



Without Walls leads the way for cultural recovery, announcing its biggest Outdoor Arts programme to date

In the time of Covid, Outdoor Arts provide important opportunities to reinvigorate our cultural lives whilst supporting the creative economy. To lead the way, Without Walls has announced 21 new projects to receive support in 2021. This ambitious and exciting programme brings together up-and-coming companies, established street artists and those making their first foray into creating work for the public space.

This new outdoor art programme from Without Walls will bring audiences together in a safe way to share moments of global empathy and joy. From the epic and spectacular, to the intimate and emotional, the Without Walls 2021 commissions offer a timely moment to explore social justice, family relationships, environmentalism, identity, and much more. The programme includes the fourth large-scale outdoor alternative dance performance from **Requardt & Rosenberg**, *Black Victorians* from **Jeanfer Jean-Charles** which uses dance to tell the story of those whose stories were previously airbrushed from history, Hip Hop collective **Far From The Norm** who aim to empower marginalised young people under the artistic direction of award-winning choreographer Botis Seva and **Kaleider**'s massive mural of faces drawn by robots!

With the outdoor sector most likely to be leading the way in cultural recovery, this programme shows the power and resilience of Outdoor Arts to invigorate communities back together in towns, cities and rural areas. The works in the 2021 programme will appear at festivals including Brighton Festival, Norfolk & Norwich Festival, City Encounters by Wiltshire Creative, Timber Festival, Just So Festival, Greenwich+Docklands International Festival (GDIF), Ensemble Festival, Hat Fair and more.

Physical theatre and dance have a strong presence in the programme this year as artists explore ideas of connection and support. **Bonded** is Alleyne Dance's ambitious new dance production exploring the construct of human dependency. Performed by twin sisters, Kristina and Sade, the work uses abstract narrative, West African dance aesthetics and language, as well as circus skills and impressive athleticism. Also exploring relationships is **IRMÄ-sisters** from DamaeDance which portrays an intricate journey of conflict and vulnerability, tenderness and anger,

misunderstanding and support. This powerful yet attentive duet aspires to be a celebration of women's strength and complexity. **Good Youtes Walk** from Far from the Norm is a chaotic and frenzied Hip Hop dance theatre work that explores how divided we are as a nation. It unravels how young adults are trying to address this divide by creating a unity and empathy which transcends race, class, gender and geography.

Also using dance, **MayFly** explores how our survival is inextricably linked to our environment; Kapow Dance Circus Theatre harnesses the power of water on a bespoke set which fires choreographed jets into the air where two women dodge, play, dance. The climate crisis is also addressed by a trio of clowns in astounding costumes in **MEarth Mothers**. Through dance, physical comedy, music, and shamanic ritual, Beady Eye asks why we are wrecking the world and what we're going to do about it? **Black Victorians** is a dynamic dance piece inspired by the discovery of hundreds of portraits of Black people in England during the Victorian era. Through movement, text and music, it gives voice and body to the characters in the portraits. Continuing the theme of 'invisible people', Altered States' **The Invisible Man** takes inspiration from H. G. Wells' famous novel to raise awareness of issues including d/Deafness, homelessness and aging.

Future Cargo is an alternative dance show from Requardt & Rosenberg which bridges grand visual spectacle and an intimate fly-on-the-wall experience. Audiences experience a sci-fi world carried on a shipping container fitted with a travelator while listening in through binaural headphones.

Advances in digital tech are continuing to reveal new ways for audiences to engage with art and culture. Using sound to create immersive audio experiences in outdoor environments, **The Hidden Music of Trees** forms compositions harvested entirely from plant, tree and fungi biodata, Augmented Reality (AR) and binaural (3D) sound. In this exciting work, Jason Singh seeks to celebrate a deeper awareness of the natural world around us. Using digital technology, **Up My Street** is an immersive promenade performance/installation from The Cultural Assembly. This augmented and virtual reality performance arts trail brings neglected high streets to life. Blurring the boundaries of reality, audiences are guided on a journey across their city through a combination of spoken word and both real-life and digital performers, all viewed with mobile devices. **The Lost Opera** allows audiences to use their phones to play along with the performance, even as Ashley Peevor and Nikki Watson present an unusual spectacle as three huge bewildering beasts twist themselves through the cityscape, ready to perform a unique musical composition.

Taking the recognisable form of an arrivals and departures board, **Arrivals + Departures** from Yara El-Sherbini and Davina Drummond is a public artwork about birth, death and the journey in-between. They invite audiences to share names of people who have arrived and departed as

a way to acknowledge, celebrate and commemorate in this time of COVID-19, climate crisis and social upheaval. Emergency Exit Arts with leading artist and poet Robert Montgomery will present **Recovery Poems** - a light-based installation looking at the impact of Covid on our society. Also part of the programme is **Robot Selfie**; at a time when we are distanced from each other, Kaleider's wall-drawing robots create a massive mural of strangers to bring us together in unity.

Food is an important way to bring communities together and many of us have an increased focus on healthy eating after so much time at home. **TOAST** is Pif-Paf's ambitious beautiful, growing, communal celebration of food, song, story, dance and fire performed on, and around, their ever-moving mobile kitchen cart. It includes a mixture of songs, stories and recipes from musicians and cooks all around the world. Join LAStheatre for **The Rascally Diner**, which gently explores food provenance, sustainability, and healthy eating in a silly, song-filled, riotous performance that is perfect for children aged 5+. A feast of food fusion and storytelling across geography and generations, **Do What yah Mama told yah!** is an immersive and vibrant comedy circus show. International contemporary circus artist Blaze and touring circus chef and performer Fatina's plate-spinning, food-juggling, fire-blazing show brings the family kitchen and recipes from across the globe to life.

Strong Enough from Strong Lady Productions also uses circus to create a powerfully optimistic show. Using circus physicality, comedy and feats-of strength, it celebrates stories of finding strength in unexpected places; in these difficult times, it is a powerful declaration that we are 'strong enough'. Simple Cypher is an exciting young company featuring graduates from the National Centre for Circus Arts. Their new show **Roll Play** sees three performers blur the boundaries between Hip Hop and circus by using intricate moves and agility to give a captivating, cheeky and effortlessly cool performance. Exploring themes of life, loss, surrender and acceptance comes **Why?**, an aerial duet performed using climbing harnesses and abseil lines. The performers flip the stage floor through 90 degrees for a 'vertical dance' so they're actually dancing on the wall! Breaking the boundaries of physicality, **What Happened to You?** uses three raggedy puppets and real-life stories to promote the importance of access and inclusion. Nikki Charlesworth explores our preconceptions about disability in a playful way that is fun for the whole family.

Outdoor work has never been more important as the entire arts industry seeks to rebuild confidence in audiences wanting to attend events. Having recently welcomed several new partners to its network, Without Walls is more committed than ever to collaborate with the very best artists and companies and bring fantastic outdoor arts to people across the UK.

Notes to Editors

Website	https://www.withoutwalls.uk.com/
Twitter	@WWConsortium
Instagram	@withoutwallsconsortium
Facebook	/WithoutWallsUK

Without Walls

Without Walls is a consortium of over 30 festivals and arts organisations that brings fantastic outdoor arts to people in towns and cities across the UK. Since its formation in 2007, Without Walls has developed and toured over 200 new shows by UK companies and supported the Research and Development of 67 projects. Without Walls commissions have toured widely both in the UK and internationally across 22 countries.

The Without Walls Artistic Directorate are:

[101 Outdoor Arts Creation Space, Newbury](#)
[Brighton Festival](#)
[Certain Blacks](#)
[Hat Fair - Winchester](#)
[FESTIVAL.ORG, producer of GDIF](#)

[Just So Festival, Cheshire](#)
[Norfolk & Norwich Festival](#)
[Salisbury International Arts Festival](#)
[Stockton International Riverside Festival](#)
[Timber Festival](#)

Without Walls is managed by [XTRAX](#), one of the founder members of Without Walls that specialises in the international promotion and showcasing of outdoor arts work. XTRAX has extensive experience of working in the Outdoor Arts sector on complex partnership projects and works year-round to promote Without Walls and represent the consortium at industry events globally.

Without Walls 2021 Programme

Arrivals + Departures, Yara + Davina

Audience: adults, willing to actively participate
Themes: mortality, technology, placemaking
Based in: London

Bonded, Alleyne Dance

Audience: Adults of all ages
Themes: sisterhood, family, Black-led
Based in: London

Future Cargo, Requardt & Rosenberg

Audience: adults, willing to actively participate
Themes: sci-fi, climate change
Based in: London

IRMĀ-sisters, Damae Dance

Audience: family, all ages
Themes: women-led, feminism
Based in: Manchester

MEarth MOthers, Beady Eye

Audience: family, all ages
Themes: feminism, climate change
Based in: Canterbury

Robot Selfie, Seth Honor / Kaleider

Audience: adults, willing to actively participate
Themes: technology, self-representation, solidarity
Based in: Exeter

Strong Enough, Strong Lady Productions - Charmaine Childs

Audience: family, all ages
Themes: empowerment, community, comedy
Based in: Essex

Black Victorians, Jeanefer Jean-Charles

Audience: all ages
Themes: Black history, empowerment, Black Lives Matter
Based in: London

Do what yah Mama told yah!, Just More Productions

Audience: family
Themes: comedy, family, food
Based in: London

Good Youtes Walk, Far From the Norm

Audience: young adults, thrill seekers
Themes: youth culture, politics, empowerment
Based in: London

Mayfly, Kapow Dance Circus Theatre

Audience: all ages
Themes: climate change, empowerment, women-led
Based in: Manchester

Recovery Poems, Emergency Exit Arts and Robert Montgomery

Audience: all ages
Themes: Covid-19
Based in: London (Greenwich)

Roll Play, Simple Cypher

Audience: family, all ages
Themes: community, cultural exchange
Based in: London

The Hidden Music of Trees, Jason Singh

Audience: all ages
Themes: environment, science, technology
Based in: Devon

The Invisible Man, Altered States

Audience: all ages

Themes: technology, homelessness, disability awareness

Based in: Manchester

The Lost Opera, Ashley Peevor

Audience: all ages

Themes: technology, celebration

Based in: Bristol

The Rascally Diner, LAsTheatre

Audience: family, young children

Themes: food, family, inclusivity

Based in: London

TOAST, Pif Paf

Audience: family, all ages

Themes: food, storytelling, cultural exchange

Based in: Sheffield

Up My Street , The Cultural Assembly

Audience: all ages

Themes: community, place making, technology

Based in: Essex

What happened to you?, Nikki Charlesworth

Audience: family

Themes: inclusivity, disability awareness, comedy

Based in: Nottingham

Why?, Gravity & Levity

Audience: older audiences

Themes: age, body politics, mortality

Based in: Brighton

Festival Partners

Brighton Festival

Festival dates: From 1st May 2021

Programme announcement: 30th March

Norwich & Norfolk Festival

Festival Dates: 17th – 30th May 2021

Programme announcement: TBC

City Encounters by Wiltshire Creative

Festival dates: 30th – 31st May 2021

Programme announcement: TBC

Timber Festival

Festival dates: 2nd – 4th July 2021

Programme announcement: Announced

Hat Fair

Festival dates: 2nd – 4th July 2021

Programme announcement: TBC

Ensemble Festival

Festival dates: 23rd – 25th July

Programme announcement: TBC

Just So Festival

Festival dates: 20th – 22nd August 2021

Programme announcement: Announced

Greenwich+Docklands International Festival

Festival dates: 27th August – 11th September 2021

Programme announcement: TBC

Stockton International Riverside Festival

Festival dates: TBC

Festival dates are subject to change depending on government restrictions.

Arts Council England

Without Walls is supported by Arts Council England as a National Portfolio Organisation. Arts Council England is the national development agency for creativity and culture. By 2030, we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high-quality cultural experiences. Between 2018 and 2022, we will invest £1.45 billion of public money from government and an estimated £860 million from the National Lottery to help deliver this vision.



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