



# OPEN ONLINE THEATRE FESTIVAL 2021

1 - 6 February



**CREATE ANYWHERE,  
REACH EVERYWHERE**



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

# Welcome to the OOT Festival 2021!

OOT Festival 2021 presents an exciting mix of new performance and panel discussions at the vital intersection of performing arts and digital.

## **DISCOVER**

New artists making work for the digital realm

## **EXPERIENCE**

Sensography - work created for up to four live streaming cameras

## **IMAGINE**

Get involved in future-focused discussions on the intersections of performing arts and the digital

## **OOT Performance**

OOT Festival 2021 features new pieces by performing artists making work specifically for live-streaming using up to four cameras. As part of IJAD Dance Company's Open Online Theatre (OOT) programme, Clémence Debaig, Lauren Tucker, Daisy Harrison, Reem Naamani and O. Pen Be present performances from Lebanon and four regions of the UK, reflecting their experiences of 2020.

Through December and January, they will be developing their work via online co-creation sessions on the Open Online Theatre platform. You are invited to attend and co-create with the artists, then see the results of your input at the Festival in February!

Visit [openonlinetheatre.org/whats-on/](https://openonlinetheatre.org/whats-on/)



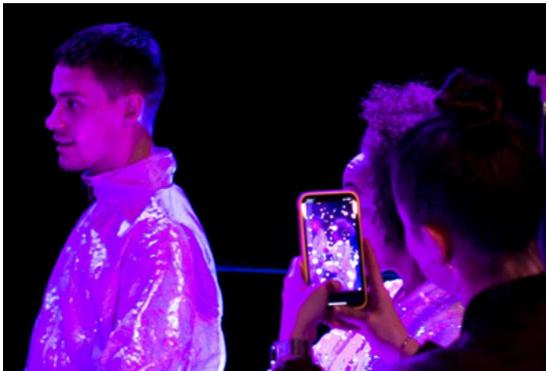
@openonlinetheatre



@theatre\_open



@openonlinetheatre



## Connective Matrix Panel Discussions

### 1 - 3 February

OOT Festival 2021 is hosting four Connective Matrix panel discussions featuring artists, technologists and researchers at the cutting edge of performing arts and the digital. You can ask questions via live chat and together imagine the best and most exciting future possibilities!

## What is Open Online Theatre?

Open Online Theatre (OOT) is an innovative live-streaming and co-creation platform. Its future-focused training scheme up-skills artists to create work specifically for live-streaming, while monetising their process and performances using the specialised OOT platform.

You can now enjoy that work, created through a series of online OOT co-creation sessions and workshops. We'd love you to join the conversation on social media.

**#OOTFestival #OOTArtists**

#OOTReem #OOTPen

#OOTClemence #OOTDaisy #OOTLauren



@openonlinetheatre



@theatre\_open



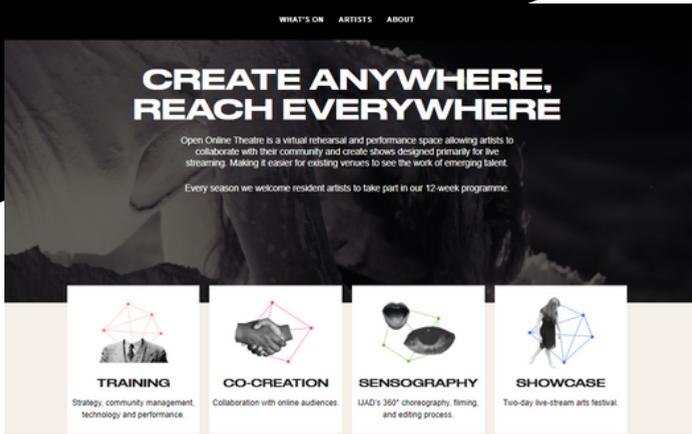
@openonlinetheatre

"The dialogue with mentors has been really stimulating. Conversation and research has been very rich. It is a supportive, collaborative and open way of working that has certainly opened my thinking around what could be possible in terms of digital participation, co-creation and making work that lives online."

**Lauren Tucker, Tuckshop Dance Theatre**

"My ideas and creative practices are being challenged and stretched, finding I can do more than I thought. Being guided by a range of excellent experienced mentors across social media promotion, new business set up, film editing, film photography, and of course sensography is an amazing opportunity not available anywhere else."

**O.Pen Be**



## Looking to the future

OOT supports artists to build sustainable careers, which can flourish regardless of the challenging times we find ourselves in. If you would like to find out more about the programme or be involved in its future, email [openonlinetheatre@ijaddancecompany.com](mailto:openonlinetheatre@ijaddancecompany.com).



@openonlinetheatre



@theatre\_open



@openonlinetheatre

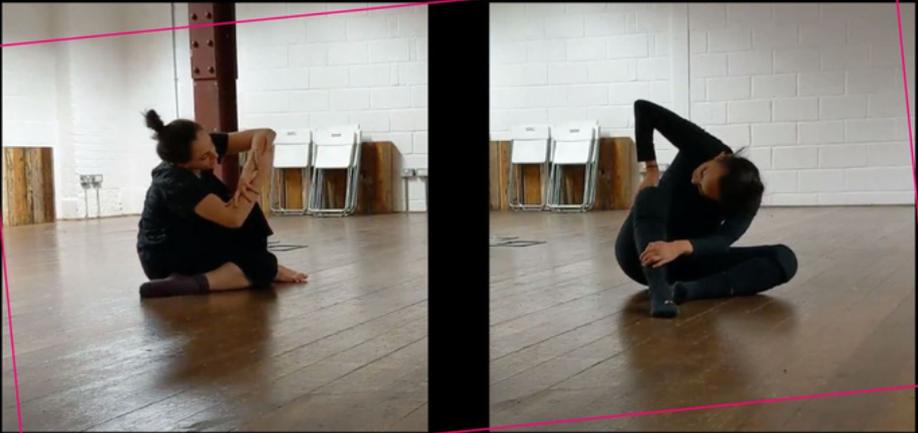


# Clémence Debaig

## Remote Intimacy

Fri 5 & Sat 6 February, 19:00

Via wearable technology, Clémence explores what intimacy means to us, especially when physical presence is not possible. How can we keep or develop relationships? How can we recreate the feeling of physical touch? Follow the journey and struggles of two protagonists on their quest to reconnect from remote locations.



Clémence Debaig is a designer, dancer and computational artist, creating new mechanics to collaborate with the audience while exploring notions of control, harassment and apathy, questioning how human behaviours are changed when using technology as a proxy to interact.



@clemencedebaigart



@clemencedebaig



@clemencedebaig\_art



# Daisy Harrison

## Flying/Falling

Fri 5 February, 20:20

Many of us have recently experienced the feeling of the rug being pulled from under our feet. How much ownership do we have over the perception of our experience? Do we choose to fly or fall? Or is the experience out of our hands?

Flying/Falling is an immersive duet performance, exploring the delicate tipping point between flying and falling.



Image credit David Snowden

Daisy works collaboratively with artists to integrate dance with music, lighting design, projection and film. She is a freelance dance artist based in the South West, creating work as part of Prism Project. She is supported by Dance in Devon.

**f** @prismprojectexeter    **t** @prismprojectexe  
**i** @prismprojectexeter



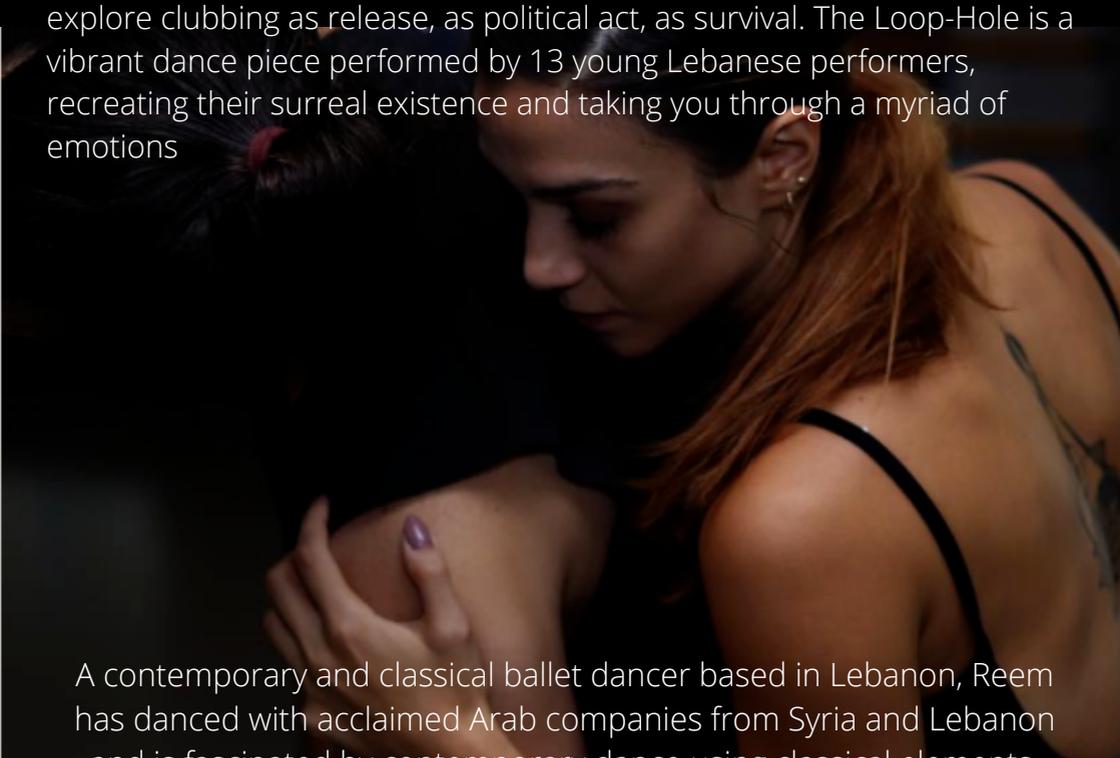
# Reem Naamani

## The Loop-hole: الثغرة

Sat 6 February, 18:20

Young people under pressure need to let off steam. In Lebanon's restrictive climate they cheat the rules and find release in nightclubs: rare spaces filled with music and dancing and a taste of how freedom might feel. Reem re-creates the nightclub with her dancers to

explore clubbing as release, as political act, as survival. The Loop-Hole is a vibrant dance piece performed by 13 young Lebanese performers, recreating their surreal existence and taking you through a myriad of emotions



A contemporary and classical ballet dancer based in Lebanon, Reem has danced with acclaimed Arab companies from Syria and Lebanon and is fascinated by contemporary dance using classical elements, bringing together the simplest of stories and the most controversial humanitarian issues.



@ReemNaamaniOOT



@naamanireem



# O.Pen Be

## Touch Outlaws

Sat 6 February, 19:40

In this solo movement piece O. Pen Be plays with objects and textures to explore the effects of touch deprivation over months of pandemic restrictions. What happens when your body is seen as a danger to others, and even to yourself?

Who is the contaminator? Is there an enemy within or without? Who do we choose to protect, or not? How do we keep our vital and joyful senses of touch alive when it feels so unsafe, for so long?



A psychotherapeutic practitioner and somatic facilitator for decades, O.Pen Be is a live artist who identifies as a mature woman challenging stereotypes of ageing through embodied interactive performance.



@O.PenBeLiveArt



@o.pen.be





# Lauren Tucker

## Alexa

Fri 5 February, 19:40

With growing awareness of tensions between the human and digital interface during social distancing, Lauren turns to Alexa as collaborator. Can Alexa fill the void of human connection? Is she becoming part of the family?

In this dance piece, Lauren and Nicolette Whitley will turn to Alexa for answers.



Lauren Tucker's creative practice includes choreography, making, performing, participatory practice, storytelling and producing, and making work with and for children.

Lauren is supported by Merseyside Dance Initiative.  
Performers in the work: Lauren Tucker and Nicolette Whitley.



@TuckshopDanceTheatre



@TuckshopDance



@tuckshopdancetheatre

# Thank you...

We would like to offer a huge thank you to everyone who worked with us to make Open Online Theatre a success, including all our artists and audiences, plus a special thank you to our venue

The Playground Theatre  
[theplaygroundtheatre.london](http://theplaygroundtheatre.london)

## Our partners

Arts Council England

The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust

The Playground Theatre

Stone Nest

Citrus Suite

Dance in Devon

Merseyside Dance Initiative (MDI)

Yaraqa Dance

The Grand Factory

## Our tutors

Ed Picard (film), Sarah Mace Dennis (editing), Dr John L Collins Erasm.OS (business and innovation), Amy Lord (marketing and social media) and Joumana Mourad, IJAD Dance Artistic Director (sensography).

Also part of the team are Steph Clarke (producer), Daniele Minns (general manager) and Ariane Oiticica (PR).

# Open Online Theatre Festival

## Schedule

### Connective Matrix panel discussions

#### **Who owns your work once it goes online?**

**Monday 1 February 14:00-15:00**

I.P. and rights for digitally distributed performance is still a grey area. How can we evolve this to protect artists and creators?

#### **How can the digital help artists survive?**

**Tuesday 2 February 14:00-15:00**

Which new models are being developed to help emerging and mid-career artists gain sustainable careers?

#### **Post-Covid tech evolutions: what's new and what will last?**

**Wednesday 3 February 14:00-15:00**

What models have the performing arts explored, developed and refined during the Covid-19 and lockdown period? Which adaptations have worked and will serve us going forward? Do we have new methods of best practice?

#### **Let's imagine the future and make things happen**

**Wednesday 3 February 15:30-16:30**

How would you like to see the performing arts and tech sectors co-evolve? What would be the ideal situations for artists, venues and audiences, and how can technology support them? In a perfect world, how will things flow in and between spaces?

We are bringing together future-thinking panellists at the forefront of our current intersections of art and tech to dream and imagine the best ways the two sectors can inspire and support each other for best outcomes for all.

# Open Online Theatre Festival

## Schedule

Friday 5 February

19:00 Clémence Debaig, *Remote Intimacy*

19:40 Lauren Tucker, *Alexa*

20:20 Daisy Harrison, *Flying/Falling*

Saturday 6 February

18:20 Reem Naamani, *The Loop-hole* الثغرة

19:00 Clémence Debaig, *Remote Intimacy*

19:40 O.Pen.Be, *Touch Outlaws*

## Tickets

**Festival ticket | Price £20**

(Enjoy six performances, Friday 5 & Saturday 6 Feb)

**Evening ticket | Price £15**

(Enjoy three performances, either Friday 5 or Saturday 6 Feb)

**Individual panel discussion | Price £5**

Book your tickets at [openonlinetheatre.org](https://openonlinetheatre.org)

[Join the mailing list](#)