

## EAST WALL WARM-UP - CHOREOGRAPHERS' BIOGRAPHIES

### **Piece 1. Choreographer: BECKY NAMGAUDS @MsBeckyNam**

Originally from Cheshire Becky graduated from the University of Wolverhampton in 2013 with an award for outstanding dance practice. Since, she has worked with Eddie Peake for the Barbican, Holly Blakey, Marso Riviere and Autin Dance Theatre to name a few. In 2013 she began creating her own work, her solo *Severed Dreams* has been performed at a dozen platforms between London and Birmingham, most recently as part of Dance Umbrella. Her work has no particular style but is heavily influenced by performance art; contemporary floors work techniques and capoeira.

### **Piece 2. Choreographer: DUWANE TAYLOR @Duwanetaylor**

Duwane Taylor is a leading Krump choreographer in the UK, while versed in many different hip hop styles, he specialises in bringing raw and expressive Krump from the streets to the theatre, to demonstrate that Krump is a highly artistic style which can be used to explore multiple concepts and themes. Duwane is part of Buckness Personified which was created in 2012. The company's main aim since its inception has been to make Krump more accessible to a wider audience. They do this through fusing Krump with different dance disciplines to create diverse and dynamic pieces of work.

### **Piece 3. Choreographer: LEE GRIFFITHS @LeeNGriff**

Lee joined hip hop theatre collective Far From The Norm in 2012 and has performed nationally and internationally with them. As part of Artistic Director Botis Seva's *Wild Card* at the Lilian Baylis Sadler's Wells she presented an international collaboration with British Council Tunisia and Bboy Chouaib Brik, Art Solution. She is currently producing FFTN's outdoor tour *H.O.H* and Botis' upcoming *Compass Commission* with the Greenwich Dance & Trinity Laban partnership. Lee is also a part of The Company, which is a head strong collective that produces experimental hip-hop theatre, committed to producing evocative work that responds to socio/political issues.

### **Piece 4. Choreographer: ROBIA MILLINER @RobiaMilliner**

Robia has been performing, choreographing and teaching in London for over 10 years. She has worked with companies and choreographers such as Avant Garde Dance Company, A&R Dance, Definitives and Ivan Blackstock as well as creating work as a solo artist. Robia's choreography is a blend of Hip-Hop, Contemporary and Jazz and one style becomes more prominent depending on where a particular piece of music takes her.

### **Piece 5. Choreographer: JOSEPH TOONGA @JustUs\_Dance**

Joseph Toonga originates from Cameroon but was raised in the East End of London. As an artist Joseph is fascinated with the rawness, compactness and precision that Hip-Hop provides and how he can fuse it with the shaping and structure more commonly used in contemporary choreography. He aims to create a unique vocabulary, whilst incorporating storytelling and narrative into his work to explore and physicalize emotive themes relevant in today's society. Joseph also runs his own dance company 'Just Us Dance Theatre', which was founded in 2007 and works around an ethos to inspire, nurture and support, aiming to provide the conditions for artists to create and collaborate.

### **Piece 6. Choreographer HANNAH ANDERSON-RICKETTS @HannahMeraki**

Hannah Meraki, also known as Hannah Anderson-Ricketts is more than a dancer and choreographer. Hannah is a visionary and problem solver; she sets up initiatives, creates opportunities and empowers others on their artistic journey. She performs, choreographs, directs, teaches and mentors. Hannah Meraki Dance aims to produce work that highlights social and life matters through dance and theatre. The company also aims to challenge the aesthetic of the contemporary dance industry by working with dancers that reflect the cultural and aesthetic diversity of London. MERAKI means to put your whole self in what you do and work with creativity, soul and love...and that is why we do what we do.

### **Piece 7. Choreographer: ERION KRUIJA @EKruja**

Erion trained at the Pioneer's House of Tirana, The National Ballet school of Albania and graduated in 2001. He joined Hofesh Shechter Company in June 2011. Before this he performed classical ballet with the company of the National Theatre of Albania, Go and Emballe Moi Compagnie Linga Lausanne, under the direction of Marco Cantalupo & Kartazyna Gdaniec. During 2006-2008 he performed with Theater Chemnitz (Ballet Chemnitz) and after from 2008 to 2011 with Bern Ballet (Stadttheater Bern).