

TAVAZIVA
DANCE

Sensual Africa

*"[Bawren Tavaziva]...
a major contributor to the
UK dance scene"*

The Stage



Sensual Africa

Running Time: 80 minutes including a 20 minute interval

World Premiere: 2 February 2012 – South Holland Arts Centre, Spalding

Choreography & Composition: Bawren Tavaziva

Lighting Design: Antony Hateley

Costume Design: Rosie Jacobs

Musician: Douglas Thorpe **at selected performances only – please refer to tour leaflet*

Dancers: Katie Cambridge, Travis Clausen-Knight, Lisa Rowley, Petros Treklis, Viola Vicini, Anna Watkins, Lauren Wilson, Ellen Yilma

Age Recommendation: (12+) due to adult themes and graphic content



SENSUAL AFRICA IS COMMISSIONED BY THE BERNIE GRANT ARTS CENTRE

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Anaish Parma, Alex Gaskell, Jackie Richards, Catherine Tutton, Davina Mendelsohn, Karen Mcpherson, Laura Collins, Liz Fraser, Mark Hunte, Graeme Wallace, Lucien Taylor, Farooq Chaudhry, Rebecca Gould, Jan Hart, Katie Town, Deborah Baddoo, Ruth on behalf of City of London Festival, Peter Kyle, Lisa Rowley, Tokunbo Ajasa-Oluwa, Ben Benjamin, Jenny Williams, Val Elliott and a number of anonymous donors.



Bawren Tavaziva – Artistic Director/Choreographer/Musician

Bawren Tavaziva was born in a rural village near Masvingo in Zimbabwe. Football, Michael Jackson, New Edition and Kung Fu movies viewed at the local community hall in the Harare suburb of Tafara provided inspiration for Bawren and his friends. They practiced the admired dance styles, karate moves and football skills in the streets where the children of the neighbourhood gathered. Bawren's musical talents also developed at this time on a guitar made by his brother from a 5 litre tin can and fishing wire.

As Bawren reached his teens he was drawn to a dance program created by The National Ballet run by Viv and Chris Hamblin. The program targeted talented under-privileged youngsters. Classes were given in contemporary dance, traditional dance and ballet in community halls in the large townships that surround Harare. Bawren was selected to join the City Youth Dance Group where the most talented received extra classes. At eighteen years old Bawren was selected as an apprentice for Tumbuka Dance Company in Harare, with whom he toured across Africa and Europe with for five years.

In 1998 Bawren moved to the UK where he performed with Phoenix Dance Theatre, Union Dance Company, Jazzxchange, Carol Brown and Sakoba Dance Theatre.

Bawren first choreographed work was 'Wachona' for Tumbuka Dance Company in 1994. The sense, in this piece, of the traditional existing side by side with modern culture as it is evolving in Zimbabwe today remains the theme that Bawren returns to continually in his work. Bawren's choreography has been commissioned by Union Dance Company, ACE Dance and Music, Tumbuka Dance Company, Ballet Black, Srishti and State of Emergency. 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 choreographed 'Umdlalo kaSisi', a piece about the loss of a loved one to AIDS. 'Umdlalo kaSisi' was selected as one of five finalists in the prestigious Place Prize, sponsored by Bloomberg. As a result of his choreographic success, Bawren formed Tavaziva Dance in 2004 and began touring nationally and internationally before becoming a Regularly Funded Organisation of Arts Council England in 2005. In 2007 Bawren choreographed the Sampad/Tara Arts national touring production 'Motherland', and other projects included creating 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 Withoutwalls Street Arts Consortium. In 2009 Bawren was invited back to Canada by Dance Immersion to collaborate with Bakari Lindsey on 'City of Tribes' featuring dancers from COBA (Collective of Black Artists) and Tavaziva Dance.

In summer 2010 Bawren Tavaziva received a musical and choreographic commission from Bucks University to create a thirty minute site specific piece as part of the 'Rhythm in Sport' project, also in Summer 2010 Bawren was Rehearsal Director for Gregory Maqoma's new work commissioned by State of Emergency. Other major company works include Chatsva 2008, Heart of Darkness 2009, Wild Dog 2010 and Double Take 2011.

Bawren has mentored Idrissa Camara of Ballet Nimba and has recently received an invitation to be part of Rambert Dance Company's Choreographic Development Programme to mentor an aspiring choreographer.



"Bawren Tavaziva has established himself as a dominant talent within the African dance diaspora, as well as a significant voice within the British dance scene."

The Guardian

MALAWI RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TRIP

'Sensual Africa' was created following my [Bawren Tavaziva] inspirational 'Research and Development' trip to Malawi in June 2011. Whilst there, I had the rare and privileged opportunity to study the Tumbuka and Chewa Tribes and the rituals that boys and girls go through to become Men and Women.

I chose to do research in Malawi as it is raw and one of the few African countries that remains untouched and influenced by America and the UK. 'Sensual Africa' unearths my personal fascination with the brutal, harsh, disturbing but mandatory male and female initiation ceremonies, and celebrates my interpretation of how freely, peacefully and sensually the people of Malawi move, live and love.

Tumbuka Tribe

The Tumbuka Tribe is a Bantu ethnic group living in Northern Malawi. In Tumbuka mythology, Chiuta is the chief deity; he is all-powerful, omniscient and self-created. Chiuta literally means Great Bow and is symbolised in the sky by the rainbow. He is also a god of rain and fertility.



Chewa Tribe

The Chewa Tribe is dark and mysterious and the Gule Wamkulu strand of the tribe operates a secret society. No one in the tribe is allowed to reveal what happens during the sometimes brutal initiations that take place in the bushes.



The Chewa people have influenced many things in Malawi a few of them are Religion, Dance, and Peacefulness. The Chewa believe all living things were created by their God, on the mountain of Kapingiriwa, which borders Malawi and Mozambique, during a thunderstorm. The Chewa believe animal spirits coexist with man on our living world and contact them through the dance of "Nyau", or secret stories.



Tumbuka, like most African languages, has many myths that constitute its cultural heritage. These myths, told around fires at night, often to the accompaniment of drumming and choral responses aim to teach children moral behaviour and to entertain.



Dances among the Tumbuka are for entertainment and ceremonies, especially related to marriage or weddings. They are also performed in political rallies however this is a new development due to politics being a recent phenomenon.



The dance is an incredibly important part of culture for the Chewa. Other societies, such as the Nyau participate in dances like those in the Chewa societies. These large, formally organised dance ceremonies are performed to admire physical abilities (which become adept during these rituals) of the individuals. (These rituals also consist of the Chewa dressing as animals and trees, and thus, are considered to be in 'animal state' and are not to be approached.



EXTRACTS FROM BAWREN'S MALAWI BLOG

Day 1

"Very excited to meet the people who are going to be taking me around. The hotel has no electricity and is very expensive. Haven't been home in a long time, this place just reminds me of home but it's a version of Zimbabwe old times, it's a back to reality card and I'm very appreciative of the strong culture they have. The staff at the Lodge are fantastic, I'm being treated well."

Day 2

"Today I met up with Violet and Hussein my guides for the trip. Today we started by going to the museum. The museum is unbelievably basic, but I've learnt more than I learnt at school. In the museum there was the history from the stone age to present and somehow along the lines in that museum, Nyau "Gule Wamkulu" is put on the line of evolution.

We then visited some art centres, they are so beautiful, especially the outdoor venues. I have never seen any theatre like this in England before, they are raw and have their own spirit. Talking to Hussein, I learn that he is an artist, a choreographer, a traditional dancer and a musician. His company is doing very well at the moment, it tours across the world and I'm very lucky that he knows most of his Malawian history and he knows where to go, what to see. We put together a four day schedule to interview Gule Wamkulu people, particularly females. We've decided to interview some of the different tribes, like the Tumbuka people who reside in the Mowa Village.

I am hoping to be able to participate in some of these traditional dances these tribes do."

Day 7

"The day I was waiting for was today as I anticipated it, it was a very inspiring day in many many ways. I feel like I have been fed with lots of life and I've been fed with lots of spirit in dancing. It has reminded me why I do what I do. The way they live, is what I envisioned for my new work and this experience has made it solid in supporting my idea.

Today I've even managed to shake hands with Gule Wamkulu people, which for you to know is very rare according to my upbringing. I've managed to speak to the dancers, Hussein was very helpful in translating for me. I have learnt a lot about initiation ceremonies that a boy goes through to become a man and a girl to a woman. Growing up in Zimbabwe I always believed the Gule Wamkulu beliefs is a culture you don't mess with. I have the opportunity to experience the male initiation myself, I am really keen to fully experience it but I am seriously thinking about and am having 2nd, 3rd and 4th thoughts. I have learnt that there is a lot more than simply being beaten up.

They were willing to explain to me the dark side of the culture and that threw me a bit. For me with this research, it's either I take it to the furthest point or be satisfied with the incredible insight I have had so far. I haven't seen these 'kind' of people for years because now I live in England, today I still felt the same as when I was young, the fear. Right now the fear is controlling my decisions and I'm not sure if I want to know the Juju side of the culture. I want to think of my health first as they explained to me during the initiation they would whip me, make me eat rotten food, eat raw chicken and drink the blood and the most worrying

bit of it they would give me some Juju (potion). I am really energised, my brain is going, I'm feeling creative with some of the imagery of things I've seen with just people standing and relaxing. This culture has created a strong base music wise, dance wise and spiritually.

Now I'm clear how I am going to bring other cultures that are similar to create a unique work in 'Sensual Africa.' Tomorrow I will be learning the Tumbuka tribal dances which is a dance that is unpredictable and different to any other African dances (Muganda). "

Day 12

"Tomorrow is my last day and I am going to focus more on music of the Chewa and Tumbuka tribe, I am revisiting the slums, I really want to re-capture the sound scape and the smell."

Day 14 – The Last Day

"My journey here has been like going back to the basics and with my experience today I have learnt a lot. Malawi is a country of art, which I already knew but even bigger than I imagined. I have really enjoyed the people, how trusting they are to each other and how helpful they are which is a breath of fresh air."

Go online to read the rest of
Bawren's Malawi blog at
www.bawrentavaziva.blogspot.com

DANCERS



Katie Cambridge

Katie grew up in Brighton and trained at London Contemporary Dance School (LCDS) where she worked with Marc Brew, Colin Poole and toured works by Siobhan Davies and Merce Cunningham to Italy and London, as part of LC3. Katie joined Tavaziva Dance in August 2009 as part of LCDS's Post Graduate Apprenticeship Scheme. During her time as an apprentice, Katie

was also involved in Tavaziva's Education Programme, creating works for Cornwall Youth Dance and the Wycombe Swan's United in Dance project. She has performed with Cscape in 'The Venus Flower' as part of the Global Garden Project. For the last three years Katie has worked on the Centre for Advance training scheme (CAT) as an assistant, administrator and a teacher. This year Katie will be the rehearsal director for The Place's youth dance group Shuffle for selected young people aged between 9 and 13 years who want to expand their dance performing experience. Following her apprenticeship, Katie joined Tavaziva Dance as a full time dancer in September 2010.



Travis Clausen-Knight

Born in Cape Town, South Africa, Travis moved to England and graduated from the Arts Education School of Tring in 2009. Whilst in training he won several awards for dance and choreography within the school and outside including The National Youth Ballet and the International Competition of Dance, Spoleto. Since Graduating Travis has performed in

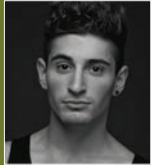
Matthew Bourne's world tour of Swan Lake 2010 and featured in the 3D remake of the production. Travis was involved in Michael Clark's 'TH' 2011 residency, at the Tate Modern. Travis joined Tavaziva Dance in September 2011.



Lisa Rowley

Lisa trained at Dupont Stage School from a young age. She then went on to train at LABAN, graduating in 2008. Since then she has toured with Transitions Dance Company having the opportunity to perform works by Cristian Duarte, Daniel Larrieur and Cheng Tsung-Lung. In November 2009, Lisa worked with Henri Oguike as part of his Research and Development period

and then went on to work with Ace Dance and Music, performing the Spring 2010 tour of SWITCH, Choreography by Andile Sotiya and Douglas Thorpe. More recently Lisa has performed in 'Threshold', with Joss Arnott Dance at Brighton Dome and has also danced for The Maxwell Dance Project, under the direction of Shelley Maxwell for numerous UK based performances since 2007. Lisa joined Tavaziva Dance in September 2010.



Petros Treklis

Born in Melbourne, Australia, Petros moved to London in 2007, and graduated from Laban with a BA (Hons) in Dance Theatre in July 2010. During his training at Laban, Petros worked with Rosemary Butcher, Gary Lambert, Dam Van Huynh, Rosemary Brandt, Charles Linehan, and Kerry Nicholls. In early 2010 Petros toured Kerry Nicholls work, 'Hearth' in Malta, performing for the Maltese Arts Council. He then went on to tour 'Sainte Marie-Joseph De La Rose' by upcoming choreographer Tamara Gvozdenovic in Neuchatel, Switzerland. Petros joined Tavaziva Dance in September 2010.



Anna Watkins

Anna graduated from the Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance in July 2005. From there she went on to tour with European Ballet in 'Nutcracker' and 'Ballet Celebration'. In August 2006 Anna performed in 'Down to Zero', choreographed by Neville Campbell, in collaboration with the Great North Run.

In summer 2009 Anna performed 'Silent Steps' with Pair Dance choreographed by Harriet Macauley. More recently Anna was a dancer and mentor for Shobana Jeyasingh Dance Company's 'Counterpoint' performed at Somerset House as part of Big Dance 2010, which was also filmed for SkyArts 3D. In May 2011 she performed with MaxwellDanceProject for the INGENIUM Choreographic Showcase. She has taught at Tring Park Easter Course 2011 and professional classes. Anna is also the Artistic Director/Choreographer of her own company WatkinsDance which she formed in May 2011. WatkinsDance had their Premiere at Bernie Grant Arts Centre in June 2011 including works choreographed by Anna, 'Broken Silence' and 'Inseparable'. Anna joined Tavaziva Dance in 2007 and was Rehearsal Assistant for the autumn 2009 and the spring 2010 seasons.

"The seemingly unending energy and physical prowess of Tavaziva's dancers is spell-binding"

Londondance.com

APPRENTICE DANCERS



Viola Vicini

Viola grew up in Genova, Italy, where she began her training as a rhythmic gymnast as part of the Italian Juniors National Squad. At the age of 14, she moved to ballet and contemporary dance training, gaining professional

experience with Kaleido Danse Company.

In 2008, Viola moved to London to train at London Contemporary Dance School (LCDS). During her time there, she worked with Martin Lawrence, RADC and Darren Johnston, as well as taking part in a number of international workshops and choreographing her own work. In addition, Viola danced in a number of commercial productions and toured to Italy and London venues as part of LC3 (LCDS's Professional Touring Experience Programme), performing works by Siobhan Davies and Richard Alston. Viola graduated in July 2011 and joined Tavaziva Dance as part of LCDS's Postgraduate Apprenticeship Scheme in September 2011.



Lauren Wilson

Lauren was born in East Yorkshire and began training with her mum at a young age. She also trained as a Royal Ballet School and Northern Ballet Theatre Associate.

Lauren obtained her advanced 2 RAD and won awards such as Most Promising Female and the Ronald Elmsford award. At sixteen, Lauren moved to London to study at Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary dance. Whilst at Rambert School she danced pieces by Mark Baldwin and August Bournonville, as well as performing her own choreographed work. In her final year with Rambert Lauren had the opportunity to dance numerous pieces at the Royal Opera House and Sadler's Wells theatre.

Lauren joined Tavaziva Dance as part of London Contemporary Dance School's Post Graduate Apprenticeship Scheme in September 2011.



Ellen Yilma

Ellen graduated from London Contemporary Dance School in July 2011, having previously trained in many other styles of dance at Tring Park, School for the Performing Arts. During her time at LCDS

Ellen performed works by Richard Alston and Siobhan Davies as part of the LC3 Tour, for the Duke of York as a dancer in the Merce Cunningham 'Event' and most recently with Martin Lawrence in the LCDS Graduation Performances 2011. Ellen also performed, as part of the ensemble in Frauke Requardt and Daniel Kramer's production of 'Pictures from an Exhibition' in May 2009, and she has also gained valuable teaching experience whilst working for the Centre for Advanced Training at The Place since September 2009. Ellen joined Tavaziva Dance as part of LCDS's Post Graduate Apprenticeship Scheme in September 2011.

"The Dancers are excellent" | *The Guardian*

ARTISTIC TEAM



Antony Hateley

Lighting Designer & Production Manager

Antony studied Fine Art at University of Central England where he specialised in film and sculpture. After graduation he worked with local artists providing film loop installations for clubs and events. He began working in technical theatre in 2004 and has since worked in both the

UK and internationally as tour re-lighter, production manager and lighting designer. He joined Tavaziva Dance in early 2010 and has so far been lighting designer for two of the company's productions (Wild Dog and Double Take). Lighting design credits include Sudden Change of Event for Van Huynh Company, Slaughter for Drew McOnie Dance Theatre and Breakin' Convention for Sadler's Wells.



Rosie Jacobs

Costume Designer

Rosie trained as a Jeweller at Bucks New University, High Wycombe and graduated with a BA Hons in 2008. In 2010 Rosie returned to be 'Artist In Residence' and developed a collection of fashion accessories combining leather, fabric and metal work which

were exhibited as part of London Design Week. Rosie first collaborated with Tavaziva Dance on costumes for 'Rhythm in Sport' a site-specific project involving young aspiring dancers based in High Wycombe in June 2010. This is Rosie's first major commission with the company.



Douglas Thorpe

Musician

Douglas became interested in dance at Harehills Middle School in Leeds. He went on to train at London Contemporary Dance School in 1982. He joined Phoenix Dance Company in 1987 and spent four years with the company, during which time he worked with choreographers including Michael Clarke, Philip Taylor and Tom Jobe. After taking a nine-year break from performing, Douglas returned as a guest dancer in RJC's Krazy Spirit in 2000 and choreographed "Left-alone" for RJC's Soma 2003 tour. Douglas rejoined Phoenix in December 2003 for another three

years working with choreographers such as Darshan Singh Bhuller, Henri Oguike, and Javier de Frutos. In 2004 Douglas co-founded RODA, a research and development project, which ran as a Summer Intensive for five successful years. Douglas took part in Resolution! 2008 with his piece "Dry Toast" and 2009 with his piece "Beast". Phoenix Dance Theatre toured 'Beast' during Autumn 2009. 'Beast' was also chosen to be performed as part of Decibel Performing Arts showcase. Summer 2009 Douglas made a new work for ACE Music and Dance, which toured nationally and internationally. In 2010 Douglas was chosen to be part of the NDN Dance 3 national tour, performing his work called 'A mind as beautiful'. In the same year Douglas became part of the LIFT-artist development program at Yorkshire Dance, and he also became the Associate Artist of Yorkshire Dance. Recently Douglas has been commissioned to create a new work in Germany for Staatstheater Tanz Braunschweig, Germany in September 2011.

In 2008 Douglas founded and became Artistic Director of his own company Mad Dogs Dance Theatre. Douglas join's Tavaziva Dance for selected performances for the first time this season as a musician.



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MANAGEMENT



Iyshea Hunte

Executive Director

Iyshea graduated with a BA Honours in Dance and Drama from King Alfred's University, Winchester in 2001. She was a student of Sakoba Connect, a teacher training course and was PA to Sakoba's Artistic Director during Autumn 2001. Sponsored by London Arts

Iyshea trained under the supervision of Isabel Tamen (Former General Manager Henri Oguike Dance Company and current Executive Director Richard Alston Dance Company) to become an Independent Dance Manager. On completion of her traineeship Iyshea became the full-time Tour Manager for the Henri Oguike Dance Company, with whom she toured extensively across the UK and abroad for several years. In 2004 Iyshea took on the role of Education Officer with the Henri Oguike Dance Company, where she launched the company's education programme and managed the delivery of the GCSE set study.

In Jan 2008 Iyshea joined the Enfield Education Business Partnership, where she led motivational workshops for young people preparing them for the 'world of work', and managed and delivered bespoke Work Related Learning events for local schools and colleges in line with the Government's 14 – 19 Strategy. Iyshea was the Artistic Director/ Curator for Fluid, the first Dance Careers event in Enfield for GCSE, A Level, and BTEC dance students.

Iyshea is also a panel member for Westminster Arts a grant giving origination that supports, promotes and delivers community arts activities and projects. She is also part of Enfield Education Business Partnership's mentor programme for young people in Enfield. Iyshea has carried out company development consultancy work for street dance group Cerebro and Brazilian dance Company Nu Tempo Dance Company. Iyshea joined Tavaziva Dance in 2008.



Jan Hart

Finance Manager

After beginning life as a musician, Jan followed this path for 20 years, before realising a career as a professional musician just wasn't going to happen. As a consequence she moved sideways into arts administration, moving through Opera and Ballet management, into radio production for the BBC, and finishing off with a short spell at English National Opera, before starting her own Arts Administration business in 1998. As the admin work has gradually dropped off in favour of accounting services, she has built up a solid portfolio of clients, particularly in the dance world, clients include Henri Oguike Dance Company and Akram Khan. Outside work, Jan sings as often as possible with a variety of groups, and enjoys spending time in her garden. Jan joined Tavaziva Dance in 2005.



Laura Collins

Marketing & Admin Assistant

Laura graduated in 2010 with a BA(Hons) Degree in Dance Studies from Roehampton University. Whilst studying Laura was a member of 3rd Row Dance Company and had the opportunity to work with well established choreographers. Laura also gained work experience in 2010 by teaching contemporary dance workshops for schools and colleges in the Sussex area. This enabled the students to experience contemporary dance at a higher level and encourage them to continue to develop and excel in dance.

Since graduating Laura has become the co-founder of "ImpelDance" a contemporary dance company based in the South of England. Her main role is to integrate dance into the community and offer custom-made educational workshops for primary schools and GCSE level students. Alongside this Laura teaches release based technique classes for adults as part of ImpelDance. Laura joined Tavaziva Dance in November 2011.



Joanna Bridge

Education & Development Assistant

Joanna graduated with a BA Honours degree in Dance from Roehampton University. During this time she was able to complete a study abroad placement at San Jose State University in California, USA and believes that this experience enabled her to grow in confidence and have a good understanding of dance education internationally.

Prior to university, Joanna completed an apprenticeship scheme with Springs Dance Company, a Christian professional contemporary dance company based in London. During this time she studied anatomy, teaching practice, choreography and dance technique. In the last six weeks she went on to tour around the UK with the apprenticeship dance company Elevate, and assisted and developed dance workshops and classes for community and educational settings.

Joanna enjoys all forms of dance taking regular classes in street dance and salsa and since graduating she gained work experience within the Marketing and Audience Development department at The Point, a contemporary arts venue, in Hampshire.

TAVAZIVA DANCE EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION

You can also get involved with our Education and Outreach Programme by booking a workshop, choreographic residency or taking company class. Education and outreach work is a vital strand of the Company's activity, and we are committed to providing an enjoyable and stimulating environment for all the participants we work with. Our extensive education programme runs alongside our autumn and spring touring seasons,

and through our workshops and residencies we reach a wide audience. We regularly deliver open company classes, repertoire and creative workshops, advanced level masterclasses and creative residencies, in a range of different settings and in various different formats.



What our workshop participants have said...

"It has been the quality of teaching from Tavaziva that has meant I have continued to be keen to work with them time after time."
Teacher

"I think the energy of the leaders was one of the best things about this workshop"
Participant

"The enthusiasm of the dance leaders was infectious and the pupils therefore responded very well"
Teacher

"It was great to have been taught manageable chunks of material...we have some great moves and knowledge to take away"
Participant

Tavaziva Male

Tavaziva Male is the company's new all male youth dance company, set up as a direct response to get more male dancers in to dance training and then go onto pursue a career in the industry.

Through the work of Tavaziva Male we aim to respond to two key sector issues, the first being the lack of male dancers training within the dance sector; and the second, the lack of accessible, high quality dance training that enables those with talent, regardless of background to achieve their dance potential.

Through Tavaziva Male, we aim to pilot a bespoke programme of dance training that responds to both these issues, through a programme that is both top-flight and accessible. Furthermore, we feel that

if successful, this model has the potential to be replicated across the dance sector, either as a model for individual dance talent or as a cohort model.

Participants will take part in an initial 2-year programme designed by Tavaziva Dance to train and develop raw natural talent from dancers living or going to school in Haringey, Enfield and Waltham Forrest in a range of dance techniques and styles, with a particular focus on the dance styles employed at Tavaziva Dance, which are primarily ballet, contemporary dance and traditional African styles.

Dance training and rehearsals will take place at Bernie Grant Arts Centre, on a weekly basis, running for 3 hours after school hours (approx 4.30 – 7.30pm) and during holiday periods daily from 10am – 3pm. The 3-hour weekly workshops will be led by Bawren Tavaziva, our Artistic Director.

Tavaziva Male will also open the company's London shows at the Bernie Grant Arts Centre as well as performing at other youth dance platforms during the two year programme.

For more information or to book, please contact:
Tavaziva Dance, Bernie Grant Arts Centre, Enterprise Building,
Town Hall approach Road, London, N15 4RX

Tel: 020 8365 9150 **Email:** info@tavazivadance.com

www.tavazivadance.com

GET INVOLVED

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, Bernie Grant Arts Centre,

Jersey Arts Centre, Mermaid Arts Centre, Creative Dance 60+, Oxford Dance Festival, Brunton Theatre to name a few.

Tavaziva Dance is currently funded by The Arts Council England as one of only 57 dance organisations to receive the new National Portfolio Funding, however there is a real and urgent need to acquire extra 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 one off donations to small regular payments. Your donations go towards company development, dancers physio treatment, music recording equipment, research and development.

You can donate via our justgiving page:

www.justgiving.com/tavaziva-dance

For more information please get in touch with Iyshea Hunte – Executive Director

Tel: 020 8365 9150 **Email:** iyshea@tavazivadance.com

Artistic Director/Choreographer: Bawren Tavaziva
Executive Director: Iyshea Hunte
Finance Manager: Jan Hart
Marketing & Admin Assistant: Laura Collins
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Guest Teachers: Denzil Bailey, Christine Tanner, Claire Cunningham
Dancers: Katie Cambridge, Lisa Rowley, Travis Clausen-Knight, Petros Treklis, Viola Vicini, Anna Watkins, Lauren Wilson, Ellen Yilma
Special thanks to: Bernie Grant Arts Centre, Swindon Dance, Arts Council England, Leche Trust, Chris Fogg, Neville Campbell, The Place, London Contemporary Dance School, Denzil Bailey, Christine Tanner, Claire Cunningham, Douglas Thorpe, Rosie Jacobs, Antony Hateley, Kevin Wilson, Iven Lewis, Guydile, Don Omope and Sam of African Screens, Pegasus Theatre, Brunton Theatre, Physio Ed, David Thunder, Creative Dance 60+, all Tavaziva Dance staff, Board of Directors and most of all the dancers.
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Tavaziva Dance's apprentice dancers Viola Vicini, Lauren Wilson and Ellen Yilma are all postgraduate students of London Contemporary Dance School. For information on our courses and forthcoming performances visit: www.lcds.ac.uk

Connect with some of our current undergraduate and postgraduate students on Facebook:
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Postgraduate student and EDge dancer Jamila Johnson-Small performing Lucy Suggate's *Flux*. Image: Nuno Santos

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