


UNBOXED

Unpacking Prejudice




Touring in 2024

“The performance took me on a journey and made me consider my own bubble inside the world that I reside within” Audience member

West Midlands dance company **Linden Dance** promotes positivity, individuality and empowerment, championing diverse perspectives, backgrounds and creative voices. Their latest outdoor duet **UNBO**  **ED** is an explosive dance work in which a mixed-race man and a white woman set themselves in opposition to two giant wooden cubes in a physical representation of their battle with prejudice and judgement. The toxicity of the subject matter reverberates in the pulsing soundtrack and the performers’ athletic physicality which draws on Afro-fusion and Contemporary movement styles.



UNBO  **ED** has been supported by Arts Council England, FABRIC, 2Faced Dance Company, HomeGrown31 and 101 Outdoor Arts.

“goosebump inducing” audience member

Linden Dance is committed to:

Positivity: Being positive and approachable so that individuals can thrive and feel seen

Individuality: Championing individual perspectives, backgrounds and creative voices

Empowerment: Providing spaces that allow people to appreciate their strengths and own voice

Linden Dance was formed by married couple **Christopher Radford** and **Sara Macqueen** in 2020, after over 10 years of artistic collaboration and successful individual performance careers. Chris and Sara draw on their different backgrounds and cultural identities to bring a diverse voice and perspective to the productions they create and the spaces they occupy. This is underpinned by their safeguarding policies and creative practices, in professional environments, community settings and in education, and supported by psychologists, counsellors and athletic trainers.

Linden Dance has been supported by Arts Connect, Arts Council England, HomeGrown31 to research, develop, and facilitate high-quality dance experiences that champions physical athleticism and emotional wellness and were Associate Artist of 2Faced Dance Company (2021-23). Linden has been commissioned by DanceXchange, Creative Academies Network, Birmingham International Dance Festival, Birmingham Dance Network and Agitart Festival, Barcelona to create socially engaged performance work.

For more information about the company: <https://youtu.be/SOf2VWcqZng>

For more information about how Linden Dance work with youth: <https://youtu.be/q0HiaKngM1A>





Christopher Radford

Director



Christopher Radford is a Midlands based, professional dance performer, teacher and choreographer who works in the high energy styles of African, Afro-fusion and Contemporary. Originally from Birmingham, Chris started dancing as a member of ACE dance and music's youth company. He moved on to formal training at Northern School of Contemporary Dance in Leeds receiving a First-Class BPA(hons) Degree. After graduating, Chris became a freelance artist; touring nationally and internationally with companies including: Scottish Dance Theatre, Autin DT, ACE dance and music, Heather Walrond Company, Corey Baker Dance and Sterran Dance Theatre. He has internationally performed works by choreographers; Damien Jalet, Anton Lachky, Rosie Kay and Fleur Darkin. He recently performed as a featured dancer for the Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony, a stadium performance televised on the BBC.

Sara Macqueen

Director

Sara Macqueen is a contemporary dance performer, choreographer and teacher. She graduated from Northern School of Contemporary Dance with a First-Class Honours (2014) and has performed around the UK and Europe with companies including Sterran Dance Theatre, ME Dance Company, Earthfall, M Dance Company (Belgium) and SEH. She performed in the 2022 Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony as a Featured Dancer, choreographed by Corey Baker. Sara is an established teacher for companies such as DanceXchange, Birmingham Hippodrome, Sense Charity, AutinDT, Mercurial Dance and within the freelance professional sector.



Akeim Buck

Movement Director



Akeim is an interdisciplinary performer and maker, born in Jamaica and raised in England. Toussaint To Move's intention is to create moving, thought provoking, accessible and free spirited projects. The work challenges, enlightens and entertains audiences and participants. Audiences are not just observers; they are implicit in the experience. The work aims to reflect on reality, looking at on going socio-political issues, with a humanitarian intention. Akeim's movement interest has a myriad of inspirations, from Capoeira, Kick Boxing, Contemporary Dance, Contact Improvisation, Caribbean Dance, Hip Hop, Yoga and Release Technique. His performance focus expands from the physical to vocal expression.

Azizi Cole

Composer

Azizi Cole began dancing at a young age at ACE dance&music's youth company. After training, Azizi spent several years as a session musician, touring venues including Royal Albert Hall, Hammersmith Apollo and Birmingham Symphony Hall and UK festivals Latitude, Reading and Leeds, Bestival and Electric Picnic. Azizi has worked as an accompanist at both Northern School of Contemporary Dance and Phoenix Dance Theatre. He has also been invited to play for touring companies such as English National Ballet, Rambert and VERVE as a guest musician. Azizi composes and records music for contemporary dance being commissioned by companies such as Phoenix Dance Theatre, Linden Dance Company and Kennedy Muntanga (KMDT).



Helen Frewin

Chartered Psychologist



Helen Frewin is a business psychologist, coach, facilitator and published author. She has worked for 20 years supporting people in recruitment and development, advising on unconscious bias, how to interview effectively and lead productive teams. In the space of diversity, equity and inclusion, Helen leads training programmes, business strategy and 1:1 coaching on how to understand the brain's natural biases and put processes in place to overcome these. Clients include blue chip companies such as Disney, Dyson, KFC, Specsavers, but in broader work with charities, Helen translates these big business messages into concepts that can be applied across different contexts. Helen has been collaborating with Linden Dance for the past four years, providing training and analysis to upskill the company on creative ideas and best working practices.



BOOKING DETAILS

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| Touring | on request |
| Performers | 2 |
| Number on the road | 2 |
| Duration and number of slots | Ideally, 25 minute slots with minimum 2 hour break between end of show 1 and start of show 2. |
| Technical Requirements | <p>Suitable for both urban and green outdoor spaces as well as indoor venues.</p> <p>Can be performed on grass, concrete or wooden surfaces.</p> <p>Minimum performance space of 7m x 7m, including a 4m height clearance</p> <p>Audience view on three sides</p> <p>Surfaces must be level (no dips, gaps or depressions) and be free from debris (eg. gravel/loose stones).</p> <p>PA system required (Linden Dance can provide own speakers which require electricity source).</p> <p>Technician to set up and operate PA.</p> <p>1 dressing room for 2 artists sharing with access to drinking water and toilet facilities.</p> <p>Warm up space prior to performance(s)</p> <p>Stewards need to ensure there is no audience cross over on the performance space, due to the physical aspects of the work.</p> <p>Parking for medium sized car no less than 50m away from performance area.</p> |
| Set up | Two hours minimum |
| England touring costs (per day): | £1200 for up to two performances a day; £1800 for up to four performances over two days (up to two per day) plus travel, per diem/catering and accommodation (one double room). |
| Trailer: | https://youtu.be/iA2X2WdVDxM |
| Full length performance video: | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pNFtfL2c9cl |
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