

# **DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO: Arts and Heritage Committee - 20 August 2001**

**REPORT ON: Dundee Festival of Dance 2001 - Grant**

**REPORT BY: Director of Arts and Heritage**

**REPORT NO: 495-2001**

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To seek approval to award a grant to Dundee Dance Partnership towards the cost of programming Dundee Dance Festival 2001 which will take place from Sunday 9 September to Sunday 30 September 2001.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 That the Committee authorises the payment of the grant of £3000.

## **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 The grant of £3000 can be met from the Arts and Heritage Department's 2001/2002 revenue budget.

## **4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The Dundee Dance Festival makes a significant contribution to the Local Agenda theme "opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are readily available for all".

## **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The Dundee Dance Festival covers a wide range of performances and events to suit all tastes including International Dance Artists, Community Groups, Contemporary Dance and Ballroom. The celebration of dance in all its forms offers opportunities to take part in taster events, workshops and masterclasses in venues across the city.

## **6.0 MAIN TEXT**

6.1 Dundee Dance Partnership propose running a three week long Dance Festival from 9 - 30 September 2001. The Festival will include professional performances, taster workshops in a variety of dance styles, masterclasses, a film project run in collaboration with Dundee Contemporary Arts, an evening of Community Dance bringing together groups offering different styles to share and celebrate their achievements. The aim is to build on the success of previous year's Festivals and to help to consolidate Dundee as Scotland's City of Dance.

6.2 The programme includes:

Dundee based Scottish Dance Theatre, Scotland's principal contemporary dance company who launch their Autumn 2001 tour with the premiere of a double bill of new work at Dundee Rep on Friday 21 and Saturday 22 September at 8.00pm with a free post show discussion on Friday.

- 'Restless' is inspired by the sounds and unceasing movement that surround us. This new work explores the rhythm and dynamic of an unsettled, quickly changing world.
- 'High Land' explores our identity and sense of belonging. Abstracting elements from traditional music, the piece pursues the spirit of a culture.

6.3 The internationally acclaimed Russell Maliphant Company create an evening of compelling, highly individual dance that continues an ongoing exploration of the fascination and magical relationship between movement, light and music. The evening includes the Scottish premiere of two new works at Dundee Rep on Thursday 27 September at 8.00pm with a free post show discussion.

- 'Stream' a new male trio exploring gravity based, fluid movement, with music by celebrated composer Matteo Fargion.
- 'Knot' A new duet performed by Russell Maliphant and ex Royal Ballet dancer Dana Fouras to music composed by Sarah Sarhandi. Lighting design for both pieces is by Michael Hulls.

6.4 The vibrant Air Dance Company has grabbed the attention of the contemporary dance world with an irreverent new style integrating dance with surreal comedy and theatre at Dundee Rep on Saturday 29 September at 8.00pm with a free post show discussion.

- Air Company present 'This is Modern' some improbable truths, curious connections and whopping lies as they re-enact key moments in dance and social history and attempt to explain how a movement becomes Movement and how, sometimes, it doesn't.

6.5 There is an opportunity for professional dancers and dance students to take part in free Masterclasses at Dundee Rep.

- Scottish Dance Theatre, Tuesday 25 September at 10.00am taught by Artistic Director Janet Smith.
- Air Dance Company, Friday 28 September at 10.00am taught by Tom Roden.

6.6 A free Workshop/Lecture led by Scottish Dance Theatre will take place on Saturday 15 September at 12.30pm at Dundee Rep creating an opportunity for the participants to join in a creative dance session led by Janet Smith and Dancers from Scottish Dance Theatre.

6.7 The programme also includes

- An Evening of Dance on Thursday 13 September at 7.30pm in the Caird Hall brings together a variety of local dance talent for a special showcase evening with performances from Community Groups, Scottish School of Contemporary Dance students and a taster from Scottish Dance Theatre's new programme.
- A Taster Day on Saturday 15 September at 10.00am at Dundee Rep. Gives the opportunity to try out a variety of dance styles from Street Dance, Salsa Dance, Jazz Dance or Afro Caribbean.
- Strictly Tea Dance takes place on Sunday 9 September at 2.00pm in the Marryat Hall.
- Hip Hop & Street Dance on Saturday 15 September at 1.00pm in the City Square creates an opportunity to join in or just spectate as Allan Irvine leads a hip hop and street dance session in the Square.

6.8 The Scottish School of Contemporary Dance at Dundee College will hold an Open Day on Friday 28 September at 9.00am where visitors can experience a day in the life of a dance student and observe and/or participate.

6.9 There will also be a programme of Dance and Film. Dundee Contemporary Arts are offering the opportunity for people to make their own pop video, participate in a dance film project and enjoy a classic dance movie on the following dates

- Reel Moves, Monday 17 September to Friday 21 September
- An Evening of Dance for the Camera on Monday 17 September
- Strictly Ballroom on Sunday 30 September
- No Budget MTV on Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 September

## **7.0 CONSULTATION**

7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Support Services, Director of Finance and Director of Corporate Planning have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

## **8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1 None.

Director of Arts and Heritage \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_