

FREE UNTICKETED • JUST SHOW UP

# DANCING CITY

📍 Stratford Town Centre, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and East Bank



SAT 6 SEP

1PM — 6.30PM

## A CELEBRATION OF OUTDOOR DANCE IN NEWHAM

This year's alfresco dance take-over, showcases a host of amazing outdoor spaces across Newham – popping up in Stratford Town Centre, East Bank and Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. With stunning staging and a huge variety of dance styles, you can catch exceptional homegrown and international talent. Every performance is FREE and unticketed – just show up.

See pages 38 to 39 to plan your visit.



BSL and Live AD Assisted Routes.

Supported by the London Borough of Newham, Sadler's Wells East, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, East Bank, Without Walls, East London Dance, University of the Arts London, Arts Council England, Stratford Original, Embassy of Sweden, Creative Australia and Create SA. With thanks to The Source and Stratford Shopping Centre.

FREE UNTICKETED • JUST SHOW UP



FIRE ISLAND DANCE FESTIVAL AND GDIF

## FIRE ISLAND DANCE FESTIVAL TRIPLE-BILL

SAT 6 SEP • 1PM + 3.30PM + 6.05PM

📍 STRATFORD WATERFRONT, E20 2AQ  
W3W.CO/PACK.LIKE.GOODS

**In an exciting new partnership with New York's iconic Fire Island Dance Festival, a stellar line-up of international LGBTQIA+ dance artists perform at Dancing City presenting a triptych of UK premieres.**

Fire Island Dance Festival was established in 1995 as a fundraising event for Dancers Responding to AIDS (DRA) and has become a celebrated annual outdoor festival showcasing world-class emerging and established dance.

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Arts Council England.

With thanks to Fire Island Dance Festival, Dancers Responding to AIDS and Sadler's Wells.

### LAYL (NIGHT)

AHMAD JOUDEH

Syrian-born dancer and international Emmy-winner Ahmad Joudeh brings his deeply personal choreography to London for the first time. As an artist who has risked his life in his commitment to dance, this performance is a testimony to his courage and dedication.

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Arts Council England.

SAT 6 SEP  
1PM + 3.30PM + 6.05PM (4 mins)

### COURTNEY'S DINER

COURTNEY WASHINGTON BALENCIAGA AND  
MASTERZ AT WORK DANCE FAMILY

Brought to you by the legendary mother of the House of Balenciaga and founder of the Kiki House of Juicy Couture, Courtney 'Balenciaga' Washington's electric fusion of ballroom choreography and contemporary dance celebrates identity, perseverance and partying.

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Arts Council England.

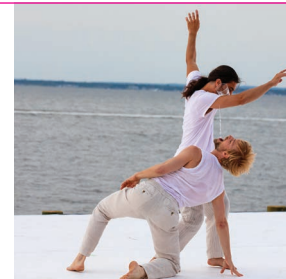
SAT 6 SEP  
1PM + 3.30PM + 6.05PM (5 mins)

### A DELICATE BALANCE

PONTUS LIDBERG

An entrancing duet exploring themes of trust, vulnerability and human connection. This intimate and stunningly realised performance uses a simple prop (a glass water) to reveal achingly beautiful perspectives on the essence of relationships.

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Arts Council England.

SAT 6 SEP  
1PM + 3.30PM + 6.05PM (6 mins)

**THROUGH ANOTHER LENS**

RESTLESS DANCE THEATRE

WATERFRONT SQUARE, E20 2AR  
W3W.CO/CROSS.ORBIT.PETS**SAT 6 SEP**  
2.55PM + 5PM (17 mins)

From Australia's internationally acclaimed inclusive company, this bold new performance invites you to slow down, look closer, and experience the world from a different perspective. Take part in free dance workshops on Fri 5 Sep. Find out more at [festival.org/gdif-get-involved](https://festival.org/gdif-get-involved)

**Live AD 5pm**

Supported by the London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Creative Australia and Create SA.

**ONE SKY**

PAGRAV DANCE COMPANY

STRATFORD WALK, E20 2AS  
W3W.CO/THAT.STATUS.FAME**SAT 6 SEP**  
2.30PM + 5.40PM (30 mins)

The spirit of South Asian kite festivals comes to Stratford, in this dance spectacular which celebrates the importance of togetherness. Drop in to free kite-making workshops from 3.15pm-5.15pm at Sadler's Wells East.

Supported by Sadler's Wells East, the London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Arts Council England.



TT 5.30pm, Live AD 5.40pm

**360°**

LA GUALTERO

CAROUSEL ROOM, E20 2AG  
W3W.CO/BETS.FULL.TOPS**SAT 6 SEP**  
3.10PM + 4.40PM (17 mins)

This hypnotising performance features continually rotating choreography which Raquel Galtero uses to evoke her Columbian heritage. With echoes of carnival, 360 unfolds as an all-encompassing evocation of female lived experience.

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Arts Council England.

**PASSAGE**

YOANN BOURGEOIS

FOUNTAIN ROOM, E15 2NG  
W3W.CO/SAMPLE.LOVE.BULB**SAT 6 SEP**  
3.45PM + 5.10PM + 6.20PM (8 mins)

What secrets lie hidden on the other side of the door? Yoann Bourgeois, widely known for viral live performance videos and recent collaborations with Harry Styles and FKA Twigs, brings his signature blend of gravity-defying performance, hypnotic movement and extraordinary staging to Dancing City.

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Arts Council England.

**FRAGMENTS OF US**

TALAWA, FUBUNATION &amp; SONIA HUGHES

STRATFORD ROOFTOP, E15 1BN  
W3W.CO/FOSTER.CALMS.THEY**SAT 6 SEP**  
1PM + 3.20PM (20 mins)

Celebrating the endless possibilities of black masculinity, this dance theatre performance features fluid movement and poignant poetry to reveal snapshots of joy, struggle, love and loss.

Dialogue available digitally. Audience interaction

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Stratford Original and Arts Council England

**PASSIONATELY DEFIANT**

JOE POWELL-MAIN

MARSHGATE SOUTH, E20 2AE  
W3W.CO/OFTEN.SPUN.POOL**SAT 6 SEP**  
1.55PM + 3.30PM (10 mins)

Mixing paso doble, tango and ballet, this deeply personal performance celebrates Joe Powell-Main's journey back to dance after becoming disabled at the age of 15 and going on to become the first wheelchair user to dance with the Royal Ballet.

**Live AD at 3:30pm**

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Arts Council England.



**RO-TES-ጎጎጎጎ**

STOPGAP DANCE

MARSHGATE SOUTH, E20 2AE  
W3W.CO/OFTEN.SPUN.POOLSAT 6 SEP  
1.15PM + 4.15PM (30 mins)

With groundbreaking innovation in wheelchair design, Stoppgap and Nadenh Poan invite you into a world of bold movement, irresistible rhythms and joyful celebration of progress, community, and possibility. TT 1pm and 4pm, AD at all shows also available via captions

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, Without Walls, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Arts Council England.

**ROOTS TO RISE**

NANDITA SHANKARDASS

THE CAROUSEL ROOM, E20 2AG  
W3W.CO/BETS.FULL.TOPSAT 6 SEP  
2.15PM + 5.30PM (30 mins)

Three women confront their personal and collective histories, learning from one another and those who came before. Blending classical Indian dance with contemporary and folk movement.

BSL, Digital AD at all shows. TT 1.55pm

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, Without Walls, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Arts Council England.

**JUNGLE BOY**

LEVAN PEART

STRATFORD WATERFRONT, E20 2AQ  
W3W.CO/PACK.LIKE.GOODSSAT 6 SEP  
2PM + 4.15PM (10 mins)

Newham local Levan Peart celebrates self-discovery, healing and community in this vibrant performance featuring four London dancers and live music.

After the performance join free screenings of the accompanying Jungle Boy short film at the nearby London College of Fashion.

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, University of the Arts London, and Arts Council England.

**WATERKIND**

LAND BEFORE TIME

CARPENTER'S LOCK, E20 2ST  
W3W.CO/YAPPY.EGGS.GLADSAT 6 SEP  
1.35PM + 4.05PM (26 mins)

This choreographic tribute to water features expressive freestyle and popping echoing the flows and currents of rivers and oceans. This captivating duet offers a meditation on the fundamental importance of water to our lives.

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Embassy of Sweden, and Arts Council England.

**WHEN JAZZ MEETS HIP HOP**

UEL DANCE COLLECTIVE

STRATFORD ROOF TOP, E15 1BN  
W3W.CO/FOSTER.CALMS.THEYSAT 6 SEP  
1.30PM + 3.00PM (7 mins)

Exploring the connection between Jazz music inspired by the Harlem Renaissance and hip-hop culture and how the two genres each represent the musical language of rebellion and give power to the voiceless. Brought to you by renowned choreographer Jade Hackett.

Supported by The London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Stratford Original, East London Dance, University of the Arts London and Arts Council England

**THE WHISPERING FOREST**

THE YORUBA TALES COLLECTIVE

LONDON COLLEGE OF FASHION, E20 2AR  
W3W.CO/BRICK.ACTION.FISHSAT 6 SEP  
EVERY 30 MINUTES FROM 1PM

Ijapa the Tortoise and the Forest Spirits battle for supremacy, mirroring the human destruction of an ever shape-shifting natural environment. This free live VR experience requires a pre-booked ticket. Find out more at

[festival.org/dancing-city-2025](https://festival.org/dancing-city-2025)

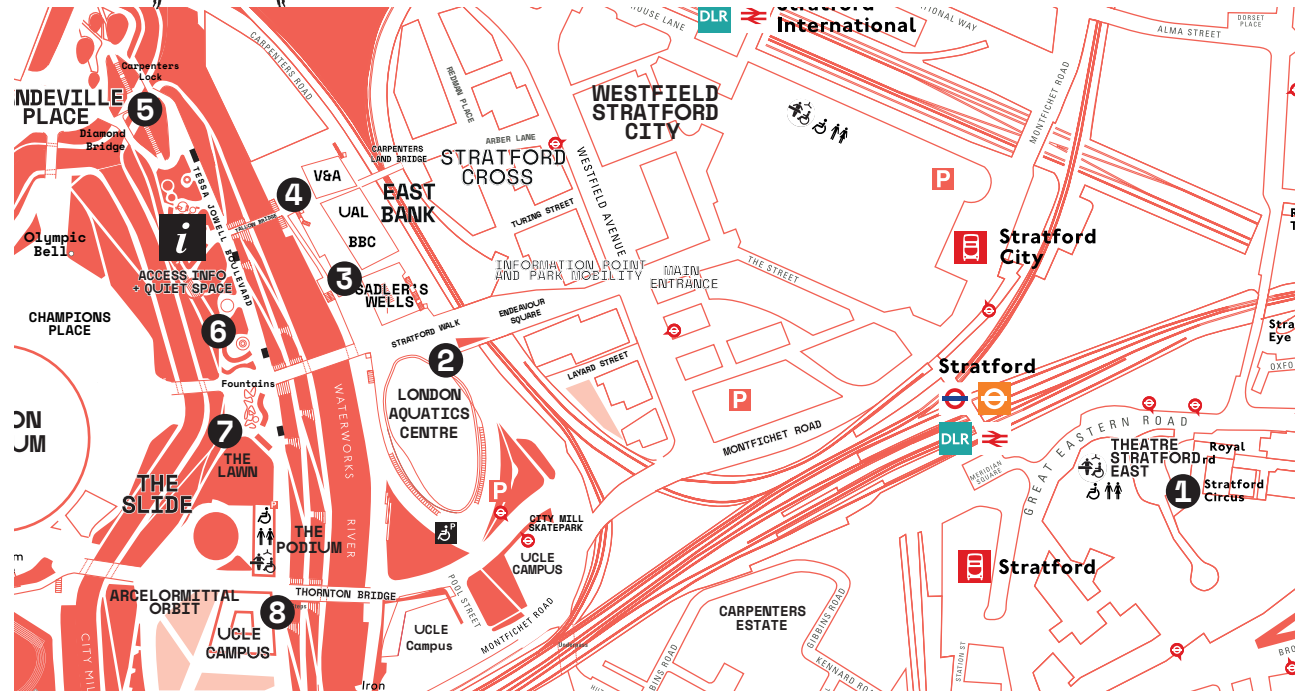
Supported by University of the Arts London, The London Borough of Newham, East Bank, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, East London Dance and Arts Council England



# DANCING CITY

**STRATFORD/NEWHAM**


**SAT 6 SEPTEMBER**  
**1PM — 6.30PM**





	13.00	13.15	13.30	13.45	14.00	14.15	14.30	14.45	15.00	15.15	15.30	15.45	16.00	16.15	16.30	16.45	17.00	17.15	17.30	17.45	18.00	18.15	18.30	
<b>1</b> STRATFORD ROOFTOP	FRAGMENTS OF US		WHU JAZZ MEETS HIPHOP						WHU JAZZ MEETS HIPHOP		FRAGMENTS OF US													
<b>2</b> STRATFORD WALK							ONE SKY		ONE SKY WORKSHOP										ONE SKY (AD, TT)					
<b>3</b> EAST BANK WATERFRONT	FIRE ISLAND TRIPLE BILL				JUNGLE BOY						FIRE ISLAND TRIPLE BILL		JUNGLE BOY								FIRE ISLAND TRIPLE BILL			
<b>4</b> WATERFRONT SQUARE									THROUGH ANOTHER LENS								THROUGH ANOTHER LENS (AD)							
<b>5</b> CARPENTERS LOCK			WATERKIND								WATERKIND													
<b>6</b> CAROUSEL ROOM					ROOTS TO RISE (CAP, AD, TT)				360°						360°		ROOTS TO RISE (CAP, AD)							
<b>7</b> FOUNTAIN ROOM											PASSAGE								PASSAGE		PASSAGE			
<b>8</b> MARSHGATE SOUTH	RO-TES '1911' (CAP, AD, TT)		PASSIONATELY DEFIANT						PASSIONATELY DEFIANT (AD)				RO-TES '1911' (CAP, AD, TT)											


# YOUR VISIT

You can help make sure everyone has a great experience at GDIF by:

 Allowing children to the front, and being mindful of sight lines at busy shows by sitting on the ground

 Respecting accessible viewing areas and toilets

 Respecting others' personal space and comfort zones

 Following us on social media for live updates, including weather related information. We will only ever cancel if absolutely necessary, so remember to check the forecast and bring appropriate clothing.

## PHOTOGRAPHY + FILMING

There will be photographers and film makers at GDIF events. If you don't want to be featured in our content, please wear a 'No Photography' sticker, available from our volunteers. Taken a great photo at GDIF? Share on social and tag [@GDIFestival](#) using [#GDIF2025](#)

## TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

We want to hear from you about your experience of the festival and how we can make it even better next year. Please fill out our feedback form online or at a GDIF event. We'd love to hear from you: [festival.org/gdif-2025-survey](https://festival.org/gdif-2025-survey)

## ♥ GDIF VOLUNTEERS ♥

We are immensely grateful to GDIF's volunteers who are on hand at every event to help with information and directions. You can't miss them in their bright pink t-shirts. Ask them about travel options, access information, or show recommendations.

♥ **Donate at GDIF events**  
Look out for our contactless donation points at events.

♥ **Donate or sign up online at [bit.ly/support-gdif](https://bit.ly/support-gdif)**

# LOVE GDIF?

Please help us to keep the festival free by donating today or during your visit. This will be the 30<sup>th</sup> edition of GDIF and over many years we hope that GDIF has left many audience members with spectacular memories that still live on. By supporting the Festival, you can help make sure that we can continue to celebrate together in future years.

Greenwich & Docklands Festivals (trading as FESTIVAL.ORG) is a Registered Charity, No 1037878

# ALL OUR THANKS

## SUPPORTED BY

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ROYAL BOROUGH OF GREENWICH

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Supported using public funding by  
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EASTBANK

EAST LONDON DANCE

ual: london college of fashion

GLOBAL STREETS

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DRA DANCERS RESPONDING TO AIDS

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**Ben Bodsworth**, Head of Technical  
**Luke Bryant**, Communications and Audiences Officer  
**Shaun Evelyn**, Head of Communications & Audiences  
**Ellie Harris**, Executive Producer  
**Bradley Hemmings**, Artistic Director  
**Alison Holder**, Associate Producer  
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**Ursula Kerswell**, Senior Production Manager

**George Mehmet-Wright**, Volunteering Assistant  
**Felicity Paterson**, General Manager  
**Suryanshi Raval**, Festival Assistant  
**Mairi Shimmins**, Volunteer Coordinator  
**Olivia Seward**, Artist Liaison Assistant  
**Matilda Wilde**, Artist Liaison Producer  
**Kevin Wratten**, Global Streets Producer  
**Jiangyao Wu**, Access Assistant  
**About Grace PR**, PR Consultant

## OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Fiona Hughes** (Chair), **Donnell Asare**, **Melina Barnett**, **Carolina Correia**, **Becky David**, **CLR Gary Dillon**, **Paul Hanrahan**, **Josh Harsant**, **Maxi Himpe**, **Oliver Hughes**, **Rahee Nayar**, **Geoffrey Pine**, **Jenny Sealey**, **Dr Margaret Sheehy**, **Tina Walsberger**

## PATRONS

We are extremely grateful to our patrons for their continued support:  
**Lew Hodges**, **Maggi Knights**, **Felicity Lane**, **Jean Lebrecht**, **Antony McBride**, **Geoffrey Pine** and **Richard White**, and one anonymous patron.

# ACCESS AT GDIF

Access and Inclusion are at the heart of GDIF. We are committed to creating an unforgettable experience for Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent audiences and artists.

[festival.org/access](https://festival.org/access) [access@festival.org](mailto:access@festival.org) 02083 055021 07899 893 935

## ACCESSIBILITY ON SITE:

On site you will be greeted by our friendly staff and volunteers.

### All of our sites:

- Are relaxed - you can move around and make noise
- Are wheelchair accessible
- Welcome Assistance dogs
- Have chairs available
- Larger sites will have low sensory spaces, changing places facilities, induction loops at the welcome point and BSL information.

## ON OUR WEBSITE

Check out our website for full accessibility information and resources, including:

- Photo routes and maps
- Blue badge parking
- Assisted routes
- Viewing and low sensory areas
- Accessible toilets
- Easy Read, large print guides and other downloadable resources

## ACCESS KEY

BSL Interpreted



Audio Described



Captioned



Easy Read



Touch Tour



## SHOW ACCESSIBILITY:

- We have tailor-made accessibility for each show. There are access symbols on each event page - use the key below
- Shows with speech will have a BSL interpreted performance. Lots of shows are speech free!
- Lots of shows will have audio description. Some will be live via headsets and some will have digital audio introductions.
- Easy Read is available on our website and printed copies will be on site.
- At Greenwich Fair there will be an assisted Live AD route and a suggested BSL/ speech free route. At Dancing City there will be guided BSL and Live AD routes. **Email [access@festival.org](mailto:access@festival.org) or phone 079899 893 935 to book your space.**

## WHAT TO EXPECT

Join In



On The Move



Great For Kids



Speech Free



Sensory Spectacle



# CELEBRATING THREE DECADES OF GREENWICH + DOCKLANDS INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

In words and hundreds of never-before-seen images of the spectacular productions that have thrilled Londoners since 1996, *Above and Beyond* tells the story of 30 years of Greenwich+Docklands International Festival in a limited edition 160page large format hardback.



Copies will also be available to purchase at GDIF 2025 events from Friday 22 August until Saturday 6 September. Buy your copy from the GDIF store online or in person to receive your free limited edition tote bag.

[bit.ly/gdif-book](https://bit.ly/gdif-book)