

DANCECITY   
DANCE FOR THE NORTH EAST



# 2020 ARTIST MANIFESTO

*We Are Helium* by Gavin Coward.  
Artist: Benedicita Valentina Mamuini.  
Image Credit: Luke Waddington.

# 2020 ARTIST MANIFESTO

## Vision

**Our vision is to ensure that the North East is the best place to be a professional dance artist.**

## Mission

**Our mission is to provide excellent training, support, networking and funding opportunities for North East professional dance/movement artists.**

## Daily Professional Dance Classes

Over 260 hours of free professional classes in Newcastle and Sunderland.

### Professional Class (Newcastle)

Three terms of free training for professional artists with each term consisting of:

- 12 weeks
- 58 classes
- 87 hours

Free daily professional class delivered by a range of highly qualified teachers.

Committed to offering training in contemporary and ballet.

Once every week (usually a Friday) a guest teacher will be asked to teach their unique style adding to this training.

Visiting professional companies will be invited to teach a bespoke class or open their company class during their visit to Dance City.

Teachers who have been teaching for 10 years plus will now be paid £29 per hour a 16% increase. (Evidence must be given to Dance City to support this increase.)

From January 2020 Professional artists are able to book pro classes online, one week in advance.



Artists in residency in Newcastle or Sunderland are invited to teach professional class.

[www.dancecity.co.uk/pro-artist-events](http://www.dancecity.co.uk/pro-artist-events)

### Professional Class (Sunderland)

New professional artists training provision in Dance City, Sunderland.

Dance City's MA Advanced Dance Performance course will be opening some of its classes during the spring 2020 term.

Up to 6 professional artists will be able to join each open class.

[www.dancecity.co.uk/pro-artist-events](http://www.dancecity.co.uk/pro-artist-events)

Timeline: Ongoing programme

## Pro Space (previously called At Home)

Over 2500 hours of free studio and meeting room space will be offered in Newcastle and Sunderland.

In 2019 Dance City provided professional artists with a total of 2588 hours of free Pro Space:

- 188 hours of free meeting room space
- 2312 hours of free studio space
- 76 hours of free theatre space
- 12 hours of free social space
- The total of 2588 hours to the value of £90,580

Pro Space is any available space, in Newcastle or Sunderland, given to professional artists free when requested for one week in advance.

Enquires and bookings can be made by contacting the Ticket Office staff ([info@dancecity.co.uk](mailto:info@dancecity.co.uk) or 0191 261 0505).

Timeline: Ongoing programme

## Associate Artist

Launching in 2021 after further artist/sector consultation.

Timeline: 2021



## Creative Practice Surgeries

Monthly creative surgeries will be scheduled for artists to meet with sector professionals including Mentors and Producers.

Each term Dance City will hold a number of creative practice surgeries with a range of professionals working specifically in the dance sector.

Surgeries are promoted through the Dance City website, the Pro Artist Newsletter and on the pro artist Facebook page.

Timeline: Ongoing Programme

## Residencies

Dance City will host at least 5 artist residencies per year.

Between 3 – 14 days of free studio space in Newcastle or Sunderland for artists/companies to develop new or early ideas.

In return artists/companies are invited to teach professional classes, the amount of classes is in accordance with the length of their residency.

Each artist/company is invited to hold a sharing at the end of their residency for Dance City staff (wider audience if appropriate)

There is the opportunity for a one to one meeting with Dance City's Artistic Team for those with residencies longer than 1 week.

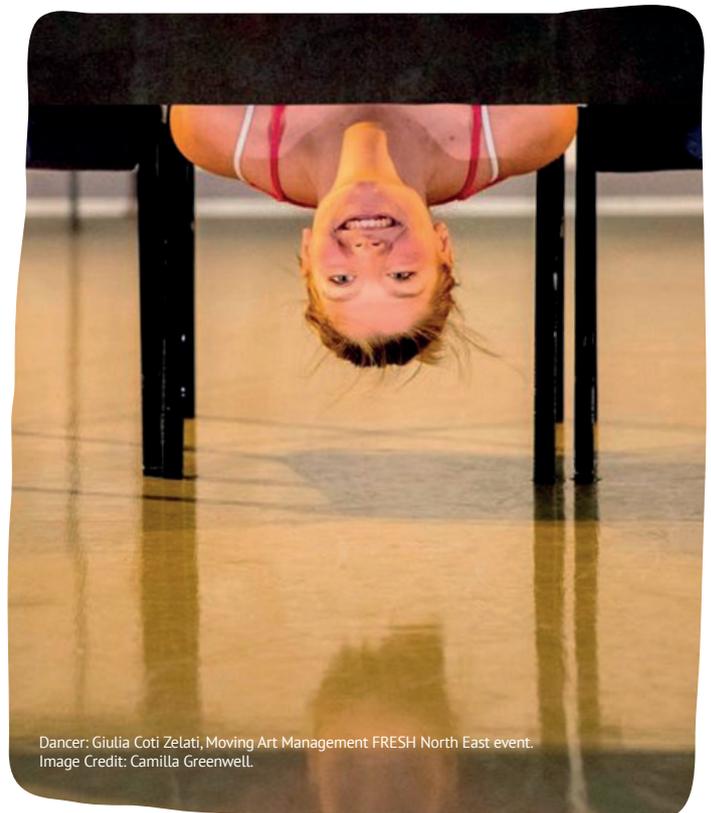
Artists are invited to complete an expression of interest and then to discuss further with the Dance City Artistic Team. The Artistic Team also invite artists to have a residency with the organisation, if thought appropriate, during meetings with artists or at regional, national or international networking or platforms.

Timeline: Ongoing programme

## Residencies without Borders

A new programme to support European and International dance artists, encouraging new artistic exchange and connections within and to the region.

- £750 bursary towards the cost of residency
- 1 week (5 days) of studio space at our Newcastle venue
- 10% discount in our DC café for the duration of your stay
- A one to one meeting with Dance City's Artistic Team
- Two weeks, one per artist/company, can be selected from the dates available below:
  - Monday 13th July – Friday 17th July 2020  
[Studio 4 Newcastle](#)
  - Monday 14th December – Friday 18th December 2020  
[Theatre Newcastle](#)
  - Monday 4th January – Friday 8th January 2021  
[Theatre Newcastle](#)
  - Monday 19th July – Friday 23th July 2021  
[Theatre Newcastle](#)



Dancer: Giulia Coti Zelati, Moving Art Management FRESH North East event.  
Image Credit: Camilla Greenwell.

### Proposed Timeline:

Call out announced	February
Deadline	February
Shortlisting	March
Interviews via Skype	March
Artists confirmed by email including contract/agreement	March
Contract, biography and image deadline	March
Press release/socials announcement/Pro News	March

Timeline: February - March



## Commissions and Strategic Investment

Three different commissioning strands and artist development bursaries with a total budget of £24000 available for North East artists/companies to apply for each year.

Each year artists/companies are invited to apply for three different commission strands:

- Full Production (up to £5000)
- Early Stage Production (up to £2000)
- Charlotte Grant Early Career Artist Award (£1500)

At least 8 artists/companies will receive cash funding from a budget of at least £24000 and in-kind support up to £30000.

Artist Development Bursaries will be awarded at the discretion of the Dance City Artistic Team.

This commissioning programme and bursaries are exclusively for artists who are from, who studied at undergraduate level or above, or who are based or working in the North East of England. The lead applicant must show their connections and commitment to developing the North East dance sector.

Announcement – Upcoming Commissions opportunity and Panel	October
Announcement – Commissions process open for applications (open for 4 weeks)	October
Deadline	November
Shortlisting by panel (individually – x4 days to consider bids and create preferred list with reasoning to share with other panelists)	December
Circulation between panelists of chosen artists – 3 way phone/skype call	December
Interviews with shortlisted artists	December
Successful artists informed and asked for headshot and comments about the commission awarded by DC.	December
Deadline for successful artists to submit headshots, comments and sign off press release	December
Announcement – public press release of successful artists	January
Alongside announcement, publish applicant statistics. #artists applied, protected characteristics etc, broad statement from each panelist about the process/quality of applications	January
Marketing Support Session(s) for artists/companies specific work. Producing Support Session(s) for artists/companies specific work.	March

To apply for a commission artists are invited to complete an application form and submit to the Dance City Artistic team. A panel of sector experts will shortlist and invite artists to interview.

Timeline: September – January

## Artist Soup

A new annual flexible funding and networking opportunity and event for professional North East dance artists.

Over an evening of soup and networking, ten North East artists pitch for 4 x £500 bursaries. Three of the bursaries are awarded by a democratic audience vote, one by a panel of sector experts. Artists not awarded a bursary will receive a stipend for their pitches.

Proposals will be considered for new performance work, site specific projects, work with a community focus and/or personal and career development/ upskilling ideas.

The first pilot Soup is supported by Northern Stage and Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art. The event will take place on Wednesday 25 March 2020, 6-9pm in the Theatre at Dance City.

There will be an open call and invite for artists to complete a short expression of interest. The Dance City Artistic team will shortlist and invite artists to pitch and offer them a Pitch Practice session with sector experts in advance.

## Creative Summer

At least four weeks of free studio space for regional, national and international artists developing single or collaborative ideas involving choreography, dance and movement.

Dance City will commit up to 192 hours of free studio space to the value of £6,720 each year.

To offer at least half of the Creative Summer studio space to artists based in the North East of England and the other half to artists working outside of the region either in the UK or internationally.

Artists are invited to develop ideas and work for one week (Monday – Friday, 9am-5pm). To attend a networking breakfast meeting on the Monday and invited to hold a 30 minute sharing on the Friday where feedback from audience can be received.

Artists are able to apply for Creative Summer via open application or by invitation by the Dance City Artistic Team.

Timeline: May - September



## Sector Development Events

Up to three events held to enable open and supported conversations to develop understanding of and provision for less engaged groups.

Dance City will identify specific artists or groups that are currently less engaged with the organisation and organise bespoke, relevant events where conversation can be had facilitated by an appropriate individual.

2019/2020 sees the development of Dance City's relationship and conversations with North East professional dance artists who identify as a Person of Colour/Black Asian Minority Ethnic or whose work is focused upon or inspired by diaspora.

2020/2021 will see the development of Dance City's relationship and conversations with those that identify as having a disability/disabled.

These events will be open call and by invitation.

Timeline: December – April





## Artist Consultation

North East Artists will be invited to partake in an annual consultation to develop the Dance City professional programme.

A survey will be sent and session held with all professional artists inviting them to participate in the consultation asking them to reflect and feedback on the current Dance City professional programme of activity.

Dance City's Artistic Team will review the survey feedback and develop the professional offers and programmes accordingly, responding to the needs of the sector. These developments will be presented and discussed with artists at the start of each New Year.

There will be an open call and invitations sent to artists to engage with the artist consultation.

Timeline: July - January

This manifesto has been developed in response to the Professional Artist Consultation that took place in the summer of 2019. It is to show Dance City's commitment and support to artists throughout the next 12 months and beyond.

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