



2021

2023

ANNUAL
REVIEW





The Rep is a jewel of a theatre. It has a great vibe and is in a good location...

Audience member



We will always carry happy memories of just how very welcome you made us feel. I realise every time I visit how very lucky we are to have a beautiful theatre with such well-trained and welcoming staff. I have now signed up as a patron and feel I am supporting a venue that brings light to an ever-darkening world.
Keep up the great work...

Audience Member and Patron

They are fabulous dancers...
They are World Class.

Audience member

I absolutely adore the Rep,
I have been going here
almost every Christmas
since I was young.

Audience Member



The story of Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre is one of its **people**: its artists, creatives, staff, participants and audiences.

Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre sits at the cultural heart of Dundee as a centre of **creative excellence**. The Organisation looks outwards, creating and delivering work for local, national and international audiences, with **learning** at the heart. “The Rep” recently celebrated its 80th anniversary in 2019, and is home to the Dundee Rep Ensemble, the only permanent full-time company of its kind in Scotland. Scottish Dance Theatre is one of the few full-time companies in the UK and is made up of a collective of inquisitive and versatile dancers who have come from all over the world to work and create in our **home** at Dundee Rep. Together these twin ensembles have created a number of **award-winning** productions, made in Dundee that tour nationally and internationally, establishing a reputation as one of the UK’s **leaders** in theatre and dance production, carrying the Dundee brand far and wide.

Over the course of eight decades, Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre has been at the **heart** of performance in Scotland, and grown into a **world-class** organisation, with two artistic forces based in Dundee, **touring** to and reaching the rest of the world.

We use the arts to help transform lives, creating opportunities for people to experience art and culture that inspires, transforms, enriches and challenges. The importance of arts and culture in our lives has never been more apparent than in recent times and as a charity and not-for-profit organisation, we continue to look ahead, celebrating the arts, the power of live performance and our audiences right here in Dundee and beyond.



WEBSITE

USERS

114,713 (up 112% from 54,199 in previous period)

NEW USERS

115,593 (up 117% from 53,161)

PAGE VIEWS

730,145 (up 128% from 320,363)

@ScottishDanceTheatre		@DundeeRep	
FACEBOOK		FACEBOOK	
LIKES	8,788	LIKES	18,065
POST REACH	286,588	POST REACH	1,325,110
VIDEO MINUTES VIEWED	8,259	VIDEO MINUTES VIEWED	20,418
VIDEO ENGAGEMENT	2,100	VIDEO ENGAGEMENT	3,400
TWITTER		TWITTER	
FOLLOWERS	7,078	FOLLOWERS	14,922
REACH	166,637	REACH	754,618
ENGAGEMENT	2,311	ENGAGEMENT	5,764
INSTAGRAM		INSTAGRAM	
FOLLOWERS	8,221	FOLLOWERS	6,135
REACH	182,356	REACH	179,379
YOUTUBE		YOUTUBE	
VIDEO VIEWS	7,400	VIDEO VIEWS	81,600
WATCH TIME (HOURS)	233	WATCH TIME (HOURS)	1,700
NEW SUBSCRIBERS	62	NEW SUBSCRIBERS	78



VIMEO (Scottish Dance Theatre)

VIDEO VIEWS AND ENGAGEMENT **5,000**

WATCH TIME (HOURS) **542**



REP SOUNDS (1 Mar – 16 Nov)

SOUNDCLOUD PLAYS **630**

APPLE PODCASTS PLAYS **60**

GOOGLE PODCAST PLAYS **1**

SPOTIFY PLAYS **55**

Disclaimer: some of these figures are taken as approx as they are rounded up.

**DUN
DEE
REP** SCOTTISH
DANCE
THEATRE

Through the years...

SCOTTISH
DANCE
THEATRE

DUN
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REP

April 2021



REP STUDIOS

We launched REP STUDIOS in April 2021 – our new digital platform showcasing theatre, dance and music which celebrates Dundee's distinctive cultural voice within a wider world. REP STUDIOS provided employment for 84 Scottish-based freelancers over 5 months and builds on last year's digital output which employed 55 freelance artists and creatives.

REP STUDIOS further cements Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre's identity as one creative organisation with a strong commitment to public service. Designed to reach and engage wider audiences thanks to its digital and accessible nature. This was only made possible through the support from our core funding partners Creative Scotland and Dundee City Council together with the support of the Scottish Government through the Performing Arts Venues Relief Fund.



Thin h/as h/air (Rep Studios Live Stream)

Scottish Dance Theatre celebrated International Dance Day in style with the livestream on REP STUDIOS of *Thin h/as h/air* by company member and choreographer **Pauline Torzuoli**. The solo was made available for free on REP STUDIOS for an entire year, giving access to audiences across Scotland and beyond to the work of Scottish Dance Theatre and showcasing our in-house choreographic talent. An Audio Described version of the film was also made available for visually-impaired audiences.



SMILE On-Demand

The *Jim McLean Story* returned in a brand-new digital version of the show we premiered pre-pandemic back in February 2020. The production reached 756 households from Hong Kong to Washington to France to Orkney during its month-long run. We were delighted to share the *Jim McLean Story* with our audiences from across the world.



Green Achievement

We recycled 37 PCs and assorted equipment to a recycling company that refurbishes them or uses them for spares to make working PCs for other countries.

May 2021

This is for you, Dundee festival

A natural continuation from *Where are you, Dundee?* which was created by and for the people of Dundee, *This is for you, Dundee* presented new work created by 26 freelance artists and creatives engaging with the people of Dundee in celebration of their resilience during an extremely challenging year and exploring the transformative power of performing arts. As part of this mini-festival, six special projects took place in the audio and digital spheres. Crossing art forms and exploring a wide range of themes, *This is for you, Dundee* offered something for people of all ages, with accessibility at its core and aspects of the festival, using non-verbal storytelling and dance with all projects captioned.



This is for you, Dundee (Schools)

This is For You Dundee (Schools) connected six artists with six schools across Dundee to deliver creative experiences supporting the health and well-being of children and young people. Six artists worked with two secondary schools and four primary schools in the Hilltown and Whitfield areas of Dundee over 8 months. Artists worked with children and young people from Primary 3 to S5 in mainstream and ASN classes to co-design and develop their projects across multiple artforms including drama, dance, and music. In addition, local artist and pop star Be Charlotte worked across all six schools to deliver a programme of songwriting workshops. 780 children and young people participated in the programme that was funded by Creative Scotland through the Youth Arts Access Fund.

Partner schools and artists:

Fintry Primary	Paul Wright (Music)
Our Lady's Primary	Amy Hall Gibson (Drama)
Ballumbie Primary	Ruth Rankin (Music)
Rosebank Primary	Abbey Adams (Dance)
Braeview Secondary	Hayley Blakeman (Drama)
St John's Secondary	Taylor Han (Dance)

I have really enjoyed working with our Artist in Residence and am hugely appreciative of all the opportunities we as a school have been given. From songwriting workshops and theatre trips/travel subsidies to a drama therapist and access to Youth Theatre, Dundee Rep has given us first-class, rich, creative learning experiences, often to pupils who would otherwise have not had similar opportunities. Thank you for all that you do within our community.
Teacher



storage for future sunsets

Choreographer **J Neve Harrington** was invited to develop a new version of *storage for future sunsets* for touring in galleries and other indoor spaces. Originally premiered at V&A Dundee in 2019, this new cross-art form durational performance was shared through a series of live streams and with socially distanced audiences in The Weaving Shed, celebrating the industrial heritage of the city of Dundee.

May 2021



AREA OF A CIRCLE (live and live-streamed)

AREA OF A CIRCLE was a night of music and film performed on the Dundee Rep stage and live-streamed to a digital audience for one night only. 2015 Scottish Album of the Year Award-winner **Kathryn Joseph** hosted the event and was joined on stage by fellow Dundee musicians **Su Shaw** (SHHE), **Andrew Wasylyk**, and **Sion Parkinson**.

Through film footage of Dundee and interviews with the artists, Artistic Director **Andrew Panton** and Associate Director **Jess Thorpe** offered audiences real insight into the recent lives of Kathryn and her friends during an unprecedented time for these creative artists. It was an evening of songs, stories, conversation, and a chance to discuss the influence of Dundee on the creative process and celebrate the return of live music.



3M MIXTAPE

Delivering on our strategy of bringing music events to the fore and continuing our work with freelance artists, **Dawn Sievwright** (*Our Ladies of Perpetual Succour*, *Glasgow Girls*) and **John McLarnon** (*My Left Right Foot*, *Local Hero*) have collaborated with Rep Artistic Director **Andrew Panton** to present *3M MIXTAPE (part one)*.

This special lockdown project forged a unique creative connection as it brought together incredible and diverse Scottish music talents to collaborate on a variety of duets. Filmed live and shot across different locations throughout Scotland that have changed their significance during lockdown, artists included **Reuben Joseph**, **Eleanor Kane**, **Christina Modestou**, **Sally Clay**, and **Martin Quinn**.

3M MIXTAPE blended original music and covers from a wide range of music genres, and features guest appearances from some of the original artists including **Boy George**.



Green Achievement

We applied to head up a Climate Beacon and were successful. We found out we will be heading up 1 of 7 beacons in partnership with V&A, James Hutton Institute, Abertay University, and many more supported by Creative Carbon Scotland.

June 2021



Dramatherapy

Our Dramatherapy service offers a unique form of creative psychotherapy that utilises drama and theatre processes that can help build confidence and self-esteem, address communication problems, promote a sense of self-worth, and encourage involvement, expression, and connection with others.

Our Adult Dramatherapy service, funded by Dundee Heath and Social Care Partnership ran digitally and inperson following COVID 19 guidance and we saw an increase in referrals as the country moved back to inperson work. We were also able to offer an online process group to DRSDT employees each week to support them over the period of lockdown. We were delighted to be able to reinstate our young people's Dramatherapy Service in June 2021 funded by Dundee City Council Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund. We have appointed two new Drama Therapists to our team and have seen a high demand for this service.

DIGITAL BUZZ

Digital Buzz (Digital)

The *Digital Buzz Festival* was a week-long programme of work featuring performances created by Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre's community of weekly classes and groups. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic all of these groups had been meeting with teaching artists on-line and Digital Buzz was a way to celebrate their creativity and give them a platform to share work.

The festival featured 16 performances from classes and groups, an afternoon of new dance work by emerging dance artists, scratch performances from students at Dundee and Angus College and an open mic night hosted by Dundee recording artist Be Charlotte.



Life and Times (live-streamed)

June saw the premiere of the first major creation of **Joan Clevillé** as Artistic Director of Scottish Dance Theatre. Celebrating the return of the full company to the stage of Dundee Rep, *The Life and Times* was created specifically for the camera, taking audiences on a cinematic and surreal dance journey, filmed in one 60min continuous shot by digital artist **Tao-Anas Le Thanh**. Performed and streamed live, the work was seen by audiences in ten countries, including Germany, Italy, Sweden, Brazil, and Japan.



Green Achievement

From 1st January 2021 to May 2021. Reducing our emissions by 22.85 Tonnes CO₂, based on 2019's figures. We saved:

Gas **£2,437.77 & 29,457KWH**

Electric **£7,953.78 & 75,797 KWH**

July 2021



Resonate Dance Company

A project funded by the Life Changes Trust. The company consisted of a small group of care-experienced young people from Dundee and Angus with a passion for Dance. The group was established and led by **Abbey Adams** and in January 2020, they worked together through lockdown and social distancing restrictions both digitally and in person in line with Covid-19 guidance. The project culminated with a dance performance on the Rep stage called ***When The Lights Go On*** streamed for a live audience in July 2021. In October 2021 Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre hosted a Symposium that brought together other care-experienced young people from across Scotland to speak about the flagship arts projects they take part in.



these bones, this flesh, this skin awards

Scottish Dance Theatre's collaboration with **Scottish Ensemble**, ***these bones, this flesh, this skin*** received not one but two awards recognising its value in the field of digital arts. The piece, born through the collaboration of composer **Martin Suckling**, choreographer **Joan Clevillé** and digital artist **Genevieve Reeves** in 2020 won the Award for Installation/Sound Art/Electroacoustic New Work at the **Scottish Awards for New Music 2021** and the international Innovation Award at **Classical:NEXT Awards 2021**.

August 2021

RE-OPENING

During the time our auditorium was closed to the public to August 2021, we were hugely proud to have given work to **141 freelancers**, worked with over **500 participants** in community engagements, created **11 brand new full scale digital productions**, and presented **215 new digital performances**.



Improvement works

During the pandemic, our theatre may have been dark, but the building was full of activity as we made a number of significant improvements.

Over the course of our building closure, we completed an overhaul of our IT systems – a challenge as many of our staff were continuing to work from home and depended on remote access to files. During these works our building's network cabling was completely replaced and expanded, bringing us up to a modern standard and able to carry 10 times more data than previously. Making the move from an in-house server to the Cloud gives our staff greater flexibility, and makes our organisation more robust as we move forward.

In our Front of House spaces, we installed new energy-efficient lighting with more control and flexibility over individual lamps, meaning we can save energy and adjust the ambiance to suit different occasions. In our restaurant, we brought fresh colours to the walls and installed new banquette seating to give diners more comfort. A new carpet and stair lighting brought a fresh feeling to our 455-seat auditorium. Our IT system upgrade included improvements to our building's Wi-Fi coverage, giving us the capacity to handle an almost unlimited number of devices, and an enhanced experience for audiences and staff.

This combination of front-facing and back-of-house work, completed by our dedicated staff and trusted partners, enabled Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre to work with confidence and agility as we reopened the theatre to audiences in person. We would like to say a special thank you to Adapt and Thrive and Digital Boost whose support helped make all these improvements happen.

合[Hé]

Three years after Scottish Dance Theatre's last tour to Asia, the company was delighted to reconnect with fans in China through 合[Hé], a short film created in collaboration by Artistic Director **Joan Clevillé** and Chinese choreographer **Yabin Wang**. 合[Hé] received its digital premiere at the China Contemporary Dance Biennale in August 21, organised by Shanghai International Dance Center Theater. Taking inspiration from the five phases of Wuxing in Chinese traditional philosophy (Fire, Water, Wood, Metal and Earth), the dancers of Yabin Studio and Scottish Dance Theatre interact with natural and urban environments, building intangible bridges across dance disciplines and the landscapes of Dundee and Beijing, Scotland and China.



Islander (Eden Court/REP STUDIOS)

In August, we collaborated with **Eden Court Highlands** to present a filmed reimagining of **ISLANDER**. Based on the original stage show and produced in association with Helen Milne Productions, it streamed to 226 households from across the world. It was the winner of **Musical Theatre Review's Best Musical Award** – Edinburgh Fringe 2019 and this critically-acclaimed environmental show continued its success with an off-West End and Broadway run and a BBC Radio 4 adaptation.

Green Achievement

Our end of July utilities produced 15 tonnes CO₂ less than 2019.

September 2021



Engage Classes

In September 2021 we were delighted to welcome weekly classes and groups back into the theatre for in-person creative sessions. At this time we added new sessions to our already vibrant programme including *Little Creatives* for babies and their carers, *Young Tech Team* for young people to explore an interest in technical theatre and a brand new *Scottish Dance Theatre Community Company*.

Currently, we have 19 groups that meet in the building each week with the youngest participant being seven weeks old, and the oldest 92 years old!



Wings Around Dundee (Live on stage)

Dundee Rep Ensemble returned to the stage to re-open the Rep in a wildly imaginative and brilliantly funny new play by two-time Fringe First Award-winner **John McCann**, directed by **Finn den Hertog**. This fantastical voyage of discovery through Dundee's empty streets and hidden past was the perfect way to welcome our audiences back into the theatre.

Walking towards COP26

Inspired by the Pilgrimage for COP26, organised by Art and Ecology, Scottish Dance Theatre embarked on a three-day walk from Dundee to Falkirk, engaging in a process of embodied research and reflection on the climate emergency and environmental sustainability. Musician **Jer Reid** and digital artist **Harry Clark** joined the walk and created a video response documenting the journey to raise awareness amongst communities and company followers.



Rosemary Lee: Gather Together Here

Continuing the creative dialogue between Scottish Dance Theatre and the independent dance sector in Scotland, *Gather Together Here* was a paid professional development opportunity for 16 dance artists based in Scotland to attend a one or two-day workshop with acclaimed choreographer and film-maker **Rosemary Lee**. Hosted in partnership with Dance North Scotland and supported by Creative Scotland, these workshops were a rare opportunity for dance practitioners in Scotland not only to get to know Lee's practice but also to connect and exchange with each other.

October 2021

Together with

We began a new programme of work in which to develop ongoing relationships with organisations and groups in the community and co create a bespoke programme of activity with and for them over time. We have partnerships with the youth work team at Finmill Community Centre, Jericho House which is a residential facility for men recovering from addictions and HMP Perth.



Every Map Has A Scale (Chapter 2) / Sinder Screening

While Dundee Rep was closed during the Covid-19 pandemic, both the Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre resident ensembles of actors and dancers collaborated with members of the Dundee community and created two new filmed pieces by Associate Directors **Jess Thorpe and Tashi Gore: *Sinder* and *Every Map has a Scale (Chapter 2)***. This exciting new double bill from Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre saw the Rep's auditorium turning into a cinema for the first time ever for a series of special screenings after which the double bill was available to view on demand on REP STUDIOS.

Antigone, Interrupted Tour

Scottish Dance Theatre's first live tour since March 2020 saw **Joan Clevillé's *Antigone, Interrupted*** touring to 10 venues across the length and breadth of the UK, from Cornwall to the Scottish islands of Mull and Skye, thanks to the support of the Rural Touring Dance Initiative, a UK-wide programme bringing contemporary dance to rural communities. The work was also part of the programme at Dance International Glasgow, with a sold-out performance with BSL integration by **Yvonne Strain**.



The Enemy

National Theatre of Scotland brought a radical re-imagining of the classic **Henrik Ibsen** play ***An Enemy of the People*** to the Rep. This uniquely Scottish take on **Henrik Ibsen's** work delighted over 1,000 audience members during its 5-day run.

TuTuMucky / Amethyst (Live on stage)

Audiences at Dundee Rep were finally reunited with Scottish Dance Theatre in a dynamic triple bill programme featuring 含[Hé], the re-staging of *TuTuMucky* by **Botis Seva** and the world premiere of *Amethyst* by Glasgow-based choreographer **Mele Broomes**. The piece is an all-enveloping performance of visual and vocal vibrations inspired by the texture and guiding properties of the amethyst stone, with an original score by music producer **Plantainchips** and lavish costume design by Scottish designer **Zephyr Liddell**.



#LoveDanceScotland Commissions

The two #LoveDanceScotland commissions, **Shotput's** *Totentanz* and **FRANK.K's** *Living in the Space Between*, were finally premiered as part of Dance International Glasgow after a period of support and development offered by Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre in partnership with Dance Base Scotland and Tramway. This innovative programme saw these Scotland-based dance artists awarded a total of £70,000 as well as a substantial in-kind support package from the venue partners, drawing from their expertise as producers and presenters of dance in Scotland.

TLAT at Tokyo Arts Festival

Scottish Dance Theatre continued to prototype more environmentally sustainable ways of presenting work internationally, with the streaming of *The Life and Times* as part of the digital programme of **Tokyo Festival**. The festival, one of the most prestigious in Japan, brought together physically and virtually companies from all over the world. Artistic Director **Joan Clevillé** and company members also took part in the festival's *Dialogue Plus* programme, aimed at supporting emerging local performance makers.



November 2021

This Is A Love Story (REP STUDIOS Live Stream)

This unique event marked a significant moment in the creative development of *THIS IS A LOVE STORY*. Our REP STUDIOS live stream performance was scheduled during COP26 and celebrating Dundee Rep's new **Climate Beacon** status, was the first opportunity for audiences to experience the show in a concert setting – performed by two actors with a live on-stage band and continuous creative captioning. The presentation of the work continues Dundee Rep's commitment to developing and platforming the most exciting and innovative new musical theatre writing. Over 200 people joined us in the auditorium, with a further 102 households from the UK, Cyprus, and France joining us via REP STUDIOS streaming the performance live and on-demand.



PECHAKUCHA

We were delighted to have *PECHAKUCHA NIGHT DUNDEE* back on 4 November. This live event was streamed from the main stage of Dundee Rep Theatre into the comfort of our audience's homes and welcomed a packed audience, hosted by **Creative Dundee**.



TuTuMucky / Amethyst (Tour, The Place)

November saw the long-awaited return of Scottish Dance Theatre to London's iconic dance theatre, The Place. The autumn triple bill of *Amethyst*, *舎 [Hé]* and *TuTuMucky* was received with full houses and standing ovations.

In the meantime, Associate Artist **Solène Weinachter** was in residence at the Rep's dance studio working as an independent choreographer on the creation of a new solo work, *After All*.

December 2021



A Christmas Carol (Live on stage)

We were delighted to open a slightly more stripped-back musical version of *A Christmas Carol*. As 2021 drew to a close, we took a moment to look back over these last 12 months and felt so proud. It's been lovely welcoming our audiences back to the Rep with our Autumn season after 18 months of being closed and we loved seeing our building buzzing again at Christmas. We are incredibly proud that we safely welcomed 9,000 people into the theatre during our run of *A Christmas Carol*.

A Christmas Carol (REP STUDIOS)

On 12 December, we streamed *A Christmas Carol* live from the Rep to those who couldn't make it along in person bringing a little festive joy into their homes. Little did we know that Government Restrictions changed from Boxing Day, meaning that all live performances ceased until the end of the run on 31 December. Determined not to let our audiences miss out, we made our digital stream available from Christmas Eve to 2 January, on our digital platform, REP STUDIOS. During our run, we engaged with **266 households** across the world from Midlothian to Malta to Washington to California and Perthshire to Texas.

January 2022

BC Scotland-Europe project

Thanks to the support of **British Council Scotland**, Scottish Dance Theatre has been able to lead on an international project bringing together some of the most prominent repertory dance companies in Northern Europe: **Skånes Dansteater** (Sweden), **Carte Blanche** (Norway), **tanzmainz** (Germany) and **Norrdans** (Sweden). The Artistic Directors and Rehearsal Directors of the companies have been able to meet over six months to exchange best practice remotely and invite groundbreaking speakers to discuss topics such as environmental sustainability, equality, diversity, and inclusion and leadership and curatorial practices.

#LoveDanceScotland Recovery Bursaries

Building on the success of its first iteration, the #LoveDanceScotland partners came together one more time to support independent dance artists based in Scotland with a programme of Recovery Bursaries, providing the time, money and space for them to re-engage with their creative practice after the first stages of the pandemic. The fund of £70,000 supported 12 artists to devise and deliver a project of recovery and give audiences an insight into their practice.



#RepSpring22

SPRING 22 SEASON ANNOUNCED

We finally announced our Spring Season at the end of January and we couldn't have been more excited to have shows back in the building and on the Rep stage.



Green Achievement

We received a funding grant of £16,940 from Theatres Trust to allow us to upgrade stage working lights, studio 3 and the outside front of house lighting. We will reduce our KWH output by 231,122.882, saving 5.729 tonnes CO₂ and £2,773.49 per year.

February 2022

Shanghai children workshops

Working in collaboration with **Shanghai International Dance Center Theater**, Scottish Dance Theatre delivered a series of remote workshops with children 7–12 years old in Shanghai, leading to an informal sharing on the theatre's stage. Utilising the possibilities of digital technology, the workshops were an opportunity to successfully pilot new forms of international engagement and partnerships.



India remote workshops and Attakkalari Dance Biennial

Scottish Dance Theatre delivered two remote residencies for 34 dance and theatre artists in India in partnership with **British Council**, with a particular focus on emerging female voices. Exploring the possibilities of dance in the digital field, the full company was involved in the delivery of the residencies, sharing dance and creative skills and leading to two online and in-person sharings in collaboration with **Attakkalari Centre for Movement Arts (Bengaluru)** and **Kolkata Centre for Creativity**. *The Life and Times* was also screened as part of the **Attakkalari India Biennial 2021**, reconnecting the company with its audiences in India.



The Life and Times at Dundee Rep

The Life and Times returned to the stage of Dundee Rep on February 22. Continuing with the company's strand of digital work, the piece was streamed live via **Rep Studios** and through other partner venues. Live audiences were also able to experience the work as a hybrid performance from the Dundee Rep auditorium, bringing together the digital and physical modes of presentation in a single work.

The Children (Live on stage)

We opened the Scottish Premiere of the London and Broadway hit, *The Children* to both critic and audience acclaim receiving 4 and 5 stars.

"Lucy Kirkwood's existential nuclear thriller gets the production it deserves from Dundee Rep Ensemble."

★★★★★ THE STAGE



March 2022



OPTIMISM (Live on stage)

Associate Directors **Jess Thorpe** and **Tashi Gore** presented their first live performance on the Dundee Rep Stage. *OPTIMISM* was devised and performed by the Rep Young Company and based on the Company members' personal experiences. Capturing the zeitgeist of the times and exploring themes such as the global pandemic, Brexit, social media, financial crisis – and their impact on young people's mental health – the show gave a platform to a different perspective on our collective future to the one dominating media, one that is full of hope, despite the odds.

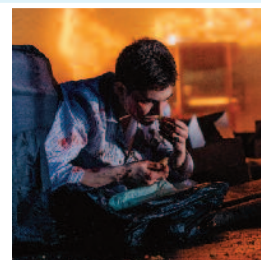
OPTIMISM sold out on opening night and went to be selected to open the National Festival of Youth Theatre held at the Ayr Gaiety in July 2022.

Connecting with independent dance artists

Despite the challenges brought by the pandemic, Scottish Dance Theatre continued to strengthen its connections to the independent dance ecology in Scotland through the year. This exchange with established and emerging dance artists took place in many different ways: contributing to talks and panels (RTDI Rural Mechanics course, YDance talk for emerging artists, The Work Room's Return to the studio, Abertay University...), artistic mentoring (23 hours of mentoring of 10 artists by AD **Joan Clevillé**), free studio residencies (3.5 weeks for 3 artists), workshop and open classes (16 instances), or the peer exchange programme *In Pairs*, which brought together eleven members of The Work Room with Scottish Dance Theatre's dancers.

Vanishing Point's Metamorphosis (Live on stage)

Vanishing Point returned to the Rep with **Franz Kafka's** hugely influential, tragicomic, iconic novella brought vividly to life in this international co-production.



PAST-inuous – Farah Saleh

Bringing together virtually 11 dancers from the Palestinian diaspora, **Farah Saleh's PAST-inuous** was presented at Dundee Rep as an interactive live performance installation reflecting on the future of the Palestinian refugee cause and its connection to the global refugee condition.



Green Achievement

At the end of 2021/2022 we ended the year on a saving of 90 tonnes CO₂, our footprint down to 190 tonnes.

Total performances (including tours)

Total productions	29
Total number of performances	252
Total audience members	39,384

Performances at Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre (including Visiting Companies & Engage)

Total productions:	27
Total number of performances:	204
Total audience members:	32,206

Dundee Rep Theatre

Total productions:	5
Total number of performances:	162
Total audience members:	27,219

Scottish Dance Theatre (including tour)

Total productions:	5
Total number of performances:	56
Total audience members:	7,798

Visiting Companies

Total productions:	9
Total number of performances:	20
Total audience members:	3,486

Engage

Participation performances:	14
Engage & Creative Learning participants:	881



April 2022



Craig Hill Sat April 9

April started with a bang as we welcomed back Scotland's favourite "kilty" treasure, **Craig Hill – Pumped!** Craig is renowned world-wide for his cheeky, irreverent and uproarious live comedy and his tours are firmly established as one of the best nights out around.

UK National Dance Awards

Scottish Dance Theatre were delighted to be nominated for the second consecutive year as **Best Mid-Scale Company** at the **UK National Dance Awards**.

Ray World Premiere

April saw Scottish Dance Theatre's world premiere of **Ray** by internationally acclaimed choreographer **Meytal Blanaru**. Exploring the subjects of empathy and connection, Meytal and the team brought audiences and communities right into the heart of the creative process, hosting studio sharings every week of the creation, including members of the Ukrainian refugee community and our own Engage classes. After the premiere at Dundee Rep, **Ray** was invited to the iconic Traverse theatre, marking an emotive return of the company to Edinburgh since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. We offered three micro-commissions to the following artists to develop an artistic response to a local climate issue; Kristina Aburrow, Alex Turner, and Tommy Small.



May 2022



Green Achievement

In the first 2 months of the new financial year, April and May, we managed to save 36,230Kwh compared to 2019. Over this period our energy costs increased by 60%. This energy saving is helping to keep costs as low as possible AND has already saved 7.42 tonnes of CO₂.



Antigone, Interrupted: International and Scotland tour

After two fantastic nights at the HEREANDNOW Festival in Mannheim, Germany, Scottish Dance Theatre travelled the length and breadth of Scotland, bringing **Antigone, Interrupted** to theatres, festivals and highschoools in St Andrews, Islay, Inverness, Banchory and Glasgow. The tour culminated in a sold-out run back home at Dundee Rep, and included performances with BSL Integration for D/deaf audiences.

The Bookies Tue 3 – Sat 21 May

May welcomed the World Premiere production of black comedy, *The Bookies*. Written by Michael Burnett and Joseph McCann, we also welcomed back Director Sally Reid for this witty and riotous production, enjoyed by over 2,300 people across its run.

“Stunning set and gritty reality from Dundee Rep’s The Bookies...” ★★★★★ THE SCOTSMAN

“...exciting and shocking new black comedy which delivers gritty realism and excellent comedic performances” ★★★★★ THE WEE REVIEW

“...riotously funny play...” THE SKINNY

“Sharp cynical comedy...” THE STAGE



Horse Wed May 25

In May we invited audiences to celebrate the 30th anniversary of an incredibly unique Scottish voice and brilliant band **Horse**. The evening, celebrating and playing the classic album *The Same Sky* in its entirety, played by the full band with the addition of strings – a set chock-full of their treasured songs.

June 2022



REP Stripped Wed 1 – Sat 4 June

Following its success in 2019, our festival of new work – *REP STRIPPED* was back! From live readings and gig theatre to promenade performances and scratch nights, Dundee Rep was transformed to present work both on our stage and behind the scenes in different and unusual spaces throughout the theatre. Featuring a diverse range of exciting, cutting-edge work from some of the country’s most innovative creative voices, *REP STRIPPED* gave audiences a first peek and unique opportunity to see new ideas and experimental work in the early stages of development. One of its successes was *No Love Songs* that later became one of our most popular and successful shows when it returned to Dundee and premiered at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2023.

DYMT: KIPPS Mon 6 – Sat 11 June

Dundee Youth Music Theatre returned to Dundee Rep Theatre with the energy-packed musical *KIPPS – THE NEW HALF A SIXPENCE MUSICAL*. With an outstanding cast, an incredible live band and dazzling choreography, this dynamic youth company brought to life a toe-tapping musical on stage.



Thunderstruck

Fri 17 – Sat 18 June

Audiences were captivated as award-winning production *Thunderstruck* took to the Dundee Rep stage with the legacy and mythology of a Pitlochry bin man, who flew beyond the summit of his art and changed Scottish music forever by defying established tradition and pushing to the absolute edge of what was possible.



Threaded Fine

Rosemary Lee's *Threaded Fine* brought together Scottish Dance Theatre with a cast of 18 other Scotland-based dancers aged 7 to 70+ in two epic 5 hour performances in Findhorn and Dundee's Magdalen Green reaching hundreds of people and passers-by. The project was made possible thanks to close collaboration with Dance North and London-based producers Artsadmin.

In Pairs peer support programme

In June, we hosted the final meeting of *In Pairs*, a peer support programme bringing together Scottish Dance Theatre dancers with nine independent dance artists and members of The Work Room. The programme supported the dancers on a nine month process of self-directed reflection and exchange, fostering a more dynamic and porous relationship between the company and the independent dance sector in Scotland.



Boost Festival

Wed 22 June – Sat 26 June

After two years of waiting, we finally welcomed our weekly classes groups back on to the stage. **BOOST Festival** included 19 performances and workshops from over 200 performers aged between 7 weeks and 92 years old. Each group was given the same starting point of a clock and was tasked with making an original piece of theatre or dance inspired by their own interpretation of it.



Green Achievement

On June 2nd, we received fantastic news that we had made the finals of the prestigious Vibes awards 2022. On Monday 13th we started the refurbishment of the front-of-house public toilets. A momentous day for Dundee Rep!

Autumn 2022 Season Launch

On June 30th we launched our Autumn season announcing an exciting collection of new shows coming to the Dundee Rep stage. This launch produced over £6,000 worth of sales within the first 12 hours of going on sale.

July 2022

Together with HMP Perth

We worked with 12 men in HMP Perth to devise a performance around the idea of the music that has been meaningful to them in their lives. The group practised positive skills in communication, collaboration and story-telling and the final work was shared with the wider community across the prison.



OPTIMISM at NFYT/Tayside Climate Beacon

The Rep Young company were delighted to open the National Festival of Youth Theatre at the Ayr Gaiety Theatre with their piece **OPTIMISM**. A cast of 16 went along to the festival and camped for the weekend in Ayr. They watched a programme of shows created by young people from across Scotland, took part in workshops and made new friends. Some of the cast went on to perform an extract at the Tayside Climate Beacon event at DCA and were part of a panel discussing how young people feel about climate change.

Choreographers in residence in the Scottish Dance Theatre studio

Scottish Dance Theatre works in its own dedicated studio at Dundee Rep, with the company in residence for most weeks of the year. However, as part of Scottish Dance Theatre's commitment to artistic development, it offers the space free of charge to other dance artists to develop their work. In summer '23, we welcomed emerging choreographer **Robert Bennett** in partnership with **Birds of Paradise Theatre Company**, Scotland's premier disability-led theatre company. Dundee-based independent choreographers **Niamh O'Loughlin** and **Solène Weinachter** have also been in residence at different points during the year.



Green Achievement

During the toilet refurbishment, we donated all the old fittings to Scrap Antics and all skip loads were recycled. Nothing went to landfill – only 94 kg of CO₂ was produced (including travel.)

August 2022

Antigone, Interrupted sell-out run at the Edinburgh Fringe

Joan Clevill's *Antigone, Interrupted* was presented at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe as part of the **Made in Scotland Showcase**. The 10-day sold out run was received with rave reviews, standing ovations, and invitations from international programmers in Argentina, Brazil and India.

"Thought-provoking, thrilling and enthralling – Scottish Dance Theatre's genre-busting solo show is a triumph." ★★★★★ THE SKINNY

"Weinachter gives a masterclass in storytelling and makes a two-and-a-half-thousand-year-old play feel extraordinarily relevant."

★★★★ THE LIST

"Experimental, inventive and hugely daring." BROADWAY BABY



Toilets Upgrade

A long-awaited and much-needed upgrade on the building's public toilets was completed over the summer with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on 12 August. Upstairs, a new fully accessible toilet and changing place was installed alongside seven new self-contained unisex stalls. Downstairs both sets of toilets were refreshed and the capacity of the ladies toilets was increased to three. This substantial project was funded through the generosity of Backstage Trust, The Foyle Foundation, Northwood Charitable Trust, and The William Syson Foundation.



Green Achievement

Our end of July utilities produced 15 tonnes of CO₂ less than 2019.

September 2022

Together with the Bella Centre

In September, the Engage team started a new **Together With** residency in the Bella Centre, the new community justice unit opened in the Hilltown in Dundee. The women have been working with **Amanda Lowson** on theatre, new writing and building community through the Arts.



Don Quixote (Dundee) Sat 24 Sept – Sat 15 Sep

As part of a season of work directed by Scotland-based female directors, we opened the world premiere of **Don Quixote: Man of Clackmannanshire** – a hilarious new imagining and collaboration with Perth Theatre.

“Snappy, thoughtful and very funny.” ★★★★★ THE STAGE

“exquisite live onstage guitar music from Paddy Anderson and Pablo Dominguez, and a series of stunning performances.”

★★★★★ THE SCOTSMAN

“an exciting, hilarious, and complex play that is brought to life by a fantastic cast.” ★★★★★ THE WEE REVIEW

“a barmy brilliance of a show.” ★★★★★ THE REVIEWS HUB

“A superb update to the original along with being hilariously thought-provoking.” ★★★★★ FAIRY POWERED PRODUCTIONS

“A clever, hilarious spin on Don Quixote.” THE COURIER

“succeeds both in conveying the brilliance of the original text and speaking meaningfully (and movingly) to our times.” THE NATIONAL

Scottish Dance Theatre Participation Strand

Since its humble beginnings in 1986, community engagement and socially engaged practice have been embedded in Scottish Dance Theatre's identity. In addition to all the work led by the Engage team, the company delivered 45 engagement sessions in this financial year for more than 1,200 participants in Dundee and on the road. These included community and vocational schools' workshops and creative sessions, open rehearsals, sharings and talks.

October 2022

Scottish Dance Theatre Young Company perform at Dance Live

The Scottish Dance Theatre Young Company took their performance of ***Twenty past eight on a Sunday*** to Dance Live in Aberdeen. Created by Scottish choreographer **Taylor Han** the piece was originally presented at BOOST Festival '22 and then went on to be included in this national dance platform.



Scotland and UK Tour of *Ray*

Meytal Blanaru's *Ray* toured to venues across the UK, including Déda (Derby) and The Place in London, one of the country's epicentres of contemporary dance, before returning to Scotland to visit the rural community of Ardrishaig in Mid-Argyll, Dundee University (as part of the university's Festival of the Future) and the newly-refurbished Aberdeen Art Gallery as part of the Dance Live festival.

"Creates a bond between audience and performers stronger than I have felt for a long time." DANCING TIMES

"It's an ephemeral hour that grows from nothing, glows and evaporates. A lovely bunch of people; a lovely moment in time."

THE GUARDIAN

JAMES IV (Dundee)

Tue 18 – Sat 22 Oct, 2022

In October, audiences were excited to see ***James IV: Queen of the Fight*** arrive at Dundee Rep after the production received rave reviews during their tour. Employing the same wit and theatricality of the first three *James Plays*, this play delved into the dangerous world of the Scottish Court of James IV, a thrilling and uncharted period of Scottish history.



Double Bill programme at Dundee Rep

November saw the return of two of the most visually striking works in the repertoire of Scottish Dance Theatre: ***RITUALIA*** by Scottish choreographer **Colette Sadler** and ***The Circle*** by internationally acclaimed choreographer **Emanuel Gat**. The works were received enthusiastically by audiences at Dundee Rep and were accompanied by a series of public events, including a live sketching session for local artists and an open rehearsal led by Artistic Director **Joan Clevillé**, giving an insight to audiences and participants into the sources of inspiration and choreographic languages of the works.



Cinderella

Sat 26 Nov – Sat 31 Dec

Written and composed by **Lynda Radley** and **Michael John McCarthy**, our elemental re-telling of classic *Cinderella* was a new musical adaptation of one of the most magical stories ever told. The favourite time of year for many of our loyal audiences, welcoming over 14,700 people into the theatre to once again enjoy the magic of our Rep Christmas show. Alongside our 49 performances across the run, we had a very special one-night only live streamed performance, taking the show into nearly 100 homes.

“A dazzling, unique family musical... A truly breath-taking show.” ★★★★★ THE WEE REVIEW

“a perfectly balanced show... hits all the classic fairytale notes.” ★★★★★ THE STAGE

“Fun, energetic, thoughtful and fiercely contemporary...it’s a clever piece of theatre wrapped inside a first-rate Christmas show.” THE COURIER

“packed with interesting ideas and beautiful songs.” THE SCOTSMAN

December 2022

As a centre for artistic excellence, Scottish Dance Theatre is committed to contributing to the development of the new generation of dance artists and to cultivating a porous and dynamic relationship with the rest of the dance ecology in Scotland and the UK. As well as hosting two nine-month placements through the **Professional Placement Scheme of Northern School of Contemporary Dance**, the company reached **more than 350 artists through 132 artist development sessions** in this financial year. The sessions included professional classes and placements, as well as one-to-one mentoring from Artistic Director **Joan Clevillé** and other company members.

January 2023

New Dance Artist

Dance Artist **John Ross** joined the Engage Team at the start of 2023. Originally from Dundee, John is an experienced dancer, facilitator and choreographer and recently moved back up to Scotland after being based in London and working internationally.

World premiere of Moving Cloud at the Celtic Connections Festival

Working in collaboration with the renowned Celtic Connections festival, Scottish Dance Theatre premiered ***Moving Cloud***, a new work by choreographer Sofia Nappi and a live band of 14 folk musicians as part of the festival’s 30th anniversary edition. The work was previewed in front of 2,400 people at the festival’s opening gala at Glasgow’s Royal Concert Hall and then enjoyed by nearly a thousand more in two sold out performances at Tramway.

“A triumph of innovative collaboration, the dancers were a living embodiment of the sound. Arms, legs and heads twitching with each note, like sheet music bursting into life.”

★★★★★ THE SCOTSMAN



February 2023



Dundee Rep: Architecture in Context

In 2022 Dundee Rep celebrated its 40th year in Tay Square and was granted A-listed status by Historic Environment Scotland for the building's special architectural significance, exceptional design quality, as well as its contribution to civic life, society and culture in Scotland in the late 20th century. In celebration of this occasion we presented ***Dundee Rep: Architecture in Context***, a presentation by two outstanding speakers on 2 February.

Richard Russell OBE, of Nicoll Russell Studios, was one of two lead architects who designed and built Dundee Rep. Ric shared the story of the conception and design of this purpose-built structure within the city of Dundee in 1982. **Dr Alistair Fair, FRHistS**, is a Reader in Architectural History at the University of Edinburgh. Upon his recommendation to Historic Environment Scotland, Dundee Rep was placed under consideration and evaluation for A-listed status.

Scottish Dance Theatre in Buenos Aires

Artistic Director **Joan Clevillé** and Associate Artist and performer **Solène Weinachter** crossed the Atlantic to present the first ever performance of a Scottish Dance Theatre work in Argentina. ***Antigone, Interrupted*** opened the Festival Internacional de Buenos Aires, one of the most prestigious theatre and dance festivals in Latin America. In addition to three free, sold-out performances, the team delivered a series of professional development and participation sessions, maximising the impact of the company's visit for local civic and artistic communities.



Choreographer Placement with Bridie Gane

Working in partnership with **Dance Base, Scotland's National Centre for Dance**, Scottish Dance Theatre welcomed Edinburgh-based choreographer **Bridie Gane** on a week's placement with the company. The placement provided her with the opportunity to gain experience of working within a repertory company context, and to research and develop ideas the studio with multiple dancers in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment.

Scottish Dance Theatre and the Edinburgh Futures Institute

Artistic Director **Joan Clevillé** hosted a multi-disciplinary event at the Traverse theatre with author and researcher **Dr Marisa de Andrade**, Senior Lecturer in Health Science & Society at University of Edinburgh. Featuring excerpts from the company's repertoire, the event explored the notion of embodied research in the arts, academia and science, and was part of a series of events curated by the **Edinburgh Futures Institute** to spark innovative thinking and collaboration across fields and disciplines.

Teaching Artist CPD

The wider Engage team started a programme of CPD sessions designed to nurture and support our community of Artists engaged in social practice. Associate Directors **Jess Thorpe** and **Tashi Gore** ran the first session around devising based on their book 'A beginners guide to Devising Theatre'. Future sessions include **John Ross** on 'Ideas for creating choreography', **Amanda Lowson** on 'Creativity and Inclusion' and Tashi on 'the Critical Response Process'. The team really valued sharing ideas in this way and developing our work together.



Smile

Sat 18 Feb – Sat 11 Mar

After sell-out live performances and an international digital tour in 2020/21, audience favourite **Smile** was back once again. **Smile** was also available as a VR performance, available through pay-per-view on Neon8's Box Office VR site.

"Dramatic love letter to Scottish football."

★★★★ THE HERALD

"Barrie Hunter's performance as the legendary Jim McLean is remarkable." ★★★★★ THE SCOTSMAN

"Dramatic love letter to Scottish football."

★★★★ THE HERALD

"This is a real gift of production, homely, and feels as ingrained within the city as much as the titan himself."

★★★★ CORR BLIMEY

March 2023

Pain & I

Sat 4 – Sun 19 Mar

In March we welcomed a unique audio experience with **Pain and I** – a bold exploration into chronic pain experience by Sarah Hopfinger which unashamedly celebrates the rich complexities of living with pain. The audio version of **Pain and I** allowed audiences to experience the poetic text framed as a love letter to Hopfinger's pain along with creative movement descriptions, wherever is most comfortable to them; at home, in bed, on a walk, or in a park.



***Antigone, Interrupted* in Germany**

Continuing with a series of international invitations, *Antigone, Interrupted* was presented at the tanzmainz Festival in Germany, alongside an extensive programme of international dance companies. The performance was received enthusiastically with a local reviewer writing in the *Frankfurter Rundschau*: “**At the end of the good hour of *Antigone, Interrupted* the only question remains: Why is Solène Weinachter not a movie star yet?**”



World premiere of *The Flock* by Roser Lopez Espinosa

Female choreographers took centre stage in Scottish Dance Theatre's Spring Double Bill programme with the restaging of *Thin h/as h/air* by company member **Pauline Torzuoli** and the premiere of *The Flock* by Catalan choreographer **Roser Lopez Espinosa**. Acclaimed internationally by the physical virtuosity and athleticism of her work, Roser created

a new version of this work for the dancers of Scottish Dance Theatre, exploring the epic journeys of migrating birds and our own desire to fly. The programme went on to tour to Ipswich's Dance East and Dance Base in Edinburgh.

“A joyous and expansive act of poetic imagination.”
Dundee University Review of the Arts

“Excitingly dynamic and athletic.” HNN, Robert Carr



Scottish Dance Theatre: live performance in numbers

Despite the challenges of emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic, Scottish Dance Theatre delivered

48
performances

in the 2022–23 financial year.

77%

performances were in Scotland,

10%

in the rest of the UK,

13%

overseas.

They reached

7,500

audience members.

Old Boy

Thu 30 Mar – Sat 1 Apr

Glass performance and Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre presented *OLD BOY*, which shared stories about the bond between grandfathers and grandsons. It featured the real relationships of men and boys in an attempt to explore the love that is shared between men in families and the legacy passed down through generations. Each performance ended with a standing ovation and left a tear in many of the audience members' eyes.



When Darkness Falls

Tue 21 – Sat 25 Mar

Spine-chilling production *When Darkness Falls* made an impact on Dundee Rep audiences during March, as part of its second UK tour. The powerful production by James Milton and Paul Morrissey was inspired by true events.



The Third Sister

Fri 24 Mar

The Third Sister tells the dark, mysterious yet funny tale of three teenage sisters who secretly formed a punk band. This show was performed in English and British Sign Language, and was free to attend, making the show accessible to a range of new and familiar audiences.

Looking forward



What a tumultuous time these last three years have been! The challenges continue as we are all impacted by cost-of-living increases, record inflation and rapidly rising energy bills.

Recognising the economic impacts these bring, we have been working hard to plan for the next 12–18 months. We need to change to ensure we are best placed to continue creating opportunities for you to experience art and culture that inspires, transforms, enriches, and challenges in Dundee and beyond. Therefore, we are focusing on four key strategic priorities:

➤ **Artistic and Community Development and Delivery**

Collaborating with others locally, nationally, and internationally, we must continue to deliver a programme of high-quality dance, music and theatre which meets the needs of our audiences, communities, and supporters.

➤ **Business Operations, Development and Sustainability**

With income under significant pressure, we will develop a financially robust and prudent business model, diversifying our income, developing new partners, capitalising on our commercial and intellectual property assets, and managing our resources efficiently, thereby delivering strong revenue growth and increased sustainability.

➤ **Environmental Impact/Sustainability**

Recognising the climate crises is the critical issue of our times, we will lead in demonstrating the role culture can play in building an ecologically-sound future, underpinned by the principle of climate justice, along with applying sustainability principles to all areas of our operations.

➤ **Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion**

Access to the arts is for all, not just those who can afford it. We shall ensure fair and equal access for individuals and communities from a range of backgrounds and needs and will lead the societal changes required to achieve social and racial justice. We also place the Fair Work agenda at the heart of our organisation.

We are under no illusions that, in common with all other industries, we face significant challenges over the next two years. However, with your help and support, we believe Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre will emerge ready to create for another 80 years!

/ SUPPORTERS

Friends and Friends+

Our Friends play a starring role in our work by supporting new productions and our talented apprentice dancers and actors. Your donations, Friends memberships and corporate memberships help us share the life-changing experience of theatre and dance with people of all ages and abilities. Thank you for all your continued support, especially over these last few years, it means everything to us.

Contact us today for more details: development@dundeereptheatre.co.uk

Visit our website to find out more about supporting Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre:
dundeerep.co.uk/donate

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ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL



We rely on support from trusts and foundations to deliver our engagement and learning programmes in the community, as well as for key building maintenance and upgrades and to develop new work. Our thanks go to the following:

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