

Salamanda Tandem

Project 20: 2009 – 2012.

Celebrating 20 years of Salamanda Tandem 1989 – 2009



Site Dances at New Art Exchange; Dancers: Isabel Jones Mickel Smithen

Report Produced by:

Isabel Jones – Artistic Director
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salamanda tandem

Project 20 - Funding Partners and Collaborators

Project 20 was supported financially by The National Lottery through Arts Council England (East Midlands) and Nottinghamshire County Council (Arts Services). Also via commissions from a number of other organisations, volunteer support as well as in kind contributions (See Below)

Partner organisations that supported Project 20 are:

FCD (Foundation For Community Dance), New Art Exchange, Derby Quad, Nottingham Contemporary, EMPAF (East Midlands Participatory Arts Forum), Embrace Arts, Lincoln University - Centre For Performing Arts, Nottinghamshire Bowls Clubs, EMARAN (East Midlands Arts in Rural Areas Network), Leeds University - Department of Performance and Culture, Rufford Crafts Centre – Nottinghamshire County Council, De Montfort University Leicester, EM School of Social Entrepreneurs, Learning Space, Nottinghamshire County Council Cultural Services – Diversity and Inclusion, Broxtowe Health Team, City Arts, Wash Arts, Trent University Department of Design, Lincolnshire Dance, The Water Tower Northamptonshire, Arts Council East Midlands, Arty Party – Work and Play Project and The Firebird Trust.

Key artists and arts development practitioners are:

Isabel Jones, Geoffrey Fielding, Stella Couloutbanis, Tony Baker, Kevin Hodgetts, Duncan Chapman, Julie Hood, Dallas Simpson, Rosalind Stoddart, Judy Collinge, Nathan Campbell, Mickel Smithen, Lisa Craddock, Adam Benjamin, Kayla Doughan-Bowtell, Esther Harris, Sarah Kettley, Fergus Brazil, Helena Nicolao, Lewis Jones, Natalie Speake, Andy Eathorne, Paddy Fitton-Jones, Ray Kohn, Lisa Simpson, Tom Shakespeare, DJ, Alito Alessi, Caroline Bowditch, David Toole, Mick Wallis, Kamal Jury, Richard Hughes. John Sprint, Alison Picknell, Leroy Grant and Jackie Champ.

***Note: 35% of the artists involved were disabled artists**

With special thanks to:

ST board: Sibyl Burgess (Chair), Laura Guthrie, Lisa Craddock, and Elaine Newton Fox.

Arts Council officers: Dom Jinks and Sara Sanderson

Development Plan: Francois Matarasso

Financial management: Lyn Watson

Nottinghamshire CC Arts Team



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LOTTERY FUNDED



Nottinghamshire
County Council

Project 20 - Salamanda Tandem 2009 - 2012

Salamanda Tandem launched Project 20 in October 2009 at the EMPAF Participatory Arts Conference – ‘Passion, Partnerships and Empowering People’ held at Derby QUAD.

Project 20 – Overview

Salamanda Tandem (ST) has a long established practice in the ethics and aesthetics of arts work with people, and on issues of arts and wellness, inclusivity and equitable processes. Project 20 set out to communicate the underlying core principles, values and methods that have made ST’s practice consistent and purposeful and make them visible to a wider public.

Salamanda Tandem was co - founded in 1989 by Isabel Jones who has been the director of the company for 21 years. During that time Isabel has developed a number of long term collaborations with other experienced arts practitioners across dance, music, writing and the visual arts; acting now as ST associate artists they are key to the delivery of salamanda tandem’s work and have been part of the culture that underpinned Project 20. A number of meaningful partnerships have been established too in the fields of academia, social care, health and wellbeing. Project 20 has provided a platform to involve these experienced practitioners, alongside disabled participants and other key organisations and individuals in the east midlands, to help identify and grow an understanding of the aesthetic and ethical ingredients that define ‘quality’ in participatory arts and in socially engaged arts practice.

With the generous support of £96,000 from Arts Council England and the national lottery, as well as £35,000 from other strategic partners; we have delivered an intensive programme of 33 seminars and training courses, 9 publications including a new book, 4 exhibitions, 9 online debates and 13 participatory events, all focusing on work with disabled or vulnerable people across the region and beyond.

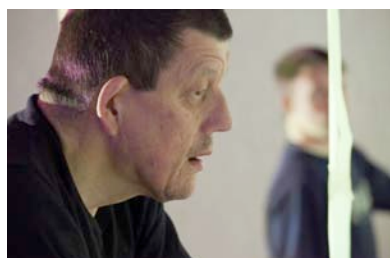


Impossible Birds Exhibition – Artist John Sprint at The Water Tower Northants

Demand for Project 20

The programme of work achieved during Project 20 has far exceeded expectations. There was such a demand for our seminars and training courses that we were able to develop both new markets as well as Project 20 earned income here. In the following chart showing the original aims side by side with actual achievements, we demonstrate this.

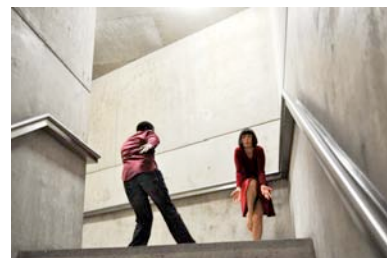
| Aim | Original P20 Proposal | Actual P20 Achievements |
|--|--|--|
| Participatory Events | Deliver 4 participatory arts public events including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 'Living Room – Installations 2. 'Journey to health' – creativity and wellbeing 3. Site Dance/Site Music in the regions capital builds | 13 participatory Events |
| Seminar Events Training Courses | . Conduct Six seminar events and research / Develop training Materials and test delivery Engage The Capital Buildings | 12 Seminars 21 Training Courses (Conducted with partners in every County, and city across the Region, at all the capital buildings. Nationally as well as with 5 universities) |
| Publications Commissioned In Print and Online In House Online Debates | Publish 8 Articles in national magazines/periodicals A web based dialogue through a new Project 20 blog, twitter and MySpace sites | 9 Publications 9 online debates, The Provocations |



Living Room Rufford



Training Rufford



Nottingham Contemporary

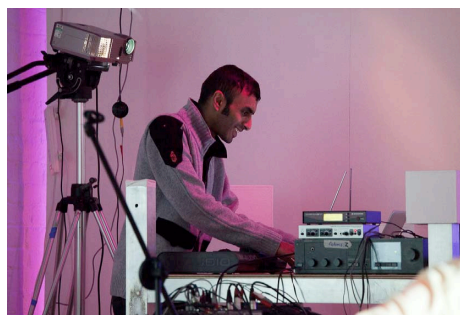
Audience and Participation Figures

Project 20 sets out to communicate, and develop our methods and values to a very wide-ranging audience. During the project we worked with:

- Disabled adults and children with severe and multiple disabilities
- Children on the autistic Spectrum
- Carers, and Families of disabled people
- Health and Social care Professionals
- Disabled and non-disabled artists
- Arts development professionals
- Academics across the arts and social sciences
- Arts Students in full time study
- Primary Health Care Practitioners
- Emerging and Professional Artists
- Teachers and Classroom Assistants

What follows is a summary of our audience figures. (See appendix for full account). All Project 20, seminars, events and publications were focussed with Disabled people at their centre. 80% of the participants involved were disabled people and their carers. 35% of the artists involved were disabled people. However, out of all the trainees only 2% were disabled people. These findings from Project 20 have been very useful in devising a new 3-year development plan and our next major project, for 2012 - 2015

| Total ½ day Events | Artist Delivery Team 35% Disabled People | Disabled People and their carers involved through our participatory events | Partners who support ed the delivery of P20 | People on Seminar and PD training courses | Exhibition Audience | ST Online unique hits for debates | Web Visits | Total |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|------------------------|---|---------------|--------|
| 639 | 36 | 8291 | 552 | 2314 | 12489 | 27709 | 74730 | 122963 |
| | | | | | | | | |



*The Sound Team for Living Room:
Kamal Jury (Trainee)*



Isabel Jones



Duncan Chapman

Project 20 – What We Learnt For The Future

Over the last 2 years, Project 20 has taken salamanda tandem right into the heart of a considerable political change in how benefits and services are organised for disabled people. We have seen a break down in the old infrastructures as the new personalisation agenda is being implemented. The closure of day centres and special provision rely on services out in the community to work, where they don't exist, and increased isolation for disabled and vulnerable people. The demand is even greater now both through these losses, and because of an increase in people diagnosed with autism and in disabilities associated with aging, and the importance of proper collaboration with disabled people. There is both an urgent need for arts organisations to adapt to these changes and a lack of arts practitioners either ready or able to respond. Neither has arts training and professional education met the need generated by this demand.

As a result of Project 20 we have found both a lack of projects targeted towards disabled people, a lack of disabled artists and a lack of artists in general with either the interest, or well enough trained / supported to deliver the work.

We have identified 3 areas of need:

- The need for disabled people to have enriching opportunities

- The need for access to Salamanda Tandem's unique art practice and methods

- The need to have people who could deliver those opportunities



Tony Baker and Leroy Grant Composing words at The Water Tower

Salamanda Tandem core team for Project 20



*Project 20 Director: Isabel Jones
FCD summer school 2011 Photo: Rachel Cherry*



Project 20 Co-ordinator: Stella Couloutbanis



Project 20 Technical Manager, IT and Documentation: Geoffrey Fielding

Summary of Project 20 activities Oct 2009 - Jan 2012

Salamanda Tandem delivered the following:

- 13 participatory events:
- 33 Seminars and Training Courses
- 5 Additional but Relevant Projects beyond the East Midlands
- 9 Commissioned Publications and articles nationally
- 9 in house online Publications Provocations / Debates
- Evaluation Project Pilot - Journey into Health with elders

Participatory Events

During Project 20 ST delivered 13 participatory events and interactive exhibitions across the East and West Midlands that involved learning disabled participants, carers, family and friends. We also offered an artist's shadowing programme alongside.

1. **The Work and Play project (Arty Party)** based in Telford enabled 30 learning disabled adults to make art 2 days a week. ST trained and selected the 'on the ground team' of artists and advocates to deliver the programme, providing both an in depth training and evaluation programme as well as artistic delivery for 2 years.



Painting by Becky Watson (Work and Play – Arty Party Telford)

2. **Impossible Birds Exhibition at The Water Tower Northamptonshire.** As the culmination of salamanda tandem's work with Arty Party we produced the 'Impossible Birds' exhibition and live interaction, which was exhibited throughout the grounds and house. September 2010



2 of the Impossible Birds in the woods at the Water Tower



Leroy Grant creates music for live event with Tony Baker, Denis Tarsiguel, Eric Onillon

This 3-day collaborative event involved artwork made by 30 learning disabled artists and salamanda tandem. 22 learning disabled people also came to this event working alongside a team of 7 artists in collaboration with Rosalind Stoddart and Work and Play Telford. An open sharing was held for an invited local audience of about 25 people on Thursday 30th September at 3pm and Saturday 2nd October 2pm 2010.



Ricky Owens records event, whilst movement interactions happen in and around the exhibition



A sample of the artist team who produced Impossible Birds for The Water Tower

This was the first opportunity for these learning disabled artists to exhibit their work to the general public in a professional exhibition space.

3. Living Room Installation and interactive event at Rufford Craft Centre Gallery, attendees Newark & Sherwood Day centre, Orchard School, SCOPE and the general public - 18th to 21st January 2011. 'Living Room' is a supported environment where profoundly learning and physically disabled people and friends can dance; make sounds and visuals using assistive technology on their own terms.



Living Room Event at Rufford Nottinghamshire

4. Living Room Installation at Humberston Special School, Grimsby, 240 disabled children and their teachers, carers accessed this event from 2nd to 4th February 2011



Staff Training with Isabel Jones and Duncan Chapman before we start Living Room in Grimsby



Natalie Speake playing with a child from Humberston Special School

Each Project 20 Living Room event was designed to be both large scale and inspiring as well as on an intimate scale so that people found it easy to participate. In the picture below you can see how make the technology accessible by placing it in the center of

The Living Room. Led by Duncan Chapman, Isabel Jones and a team of technical / visual / movement interaction experts we aim to enable individuals to get together with their families / carers to engage in a multi sensory art installation on their own terms.



Classroom Assistants learn how to make their own multi sensory environment



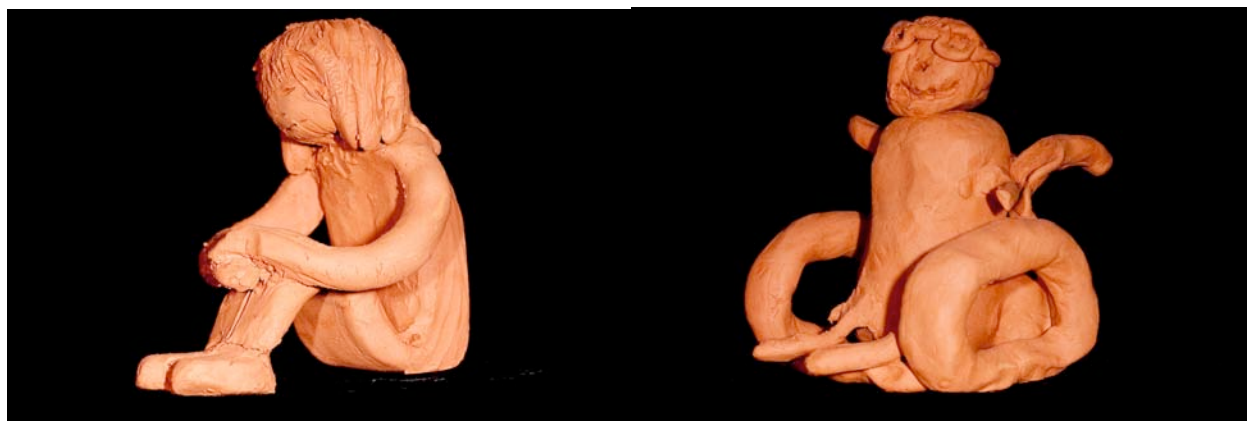
Duncan Chapman mixes children's voices and his accordion

5. Derby Quad 'The Art Of Participation'. Salamanda Tandem created a large installation, with projections featuring a salamanda tandem's 8 strong team of disabled dancers, tactile floor and sound art as part of this exhibition. 8793 people visited the exhibition over a 2.5 month period. This installation featured one of salamanda tandem's model projects Site Dance Site Music. A new hanging speaker installation was created for this special event. October and November 2009



Image: Richard Hughes, Dancer: Isabel Jones with Children from Hadley

6. 'Schools Out' Exhibition Rufford Gallery ran over a 6 week period - Salamanda Tandem created a case study, projections and sound installation featuring our work with Newark Orchard Special School - February to March 2010.



'Schools Out' Sculptures made by Children From Newark Orchard Special School

7. **‘Journey into Health’ pilot project** of weekly movement sessions for people, ran at West Bridgford Bowls Club in Nottinghamshire from January to April 2011. Registered Osteopath Geoffrey Fielding led the sessions with Isabel Jones assisting. 17 people took part in 13 sessions with an average age of 77. Due to major hip, shoulder and knee operations, a number of members were struggling to play the game and were fast losing their confidence on the green.

As the project got underway and members got a feel for the movements, they reported the most amazing improvements. “Learning about movement and our bodies is relevant to bowling,” said member Florence Goodall.

Ken Fleet reported that he had

“More energy and greater awareness of correct posture,”

and bowler John Moulton said:

“My posture has improved and I’ve found gardening and DIY easier, and as someone who has been unable to drive I was able to get back to Bowls and get behind a wheel again. It was really quite revelatory. I’ve also found myself doing leg stretches when I’m sitting watching TV.”



John Moulton demonstrates his movement awareness on the green

8. Living Room – Villa Strauli Zurich Artists Development. ST associate artists created a Living Room event and 1 concert in Winterthur Zurich, Switzerland supported by an arts charity that helps international artists to research and develop their work July 2010



Dance Artists / Choreographers: Helena Nicolao and Isabel Jones in Villa Strauli

9. Art and Creativity – a session for The Hope Recovery Group in Beeston for people recovering from Mental Illness July 2011

10. Wash Arts, Ilkeston, Derbyshire supported by Laura Guthrie, Arts Officer, Erewash Borough Council. This 1-day event involved 8 learning disabled people and their carers out in a public building in a very impoverished day center in Ilkeston – 7th July 2010.

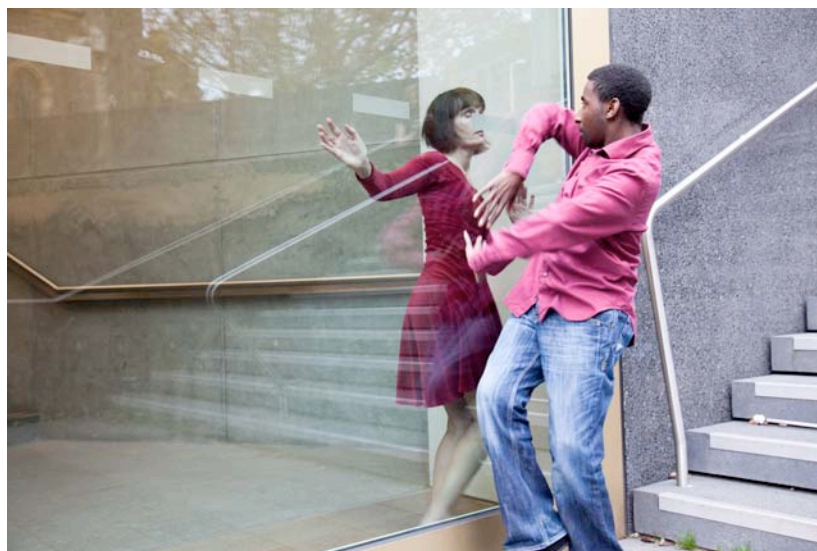
11. Sound Installation for families at the Royal Opera House ‘From The River to The Sea in London with Duncan Chapman and Isabel Jones May 2011. 500 people participated in this event

11. Site Dances at Nottingham Contemporary Nov 2011

Right since Salamanda Tandem was founded in 1989, we have been exploring how to make a dance / performance of equals – where a blind and sighted person can ‘meet’ and bring something new to a building / audience. In 2005 Isabel met Mickel Smithen who attended a training course she led in Hampshire. Ever since their first dance together the connection has developed. Mickel is now a salamanda tandem associate artist and has worked on 4 set specific projects with the company. Project 20 presented an opportunity to work in 2 of the regions new capital buildings.



Dancers Isabel Jones and Mickel Smithen at Nottingham Contemporary 2011





*Dancers Isabel Jones and Mickel Smithen at Nottingham Contemporary 2011.
Photo above: Stella Couloutbanis. All other photos Geoffrey Fielding*



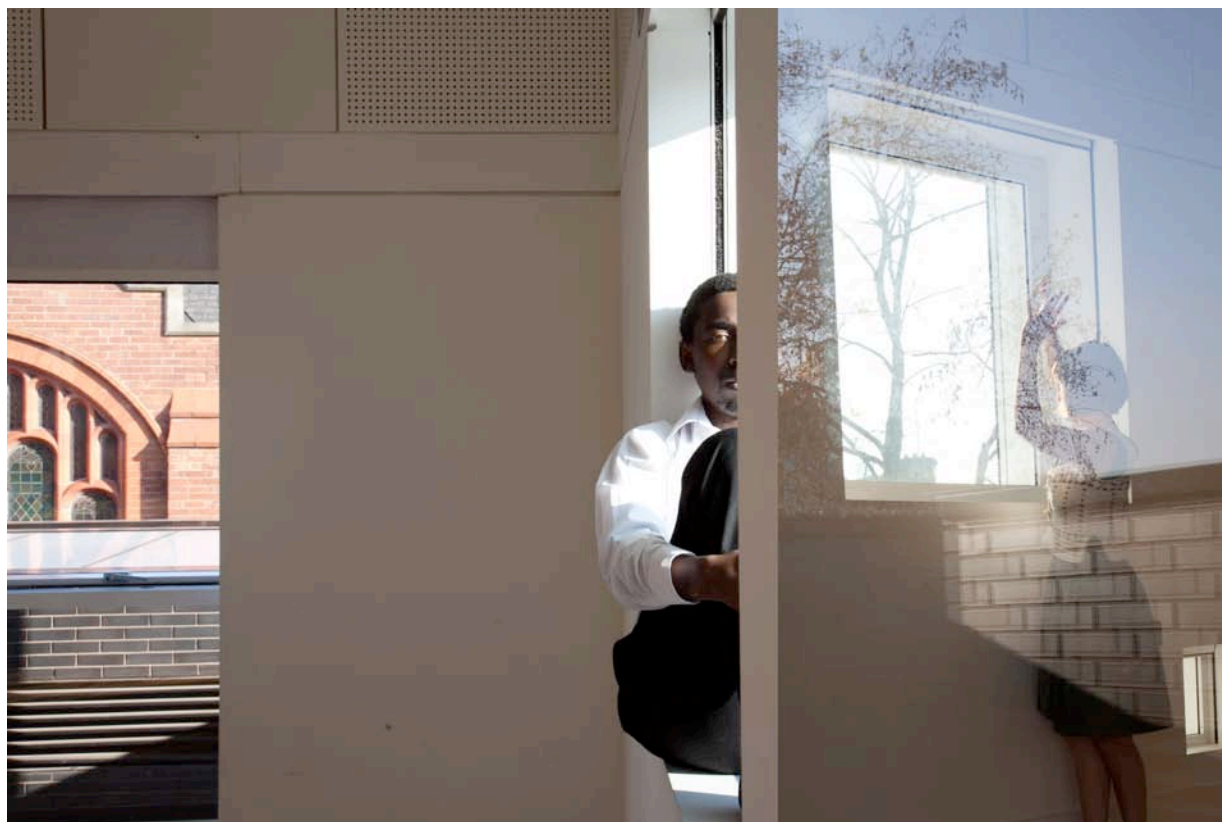
The following excerpts are from an article written for Project 20 by Esther Harris on ST's site specific work. She interviews 3 artists who have worked with ST for 10 – 20 years.

“Isabel’s site specific work is the polar opposite to a predictable, well-rehearsed piece that has been developed in the studio to go on tour. Isabel goes out to buildings with her team, gets to know them, and then uses what she learns ‘from the ground up’ to develop the performance. As an artist, this approach demands more flexibility and spontaneity from you. The same goes for working with people with learning and physical disabilities. You can’t have a big ego or be interested in pushing an experience on to them. As a dancer it requires you to hold back, read the person, and respond at exactly the right time, with the right energy and mood. **Julie Hood** Dance Artist

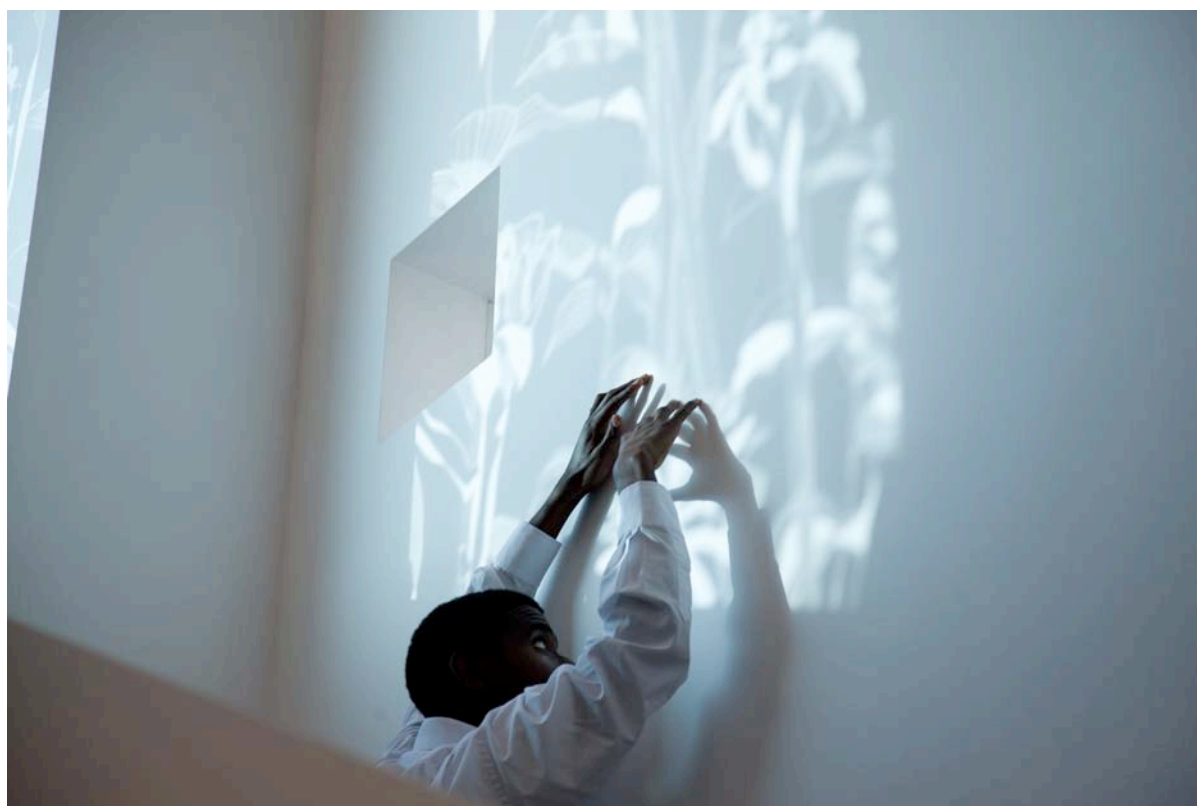
“Many of the commissions I get are very structured: clients want to know the length of a piece of music, the musicians used, the tone, etc. Inevitably working within constraints sometimes mitigates creating more interesting work. Isabel takes a more exploratory approach to her work, which results in creating pieces, which are unique and completely tailored to their local environment. Isabel never delivers a hackneyed or predictable performance, and always manages to get past the ‘conditioned responses’ audiences tend to give, and reach a genuine emotion. I believe people respond to her honesty, lack of ego and her authentic interest in their personal response. And if you don’t give the audience this opportunity to give you a real response – if you don’t learn anything surprising – you haven’t learned anything at all.” **Duncan Chapman** Composer

Reflecting on her projects has been a trip down memory lane for Isabel. She smiles: “I see myself in the photographs, aged nineteen, so intense and serious. The reality is I feel just as passionately about my site specific work now as I did then. I’m hooked on the complexity and individuality of every project – the history, the politics, the requirements, the funding, the issues – and to find a way through all of that, to tap into the spirit of a building and create a simple piece of choreography, that speaks directly to the people who use the space – is unbelievably satisfying.” **Isabel Jones** Director

13. Site Dances at New Art Exchange – Site Dances Duet with Visually Impaired dancer Mickel Smithen and Isabel Jones June 2010 and November 2011



Dancers Isabel Jones and Mickel Smithen at New Art Exchange 2011.





Dancers Isabel Jones and Mickel Smithen at New Art Exchange 2011.

33 Seminars and Training Courses

As part of Project 20, Salamanda Tandem has organised, and co-developed a series of seminars, training courses and special events across the East Midlands and beyond. ST has engaged in a total of 33 events over a period of 22 months from October 2009 to present, an average of 1.45 per month. ST worked in the recent newly East Midlands Capital Buildings; Quad, New Art Exchange, Curve, Level Centre and Nottingham Contemporary, as well as regional organisations East Midlands Participatory Arts Forum (EMPAF), Foundation for Community Dance (FCD), East Midland Arts Rural Artists Network (EMARAN), Lincolnshire Dance, and with Universities such as De Montfort, Lincoln and Nottingham Trent, as well as local authorities including Nottinghamshire County Council to present these opportunities.

ST presented the following Seminars and Training Courses:

1. EMARAN conference at the Level centre, ST co-organised and developed the event with the steering committee. Isabel Jones was in trust of speaker John Fox from Welford State International November 30th 2010
2. Dance and Ethics The Curve Leicester; Seminar presented by Isabel Jones and Miranda Tufnell for FCD in December 2009
3. Lincoln Centre for Performing Arts, Lincoln University, 'Community Dance Seminar; Inclusive dance or imposing Movements on people?' 2 courses led by Isabel Jones 6th December 2009
4. Rufford Arts Centre a training event and exhibition led by Isabel Jones – *Arts Work with People – conduits of access* with Nottinghamshire County Council. This AWP training course was run on 26th March 2010 at Rufford arts centre in Nottinghamshire – 12 - visual / sound and movement artists attended the day





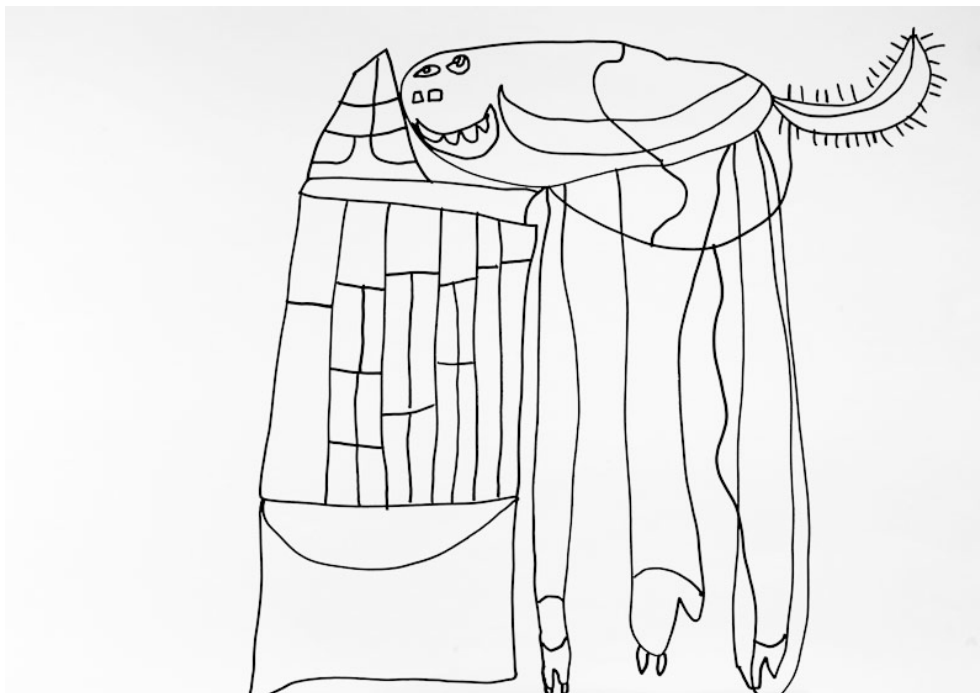
Nottinghamshire based musicians, and visual artists with Course Leader Isabel Jones



5. Work and Play Project Telford an arts project for learning disabled people. *Isabel Jones led a two-year evaluation and arts training project.* Through salamanda tandem's work with manager Kevin Hodgetts a core artist / support team was established to deliver an ambitious weekly programme of arts activity for learning disabled people (15 - 20 learning disabled people and their carers benefitted every week - 2009 – 2011)



Trigonos Residential Training Event for Work and Play Artists and Advocates



Working from Drawings – Leroy Grant

6. Lincolnshire Dance an *Aiming Higher for Disabled Children Training Project* led by Isabel Jones and Stella Couloutbanis – This 10 month training and mentoring project was designed for 14 dance artists and support workers and supported the delivery of more 100 sessions with disabled children across Lincolnshire from June 2010 – March 2011.



*Playing with amplified sandtray - Trainees Shadowing Salamanda tandem
Sandtray originally designed for ST by Kate Houghton and Julie Hood
in collaboration with Learning Disabled People*

7. EMPAF Conference at Derby Quad, Isabel Jones delivered a practice-based seminar at this national conference. Just over 100 people attended – October 16th 2009
8. New Art Exchange Training Event for Asian mothers with children on the autistic spectrum. 10th Dec 2009
9. EM School for Social Entrepreneurs. Seminar Retford 16 Plus Centre Nottinghamshire, '*Ethical In Business*' - 14th April 2010
10. EMPAF at Imp Arts Lincoln – 1 day seminar networking event with Isabel Jones contributing as a co-leader with EMPAF partners – June 2010
11. EMPAF at The Palace Media Centre, Newark. Salamanda tandem co-led a 1 day seminar/training and networking event with EMPAF partners in November 2010.
12. FCD *Dance for Disabled People* 4 day summer school at De Montfort University course leader Isabel Jones and visiting dance and disabled people tutors: Jo Verrent, Lisa Simpson and DJ. Delivered July 2010



*Course Students complete an exercise in 'connecting and noticing' led by Isabel Jones
Photograph: Stella Couloutbanis*

13. FCD – *Dance and Disabled People* 4 day summer school event at De Montfort University with course leader Isabel Jones and visiting dance and disabled people tutors: Michelle Taylor, Kevin Hodgetts and Caroline Bowditch - July 2011



*Residential Course Students reflect through drawing.
Foundation For Community Dance Summer School 2011. Photo - Rachel Cherry*

14. IJ was invited to be one of 2 national speakers at 'Step Change – by Take Art' in Taunton Somerset on dance and health to talk about salamanda tandem's work on creativity and wellbeing. 110 people attended including disabled people, elders plus dance professionals and PCT representatives – July 2nd 2010
15. De Montfort Uni. Seminar, led by Isabel Jones 'Inclusive Dance' – October 2010
16. Lincoln Centre for Performing Arts, Lincoln University a one-day course led by Isabel Jones – *Therapeutic Dance Seminar* – 1st November 2010.
17. Lincolnshire Dance, targeted Training Course 1 – 23rd September 2010
18. De Montfort University, Leicester Inclusive Dance, for Dance students - 11th October 2010
19. Lincolnshire Dance, targeted Training Course 2 – 14th October 2010

20. The Water Tower, Northamptonshire, research & professional development for associate ST artists – 30th September 2010



Rosalind Stoddart, Isabel Jones, Tony Baker, Denis Tarsiguel, Eric Onillon, and Andy Eathorne explore how paint, movement and sound could be brought together at The Water Tower.



21. Lincoln Centre for Performing Arts, Lincoln University course by Isabel Jones on *Dance and Wellbeing* – 1st November 2010
22. Nottingham Contemporary – ‘Provocation on Socially Engaged Art’, launch of 2nd Provocation around the issue of ethical social engagement (with Fergus Brazil, East Midlands School of Social Entrepreneurs) – 15th November 2010
23. Lincolnshire Dance, Training Course working with disabled children– 18th November 2010
24. De Montfort University Dance Department Leicester, Community Dance and Disabled People Lecture - 29th November 2010
25. Rufford Craft Centre Gallery – Living Room Provocation / interaction seminar for Nottingham/shire practitioners) - 20th January 2011 from 3.00 to 5.00pm



Oksana Tyminski, Lucy, Kevin Hodgetts, Sarah Kettle and Isabel Jones

26. Rufford Craft Centre Gallery, Living Room, 7 shadowing opportunities for dancers and musicians -19th to 21st January 2011



Kamal Joory; new salamanda tandem recruit - shadowing in Nottinghamshire

27. Humberston Special School Grimsby, Living Room Installation, 3 shadowing opportunities for dancers and musicians available – 2nd to 4th February 2011



*New Salamanda Tandem Recruit from FCD Dance and Disabled People Course 2010:
Natalie Speake*

28. Workshop at De Montfort University Dance Department Leicester, Inclusive
Community Dance workshop – 1st November 2011



New Salamanda Tandem Recruit from De Montfort Course 2010: Emily Bolton



Dance Students learn a simple / massage technique using a conker



UK's First Inclusive Dance Course Plymouth University – Disabled and Non disabled students use a connecting pole without hands to create shared pace and movement

29. Lecture at De Montfort University Dance Department Leicester, Community Dance and Disabled People – 1st November 2011
30. Lincoln Centre for Performing Arts, Lincoln University seminar for MA students by Isabel Jones on *Dance and Ethics* – 5th Oct 2011
31. Lincoln Centre for Performing Arts, Lincoln University Therapeutic Dance workshop by Isabel Jones on *Therapeutic Dance* – 24th October 2011
32. Nottingham Trent University, Lecture by Isabel Jones on Inclusive Design works best – 23rd March 2011
33. Dance and visually impaired people workshop, Plymouth Uni. Dance department delivered by Isabel Jones for Adam Benjamin 26th Nov 2010



Dance Students work in pairs one with a blindfold – to sensitise their practice



Additional Regional, National and International Projects

The following projects weren't part of the original Project 20 plan and budget, but were commissioned by national partners and took inspiration from Project 20

1. An important part of what salamanda tandem does is to support artists to develop their work with people. During 2011, salamanda tandem and Isabel Jones have supported emerging local company 'Turned on It's Head' to develop a participatory performance for the under 5's. Isabel developed interactive vocals that enabled dancer/choreographers Oksana Tyminski and Liz Clark to generate flexible interactions with the children during performance and enabled disabled children and their parents to be more successfully intergrated. Isabel toured with the event to; Leicester Curve, DEDA, Lakeside Arts Centre, Y Theatre, Corby Cube. Isabel also integrated ST associate artists; Duncan Chapman, Kevin Hodgetts and Geoffrey Fielding into the project. A total of 18 performances were given reaching in excess of 600 children. Oksana and Liz also used the ST seminar space for rehearsals
2. Repeat Dance and visually impaired people workshop, Plymouth Uni. Dance department delivered by Isabel Jones for Adam Benjamin 26th Nov 2011



3. Autism Conference seminar/ workshop in Glasgow with The Scottish Society of Autism delivered by Isabel Jones – 24th November 2010
4. Autism Seminar – Plymouth University Psychology Department delivered by Isabel Jones – 26th November 2010

5. FRAGILE Seminar Oslo Norway 21st Oct 2011. Isabel Jones gives keynote



Gathering of international choreographers from UK, Sweden, Norway, Portugal and Estonia

6. International Participatory Art Conference in Rotterdam - ST artists Isabel Jones and Kevin Hodgetts contributed to this event alongside 22 other East Midlands delegates supported by EMPAF to attend. ST showed a new film and was chosen to make a statement to sum up the conference – March 30th 2011
7. Dr Sonali Shah Disability Researcher at Leeds University. Conducted a number of seminars nationally with disabled and non-disabled experts in the field. Isabel Jones was invited as a key contributor to all the national seminars; which took place in London and Leeds, and was invited to deliver a seminar at Nottingham Playhouse. During Project 20 Isabel has been involved in a new research project looking at how to transmit the lives/ histories of disabled people through theatre.



Isabel Jones and David Toole lead a small group within a large group at Leeds University in the department of performance and Culture (PCI)

10 Publications and articles nationally

Over a 2 year period we have set out to reach disabled people and their families, artists, academics, as well as health, education, arts and social care professionals through a wide and comprehensive range of; publications, online debates, exhibitions, seminars, training and participatory art events.

1. *'Dance and Disabled People'* is a substantial book written by Isabel Jones published by the Foundation for Community Dance. This book contains over 100 pages, disseminating salamanda tandem's work, including a detailed section on the values and principles of salamanda tandem, a detailed section on Isabel's methods, interviews with prominent disabled dance artists, e.g. Sarah Scott and David Toole, and 5 case studies/articles written by eminent people in the field and leading disability arts practitioners and academics e.g. Tom Shakespeare a disability activist at the UN. in Geneva. Francois Matarasso was consulted about contributions and brought Tom Shakespeare and Isabel together. At the end of the book Isabel has prepared a section on disability legislation, further reading, and a bibliography, then a final section; a comprehensive list of dance and disability organisations across the UK, contacted by Isabel and the foundation, who have requested inclusion in the handbook. 213 books have been sold to date (Dec 2011)

FCD have pushed for the handbooks to go onto university reading lists. So far been bought by 9 universities libraries across the country, they are as follows

- University of Winchester
- Royal Academy of Dance
- University of Suffolk
- University of Hull
- University of Plymouth
- University of Central Lancashire
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- De Montfort University, Leicester
- Laban, London

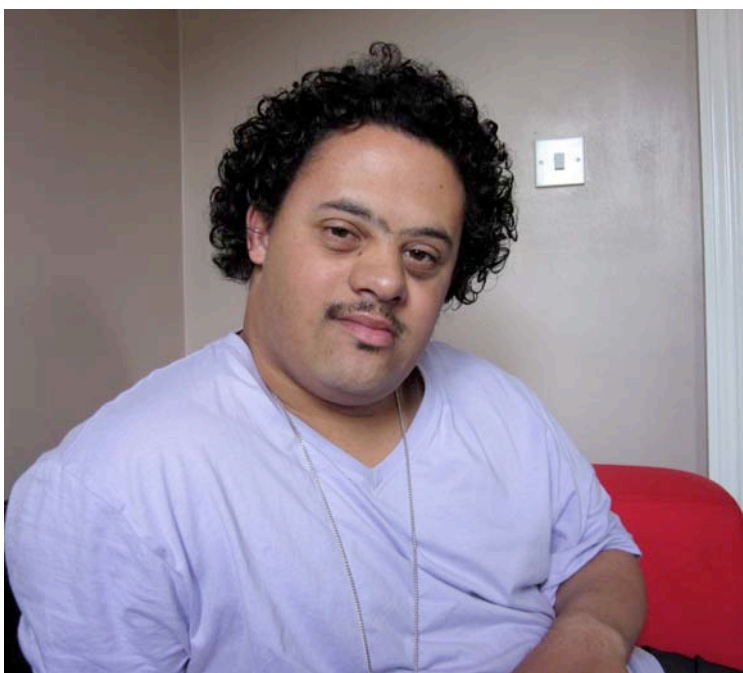
Available for purchase on line: www.communitydance.org.uk – from 16th September 2010

2. *Passport to Practice*, author Diane Amans and published by Foundation for Community Dance – section on 'inclusive dance' written by Isabel Jones. Online publication www.communitydance.org.uk September 2010. 169 books have been sold to date
3. *Branded by Art Form*, an online publication for East Midlands Participatory Arts Forum, (www.empaf.com). This participatory arts online book includes an ST article written by Kevin Hodgetts and Isabel Jones, exploring participation as an art form in its own right and the politics around it. February 2010
4. *Work and Play Evaluation Report Year 1 and 2* – Author Isabel Jones. Arty Party Telford (Internal Document) – October 2010

5. Case Study – Can't stop me Shining for EMPAF web site with Nathan Campbell, Isabel Jones and Kevin Hodgetts. August 2011. This film will be shown as part of the embrace arts new exhibition in Spring 2012
6. Article for Mailout Magazine – Can't Stop me Shining – a Digital Platform for a Human Voice. Autumn 2011
7. NHS magazine – The Bowls Project August 2011
8. Over 75's Walk Tall – Arts Professional magazine Winter 2011
9. Design For Health Sheffield Hallam University Winter 2011. Sheffield Hallam University, Design for Health Conference Seminar – Isabel co-wrote a paper for this national conference with Tina Downes and Sarah Kettley of The design department at Trent University July 2011

8 online Provocations / Debates / online publications

One of our Project 20 aims is to look into forensic detail, at the tricky subject of 'quality' in the field of 'participatory arts'. Also to focus and explore in particular, the way in which profoundly disabled people are engaged with participatory arts. In October 2010 we launched the first of 12 Provocations online via our blog web site and at EMPAF which have also been the central online hubs for information on project 20 events, contributions etc. Each 'Provocation' is a vehicle to present an idea that could stimulate deep thinking on aesthetic and ethical practice in the field and an invitation for people to join the debate. There is a close link with 31 seminars we have presented all over the region and beyond.



Nathan Campbell – Can't Stop Me Shining sound artist

The Provocations have been managed by Isabel Jones, in collaboration with poet Tony Baker and writer/critic Kevin Hodgetts. We have had a very good response to this, with a number of excellent written contributions from artists, care professionals and academics as well as numerous work opportunities and positive emails in response. The Provocations act as a very useful focal point for understanding the field, and for students and emerging artists as well as many of the participants who have attended our Project 20 training events. To join the debate or read the provocations visit:

<http://salamandatandem.wordpress.com> or http://www.empaf.com/groups/project_20

Salamanda Tandem have in total delivered 8 provocations on ST's own BLOG and on EMPAF's website as follows:

- The 1st Provocation on the subject of Ownership was launched at Derby Quad and was posted on salamanda tandem's online debate 6th October 2010.

salamanda tandem
generating debate on the aesthetics and ethics of participatory art

Home About The 1st Provocation What We Do

Salamanda Tandem: Project 20 Events
September 13, 2010

Project 20 – The 12 Provocations

Autumn 2010

Project 20 looks in forensic detail at the tricky subject of 'quality' in the field of 'participatory arts' - in particular we will be exploring the way in which profoundly disabled people are engaged. One of the ways in which we will be doing this is via a series of 12 Provocations conducted over the next year. Each 'provocation' will present an idea that could stimulate deep thinking on aesthetic and ethical practice in the field and an invitation for you to join the debate. Each month we will post a 'Provocation' which will be conducted via this salamanda tandem's blog and via our project partner's web site EMPAF.

The 1st Provocation posted 6th October 2010 (see above) is 'a-round the subject of ownership' - illuminating one of salamanda tandem's core principles. We would like to invite you to contribute any thoughts, questions or solutions here in conversation with us. Comments and contributions will be collated and credited, and the final '12 Provocations' will form a publication, published in 2012.

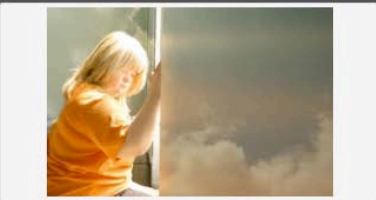



Image: salamanda tandem, Dancer: Faith, Design: Richard Hughes, Photo: Geoffrey Fielding

Do join the debate by adding your comments or come to one of our live events or read our publications this autumn - see below

Project 20 – Seminars and Training Courses

Autumn / Winter 2010

salamanda tandem blogposts



salamandatandem
Salamanda Tandem: Project 20 Events
Salamanda Tandem - art that works with people
Hello world!

Who's Voice

This blog is looked after by Isabel Jones in collaboration with other salamanda tandem associate artists and practitioners including: Kevin Hodgetts and Tony Baker.

Visits


347 hits

Email Subscription

Enter your email address to subscribe to this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Sign me up!

myspace music at salamanda tandem



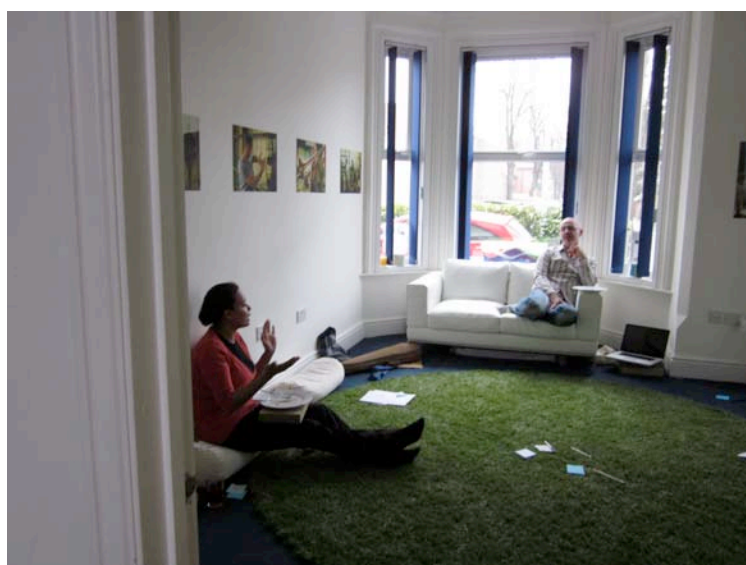
web site archive at salamanda tandem

Project 20 online Blog 2,300 hits since we launched on October 2010

- The 2nd Provocation called 'Who gets to paint the bird' was launched online at EMPAF in October 2010
- The 3rd Provocation called 'The Touch Principle' was launched at Nottingham Contemporary on 15th Nov 2010 with EM School of Social Entrepreneur's and went up at salamanda tandem online in Dec 2010.
- The 4th Provocation looking at 'Issues of Touch' was launched at the Curve Leicester as part of an event on Dance and Ethics run by FCD with Isabel Jones and Miranda Tufnell and was posted online in January 2011
- The 5th Provocation on the subject on Authenticity was launched live with a group of 8 associate artists, arts practitioners and academics at Salamanda tandem's space on 30th March 2011 and went online in April 2011.



Stella Couloutbanis and Geoffrey Fielding lay on lunch for everyone at ST's space



Sarah Sanderson and Kevin Hodgetts chat over lunch listened into by Tony Baker on Skype from France (lap top open in the corner!)

- The 6th Provocation was launched in Rotterdam in April 2011 as part of an International Participatory Art Conference. ACE sponsored 22 participatory art delegates from the East Midlands to attend. The subject of the provocation is: 'the role of artists in community settings' - online at EMPAF in June 2011
- The 7th Provocation was launched at salamanda tandem online in October 2011 'on the art of disappearing'
- The 8th Provocation on 'aesthetics and ethics' was launched online in October 2011

Provocation contributors are as follows:

Ray Kohn: Musician and Director of Quesco
 Sarah Kettley: Trent Uni. Design Department
 Duncan Chapman: Composer
 Julie Hood: Dancer / Care Professional
 Isabel Jones: Choreographer / Composer
 Lisa Craddock: Dance Artist / Head of Professional Development FCD
 Kayla Doughan Bowtell: Head of Dance at Lincoln University.
 Dallas Simpson: Sound Artist / producer
 Tony Baker: Poet / Jazz Musician / Composer
 John Mitchel: Architect / Director of Learning Space
 Lewis Jones: Conceptual Designer
 Kevin Hodgetts: Writer
 Sara Sanderson: Arts Council Officer
 Martha Blassnigg: Researcher Psychology Department Plymouth University),
 Simon Steptoe: Director Firebird Trust
 Kevin Ryan: Director Charnwood Arts
 Linda Berry:
 Fiona Waddle: Artist



Tony Baker (key provocation contributor) arrives from France with fellow artists to participate

Project 20 Evaluation

All projects and events have been assessed, monitored and evaluated throughout the project. Every quarter the Artistic Director has completed a detailed report and presented it to the Board. These reports have been an important part of the assessment process to see if we have achieved our objectives, document the success of the project and provide evidence for stakeholders. As well as the Project 20 report the Artistic Director and Project Co-ordinator have written detailed evaluations for Nottinghamshire County Council. The company have over the past 2 years done the following:



Pre Event Evaluation between artists, participants and parents

ST have achieved the following through Project 20:

- Creativity metric assessment conducted as part our evaluation project in Telford - with 18 learning disabled people and carers.
- CM Evaluation written up
- Ray Köln Quesco written marketing tools – tabled at meeting
- Evaluation Protocols prepared for Work and Play
- Evaluation Project conducted for 'Work and Play' – data from all LD participants, carers/families & artists managers delivering project
- Evaluation of Work and Play – Report Completed August 2010.
- IJ / ST Evaluation methods published through dance and disabled people handbook (FCD)
- Contribution to 'Learning Space' seminar on the current climate – Nottingham 15th January 2011.

- Project 20 evaluation forms drawn up
- Detailed written materials prepared before + after each event
- A sample of events Photographed
- Project 20 update Report written for every board meeting
- Monitoring Records kept of all events
- Annual report prepared and approved on 16th September by board
- Final Report written for Nottinghamshire County Council – August 2010
- Interim report for ACE
- Report written for Work and Play project in October 2010
- Board Away ½ day 16th September 2010– review of salamanda tandem to inform planning for Project 20 and beyond
- Published evaluation protocols in FCD new publication ‘dance and disabled people’
- Tested written up in practice with learning disabled participants
- In discussion with Michaela Butter - plans to Re - publish Arts Council EM Publication written by Salamanda tandem and Leeds University – ‘evaluation and informed choice for learning disabled people – 2005
- Written health and wellbeing evaluation questionnaire for participants on Journey into health for people over 70 years of age
- Evaluated and written up the Journey into Health – Bowls Project
- Used Creativity Metric tool to evaluate our practice
- Evaluated the work through the provocations
- Evaluated Project 20 through writing our new 3 year development plan



A Typical Evaluation Activity led by Isabel Jones with Nottinghamshire Artists

Evaluation Project - Journey into Health with elders

In partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council ST delivered a newly creative and wellbeing pilot project 'Journey to Health'. This pilot programme consisted of a weekly movement session which was ran over a period of 12 weeks and was offered to people of over 70 plus living in the Rushcliffe.

The pilot programme was delivered as part of ST's funding agreement with Nottinghamshire County Council. The initial work for the pilot was done with participant group and a taster session was delivered by ST and was met with a great deal of enthusiasm. The target group was a group of people between 75 – 90 years of age who are members of West Bridgford Bowls Club and have become increasingly isolated by various debilitating operations muscular skeletal problems and associated loss of confidence etc. Many of the members where also struggling to keep up their membership with the club and therefore become more increasingly at risk of depression and mental health issues. In addition show the Rushcliffe area has a high mortality rate in older people. After the taster session the project was ran from January through to April 2011

The evidence from the 'Journey to Health' demonstrates that that is an area that ST can deliver and further develop for example the project could be 'rolled out' to other Bowling Clubs in the county and beyond. The evaluation report, support and enthusiasm from the WB club and from the president of Nottinghamshire's Bowls Club; David King Taylor demonstrates the need for this type of work to be continue. (See Full Report)

ST also delivered the following:

- As part of our agreement with Nott's County Council we also delivered a workshop for Nott's Adult Social care at Nottingham Racecourse– dealing with personal payments for disabled people. This event was an important part of ST's research into the politics of social and healthcare. 150 disabled people and health care professionals attended this event.



Artist on Training Course Demonstrates an inclusive way of making a choice

Communications Strategy, Marketing and PR



Isabel leads students to learn how to communicate non-verbally as part of training Foundation For Community Dance Summer School 2011. Photo - Rachel Cherry

Communication depends on having something to say and someone to say it to Project 20 has helped us to build up an audience.

Communication also depends on dialogue and Project 20 has entered a fascinating dialogue with a diverse audience. Meeting people face to face is what we know best but in tandem with this we have been able to improve our virtual / web based communications. We have facilitated dialogue through a new blog, online debate with other existing organisation web sites. We still continue with our existing twitter, face book my space music sites, and see below

My space music: www.myspace.com/salamandatandem
 Blog: <http://salamandatandem.wordpress.com/>
 Twitter: <http://twitter.com/salamandatandem>

So far, Project 20 delivery has been delivered towards a specifically targeted audience of disabled people, carers, artists and other professionals. We have been very fortunate in that all our seminars, participatory events, training courses and publications so far have been hosted by project partners, who have marketed the events which has helped attract an excellent and focussed audience. At every event, salamanda tandem training and

resource packs have been handed out and numerous email communications have followed and along with relationships with partners, person-to-person communications have been meaningful. In short ST marketing strategy has achieved the following

- Talked with Project partners and established agreements with FCD and EMPAF in having a presence on their websites
- Registered for ST Blog and a sample design produced, online in April 2010 and became active in September 2010. The 12 Provocations started October 2010 and there have been 2305 visitors there.
- EMPAF hosted ST online debates for Project 20 – we will have our own section of their site accessible by our members
- Web development support by Esther Harris our PR consultant.
- ST, database systems has been reviewed. This has been an immense task; although our old database was kept updated whilst we were an RFO, which was done by a full time company manager who managed other part time office support. It requires weekly / manual support to make useful and we no longer have the resources to do this. Utilising the help donated to us by Volunteer, and carefully targeted IT support, our database has now been rationalised so that we can use the Internet to help us. Our Project Coordinator attended data protection course. We are still doing research on how our database could be linked to web and streamlined for sustainability and simplicity; we have set up Mail chimp for free e/mail outs and list management however this system has problems.
- ST send regular e news bulletin
- ST has rationalised administrations systems and staff have access to email systems, shared scheduling/calendar, and online file sharing.
- Set up the buy/at scheme so that supporters can contribute to ST by doing their shopping on line
- An online giving account has been set up by Lyn Watson – now we are searching for the right place to add to our web site
- A5 Project 20 flier was designed by Richard Hughes for ST folders
- Write and interact with people via 'The Provocations'
- Have place Project 20 articles / case studies on line where possible e.g. at CDF and EMPAF- for access by researchers and arts professionals, parents and available for long term public access
- All old printed postcards have been recycled/redesigned (with professional cutting and labels). Those allowing some 3000 past print to be revitalise and reused for promotional opportunities for the company
- MySpace music site continues to have hits by people who want access to ST music. The site has had 9,850 listeners to our music, and reached 15,000 hits in July last year
- The new Dance and Disability handbook written by Isabel Jones published by the Foundation for Community Dance (FCD) was featured in its own online newsletters which was circulated to all FCD members.
- Dance Development Officer in Leicester subsequently forwards FCD newsletters to her mailing list of dancers in this region.

New Partners across the region

ST never works in isolation; collaborations, partners and participants have always been the heart of the company's philosophy to share, develop, for cross fertilisation, to maximise resources to produce new and interesting work.

Through Project 20 the company has grown and formed new relationships and partners

- Nottinghamshire County Council Arts Team – Kevin Tennant represented as a board observer, agreement drawn up and regular communications in place.
- EMARAN – East Midlands Arts in Rural Areas Network. IJ joined the steering group in Nov 2009 and co-managed events at The Water Tower and Level Centre as well as a consultancy with Francois Matarasso. In June 2010 Isabel took up the role of interim chair to help guide the group through a process of positive closure as a result of funding cuts.
- Fermynwoods and The Water Tower - Rosalind Stoddart Northants – strong relationship if now established where ST will co-deliver creativity events, health and well being projects, plus socially engaged art events – tackling the issue of inclusivity and quality
- Lincolnshire Dance, Keyna Paul, a new partnership was established to run a major project throughout Lincolnshire for disabled children
- EMPAF – East Midlands participatory Arts Forum – IJ attendance at all the meetings as a key member of and contributor to the federation group. Co-delivered a seminar in Nottinghamshire and in Lincolnshire and went to Rotterdam as part of the East Midlands contribution to the international participatory art conference there.
- Our Chair; Sibyl Burgess attended the EMPAF conference as a salamanda tandem representative plus Elaine Newton-Fox one of our other board members
- East Midlands Arts and Health research group – continue to be a member – has gone quiet since lack of success on Lottery grant
- West Bridgford Bowls Club, Nottinghamshire in regular contact with chair David Kind Taylor.
- Susan Smith and Wash Arts put in a bid to the NHS
- Foundation For Community Dance, Leicester strong partnership here where we have been supporting the establishment of national professional standards for working with disabled people and in the field of health and wellbeing
- Conducted a number of interviews and established new close relationships with 6 disabled choreographers / lead artists; Sarah Scott - Clore Leader, VJ from Corali and Caroline Baldwitch from Scottish dance, David Toole – DV8 theatre, Lisa Simpson – Simpson Board.
- Have worked with Alito Alessi, Adam Benjamin to produce new material for publication
- Co-led a seminar on ethics with Miranda Tufnell and have begun working closely with her on various publications.

- Had regular meetings with John Mitchell of 'learning space' he is the architect for the Nottinghamshire BSF programme.
- In contact with Madeleine Holmes (City Arts) and have devised a joint training project working with people in residential care
- Informal discussion with curator of Radar Festival, Loughborough and submitted proposal
- Met with Michaela Butter at Embrace Arts, Leicester to discuss salamanda tandem's input into their conference in Spring 2012
- Met with new performance space curator at Nottingham Contemporary Siobhan Carroll to plan site specific project for Project 20
- Met with Skinder Hundal to plan site specific project for NAE
- Met and stayed in contact with the manager of the social services scheme in Nottinghamshire micro provider support for disabled people
- Met with Martin Knox a leading Nott's designer and business development award team. He has offered a day of free consultancy advice
- Met with Simon Steptoe director of Firebird Trust Nottinghamshire. IJ / salamanda tandem has been invited to join their new supervisory board and to be involved at a strategic level in their organisation to help it move forward after the loss of arts council funds
- Met with Elaine Knight and Chris Jones of Arts NK to discuss strategic rural arts development project
- Developed new relationships with artists who will be part of salamanda tandem's associate artist team in the future; Natalie Speake, Kamal Joory, Oksana Tyminski, Liz Clark, Nathan Campbell, Esther Harris, Emily Bolton

Project 20 Office, Seminar Space and Resources

Throughout the duration of Project 20 ST has rented a ground floor seminar and exhibition/office space opposite the Trent Bridge cricket ground. The space is both accessible and central, and has offered a very valuable resource to salamanda tandem over the period of Project 20. Meetings, artistic research, seminars and training events have been held there.

The office / seminar space have been improved with the following measures taking place

- Archived ST printed postcards and rationalised the print
- Re labelled several thousand old postcards for sending out as part of Project 20 recycling campaign
- ST Lettering on Office front window to raise profile
- Office sort out (physical and administratively) – shelving etc. all videos, photographs and other resources housed here
- Seminar space – exhibition, and sound set up
- Project co-ordinator has set up systems in the office to manage, communications, budgeting and invoicing, payments etc.
IT updates: - email systems, scheduling, and online file sharing, for all the people working on project 20.

Project 20 - Human Resources and salamanda tandem's Board

Throughout Project 20 ST has developed a number of strong individuals working as freelance, artists, project managers, financial managers, volunteers and board members. Through Project 20 the organisation has achieved following key aims and objectives

- Identified Key roles and responsibilities of key personnel on Project 20
- Recruited an office volunteer in place for general administration support – Judy Collinge
- Contracted Project 20 Artistic Director: Isabel Jones
- Contracted a Project Coordinator: Stella Couloutbanis
- Appointed Geoffrey Fielding on IT support
- Appointed a new chair Sibyl Burgess MBE (previously director of Firebird Trust) on 6th November 2009
- Appointed Lyn Watson as Management Accountant who has managed the finances for ST and is responsible to reporting to the Charities commission, board etc.
- Held a Board Away Day on 16th September 2010, and board development sessions with Francois Matarasso 10th June 2011 and on 21st September 2011
- Engaged ST associate artists; Duncan Chapman (co-trainer / composer), Tony Baker (Writer / musician), Kevin Hodgetts (writer), Geoffrey Fielding (Photographer), Richard Hughes (Designer) Esther Harris (Writer). Andy Eathorne (Film), Mickel Smithen (Dancer), Natalie Speake (Dancer), Kamal Jury (Musician) Lewis Jones (conceptual Artist)
- Had regular tabled Board meetings and an annual AGM each year
- Appointed Lisa Craddock (Head of professional Development at the Foundation for Community Dance) who joined the ST Board, voted in on 16th Sept 2010
- Prepared a Skills Audit sent out to all board members
- First Aid Training etc. other training completed for 2 key workers; Stella Couloutbanis and Geoffrey Fielding
- Worked with Francois Matarasso throughout the autumn of 2011 to develop a 3 year development plan arising out of Project 20 findings

Financial

Finances were regularly reviewed by the Artistic Director (AD), Project 20 Coordinator (P20C) and the Management Accountant (MA)

- Quarterly accounts were prepared at all board meetings by MA and presented by Board Member, Lisa Craddock
- End of year accounts 2009/10/11 are completed and submitted to Independent Examiner for review.
- Above signed off by Board at the AGM.
Project 20 Budget prepared and updated by Project Co-ordinator
- Project 20 financial interim report was submitted to Arts Council Nov 2010 – accepted
- Final Income and Expenditure report signed off by Management Accountant January 2012

*Income and Expenditure report (see appendix)

Notes:

Income

- (a) The project commenced at the time that major cuts were announced to all budgets as a result offers of support were withdrawn and the income available to the project was reduced.
- (b) To ensure that artistic delivery was not compromised this reduction in income resulted in a decrease in money spent on promotion and organisational costs which further impacted on earned income. This strategic decision was taken to ensure that the project deliverables could still be met despite the reduction in income.

Expenditure

- (a) Cuts were made to the project support admin, to ensure artistic delivery was not compromised and more support in kind from volunteers was received. Other savings were made as we worked closely with new partners to deliver the seminars and training courses
- (b) The budget for marketing and promotion and making project materials available via electronic channels was reduced and focus was used to realise as many free and low cost publicity methods as possible. Clever use of Blogs, social networks and free packages enabled these costs to be reduced in line with income without compromising on project delivery.



Celebrations at The Water Tower with ST Disabled People, Family and Friends

For Information:

Contact Isabel Jones (Artistic Director)

isabel.jones@salamanda-tandem.org

Stella Couloutbanis (Project Co-ordinator)

stella.couloutbanis@salamanda-tandem.org

Office / Exhibition / Seminar Space

Registered Office: 52 Albert Rd, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 5GS

Registered in England, Company LTD by Guarantee number: 3929215, Registered Charity number: 1087588

Further information on events, debates, publications, history:

Web site: www.salamanda-tandem.org

my space music: www.myspace.com/salamandatandem

Blog: <http://salamandatandem.wordpress.com/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/salamandatandem>