

WOKING DANCE SPACE



1995 - 2025

22nd, 23rd and 24th May 2025, Rhoda McGaw Theatre, Woking

WOKING DANCE SPACE



1995 - 2025

Thursday 22nd, Friday 23rd & Saturday 24th May 2025

Approximate timings

Act One 50 minutes

Interval 20 minutes

Act Two 45 minutes

Welcome

Our anniversary show celebrating 30 years of dance, friendship, and community.

This year marks a truly special milestone - 30 years of Woking Dance Space. Three decades of passion, performance, and people coming together through the power of dance.

Since opening our doors, we've been dedicated to making dance accessible to adults of all ages and abilities. Whether you're a complete beginner or a seasoned performer, our studio has always been a place where everyone can express themselves, find confidence, and connect through dance.

Our anniversary show is a celebration of everything we stand for:

- Joyful self-expression
- Lifelong learning and growth
- Supportive community spirit
- Incredible creativity and talent

Over the years, we've grown in exciting ways. From our ever-expanding class timetable to the introduction of fresh dance styles, new teachers, and studio upgrades - including a brand new Harlequin floor, improved acoustics, and a reimagined costume loft - we've never stopped evolving.

Our 30th anniversary show will bring together our diverse community of dancers, from the newly-joined to the long-standing members of our studio. Expect an exciting blend of genres, heartfelt performances, and dazzling choreography that showcases the spirit of Woking Dance Space.

This show is also our biennial 'Joining Forces' show, where we're immensely proud to support and share the stage with other local dancers. Performing arts groups, companies and venues have taken a big financial hit in recent years, with many unable to continue to operate. This is why it is important to reach out and mount collaborative productions such as this. Your presence here today is the most important way you can show your support for amateur performing groups and ensure we are here in the years to come.

We'd like to welcome back dancers from BellyTricks, Miss Sassy J Allure and her Hotpant Honeyz, DancAYers Company and Susan Robinson School of Ballet & Performing Arts. These talented dancers, choreographers and teachers have dedicated countless hours rehearsing - we hope everyone enjoys their week on stage!

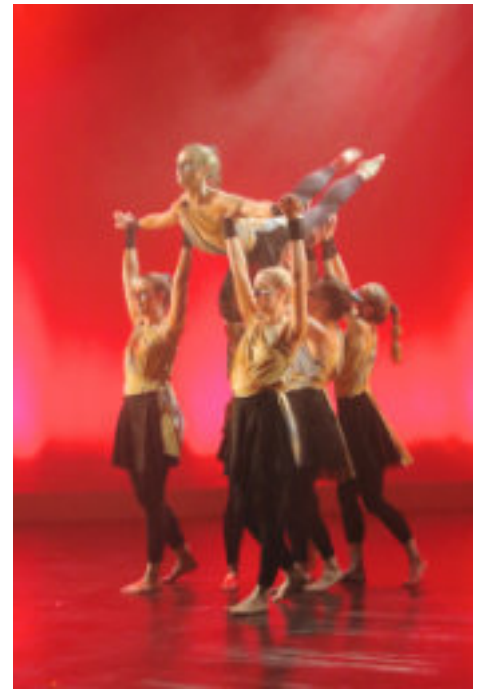
Join us as we look back with pride and forward with passion - because the best is still to come!

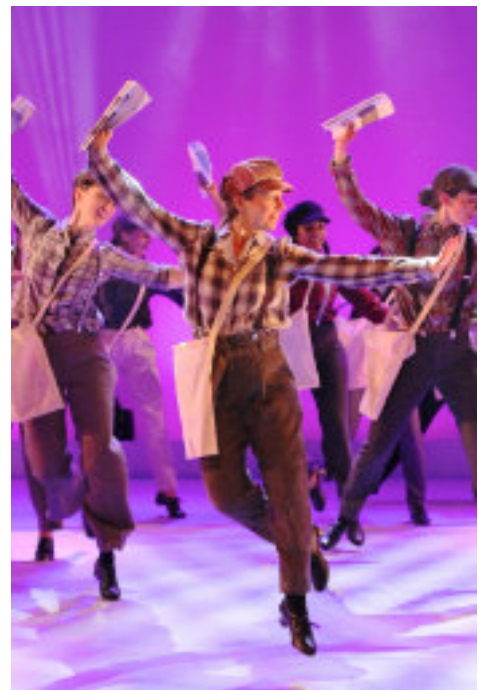
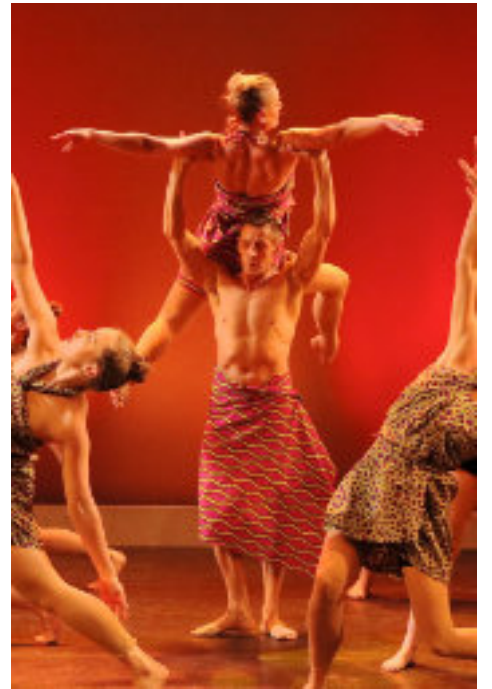
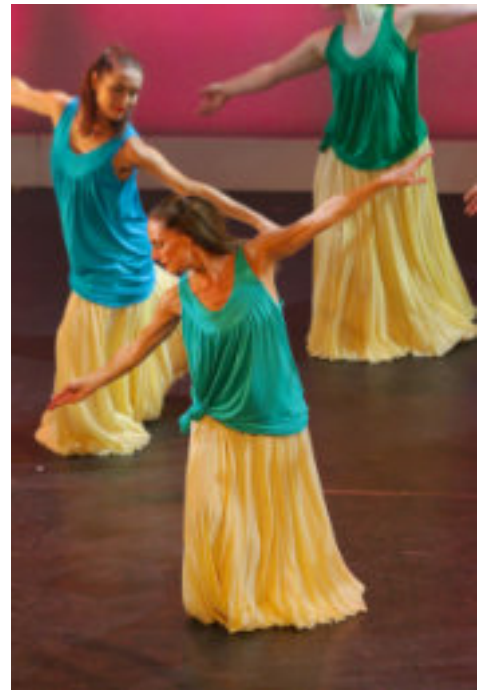
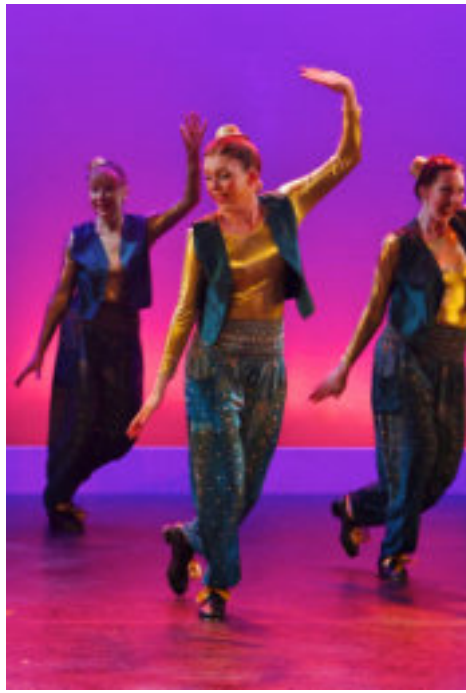
Let's celebrate 30 years of dancing, dreaming, and doing it together.

The Trustees of Woking Dance Space - Tina, Catherine, Gretchen, Gill and Charlotte

The Executives of Woking Dance Space - Pauline, Gen, Zelda, Thea and Becky







Act One

All That Jazz

Woking Dance Space

Choreography Charlotte Wyschna

Music 'Overture/All That Jazz' from 'Chicago'

Fred Ebb and John Kander, performed by Catherine Zeta-Jones, Paul Bogaev, Renee Zellweger and Taye Diggs

Carmina Burana

Woking Dance Space

Choreography Gretchen Fox Kiefer

Music Carl Orff

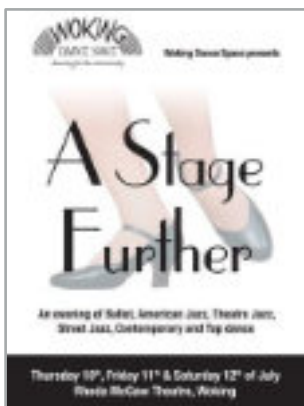
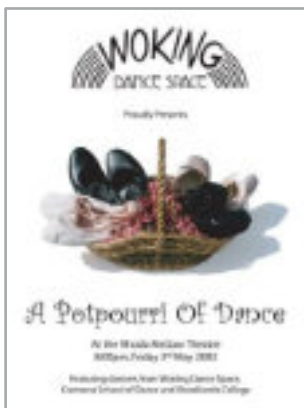
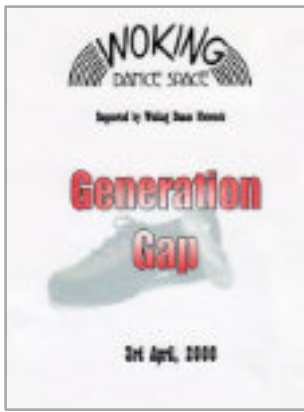
*Fortuna Imperatrix Mundi (Fortune Empress of the World),
Ecce Gratum (Behold the Pleasant Spring), Uf Dem Anger (On the Green),
Floret Silva (The Noble Woods Are Burgeoning),
Chramer, Gip Die Varwe Mir (Shopkeeper, Give Me Colour),
Reie (Round Dance), Olim Lacus Colueram (Once I Lived on Lakes),
In Taberna Quando Sumus (When We Are In The Tavern),
Veni, Veni, Venias (Come, Come, Oh Come), In Trutina (In The Balance),
Tempus Est Iocundum (This is the Joyful Time),
Ave Formosissima (Hail, Most Beautiful One),
Fortuna Imperatrix Mundi (Fortune Empress of the World)*

Vienna

Susan Robinson School of Ballet & Performing Arts

Choreography Amanda Gardner

Music Billy Joel



Fusion 3.0

Woking Dance Space
Choreography Phoebe Jenkins
Music 'After Hours', Kehlani / 'Monalisa', Lojay,
Sarz, Chris Brown / 'Caught Up', USHER

Valley of Light

BellyTricks
Choreography Melissa Hoare
Music 'Darigh Nur', Mario Kirlis

A Mid Summer Nights Dream

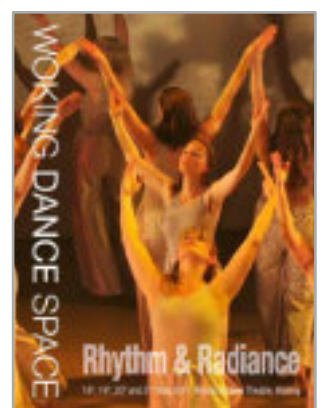
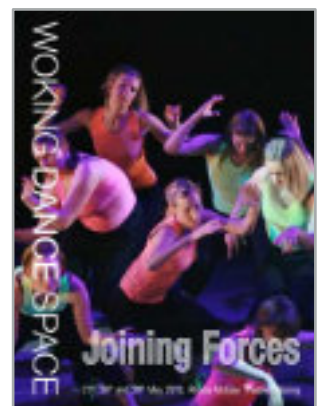
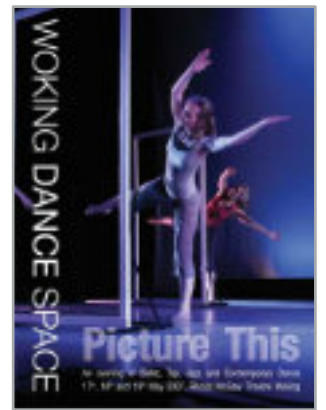
Woking Dance Space
Choreography Gretchen Fox Kiefer
Music Felix Mendelssohn (Op. 21)

Bizet Duet

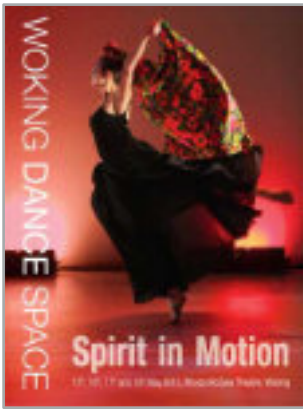
Susan Robinson School of Ballet & Performing Arts
Choreography Jade Souter
Music Georges Bizet, L'Arlésienne Suite No. 1 (Op. 23)

Total Eclipse of the Heart

Woking Dance Space
Choreography Caroline Lee
Music Bonnie Tyler



Act Two

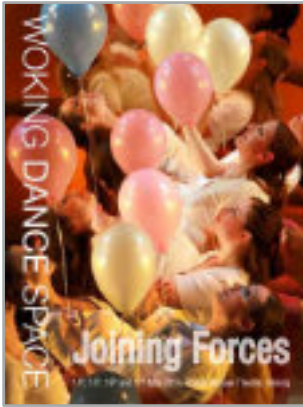


I've Loved These Days A Celebration of Woking Dance Space

Woking Dance Space

Choreography Charlotte Wyschna

Music 'I've Loved These Days/Scenes from an Italian
Restaurant/The River of Dreams/
Keeping the Faith/Only the Good Die Young'
Billy Joel, performed by Michael Cavanaugh



Ambience

Woking Dance Space

Choreography Shani Nash

Music 'Bombay Theme', A.R Rahman,
'Bombay' original soundtrack



Desert Dance

BellyTricks

Choreography Melissa Hoare

Music 'Baburi', The Yuval Ron Ensemble



Ain't No Other Man

Woking Dance Space

Choreography Fran Carasco

Music Christina Aguilera



Mind Attacks

DancAYers Company
Choreography Emily Ayers & Dancers
Music 'Torn (Redux)', Nathan Lanier

Who I Am

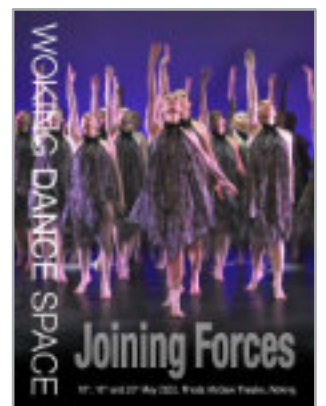
Woking Dance Space
Choreography Emily Little
Music Wyn Starks

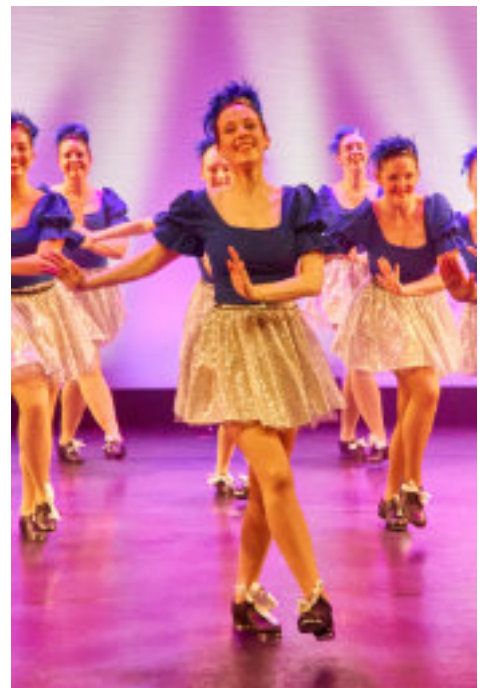
All Boas and Only Fans

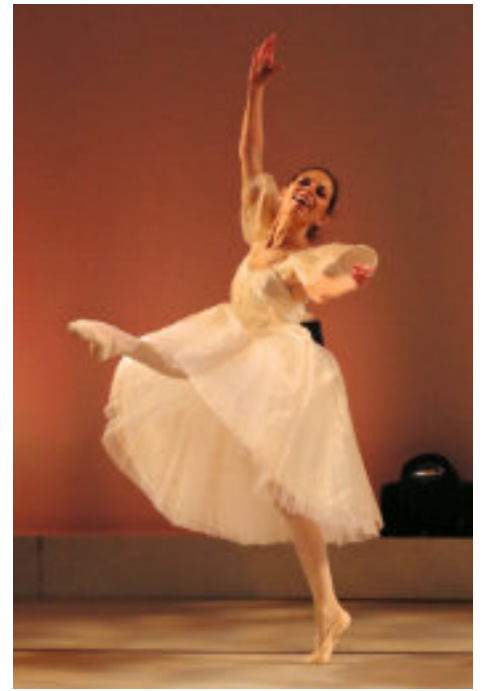
Miss Sassy J Allure and her Hotpant Honeyz
Choreography Justine Webber
Music Michael Bublé, 'Feeling Good' from 'It's Time'

The Juggernaut

Woking Dance Space
Choreography Laura Porter
Music Andrew Lippa, 'The Wild Party'







Our Story

This year marks a momentous milestone as Woking Dance Space celebrates 30 years of dedication to dance, community, and creativity. From humble beginnings in 1993 as Harmony Dance, to its current status as a thriving dance studio, the journey has been one of unwavering determination, collaboration and passion.

The story of Woking Dance Space began in 1995, where the studio was originally run by Janet Bland under the name Harmony Dance. It was here that many dancers first met, including Gretchen Fox Kiefer, a teacher at Harmony, as well as long-time studio supporters and current executives Gen Howgate and Pauline Barnes. "The friendships and connections formed during those early years have shaped the studio into what it is today," reflect Pauline and Gen, who both still play a vital role at Woking Dance Space. "We have danced together, worked together, and grown together, and it's been a joy to see it all come full circle."

When Janet Bland decided to step down, the studio faced closure. Rather than letting the beloved community space disappear, Pauline and Betsy Field stepped in to save it. With the help of two other Trustees, they rallied support and raised funds by asking dancers and friends to donate £10 to "buy a brick" and help cover the initial costs. £600 was raised, and Surrey County Council kindly agreed to accept a reduced deposit, allowing the studio to continue its mission.

Under the leadership of Pauline and Betsy, Woking Dance Space became a non-profit community organisation, retaining the Harmony name whilst evolving into a new era. In the early days, the teachers hired the studio and were paid directly by the dancers, nothing was online in the 90's, and the cleaning duties were handled by Pauline and Betsy every Sunday. Despite these challenges, the commitment to offering quality dance education to all remained at the heart of everything.

In 1995, a turning point came when Lorna Sanders offered her help, bringing fresh energy and vision to the studio. With Lorna's guidance, Woking Dance Space was born. From there, the studio continued to grow with Lorna offering invaluable support in shaping the studio's future.

Woking Dance Space has always been a place for everyone, regardless of experience or background. "We're proud that Woking Dance Space is a not for profit studio ensuing all proceeds go back to the studio," says Pauline. "Instead, we focus on making dance accessible and fostering a sense of community, where the dancers and teachers come together to support each other, both on and off the stage."

Over the years, the studio's facilities have grown alongside its reputation. The original lino flooring was replaced with high-quality Harlequin flooring, thanks to local businesses offering generous discounts. With continued fundraising and hard work, the studio added extra space above the kitchen area for costumes, and even carried scaffold towers up and down fire escape stairs to paint the studio themselves. "It's been a labour of love, and while

we've worked hard to get here, it's all been worth it," adds Pauline. While many faces have come and gone, several beloved figures remain. Gretchen, one of the studio's first teachers, continues to teach, serve as a Trustee, and direct the studio's shows. Emma Brewer, a dancer from the Harmony days, later became a teacher with Woking Dance Space and has gone on to create First Dance, with help and support from the WDS Trustees and of course Claire Tabraham, a long time Trustee who started up the first franchise, Eastbourne Dance Space now in its 10th year.

"Though we've all been through a lot, the joy of dancing, performing, and working together has kept us going," shares Gen. "Our shows today are more professional than ever, and we're thrilled to see the dancers excel in their performances. We still provide costumes for our dancers, and we continue to offer a space where the community can come together to celebrate the joy of dance."

As the studio enters its 30th year, the work continues. Trustees and teachers still manage behind the scenes to ensure everything runs smoothly. The trustees are chaired by Tina Morcom, with the extensive costume collection managed by Gen and Zelda. Financial records are handled by Pauline and Gill Osborne, with the shows directed by Gretchen. Operations are handled by Catherine Ferris, classes by Charlotte Wyschna, marketing and most importantly social events by Becky Gortler and not forgetting Studio Manager Thea Groombridge, who always goes above and beyond.

"I am so proud that the studio is still flourishing and continuing its mission," says Gill. "It's a testament to the dedication and hard work of everyone who has contributed over the years."

As Woking Dance Space moves forward, the studio remains committed to its core mission: to provide an inclusive, creative space where adult dancers of all ages and abilities can discover their passion for movement, grow, and thrive. The studio offers over 20 classes every week in Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Lyrical and Contemporary as well as beginner courses running every term.

Performing today

Pat Adams, Laura Alderton, Sarah Barratt, Stephanie Birmingham, Anna Burrows, Lizzie Burrows, Paula Butler, Laura Butterfield, Fran Carasco, Kelly Cook, Georgina Coppin, Joanne Crook, Anna Curtis, Luisa D'Amato, Julia Dalby, Holly Davey, Naomi Doran, Jing Duan, Paige Elson, Catherine Ferris, Gemma George, Sophie Gordon, Thea Groombridge, Hilda Haghighi, Emily Hart, Emma Hatto, Fiona Hockin, Alice Holcombe, Phoebe Jenkins, Lucy Jennings, Robina Jones, Alicia King, Ruta Lase, Helen Le Seuer, Amanda Lyon, Louise May, Rosie McQueen, Tina Morcom, Shani Nash, Nyrally Patel, Laura Porter, Lucy Portsmouth, Emma Randall, Sheryl Ratcliffe, Sian Roberts, Lucy Russell, Gabriella Scognamiglio, Helen Silva Vieira, Dagmar Simone, Louise Sproxton, Katharine Stimson, Tijana Timotijevic, Lianne Usher, Rosalyn Walsh, Michelle Woolmer, Charlotte Wyschna

Our Guests

BellyTricks

BellyTricks Bellydance provide beginner and improver bellydance classes, workshops and FatChance BellyDance Style bellydance courses, taught by Melissa Hoare.

Bellydance is an umbrella term for many Middle Eastern dance styles that include beautifully fluid undulations and clever isolations that look good on any body shape.

It can be good for toning the arms and the waistline but it's also great fun! BellyTricks classes are friendly and welcoming and all students are given the opportunity to perform locally.

For more information please visit www.bellytricks.co.uk

Performing today

Susie Beaumont, Alison Blomfield, Laurelei Dudley, Trudi Fletcher, Chrissy Hazelden, Melissa Hoare, Jacky Hussey, Jane James, Pamela Lyon, Debbie Osborne, Alba Ramos, Tracey Skee



Miss Sassy J Allure and her Hotpant Honeyz

Miss Sassy J Allure and her Hotpant Honeyz are thrilled to be invited back to participate in the Joining Forces extravaganza.

Miss Sassy J teaches Confidence Burlesque courses at Woking Leisure Centre. These ladies-only classes focus on pin-up, tease, and showgirl poses, helping participants find confidence within themselves. She has been teaching Burlesque for 10 years and has had the privilege of choreographing and performing with various artists.

The beginner's course is open to all ages and abilities, with the current HPH troupe ranging from 24 to 75 years old. The courses run for 6 weeks.

If you would like to join a course (a beginners Confidence Burlesque course starts on the 5th of June), please contact Woking Leisure Centre on 01483 771122 or Justine Webber (Email: lbj_72@hotmail.com) for further information.

We would also like to thank Woking Leisure Centre for their continued support over the years and for providing the studios for our rehearsals.

Performing today

Laura Alderton, Danila Avvisati, Rebecca Blanks, Lindsay Cheeseman, Sally Cooper, Zoe Gosden, Jackie Harle, Ceri Hovland, Olivia King, Lauren Parker, Sheryl Radcliffe, Deb Ryan, Madeleine Tidbury Thorne, Justine Webber



Our Guests

Susan Robinson School of Ballet and Performing Arts

Recognised worldwide, the Susan Robinson School of Ballet & Performing Arts is one of the top non-vocational dancing schools in the country.

The school was founded by Susan Robinson in 1975 in Byfleet, Surrey. Over the past 50 years thousands of dancers have passed through the school, with many going on to have successful careers as dancers and choreographers.

The school offers ballet, tap, modern, jazz, PBT (progressing ballet technique) and musical theatre classes for children aged 2½ - 18. Ballet Exams of the Royal Academy of Dance and Modern & Tap Examinations of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dance are offered every term at the discretion of the principals. The school is one of the few in the country that teaches ballet at all levels: from Pre-Primary through Graded and Vocational exams right up to Advanced II and Solo Seal level.

Students regularly make appearances with major international ballet companies including the Bolshoi Ballet, the Kirov Ballet, La Scala Milan Ballet, Mariinsky Ballet and the Northern Ballet.

For more information please visit www.srballet.com

Performing today

Eva Henderson (Tap and Ballet Duet) & Daisy Robins (Ballet Duet)



DancAYers Company

DancAYers Company was formed in 2008 and is a contemporary jazz dance company. We aim to inspire passion for high quality dance execution and performance flare through a strong sense of emotion and storytelling within the choreography.

'Mind Attacks' was first created in 2020, however it was never performed due to lockdown. We are delighted to have recreated it with the dancers in our Lyrical classes held by Dancebites in Guildford.

The company has previously performed in Dublin, Ireland with Ciarán Hinds ("Belfast"); South Hill Park, Bracknell; The Space Theatre, London; Battersea Arts Centre; Milton Keynes Theatre; Stratford Circus Theatre, London. They were delighted to be selected to perform Akram Khan's 'The Big Dance', London and Rafael Bonachela's 'Beats For Peace' – for the Commonwealth Games.

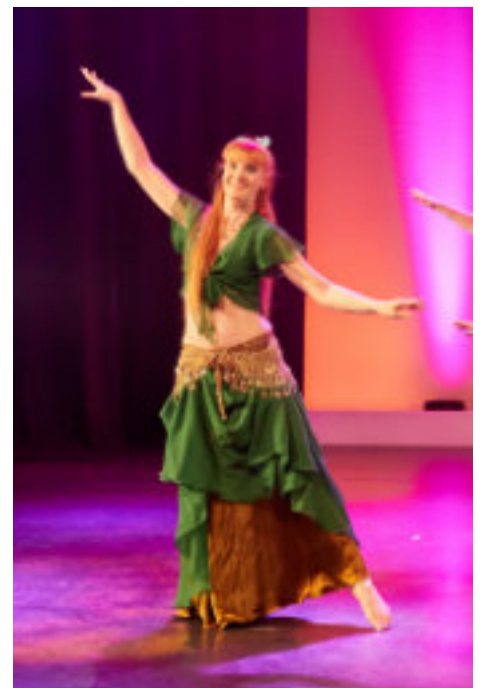
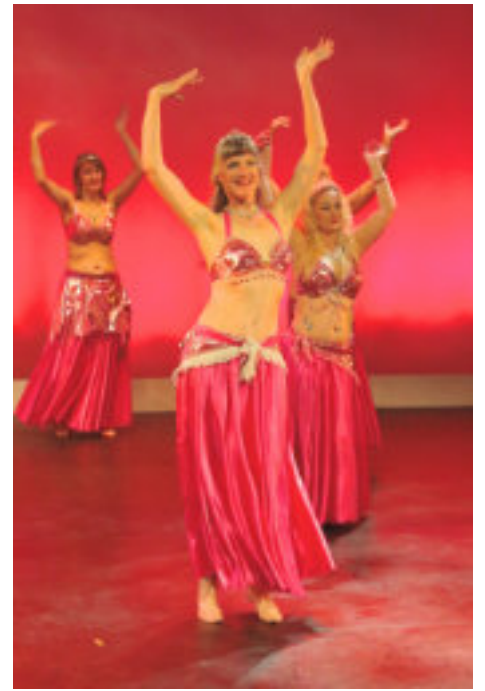
DancAYers Company go into schools to teach and also run workshops in Surrey during the holidays for adults and young dancers.

For more information please contact [@emily_a_dance](https://www.instagram.com/emily_a_dance)

Performing today

Emily Ayers, Emma Bruce, Julia Dalby, Ali Godwin, Emily Goldsack, Sarah Moss, Rosalyn Walsh





Thanks To

Acknowledgement and thanks to all those mentioned below, without whom this production would not have been possible.

Show Director Gretchen Fox Kiefer

Stage Manager Carol White

Assistant Stage Manager Lisa Young
Bea Phillips

Theatre Lighting and Sound MC Production Group

Lighting Design Chris Elcocks

Front of House Pauline Barnes
Steve Groombridge
Bea Phillips
Paula Mundy

Wardrobe Mistress Gen Howgate
Zelda Whittern
Gill Osborne

Costumes Gill Osborne
Katharine Stimson
Lucy Russell
Lucy Portsmouth
Dancers and Trustees of Woking Dance Space

Chief Dresser Chris Maunders

Programme Design Catherine Ferris

Photography Kevin Price
Catherine Ferris
Gretchen Fox Kiefer

Future Dates

30 Video Night	Sunday 21 st September 2025
Autumn Term Starts	Monday 15 th September 2025
Spring Term	Monday 5 th January 2026
Summer Term	Monday 13 th April 2026
2026 WDS Show	Thursday 21 st to Saturday 23 rd May 2026

Class Timetable

Monday	10:00am - 11:00am	Daytime Improvers Ballet
	6:30pm - 7:30pm	Commercial
	7:30pm - 8:30pm	Lyrical Jazz
	8:30pm - 9:30pm	Improvers Tap
Tuesday	9:30am - 10:45am	Daytime Intermediate Ballet
	10:45am - 11:45am	Daytime Jazz
	11:45am - 12:45pm	Daytime Tap
	6:30pm - 7:30pm	Beginners Courses *
	7:30pm - 8:30pm	Advanced Ballet
	8:30pm - 9:30pm	Open Jazz
Wednesday	12:45pm - 1:45pm	Improvers Lyrical
	6:30pm - 7:30pm	Beginners Ballet
	7:30pm - 8:30pm	Intermediate Ballet
	8:30pm - 9:30pm	Contemporary
Thursday	10:00am - 11:00am	Daytime Open Jazz
	6:30pm - 7:30pm	Contemporary Jazz
	7:30pm - 8:30pm	Theatre Jazz
	8:30pm - 9:30pm	Theatre Tap
Friday	9:45am - 10:45am	ISTD Advanced 1 Ballet
	10:45am - 11:45am	Relaxed Contemporary
	11:45am - 12:45pm	ISTD Grade 5/6 Ballet
	12:45pm - 1:15pm	Pointe Preparation and Conditioning

Beginners Courses

Absolute Beginners Ballet Course	Tuesday 3 rd June 2025
Absolute Beginners Jazz Course	Tuesday 16 th September 2025
Beginners Plus Ballet Course	Tuesday 28 th October 2025



WOKING DANCE SPACE

The Mayford Centre, Smarts Heath Road, Mayford, Woking, Surrey, GU22 0PP

info@WokingDanceSpace.org.uk

www.WokingDanceSpace.org.uk