

Springs Dance Company

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Summer 2008

Welcome to the Springs Dance Company Summer Newsletter!

The company is busy preparing for a nation-wide tour of "Springs For Children", our double-bill that includes "Waterbugs and Dragonflies", reworked by director Mike Bernardin, and the much loved "The Wemmick Story" by Suzannah McCreight. Both pieces have already delighted audiences in theatres, schools and churches in the South East, and are now due to be shown across the whole country for 2008. There are still places for primary/infant schools to book this tour, which finishes in September, but hurry as the show is booking up fast! Watch out for us at a theatre near you. Don't miss out, as this beautiful show is as much for grown-ups as it is for children.

Come to a cathedral in October, see dates across, for "Living The Eucharist" (working title). Commissioned by Aelred Arnesen, who practised as a monk for many years, this dance piece communicates the heart of the Eucharist to those watching. Set in the round, the dancers aim to challenge the man-made barriers between us and God.

Ruth Hughes, Artistic Director



Hi, I'm Claire T, aka Fizzy, the newest member of Springs!

I joined the company in October 2007, just in time for the 'Journey of the Magi' Christmas tour. We had a crazy four weeks touring in the lead up to Christmas, yet it was one of the most special and meaningful Advents that I have ever had. Springs is such a special company, which involves so many committed and talented people. I am so happy and privileged to be a part of it, and to be able to share my gift of dance to inspire, move and touch people. I thank Ruth and Claire and the dancers for all their

support, care and encouragement.

The tour itself was packed with amazing experiences. We met so many inspiring people throughout our journey. I felt the Holy Spirit living and breathing within our Company, guiding, protecting and encouraging us in the work of God. Many people's hearts were touched by the performance, which was really encouraging to see, making the months spent in rehearsal really worthwhile. If you haven't already booked the show to come to your church or secondary school for 2008, then contact the office for details – 07775 628 442 or email info@springsdancecompany.org.uk

Summer School 2008 - 28th July to 1st August

Springs Dance Company is delighted to present its ever popular summer school. Participants of all levels of dance experience are invited to apply for a creative, inspiring and refreshing week of dance and fellowship. The Summer School will take place at **St Mildred's Centre** in East Croydon, and will run from 10:30am to 4:30pm Monday – Thursday and from 10.30am 'til late on the Friday, with a performance on the last night.

For more detailed information and a booking form, please contact the office or visit our website www.springsdancecompany.org.uk.



Europe's foremost professional Christian dance company

Cathedral Tour October 2008

Consider the Eucharist in a renewed way
at a cathedral near you

Friday 3rd Portsmouth Cathedral
www.portsmouthcathedral.org.uk

Saturday 4th Guildford Cathedral
www.guildford-cathedral.org

Sunday 5th Southwark Cathedral
www.southwark.anglican.org/cathedral

Tuesday 7th Durham Cathedral
www.durhamcathedral.co.uk

Wednesday 8th Wakefield Cathedral
www.wakefieldcathedral.org.uk

Thursday 9th Norwich Cathedral
www.cathedral.org.uk

Monday 13th Leicester Cathedral
www.cathedral.leicester.anglican.org

Tuesday 14th Lincoln Cathedral
www.lincolncathedral.com

Wednesday 15th Worcester Cathedral
www.worcestercathedral.co.uk

Thursday 16th Birmingham Cathedral
www.birminghamcathedral.com



Springs for Children

Catch our magical double-bill of story-telling and dance on its national tour, or book us to perform at a church or school near you!



May

Saturday 3 rd	2.30pm	Huntingdon Commemoration Hall Box Office: 01480 455 167
Sunday 4 th	3.00pm	Watermans, Brentford Box Office: 020 8232 1010
Tuesday 13 th	1.30pm	Lamplight Arts Centre, Co Durham Box Office: 01207 218 899
Saturday 24 th	2.00pm	Subscription Rooms, Stroud Box Office: 01453 760 900
Tuesday 27 th	2.00pm	Guildhall Arts Centre, Grantham Box Office: 01476 406 158
Wednesday 28 th	1.30pm	Thameside Theatre, Essex Box Office: 0845 300 5264

June

Friday 13 th	5.00pm	Sinden Theatre, Kent Box Office: 01580 763 826
Saturday 14 th	5.00pm	Tonbridge Baptist Church, Kent Box Office: 01732 352 824
Saturday 21 st	3.00pm	Chelsea Festival Box Office: 0845 890 2435

July

Saturday 5 th	5.30pm	St Saviour's Church, Guildford Box Office: 01483 455 333
Saturday 12 th	2.30pm & 6.30pm	Theatre Royal, Westgate Street, Bury-St-Edmunds Box Office: 01284 769 505

August

Wednesday 20 th	7.00pm	Torbay Festival Box Office: 01803 208 862
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September

Saturday 6 th	2.30pm	Chipping Norton Theatre Box Office: 01608 642 350
Friday 12 th	6.00pm	St Nicholas' Church, Dorset Box Office: 01202 602 948
Saturday 13 th	11.30am & 3.00pm	The Egg, Theatre Royal, Bath Box Office: 01225 823409/448844
Sunday 21 st	3.00pm	Millfield Theatre, London N18 Box Office: 020 8807 6680

Texas Exchange

This year for the first time, two apprentices from Springs swapped places with two apprentices from Dance Ad Deum, in Houston Texas. We were transported out of our homeland and comfort zones for a fortnight, and brought back with us the memory of an invaluable time which has widened our experiences as Christian dancers, and prepared us in significant ways for the *elevate* tour, and our future training at Laban and London Studios. The exchange was an amazing opportunity to see how other Christian dancers are using their art to explore their faith and challenge their audiences.



On seeing their repertoire it was interesting to learn that contemporary styles in the US and the UK have evolved to be quite different from one another, making this type of exchange beneficial to all involved. One of the high points was a new duet choreographed on us by the Director,

Randall Flinn, which we have since performed in London and Worcester. The Texans took back with them a new duet choreographed by Maggie Kwan of Springs, an intense piece exploring our tendency to race through life. So in these two weeks of swapping dancers, choreography, accents and theological thoughts, we all had our eyes opened, home or away, as artists who wish to pioneer for dance in the global church.



It was the renewal of a strengthened relationship between two special companies, who can continue to learn from each other in their creative ministries.

Esther Lim and Nicola Hospedales

Come to see *elevate dance company* performing and teaching near you! Check our website for tour dates or contact the office.

Become a Friend!

Springs Dance Company reaches thousands of people each year with high quality, accessible, thought-provoking performances and workshops. Springs cannot exist without you! In 2009 the Company hopes to tour a new full length work, based on the fruits of the spirit, to theatres across the country in order to reach audiences that wouldn't otherwise see our work. By becoming a *Friend* of Springs you can help to make this vision a reality. *Friends* give whatever they can afford, however small or large the contribution. To become a *Friend*, all the Company asks is that this contribution is regular to enable us to plan our work. For more details about how to become a Friend and receive your free Springs T-shirt or bag, contact the office!



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All photographs by Simon Richardson