

Welcome to Phoenix@Home 35th celebration performance. For over 3 decades Phoenix has created works that have captured the hearts and minds of audiences all over the world.

Our great and distinguished history has been driven at every stage by those who believe in the vision and the mission of this organisation. The Phoenix brand has served us well over these 35 years and is our voice of inspiration and innovation. It's the platform on which we stand and enable others to grow. It's the identity of a family of which you are a part.

Phoenix@Home encompasses the past, present and future wrapped up in one evening. We believe by finding your passion you can make a significant difference. This powerful and passionate journey started 35 years ago and we have watched it grow beyond expectation. We are proud supporters of the talent that has and still is making a positive impact in dance and the creative industries.

Every new day contributes to our rich history and tonight we are adding to that legacy. We are delighted that you are here to enjoy Phoenix founders, Phoenix past dancers, Phoenix current company members and Phoenix Youth Academy performing together in one historical work. With your ongoing support Phoenix will continue to be a source of inspiration for all.



#### Sharon Watson - Artistic Director

Sharon was appointed as Artistic Director of Phoenix Dance Theatre in 2009 having danced with the company from 1989 to 1998. A Fellow of the Clore Leadership Programme, she was one of 26 aspiring leaders from around the globe invited to attend Dance East's Rural Retreat in 2008.

In 2011, she choreographed the BBC's Frankenstein's Wedding Live in Leeds and she choreographed scenes for the BBC's adaptation of Susanna Clarke's novel Jonathan Strange and Mr Norrell (2015). In 2014 Sharon choreographed three major commissions - Ghost Peloton, for Yorkshire Festival/Grand Depart 2014; Honour for Quays Culture, a WW1 centenary event; and a large scale performance for the RFL Challenge Cup Final at Wembley. She was named as one of the Cultural Leadership Programme's list of 50 Women to Watch. Recently, Sharon has been appointed as independent chair of the steering committee bidding for European Capital of Culture Leeds 2023.



#### Mark Hollander - Executive Director

Mark, whose recent appointments include Senior Manager at Arts Council England and Executive Director of the award-winning Unlimited Theatre, has over 25 years' experience within the arts, cultural and business sectors.

Following a fifteen-year career as an actor and director which included roles in everything from Shakespeare's Macbeth to a pastiche of Wallace and Gromit playing Shaun the Sheep in London's West End! Mark moved into arts funding and development when he moved to Leeds in 1997.

Working for Arts Council England he led on many projects including capital building and refurbishment programmes such as the Crucible Theatre Sheffield's refurbishment and the new Hull Truck Theatre development as well as a variety of strategic development initiatives. At the Arts Council and subsequently as a freelance arts consultant he has worked closely with the Chief Executives, senior management teams and Boards of many theatre, dance and other cultural organisations in support of their organisational and business development.

'Mapping' \*

Welcome from Sharon Watson Artistic Director \*

'The Mob' \*

'Never2Still' \*

'Underworld' \*

'TearFall' \*

Celebrating 35 years of Phoenix Dance Theatre: Video Montage \*

Vision for the future: Mark Hollander Executive Director \*

'NightLife at The Flamingo' \*

## THE COMPANY Mapping (excerpt)



Inspired by his father's journey from East to West, *Mapping* is former Phoenix Artistic Director Darshan Singh Bhuller's first work for the company since 2006. This work sees Bhuller looking down on the world from above and is packed with his signature thrilling, dynamic and inventive choreography.

## CHOREOGRAPHER – DARSHAN SINGH BHULLER

As a dancer, rehearsal director, choreographer and teacher, Darshan Singh Bhuller's career with London Contemporary Dance Theatre spanned from 1979 to 1994 under Artistic Director Robert Cohan. He became dancer and Assistant Director to Richard Alston Dance Company in 1994 to 1996 and was also a member of the Siobhan Davies Dance Company.

Darshan has created and directed works for international companies such as Scottish Dance Theatre, London Contemporary Dance Theatre & Rambert Dance Company. Collaborations with other artists, choreographers, musicians and film-makers include Robert Cohan, John Martyn, Jocelyn Pook and Kit Monkman. Included in his works are collaborations with Director Micha Bergese to choreograph and direct the Opening Ceremony for the Millennium Dome and with the Shaolin Monks of China for their Shaolin Wheel of Life production.

In 2002 Darshan was appointed Artistic Director of Phoenix Dance Theatre. During his five year tenure, he revitalised the reputation of the company, earning the 2006 Critic's Circle National Dance Awards Company Prize for Outstanding Repertoire (Modern).

Mapping was Darshan's first return to Phoenix since his departure.

CREATED 2014  
PHOENIX PREMIERE  
February 2014  
West Yorkshire Playhouse

## CHOREOGRAPHY

Darshan Singh Bhuller

## MUSIC

Warren Cuccurullo featuring

Shankar & Kaki King, Ahanu

Tibetan Singing Bowls

## LIGHTING DESIGN

Darshan Singh Bhuller &

John Slater

## COSTUME DESIGN

Richard Gellar

## COSTUME REALISATION

Lorna Clayton & Helen Charters