



PARLOR DANCE

Venue and Marketing Pack for Close Distance

January 2014

Now that you have booked **Close Distance** this pack will help you sell the work to your audience and has all key info that you may need when working with us.

1. Contact details
2. Copy for season brochure and web
3. Images
4. Print and materials available
5. Background about the show
6. A few words from the Artistic Director Helen Parlor
7. Quotes / soundbites
8. Sample Direct Mail Letter
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11. Marketing advice
12. Audience development and education
13. Schools marketing
14. Production info to pass on to tech team

KEY INFORMATION

- Category: dance / physical theatre
- **Close Distance** previously toured nationally in Spring 2013 and is now back due to popular demand
- Parlor Dance is a new company directed by Helen Parlor
- Close Distance is the company's first full length production
- Suitable for all ages
- Cast: Chris Bradley, Noam Frank, Sioda Martin, Michael Spenceley
- Running Time: 70 minutes – no interval

“Close Distance is fast paced, provocative dance theatre show that explores our complex human relationships. Audiences young and old will blown away by the physical virtuosity of her incredible dancers who effortlessly move between character using both text and movement. This is a gutsy first show from one of the UK's hotly tipped emerging dance makers.” **Natalie Richardson // Former Associate Producer of The Hat Factory**

1) CONTACTS

Parlor Dance is a new company with Artistic Director Helen Parlor at the helm, supported by a part-time, freelance admin team. You may not be able to get hold of us straight away but we will return your queries or calls within 48 hours wherever possible.

For general marketing enquiries, to discuss curtain raisers, workshops, community work, to arrange press interviews, discuss print and campaigns, audience development strategy, and for proofing of materials please contact Producer:

Charlotte Gregory

charlottegregory1@hotmail.com

07950 151024

For urgent queries (if you can't get hold of Charlotte), artistic and technical issues please contact Artistic Director:

Helen Parlor

helen@article19.co.uk

07980871677

2) COPY

124 words

Parlor Dance presents **Close Distance**: a show about next door. **Close Distance** is an engaging, acrobatic and thought-provoking show which explores our relationships with our neighbours, it revolves around the lives of four people, brought together by where they live. An explosive, helter-skelter ride of dance and impressive contact work, speech, animation and visual projections that will grip you, tickle you, pull on your heartstrings and make you ponder on your own life.

You will, no doubt, recognise some of the characters you meet along the way. You may even catch a glimpse of yourself. Get ready to fly, tumble, laugh and cry with us, let us comfort you with a smile and drive you up the wall with our loud music. Our stories may even be echoes of your own. Close Distance's fast moving physicality and theatricality is to be enjoyed by every age group.

Supported by Arts Council England, Swindon Dance, The Hat Factory and DanceFest

70 words

Close Distance is an engaging, acrobatic and thought-provoking show which explores our relationships with our neighbours, it revolves around the lives of four people, brought together by where they live. An explosive, helter-skelter ride of dance and impressive contact work, speech, animation and visual projections that will grip you, tickle you, pull on your heartstrings and make you ponder on your own life. Suitable for all ages.

Alternative / slightly simplified copy

Close Distance: a show about next door

Close Distance is an acrobatic and thought-provoking dance show about the lives of four people. These characters have become neighbours, forced together by where they live, but what do they have in common? And do they want to be so close?

We all have neighbours, so our stories may even be glimpses of your own. This show will make you think about how neighbourhoods have changed. We get home, shut the door and shut the world out.

Artistic Director Helen Parlor, formerly Assistant Choreographer for the Paralympic Games Opening Ceremony, brings together impressive contact work, speech, animation and visuals.

Get ready to fly, tumble, laugh and cry with us, let us tickle you and pull on your heartstrings. Get absorbed into the fast-paced physical action as these recognisable characters quarrel, compete, chat, gossip, listen to and judge each other and just can't help stepping over each others' boundaries.

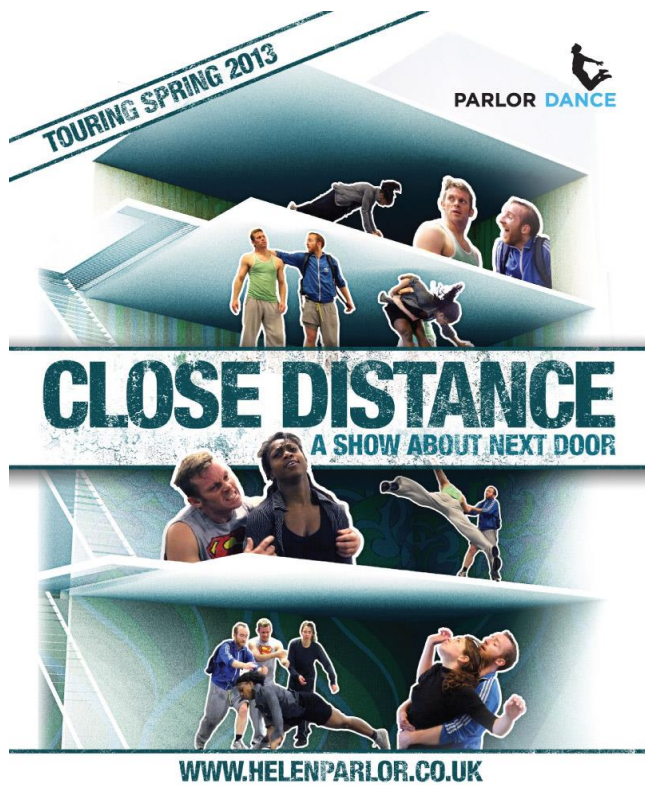
3) IMAGES

Please use this image below for your season brochure, and as the main tour image, as we feel that it demonstrates the dynamic nature of the show. A high res version of this image is available in the tour dropbox folder:



There are also additional, complementary images available in the dropbox folder for use as supplementary images; please do not use these in your season brochure to sell the show, as we want to retain a sense of identity and unity across the tour. All images should be credited to 'Parlor Dance by Legge'.

4) PRINT AND MATERIALS AVAILABLE



On the right is the artwork for the tour flyer. We are currently updating it for our Spring/Summer 2014 tour.

Please email Charlotte on charlottegregory1@hotmail.com and let her know the quantities your venue requires and delivery address; we have the following materials available:

- A5 two sided flyers
- A4 posters
- A3 posters

Other marketing resources:

Website and film link:

www.helenparlor.co.uk

<http://vimeo.com/67840099>

Twitter:

@helenparlor

#closedistance

Facebook group:

AN ENGAGING, ACROBATIC AND THOUGHT-PROVOKING SHOW ABOUT 'US' AND 'NEXT DOOR.'

Close Distance revolves around the lives of four people, brought together by where they live. An explosive, helter-skelter ride of dance and impressive contact work, speech, animation and visual projections that will grip you, tickle you, pull on your heartstrings and make you ponder on your own life.

You will, no doubt, recognise some of the characters you meet along the way and even catch a glimpse of yourself.

Get ready to fly, tumble, laugh and cry with us, let us comfort you with a smile and drive you up the wall with our loud music. Our stories may even be echoes of your own.

Dancers: Chris Bradley, Noam Frank, Sioda Martin and Michael Spenceley.

"Emotional, exhausting, a fantastic journey, brilliant acting, moving-loved it!"
Audience Member

TOUR DATES - SPRING 2013

Fri 1 Feb	Swindon Dance	www.swindondance.org.uk	01793 601700
Mon 4 Feb	Artrix, Bromsgrove	www.artrix.co.uk	01527 577330
Wed 6 Feb	Guildhall Arts Centre, Grantham	www.guildhallartscentre.com	01476 406158
Sat 9 Feb	Ravenstone Village Hall, Buckinghamshire	helen@article19.co.uk	07980 871677
Sat 16 Feb	The Studio, Pyramid and Parr Hall, Warrington	www.pyramidparrhall.co.uk	01925 442345
Wed 20 Feb	Salisbury Arts Centre, Salisbury	www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk	01722 321744
Fri 22 Feb	Square Chapel Centre for the Arts, Halifax	www.squarechapel.co.uk/en/whats-on/	01422 349422
Thu 28 Feb	Hat Factory, Luton	www.lutonculture.com/hat-factory/whats-on/	01582 878100
Fri 15 Mar	The Venue, Walton High, Milton Keynes	www.thevenuemk.com	01908 677954
Fri 22 Mar	Liskerrett Community Centre, Liskeard	www.liskerrett.co.uk	01579 340307
Sat 23 Mar	St. Ives Guildhall, St. Ives	www.stivestic.co.uk/events/events-at-st-ives-guildhall	01736 796297
Fri 19 Apr	Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton	www.arenatheatre.info	01902 321321
Tue 23 Apr	Pound Arts, Corsham	www.poundarts.org.uk	01249 701628

Parlor Dance is a new company directed by Helen Parlor. Visit our website to find out more: WWW.HELENPARLOR.CO.UK

Logos: dancefest, SWINDON DANCE, Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND, LOTTERY FUNDED, Facebook, Twitter, QR code.

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/269411369828703/?fref=ts>

5) ABOUT THE SHOW

Close Distance explores the relationships we have with our neighbours in an urban society. Using contact, fast physicality and modern, relevant theatrical content.

The ideas in **Close Distance** are based around the evolution of the role of a neighbour. Over the last fifty years the role of the neighbour has changed dramatically. In the past communities have bonded by chatting over the fence, having garden and street parties and being there to lend a hand to their neighbours whenever they should call. A neighbour was someone you could call on, confide in and trust. Close Distance explores how this has changed in modern society.

You only have to type NEIGHBOURS into YouTube to be directed to a huge list of feuding neighbours screaming across the fence, secretly filming one another and in some cases the harassment has become so extreme that it has led to police convictions and huge media spirals.

This idea is explored through contact work/contact improvisation and dance theatre.

How do people deal with one another in confined/small ratios of space?

What relationships do they build?

What happens behind closed doors?

Contact work between individuals is an excellent and exciting tool to communicate dance, character and a sense of place.

6) A FEW WORDS FROM ARTISTIC DIRECTOR HELEN PARLOR...

“I wanted to make **Close Distance** because I am fascinated with people and their personality. My work in dance has allowed me many addresses, both in the UK and abroad where I have followed the projects, the shows and the commissions to create work. Alongside these changes of addresses I have met a variety of characters who I have happened to be neighbours with. A variety of relationships flourished, developed and occurred with many stories to go alongside. As I started to take more notice of the neighbourhoods where I lived I started to pick up on various characters that I saw. It started to fascinate me and I almost began to imagine some of my neighbours as cartoon characters in a story I was developing. Bear with me here!

There are certain neighbours you always say the same thing to-you talk about the weather, the family, the garden-the rubbish man who never collects the rubbish properly. Then you might have the nodding neighbour who you simply nod at or gesture to from across the way. You know nothing about their lives apart from the fact that they live close to you. Then you have the over the fence neighbour-a comrade, a friend who you might invite over for Christmas and birthdays. You have the 'across the road' neighbour who you know less well and who sometimes invites you around for the once a year 'let's try and get to know our neighbours' party. Then you have the one that 'talks for England' at the most inconvenient times! I could go on and on as I have many stories to tell!

I am interested in the way that people physically communicate and neighbours have a very particular way of communicating with each other and can hold a certain physicality which I have noticed and am interested in developing. I have become fascinated by the boundaries/perimeters of my own and other people's lives and this is often displayed in the manner in which a person protects their prize possession-their home/their 'area'.

People dealing with other people in small spaces can create a certain level of physicality which I, as a choreographer, want to push, define and develop-looking at how bodies can move, throw, support or catch one another depending on the Close Distance circumstance they discover themselves within. How can we develop our movement vocabulary to portray the complex relationships of a neighbourhood; finding light, drama and friendship hopping, turning and diving all down one street.

I started to look at the different residential spaces where people lived and began to take note how people physically reacted with one another. Do neighbours in towns and cities act differently to one another than those neighbours in more rural communities? Do relationships flourish if peoples habitual spaces are larger or smaller/closer to others/have open boundaries and the interest goes on. How is our own personal space magnified by the space in which we live and how do we protect, defend and expand our personal space? Are there consequences of stepping over these boundaries?

Then there are the clues into your neighbours' lives. Things you hear through the walls, things you hear about your neighbours from other neighbours and you start to build the characters of your neighbourhood. There are too many stories of my neighbours to tell (!) but Close Distance is an insight into some of them that I and my company have experienced. Even though we don't necessarily communicate with our neighbours through the medium of dance as our primary form of communication (!) I think there is a definite physical energy between certain neighbours which life draws us to meet.

I have tried to expand on this energy to create a physical dance theatre show which touches on the real, holding a sense of relevance to peoples' lives and experiences.

I am physically interested in peoples' individual energies, exploring this and how peoples' energy and personalities interact with one another through the confines of their geography."

7) QUOTES/SOUNDBITES ABOUT PARLOR DANCE'S EXCELLENT DANCE WORK

"I enjoy working with how bodies can support one another, throw one another, dodge, spiral around and fly at one another to communicate a sense of energy." **Helen Parlor, Artistic Director**

"I have tried to create a physical dance theatre show which touches on the real, holding a sense of relevance to peoples' lives and experiences." **Helen Parlor, Artistic Director**

In March 2012 Helen Parlor auditioned thousands of volunteers for the Opening Ceremony of the Paralympic Games and spent the next five months working on a dance theatre show for a worldwide audience as the Assistant Choreographer for the Paralympic Opening Ceremony. Drawing on this experience Helen commented:

"I have never known such a dedicated mass of wonderful volunteers; smiling and gritting their teeth through rehearsals to make sure they were performing to their best potential, giving it their all-delighted to be a part of something so huge and on a worldwide scale. Making choreography for such wonderful people was the heart and soul of my work in the Paralympic Opening Ceremony-giving the people a physical voice, young/old/able and disabled dancers dancing together and giving it some X Factor of their own." **Helen Parlor, Artistic Director**

"My artistic vision is to create accessible, visually engaging and exciting contemporary dance for all people to engage and participate with. My passion is contemporary dance and contact work. I am inspired by work which affects people, reaches out and is powerful enough to move an audience to react. Dance should touch people in the way that cinema affects its audiences, provoking tension, drama and emotional responses.... I enjoy working with how bodies can support one another, throw one another, dodge, spiral around and fly at

one another to communicate a sense of energy. I create work about real life situations and environments so that the audience can relate and be vocal about the work. My choreographic style has an interesting and engaging physicality, I genuinely enjoy the element of interaction with the public in the work that I do.” **Helen Parlor, Artistic Director**

“I travelled a long way to see this performance and went home thinking how worthwhile it was to travel so far” **Audience Member**

“The quality, energy and power was incredible and inspiring” **Audience Member**

“Emotional, exhausting, a fantastic journey, brilliant acting, moving-loved it!” **Audience Member**

“Outstanding. One of the most innovative, creative and physical pieces I have seen in a long time. Incredible stamina and commitment. Thank you! So inspiring!” **Audience Member**

“God damn awesome!” **Audience Member**

“The athleticism and physical technique were excellent. Acting just outstanding. Energy, awesome; keep it up!” **Audience Member**

“Very energetic and thought provoking piece.” **Audience Member**

“Fantastic show-a roller-coaster of emotions. I laughed out loud and nearly wanted to cry at times.” **Audience Member**

“Most moving performance I have seen in a long time-thank you” **Audience Member**

“Amazing, I want more!” **Audience Member**

“It's so refreshing to find modern dance that is so engaging emotionally - I had a job not to cry.” **Audience Member**

There are further fabulous audience quotes in the Close Distance dropbox folder in a dedicated, separate word document.

8) SAMPLE DIRECT MAIL LETTER

We are writing to tell you about a brand-new show from one of the UK's hotly tipped dance-makers. The former Assistant Choreographer for the Paralympic Games Opening Ceremony, Artistic Director Helen Parlor, brings you **Close Distance**.

Bring the whole family along on *[insert date of performance at your venue]* to enjoy an acrobatic and thought-provoking dance show 'about next door'. Fusing together impressive contact work, speech, animation and visual projections this show is about the lives of four people. These characters have become neighbours, forced together by where they live, but what do they have in common? And do they want to be so close?

"I have aimed to create a physical dance theatre show which touches on the real, holding a sense of relevance to peoples' lives and experiences, I enjoy working with how bodies can support one another, throw one another, dodge, spiral around and fly at one another to communicate a sense of energy." **Helen Parlor**

The ideas in **Close Distance** are based around the role of a neighbour. Something we can all relate to. Over the last fifty years the role of the neighbour has changed dramatically. In the past communities have bonded by chatting over the fence, having garden and street parties and being there to lend a hand to their neighbours whenever they should call. A neighbour was someone you could call on, confide in and trust. This show will make you think how neighbourhoods have changed. We get home, shut the door and shut the world out.

Get ready to fly, tumble, laugh and cry with this outstanding company us, let them tickle you and pull on your heartstrings. Get absorbed into the fast-paced physical action as these recognisable characters quarrel, compete, chat, gossip, listen to and judge each other and just can't help stepping over each others' boundaries.

"Outstanding. One of the most innovative, creative and physical pieces I have seen in a long time. Incredible stamina and commitment. Thank you! So inspiring!" **Audience Member**

9) PRESS RELEASE IDEAS

Within this pack there is a wealth of content which may be of interest to your local press. You will also find lots of quotes, soundbites and relevant descriptions of the style of dance and movement within the pack.

You could approach gaining coverage for the show from different angles, (we will keep adding to these):

- **Helen's involvement in the Opening Ceremony of the Paralympic Games:**

In March 2012 Helen Parlor auditioned thousands of volunteers for the Opening Ceremony of the Paralympic Games and spent the next five months working on a dance

theatre show for a worldwide audience as the Assistant Choreographer for the Paralympic Opening Ceremony. Drawing on this experience Helen commented:

"I have never known such a dedicated mass of wonderful volunteers; smiling and gritting their teeth through rehearsals to make sure they were performing to their best potential, giving it their all-delighted to be a part of something so huge and on a worldwide scale. Making choreography for such wonderful people was the heart and soul of my work in the Paralympic Opening Ceremony-giving the people a physical voice, young/old/able and disabled dancers dancing together and giving it some X Factor of their own." **Helen Parlor, Artistic Director**

- **You could plug into any existing local news debate about neighbourly disputes, sound pollution , how things used to be, here are some examples of nostalgic quotes about old neighbourhoods:**

"The garden was just stuck up to the neck in mud. The fence was just one piece of wire-slung on a post. You had 3 posts, one against the house, one half way down the garden and one at the bottom of the garden with one single strand of wire-literally-just to mark the boundary." **D. Webb**

*"In a survey of people's homes in 1943, a team defined privacy as 'freedom from being overlooked by the neighbours.' Whilst an architect Walter Segal thought privacy was 'to be able to live one's own life without one's neighbours voluntarily or involuntarily taking a part in it. He later designed houses that helped to protect 'those little domestic secrets which the neighbour is so keen to discover.'" **Emily Cockayne, Cheek by Jowl***

"Ssh! Listen. Are your neighbours in? Maybe you cannot hear them, but is that liver and onions you can smell cooking? Their car is outside. You piece together evidence like James Stewart in 'Rear Window'. I live on a terraced street. Our neighbours on both sides are quiet. I think one side is in now, the other not, My kids are hurtling around, so the neighbours will know we are in." **Emily Cockayne, Cheek by Jowl**

10) BIOGS

Helen Parlor // Artistic Director

Helen trained at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance, graduating in 1998. Since then she has been performing and making work nationally and internationally. In 1998 Helen joined 'Dansconnect' a performance in education company, led through Swindon Dance, performing works by Jonathon Lunn, Scott Amber, Banksy and Yael Flexor. In 2000 Helen joined Motionhouse and remained with the company for six years, touring 'Atomic', 'Fearless,'Volatile' and 'Perfect' alongside being lead dance artist on various education projects and site specific works, including 'Dreams and Ruin' at Witley Court.

In 2006 Helen moved to Oslo to join 'PantaRei Danseteater', performing work for young audiences across Norway, Sweden and India. Helen also created site specific work in Halmstad, Sweden with the company and has had choreographic commissions in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania working with Visa to Dance Festival. Helen continues to work with Panta Rei as a rehearsal director and most recently on their new show 'I Wish Her Well' which premiered in Oslo, October 2012.

As a director of her own work Helen artistically directed 'Headcase', in collaboration with The Point, Eastleigh with an all male ensemble, which toured the South East in 2005. She was also Creative Director for 'Forbidden-A Tale of Love and war', in 2008, a huge site specific performance throughout the grounds of Goodrich Castle in collaboration with Dancefest, Herefordshire. Over a six week period Helen and Dancefest brought together over a hundred young people from the local area, thirteen professional dancers, two horses and their jockeys and aerialists, working alongside Wired Aerial Theatre, who hung from the arches of the castle. Helen created this full length work alongside composer Nathaniel Reed

Helen regularly choreographs for various organizations across the UK and has to created work for the Olympic year 'Dance Days', based at the Taliesen Arts Centre, Swansea. She has recently completed her largest role yet as Assistant Choreographer for the Paralympic Games 2012.

Helen is an Associate Artist at The Hat Factory and at the Royal and Derngate. She is excited to be touring Close Distance a second time, including the company's first international date!

Chris Bradley // Dancer

Chris trained at De Montfort University in Leicestershire. His touring and performance work has been extensive, including time with The Mission (State of Emergency), Springs Dance Company and Mobius Dance Theatre and he is a long- standing company member of Parlor

Dance. Chris has participated in a number of site-specific pieces and has also performed aerial work.

To date, Chris has been teaching for over a decade and has worked with groups from all across the board. As well as delivering sessions for the East Midlands CAT, he has delivered outreach work for a number of the professional companies he has toured with. Independently, to supported learning groups, boys groups and FE and HE courses.

Noam Frank // Dancer

Noam was born in Israel 1988 and started to dance at the age of 6 in a local ballet school in Rosh Pina, in the north of Israel.

While undertaking the obligatory army service in the age of 18, she started an apprenticeship with Kamea dance company, under the Artistic Director Tamir Gintz in Beer Sheva, in the south of Israel. Between 2007-2008 she studied at Salzburg International Ballet Academy in Salzburg, Austria.

In 2008 Noam started the Dance Academy ArtEZ in Arnhem, The Netherlands, where she worked with, among others, the choreographers Jerome Meyer, Erik Kaiel, Roberto Zappala and Amos Ben-Tal.

Sioda Martin // Dancer

Sioda decided to choose a career in dance during her time spent with Barnsley Youth Dance Theatre as a child and was greatly influenced by her musical upbringing. She trained at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance from the age of 16, graduating in 2002 with a BA (Hons) Degree.

In graduating from NSCD Sioda was interested in combining dance with other art forms, coming from a background in Performing Arts as a child. This interest is what drew her to take a path towards Dance Theatre and Physical Theatre and eventually to working with companies such as Motionhouse Dance Theatre, Mobius Dance Theatre, Assault Events N. Ireland and in other projects involving outdoor and street theatre performance. Sioda also spent some time becoming a child again when she became part of The Tell Woman Collective, creating mystical characters and creatures for a movement/puppet show for Children's Theatre, created and toured under direction of Teletubbies own Lala- Nikky Smedley.

Sioda is always enthused by the opportunity to learn different styles of dance, especially from other cultures. Her first job after graduation was with ACE Dance and Music where she performed and taught African and Contemporary Dance, She was chosen to be a dance leader for a Bollywood dance project in Birmingham, learning Bollywood dance and teaching it to 175 children for a large outdoor spectacle, and more recently Sioda is involved in an ongoing project with Keiradance, working with Irish rhythms, live music and dance. Dancing Salsa and Samba is also a love of Sioda's, inspired by her travels in South America. Sioda is a qualified Yoga instructor and Thai Massage Practitioner.

This enables her to visit Brazil each year, where she works at an island retreat and has the opportunity to enjoy some dancing in Rio de Janeiro.

Sioda has always aspired to becoming someone who could nurture and encourage young people one day, in the same way that she was by her tutors as a child. Her time working as a dancer so far has given her the opportunity to work with many children and young people, working with Youth Dance Companies, schools and colleges, projects lead by City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and Project Volume, which is a higher level learning scheme for young people with learning difficulties. Now Sioda has been given the opportunity to work with some very talented young people, after being given the role of Artistic lead for 2BU, the Youth Dance Company at Pavilion Dance South West in Bournemouth.

Sioda has worked with Helen Parlor on various projects before but this is her first time in working with Helen on a full-scale touring show. Sioda feels extremely excited and privileged to be part of the company.

Michael Spenceley // Dancer

Michael trained at the Rambert School. His professional career has been varied; working for Protein Dance Company, performing 'Dear Body' and 'Happy Together' under the direction of Luca Silverstrini. Michael then continued to work for the Rosie Kay Dance Company, performing in '5 Soldiers' and 'The Great Train Dance'. Michael has also performed his own choreography 'Forbidden Love' which toured throughout London. Michael is also an accomplished teacher, delivering and choreographing work for the Centre of Advanced Training in Birmingham and delivering education work for Protein Dance Company.

11) MARKETING ADVICE

- This work is suitable for all ages, but ideal for those 7+; please keep language simple to keep the work sounding appealing, approachable and homely
- Keep language active e.g **Get ready to fly, tumble, laugh and cry**
- Please use all soundbites and company background to create your press release / direct mail letters. There is a wealth of interesting points to make about Helen's involvement in the Paralympic Games, her ideas behind the work, about neighbours and the physical content of the work
- Link all the images and film footage to your web page and social media channels



12) AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

Have you considered the power of workshops and linked in, pop-up performances to reach out to new audiences? We can help you inspire people, on the street, in the dance studio and even in the foyer of your venue during the interval of a more commercial / mainstream event. We can offer bespoke wraparound activity to add extra value, exposure and wow-factor. The best thing is that we are flexible and eager to create a programme of activity that is perfect for you and your venue.

Some ideas of what we can offer:

- Dance **workshops** to groups of young people / students
- **Taster sessions** in schools and establishments
- **Choreographic residencies**, working intensively with groups
- Pop-up show '**Fence**' – 2/3 of our dancers perform in public spaces not necessarily designed for dance or theatre - designed to draw in the crowds and offer camera fodder for press
- We can work with groups, exploring character and contact work/ improvisation to create small '**scratch**' **performances** that could accompany the professional work. These could then be performed at platforms, festivals and as part of a larger showcase
- Groups could perform their new work during a pre-show **curtain raiser**
- Groups could perform alongside the company and make **a whole/longer piece** encompassing 'Fence' and the education outreach/choreography
- All of these ideas can work in your theatre or be responsive, **exploring and engaging with local sites**, landmarks or places of historical interest, asking questions about the site, its background and history, with the ultimate aim of bringing them to life through physical movement
- Parlor Dance's education pack is included in the dropbox folder as a separate pdf document and contains all the information you need our our education putreach menu, including prices

"Helen is an exceptional artist and teacher who is able to work with a great diversity of groups, communities and artists. She drives people to achieve their best, producing beautiful creative results" **Anna Brown // Hampshire Dance // Artist Development Coordinator**

FENCE

Fence is a short snappy dance theatre trio exploring the boundaries of neighbours/their hoods/their vegetable plots/their car parking spaces and their banal but comedic conversations. Culminating in a driven, high impact movement finale.

Fence is designed to draw in the crowds by performing in public spaces not necessarily designed for dance or theatre. Parlor Dance has designed Fence to be an effective marketing tool for their full length show Close Distance.

- Length: 15 minutes approx
- Multiple performances possible
- Technical requirements: 6m x 6m performance space minimum unless rehearsal time in space provided
- Access needed to power supply

13) SCHOOLS

Below is a list of the benefits of the work, aimed at different school groups. You will then have the tools to market directly to groups via e-flyers or direct mail letters, in terms of the performance content / workshops might assist their studies.

GCSE students

The company's work and outreach programme can assist students with their technical expertise of contemporary dance and contact improvisation techniques. Throughout the workshops led through Parlor Dance there is always an emphasis on choreography and performance, with an emphasis on guiding students regarding how to start their own work choreographically, providing some building block guidelines when looking at stimulus and initial ideas.

The company can also workshop working with particular kinds of music/composition to create their work and how they work with their composer Nathaniel Reed to create the score of the show. How their work is inspired by music and studying how this collaboration works. The company can also deliver safe practice workshops, particularly looking at contact work, alignment and choreography/sustainability.

A-Level and beyond

The company can develop work focusing on the next level of study in dance-the building blocks into considering dance as a career. Again the company can look at a deeper level of technical understanding and choreography alongside critical analysis and feedback on students work.

The tasks can be specific choreographically looking at making solo, duet, trio and larger choreographic ensembles. The work can also engage more with dance theatre, looking more in depth at character and physical characteristics, engaging with setting your work in a particular space and how practitioners consider the scenography of their work to create more of a theatrical environment.

For the more advanced students the company can lead workshops on creating text and movement alongside one another and how pupils may work collaboratively with other art forms to create their work as well as a deeper understanding of the focus points above. For more mature students the company can explore more deeply the elements of contact improvisation and creating performance work.

All workshops include repertoire from Parlor Dance show Close Distance.

14) CLOSE DISTANCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION

The below is a guide for programmers; more details are in the technical folder on dropbox for your venue's technical manager.

We will ideally require a stage 9m(w) x 7.5m (d) although smaller stages can be accommodated.

Depending on the venue there may be projection onto the floor so we may need to discuss hanging a projector from ceiling height.

Ideally we would like to use a white cyc.

Where possible we will require black legs to create wings either side of stage to hide dancers entrances and side lighting, there will need to be three sets where possible, or four where this amount of booms are already installed in the venue.

We would ideally like to use grey dance floor at venues where possible. In venues where the grey floor is available it would be helpful if it could be laid, taped down, swept and mopped upon arrival.

The space will need to be at a suitable temperature for the dancers to warm up and rehearse in for the afternoon and for the performance.

AV and Sound

We will be touring with a projector, flown in the rig, we have our own cradles. These will be run by two laptops preferably situated at the control position as the soundtrack comes from these laptops.

We will be running our sound from CD/laptops.

Where possible we would like foldback onto stage so that the dancers can hear the sound, also we will require Sub Bass to be available.

Lighting

Where possible a pre rig would really help the day go smoothly.

Other info

The cast consists of two male dancers and two female dancers so we will require a minimum of two dressing rooms again at a suitable temperature for the dancers to warm up in.

Any further questions feel free to contact Helen Parlor: helen@article19.co.uk ; 07980871677