



The Producer Farm

26 – 30 June 2017

Dittisham, Devon

Dance Umbrella, London's international dance festival, announces the successful candidates for this pioneering initiative for creative producers

Now in its second edition, **The Producer Farm** is a joint initiative from **Dance Umbrella** with partners **Bristol Old Vic FERMENT**, **In Between Time**, **Fuel** and **Coombe Farm Studios**. Responding to a need for support and on-going training for arts producers, the residency provides time and space in an invigorating environment for contemporary performance producers to refresh their current practice, and consider their future potential.

Participants in last year's programme now hold senior roles at National Theatre of Scotland, Manchester International Festival, and New Theatre Institute of Latvia.

This summer speakers include **Craig Hassall, Chief Executive of the Royal Albert Hall**, **Talia Rodgers, Publishing Director at Digital Theatre** and **Jenny Sealey, Artistic Director of Graeae Theatre**, as well as leaders from participating organisations.

The following individuals have been selected to take part in the five-day intensive at Coombe Farm Studios in Dittisham, Devon, from Monday 26 to Friday 30 June 2017:

Laura Collier, Virginie Dupray, LJ Findlay-Walsh, Lisa Maguire, Bonnie Mitchell, Rachel Nelken, Jisun Park, David Sheppard and Marine Thevénet.

"The Producer Farm is a unique opportunity to support producers at a vital mid-career moment. It enables these dedicated professionals, who have such a wide-ranging impact of the cultural scene here and abroad, to share dynamic practice, build networks, and to be inspired by industry leaders."

Emma Gladstone, Artistic Director & Chief Executive, Dance Umbrella



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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Participant Information

Laura Collier (London) Laura is an independent theatre producer, curator and consultant. At the heart of her work is supporting artists and delivering significant projects through the lens of equality. Previously, Laura was Head of Studio at the National Theatre, Senior Producer at Battersea Arts Centre and Associate Producer at the Traverse Theatre.

Virginie Dupray (Kisangani, Democratic Republic of the Congo) Virginie is executive director of Studios Kabako, the training, production and touring structure founded by Congolese choreographer Faustin Linyekula, based in Kisangani DRC. She writes for arts magazines, and translates for arts and theatre catalogues. She previously held senior communications roles at the French Institute, London and the Centre National de la Danse, Paris.

LJ Findlay-Walsh (Glasgow) LJ is Executive Producer of Mischief La-Bas, which specialises in street theatre. She is Associate of Take Me Somewhere Festival, Glasgow, and alongside Gillian Garrity is leading on the development of a sustainable vision-driven festival beyond 2017. Her previous roles include Senior Producer at the Arches, Glasgow.

Lisa Maguire (Cardiff) Lisa joined National Theatre Wales in 2013, following seven years as Executive Producer with Frantic Assembly. Lisa has previously worked at the Young Vic and Lyric Hammersmith theatres, and as an independent producer with the Manchester International Festival, The Work Theatre Collective and on the London fringe.

Bonnie Mitchell (Totnes) Bonnie is Co-Director/Producer of The Wrong Crowd, making visually-inventive, emotionally articulate theatre for audiences of all ages, established as Theatre Royal Plymouth's first Resident Company. Bonnie is also Producer of The Paper Birds, award-winning theatre makers with a political agenda, leaders in the fields of verbatim and devised theatre.

Rachel Nelken (London) Rachel's arts career has included strategic funding roles and award-winning creative producing. Senior Producer at Roundhouse since 2014, spoken word, contemporary music and digital installation projects include Imogen Heap's Reverb Festival, Words First with BBC 1Xtra, Orfeo with ROH, and immersive concerts featuring Eska and Gaika, alongside emerging artist development.

Jisun Park (Seoul, South Korea) Jisun is creative producer and co-founder of Producer Group DOT, which is a company of independent performing arts producers. Previously, she served as a manager for the Korea Arts Management Service (2009-2012) and a head of programming and a general manager for Chuncheon International Mime Festival and other festivals (2001-2009).

David Sheppard (Brighton) A producer at the Marlborough Theatre and theatre artist, David delivers high-profile cultural and heritage projects, focused on presenting work in public space and unusual contexts. He has produced with Brighton Fringe, The Nightingale, ArtsAgenda and development of The Spire, a new largescale arts development space for Brighton's independent sector.

Marine Thévenet (Paris, France) Marine works with artists and venues to make creative and transformative projects happen. Her interests focus on art in the city, community, and international collaboration. She works in France and the UK, with partners including Artsadmin London, La Serre-Arts Vivants Montreal, Festival des Arts Bordeaux and L'Amicale de production Lille/BXL.

Partner organisations

Dance Umbrella is London's international dance festival, celebrating 21st century choreography across the capital. Since 1978 it has reached audiences of over one million, and supports artists to present great work in interesting spaces. Our aim is to entice audiences, nurture artists, innovate practice and stimulate interest in the power of the body in motion.

Bristol Old Vic FERMENT is the artist development department of Bristol Old Vic and is curated by Emma Bettridge. Ferment supports a huge community of theatre-makers from Bristol and the South West to develop exciting and adventurous new work. Within this 'ferment' it is our job to create a playful structure through which the best of these artists can explore their theatrical ideas in an on-going dialogue with audiences.

In Between Time is an international producer creating extraordinary events and the biennial IBT Bristol International Festival. Respected as a global pioneer of contemporary culture, IBT work across art forms to tell stories that inspire, awaken the imagination, or act as a catalyst for change.

Fuel aims to catalyse positive change in the world by producing new live performance by inspiring theatre makers for and with people across the UK and beyond. Fuel seeks to realise this vision by producing a programme of artistic work inspired by the ambition of the outstanding artists they support. Founded in 2004, Fuel works locally, nationally and internationally to develop, create and tour new performance to the widest possible audience.

Coombe Farm Studios is a rural centre dedicated to growing creativity. For over thirty years it has been a place for making & showing work, for meaning-making and for learning supported by a beautiful environment, great food and people who actively enable the creative process.

For further information contact:

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