

Northern School of  
Contemporary Dance

# FUTURE NOW



# WELCOME

## FROM SHARON WATSON MBE

**Future Now marks the culmination of our BA students' three-year preparation for entering the profession as contemporary dance artists.**

Students have been lucky to work with three incredible artists in the studio during their final term, each with a distinctive style and approach - Jose Agudo, Vicky Igbokwe and Amaury Lebrun. Tonight we are lucky to witness the results of their collaboration, on stage and in-person.

As graduates of 2021 our students join a long history of being at the forefront of innovative dance practice, having been inspired and trained at one of the world's leading dance conservatoires. I'd like to thank our team of dance specialists who have dedicated their time and efforts to getting them this far, our staff who have supported them during their training and those who have helped make tonight possible.

Our students tell us that our environment is a positive and supportive one. The tools they have gathered and developed to navigate a sustainable career sit within each one of them and their practice.

As always, the staff and I remain proud and passionate supporters of our graduates. I look forward to seeing their creativity flourish as they step out into the world, a world ready to be reimaged.

**Sharon Watson** MBE, DL  
CEO and Principal.

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# RUNNING ORDER

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Amaury Lebrun

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***The Hero with  
a Thousand Faces*** 8.07pm  
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Interview with Vicki Igbokwe 8.33pm

***Our Mighty Groove  
The Northern Remix*** 8.37pm  
Vicki Igbokwe

End 8.52pm



# REPertoire

# **Invisible Room**

**by Amaury Lebrun**





*Invisible Room* marks the end of a trilogy of works and follows both *Left Unseen* (NSCD & Phoenix Dance Theatre) and *For an Instant* (Northern Ballet). All works share common themes of delicacy and violence. For this piece, inspiration was taken from the delicate complexity of Origami, and paintings by Francis Bacon.

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**Cast:**

Vár Bech Árting, Cameron Bennett, Caitlin Chiang, Chiara De Craene, Kieron Faller, Martine Grolid, Kamal Macdonald, Sarah McCann, Lexie McPherson, Izzy Moloney, Syanindita Prameswari, Gianna Rotkvich, Jemma Stein, Alfie Theobald, Kieran West & Brannon Yau

**Lighting:**

Mark Baker

**Costumes:**

Melissa Burton Parry

**Music:**

*Black Tie* by Svarte Greiner

**Duration:**

20 minutes

**The Hero  
with a  
Thousand  
Faces**

by Jose Agudo



*The Hero with a Thousand Faces* connects to the hero and personal journey in each of us. From a call to adventure, abyss (birth/rebirth) and return. The piece was inspired by the writing of Joseph Campbell and Carl Jung.

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**Cast:**

George Bishop, Amber Bosteels,  
Lisa Chearles, Naomi Chockler,  
Puté Chomchan, Grace Ford,  
Luke Hodgkinson, Kate Hooley, Lee Yu Ting,  
Alice Marriott, Maya Marsh, Thomas Noble,  
Yasmina Patel, Jamie Reynolds, Harry Rule,  
Denise Danni Tan, Sophie Thomas  
& Marina Tubau Burción

**Lighting:**

Mark Baker

**Costumes:**

Melissa Burton Parry

**Music:**

*Agraha* by Bernhard Schimpelsberger

**Duration:**

17 minutes

With special thanks to Sona Lisa Dance Company, who originally commissioned the music for this piece.

# **Our Mighty Groove**

—

# **The Northern Remix**

by Vicki Igbokwe



This work is inspired by the Uchenna Dance classic *Our Mighty Groove*.

*Our Mighty Groove – The Northern Remix* will immerse you in dance, music and ‘divaness’ in an experience you won’t want to forget. Set within a New York underground nightclub, we explore the feelings of joy, freedom and community that will have you sitting on the edge of your seat, wanting to join in!

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**Cast:**

Luis Dunn, Nora Ellevold Aas, Alex Gosmore, Rickay Hewitt-Martin, Isla Hurst, Angharad Jones-Young, Niamh Keady, Harriet Leaf, Zara Lee, Neema Mwande, Shadz Nantaba, Kai Rankin, Fay Reilly, Fuad Shebe, Cushla Sutherland, Tammy Tsang, Ayça Turgut, Imogen Wright & Holly Yu

**Assistant:**

Viviana Rocha

**Original music:**

Kweku Aacht

**Music editor:**

Viviana Rocha

**Duration:**

14 minutes





# **STUDENT SOLOS**

# Solo suite A

# 1

## ***MY FRIENDS HAVE BEEN EATEN***

What happens to a character after a horror film ends? What do they do next?

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### **Choreographer and performer:**

Luis Dunn

### **Music:**

*Tusk* by Fleetwood Mac

### **Lighting:**

Mark Baker

### **Rehearsal director:**

Matthew Robinson

### **Warning:**

Use of strong language, fake blood

# Solo suite A

# 2

## *Sampling*

The collapse of old systems to make way for the new, we rearrange the rubble to build something of our own.

---

### **Choreographer and performer:**

Niamh Keady

### **Music:**

*Save State* by Lngchps

### **Music editor:**

Niamh Keady

### **Rehearsal director:**

Matthew Robinson

# Solo suite A

# 3

*So what do you say, an 'A'  
for effort?*

I know I haven't got much to show for it,  
but I really did try

---

**Choreographer and performer:**

Lisa Chearles

**Lighting:**

Matthew Slater

**Rehearsal director:**

Matthew Robinson

**Warning:**

Use of mild language

# Solo suite B

# 1

## *À La Recherche Du Temps Perdu?*

Can we rediscover our 'inner child', or is innocence once lost, impossible to regain?

---

**Choreographer and performer:**

Angharad Jones-Young

**Music:**

*Calico Pie* by Natalie Merchant

**Rehearsal director:**

Matthew Robinson

# Solo suite B

# 2

## *Seeing With(out) Sight*

As we witness each other with our eyes, how will the sensitivity of one's body and movement be affected in space when sight is not used?

---

**Choreographer and performer:**

Caitlin Chiang

**Music:**

*Pause* by Nils Frahm

**Music editor:**

Caitlin Chiang

**Rehearsal director:**

Matthew Robinson

# Solo suite B

# 3

## *Suitcase*

This piece is an invisible suitcase, waiting for the next flight to anywhere.

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### **Choreographer and performer:**

Kieron Faller

### **Music:**

*Walking on Fire* by Rilan & The Bombardiers

### **Rehearsal director:**

Matthew Robinson





**CHOREOGRAPHERS**



## Jose Agudo

Jose started his career in Andalusia where he began performing as a Flamenco dancer. Slowly the world of contemporary dance became more visible as he

worked throughout Europe performing with Charleroi/Danses, Ballet de Marseille, T.R.A.S.H, Shobana Jeyasingh Dance and Akram Khan Company.

In 2011, Jose began to study Kathak. Finding many parallels between this training and his early studies of Flamenco, Jose reconnected with his roots and began to explore traditional forms in a contemporary context. As a result he created Silk Road (2017), and most recently Carmen, which will tour from autumn 2021. Jose has created commissions for the international stage since 2007 including the opening ceremony for The Davis Cup in Madrid 2019. He is listed in the new edition of 50 Contemporary Choreographers, an international publication by Routledge.



## Amaury Lebrun

Amaury Lebrun was born in France and trained at the School of American Ballet in New York.

He has worked for various European companies as a

soloist and in 2000, he joined the Compañía Nacional de Danza as a principal, dancing many works by director Nacho Duato as well as works by renowned choreographers such as Jiri Kylian, Ohad Naharin, William Forsythe, Jacopo Godani, Mats Ek and Wim Vandekeybus.

As a choreographer, Amaury has created many award-winning original works for companies including Ballet de l'Opéra de Nice, Compañía Nacional de Danza, Centro Coreografico Gallego, Ballet de la Generalitat, Phoenix Dance Theatre and Northern Ballet. His piece *Left Unseen* (2018), created first for NSCD and then with Phoenix Dance Theatre in its extended version, has been widely acclaimed by critics. He is currently a Lecturer in Performance at NSCD.



## **Vicki Igbokwe**

Vicki Igbokwe is a coach, choreographer, facilitator and movement director working in dance and theatre; and the founder of Uchenna Dance, a London

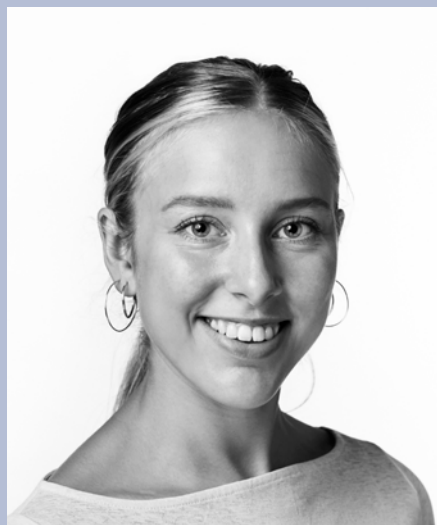
based dance company on a mission to Empower, Entertain and Educate.

She is a trustee for One Dance UK, the UK body for dance and an associate facilitator at People Make It Work who help cultural organisations and leaders to change and develop. Career highlights include work as a Mass Movement Choreographer for the London 2012, Sochi 2014 Olympic and Paralympic opening and closing ceremonies, Glasgow 2014 commonwealth games opening ceremony and the Baku 2017 Islamic Solidarity Games opening and closing ceremonies and a sponsorship deal with Nike. Her mission is to enable those she works with to Think Fierce, Be Fabulous and Live Free Spirited.



**DANCERS**

# VÁR BECH ÁRTING



Vár was born in 1998 in Tórshavn, Faroe Islands. She lived there until moving to Denmark to enrol in the foundation year at Copenhagen Contemporary Dance School. At NSCD she has had the pleasure of working with choreographers Anna

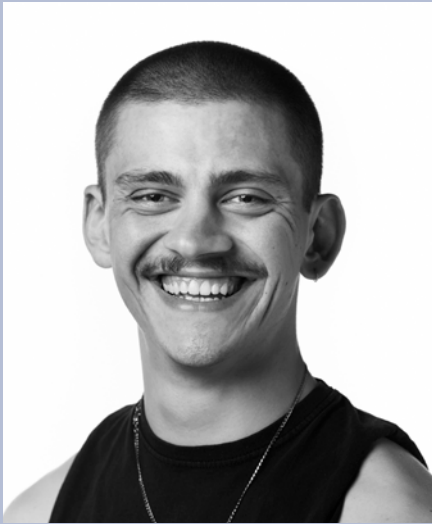
Williams, Anton Lackhy and Amaury Lebrun. She has enjoyed being able to explore her interest in design and film in combination with her own choreographic practice. She is grateful for everyone that she has gotten to know over the past 3 years.

After graduating, she is joining RIVA The Faroese Dance Company as a founding member as well as working as a freelance dancer and choreographer.

📷 @varbarting



# CAMERON BENNETT



Cameron is a 22 year old Contemporary Artist born in Kidderminster. He first found his love of movement expression through a passion for music and creativity. He studied dance at GCSE and A-Level before eventually going on to get 2 years of

professional training and performing with Flexus Dance Collective.

Cameron has worked with the following choreographers during his training at Northern, Phil Sanger, Rita Marcalo and Barnaby Booth. Cameron has secured a place with Northern's MA company VERVE for next year. Beyond his training he wishes to continue to explore his movement practice to develop a language that can be formulated and performed in his own company, all stemming from his Roma Traveller heritage, a deep curiosity with music and an openness to learn and reform the norms of yesterday.

📷 @Bamhaus

# GEORGE BISHOP



George is a 21 year old dance artist from Somerset. He began dancing at the age of 3, later finding his love for contemporary dance at Bridgwater College and Somerset Youth Dance Company. During his time at NSCD, George has worked with artists

Anna Williams, Barnaby Booth, Douglas Thorpe and Jose Agudo. From September, he will be continuing his training at NSCD as a member of the postgraduate company VERVE.

📷 @georgebishopdance

# AMBER BOSTEELS



Amber was born in 2000 in Ghent, Belgium. At a young age, she attended courses in Indian dance which is where her love for performing began. At the age of 12, she joined the performing arts school MUDA, where she discovered contemporary dance.

Six years later, she moved to Leeds to study at Northern, where she worked with choreographers Rita Marcalo, Yukiko Masui and Jose Agudo. After graduation, Amber plans to dive into the freelance world as a dance artist, gain experience as a producer and play with different art forms such as theatre, photography and graphic design.

📷 @amberbosteels

# LISA CHEARLES



Lisa was born in Singapore in 1999. She trained under the PULSE Programme for 4 years, where she was taught by the company dancers of Frontier Danceland. She then briefly joined the company as an intern, where she understudied works

by Shahar Binyamini, Richard Chappell and Faye Tan. During her time at NSCD, Lisa has performed works by Anna Williams, Yukiko Masui, and Jose Agudo. Her fondest memories are of moving with and learning from her incredible peers. After graduation, Lisa is looking forward to understudying the upcoming production *Mayfly* with Kapow Dance. She is also keen to research and make work, venture into graphic design and foster a cat.

📷 @mestakes

# CAITLIN CHIANG



Caitlin was born in Singapore and started dancing at the age of 7. Prior to training at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance (NSCD), she was enrolled in the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) in Singapore, where she attained a

Diploma in Dance. Caitlin performed regularly while at NAFA, participating in several events such as *The Third Space* for the Singapore da:ns festival, the annual performance, *Crossings*, and NAFA's 80th Anniversary. She considers being able to find different stimuli and creative research for her creations to be one of her favourite things about being at NSCD. After graduating, she plans to return to Singapore to teach as well as to collaborate and further explore movement research.

📷 @caitlinchiang

# NAOMI CHOCKLER



Naomi Chockler is 22 and started dancing at a young age. On moving to the UK aged 14, she gained further insight into improvisation and creative work as a member of Shift Youth Dance Company at The Place. Since joining NSCD, she

has performed works by Jane McKernan, Rita Marcalo, Barnaby Booth and Jose Agudo as well as taking part in an apprenticeship with Mobius Dance in her third year, working to create a trio with Annie Hanauer. In the future she plans to seek project based opportunities as well as expand her love for choreography and poetry writing and how they intersect.

Naomi will forever cherish the community found at Northern and thanks her peers and teachers for creating such a special experience.

📷 @naomi468

# PUTÉ CHOMCHAN

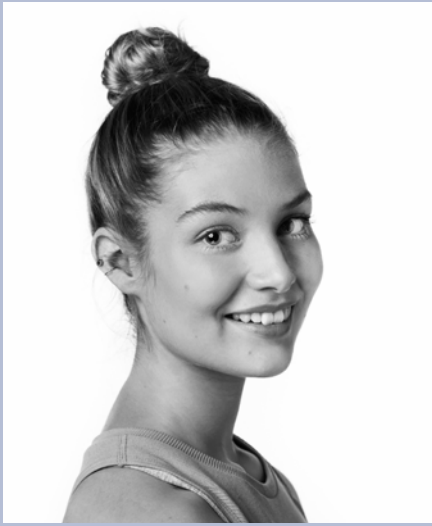


Pattarapong, known as Puté was born in 2000 in Thailand and relocated to the UK at the age of 10. He trained on The Lowry's CAT scheme in Manchester, alongside attending The Manchester College, completing a Level 3 Diploma in Dance. Whilst

at NSCD he worked with brilliant choreographers and artists such as Jose Agudo, Anton Lachky, Rita Marcalo, Joseph Mercier, Alexandrina Hemsley and performed with New Adventures in Matthew Bourne's *Romeo and Juliet*. After graduation, Puté hopes to freelance as a dancer based in Manchester and will also be pursuing a qualification in Sports Massage Therapy.

📷 @pchomchan\_

# CHIARA DE CREANE



Chiara was born in 1998 in Eeklo, Belgium. She previously trained at MUDA Kunstsecundair in Gent, Belgium under the guidance of Dieter Defurne. During her 3 years at NSCD she had the pleasure of being part of work created by Anna Williams, Yukiko

Masui, Alexandrina Hemsley, Nancy May Roberts and Amaury Lebrun. She is very grateful to all the talented and inspiring people she danced with during her 3 years at NSCD. Chiara will move back to Belgium to start her freelancing career in Europe.



# LUIS DUNN



Born in 2000, Luis spent his early years in the Lake District, training on the Lowry CAT Scheme. He then studied on the Access to HE course at NSCD, before enrolling on the BA programme. During his studies he has worked with Anton Lachky

and Vicki Igbokwe. He also enjoyed touring with Rita Marcalo (Instant Dissidence) in 2020. Luis is joining Protein Dance Company as their new apprentice dancer for 21/22. As an emerging choreographer and director, Luis has co-founded both Evil Alex and Funkified Fried Funk Fries, companies that he will continue to create with. He loves his mum and films.

# NORA ELLEVOLD AAS



Nora was born in 1998, in Norway. She started using movement as a form of expression at an early age, with a dream that it would lead her to the ground she was meant to stand on. She trained in dance and choreography at Stange VGS for 3 years, followed

by a one-year Foundation course at Trøndertun. Completing 3 years of professional dance training at NCSD, Nora has had the pleasure of working with choreographers including Rita Marcalo, Barnaby Booth and Vicki Igbokwe. After NSCD, Nora will work with Rita Marcalo in the company Instant Dissidence, and hopes to combining her two passions; dance and travel.

# KIERON FALLER



Kieron was born in Leeds in 1999, where he started dancing at the age of 5. He began his Contemporary training on the CAT scheme and this inspired him to continue onto the BA course at NSCD. Kieron studied Musical Theatre at CAPA College, trained

with Phoenix Dance Theatre and performed in the National Youth Dance Company.

During his training, Kieron has been travelling across Europe, performing at Breakdance events. He aims to compete at a high level and inspire the next generation. After graduating, he is looking forward to preparing for a freelance career teaching, performing and creating.

📷 @bboylitefoot

# GRACE FORD

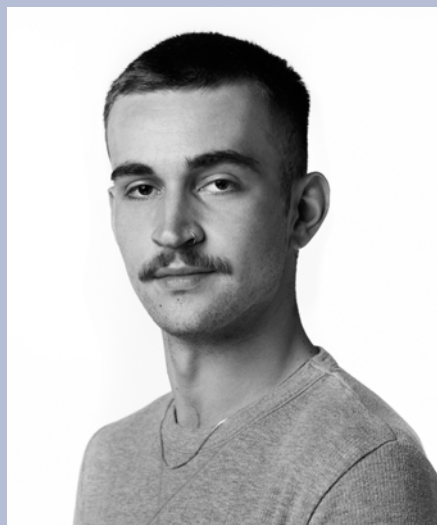


Grace has danced ever since she can remember. Prior to joining NSCD, she trained at The Brit School, Trinity Laban CAT and National Youth Dance Company where she found her passion for performing. During her time at NSCD she has loved meeting her

wonderful peers that have inspired and guided her through her journey. She will miss sharing the beautiful studio space with her friends and the talented musicians that she hopes to cross paths again in the future. NSCD has given Grace great creative opportunities which have allowed her to find freedom, comfort and explore unfamiliar avenues. Grace wishes to keep performing and plans to dive into the freelance world and explore what she can achieve.

📷 @grace\_.ford

# ALEX GOSMORE



Alex is 21 years old and grew up in Bristol where he started dancing with Rise Youth Dance Company at the age of 13. During his time at NSCD so far, he has performed works by Anna Williams and Barnaby Booth. As well as this, he performed

externally in *The Aftermath*, a creation by Northern Rascals and Northern BroadSides. Alex was also an Apprentice Dancer for Möbius Dance Company in his third year, working with Annie Hanauer in her piece for the immersive show, *Curious Playground*.

Alex will continue his studies at NSCD in September as part of VERVE, the postgraduate dance company. He will also be working on a project with Gary Clarke over summer.

He is dedicating his graduation performances to his Auntie Jane.

📷 @alexgosmore

# MARTINE GROLID



Martine Grolid was born in northern Norway in 1998. She started dancing ballet at the age of six and from there her love for dancing and performing grew.

She studied dance for 3 years at Bodø Videregående Skole, following a foundation year at Trøndertun Folkehøgskole before moving to Leeds, and starting her bachelor's degree at Northern School of Contemporary Dance.

After graduation she will be moving back to Norway where she is going to start projects with her friends from other art fields. She also aims to get into teaching.

📷 @martinegrolid

# RICKAY HEWITT-MARTIN



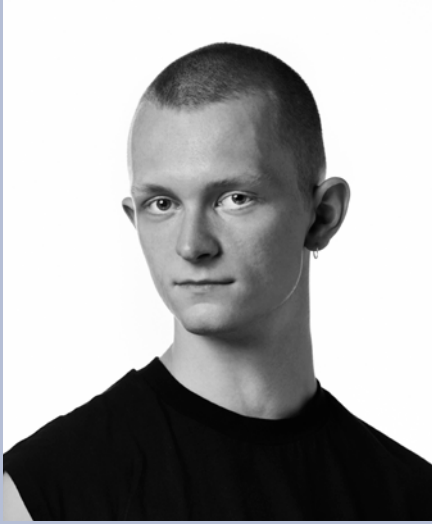
Born in 1997, Rickay began dancing at the tender age of 3. She developed her passion for contemporary dance as a teenager, whilst being a member of ACE Dance and Music's Youth Company. She trained on the Dance4 CAT programme in

Nottingham, before starting her training at NSCD, completing both the Foundation course and the BA (Hons).

One of her highlights at NSCD was covering the lighting studio in mud for a solo piece she choreographed called *The Roots Within*.

During her studies, she has worked with choreographers including Patricia Okenwa, Vicki Igbokwe and Oded Ronen. Rickay wishes to have a multifaceted career in the arts and will continue her studies with an MA in Dance Movement Psychotherapy at Derby University.

# LUKE HODKINSON



Luke is a 21-year-old dance artist from Manchester. He found his way into dance aged 13 at a cheerleading club where he also began training in hip hop and pom dance, competing across the country and in the US. Discovering contemporary dance

during his A levels, Luke auditioned for NSCD and has since performed in work by Hana Goseling, Anton Lachky and Joseph Mercier. After graduating, Luke plans to pursue a freelance performing career while continuing to develop his teaching and choreographic practice.

📷 @hodkinsonluke



# KATE HOOLEY



Born in 2000, Kate trained as an artistic gymnast from the age of 9 until 14, gaining valuable acrobatic skills. She started dancing in 2014 at Dance City Newcastle on the CAT scheme. Kate was hugely inspired by her contemporary teacher

Neville Campbell. During her time at NSCD, Kate's highlight was creating her 3rd year solo, as she had complete creative freedom to choreograph something meaningful to her. After graduation, Kate is excited to join James Wilton Dance in August, as an apprentice through the Masters programme at NSCD.

📷 @katehooleyy

# ISLA HURST



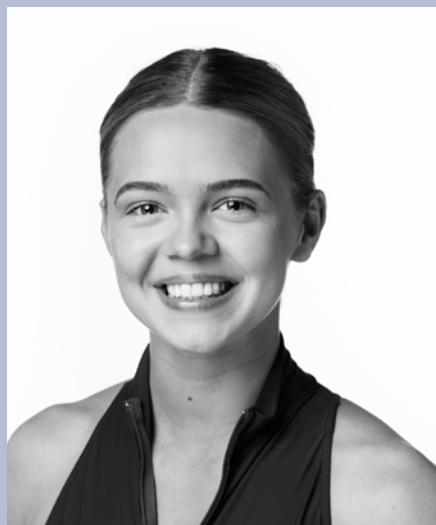
Isla grew up in Bristol and trained at The Dance Company Weston-super-Mare, before gaining an Access to Higher Education Diploma at NSCD.

She has toured with Rita Marcalo's Instant Dissidence, and co-founded two companies: Yoodaloo Dance Theatre and Evil Alex, who she will continue to create with post-graduation. She was recently commissioned by 2faced Dance Company to direct and choreograph a dance film which will be premiering this year. She will also continue to work as a Saturday School Teacher at NSCD.

Isla would like to thank her family for their unconditional support, and her peers at NSCD, who inspire her every single day.

📷 @islahurst

# ANGHARAD JONES-YOUNG



Angharad was born in London in 1999 and grew up in Snowdonia, North Wales. She trained as part of National Youth Dance Wales, working closely with Kerry Nicholls, Caroline Finn and Laila Diallo. She then studied on the Access to HE course at NSCD,

before moving to the BA programme. At NSCD, she has worked with several choreographers including Anton Lachky, Vicki Igbokwe and Joseph Mercier. Angharad is excited to join National Dance Company Wales as apprentice dancer for their 21/22 season. Alongside performing, she also plans to develop her own choreographic voice as her career develops.

📷 @angharadjonesyoungdance

# NIAMH KEADY



Born in 2000, Niamh grew up in Cambridge, UK. She was always an enthusiastic 'cha cha slide' dancer and had to be dragged away from the kids disco. She started training at 14 when she joined Dance East CAT and was a member of National

Youth Dance Company 2017/18, under Sharon Eyal. She sends gratitude to all who've taught her, for always believing in her. At NSCD, she has enjoyed performing work by Rita Marcalo, Barnaby Booth and Vicki Igbokwe and admiring her talented peers. After graduating, she will work with Ben Duke on a rescheduled commission for Elixir Festival 2020, and hopes to freelance wherever it takes her.

📷 @niamh\_keady

# HARRIET LEAF



Born in Norwich, Harriet began dancing at the age of 7 and trained at Rigney Bank Ballet School in Milnthorpe, alongside participating in multiple youth dance companies. Harriet has worked with choreographers such as Hana Goseling

and Barnaby Booth. Having developed a further interest in the dramatic arts, she is looking forward to continuing her studies doing an MA at Fourth Monkey Drama School in London.

# ZARA LEE



Zara began studying dance at The Manchester College aged 17, where she found her passion for contemporary dance. They then joined NSCD in 2017 to study on the Foundation course and continued onto the BA (Hons) course. The highlights of the past four

years for Zara were having the creative freedom to pursue their interests, as well as being able to share the space with incredible artists, and the generosity they offer. After NSCD they have decided to work as a freelance artist, whilst they continue to build their practice in dance/art therapy.

# LEE YU TING



Ting was born in 1998 and grew up in sunny Singapore. She trained in Chinese dance from the age of 9, before venturing into contemporary dance at 16, under the guidance of Singaporean dance practitioner Dan Kwoh. Prior to joining NSCD, she was an intern and

trained under the Pulse Scholarship Programme at Frontier Danceland. During her time at NSCD, Ting has had the opportunity to work with Anna Williams, Anton Lachky, Yewande103 and Jose Agudo. Ting feels strongly about empowering bodies through dance, something which she will be looking more into upon graduating.

📷 @tinggggg

# KAMAL MACDONALD



Before his time on the BA course at NSCD, Kamal trained at The Dance School Of Scotland, based in Glasgow. Following that, he continued his studies on the Access to HE course at NSCD. During his training, he has had the opportunity to work

with choreographers such as Jane McKernan, Anna Williams, Anton Lachky, and Amaury Lebrun.

After graduating, Kamal will continue pursuing narrative dance filmmaking alongside Brannon Yau with their company YDT Studios, whilst also continuing to build YDT Studios' platform for emerging artists.

📷 @kamalmac\_ @ydtstudios



# ALICE MARRIOTT



Born in Hong Kong, Alice started dancing from the age of 3, training in a variety of styles before moving to Singapore. There she developed her passion for dance at United World College of South East Asia. After being introduced to contemporary dance

at A-Level in the UK, her love for the art has not stopped growing. Now aged 21, Alice has loved immersing herself in works including Barnaby Booth's *People are very good and very bad* and Jose Agudo's *The Hero with A Thousand Faces*. Working alongside a number of inspiring dance artists during her NSCD years has pushed her in ways she never thought possible whilst broadening her artistic perspectives on the world. During these years, she has also gained a new-found love for film and cinematography, which she hopes to continue and develop in her practice. She is excited to start her post-degree journey as an apprentice with Company Chameleon.

📷 @alice\_marriott

# MAYA MARSH



Maya began Irish dancing in a local Irish club in Manchester which had a memorable scent of stale alcohol and sticky bleach from the night before. Nevertheless, it spurred her to seek out more dance in the city until beginning training on

the Access course at NSCD in 2017. During her four years at Northern, Maya has relished the opportunity to work with choreographers Jane McKernan, Anna Williams, Alexandrina Hemsley and Jose Agudo. In her second year, she received an Erasmus Exchange Scholarship to study at Stavanger University in Norway for 4 months, which inspired her greatly. After graduating, Maya begins work with About Time Dance Company in Lancashire and hopes to continue freelancing, wherever it may take her.

📷 @mayaruthmarsh

# SARAH McCANN



From the Scottish Highlands, Sarah began ballet at age 3, but switched to focus on gymnastics. At age 16 Sarah discovered contemporary dance through Eden Court Theatre (Inverness), joining Eden Court Young Dance Company in 2014.

Sarah moved to Glasgow in 2015 to study dance full-time at Dance Studio Scotland. While there she trained to Diploma level in contemporary, jazz, ballet, tap and street, performing works by Sir Richard Alston, Maxine Railton and having her own choreography performed in her graduation show. Sarah also worked with YDance Scotland, partaking in several projects including their Project Y Summer Course in 2015 and 2016.

Memorable moments from her time at NSCD have been curating Flock Fest, performing works by Anton Lachky and Sandrine Monin, and getting locked in the building after late night rehearsals. After graduating Sarah is planning to stay in Leeds and see where the world will take her.

# LEXIE McPHERSON



Lexie started dancing when she was 4 years old, attending a local ballet class. She went on to train with Northern Ballet Youth Academy before finding her love for contemporary dance with Phoenix Dance Youth Academy. Lexie progressed to the

Access to HE course at NSCD and subsequently the three-year BA. Lexie has loved working with choreographers such as Jane Mckernan, Anna Williams, Barnaby Booth and Amaury Lebrun. After graduating, Lexie is starting a teaching career and using her recent qualification as a Yoga Vinyasa Teacher to bring flow, fitness and creativity to her classes.

# IZZY MOLONEY



Izzy was born in 1999 in Nottingham. She started dancing from a young age and eventually ventured into contemporary dance when she was 16 and joined Next Door Dance Youth Company. Throughout her time at NSCD she has worked

with choreographers such as Hana Goseling, Barnaby Booth and Amaury Lebrun. Izzy is excited to start her journey in Denmark as an apprentice dancer for Holstebro Danse Kompagni as part of the NSCD postgraduate apprenticeship scheme.

📷 @izzymoloney

# NEEMA MWANDE



Neema grew up in Northumberland and started classical ballet from a very young age with the Affleck Academy of Ballet. She then started dancing contemporary at the age of 14 in the local youth company in her hometown Hexham.

Neema joined the Access

course at NSCD in 2017 and then went on to study on the BA, working with choreographers such as Rita Marcalo, Yukiko Masui and Jane McKernan. After graduation Neema plans to go on to study a masters in dance psychotherapy.

# SHADZ NANTABA



Shahada Nantaba Sekajja AKA Shadz was Born in Kampala Uganda in 1998, where their passion for movement was first cultivated. They migrated to England in 2006, where they performed in different Pentecostal Churches. Seeing a Phoenix Dance

Theatre workshop inspired Shadz to do a dance GCSE. Shadz was awarded a bursary for Phoenix Dance Theatre's Saturday School in 2013 and later that year began training at RJC Dance as part of their youth provision. They enrolled on the one year Foundation course at NSCD in 2016 before joining the BA course. During their training they have worked with Hiccup Project, Patricia Okenwa, Vicki Igbokwe and Yewande 103. After graduating Shadz will be a freelance artist touring with Whispered Tales in *Distant Drum*, as well as exploring ways to advocate for mental health and the Black experience.

📷 @omnishadz

# THOMAS NOBLE



Thomas has enjoyed dancing from a young age, using his background in gymnastics and applying it to his work. His first experience of contemporary dance was at a scouting workshop at his High School.

From there he joined the Centre for Advanced Training (CAT) Scheme at Northern and has completed both the Access to Higher Education Diploma and the BA course at Northern School. During his time at NSCD, Thomas has worked with Rita Marcalo, Anton Lachky and Jose Agudo.

📷 @tom.noble\_



# YASMINA PATEL



Born in the UK, Yasmina moved over to New Zealand at the age of 5 where she started her training in ballet & modern dance. Moving back to the UK 8 years later, she continued her training, applying to NSCD. During her time at Northern, Yasmina

has worked with Rita Marcalo, Sandrine Monin, Yukiko Masui and Jose Agudo. Yasmina's biggest highlight at Northern has been finding her voice as a female artist which led her to create her third year solo *Nemesis*. Yasmina is excited to be joining Scottish Dance Theatre in August as an apprentice through Northern's post-graduate scheme.

📷 @yasmina\_patel

# SYANINDITA PRAMESWARI



Born in Indonesia, Syanindita plunged into the world of dance and music at a young age. Growing up in Geneva, Switzerland, her passion for dance started when she joined the Compagnie Virevolte in 2008. Training at NSCD helped her embrace her

authenticity and become the enthusiastic artist she is today. Whilst developing her dance skills and technique in the studio, Syanine spends her free time creating music in her bedroom. After graduating, she plans to go back to Jakarta to widen her dance and music network, while teaching dance and achieving a Pilates Instructor qualification.

📷 @syaninestagram

# KAI RANKIN



Kai is a 22 year old artist originally from Brighton, Their dance training started on the Access course at Northern 4 years ago.

In the future they plan to continue being absolutely sickening, and to own every moment.

You'll find him breeding snakes and skanking out in the club. Being happy. And being free. Oh, and maybe making some of his own art along the way.

He would like to thank Hannah and Hana because without them he wouldn't be graduating today. He'd also like to thank Shirley, for the foundation of knowledge and for the classes he will cherish always.

📷 @life\_of\_kai\_\_

# FAY REILLY



Born in North Yorkshire, Fay moved up to Scotland at a young age. They started their professional training at The Scottish School of Contemporary Dance in 2016, after 3 years with the Junior and Senior Scottish Ballet Associates. During their

time in Scotland, Fay was a company member of The National Youth Dance Company of Scotland and toured work by Anna Kenrick, nationally and internationally. In 2018 Fay decided to take their training to NSCD. During this time on the BA course, Fay had the pleasure of working with Hana Goseling and Barnaby Booth as well as repertoire choreographed by Maxine Doyle. After graduation, Fay will continue their professional work with Sababa Co. who are currently working towards a new creation with choreographer Bar Groisman.

📷 @fayreilly\_

# JAMIE REYNOLDS



Jamie was born in Birmingham, UK in 2000. He first started his venture into dance with Ballroom and Latin, competing when he was seven. He then went to DanceXchange to start training in contemporary dance on the CAT Programme. A highlight

of his time at NSCD has been the opportunity to create and research his ideas for multidisciplinary work. An example would be a research project that was affected by COVID-19 exploring digitising dance. Jamie hopes to continue to build his artistic knowledge and to travel to experience different cultures within dance.

📷 @jamie\_\_reynolds\_\_

# GIANNA ROTKVICH



Gianna was born in America in 2000. She began dancing at the age of 11 to complement her love for other artforms and enhance her skills in musical theater. Gianna instantly fell in love with dance and knew she wanted to spend the rest of her life moving. She

attended high school at The Chicago Academy for the Arts where she received training in Ballet, Graham and contemporary. She decided to further explore contemporary at NSCD where she has worked with choreographers such as Hana Goseling, Amaury Lebrun and Anton Lachky. After graduating, Gianna plans to immerse herself in all aspects of her artistry while travelling the world.

📷 @dancerplant

# HARRY RULE



Before studying at NSCD Harry spent three wonderful years at Kingston College. Harry was lucky enough to attend the BalletBoyz Dancer's Course, where he worked closely with a range of great artists whilst being mentored by Matthew Sandiford,

Bradley Waller and Edward Pearce. During his time at NSCD Harry has met some wonderful people. His favourite moments have been performing on stage whenever he could. After graduating he hopes to find himself within a dance company touring the world, creating movement and memories.

📷 @harryrule00

# FUAD SHEBE



Fuad is 20 year old non-binary person from Bradford and began dancing at the early age of 12. They started with competitive cheerleading training with the Aviators. They then went on to train as a freestyle disco dancer at Bodyrockers, and trained as a rhythmic

gymnast and contortionist before finally finding their passion for contemporary. They trained at Abby Carr's Studio as a competitive dancer and currently hold 7 titles across the world.

They began their training at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance. During their time at Northern, Fuad has worked with choreographers such as Jane McKernan, Hana Goseling, Yukiko Masui and Vicki Igbokwe. They currently aspire to become a professional working drag queen whilst continuing their contemporary and ballet life.

📷 @sheba\_glamore



# JEMMA STEIN



Jemma grew up on the outskirts of Aberdeen, dancing in her local village hall, before finding contemporary dance at Citymoves Dance Agency. She immediately dived into the scene, becoming a young creative and youth ambassador with One

Dance UK. She also toured internationally with the National Youth Dance Company of Scotland. In 2018 she gained a professional contract with Coalesce Dance Theatre and in 2019 was an apprentice dancer for Tasdance. Alongside performing, Jemma has choreographed a variety of works. Most recently her film *Project C* led to a commission from CREATE Paisley and Citymoves Dance Agency.

Straight after graduating Jemma will be heading off to New York to attend the New York Conservatory of Dramatic Arts.

📷 @jemma\_stein

# CUSHLA SUTHERLAND



Cushla is 22 years old and grew up in Bristol. She started dancing with Rise Youth Dance company at 16 alongside training in ballet. She then went on to train on the Ballet Boyz Dancers Course for a year. At Northern so far she has worked with

choreographers such as Anna Williams and Yukiko Masui. Cushla has gained a place in JV2 where she will continue to develop her craft.

# DENISE DANNII TAN



Denise was born in 1998 in Singapore. Since a young age, Denise had a strong passion for the arts especially dance. At the age of 17, she started her dance training with Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) where she majored in contemporary dance and

movement studies. Denise then moved to Leeds to further her training with NSCD in 2019. She is very grateful to have worked with choreographers such as Anton Lachky, Jose Agudo, Joseph Mercier and Alexandrina Hemsley. After graduation, Denise will be based in Leeds freelancing as a performer, developing her choreographic practice and teaching dance and yoga.

📷 @thekneesdanniitan

# ALFIE THEOBALD



Alfie is a 22 year old dancer from Newbury who trained prior to Northern at Park House Secondary School and West Berkshire Ballet School. Alfie has had the pleasure of working with choreographers such as Anna Williams, Barnaby Booth and

Amaury Lebrun. Alfie now wants to train to be a lighting technician and will never stop looking at choreography and wondering how he would light it or how he would light other's work differently.

# SOPHIE THOMAS



Born and raised in England's Lake District, Sophie's love for dance, art and nature started from an early age. As her interest in contemporary dance grew she joined Cumbria Youth Dance Company in 2014, followed by The Lowry CAT scheme for 3 years.

Both programmes inspired and fuelled her passion for dance. Throughout her 3 years at NSCD Sophie has had the pleasure of creating works with choreographers including Anna Williams, Barnaby Booth and Jose Agudo, which have influenced her to be the artist she is today. Sophie is looking forward to launching her career in dance from her current base of Leeds, where she plans to continue to create, discover and build her artistry as a performer.

📷 @sophiesoph\_t

# TAMMY TSANG



Tammy was born and raised in Hong Kong. She trained at Dance4 CAT for two years prior to her training at NSCD. During her time at NSCD she has worked with dance artists including Jane McKernan, Anna Williams, Barnaby Booth and Vicky Igbokwe.

Tammy will always cherish the pliés she shared with her wonderful peers whilst overlooking the sunset on Chapeltown Road. Through unlearning, Tammy has learnt to place trust in her irreverence and seriousness, which she will continue to practice when creating works in the future. Tammy will keep rolling down/up to discover the world through her dynamically stacked vertebrae.

# MARINA TUBAU BURCIÓN



Marina was born in 1995 in a Catalan town in the province of Barcelona. Her first contemporary and ballet classes were at age 16, when she decided to transform her passion for dance into a profession. Later on, she moved to Barcelona, where she trained at

several dance schools including El Magatzem Escola de Dansa, where she did 3 years of full training. She then moved to Leeds in 2018 to join NSCD, where she has performed works by Rita Marcalo, Anton Lachky and Jose Agudo, as well as student works. After graduating, Marina wants to continue to enjoy learning from dance both as a teacher and performer.

📷 @ma\_rinatubau

# AYÇA TURGUT



Ayça was born in Istanbul in 1998. She danced classical ballet at an early age and graduated from Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University State Conservatory aged 18.

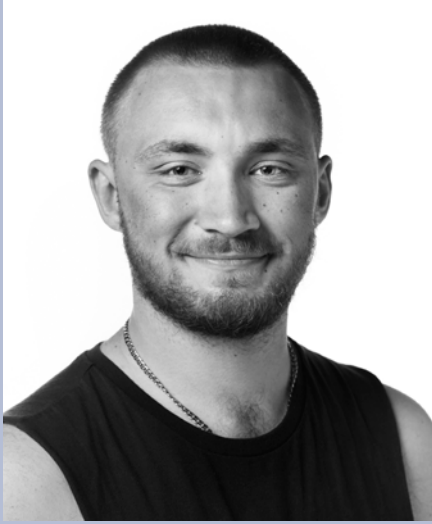
She then left Turkey to start her education in contemporary dance. Prior to her arrival at Northern she lived in the Netherlands and Scotland. Experiencing different cultures allowed her to understand her identity and culture on a deeper level.

During her time at Northern she discovered her playfulness, using different mediums and movement to express her creativity. After graduation she will become a freelance artist to keep her curiosity alive.

📷 @aycaturguts



# KIERAN WEST



Kieran is a 21 year old dance artist from Bracknell, Berkshire and started dancing when he was 15 years old. They previously trained at The Brakenhale Academy and was a part of Berkshire County Youth Dance Company before joining Northen. During

his time at Northen he has worked with Rita Marcalo, Yukiko Masui and Amaury Lebrun. After graduating Kieran is going to go into freelancing as a dancer but also work as a composer of music for different projects in the future.

📷 @kieran\_\_west

# IMOGEN WRIGHT



Imogen grew up in Beverley, where they developed a passion for dance at young age with Hip-hop and Commercial classes.

Aged 18, Imogen joined the Northern School of Contemporary Dance CAT scheme and then

progressed onto the degree at NSCD to continue their full-time professional training. During this time, Imogen worked with choreographers such as Jane McKernan, Hana Goseling and Yukiko Masui.

During their third year Imogen gained an apprentice role in Möbius Dances' project *Curious Playground*, creating a duet choreographed by Jamaal Burkmar. As well as this, Imogen has also performed in *The Aftermath*, a creation by Northern Rascals in collaboration with Northern Broadsides. After graduation, Imogen will continue to work with Jamaal Burkmar, before joining VERVE in September.

📷 @imogenmaee

# BRANNON YAU

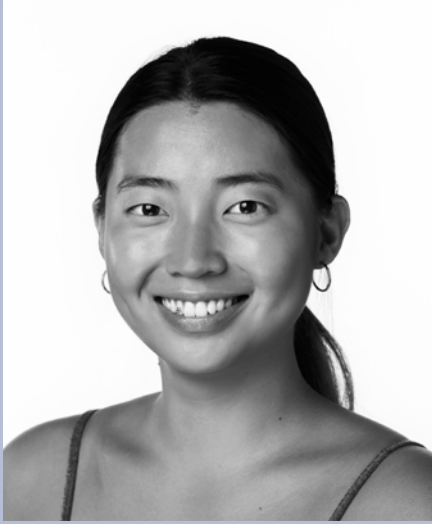


Brannon was born in 1998 in Sheffield, where he started street dancing at the age of 15. He began studying contemporary dance in High Storrs School in Sheffield before joining Phoenix Youth Academy Seniors. During his studies at NSCD, he

performed works by Anna Williams, Yukiko Masui and Amaury Lebrun. After graduation, Brannon will be working with Kamal Macdonald to continue expanding YDT Studios, infusing their passion for dance and filmmaking together as well as exploring new choreographic works.

📷 @brannonyau @ydtstudios

# HOLLY YU



Holly Yu is 23 years old from Busan, South Korea where she started dancing at 15 years old at Busan High School of Arts. This was where she began her career in contemporary dance alongside learning traditional Korean dance. In 2018 she

enrolled in the MASA programme at the Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company in Israel before moving to England to study at NSCD. During her training Holly has worked with choreographers such as Rami Be'er, Rita Marcalo, Joseph Mercier, and Anton Lachky. In 2020, Holly performed for JAYU Dance Company in South Korea. Next year Holly will continue her studies at NSCD as a member of VERVE, the postgraduate dance company.

# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021!

Special thanks to rehearsal directors  
Eric Assandri, Deborah Ford, Joseph Mercier,  
Matthew Robinson and Matthew Slater.

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