the different forms of tenderness shared with a dying person, a child, a former lover, a father; the intense request to receive or give tenderness.

Using humour to tackle taboo subjects the show features 20 dancers, naked both literally and figuratively. As the performers leap with primal urgency, or lie crumpled and defeated on the ground, a narrator leads the audience on a journey through their emotions towards a breathtakingly beautiful and moving finale.

Branded the 'enfant terrible' of his generation, award-winning Canadian choreographer Dave St-Pierre has been a major force on the contemporary dance scene for over five years and has provoked comparisons with Pina Bausch's theatre of cruelty.

Image: Dave St-Pierre

Friday 27 & Saturday 28 April // The Patrick Centre, Birmingham Hippodrome

Louise Lecavalier (Canada)

A Few Minutes of Lock and Children



Born in 1958, Louise Lecavalier is an icon of Canadian dance and contemporary dance the world over. As Edouard Lock's muse in *La La La Human Steps*, she danced with the company between 1981 and 1998, becoming arguably as identified with the company's work as Lock himself.

In this double bill, she revisits some of her most recognised duets from her time with Lock (*A Few Minutes of Lock*), alongside *Children* by UK choreographer Nigel Charnock, exploring a relationship at breaking point.

Image: Andre Cornellier

Saturday 28 April // Birmingham city centre
Breathe the Beat Roadshow (UK / France)



Image: Richard Battye

Breathe the Beat is a new dance concept where renowned international hip-hop artist Salah shows you how to take inspiration from your every day surroundings and create routines using his unique PABE (Popping, Animation, Boogaloo, Effect) style.

Breathe the Beat is holding roadshows throughout the West Midlands until September 2012. These roadshows showcase local talent and professional dance companies, as well as appearances by *Breathe the Beat* artists Brooke and Roxy (from Hip Hop International World Champions – Plague). As part of the opening weekend of the festival the first *Breathe the Beat* roadshow will be take place in Birmingham city centre.

For more information about the project, and to find out how to get involved, visit www.breathethebeat.com.

This project is part of the Outdoor Dance Programme, led by DanceXchange in partnership with Dancefest, Dancescape and Dudley Performing Arts. This programme has been funded by Arts Council England with support from Legacy Trust UK and Advantage West Midlands as part of the Dancing for the Games programme, which is part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad.

Tue1 May & Wed 2 May // The Patrick Centre, Birmingham Hippodrome
David Toole, Lucy Hind and Remix Dance Company (UK / South Africa)
***The Impending Storm* – UK PREMIERE**



Image: Mark Wessels

Acclaimed dancer David Toole has collaborated with a team of UK and South African artists, both able-bodied and disabled. *The Impending Storm*, created with Birmingham based artist Mark Storor, is personal, particular and political. The work is an explosive and emotional look at the stories that we tell, and the stories that we are.

The dancers of Remix, South Africa's only professional integrated dance company, will perform with UK-based David Toole and Lucy Hind. UK musician Dom Coyote, in collaboration with South African singer Sandile Gontsana, provides a passionate spoken text and sung score that effortlessly crosses geographic and cultural continents.

The Impending Storm has been awarded one of the thirteen commissions in the second round of awards for Unlimited – the ground-breaking programme that celebrates arts and culture by disabled and deaf artists on an unprecedented scale for the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad. It is one of three commissions in this round created in collaboration with international partners and with funding contributed by the British Council. Unlimited is principally funded by the Olympic Lottery Distributer and is delivered in partnership between London 2012, Arts Council England, the Scottish Arts Council, Arts Council of Wales, Arts Council of Northern Ireland and the British Council.

Saturday 5 – Monday 7 May // mac & Cannon Hill Park
The IDFB Family Weekend
A weekend of fun for children and their families



Aracaladanza (Spain) // *Clouds*

Fantasy, imagination and magic – these are the essential ingredients that make up award winning Spanish dance company Aracaladanza. *Clouds* is an enchanting new dance show for all the family (from 4 years to 104 years!), where dancers create a magical world of moving objects, marionettes and dream-like imagery. It is a show crammed full of energy and imagination which will fascinate children and adults alike.

Image: Eduardo Garcia Gonzalez



Shaun Parker (Australia)
Spill – A playground of dance
WORLD PREMIERE

Highly playful and physical, and at times teasingly comical – this is a cheeky dance celebration of the child within.

Combining quirky, dynamic dance with high energy street gymnastics, the dancers in this performance blaze a colourful trail across the structures and landscapes of the playground. Each performance will be unique, as the show scrambles around, over, under and through swings, slides and roundabouts. Kids will love it, grown-ups will love it too!

Image: Irven Lewis

This project is part of the Outdoor Dance Programme, led by DanceXchange in partnership with Dancefest, Dancescape and Dudley Performing Arts. This programme has been funded by Arts Council England with support from Legacy Trust UK and Advantage West Midlands as part of the Dancing for the Games programme, which is part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad.

Tuesday 8 & Wednesday 9 May // Birmingham Hippodrome
Danza Contemporanea de Cuba



Danza Contemporanea de Cuba returns to the UK following its first outstanding visit in 2010, which resulted in the crowd-pleasing *Mambo 3XX1*, by company dancer/choreographer George Céspedes, being nominated for an Olivier Award.

The programme for the 2012 tour will include another chance to catch this incredible piece as well as the world premiere of a work by renowned Israeli choreographer Itzik Galili.

“Some of the best dancers I have ever worked with” Carlos Acosta

Image: Manuel Harlan

Friday 11 & Saturday 12 May // Birmingham Hippodrome
Sylvie Guillem & Russell Maliphant (France / UK)
PUSH



PUSH is produced by Sadler’s Wells London in collaboration with Russell Maliphant and Sylvie Guillem.

After the sell-out success of her two Sadler’s Wells seasons the legendary Sylvie Guillem returns, joined onstage by Russell Maliphant for the very first time at Birmingham Hippodrome.

Sylvie Guillem is widely regarded as the most *‘brilliant ballerina of her generation’* (The Guardian).

Russell Maliphant has developed a unique approach to choreography, encompassing his vast experience of ballet and contemporary dance as well as capoeira, t’ai chi and yoga, to create a language which is elegant, articulate and resonant.

Image: Johan Persson

Tuesday 15 & Wednesday 16 May // Birmingham Hippodrome

Breakin' Convention



The critically acclaimed international festival of hip hop dance theatre is back, with another line-up of jaw-dropping performances by companies from around the world and around the corner. Now in its ninth year, this hugely popular production is hosted and curated by eminent UK hip hop theatre artist Jonzi D.

Breakin' Convention is not just a show – it's an experience! Take part in workshops led by top international artists, freestyle sessions with live DJ demos in the Hippodrome foyers, and much more!

Image: Belinda Lawley

Friday 18 May // Town Hall

Punch in partnership with International Dance Festival Birmingham 2012 presents Desi Moves



Part of Dance Routes, **Desi Moves** seeks to engage the Midlands' diverse communities in the Cultural Olympiad and the build up to the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Watch dance groups battle it out in front of celebrity judges to decide who wins the cash prize and opportunity to perform at The Dance Show, part of the Clothes Show Live in December 2012 at the NEC Birmingham.

With celebrity guest stars, the event will showcase Asian dance styles including Giddha, Bhangra and Bollywood in what promises to be a vibrant and exciting evening.

Saturday 19 May // Town Hall
International Raw Energy



Following this event's success during IDFB 2008, in 2012 we see the return of youth dance showcase *International Raw Energy*.

International choreographers will work with youth dance companies from the West Midlands to create a brand new work, to be performed in the amazing setting of Birmingham's Town Hall.

Image: Brian Slater

Please note: all programme details in this document are correct at the time of printing, but may be subject to change. Please check the festival website (www.idfb.co.uk) for up to date information about all aspects of this year's festival.

About the festival producers

DanceXchange (dx) is a power house of dance with excellence, innovation, education and inclusion at its heart – and, together with Birmingham Hippodrome and Birmingham Royal Ballet, is part of the largest dance partnership in Britain. dx brings together dance artists, companies, educators and venues in the promotion of dance activity for people of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds, and creates exciting opportunities for people of all walks of life to engage in dance, either as participant, performer or audience member.

DanceXchange has an international role in bringing the best of British dance to a worldwide stage, as well as a focus within the West Midlands to create an ever-expanding dance ecology that supports artistic excellence. Committed to developing the artistic potential of both professionals and youth and community participants whilst increasing audiences for the artform of the 21st Century, dx creates initiatives that research choreography and develops innovative educational projects.

dx presents a range of professional and community dance performances, both in The Patrick Centre, Birmingham Hippodrome and out on tour; runs an extensive recreational class programme; creates a wide range of accessible and inclusive outreach opportunities; runs a Centre for Advanced Training in Kathak, Bharatanatyam and Contemporary dance; and manages a touring company, Bare Bones.

www.dancexchange.org.uk

Originally built in 1899, the 1,850-seat award winning **Birmingham Hippodrome** is the oldest surviving theatre in Birmingham. From its early life as a circus through to music hall, variety and lyric theatre, it's a shining example of how the performing arts have been integral to the changing face of the city. Birmingham Hippodrome now welcomes an average half a million people every year and can lay claim to the highest regular annual attendance of any single theatre in the country. Home to the largest pantomime productions in the UK and the only theatre in the country where Welsh National Opera performs all its repertoire, Birmingham Hippodrome attracts major international companies and some of the best known productions and star names.

The unique partnership of Birmingham Hippodrome, DanceXchange and Birmingham Royal Ballet creates a dance hub, delivering more dance activity in better facilities than anywhere else in the UK. And as a major receiving venue, it has attracted some of the biggest names in international dance in recent years. Birmingham Hippodrome is truly "a stage for the best in the world" and looks forward to playing a major role in driving the future of Birmingham as a major international city.

www.birminghamhippodrome.com

Our principal sponsor for 2012

Brewin Dolphin, one of the UK's largest independent private client investment managers, is the proud sponsor of International Dance Festival Birmingham 2012.

John Driver (Divisional Director, Brewin Dolphin Birmingham), said: "*Brewin Dolphin is delighted to once again support this remarkable event and to be part of such an exciting time for the city of Birmingham following the great success of 2010. At Brewin Dolphin, we pride ourselves on providing an excellent quality of investment services for our clients and we believe we have found like minded partners in Birmingham Hippodrome and DanceXchange who have proven they can deliver world class dance performances and really engage the local community.*"

www.brewin.co.uk

Festival funders and partners

We're delighted that **Arts Council England**, **Birmingham City Council** and **Advantage West Midlands** have once again provided generous support to our festival. We're also pleased to attract funding this year from the **European Union** via the Investing in the City Regional ERDF project managed by Marketing Birmingham.

"We are delighted to be supporting International Dance Festival Birmingham once again – a key showcase for the region's impressive arts infrastructure, and unique in its diversity and internationalism. The 2012 programme promises exceptional dance from across the globe and exciting opportunities for audiences and participants across the West Midlands to get involved."

Ros Robins

Director West Midlands, Arts Council England

"The City Council is pleased to offer its support for the third edition of International Dance Festival Birmingham. IDFB is a major feature of Birmingham's cultural calendar and a great example of why Birmingham is a cultural capital – attracting outstanding dance from around the globe, producing world-class activities which engage local people, bringing economic benefits to the city and helping to raise our profile as a great place to live, work and visit."

Sharon Lea

Strategic Director, Environment & Culture, Birmingham City Council

Media Partners

This year we welcome **The Independent** as our new national media partner and look forward to once again working with **BBC WM** as regional media partner.

Accommodation Partner

We're also thrilled to continue our relationship with **Crowne Plaza Birmingham City Centre**.

"Crowne Plaza Birmingham City Centre is delighted to be supporting International Dance Festival Birmingham once again. Sharing in the festival's ambition to celebrate Birmingham as a vibrant tourist destination and dynamic international city, we look forward to playing host to some of the world's best dancers during their stay here."

Michael Mason

General Manager, Crowne Plaza Birmingham City Centre

West Midlands Culture Programme for London 2012

IDFB is also an integral part of the West Midlands Culture Programme for 2012, and the forthcoming Festival is ideally timed – presenting an incredible opportunity to connect people with the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games through dance.

"It's exciting news that some of the highest profile events in IDFB in 2012 will also be part of the Cultural Olympiad programme – including the innovative Home, The Impending Storm, Breathe the Beat and the unique Turf by Shaun Parker. Throughout the Festival visitors will be able to experience events inspired and specially created for London 2012."

Paul Kaynes

West Midlands Creative Programmer, London 2012

The 2012 festival team

Co-Artistic Director David Massingham, Artistic Director, DanceXchange
Co-Artistic Director Stuart Griffiths, Chief Executive, Birmingham Hippodrome
Festival Manager Clare Lewis, Executive Director, DanceXchange

PROGRAMME, PRODUCTION & ADMINISTRATION

Programme Manager Paul Burns
Producer Hannah Sharpe
Project Manager Natalie Smith
Project Manager Gemma Thomas
Production Director Simon MacColl
Programme Coordinator Leonie Hart
Programme Assistant Kate Jackson
Accounts Manager Susan Turner

MARKETING, PRESS & MEDIA

Marketing Manager Katherine Flynn
Marketing & Press Manager (DanceXchange) Abby Corfan
Digital Marketing Officer Mike Hyde
Marketing Officer Charlie Rachwal
Press Manager Pippa Whittaker
Media & PR Support provided by Rachel Furst PR

EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement Manager Lucy Kenny