

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET



PRESS RELEASE

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- **BIRMINGHAM 2022 FESTIVAL PRESENTS A BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET WORLD PREMIERE - *INTERLINKED* CHOREOGRAPHED BY JULIANO NUNES - PART OF THE BRB'S SUMMER TRIPLE BILL *ON YOUR MARKS!***

Birmingham Royal Ballet and Birmingham 2022 Festival today announce that *Interlinked* by Brazilian choreographer **Juliano Nunes** is commissioned and presented by the Festival as part of the *On Your Marks!* summer triple bill being performed at Birmingham Hippodrome in Birmingham International Dance Festival this June.

Carlos Acosta said: *'We are excited to be partnering with Birmingham 2022 Festival in this way and are grateful for their investment in the company and the work of a choreographer I have wanted to work with for some time. I am delighted that the world premiere of Interlinked will be one of many highlights in the Festival this year, a fitting way to celebrate such a big year for the city!'*

Raidene Carter, Executive Producer Birmingham 2022 Festival said: *'We are proud to commission one of the world's great ballet companies to premiere a major new work in the Festival, one of so many highlights in a packed programme of over 200 events. Our commitment to dance in the region extends far and wide as this year's BIDS programme demonstrates and we are happy to play a part in making this new work shine under the spotlight.'*

Interlinked is a wholly new piece of choreographic work, with a newly commissioned orchestral score by Australian composer Luke Howard, and lighting by Dutch-based Northern Irish Designer Tom Visser. Inspired by themes of unity, the work will explore the influences that we have on each other's lives and how the energy that we exude bounces from one person to the next, in a never ending circle.

The piece for 16 dancers will specifically explore themes around gender identity and the perception of self, the music will drive the storyline which will fall into four distinct movements.

Choreographer Juliano Nunes said: *'New perspectives cannot be gained until you go through a crisis moment, this drives your personal story and develops your emotions. It is an international story that we all experience.'*

Sitting within a mixed bill of works the piece also contributes to a programme that is joyful and engaging for new and young audiences, providing an opportunity to experience ballet which may be a form not previously engaged with. Particularly referencing *Interlinked*, this new commission allows for the development of the creatives in the large scale ballet sector. The work is also international in its context with the use of a Brazilian choreographer, a Dutch-based Northern Irish lighting designer and an Australian Composer.

Also in the programme: Jorge Crecis created the dazzling *Twelve* for Acosta Danza. For the first time ever, dancers from BRB and Acosta Danza will be teaming up to premiere a new version of this thrilling dive into the power of teamwork, retitled **24**. A new work from brilliant young Brazilian choreographer **Juliano Nunes**, whose recent pieces include commissions for Nederlands Dans Theater 2 and Marie-Agnès Gillot will receive its world premiere; and to close, an ecstatic ode to the power of nature and the glory of movement: Will Tuckett's **Lazuli Sky**, set to **John Adams' irresistible Shaker Loops** which premiered to great acclaim in 2020, returns to a Birmingham stage.

Birmingham 2022 Festival is generously supported by Arts Council England and The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

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ON YOUR MARKS!: SUMMER TRIPLE BILL

Birmingham Hippodrome Thu 23 June: 7.30pm (PN); Fri 24 June: 7.30pm; Sat 25 June: 2.30pm & 7.30pm

24

Choreography: Jorge Crecis
Music: Vincenzo Lamagna
Costume Design: Eva Escribano
Lighting: Michael Mannion and Warren Letton

Birmingham 2022 Festival presents:

Interlinked

Choreography: Juliano Nunes
Music: Luke Howard
Lighting: Tom Visser

Lazuli Sky

Choreography: Will Tuckett
Music: John Adams
Designs: Samuel Wyer, Nina Dunn
Lighting: Peter Teigen

Birmingham Royal Ballet Website <https://www.brb.org.uk/>

Birmingham 2022 Festival Website <https://www.birmingham2022.com/festival/>

Notes:

Birmingham Royal Ballet

Based at Birmingham Hippodrome, Birmingham Royal Ballet is the United Kingdom's leading touring ballet company performing a range of traditional, classical and heritage ballets as well as ground-breaking new works with the aim of encouraging choreographers of the future.

The Company's Director since January 2020 is the internationally renowned Carlos Acosta.

Birmingham Royal Ballet standardly performs at Birmingham Hippodrome for approximately ten weeks of the year and the remainder of the year tours throughout the United Kingdom and overseas. On average, the Company performs 175 shows a year nationally and internationally.

The Royal Ballet Sinfonia is Birmingham Royal Ballet's permanent orchestra, it is also Britain's busiest ballet orchestra. The Sinfonia also plays frequently for The Royal Ballet and other leading ballet companies, including performances with Paris Opéra Ballet, New York City Ballet, Australian Ballet, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, the Kirov, Norwegian Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, San Francisco Ballet and La Scala Ballet.

About the Birmingham 2022 Festival

The Birmingham 2022 Festival unites people from around the Commonwealth through a celebration of creativity, in a six-month long programme, shining a spotlight on the West Midlands' culture sector. Running from March to beyond the conclusion of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games in September, the festival aims to entertain and engage over 2.5 million people in person and online.

Delivering over 200 projects across the region including art, photography, dance, theatre, digital art and more the festival will embrace local culture and generate lasting change and a creative legacy beyond the games with funding to community led projects from Birmingham City Council's Creative City Grants scheme.

Major support has been dedicated by Arts Council England, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Birmingham City Council and Spirit of 2012. The Birmingham 2022 Festival is grateful for further support from British Council, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, National Lottery Community Fund, Canada Council for the Arts, the High Commission of Canada in the UK, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, Create Central, Creative New Zealand, UK/Australia Season 2021/2022, and Birmingham 2022 Organising Committee.

To learn more, view the full programme of events or get involved visit: [birmingham2022.com/festival](https://www.birmingham2022.com/festival/).

ABOUT

BIDF

Produced by [FABRIC](#) the new strategic organisation formed by the merger of [DanceXchange](#) and [Dance4](#), [Birmingham International Dance Festival \(BIDF\)](#) is the largest dance festival in the UK, taking over Birmingham's theatres, galleries and multiple outdoor spaces, with the very best of international dance and inspiring choreography. BIDF is Birmingham's signature festival with dance firmly at its heart. Its overall ambition is to strengthen the impact of the festival for the city, the dance sector, and for our young and diverse communities – connecting people with great dance, creating vital space for artistic dialogue and exchange, and promoting Birmingham as a global dance city. Following the postponement of the 2020 festival, BIDF returned in 2021 with a reduced online and live festival. This year BIDF 2022 returns with a full programme.

[FABRIC](#) is the new strategic organisation formed by the merger of [DanceXchange](#) and [Dance4](#). FABRIC will combine the two organisations' knowledge, skills and expertise in dynamic programmes and projects, to form one new strategic organisation. Working as one organisation FABRIC will be more ambitious for dance made, produced and nurtured in the Midlands. FABRIC's vision is to inspire people through dance, transforming lives, communities and places. For FAQs about this merger, visit www.FABRIC.dance.