

Lisa Ullmann Travelling Scholarship Fund

Spring News 2016



Where they are now?

LUTSF catches up with three past awardees to hear about the impact of the award on their work.

Rachel Birch Lawson (awardee 2009-10)



The LUTSF scholarship supported me to travel to Germany, Portugal, and Belgium as one of three UK choreographers invited to take part in Dance Beyond Borders, a unique residency/training scheme.

DBB was a truly seminal experience for me. It set me on a path to develop my company Tall Tales Big Moves. My DBB experience heavily influences my ongoing work with the National Youth Music Theatre company (YMT), The Dark Tower, will be at The Bussey Building, SE London, this summer. I am so grateful for the work I am able to do; DBB and the LUTSF scholarship were the first step on this path. I know the work I make has greater authenticity, integrity, and value because of those experiences. www.rachelbirchlawsen.co.uk
Photo credit: Stephen Wright.

LUTSF projects for 2016/17 include:

- London to USA, South Africa and Rwanda to research dance methodology and practice
- Essex to Cambodia to develop technique teaching and choreographic practice
- Scotland to New York and LA for professional development in breakdance
- Liverpool to Beijing for advanced training in traditional Chinese dance styles
- London to France to participate in the International Screendance Festival
- London to India to study movement, ritual and spiritual practices

Jenni Wren (awardee 2014-15)

I requested to travel following surgery for a serious multiple muscular-skeletal injury. I wanted to undertake an intensive hands-on rehabilitation programme and to further develop my understanding, expertise and practice in the area of manual therapies and dance injury medicine so that I could expand my ability to treat others. I am no longer injured and this year, for the first time since my injury, I performed again.

Having passed the gruelling training programme with distinction I now lecture on working with dance and injury, run my own clinic in Leeds and continue to work internationally. With the help of LUTSF, I have been able to establish a dual career. I can now confidently dance again and help other dancers to keep dancing. www.slanjayvahdanza.com
Photo credit: Lauren PISOCHET. Dancers Jenni Wren & Phil Sanger.



Sheena Kelly (awardee 2011-12)



I received a Lisa Ullmann Travelling Scholarship to fly to Johannesburg, South Africa to assist on a community dance and music project at Ithuba Skills College in the Katlelong township.

The trip continues to inform my practice as a community dance artist working in Northern Ireland and across Europe. Sutemos an intercultural youth dance project, have performed at International Dance Festivals in Belfast, Dublin and Germany and live on the BBC National Lottery Show. The project has grown in size and has had a distinct impact on the wider community. I want to thank the Lisa Ullmann Travel Scholarship for giving me the opportunity.

For more information please see Ithuba or Sheena Kelly or on Sutemos and DU Dance NI.

Photo credit: M. Cooper Sutemos DU Dance NI performing at NI Assembly's Stormont Diversity Event.

In other news:



2016 - 2017 awardee **Dane Hurst** recently performed in Shakespeare Live on BBC2 (April 2016).

This is an image of him performing his solo choreography for Rambert's Evening of New Choreography entitled O'dabo (December 2014).

Photo credit: Kristyna Kashvilli.

2016-17 Awardees include:

Performer and teacher, Anna-Luiza Clasper will travel to Havana. She will study Afro-Cuban, Graham and Ballet techniques at the Danza Contemporanea de Cuba.

Dancer and teacher Ben McEwan will travel to Norway to take part in a one month choreographic research residency, which will investigate the concept of carnival as a place of transformation.

National award-winning performer Dane Hurst will travel to New York, Rwanda and South Africa to research dance methodology and practices for working with students from challenging backgrounds: the aim to set up an annual tuition and performance project.

B-Girl, performer, choreographer and founder of Ella Mesmer Company Ella Peck will travel to New York to enrich her knowledge and skills of the relationship between Salsa, Breaking and Rocking.

Of the 15 2016-17 awardees, 4 are under age of thirty, 9 are between thirty-one and fifty, and 2 are over fifty. There are 3 male awardees and 12 female. The geographical spread of awardees is as follows: 8 from London, 2 from the north, 2 from the south-west, 1 from the south-east, 1 from Wales and 1 from Scotland.

A full list of scholarship winners can be found on the Lisa Ullmann Travelling Scholarship Fund (LUTSF) website.

Donations (one-off gifts, covenants or bequests) are gratefully received. They make it possible for LUTSF to continue its work. Please send to:

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