

XTRAX Global Conversations: Korea Connections



Muljil by Elephants Laugh – Stockton International Riverside Festival

INDEX

<u>Introduction</u>	2
<u>Participant List</u>	2
<u>Programme schedule - Week 1 : UK Outdoor Arts Focus</u>	3
<u>Meet our Speakers for Week 1</u>	4
<u>Meet our Participants Week 1</u>	8
<u>Programme schedule - Week 2 : Korea Outdoor Arts Focus</u>	12
<u>Meet our Speakers for Week 2</u>	13
<u>Meet our Participants Week 2</u>	16
<u>Contacts</u>	24

🔗 Click the content to go directly to the page

XTRAX Global Conversations: Korea Connections

Welcome to XTRAX Global Conversations: Korea Connections

Introduction

Korea Connections is a series of online conversations for UK and Korean outdoor artists and producers, who want to develop their understanding of each other's contexts, including opportunities for seeing and presenting outdoor work in both countries. Our programme is designed for outdoor artists and producers ready for international touring who would like to build the skills and knowledge required for establishing long-lasting international relationships, with a particular focus on the UK and Korea. Facilitated by XTRAX, the sessions will also invite leading representatives in both the UK and Korea outdoor sectors to share their experiences, as well as providing an opportunity for participants to connect with peers and ask questions.

Participants



- Sung Taek Jeong | Artistic Director | Chorokso
- Soeun Kim | Artistic Director | Creative group Sumbi
- Sung Tae Jung | Artistic Director | White Cube Project
- Jaesub Kim | Artistic Director | Soul
- Keum-seul,Seo | Manager | Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture
- Jaehyun Nho | Artistic Director | IMOMENT
- Sanghyun Park | Director | 64J
- Yeonjung Kim | CEO | ALWAYS AWAKE
- Eunju Hitchcock-Yoo | Director | The Strangers
- Hannah Kim | Assistant Manager | Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture
- Juhyung Lee | Artistic Director | Galmae



- Alex Gomar | Producer | Bureau of Silly Ideas
- Andrew Kim | Director | Thingumajig Theatre
- Anja Meinhardt | Artistic Director | Justice in Motion
- Becca Gill | Associate Producer | Trigger
- Bill Palmer | Director | Avanti Display
- Camille Bensoussan | Executive director | Upswing
- Ivan Thorley | Artistic Director | Puppets with Guts
- Liz Pugh | Director | Walk the Plank
- Nina von der Werth | Projects Producer | The Place
- Paul Liengaard | Director | NDP Circus
- Pierre Palluet | Producer | Van Huynh Company
- Prince Laryea | Executive Producer | Avant Gard Dance
- Robert Nixdorf | Artist & Roboticist | Air Giants Limited
- Victoria Collins | Programme Producer | Motionhouse

Programme Schedule

Meet and Greet

Tuesday 30 November – 9-10am GMT / 6-7pm KST

In the Meet and Greet session of our programme you will have the opportunity to meet all of the artists and producers who are participating in Korea Connections.

[Click here to join us on Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 882 0306 1083 / Passcode: 995761

Week 1: UK Outdoor Arts Focus

Introducing outdoor arts in the UK (for Korean participants)

Wednesday 1 December – 9-11am GMT / 6-8pm KST

This session will bring together several different perspectives to introduce the UK Outdoor Arts sector to an audience of Korean artists and producers interested in finding out more about the UK context.

Speakers:

- Danielle Corbishley, Head of 101 Outdoor Arts Creation Space
- Angus MacKechnie, Executive Director, OutdoorArtsUK
- Bradley Hemmings, Artistic Director, FESTIVAL.ORG
- Amaya Dent, Freelance Creative Producer, currently the UK Producer for The Walk

[Click here to join us on Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 812 9769 5087 / Passcode: 753559

Bringing your outdoor work to the UK - discussion (for Korean participants)

Friday 3 December – 9-11am GMT / 6-8pm KST

Chair: Axel Satgé, Producer & Co-Director, Split Second

During this informal discussion artists and producers will share practical experiences of international touring with a focus on the UK, including two case studies from Korean artist companies. The primary audience for this session is Korean artists and producers interested in finding out more about the UK context.

Speakers:

- Cheoul Sung Lee, Visual Theater CCOT
- Jinyeob Lee, Elephants Laugh

[Click here to join us on Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 812 9769 5087 / Passcode: 753559

Meet our Speakers and Participants for Week 1

On the next pages you can read the short biographies of the speakers and participants who will make up the sessions. It would be great if you could make yourself familiar with their background and please follow the links provided where you will be able to find out about their work. We hope that a prior understanding of the speakers' and participants' experiences and practice will facilitate an informed, meaningful, and enjoyable discussion!

Speakers



Danielle Corbishley | Head of 101 Outdoor Arts Creation Space

Twitter: @101OutdoorArts

Website: <https://www.101outdoorarts.com/>

Danielle is a creative producer, director, teacher and performer with a track record of creating ambitious and wide-reaching outdoor performance projects across a range of settings and scales.

As Head of 101 & Outdoor Programmes at the Corn Exchange, Newbury she has the privilege of running 101 Outdoor Arts Creation Space, a national centre for work for public space that supports over 50 artistic residencies each year alongside an inclusive programme of professional development and outdoor performances. To get in touch with Danielle please email her at daniellec@cornexchangenew.co.uk



Angus MacKechnie | Executive Director | OutdoorArtsUK

Twitter: @AngusMackers @OutdoorArtsUK

Facebook: @IsanOutdoorArtsUK

Instagram: @outdoorartsuk

Website: <https://outdoorartsuk.org/>

Angus MacKechnie is the Executive Director of OutdoorArtsUK. Previously he worked at the National Theatre for over thirty years, serving under five different directorships and running a wide variety of projects, largely related to audience engagement. He became Producer and Programmer of two departments: the Watch This Space Festival of Outdoor Arts and the Platform programme of talks, debates and interviews. He produced the NT2000 project, which charted 100 years of English-speaking theatre, the NT50 series, marking the theatre's fiftieth anniversary and wrote and co-produced the gala for Laurence Olivier's centenary. As an interviewer he chaired events with, amongst many others, Judi Dench, Alan Bennett, Fiona Shaw, Nicholas Hytner, Frances de la Tour and Marianne Elliott. In 2004 he received the Rayne Award for his services to the company. He previously ran a small-scale touring theatre company and worked as an actor, director and writer, after training at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He has served on the boards of Mimbire and Upswing and was a Fellow on the 2014/5 Clore Cultural Leadership Programme.


Bradley Hemmings | Artistic Director | FESTIVAL.ORG

Twitter: @festivaldotorg

 Website: <https://festival.org/>

Bradley is the Artistic Director and Chief Executive of FESTIVAL.ORG, an outdoor art producing organisation with an extensive year round programme of work, which includes the annual Greenwich+Docklands International Festival (GDIF), Global Streets, (a national programme of international outdoor arts), extensive producing, the delivery of outdoor events/ceremonies, as well as access consultancy and touring. He founded GDIF in 1996 and has directed the festival for the last 26 years, building the festival's reputation for staging high quality outdoor productions, whilst prioritising access and participation by culturally diverse and Deaf and disabled audiences. During the pandemic GDIF became the first major live festival to take place in the UK since the March 2020 lockdown and this year's edition was attended by audiences of more than 75,000.

In 2012 Bradley was Co-Artistic Director for the Opening Ceremony of London 2012 Paralympic Games, watched by 11.5 million viewers in the UK (Channel 4's largest ever audience). He was awarded an MBE in 2016 for services to Culture and Disability Arts and was granted the Freedom of the Royal Borough of Greenwich in 2017.


Amaya Dent | Freelance Creative Producer | currently the UK Producer for The Walk

Instagram: @amayajeyarajah

 Website: www.amayajdent.com

Amaya Jeyarajah Dent is an experienced creative producer with a specialism in producing work for public space and the outdoors. Amaya has just joined LIFT (London International Festival of Theatre) as their in-house Creative Producer. Recently Amaya has been the UK producer for The Walk, a large-scale international project built around 'Little Amal', a 3.5 metre giant puppet built by the Handspring Puppet Company in South Africa. Amal walked from Syria to the UK as events of welcome unfolded around her and Amaya oversaw the cultural programme here in the UK, leading co-productions across 10 cities nationally. Previously Amaya has worked as the in-house Creative Producer at Emergency Exit Arts, one of the UK's oldest and leading outdoor community arts organisations. She has also worked extensively with Female led collective Anagram who use cutting edge technologies to create thought-provoking interactive storytelling experiences. Previously Amaya has also worked as a costume stylist and studio manager for bespoke costumier Prangsta. Amaya is a trustee for OutdoorArtsUK, and for Migrateful who run cookery classes led by migrant chefs struggling with integration in the UK, to support their journeys to employment and independence.


Axel Satgé | Producer & Co-Director | Split Second

Facebook: @splitsecond.produces

Instagram: splitsecond_org

Twitter: @splitsecond_org

Website: www.splitsecond.org.uk

Born in France, Axel (he/him) has worked internationally in the physical and visual theatre sector at an international level for the past 10 years. He first discovered contemporary circus and artists like Circa Tsuica, Compagnie XY and Phia Ménard, when he was a producer at Les Halles de Schaerbeek, a multi-disciplinary venue in Brussels, Belgium. In 2014, he moved to London to work with Crying Out Loud. During his time at Crying Out Loud, Axel met with Nikki & JD. Together, they brought Knot to several UK and international venues, including Seoul (Korea) and Tottori (Japan). In 2019, Axel became an independent producer working with companies like Nikki & JD and Gandini Juggling as well as festivals such as Shubbak and Manchester International Festival. In 2020, he created Split Second with Kevin Wratten. Split Second collaborates with artists who are blurring the lines between circus, dance, and theatre. Their ambition is to push the limit of what performance can be and create new and exciting experiences for artists and audiences, in the UK and internationally.


Cheolsung Lee | Director | CCOT Visual Theater Troupe

 Website: <https://visualtheater.kr/>

Facebook: @visualtheaterccot

Cheolsung Lee, the leader of CCOT (Visual Theater Troupe), is an artist who combines poetry, art and performance. He studied 'Visual Theater' at The School of Visual Theater in Israel. Over the last decade, he has been invited internationally to numerous street arts festivals, and has won many prizes such as UNIMA Congress's Excellent Visual Effect Award. As a poet he has two collections of poems published.


Jinyeob Lee | Director | Elephants Laugh Theatre Company

 Website: <http://elephantslaugh.com>

Facebook: @elephantslaugh

Jinyeob Lee is a performance director from South Korea who graduated with an MA in Theatre Arts in the UK in 2006. In South Korea Jinyeob has worked as a set designer, developing a strong and deep network with artists, organizations and festivals, learning the process to get funding for developing performances and reinforcing an interest for site-specific performances. In 2009 Jinyeob created "Elephants Laugh" company, which specializes in creating and directing site-specific performances driven by a passion to look at daily lives of ordinary people and how to incorporate them into an artistic performance through multi-disciplinary arts. Jinyeob aims to transform the experience of audiences who are not theatregoers and transform the way artists and communities can engage and exchange ideas. Elephants Laugh invites open collaboration with artists without pre-conceived notions of artistic genre or form.

Participants



Sung Taek Jeong | Artistic Director | Chorokso

Link to creation: <https://bit.ly/3cR1mck>

The chorokso is a contemporary experimental art research group based on street art and circus. With the use of basic movements (walking, sitting, lying down, standing, falling down, etc.) based on hand-to-hand acrobatics skills of circus acts, we interpret contemporary climate issues by embracing the key elements of street art and the characteristic of circus genre and express our interpretations in stages, streets and certain spaces.



Soeun Kim | Artistic Director | Creative group Sumbi

Facebook: @creativegroupsumbi

Link to creation: <https://bit.ly/3xoYzAw>

She is working as a representative and director of the creative group Sumbi and is mainly interested in creating performances through fusion with new media. Currently, she is developing a work in which a drone takes on a role and acts with an actor as a series of 'writers as a manufacturer', and the actor breathes with the drone based on theatre, parkour, and aerial rope. This work is being developed for street arts performance and for the theater.



Sung Tae Jung | Artistic Director | White Cube Project

Website: <https://wcp.imweb.me/index>

Link to creation: <https://bit.ly/3rfdXhM>

Sung Tae Jung is the director of the White Cube Project, which is an organization that strives and challenges the audience to erase negative things and have the opportunity and driving force for a new start. It absorbs, transforms, and reconstructs various elements such as dance, smoke, sound, light, creative structures, and circus to put various and interesting performing arts works in a white cube. Performing in various spaces such as theaters, building rooftops, roads, plazas, parks, and warehouses, it creates performances that stimulate the audience's five senses so that they can experience everyday spaces anew.

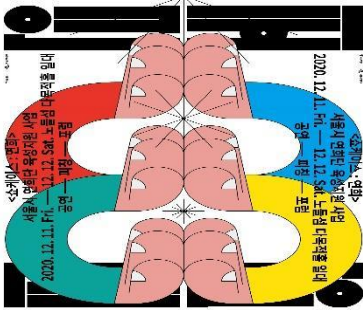


Jaesub Kim | Artistic Director | Soul

Instagram: @babyskinjs

Link to creation: <https://youtu.be/riyGSL2wr0o>

Jaesub Kim is interested in the expression of body movement and aims to create his own movement creation method. He hopes to develop the body movements that embody the techniques into dance movements, and to make the sum of the techniques of movement beyond the simple arrangement of techniques to look like a dancing body.

**Keum-Seul Seo | Manager | Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture**Website: <http://www.sfac.or.kr>

I'm Stella (Korean name is Keum-Seul Seo) the manager at Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture Festival Team. I am interested in creating public sector projects that collaborate with artists of various genres and countries. Working with traditional Korean artists, I look for the possibility of exchanges with the UK.

**Jaehyun Nho | Artistic Director | IMOMENT**Instagram: [@i_moment_2017](https://www.instagram.com/i_moment_2017)Link to creation: <https://bit.ly/3HRld9w>

Jaehyun is an actor and creator who explores the body in various ways between different places and spaces, beyond the theater to streets. As an actor and dancer, he has continued to attempt to discover new movements by adding dramatic interpretations to corporal mime and dance. He is currently member of theatre group MOMGGOL and also leading a theatre group I MOMENT as a director.

'I MOMENT' is a group formed by the artists with background in body drama, modern dance and traditional dance. The group attempts to approach various genres and aims to re-emerge daily memories and contemporary issues through objects and gestures. Their major works include 'GO BACK: Return', 'Alive', 'cradle: space alone'.

**Sanghyun Park | Director | 64J**Instagram: [@64j_official](https://www.instagram.com/64j_official)Youtube: [@64J OFFICIAL](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC64JOFFICIAL)Link to creation: <https://bit.ly/3p4Oxk7>

Sanghyun Park has worked in circus and street arts. After studying in I.S.A.A.C and circus pumping-up, He performed in 'My circus (2018)' and created 'Cosine graph (2020)'. He is a founder of 64J(Joule) and keeps researching focused on the slack(tight) wire and body.

Yeonjung Kim | CEO | ALWAYS AWAKEWebsite: <https://alwaysawake.modoo.at/>

I am the CEO of a performance production company called Always Awake. Before I started my own business, I worked for some theatre companies and festivals including: Uijeongbu Music Theatre Festival, Gwangju International Performing Arts Festival, D.festa and Ultra Music Festival. I've been very interested in street arts and collaboration projects and have collaborated with French Dance Company, Osmosis cie to present performances at some famous festivals such as Chalon Dans La Rue in France and Ansan Street Arts Festival in Korea.



Eunju Hitchcock-Yoo | Director | The Strangers

Website: <http://www.hitchcockyoo.com>

Eunju Hitchcock-Yoo is a South Korean artist predominantly working in theatre-game and animated film. She has been greatly interested in participatory works that interweave public space, user behaviours and mobile technology. She lives and works in Stroud (United Kingdom) and Seoul (South Korea). The Strangers: The Strangers seeks to expand boundaries of street performance by delivering a new interpretation and an approach to audiences and spaces. Its other focus is on communication methods to have audiences' active interactions in art projects.



Hannah Kim | Assistant Manager | Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture

Website: <http://www.sfac.or.kr>

I work at the Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture and have been in charge of the Seoul Street Art Festival (SSAF) for 3 years. I mainly research and recruit programmes, working with producers to promote performances and festivals. SSAF started as a festival held by citizens at Seoul Plaza in front of Seoul City Hall, and is now a representative festival in Seoul that showcases various genres such as street theatre and other performance, dance, traditional performance, and visuals etc. An offline festival has been held in the second week of November.



Juhyung Lee | Artistic Director | Galmae

Website: <https://www.galmae.org/>

Juhyung Lee discovered street arts during his civil service in Seoul, participating in the shows of Générrik Vapeur (Bivouac in 2012, Tour of Korea in 2013). Following this he went to France to train himself for a year in street arts, and was struck by the capacity of street arts to transfigure symbolic places and reinvest them in an emancipatory joy like the Ganghwamun Square, the epicenter of political and social demonstrations in Seoul. He is therefore interested in the concepts underlying large-scale shows: the address to a multitude of spectators, the scale relationships in the city, the place of the individual within a group.

The political significance of his work lies in the way of involving the public, called upon to accomplish simple gestures, stimulating participatory action at the same time as they reveal its symbolic significance.

Week 2: Korean Outdoor Arts Focus

Introducing outdoor arts in Korea 🇬🇧 (for UK participants)

Wednesday 8 December – 9-11am GMT / 6-8pm KST

This session will bring together several different perspectives to introduce the Korean Outdoor Arts sector to an audience of UK artists and producers interested in finding out more about the Korean context.

Speakers:

- Dong Hee Cho, Director, Seoul Street Arts Creation Center
- Rhanhee Lee, President, Korea Street Arts Association
- JongYeon Yoon, Director, Theatre Momggol and former festival director of Seoul and Ansan Street Arts Festivals
- Jisun Park, Producer group DOT

[Click here to join us on Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 812 9769 5087 / Passcode: 753559

Bringing your outdoor work to Korea – discussion 🇬🇧 (for UK participants)

Friday 10 December – 9-11am GMT / 6-8pm KST

During this informal discussion artists and producers will share practical experiences of international touring with a focus on the UK and East Asia, including two case studies from UK artist companies. The discussion will be chaired by Jin Yim, Korea-based Independent Producer and programmer for a number of Korean artists and festivals.

Chair: Jin Yim, Independent producer

Speakers:

- Lorna Rees, Artistic Director, Gobbledegook Theatre
- Jan Patzke & Olivia Quayle, Artistic Directors of Joli Vyann Dance Circus Company

[Click here to join us on Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 812 9769 5087 / Passcode: 753559

Meet our Speakers and Participants for Week 2

On the next pages you can read the short biographies of the speakers and participants who will make up the sessions. It would be great if you could make yourself familiar with their background and please follow the links provided where you will be able to find out about their work. We hope that a prior understanding of the speakers' and participants' experiences and practice will facilitate an informed, meaningful, and enjoyable discussion!

Speakers



Dong Hee Cho | Director | Seoul Street Arts Creation Center (SSACC)

Facebook: @SeoulStreetArtsCreationCenter

Website: https://www.sfac.or.kr/artspace/artspace/streetArts_main.do

I studied cultural policies and cultural projects in France for 5 years. Since 2010, I have worked at Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture that is supported by Seoul Metropolitan City. Working on initiating Seoul Street Arts Creation Center (SSACC) from 2012, SSACC has been running since 2015, and is Korea's first Street Arts and Circus base camp for production, practice, education, and distribution. I have also initiated Circus Asia Network (CAN). For 20 years, I have worked in the field of Street Arts and Arts in public space running many international projects.



Rhanhee Lee | President | Korea Street Arts Association

Facebook: @KoreaStreetArtsAssociation

Rhanhee Lee is a president of Korea Street Arts Association, an organization for Korean street theater companies, artists, festivals, producers, and any other practitioners. She is an artistic director of Busan Geumjeong Street Arts Festival (2021) and worked for Ulsan Promenade Festival (artistic director/2019-2020) and Seoul Street Arts Festival (programmer/2010-2018). She studied in Arts Management in Korea National University of Arts and now lectures on the Festival Management programme in the same university.



JongYeon Yoon | Director | Theatre Momggol and former festival director of Seoul and Ansan Street Arts Festival

Facebook: @momggol

Instagram: @jongyeoun_yoon

Jongyeon is director of Theatre Momggol theatre company and has worked at recognised Korean Street Arts Festivals in Ansan and Seoul as an Artistic Director. He is currently working for 'Public Arts Festival Urban - Uljiro +2°C'.



Jisun Park | Creative Producer | Producer Group DOT

Facebook: @producergroupdot

Jisun Park is a creative producer, researcher, and arts policy advisor. For over 20 years, she has been working without boundaries of genre, producing works, planning festivals, initiating international residency and international networks such as APP (Asian Producers Platform). Recently she has begun new explorations with artists on various subjects including cities, boundaries, technology and arts, and Climate Change.


Jin Yim | Independent producer

Facebook: @myunzee

Instagram: @myunzee

Jin Yim is an independent producer and a facilitator based in South Korea. She has worked on a wide range of art projects including performance, theatre, and multidisciplinary arts in public spaces. Her main interests are in challenging the former practices of arts with new ideas and approaches from ordinary lives of our contemporary society. She is currently working as a programmer of Pohang Street Arts Festival.


Lorna Rees | Artistic Director | Gobbledegook Theatre

Twitter: @thegobbledegook

 Website: <https://www.gobbledegooktheatre.com/>

Lorna Rees has made innovative, cross-artform work for unusual places since 2007. Lorna is Artistic Director of Gobbledegook Theatre, and she collaborates with a variety of artists, musicians, and scientists. Installation work is frequently inspired by Earth Sciences and usually takes place outdoors. Her larger works tour internationally, and she creates multiple bespoke small commissions and art interventions for festivals, art centres, museums and World Heritage Sites. In 2015 Without Walls, Salisbury International Festival and Winchester Hat Fair awarded Lorna the money to tour Ear Trumpet after it premiered in 2014 with Inside Out Dorset (IOD), which has toured the UK, Europe and to Seoul Street Arts Festival in 2017. It is still touring. In 2018 Cloudscapes, which was commissioned by IOD in 2016 was selected to be part of the Caravan biennale and is touring throughout the UK as an audio installation. In 2017, Lorna, was selected to be one of the Sura Medura Artists on the Residency in Sri Lanka; where the idea for Geophonic was born. Lorna works extensively with Arts University Bournemouth and will do so on this project. During Covid, Lorna continued to work creating digital music content, watched over 100,000 times on social media and undertook an international collaboration with CSS Teatro stabile di innovazione in Italy in which she directed a translated version of Cloudscapes, running for 10 dates. She also created a significant digital component to Cloudscapes which toured UK festivals (Bluedot, Bournemouth Arts by The Sea) and once physical touring started continued to sit alongside the work (GDIF, Lighthouse, Salisbury).


Jan Patzke & Olivia Quayle | Artistic Directors of Joli Vyann Dance Circus Company

Twitter: @JoliVyann

 Website: <http://www.joli-vyann.com/>

Joli Vyann was created in 2012 by Olivia Quayle and Jan Patzke. Joli Vyann integrate circus, dance, and theatre in their own unique style where each genre has an equal role. Their style is to blur the boundaries of where dance ends and circus skills begin, but also to pull the audience into an emotive experience, drawn in by the characters, the fragility and precision of dance and

acrobatic skill. Joli Vyann's work explores the precarious nature of mixing dance and acrobatics, playing with contradictions, subtlety, and breaking conventions. They have a strong theme of female empowerment in their work as well as strength in their versatility and attention to detail.



Joli Vyann have made both outdoor and indoor shows, all of which have successfully toured internationally. They have worked with many International collaborators including Jonathan Lunn, Jorge Crecis, Nao Masuda and Florence Caillon, and are proud to have a busy touring schedule, both indoors and outdoors at many prestigious festivals and venues including the Lilian Baylis and The Southbank Centre, London, The London International Mime Festival, Seoul Street Arts Festival and VivaCite Rouen, amongst many others.

Joli Vyann's outreach work is an invaluable part of their work, teaching many workshops for all ages and abilities, from professionals to community projects with refugees, integrative groups and recovering addicts. They work with many youth companies to create curtain raisers alongside their performances, training and inspiring young artistic minds and bodies. In recent years Joli Vyann have enjoyed sharing their extensive knowledge and experience through mentoring young and emerging companies as well as choreographing, directing and movement consultation for other international dance, theatre, and circus companies.

Participants



Alex Gomar | Producer | Bureau of Silly Ideas

Website: <https://www.bureauofsillyideas.com/>

Bureau Of Silly Ideas (BOSI) are figureheads in the UK Outdoor Arts sector, as recognised pioneers within the field we continue to transform public spaces, creating new pathways / platforms for engagement and challenging what 'art' is through silliness and interrogation for over 15 years.

Most of our work is delivered to audiences across the UK (and internationally) for free in spaces where people happen to be.

in our repertoire - ready made small to medium scale work that can be easily hired and adapted and provide small scale silly relief and personal one on one engagements with the absurd. We also have large scale public realm theatre touring productions. These 'silly' engagements have been carefully devised to create experiences that are entertaining and thought provoking. We believe in providing alternative platforms for audiences to engage with society and question the world around them.



Andrew Kim | Director | Thingumajig Theatre

Website: <https://thingumajig.info/>

Link to creation: <https://youtu.be/hCOW7Ws8ejA>

Andrew Kim is a puppet maker and performer and the co-director of Thingumajig Theatre ([@ThingumaTheatre](https://thingumajig.info)). Andrew was born in Korea and raised and educated in the USA. He has created and performed puppet and mask plays, parades, and events for 30

years. Andrew started with In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre in Minneapolis, USA where he spent 10 years learning all elements of making, performing, and directing puppet plays, parades and large-scale spectacles. He trained further working with Bread and Puppet Theatre and studied traditional mask theatre in Korea and Bali. He is the founder and former Artistic Director of the Hebden Bridge Handmade Parade and the Todmorden Lamplighter Festival in West Yorkshire, England. As Thingumajig Theatre, since 2006, he and his wife Kathy have created puppet plays and giant puppets which have performed in 15 countries. Their puppets have featured in many TV programs and a major Disney feature film.



Anja | Meinhardt Artistic Director | Justice in Motion

Website: <https://www.justiceinmotion.co.uk>

Link to creation: <https://youtu.be/UfO8LwhDC0k>

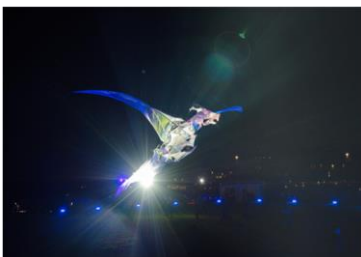
I'm Anja, and I'm the artistic director and founder of Justice in Motion - a physical theatre company with a focus on human rights issues. We create work for both indoors, outdoors, and digital, blending theatre, dance, parkour, aerial acrobatics, film, and music, to tell stories inspired by true accounts of social injustice. Our shows have since 2013 delved into the worlds of modern slavery, poverty, migration, loneliness, and sexual violence. Our work is bold and sensitive, gritty and beautiful, emotional and explosive, ...and always packs a punch.

We just completed a second UK tour of our outdoor parkour-theatre show ON EDGE, which was supported by Without Walls. We are now embarking on creating a film version of the show that will be available from October 2022.

We are further looking to take ON EDGE on an international tour in 2023, hence are really interested in the conversations now.

Last year we developed a digital dance project inspired by people's lived experience of Loneliness. MOVING TOGETHER is a creative research collaboration with Dr Bronwyn Tarr, and to date consists of 42 different short dance videos, a short film, a documentary, a flashmob, and 6 impact stories of those that participated, all available online.

We are also in the process of establishing an extensive outreach and education programme around the use of parkour and theatre, which we are rolling out more widely.



Becca Gill | Associate Producer | Trigger

Website: <https://www.triggerstuff.co.uk/>

Link to creation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3LofQOnjqA&t=15s>

Trigger create and produce surprising live and digital events that interrupt daily life, reimagine and revive public spaces, and put audiences at the centre of the action. Trigger's programme aims to create accessible, inclusive and boundary pushing work which is often sited outdoors and/or digital. Our work is brought to life by a team of cross-disciplinary artists and creatives, often showcasing the creativity of local communities.

Trigger are delivering a diverse programme of activity over the next two years:

[With You](#) - HTN Award Finalists 2021 - A free digital service bringing voice messages and music to hospital patients and care home residents in one playable audio track

[PoliNations](#) - An epic city centre forest garden celebrating colour, beauty and natural diversity springing to life in Birmingham and Edinburgh in summer 2022

[The Hatchling](#) – Our Hatchling dragon will lead an array of cultural celebrations outside Buckingham Palace at the Platinum Jubilee Pageant next summer and then tour internationally.

[GROW](#) - Part of the British Council's UK/AUS season - A global conversation, using the joint interests in landscape and growing as a core area of exploration.



Bill Palmer | Director | Avanti Display

Website: <http://avantidisplay.co.uk>

I am the director and founder member of Avanti Display, we produce outdoor performances of all scales and tour them both in the UK and across the world. We aim to create pieces that are engaging and accessible, while maintaining an artistic vision.

Collaboration is at the heart of what we do and for each new project we bring together a bespoke team of artists and designers to ensure each piece has a unique character but also invigorates our practice.



Camille Bensoussan | Executive Director | UPSWING

Website: <http://www.upswing.org.uk>

Link to creation: <https://bit.ly/3nSb58o>

Upswing is an award-winning contemporary circus company. Through our productions and creative engagement programs, we aim to unite people from different backgrounds – audiences, artists and participants all come together to uncover the extraordinary potential in humans and explore the ideas and stories that can connect us as communities. We use Circus to celebrate the skills, creative talents and stories of diverse artists and communities. Our productions are an imaginative blend of aerial, acrobatics, visual design, and theatre. We take our work to theatres and festivals, create outdoor spectacle, perform in community libraries, and care homes; specializing in bringing the extraordinary to meet the audiences where they live, work, learn and play. Upswing's methodology engages audiences in the creation of our work to ensure we are producing shows of outstanding quality that are accessible and relevant as well as enjoyable for all. Founded by Vicki Amedume in 2006 as a black-led/female-led company, we are leaders across contemporary circus in our commitment to developing and platforming ethnically diverse artists to meet the pressing need to bring new artists and perspectives to the stage. Amplifying the creative voices of these artists has always been at the heart of all our work – both in our full productions as well as in the numerous artist development programmes we have delivered since 2010.


Ivan Thorley | Artistic Director | Puppets with Guts

 Website: <https://puppetswithguts.com/shows/>

 Link to creation: <https://vimeo.com/puppetswithguts>

We make extraordinary big puppets, animating public spaces with spectacular shows that illuminate contemporary society. From greenfield festivals and urban parades to heritage attractions and town halls, botanic gardens, forests, theatres, and film sets; our shows excel at transforming spaces with their audacious and subversive style of performance. Artistic Director Ivan Thorley has had over fifteen years' experience working with some of the world's most exciting creatives. Puppets with Guts have performed at numerous events and venues, including Kew Gardens, The Royal Albert Hall, Greenwich & Docklands International Festival, The National Theatre and Latitude Festival.


Liz Pugh | FRSA | Creative Producer | Walk the Plank

 Website: walktheplank.co.uk

My role today is the same as it has always been – to produce groundbreaking work that invites people to collaborate, or connect, or celebrate, in new ways – and to surprise themselves in the process.

As we're a company that has an insatiable appetite for creative risk, I'm always looking at ways in which we can challenge ideas and bring about new and exciting ways of telling a great story.

'If you don't ask you don't get'. On reflection, perhaps our most daring production was our initial business plan to persuade a bank, at the depths of the 1990s recession, to lend us money to convert a Norwegian ferry into a touring theatre ship. Against the odds not only did we pull it off but we proved to ourselves and our backers that there was a real and lasting demand for imaginative theatre for the people in communities across the British Isles.

16 years on the seas brought us to thousands of people and places around the UK before we finally dropped anchor and said goodbye to the Fitzcarraldo. The ship is now part of our collective history and as we approach our 25th anniversary, the journey I started in 1992 reaches its next chapter with our new outdoor arts centre in Salford.

John (co-founder) and I continue to have the same taste for adventure and a compelling urge to engage as many people in the sheer thrill of creating and making something incredible through the full spectrum of outdoor arts.


Nina von der Werth | Projects Producer | The Place

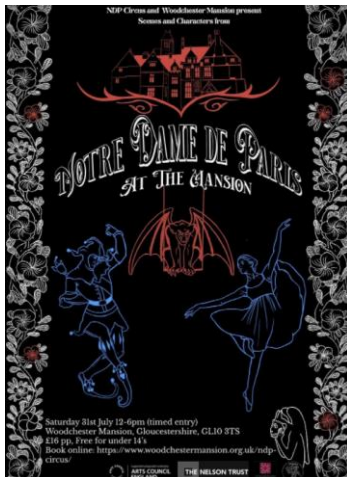
 Website: <https://www.theplace.org.uk/>

 Link to creation: <https://www.theplace.org.uk/fctouring>

Based in the heart of London, The Place is a creative powerhouse for dance development that is leading the way in dance training, creation, and performance. Our theatre presents over 200 performances a year, including festivals and special events such as Resolution, the UK's biggest festival for emerging artists, A Festival of Korean Dance and Family Dance

Day. Our recently formed Producing and Touring team works with the UK's most exciting dance artists, aiming to increase the number of high-quality, small- and mid-scale dance productions suitable for touring, and support them to take their work to the widest possible audience.

The Place's latest outdoor touring production is Requardt & Rosenberg's (Frauke Requardt and David Rosenberg) Future Cargo, an alternative outdoor dance show bridging grand visual spectacle and intimate fly-on-the-wall experience. This sci-fi dance show is performed in a 40-foot haulage truck and, like all Requardt & Rosenberg's shows, it delivers the delicate integrity of a deeply intimate experience within a large-scale dance spectacle. As Projects Producer, I have supported delivery of the UK tour this summer and I am now looking at national and international tour booking for 2022 and beyond.



Paul Liengard | Circus and Theatre Facilitator & Director | NDP Circus

Website: <http://www.ndpcircus.com>

Link to creation: <https://www.youtube.be/uTfc7ThDkCA>

Paul Liengard is a Director and producer and has created outdoor touring art and productions all over Europe and internationally for the last 30 years. Co-Director Maria Tarokh is a classically trained dancer and choreographer who has toured in the UK and Internationally.

NDP Circus is a theatrical circus company that was formed in 2019 by Paul Liengard specifically to facilitate an outdoor touring production of Victor Hugo's Notre Dame de Paris.

After appearing at the 2019 Edinburgh Festival the Tour was interrupted by the pandemic resulting in the Tour being postponed. This prompted a series of discussions and exploratory talks expressing the view that with safety concerns being paramount it was still vitally important to continue to create art and particularly participatory community events as part of a strategy to reduce isolation and encourage social cohesion and community mental health and wellbeing during these unprecedented times.

To mark the passing seasons and honour traditional celebrations NDP Circus began collaborating with local artists in Totnes Devon to create a series of outdoor arts events and public performance particularly using Outdoor Arts and Processional productions in a way that could enable public performance and celebration as well as respecting the parameters of a deadly pandemic amid understandable fears and guidelines put in place to slow the spread of the virus.

This has led to useful on-going partnerships being formed with local councils, schools, churches and community organisations and is a fantastic model to enable collaborations and celebrate local stories and traditions in any community.

**Pierre Palluet | Producer | Van Huynh Company**Website: <https://www.damvanhuynh.com/>Link to creation: <https://www.damvanhuynh.com/work/glam>

Pierre is an independent producer based in London. He has been working in the field of the Performing Arts over the past 15 years, currently producing the work of choreographer Dam Van Huynh, vocalist Elaine Mitchener, director/choreographer Etta Ermini. He also manages Centre 151, a Community Arts Centre based in East London, home of Van Huynh Company and hosting many more London based artists.

Originally trained in France as a musician and actor, he specialized in Arts Management obtaining a Master's degree at Université Lyon II. He has worked in the past for Alliance Française Gijón in Spain, TJP Strasbourg in France, Grand Theatre Luxembourg and Phoenix Dance Theatre in Leeds.

Pierre is on the programming team of Dance Bridges Festival, a biennial international dance festival based in Kolkata – India. Having also spent an extended period in Southeast Asia, he is interested in cross-border collaborations. He is particularly passionate about artists pushing boundaries in their own art form and open to form new connections.

**Prince Laryea | Executive Producer | Avant Garde Dance**Website: <http://www.avantgardedance.com>Link to creation: <https://vimeo.com/553294454/722a273992>

Avant Garde Dance Company is at the forefront of London's vibrant hip hop/contemporary dance scene. Artistic Director Tony Adigun has a unique dance vocabulary and a razor-sharp eye for dance composition, musicality, and form. His mantra "Innovate Never Replicate" courses through Avant Garde's work.

Scrum weaves together Tony's electrifying trademark synaesthesia of hip-hop and contemporary dance with a captivating original soundtrack. This 35-minute outdoor piece animates a rebellious rabble of five young digital natives who stand in protest against a global political regime that has outlawed freedom of creative expression. VR headsets both conceal their identity and also inform their movement. At points, audience members are invited to join the dancers, donning VR headsets and performing with the cast witnessed by the onlooking audience. This social experiment explores the interplay between real life and VR; how do people participate when they know others are there but cannot see their reactions? *Scrum* is the outdoor manifestation of *Illegal Dance* which Avant Garde is producing in different formats and settings (Film, Theatre, Immersive, Rave) in 2022.

Tech R&D: As part of the R&D process January 2022 we will be exploring technical approaches to sending content to mobile devices, if successful this will enable audience to get a glimpse of the digital narrative that informs the dancers' movements; through their mobile phones.



Robert Nixdorf | Artist & Roboticist | Air Giants Limited

Website: <https://www.airgiants.co.uk>

I am a Roboticist, Software Developer and Artist who recently joined forces with other likeminded people to co-founded Air Giants where we design and make emotionally effective large scale inflatable soft robots.



Victoria Collins

Website: <https://www.motionhouse.co.uk/>

Link to creation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DvGf8nDOGxU>

Victoria is the Programme Producer of Motionhouse, a dance-circus company based in Leamington Spa. With experience in dance, theatre, music and film, Victoria has always worked with interdisciplinary companies which combine artforms and take performances to non-traditional spaces. After beginning her career managing the theatres of the University of Cambridge, Victoria moved to BalletBoyz and began producing dance in theatres across the UK and internationally, including a run at the Edinburgh Fringe and performances in Israel. She moved to Motionhouse in July 2021 and joined the company in the peak of its outdoor season. She has since been working on the tour of Motionhouse's new indoor show, Nobody, which has toured to venues across the UK, Denmark, and Germany, and will be touring alongside the company's outdoor programme throughout 2022-23.

Motionhouse:

Founded in 1988 by Louise Richards and Kevin Finnan MBE, we create world class dance-circus productions that tour extensively to rave reviews across the globe. From full-length productions for theatre touring to flexible work for the outdoors and large-scale performance events, our sell-out productions integrate athletic physicality, powerful narrative, incredible digital imagery and emotive sound scores.

Our work takes its inspiration from common human concerns and our connection to the world in which we live, with recent works exploring flooding, the pressure of time, fear and captivity, and our relationship with water, the Earth and energy. Our dancers perform on stunning sets, alongside JCB diggers, with aerialists and singers, in incredible settings and to breath-taking effect.

Contacts

If you have any questions or would like to speak to somebody about this programme, please contact:

 **Hannah Hartley** | Project Manager | hannah@xtrax.org.uk

 **Sue Choo** | UK-Korea Programme Producer | sudanse@naver.com

Social Media

Feel free to tag XTRAX on social media and use the hashtag **#KoreaConnections** when posting and tweeting about the programme.

We are on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram [@xtraxarts](https://www.instagram.com/xtraxarts)



Ear Trumpet by Gobbledegook Theatre, at Seoul Street Arts Festival