



## Dance Research Matters Networks May 2024 Newsletter

Welcome to your May 2024 Dance Research Matters Network Newsletter

### Cross-Network News

Save the new date for Dance Research Matters mid-point event – 10th September 2024

The Dance Research Matters mid-point hybrid event will now be taking place on the **10<sup>th</sup> September 2024** at the remarkable [St. Mary's Guildhall](#) in Coventry. More details and registration links to follow.

### Network Updates

Dancing Otherwise Network: Exploring Pluriversal Practices (<https://dancingotherwise.com/>)

On the 19<sup>th</sup> April the Dancing Otherwise network hosted the public event 'Dancing the Pluriverse – Dancing Otherwise'. The event comprised two workshops led by Anna de Clayes of Communitas dance and Charlie Ashwell, followed by a public round table discussion of the network themes delivered with the network's partner, South East Dance, Brighton. The network was joined by one participant, Lucy Clark, who is supported by a young dance maker's bursary - funded by the network and managed by another partner, the Sussex Dance Network.

Future Ecologies: Producing Dance Network (FE:PDN)

On the 18<sup>th</sup> April the FE:PDN hosted its second meeting for the Early Career Group. The meeting took the question 'what kind of mechanisms would make resilient the eco-system(s) of dance?' as a starting point for its discussion.

On the 15th May 2024 FE:PDN hosted its third Early Career Group meeting. Discussion topics included 'How might producing dance be conceptualised as a form of academic research?' and other topics as suggested by participants.

The group's aim, at this time of unprecedented challenges, is to contribute to the future-proofing of dance as a profession and a discipline. The group is for all practitioners who self-identify as Early Career: this might be in all or any aspect of their work. Practitioners invested in supporting Early Career dance professionals or initiatives are also welcomed.

The Early Career Group lead is Dr 'Funmi Adewole (De Montfort University, Leicester). She can be reached at [oluwafunmilayo.adewole@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:oluwafunmilayo.adewole@dmu.ac.uk).

The Early Career Group continues to meet regularly to discuss the future possibilities and challenges for dance.

### South Asian Dance Equity (SADE): The Arts that British South Asian Dance Ignores Network

On the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> April the SADE Network organised 'South Asian Dance and LGBTQi+ Identities'. The two-day event was hosted by Baithak, UK, and co-curated by Jaivant Patel Company.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> April Baithak, UK, hosted a public webinar with five artists/collectives: Nikhita Devi (UK), Komal Gandhar/DMSC (India), Raheem S. Payne (UK), Shiva Raichandani (UK) and Fazle Shairmahomed (The Netherlands). During the webinar contributors discussed how their work challenges the cisgenderism and/or heteronormativity that tends to dominate South Asian cultures, including dance. The provocations were followed by a Q&A with audience members. On the 30<sup>th</sup> April Baithak, UK, hosted an in-person event for an invited group of participants to further explore the themes set out in the webinar.

## Upcoming Events

(events arranged chronologically)

### Digital Black Dance Ecologies Network

The Digital Black Dance Ecologies Network is hosting two specialised PhD workshops designed for Black artists and postgraduate students interested in the intersections between Black Dance, digital technologies, environmental justice and racial equity. Facilitated by Dr Tia-Monique Uzor from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama and Dr Hannah Thuraisingam Robbins from the University of Nottingham, this workshop offers an introduction to PhD essentials. Explore and refine potential PhD topics, engage in a Q&A session on the Black PhD experience in the UK, and gain valuable insights into research funding opportunities and avenues for potential collaborations.

**22nd May 2024, 5-6.30pm:** A workshop 'Exploring Black PhD Pathways in Dance'

**Venue:** Royal Central School of Speech and Drama

**To Attend:** Please complete the [Google form via this link](#) to express your interest in attending the workshop. Forms should be completed by **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024, 5pm**

**6th June 2024, 5.30-7.30pm:** A workshop 'Exploring Black PhD Pathways in Dance'

**Venue:** Northern School of Contemporary Dance, Leeds

**To Attend:** Please complete the [Google form via this link](#) to express your interest in attending the workshop. Forms should be completed by **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024, 5pm**

**Travel Bursaries:** There are ten travel bursaries available for those needing support attending the workshop. If you would like to apply for one of these bursaries, please indicate so on the application form with the necessary details.

For questions, please email the project coordinator Amelia at [dbde@cssd.ac.uk](mailto:dbde@cssd.ac.uk)

### Future Ecologies: Producing Dance Network (FE:PDN)

**7th June 2024, 12.30-5pm:** Network event

**Venue:** Dance Hub space, Thorp Street, Birmingham

In partnership with FABRIC and Birmingham Dance Network the next FE:PDN hybrid event will take place on 7th June at the Dance Hub space, Thorp Street Birmingham.

More details to follow.

Dancing Otherwise Network: Exploring Pluriversal Practices (<https://dancingotherwise.com/>)

**13th, 14th, 15th June 2024:** 'Examining Pluriverses: Learning from Nature, Coalitions Kinship and Care' at the Hawkwood Centre. (Core participants)

**14th June 2024, 2-5pm.** Workshop and Sharing: 'Learning from Nature.' Bath Spa University. Please email [info@juliapond.com](mailto:info@juliapond.com) if you would like to attend.

**October 2024:** Producing the Pluriverse: 'Power, Place, Promotion: Power and spatial dynamics in dance production'. Online.

**January 2025:** 'Moving Otherwise: Making Change'. Venue: Kingston University. Open to the public.

Critical Dance Pedagogy Network

The Network has announced [four hybrid symposium events](#) which will be hosted across the UK and Northern Ireland.

**11 July 2024, 10-5pm:** 'Equality, diversity and inclusion' Centre for Arts and Health, Canterbury Christ Church University), co-led by at Centre for Dance Research (C-DaRE), Coventry University and online.

**20 September 2024, 10-5pm:** 'Pedagogy(ies) and practices' at University of Edinburgh and online.

**January 2025** (date will be confirmed soon) 10-5pm Leadership and futures at Queen's University Belfast and online.

South Asian Dance Equity (SADE): The Arts that British South Asian Dance Ignores Network

**September 2024:** 'South Asian Dance and Caste'. Coordinated by Sampad Arts, Birmingham

**December 2024:** 'South Asian Dance and Ableism'. Coordinated by Balbir Singh Dance Company, Leeds

Links to Networks' main pages

(in alphabetical order)

Critical Dance Pedagogy Network:

<https://www.criticaldancepedagogy.org/home>

Digital Black Dance Ecologies Network:

<https://www.digitalblkdance.org>

<https://twitter.com/DBDEproject>

<https://www.instagram.com/dbdeproject>

Dancing Otherwise Network

<https://dancingotherwise.com/>

<https://www.instagram.com/dancingotherwise/>

Future Ecologies Network (FE:PDN)

(website under construction)

South Asian Dance Equity (SADE)

<https://www.akademi.co.uk/sade-project-launch/>

<https://www.sampad.org.uk/projects/south-asian-dance-equity-sade/>

<https://www.instagram.com/southasiandanceequity/>