

CHOREODROME INFORMATION PACK

Choreodrome Research Residencies 2022



Sarah Golding & Yukiko Masui, Choreodrome 2020. Image Description: In a brightly lit dance studio, two people pose back to back. They are positioned to the right of the photo. The person facing towards the camera is light skinned - her dark brown, afro hair is pulled up in a bobble. She kneels on her right leg. The other person is facing away - they have long dark hair, half tied up. They stand with their legs apart, and hold their left hand up to the side, their face turned towards it. Sunlight pours through a window at the back of the room. The walls and floor are white. Along the back wall runs a ballet barre. Photo by Henry Curtis.

Choreodrome Artist Specification:

- You must have been creating performance work in a professional setting for a minimum of 3 years (occasionally less experienced artists are considered)
- You are based in the UK
- You have a piece of work you want to develop, this could be new or existing work
- You are working with any kind of performance with movement at the core
- Part of the work will be ready to share with us at the end of the residency
- You can demonstrate how the residency will benefit you as an artist
- You are ambitious, want to challenge yourself, your collaborators and us
- Clear demonstration of additional funding support, or intention to pursue funding and/or partnerships.

We cannot support:

- Undergraduates
- Those based outside the UK
- Artists wanting to re-rehearse existing pieces

Choreodrome now consists of 5 different strands. You can indicate which residencies you want to be considered for on the application form and you can apply for more than one. A maximum of one commission can be awarded per application.

Commissions are as follows for each strand:

For ALL strands of Choreodrome we offer a standard package of support, which includes:

- 1-2 weeks of studio time
- Two producing support meetings
- Creative feedback
- Networking and introduction opportunities for new partners
- Free hire of technical equipment to support studio work
- Marketing support from our Communications team
- Studio sharings and facilitated feedback sessions during each residency
- Weekly lunchtime get-togethers with other artists

Core Choreodrome Residency

If you are successful for the Core Choreodrome Residency you will receive, in addition to the standard package:

- **£1500 artist commission**

Hip Hop Residency

In partnership with [Artists 4 Artists](#). In addition to the Core Choreodrome Residency resources, we will be offering two commissions for Hip Hop artists whose work is rooted in social, club or street dances. These artists will receive, in addition to the standard package:

- **£2100 artist commission**
- Tailored programme of support from Artists 4 Artists, specialists in Hip Hop theatre.
- Artistic and producing support from Artists 4 Artists
- Documentation of the residency
- Networking opportunities facilitated by Artists 4 Artists

You can read more about this programme on page 7.

Audio Description Residency

Commissioned by The Place and Candoco Dance Company, supported by Quiplash.

In addition to the Core Choreodrome Residency resources, we will be offering one Audio Description commission for a blind and visually impaired artist who is working, or would like to develop their skills working with creative audio description. This will include, in addition to the standard package:

- **£3000 commission** (there is no expectation to find additional funding for this strand).
- Access support costs to be discussed with the selected artist.
- Tailored support from Quiplash which might include:
 - Audio description consultancy
 - Creative and dramaturgical support
 - Access consultancy
- Tailored support from Candoco Dance Company which might include:
 - Dramaturgical support
 - Producing and creative feedback
 - Introduction to Candoco Dance Company's Artist Networks
 - Support from Candoco Dance Company's Access Officer

You can read more about this programme on page 9.

Public Research Residency

In partnership with [Wellcome Collection](#). In addition to the Core Choreodrome Residency, there will be two Public Research Residencies available. This will include, in addition to the standard package:

- **£2100 artist commission**
- 15 hours undertaking research in the Reading Room, a public space within Wellcome Collection in Euston.
- Producing support from the Wellcome Collection's Live Programmes Producer.
- Support with access costs, if required, to be discussed with the artist.
- Budget for food & drink at Wellcome Café.

You can read more about this programme on page 11.

New Collaborations Residency

We will offer support to up to two artists who collaborate with artists or practitioners from any other discipline to co-lead their work. We are interested in innovation of artistic approach and performance format, and audience development opportunities that can come from choreographers working in partnership with writers, directors, designers, visual artists, composers, technologists, teachers or any other creative practitioners. This will include, in addition to the standard package:

- £10,000 commission
- Producing support from The Place's [Producing and Touring team](#)

Please note: residencies of two weeks will take place between October and December 2022 (outside of the main Choreodrome period).

You can read more about this programme on page 14.

How do we select participants?

We usually receive a large number of applications to take part. We normally support around 16 residencies, and usually invite 25 artists to interview online. These interviews will be an opportunity to discuss your ideas and how you will use the commission in more detail. Interviewed artists are offered a fee for their time. All applicants will receive feedback.

What are we looking for in your application?

- We are looking for all kinds of new ideas from many different areas of dance and choreography.
- We are interested in work that is being developed for live and/or digital presentation, and that may in the future have the potential to tour to a range of spaces, including rural village halls, schools, outdoor spaces & community settings, as well as small & mid scale theatres.
- We want to encourage approaches that are playful and speculative as well as rigorous and focused.
- We're hoping your research will answer lots of your creative questions and generate plenty of new ones.
- We'd like you to enjoy working for a few weeks amongst a community of other artists.
- We are keen to hear from people we haven't worked with before as well as artists we have existing relationships with.
- We are keen to ensure our Choreodrome 2022 artists represent a range of artists currently making work in the UK. We encourage applications from those who are currently underrepresented in the dance sector, including but not limited to: disabled artists, artists from financially disadvantaged backgrounds, artists who experience racism, artists with care responsibilities and artists who are LGBTQIA+.

Access for Artists during Choreodrome

We want to make sure that Choreodrome is as accessible as possible for all our artists. Once selected, you will be invited to send us an Access Rider or to share your access needs with us. We will work put in place as much as we can to enable you to take part in your residency.

We expect most applicants to use the Choreodrome commission as match funding to find additional support for your project. The Place can support you to include access costs in other funding applications (e.g. Arts Council England). Where we can, we will contribute to access costs, this might include:

- Contributing to the costs of an access support worker during your time with us.
- Contributing to childcare costs so you can attend your interview.
- Contributing to costs for a BSL interpreter for meetings or events related to Choreodrome.

Other access support we can offer:

- We can also provide a quiet room for you during your time at The Place.
- If you are selected for the Audio Residency you will receive support from Candoco Dance Company's Access Officer and support from Quiplash.

You can find details about our building on page 17.

The Place's approach to working with artists

The Place takes pride in working in an artist led way. This means we aim to create a home for artists, to sustain them and provide conditions for their work to grow and flourish. We recognise that each artist is different. What an artist needs depends on the type of work they make, their experience, ideas, ambitions and the barriers they may face along the way.

All artists who are commissioned will have an induction session, with a chance to share any questions or concerns about working with The Place.

The Place strives to continually refine and evaluate our projects, so that we can improve experiences for artists year on year. If you are selected for Choreodrome, you will be expected to provide feedback on your experience with us as a condition of your residency.

You can read more about our commitments to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, our Action Plan and our related policies [here](#).

Any questions?

If you have any questions about Choreodrome Research Residencies, including queries about the additional 4 strands, we will be holding a Q&A Session on the 10th of Jan via Zoom. If you would like to reserve a place at the Q&A Session please [email artistdevelopment@theplace.org.uk](mailto:artistdevelopment@theplace.org.uk)

HOW TO APPLY

You can apply for the Choreodrome Research Residency using this [form](#).

You can download a PDF or Word Document to see the application questions. We recommend writing your questions in the word document, and then copying your answers over into the Google form.

You must fill out The Place's Equal Opportunities Monitoring form. Follow this [link](#) to the form.

If you require any support during the application process, or if another format or application process would be more accessible for you, please contact artistdevelopment@theplace.org.uk and we will make the appropriate arrangements.

**Deadline to apply for Choreodrome Research Residencies: Monday
24th January 2022 at 6pm.**

Hip Hop Artist Residency

In partnership with Artists 4 Artists



Choreodrome Artist Symoné 2020 Image Description: In a brightly lit room, a slim Black person poses on yellow wheeled high heeled roller skates. They have afro hair tied back in a bun, a shoulder tattoo, and they are wearing sheer black shorts and a high necked sleeveless black top. Their left leg lunges out in front of them - their right leg is stretched out behind. Their head is held back slightly, their arms crossed in front of them, their fingers in a delicate pose.

The room is large with daylight streaming through windows. The walls are painted white, and the floor is wooden. Photo by Henry Curtis.

The Brief

We are keen to hear from Hip Hop artists who are interested in tackling The Place's research questions in their work and their practice, and also from artists who are looking to work with their own, different artistic questions.

About Artists 4 Artists

[Artists 4 Artists](#) is an artist-led hub activating industry change for the UK Hip Hop community.

Artists 4 Artists want to address the lack of access to opportunities for Hip Hop theatre makers by providing producing support, artist development & commissioning opportunities. They are artists in residence at Redbridge Drama Centre and have been in partnership with Choreodrome at The Place since 2020.

“The Artists 4 Artists team tailored their support to my needs. They were easy to reach, attentive, and put my way of working first; allowing me to immerse myself in my process and being available when I needed more advice and support” – Isaac Ouro-Gnao, Choreodrome Artists 4 Artists artist 2020

We are looking for:

- Hip Hop artists whose work is rooted in social, club or street dances.
- Hip hop artists that have been creating performance work in a professional setting for a minimum of 3 years (occasionally less experienced artists are considered) – this does not have to be in a theatre context.
- Artists that are based in the UK.
- Artists that have a piece of work they want to develop, this could be new or existing work.
- Work that will be ready to share some of their ideas with us at the end of the residency.
- Evidence this residency, and working with Artists 4 Artists, will benefit them as an artist.
- Artists that are ambitious to challenge themselves, their collaborators and us.

What we will offer, in addition to the standard package of support:

- £2100 commission
- Artistic and producing support from Artists 4 Artists
- Documentation of the residency (photography and film from The Duke Ldn)
- Networking opportunities facilitated by Artists 4 Artists

Audio Description Residency

Commissioned by Candoco Dance Company and The Place,

supported by Quiplash



The Palm of Your Hand – Vera Tussing 2017 Image Description: A fair skinned person poses somberly against three other fair skinned people - they look as if they are comforting each other. The sombre person has short hair and stubble, and they wear a short sleeved yellow jacket. They stretch their left arm out in front of them. A person behind them tenderly touches their shoulder. A third person presses their mouth on the shoulder of the person in the yellow jacket. A fourth person holds their right hand up just in front of the person with the yellow jacket's outstretched hand, touching their palm. The gesture seems gentle and intimate. Photo by JS Rafaeli.

The Brief

This Choreodrome strand is for:

- Blind or visually impaired artists
- Blind or visually impaired artists who are interested in exploring creative and innovative ways of using audio description in a movement context

About Quiplash

Quiplash is a young creative, performance and consulting project that looks to take space for deaf disabled and neurodiverse people across the LGBTQQIA+ spectrum (aka queer crips aka quips). We make and support performance and art that prioritises queer disabled performers and embedded access with a focus in integrated and creative audio description. Quiplash also works as access consultants and trainers in audio description, disability justice and disability awareness with artists, professionals as well as national and international organisations.

Follow Quiplash on [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

Candoco Dance Company:

Candoco Dance Company is a world-leading professional dance company. Bridging the mainstream and the experimental, our bold approach and powerful collaborations create distinctive performances and far-reaching learning experiences. We celebrate different ways of seeing, of being and of making art, putting us at the forefront of conversation around dance and disability and continually expanding perceptions of #whatdancecanbe.

We are looking for artists:

- Who have lived experience as a blind or visually impaired person.
- Whose work is rooted in audio description, or have a strong desire to expand their practice with embedded audio description.
- Who have been creating movement based performance work in a professional setting for a minimum of 3 years (occasionally less experienced artists are considered) – this does not have to be in a theatre context.
- Who are based in the UK.
- Who have a piece of work they want to develop, this could be new or existing work.
- Will be ready to share some of their progress in the studio with us at the end of the residency.
- Who demonstrate how the residency, and working with Quiplash and Candoco Dance Company will benefit them as an artist.
- Are ambitious to challenge themselves, their collaborators and us.

What we will offer in addition to the standard package of support:

- £3000 artist commission (excluding access costs).
- Tailored support from Quiplash, as agreed with the artist. This may include audio description consultancy, creative and dramaturgical support.
- Networking opportunities facilitated by Quiplash and Candoco Dance Company
- Candoco Dance Company's support might include: dramaturgical support, producing and creative feedback, introduction to Candoco Artist Networks and support from Candoco's Access Officer.
- A future planning meeting with The Place and Candoco Dance Company.
- Access support costs, to be agreed with artist.

Public Research Residency

In partnership with Wellcome Collection



The Reading Room at Wellcome Collection. Image Description: In a library, two fair skinned people stand laughing in front of a semi-circle of others who are all seated. The person on the left has brown hair and wears a red jumper. The person on the right has grey hair and glasses. Behind them is a sofa and several chairs. To the right, towards the back, a person stands with their hand on their chin.

The room is bright with white walls. There are four bookshelves spaced out in an orderly fashion. To the far right, the bottom of a staircase can be seen. Photo by Wellcome Collection.

About Wellcome Collection and the Reading Room

[Wellcome Collection](#) is a free museum and library that aims to challenge how we all think and feel about health. Through exhibitions, collections, live programming, digital, broadcast and publishing, we create opportunities for people to think deeply about the connections between science, medicine, life and art.

The Reading Room is a space ideal for intimate, participatory, low-tech and small-scale interactions. For the residencies, encounters with visitors already will happen spontaneously, and will not advertised broadly in advance. Part exhibition gallery, part events space, part library, the Reading Room draws on broad themes relating to health and identity from Wellcome's collections, such as Breath, Mind and Faith. Head to floor 5 in this [virtual tour](#) to explore the Reading Room.

The Brief

We are interested in supporting two Choreodrome artists to use Wellcome Collection's Reading Room gallery as a space for public exploration and experimentation, taking research themes or practices from their residency with The Place as a starting point.

Central to the Reading Room residency is your approach to engaging with the public as part of your research. This residency is an opportunity to experiment and research in an informal public setting, and there is no formal outcome expected from the residency. Past Choreodrome resident artists have used the opportunity to lead or invite spontaneous conversations, activities, performances or creative responses.

The residencies also represent an exciting opportunity to explore approaches to intimacy and enquiry with the public, while acknowledging the potential hyper-sensitivity, hunger, and curiosity around contact and interaction some members of the public may bring into the space.

Your research activity in the space should be suitable for a curious, engaged public audience who may not have prior experience or knowledge of the ideas you are exploring.

Your idea should involve an element of in-person engagement with the public. It should be centred on small-scale, low-tech, intimate, participatory interactions, to be encountered spontaneously by visitors already in Wellcome Collection. AV and lighting flexibility in this space is extremely limited. No wet materials.

What we will offer in, addition to the standard package of support:

- £2100 artist commission
- 15 hours live research time in Wellcome Collection Reading Room
- Producing support relating to development or delivery from Wellcome Collection's Live Programme Producer.
- Support with personal accessibility costs, if required, to be discussed with the artist.

New Collaborations Residency



Future Cargo by Requardt & Rosenberg. Image Description: In a warehouse, two eerie figures wearing head to toe shiny silver bodysuits stand inside a windowed shipping container. The figures are both seen in profile, facing to the right. There are five large windows across the side. One figure is seen through the first pane - the other seen through the fourth. The container is brightly lit from the inside, and the inner wall beyond the windows is white. They seem to be examining their hands, held out slightly in front of their bodies.

Above the container runs long copper coloured piping, and a metal ceiling frame. Behind are five large multi-gridded windows. Photo by Camilla Greenwell.

The Brief

A new programme which embraces cross disciplinary research & practice towards developing a show for touring.

The Place produces a programme of small and mid-scale dance productions that tour to a range of local, national and international spaces, from village halls to midscale theatres and from playgrounds to music festivals.

We are inviting applications from **artists who are interested in exploring a new idea which could, in the future, be developed to tour** through The Place's Producing & Touring programme. You can find out more about Producing & Touring at The Place [here](#).

We produce projects which have the potential to reach a wide audience through touring. We prioritise working with artists and practitioners who are curious to go on a journey with us to reach beyond those who already know they enjoy watching dance and we are always looking for ways for audiences to encounter dance in unexpected spaces. The focus of the New Collaborations Residency is to support artists and practitioners who are exploring how **different artistic disciplines can meet and generate new ideas**.

We are interested in how choreographers can work in collaboration with artists from other disciplines (e.g. designers, composers, directors, writers, technologists, scientists) to spark projects which reach new audiences for dance. We're also interested in innovation in dance form, and how dance practices are enriched when they meet other forms. The Place recognises the importance of collaboration, and we are committed to being a space that nurtures new relationships, particularly following a period when building new projects has been harder.

We are offering **two £10k commissions** to pairs of artists who are co-developing a new idea as equal partners.

One of the pair **must be a choreographer** or dance maker but the other could be from **any other discipline**.

As part of the commission, we will be gathering an '**Audience club**' of non-professional local arts enthusiasts to come into the studio and respond to the ideas as they develop.

We are looking for pairs of artists who:

- Are curious to explore the intersection of different disciplines
- Have an idea which could develop into a live show that tours in the future (you may have already done some early stage R&D on the idea, or it may be completely new)
- Have worked together in the past OR are coming together for the first time
- Would like to work with The Place to produce a new work together
- Are interested to have conversations with future audience members through an 'Audience club'.
- Are interested to build engagement opportunities for audiences during the creation and/or on tour.
- Are happy to share part of the work with us at the end of the residency (this could be online, or in person, and could be limited to staff in Producing & Touring at The Place, or widened to include future partners).
- Have been creating movement-based performance work in a professional setting for a minimum of 3 years (occasionally less experienced artists are considered) – this does not have to be in a theatre context.

What we can offer, in addition to the standard package of support:

- A £10k commission. The commission will be managed by The Place, in consultation with the artists. We expect that the fee to each of the two lead artists will be £2,250 (£750 per week: 2 weeks in the studio and 1 week for preparation & evaluation). The remaining budget will be allocated to other collaborators, equipment/props/set items and travel/accommodation/per diems for artists outside London. Any access costs would be paid on top of the commission.
- A producer from the Producing and Touring team to manage the R&D (including but not limited to drafting contracts & managing the budget; organising sharings; managing schedules; sourcing items needed in the studio; and support with partnership building)

- Support to invite potential partners to a sharing (should this be right for the stage the idea is at)
- Should The Place and the artist mutually decide to continue to develop the idea following the residency, The Place will offer a further co-producing commission to support the project, and will fundraise, in collaboration with the artists, to raise the funds required to realise the idea.

Timeline:

- Deadline to apply for Choreodrome Research Residencies: 6pm **24 Jan 2022.**
- Choreodrome interviews will take place, online, week commencing **7 & 14 of Mar 2022.**
- Oct to Dec 2022 – residencies happen within this period, subject to studio and artist availability.
- Creation & Touring from 2023 onwards.

Building and Venue Accessibility

Studios

All of our studios have fully sprung dance floors, a well-equipped AV system and plasma screen. WiFi is available throughout the building. Lifts provide access to all levels.

All our studios, meeting spaces and facilities are accessible by lift. We have accessible changing rooms with shower, and accessible toilets.

We ask wheelchair users to wipe their wheels before entering the dance studios.

We are also open to access animals, please let us know if you may be bringing one with you.

Access facilities in the theatre

Entry to the theatre is from the Duke's Road entrance. In standard set up, the theatre has a range of seating options including four wheelchair spaces which are all accessible via the lift.

We also have step free access both upstairs and at stage level.

The theatre has a Sennheiser induction loop system with pre bookable head sets. These amplify the sound through ear pieces with volume control or neck bands, which transfer the amplified signal to your hearing aid when switched to the T position.

Toilets

We offer female, male, gender-neutral and accessible facilities.

Break-out spaces/quiet spaces

Depending on your needs, we can offer a variety of break-out spaces. There are some public spaces which are open for all building users, such as the café, box office area and stretching zones.

The Place's Commitment to Equality and Diversity

The Place created its Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee last year. You can read about the purpose, structure and terms of reference for the committee on The Place website [here](#). The Committee is tasked with overseeing organisational action and learning to support an equitable, diverse and inclusive working culture at The Place, including the implementation of anti-racist practices. The Committee formulates and recommends organisation-wide policies and procedures, consults through networks within and beyond The Place and reports back to the wider organisation and the [Board of Governors](#). The Committee is co-chaired by Michael “Mikey J” Asante and Catherine Ward, who are members of the Board of Governors. Eddie Nixon, Artistic Director of The Place sits on the Committee as Senior Leadership Representative.

You can see more information about The Place's Commitment to Equality and Diversity [here](#).