

**Future Ecologies: Producing Dance Network *Opening the Space*
Hybrid Open Forum 24TH November 3.00-5.00pm**

In partnership with Yorkshire Dance

Opening the Space is the first public event of the AHRC-funded Future Ecologies: Producing Dance Network (FE:PDN).

The event intends to initiate dialogue and exchange between academics and arts professionals by setting out the concepts, processes and questions forming and informing this 18-month investigation. Looking at producing dance through an ecological lens reminds us that we are often invisibly linked in an ecosystem that is dynamic and sensitive, and where damage to one area affects the whole.

Encompassing dance as a broad and diverse practice and academic discipline, the network recognises the need for strategic development at a time of significant challenges. FE:PDN will address the changed landscape resulting from the unprecedented convergence of Brexit and Covid-19, coupled with acute concerns regarding diversity, social justice and climate change, exacerbated by economic instability and war.

In this context, an expanded concept of producing is designed to reveal and extend participation, to enhance the symbiotic nature of creative and research practices and to strengthen the resilience and sustainability of dance. Looking from an ecological perspective, *Opening the Space* will begin the vital task of envisioning a new future for producing dance.

Funded through an AHRC application authored by Christopher Bannerman (London Contemporary Dance School), Vida Midgelow (University of the Arts London) and Stefanie Sachsenmaier (Middlesex University) FE:PDN includes:

AHRC Investigators

‘Funmi Adewole (Co-I) De Montfort University
Christopher Bannerman (PI) London Contemporary Dance School
Sarah Hopfinger (Co-I) Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
Rachel Krische (Co-I) Leeds Beckett University
Vida Midgelow (Co-I) University of the Arts London
Stefanie Sachsenmaier Co-I, Middlesex University

Arts Partners

Anand Bhatt, Dance City, Newcastle
Anita Clark, The Work Room, Glasgow
Andrew Hurst, One Dance UK
Suzie Leighton, The Cultural Capital Exchange
Eddie Nixon/Efrosini Protopapa, The Place, London
Hannah Robertshaw/João Maio, Yorkshire Dance
Paul Russ, Fabric, Nottingham/Birmingham

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