

TAVAZIVA

DANCE



WILD DOG

SPRING 2010

Programme

TAVAZIVA DANCE

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World Premiere: 28 January 2010 - Paul Robeson Theatre, Hounslow

Running Time: 80 minutes including a 20 minute interval

Dancers: Graham Adey, Kristina Alleyne, Martina Bussi, Katie Cambridge, Devaraj Thimmaiah, Anna Watkins, Jade Yung

Choreography & Music Arrangement: Bawren Tavaziva

Voice Overs: Bawren Tavaziva, Martina Bussi, Devaraj Thimmaiah, Jade Yung

Lighting Design: Antony Hateley

Costumes: Natasha Lewis

Wild Dog:

What does it mean?

What is it?

A beast?

A beautiful animal?

Africa's most endangered species?

A young man or woman on the street?

A dance piece?

A soundscore?

WILD DOG ...It's all of these things and more, it's in all of us!

The Facts:

Scientific Name: *Lycaon pictus*. meaning 'painted, wolf-like animal.'

Also known as: Cape hunting dog, painted hunting dog and Mbwa mwilu in Swahili.

Conservation status: Endangered

Population trend: Decreasing, it is estimated that less than 8,000 remain in the wild.

Genus: *Lycaon*

Family: *Canidae*



ARTISTIC TEAM



Bawren Tavaziva - Artistic Director/Choreographer

Born and 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, Jazzchange, Carol Brown and Sakoba. Bawren's choreography has been commissioned by Union Dance Company, ACE Dance Company, Tumbuka Dance Company, Ballet Black, Srishti and State of Emergency Ltd's 2001 and 2003 Mission National Tours. Bawren is also a talented musician, and 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 and internationally, and becoming in 2005 a Regularly Funded Organisation of Arts Council England. In 2007 Bawren choreographed the Sampad/Tara Arts national touring production Motherland, and other projects included creating new work in India and Canada (COBA and Dance Immersion). In 2008 Bawren created his first out-door site specific piece 'Beautiful People' commissioned by the Without walls Street Arts Consortium. In 2009 Bawren was invited back to Canada by Dance Immersion to collaborate with Bokari Lindsey on 'City of Tribes' for dancers from COBA (Collective of Black Artists) and Tavaziva Dance.



Antony Hateley - Lighting Designer and Production Manager

Antony Hateley gained a BA in Fine Art from University of Central England in 1994 specialising in film and sculpture. Antony continued to work within the film medium where he provided film loop installations and effects for clubs and outside events. Lighting design credits include 'Sudden Change of Event' for Van Huynh Company, 'Another new Day' for Avant Garde Dance and 'The Bride of Flowers' for Independent Ballet Wales. Antony is a regular Lighting Technician at Sadler's Wells where he has also designed lighting for various Sadler's Wells off-site productions and has more recently toured with Rafael Bonachela as Assistant Production Manager. Antony joined Tavaziva Dance as Production Manager in December 2009 and embarks on his first lighting design project with the company with 'Wild Dog'.



Natasha Lewis - Costume Designer

Natasha Lewis trained at the Kent Institute of Art & Design (KIAD) in Rochester where she gained an HND in Fashion. She then went onto graduate from De Montfort University, Leicester in 2001 with a BA Hons in Textiles. In 2005 Natasha set up her own import and retail business in African art, accessories and her own clothing line En-a-Elle. In 2006 Natasha was commissioned to design costumes for Freddie Opoku Addaie's Jagged Antics (Place Prize winner 2006) for 'Silence Speaks Volumes'. This is Natasha's first commission with Tavaziva 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 as an apprentice before becoming a full time dancer the following year. Anna was appointed Rehearsal Assistant in August 2009.



Graham Adey

Graham trained at Northern School of Contemporary Dance (NSCD) 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 as part of the Destino project. In 2008, Graham was invited to take part in the prestigious 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 performed and toured in Nocturn, a festival piece choreographed by Marc Brew. Graham joined Tavaziva Dance in September 2009.



Devaraj Thimmaiah

Devaraj was born in India and moved to London in 2003. Devaraj trained in Bharata Natyam and other Asian dance forms in Bangalore. He has also studied Kalaripayattu, yoga, Capoeira and several styles of contemporary dance. Having completed the Dance Development Programme at the Attakkalari Centre for Movement Arts, Devaraj performed under the company's banner whilst also choreographing his own work. His commercial work in India includes appearances for fashion designers, Bollywood singers and local and national satellite TV. Devaraj joined Shobana Jeyasingh Dance Company (SJDC) in 2003 and performed in Transtep which included choreography by Lisa Torun, Phillip Van Huffel and Rashpal Singh Bansal. Whilst with Shobana Jeyasingh Dance Company Devaraj performed and toured national and internationally in seven productions including Flicker (2005), Exit no Exit (2006), Faultline (2007), Citizen (2008) Just add water? (2009). More recently he danced for the world premiere of Bruise Blood as part of Dance Umbrella Festival 2009. He was also part of the site specific footage for the BBC, SJDC's performance of Four Square in 'Diwali on the Square' festival at Trafalgar Square, and a collaboration with City Contemporary Dance (Hong Kong) in 2006. Devaraj also regularly taught as part of the SJDC's education team. Devaraj joined Tavaziva Dance in December 2009.



Martina Bussi

Martina was born in Torino, Italy and the age of 13 she went onto pursue dance training in both Ballet and Contemporary dance. In 2006 Martina moved to London and gained a Certificate in Contemporary Dance from London Contemporary Dance School (LCDS). Martina joined Henri Oguike Dance Company as an apprentice dancer for the 2007-08 season and toured nationally and internationally in events such as STEPS Festival (Switzerland) and Jerusalem Dance Festival. She then went onto work 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 Phillip van Huffel, Milan Kozanek and Glenn Wilkinson. Prior to her contemporary training, Kristina formally trained as an athlete and toured internationally with hip-hop company Dance 2Xcess in 2005. Kristina has acquired a number of additional skills including circus arts stunts and fire skills. Kristina joined Tavaziva Dance in August 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. Whilst studying at London Contemporary Dance School (LCDS) Katie performed in Italy and across the UK as part of the LC3 tour and performed professional work as well as student choreographies. In April 2009 Katie assisted Bawren Tavaziva on a youth project as part of the Centre for Advance Training Scheme (CAT) at The Place. Katie joined Tavaziva Dance as an apprentice dancer in August 2009 as part of LCDS's postgraduate diploma in Contemporary Dance.



Jade Yung

Jade was born in Hong Kong and 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 London in 2006 to train at London Contemporary Dance School (LCDS), and has worked with artists such as Jan de Schinkel, Anna Williams, Jorge Cressis and Hanna Gillgren. During her third year, she danced in Siobhan Davies' White Man Sleeps (1988), and Merce Cunningham's Fielding Sixes (1980), as well as working with Darren Johnston for research and development for his project Ousia. Jade joined Tavaziva Dance as an apprentice dancer in August 2009 as part of LCDS's postgraduate diploma in Contemporary Dance.

WILD DOG SPRING 2010

Special thanks to:

Peepul Centre, Swindon Dance, John Laing Partnership, Paul Robeson Theatre, Bernie Grant Arts Centre, Everyone's A Winner, Westminster Arts, Arts Council England, all Tavaziva Dance staff, Board of Directors & most of all the dancers.

We need your support:

Tavaziva Dance was created by Zimbabwean born founder Artistic Director Bawren Tavaziva in 2004 as a London-based UK touring repertory dance company "to explore new territories in combining the rich and diverse dance forms of Africa with a contemporary Western base". Tavaziva Dance has now established itself as a significant presence in the UK dance landscape, bringing Bawren Tavaziva's unique artistic vision and inspiration to a growing national audience through touring performances, commissions, residencies and education workshops.

Tavaziva Dance tour regularly for two seasons per year, throughout the UK, supporters of the work include Swindon Dance, The Hounslow Arts Team, The Peepul Centre, The Bernie Grant Arts Centre and The Wycombe Swan. Tavaziva Dance is very fortunate to be a regularly funded organisation of the Arts Council, with guaranteed funding until March 2011. However there is a real need and urgency to acquire funds from other sources in order to maintain and develop the company and to fully realise the company's artistic vision.

The freedom to grow and develop artistically is fundamentally reliant on funding, and in order for Bawren and the company to do this we need enthusiastic and loyal supporters. Extra support whether monetary or in-kind is greatly appreciated and will enable the company to achieve new and outstanding heights in the dance world.

There are a number of ways in which you can support Tavaziva Dance from as little as £50 per annum to find out more please contact:

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Costume Designer
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Denzil Bailey

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

Dancers
Graham Adey, Kristina Alleyne, Martina Bussi, Katie Cambridge, Devaraj Thimmaiah, Anna Watkins, Jade Yung

