



press release

7 July 2006

Dancing in the street

Between 15 and 17 July there will be a celebration of dance all over England.

During **Big Dance**, there will be dancing in the streets, in schools, on islands, in forests, in shopping centres, in caves and on Dartmoor.

Highlights of events in the south west include:

Big Dance in the region will launch in Swindon on **Saturday 15 July** with Swindon's largest ever conga starting at Swindon Town Hall and winding through the town centre. There will also be a street dance performance from Banxy as part of Swindon's annual Street Festival.

On **Saturday 22 July** the Arts Council will be joining with the BBC and hundreds of participants to break the world record for the greatest number of people to participate in a dance class simultaneously. The **Big Dance Class** will take place, in **St Austell** town centre, on **Dartmoor**, in **Bournemouth** Pavilion, at Butlins in **Minehead**, the Grand Ballroom of the Council House in **Bristol**, GL1 in **Gloucester** and the Link Centre in **Swindon**.

During Big Dance Week, Plymouth Youth Dance Company will perform Syncapoda at Powderham Castle in **Kenton**, Northernhay Gardens in **Exeter** and Carnglaze Caverns near Liskeard. The stunningly costumed piece uses contemporary dance to explore the world of insects, their movement and their behaviours.

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For further information and photos contact Gillian Taylor 07989 430881



As part of the Port Eliot Literature Festival on 22 July in **Saltash**, C-Scape will perform new dance works by choreographers Fleur Darkin and Debbie Fionn Barr. There will be text and image based dance workshops for anyone to join in and C-Scape's boys youth dance companies will perform during the day.

At ICIA, the University of **Bath**'s Institute of Contemporary Interdisciplinary Arts, an exhibition of images by photographer Kevin Clifford will launch on Monday July 17. The photographs were taken as part of DanceSCAPES, a project which explores the relationship between dance, landscape and photography. The exhibition will continue until 13 October.

To join in one of the Big Dance Class events on July 22 or to find out more about Big Dance events in the south west – including belly dancing, street dance lessons, dancing on Burgh Island and a Tango in the Forest – look at the Big Dance website at www.bigdance.org.uk. To join in the Big Dance on Dartmoor, register at www.bigdanceondartmoor.org.uk.

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note to editors

Arts Council England is the national development agency for the arts in England, distributing public money from Government and the National Lottery.

www.artscouncil.org.uk

For more information contact:

Gillian Taylor

01392 229207

07989 430881

gillian.taylor@artscouncil.org.uk

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