Heart of Darkness

Autumn Tour 2009

Running time: 80 minutes
including a 20 minute interval

Kenyan Athlete (19 Minutes)

Choreography & Music Arrangement: Bawren
Dancers: Graham Adey, Kristina Alleyne, Martin
Katie Cambridge, Tony James-Andersson, Annc

World premiere: 29 January 2009 - Paul Robeson Theatre

This group work takes it's starting point from the
"the sun is beautiful people" that inspired Bawı
Beautiful People for the Without Walls festivals consortium. Kenyan
Athlete is set to a fast-paced soundtrack, exploring the beauty and
physicality of Kenyan people and their surroundings.

Sinful Intimacies (11 Minutes)

Choreography & Music Arrangement: Bawren Tavaziva
Dancers: Danced by two different dancer throughout the season

World premiere: 29 January 2009 - Paul Robeson Theatre, Hounslow

A sensual duet by Bawren exploring the unease of African society views of same-sex love, which is usually perceived as a dark possession of dangerously subversive bewitchment.

Interval

My Friend Robert (30 minutes)

Choreography & Music Arrangement: Bawren Tavaziva
Dancers: Garham Adey, Kristina Alleyne, Martina Bussi,
Katie Cambridge, Tony James-Andersson, Anna Watkins, Jade Yung

World premiere: 29 January 2009 - Paul Robeson Theatre, Hounslow

This major group work by Bawren draws on his personal experiences and memories of growing up in the newly-independent Zimbabwe of Robert Mugabe, a leader of promise and vision, adored by his people. So what went wrong? Where do the visionary dreams, empowerment, redistribution of resources and flag-waving shade off into megalomania, economic meltdown, corruption and violence? Bawren's latest group work offers a deeply personal comment on the challenges facing Africa today.

TAVAZIVA DANCE

Bawren Tavaziva
Artistic Director

Born & raised in Zimbabwe, Bawren was selected at 18 years old as an apprentice for Tumbuka Dance Company in Harare, touring Africa and Europe for five years. In 1998 he moved to the UK where he has performed with Phoenix Dance, Union Dance Company, Jazzxchange, Carol Brown & Sakoba. Bawren's choreography has been commissioned by Union Dance Company, ACE Dance Company, Tumbuka Dance Company, Ballet Black, Srishti & State of Emergency Ltd's 2001 & 2003 Mission National Tours. Bawrenis also a talented musician, & has commissioned music for Phoenix and Union Dance Company and for all his own works. In 2004, Bawren's choreography was selected as one of 5 finalists in the prestigious Place Prize, sponsored by Bloomberg. As a result of his choreographic success, Bawren formed Tavaziva Dance in 2004, touring nationally & internationally, & becoming in 2005 a Regularly Funded Organisation of Arts Council England. In 2007 Bawren choreographed the Sampad/ Tara Arts national touring production Motherland, other recent projects include creating new work in India & Canada (COBA and Dance Immersion). Bawren's most recent work include an out-door site specific piece 'Beautiful People' commissioned by the Withoutwalls Street Arts Consortium.

Tavaziva Dance

Artistic Director - Bawren Tavaziva

Executive Director - Iyshea McKay

Administrator - Jenny Hammond

Lighting & Set Designer - Chris Copland

Costume Designer - Abigail Hammond

Finance Manager - Jan Hart

Press Consultants - Kevin Wilson, Clout Communications

Photographer - Eric Richmond

Rehearsal Assistant/Dancer - Anna Watkins

Board of Directors - Peter Kyle (Chair), Graeme Wallace (Tresurer), Geoffrey King, David Simpson, Beth Cinamon

Dancers - Graham Adey, Kristina Alleyne, Martina Bussi, Katie Cambridge, Tony James-Andersson, Anna Watkins, Jade Yung

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SWINDON DANCE

Dancers:

Anna Watkins *Rehearsal Assistant/Dancer*

Anna trained at the Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance, graduating in July 2005. Since then she has performed and toured with European Ballet in both "Nutcracker" and "Ballet Celebration". In August 2006 Anna performed in the project "Down to Zero" in collaboration with the Great North Run. She also performed with Pair Dance in summer 2009. Anna joined Tavaziva Dance in 2007 and was appointed rehearsal assistant in August 2009.

Tony James-Andersson

Tony was born and raised in Sweden, and moved to London in 1998 where he did his training at The Rambert School of ballet and contemporary dance. He has performed in various musicals in London such as Lion King, Bombay Dreams, Showboat and Hair. He has performed with the Royal Opera House, English National Opera and The National Theatre. Tony also did a post grad at The Royal Academy of Music were he trained as a singer and actor. Tony joined Tavaziva Dance in August 2009.

Martina Bussi

Martina was born in Torino, Italy in 1985. From the age of 13 she went on to pursue extensive dance training in both Ballet and Contemporary dance. In 2006 she moved to London and gained a Certificate in Contemporary Dance from London Contemporary Dance School. Martina joined Henri Oguike Dance Company as an apprentice dancer for the 2007-08 and toured nationally and internationally in events such as STEPS Festival (Switzerland) and Jerusalem Dance Festival. She then worked as a freelance dancer for choreographers such as Tom Dale and Leila McMillan, as well as collaborating with "SE8 Sound &Motion". Martina joined Tavaziva Dance in August 2009.

Kristina Alleyne

Kristina Alleyne trained at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance (NSCD) 2005-08, working with Place Prize winner Anna Williams 2009. Since graduating she has toured with Postgraduate dance company Verve 2009 working with choreographers such as Fillip van Huffel, Milan Kozanek and Glenn Wilkinson. Prior to her contemporary training, Kristina formally trained as an athlete and has toured internationally with hip-hop company Dance 2Xcess 2005. Kristina has acquired a number of additional skills including circus arts stilts and fire skills. Kristina joined Tavaziva Dance in 2009.

Graham Adey

Graham trained at Northern School of Contemporary Dance graduating in 2006. He then went on to tour with State of Emergency; Mission Dance Company and ACE Dance and Music. Alongside his performing work Graham has taught on the young offenders programme run by Dance United, most recently as part of the Destino project. In 2008, Graham was invited to take part in the Ballet Gala in Yokohama, Japan and in 2009 appeared at The Place, London in The Percussive Customers. Alongside his work with Made By Katie Green, Graham is performing in the tour of Nocturn, a festival piece choreographed by Marc Brew. Graham joined Tavaziva Dance in September 2009.

Apprentice Dancers:

Katie Cambridge

Katie grew up in Brighton where she studied all styles of dance from a young age. Upon going to college Katie joined Brighton and Hove Youth Dance Company and performed at West Yorkshire Place House and The Robin Howard Theatre the Place, as a part of Youth Dance England and Fresh. While studying at London Contemporary Dance School Katie went to Italy and venues in London on the LC3 tour and performed professional work as well as student choreographies. In Easter 09 Katie assisted Bawren on a youth project as part of the CAT scheme at The Place. Katie joined Tavaziva Dance as an apprentice dancer in August 2009.

Jade Yung

Jade started her dance training at Jean M. Wong School of Ballet, and was awarded scholarships to train at the Gifted Young Dancers Programme (Hong Kong Academy for Performing Art) and Teens of Colour (City Contemporary Dance Company). Jade moved to UK to train at London Contemporary Dance School in 2006, and has worked with artists such as Jan de Schinkel, Anna Williams, Jorge Cresis and Hanna Gillgren. During her 3rd year, she danced in Siobhan Davies' White Man Sleeps (1988), and Merce Cunningham's Fielding Sixes (1980), as well as worked with Darren Johnston in research and development for his new project Ousia. Jade joined Tavaziva Dance as an apprentice dancer in August 2009.

Chris Copland *Lighting & Set Designer*

Chris graduated from Goldsmiths College with an MA Theatre Arts in 2001. He has worked extensively in theatre and dance since 1993. Chris has worked as Production Manager for such companies as Bedlam Dance, Tavaziva Dance and Nigel Charnock. Lighting design credits include 'Stupid Men' for Nigel Charnock, 'Ostrich' for H2 Dance, 'City of Tribes' for Tavaziva Dance and 'Still' for Candoco.

Abigail Hammond *Costume Designer*

Abigail has a BA (Hons) in Dance Theatre from the Laban Centre where she specialised in Design. A freelance designer she has created designs for over 100 dance pieces and was the resident designer of the National Youth Dance Theatre for 13 years, and Union Dance for 3 years. Theatre credits include costumes for 'The Hobbit' and costumes and set for 'Chrysalids', a National Theatre Education Unit project. Abigail is Senior Lecturer in Costume Design at Wimbledon College of Art and has taught at the Royal Academy of Dancing, Croydon College, London College of Fashion and Laban Centre.

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