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**EAST WALL**

Produced by East London Dance and Hofesh Shechter Company, commissioned by Historic Royal Palaces and presented by Historic Royal Palaces and LIFT

**Open Call for Community Cast Performers for East Wall**

Does your school, college, university, community or youth dance group want to take their performance experience to the next level? East London Dance, Hofesh Shechter Company, Historic Royal Palaces and LIFT are offering a once in a lifetime opportunity for dance groups aged between 13 - 25 to work with Hofesh Shechter and perform to thousands of people in the moat of the Tower of London.

**What is East Wall?**

East Wall is a large-scale dance and live music performance which will take place at the Tower of London, one of London’s most iconic buildings, in July 2018.

Directed by world-renowned choreographer **Hofesh Shechter** in collaboration with four brilliant young choreographers, Becky Namgauds, Duwane Taylor, James Finnemore and Joseph Toonga, East Wall will shine a spotlight on East London’s creative energy and cultural identity.

Hofesh Shechter is recognised as one of the most exciting artists working today, renowned for composing atmospheric musical scores to compliment the unique physicality of his movement.

*“The mighty contemporary choreographer – a combination of dance-maker and rock star but with film director sensibilities”* The Telegraph

East Wall will feature a cast of up to 160 dancers, musicians and community participants to celebrate East London’s rich cultural heritage as part of the first major public art event in the Tower of London moat since the Poppies installation *Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red* in 2014.

You can find out more about the project [here](http://www.eastlondondance.org/projects/east-wall/)

**The Opportunity**

We are looking for east London-based school, college, university, community and youth dance groups across a diverse range of movement and dance styles to take part in an exciting creative learning opportunity and to perform in East Wall at the Tower of London. Although this project is a celebration of east London, groups from across London are welcome to apply.

You will get the opportunity to work closely with one of four choreographers whose dance styles range from krump to contemporary, to create dynamic dance works that will be woven together by Hofesh Shechter and performed in front of 10,000 people at the Tower of London moat across the week commencing 16 July 2018.

**How it will work:**

* Throughout April – July 2018, your group will work closely with one of the four East Wall Choreographers to develop choreographic material that will later form the heart of the East Wall performance.
* Your East Wall Choreographer will come to your regular rehearsal location in east London to work with your group (based on the time slots outlined in your application).
* Your group will attend two creative intensives in April and May (half term) when performers will meet and work together (dates below)
* Your group will join full cast rehearsals in east London during w/c 25 June – w/c 9 July where all performers come together for the final performance to be made. The rehearsals during w/c 9 July will take place at the Tower of London (see schedule below).
* The performances will take place across 5 evenings during w/c 16 July 2018 at the Tower of London.
* The team at East London Dance will lead on all organisation, scheduling and group liaison for East Wall.

**Group Criteria**

* We welcome groups of all abilities and styles
* We will prioritise groups that are based or work in east London. Ideally, your group should consist of a minimum of 10 members that can commit to the duration of the project and a maximum of 30 members.
* All group members should be between the ages of 13 - 25 years old.
* A regular meeting time and location for the choreographer to work with your group (you will be asked to outline your group’s schedule in the application).
* Your group should already commit to regular training/rehearsals in order for the East Wall choreographer to join these sessions to develop the choreographic material.
* Your group will need to provide a lead point of contact to liaise with East London Dance throughout the project
* Confirmation that you can attend all performances, planned intensives and rehearsals

**This opportunity is accessible to all, please ensure any access requirements are outlined in your application form.**

**How you apply?**

To apply for this opportunity, please complete the application form and email it to [office@eastlondondance.org](mailto:office@eastlondondance.org) REF: EAST WALL OPEN DAY APPLICATION

Alternatively, you can download the application form and send it via post to

East London Dance

Stratford Circus Arts Centre

Theatre Square

London

E15 1BX

Please contact [office@eastlondondance.org](mailto:office@eastlondondance.org) REF: EAST WALL OPEN DAY if you have any additional needs to complete the application form or queries in relation to any of the above guidance.

**Deadline and Decisions**

* Please send your form to us by 10am on Friday 2 February
* Your application will be acknowledged, and if selected, confirmation of your place at the Open Day will be sent on or by 9 February by East London Dance
* Confirmation of your involvement in East Wall will be made at the latest by 16 March 2018

**Open Day – Saturday 10March 2018**

This is an opportunity to find out more about the project, meet the creatives and production teams. The open day will give groups an opportunity to work with the choreographers and Hofesh Shechter. Successful groups will be invited to take part in the project by 16 March.

**Key dates**

To take part in this opportunity your group must be available for the dates listed below and committed to attending weekly rehearsals. Sessions which have not yet been scheduled for exact days/ times will be shared as soon as possible.

**A limited number of small bursaries will be available to support participant groups, which can be applied for, following the selection process.**

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| **Date (s)** | **Session Title** | **What is happening?** | **Where is it happening?** | **Notes** |
| 10 March 2018 | **Open Day** | Day for community groups to find out more about the project and try out to take part | University of East London, Salway Place | Compulsory for representatives of each group to attend |
| 7 & 8 April 2018 | **2-day spring intensive** | 2-day intensive to bring community cast together and begin work on choreography. | East London location TBC | All community cast and choreographers will be brought together |
| April - June 2018 | **Weekly rehearsals** | Weekly rehearsals with your assigned choreographer taking place at your usual rehearsal space | Individual groups rehearsal locations (please specify in your application) | Individual groups usual rehearsal day and time (please specify in your application) |
| May half term 2018  31 May, 1 & 2 June | **3-day half term intensive** | 3-day half term intensive to further develop choreography and bring the groups together mid-project | East London location TBC | All community cast and choreographers will be brought together |
| **Please note that for the following part of the schedule, the community cast will not be required for the entire week but will be required part time. Details to follow.** | | | | |
| w/c 25 June 2018 | **Full cast rehearsals** | Community and professional cast come together to rehearse | East London location TBC | - |
| w/c 2 July 2018 | **Full cast rehearsals** | Community and professional cast come together to rehearse | East London location TBC | - |
| w/c 9 July 2018 | **Full cast rehearsals & production week** | Community and professional cast come together to rehearse and finalise production | Tower of London | - |
| w/c 16 July | **Full time performance week** | 5 x evening time performances (TBC)  Performance start time: 7.30pm, estimated show length: 1 hour (no interval) | Tower of London | Every member of community cast will be required to attend each evening performance |

East Wall Credits

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Costume Design Partner, London College of Fashion, UALSupporting Partner, Performing Arts Department, UEL

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