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INFORMATION FOR PROMOTERS

URBAN MOVES INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL

GREATER MANCHESTER. www.urbanmovesfestival.co.uk

Presented by Dance Initiative Greater Manchester with Manchester International Arts and in association with x.trax.

www.digm.org, www.streetsahead.org, www.xtrax.org.uk

Urban Moves is a three -day festival featuring live professional dance performance outdoors. Surprising and delighting the crowds with a unique blend of dance and spectacle, Urban Moves celebrates the cityscape and architecture of Greater Manchester. Some of the best companies from Britain, France and Spain have performed out in the parks and in the fountains, in the squares and in the gardens. There is always some awesome aerial dance as well as some unusual and exhilarating ideas. 2005 included a swimming pool, an underground car park and a performance with dancers and mechanical diggers. 2006 brought a climbing wall into the city centre while 2008 involved some wicked waterplay and an interesting use of pedestrian crossings! In addition to the performance programme there are scheduled events where the public can participate in dance.

Urban Moves 2008 played to an audience of more than 10,000, an increase from 6,000 attendees in 2005.

THE NEXT FESTIVAL WILL TAKE PLACE FRIDAY 23 – SUNDAY 25 JULY 2010

x.trax will host the British and international dance promoters attending as delegates for Urban Moves 2010. x.trax is working with Dance Initiative Greater Manchester to provide programmers, promoters and arts professionals with an opportunity to meet and network with others working in the outdoor dance performance sector from across the UK and internationally.

Promoters/professionals attending will be invited to:

- presentations and discussions about outdoor dance work from the UK and Europe
- receptions and networking meetings
- opportunities to meet the artists, agents and organizers

x.trax is Britain's largest and most significant showcasing agency, responsible for managing large events attracting programmers from across the world, to see the best in outdoor and culturally diverse performance available in the UK.

47 international and British delegates registered for Urban Moves in 2008. Many successful relationships were developed between promoters attending and artists presenting work and our evaluation shows that there is a real demand from UK and international delegates for a showcase of outdoor dance in the UK.

The 2008 Urban Moves programme featured:

Axial Dance (Britain, North West) *Night Cocoons*. A visually extraordinary performance, Night Cocoons is a brand new work with seven dancers encased in seven giant transparent pods. An Urban Moves 08 commission.
<http://www.youtube.com/user/danceinitiative>

Collision (Britain, North West) *The Line*. A large-scale choreography, involving people from all walks of life, this project is designed to connect and unite. Scores of participants will join hands to form The Line. www.collisiondance.co.uk

Dance In Tension (Britain, North West) *Point of Synthesis*. Flamenco, Kung Fu, Contemporary and Street Dance to name but a few meld together, weave and compete creating a new and exciting experience - cultural fusion! www.danceintension.co.uk

[EK!] Eklektika (Britain, North West) *The Greenman*. Dancers make their way across the city using pedestrian crossings to mark their route. Car passengers and onlookers are treated to a surreal few seconds of dance. *The Garden Project* brings history to life and looks into the role of the gardens today.

Cie Gianni Joseph (France) *Ladies & Men*. Inspired by what he sees in the streets of the world Gianni brings a humorous take to the inexhaustible subject of love at first sight. A jubilant, graceful and rather wet celebration!
www.ciegiannijoseph.com

Hofesh Shechter (Britain) *Uprising*. Hofesh Shechter's work is supremely physical and charged with atmosphere. His recent choreography for Channel 4's

Skins and appearance on The Culture Show, is adding to his growing audience.
www.hofesh.co.uk

Liz Lea (Britain & Australia) *Bluebird*. Previously seen in Manchester at the 2002 Commonwealth Games Liz returns from a tour of India with a transfixing and imaginative work for Urban Moves. www.leadance.com

Circle of Trust (Spain) '72° is a hip hop piece highlighting the company's own key moments from the four years they have been together. With an emphasis on high energy dynamics, this work expresses pure originality.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GUAQRX8_uKM

Provisional Danza (Spain) *Calle 4*. A romantic and spectacular performance from Madrid that features a climactic dance under water, courtesy of a firemans hose! www.provisionaldanza.com

Cie Retouramont (France) *Vide Accorde*. An awesome and thrilling piece of aerial dance Vide Accorde will catch the breath in your throat.
www.retouramont.com

Wired Aerial Theatre (Britain) *Fervorosa* A skin-tingling collaboration between UK based Wired Aerial Theatre and Brenda Angiel from Buenos Aires. A heart racing, high-tempo spectacular that will spiral, twist and lunge high above the crowds to an original tango sound score .A Without Walls commission.
www.wiredaerialtheatre.com

The adventurous Urban Moves has taken its place in the network of European dance festivals alongside Barcelona, Zurich and Genoa, to become an official festival of worldwide Cities That Dance http://www.cqd.info/home_eng.htm

CONTACT

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www.urbanmovesfestival.co.uk
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MEDIA

See the 2008 Urban Moves photo gallery at
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/urbanmovesfestival/>

Watch Urban Moves videos at <http://www.youtube.com/user/danceinitiative>



Cie Gianni Joseph, *Ladies and Men*, photographer Patrik Andre
Wired Aerial Theatre, *Fervorosa*, photographer JP Masclet