

PRESS RELEASE 22 October 2019



MANCHESTER DANCE THEATRE OUTFIT COMPANY CHAMELEON PRESENTS THE WORLD PREMIERE OF *THE SHADOW* AT HOME MANCHESTER

Manchester-based dance theatre company [Company Chameleon](#) open a UK tour of their new show [The Shadow](#), choreographed by co-Artistic Director, Anthony Missen, at HOME Manchester on Fri 22/Sat 23 November 2019.

Since forming in 2007, Company Chameleon have developed a reputation for creating socially relevant dance theatre, exploring everyday human issues. Themes in their work include mental health, masculinity, and relationships. In *The Shadow*, Company Chameleon explore the hidden parts of the unconscious mind and the darker side of our personalities.

Based on the premise that there is no tomorrow, and the behaviour that manifests with this knowledge, the narrative of *The Shadow* follows six characters and their shadow counterparts as they are swept into different stories and places.

HOME

As part of the character development for the production, choreographer Anthony Missen researched and delivered a series of workshops, which asked the performers to look at their own shadow through word association tests, tasks, and improvisations.

“The shadow is present in everyone,” explains Anthony Missen, “but we only see it when light shines in particular way. Psychoanalyst Carl Jung identifies the shadow as the unknown or unconscious dark side of our personality. Most of the time we don't see it at all, or acknowledge it, but it's always there if you look closely enough.

“Everyone has masks they present publicly which may or may not reflect what's going on privately. We all prefer to put our best face forward. It is said that we all have three faces: our public face, the face that we show to our friends and family, and the face that nobody sees. It's the latter that is supposedly our truest likeness, and this is what the piece explores.”

The Shadow features performances by an incredibly talented cast, including company dancers Theo Fapohunda and Juliana Javier, the formidable Lee Clayden, Associate Artist David Colley, and Northern School of Contemporary Dance apprentices Lisa Ziemann and Reece Marshall. As a company committed to developing emerging dance talent, the shadows in the production will be performed by alumni of Edge Hill University and Bath Spa University.

Highly athletic and physically impressive to watch, audiences can look forward to a production encompassing a rich mix of dance styles and an innovative and fresh movement language, which carries meaning.

PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

Fri 22 November 2019, 20:00 (press night performance)

Sat 23 November 2019, 20:00

TICKETS

£14 (concessions £12)

<https://homemcr.org/production/the-shadow>

@home_mcr

#TheShadow

For further information, images or interviews and to request press night tickets (press night Fri 22 November 2019), please contact: Mike Barnett, HOME Media



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FUNDED BY:



FOUNDING SUPPORTERS:



NOTES TO EDITORS

HOME is Manchester's centre for international contemporary culture. Since opening in May 2015, HOME has welcomed over two million visitors to its two theatres, five cinemas, art gallery, book shop and restaurants. HOME works with international and UK artists to produce extraordinary theatrical experiences, producing an exciting mix of thought-provoking drama, dance and festivals, with a strong focus on international work, new commissions and talent development. After *Out of Order*, the next HOME shows are [The Shadow](#) presented by Company Chameleon, co-commissioned by HOME (22/23 Nov 2019); [I'm A Phoenix, Bitch](#) presented by Bryony Kimmings (26 - 30 Nov 2019); and [Plant Fetish](#) presented by Chanje Kunda (27 - 30 Nov 2019). HOME's ambition is to push the boundaries of form and technology, to experiment, have fun, take risks and share great new art with the widest possible audience. The patrons of HOME are Danny Boyle, actress Suranne Jones, playwright and poet Jackie Kay MBE, artists Rosa Barba and Phil Collins, filmmaker Asif Kapadia, and actress and author Meera Syal CBE. www.homemcr.org | @HOME_mcr | Facebook HOMEmcr

COMPANY CHAMELEON make original, inspiring dance theatre in Manchester, and perform across the UK and the world. The company formed when Anthony Missen and Kevin Edward Turner met at Trafford Youth Dance Theatre in the mid-1990s. These two ordinary lads from Manchester shared an ambition to dance professionally, and went on to train with the Northern School of Contemporary Dance. After graduating, they travelled and worked with some of the world's most innovative dance companies and choreographers, coming home in 2007 with the aim of setting up their own dance company. Today, Company Chameleon tour internationally, staging over 50 indoor and outdoor performances every year, leading dance classes or workshops. As a result, they have introduced thousands of young people from countries all over the world to a different side of dance and movement. In 2019, the company welcomed Dame Darcey Bussell on board as the their first-ever Patron. Company Chameleon is supported by Arts Council England, Manchester City Council and GMCA. www.companychameleon.com | @chameleon_info

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