

Sarah Trist
Dance Management Agency

UNBOUND

Avalon Rathgeb



A Triptych of Solo Contemporary Tap

UnBound is a virtuosic three-part dance solo from **Avalon Rathgeb**, a leading voice in contemporary tap dance. Never before seen in the UK, this bold, theatrical programme draws on Avalon's varied creative curiosity, her musicality and top drawer address book to interweave questions of identity, gender and objectification with tap dance, video and text. First up is *Bound*, originally commissioned by the *Claquettes Club* in Liege, Belgium and loosely based on the stage life of nineteenth-century British Music Hall performer and male imitator Vesta Tilley. The second piece is *Glory Hallelujah*, a short dance film choreographed by Joshua Hilberman, a master pedagogue renowned in the field, recorded live at the *Claquettes Club*. The evening closes with the most contemporary piece **I am Still Becoming**, commissioned by TanzHaus Düsseldorf and directed by Hilberman, connecting tap dance with video, movement and text.





“Avalon's one of the most passionate and loving tap dancers I have ever worked with on and off stage. Those elements will always truly have her audiences 'leaning in' for the experience!”

Acia Gray | Executive Director, Tapestry

Avalon Rathgeb is the Founder and Artistic Director of Old Kent Road Dance and the London Tap Dance Festival. Her work is recognised for its bold theatricality and commitment to expanding tap as a contemporary performance art form.

A graduate of Bird College, Avalon has trained and performed internationally for nearly 20 years. She was one of just 25 dancers selected worldwide for the prestigious Tap Programme at The School at Jacob's Pillow (2014, Massachusetts, USA) and was first Principal Dancer with *Tapestry Dance Company* (USA) under direction of Acia Gray.

Avalon's career highlights include performing at the London 2012 Olympic Games, touring *OSCILLATE* by Old Kent Road Dance over 40 times, including to Sadler's Wells, as well as creating *K-Tap* in Kuwait with LAPA LOYAC.

As an international solo artist, choreographer, and educator, Avalon regularly teaches and performs worldwide, including at major festivals such as Taptastic (Germany), Australian Tap Festival, Singapore Tap Festival, Tanzhaus (Germany), and Riff Dallas (USA).



Joshua Hilberman

Joshua Hilberman's four-decade long career as a performer, producer, choreographer and teacher connects him between tap dancers past, present, and future. In 2024 Hilberman was awarded the Hoofers Award from the **American Tap Dance Foundation**, confirming his place among truly legendary tap dancers.

As a student hungry for information, Josh studied with and befriended many old-time tap dancers, from **James 'Buster' Brown** and **Eddie Brown** to **Lavaughn Robinson** and **Charles 'Honi' Coles**, and deepened his knowledge with a two three-year long apprenticeships, first with the vaudevillian **Joe 'Buck** and **Wing' Stirling**, and then in the ballet-based classical style of tap created by **Paul Draper**. **Hilberman's** main mentor for nearly 40 years has been the most influential artist of the tap dance renaissance, **Brenda Bufalino**.

Hilberman serves as a mentor for many younger dancers who are themselves leaders of the world of tap dance today-, including prize-winning dancemaker **Michelle Dorrance**, lightning bolt **Demi Remick**, London-based virtuoso **Avalon Rathgeb**, and many more. A master teacher with a deep understanding of the origins of the form, he has taught hundreds of workshops and appeared at most major tap festivals--including New York, Boston, Chicago, North Carolina, Vancouver, Stockholm, Helsinki, Amsterdam, Barcelona, Berlin, Dusseldorf, etc.

As a choreographer, **Hilberman's** *Capella Josh* and *The Warrior* have both entered the tap dance canon. From his home base, the **Claquettes Club** in Liege, Belgium, Hilberman curates and co-directs the **Tap Liege Festival**. Beginning in 2022 the Festival presents tap dance in concert and produces new works via an historic tap dance residency program. Dances and shows created under the Tap Liege umbrella have travelled to **Jacob's Pillow**, the **Joyce Theatre**, the **American Dance Festival**, the **Avignon Off Fringe Festival**, the **Edinburgh Festival**, the **Calgary Fringe Festival**, and throughout Germany, France, and Spain. For more information: www.claquettesclub.com.

Booking Details

Availability:	Autumn 2027
Running time:	70 minutes (no interval)
Number on stage:	1
Number on the road:	2
Get in:	On day before the performance with lighting rigged in advance
UK touring fee:	£1500
Video promo:	Video link
Full length performance:	Video Link
Technical requirements:	See Technical Specification below
Contact:	Sarah Trist at Sarah Trist Dance Management Agency sarah@stdma.com 07757 654790

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

SPECIFICATIONS ARE BELOW

SPACE

Ideal performance space 8m x 8m (minimum 6m x 6m). We use our own tap dance floor, so we would need to come in early morning to do the set up first thing on the same day if we have a pre-assembled lighting setup done and patched according to the plot.

SOUND

PA adapted at space

1 pair of side fill mounted on tripod (2 pair depending of the dimensions of the stage)

2 channels to connect the computer to the mixing console and the necessary connections (cables, sound card, etc.)

*Optional

8 shotgun microphones or similar, depending on the space, number of seats in the audience and distance to them, if clear audio of tap is required.

VIDEO

A 10000 Lumens video projector, 6000 Lumens minimum. Preferred native ratio 16/10 but 16/9 is accepted. Preferred definition is 1200p down to 1024x 768. Ideal contrast is 10000: 1 (2000: 1 is a minimum). A hdmi link from the video projector to the computer near the mixing desk.

*The company provides another projector that will be placed on the floor in front of the stage. We will need to check the distance between the front of the stage and the technical station to see the cable distance.

Projection screen or cyclorama as a backdrop for the stage

SET

*The company provides:

1 Table 1m x 0,5m.

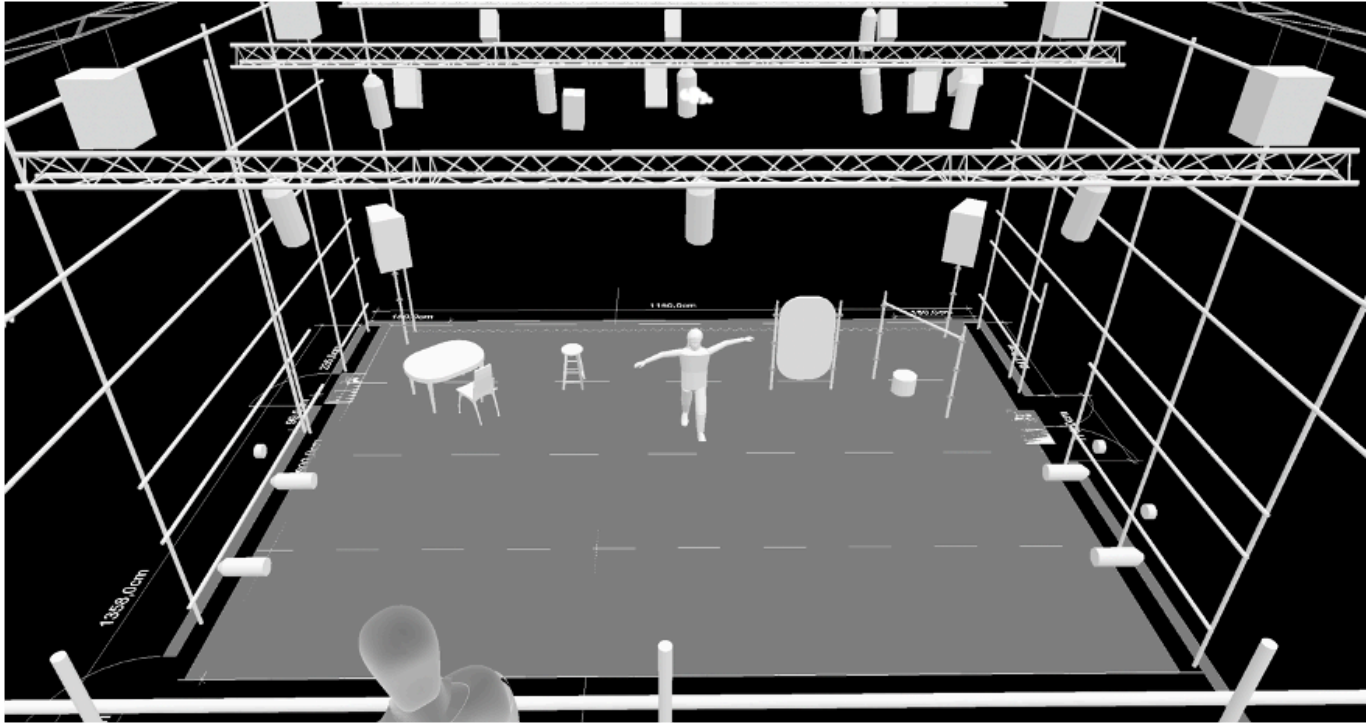
1 clothes rack for hanging costumes

1 Chair

1 High Stool

1 Makeup mirror with lights (a dimmable power outlet, if possible, would be necessary)

1 full-length mirror



LIGHTNING

6 x ECL Profile CT plus RGB 12ch (or similar)

6 x PC's 1.2 kW Juliat HPC 310 with Barn Doors (or similar)

6 x Elation KL8 Fresnel FC (or similar)

12 x Profiles 1.2 kW Juliat 6145 with Shutters (or similar)

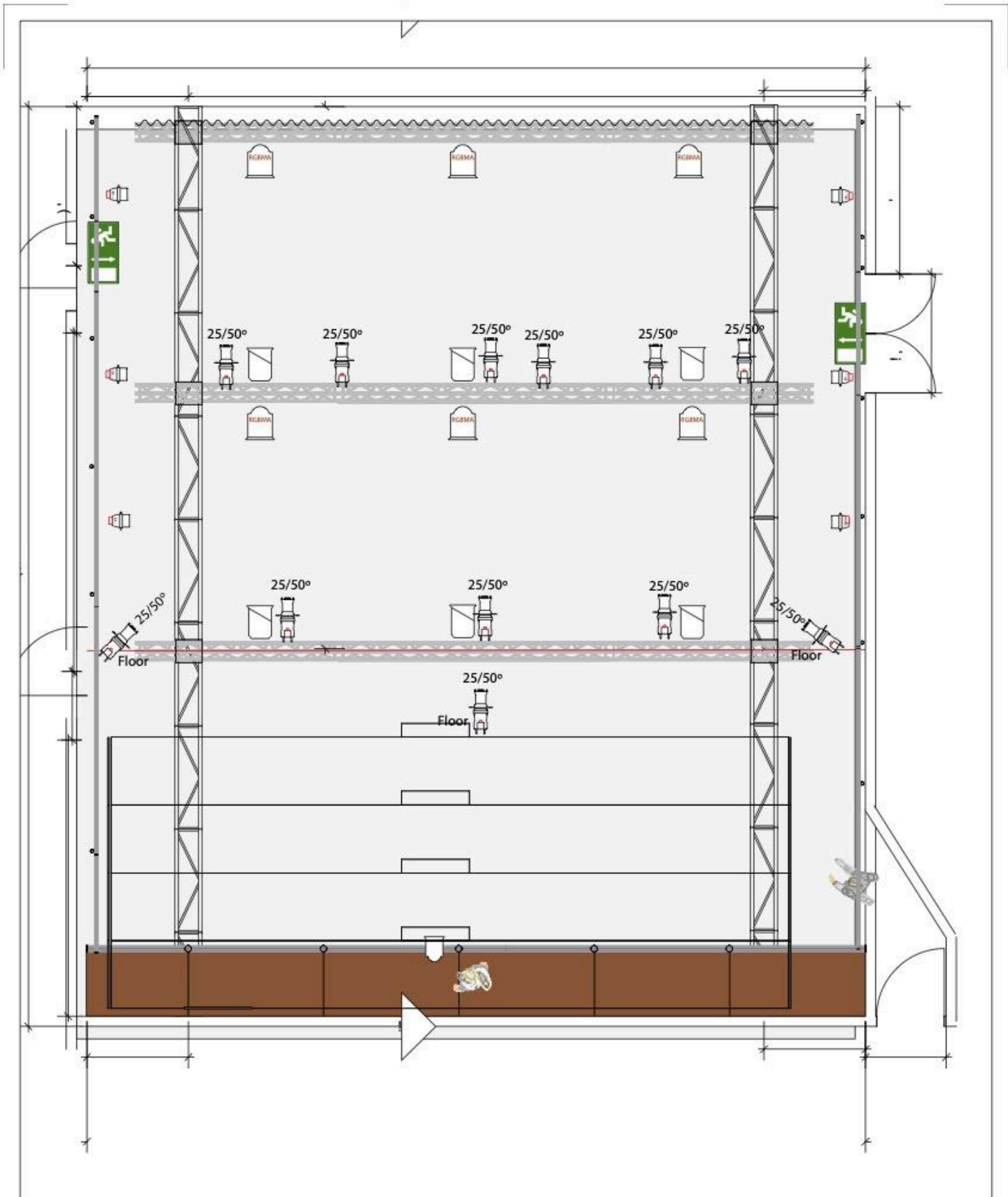
We have included a lighting plot below. We can adapt to your lighting specifications, but in this case, please contact our technical director, Jep Melendez, before making any modifications.

We use our own software to launch the show (Qlab). For this, a table with space for a laptop and a small screen with power outlets. is necessary in the technical control room, near the soundboard and with good visibility of the stage.

Technical Director Jep Meléndez

+34 654239637

jepmelendez@gmail.com



Fixtures

-  6 x ECL Profile CT plus RGB 12ch
-  12 x Profiles 1.2kW Juliat 614S with Shutters
-  6 x PC's 1.2kW Juliat HPC 310 with Barn Doors
-  6 x Elation KL8 Fresnel FC

Project		
Unbound Avalon Rathgeb		Light Designer Jep Melendez
Theater		Date:
		Scale: