



Press Release

29 April 2019

To celebrate Bradford Cathedral's Centenary, neighbours Kala Sangam present a spectacular evening of contemporary dance and music

Taking place in the awe-inspiring surroundings of the Cathedral, **AWAKEN** - a triple bill of works by **Eliot Smith Dance**, takes place on **Wednesday 19 June at 7.30pm**. The programme of bold and exciting contemporary works features *Artemis Clown*, an exploration of the relationship between the brain and music from award winning choreographer Rosie Kay and the playful and dynamic work *We Got The Beat*.

The evening will conclude with a spectacular finale of live organ music during *After The Rite*. Picking up where the iconic *The Rite of Spring* left off, *After the Rite* is a powerful piece examining death and resurrection from a Christian perspective.

Newcastle based Eliot Smith Dance are known for their technically and theatrically brilliant dancers and bringing dance into non-traditional venues.

Eliot Smith, Artistic Director of Eliot Smith Dance said, "We are very much looking forward to presenting AWAKEN, three exciting and different contemporary dance works in the magnificent setting of Bradford Cathedral in their centenary year, in collaboration with Kala Sangam. I have been moved by the cathedral's rich history and the fact that people have worshipped there since Paulinus came on a mission to Northumbria in AD 627. It is a great honour to have the opportunity to transform such a sacred space through dance."

Alex Croft, Creative Director of Kala Sangam said "Being the nearest of neighbours, we knew that we wanted to do something special to help Bradford Cathedral celebrate their Centenary, and I can think of no better way than Kala Sangam presenting the incredible work of Eliot Smith Dance in their Cathedral space. Eliot's work is spiritual, uplifting and entertaining - whether you're religious or not, seeing this work in such a stunning setting is going to be a truly memorable night."

Jerry Lepine, Dean of Bradford Cathedral said "We are really excited to be working with Kala Sangam, both as neighbours in the city and partners on this event, which takes place in our centenary year. Partnership work is essential and we look forward to welcoming Eliot Smith Dance to the Cathedral. The Cathedral plays a big role in the arts in Bradford and our music tradition is at the heart of that. On this evening our Director of Music Alex Berry will be accompanying the final piece and I encourage people to come along to enjoy the excellent

combination of dance and music, at the type of wonderful event that can be achieved through working closely with other organisations in Bradford and further afield.”

The event also includes a post-show discussion, where audiences will have the opportunity to ask the trio any burning questions they may have.

Kala Sangam - Bradford's intercultural Arts Centre - is the perfect setting for audiences new to dance. This spring, Kala Sangam introduced a new **Pay What You Decide** pricing structure for most events. Under the new system, tickets can be booked in advance as usual but audiences don't pay until they have seen the show. This allows people to not only pay what they can afford, but also decide on a price based on their experiences of a show.

Tickets for **AWAKEN** are now on sale, to book visit www.kalasangam.org or call the Box Office on **01274 303340**.

- ENDS -

Available for interview:

Eliot Smith (Artistic Director/Performer, Eliot Smith Dance)
Alex Croft (Creative Director, Kala Sangam)
Jerry Lepine (Dean, Bradford Cathedral)

For further information, images or to arrange interviews please contact:

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Notes to editors

Performance: Eliot Smith Dance – AWAKEN

Date: Wednesday 19 June, 7.30pm

Tickets: Pay What You Decide

Kala Sangam:

Kala Sangam is an **intercultural arts hub** based in the heart of Bradford city centre which reflects the diversity of contemporary Britain through the work it presents, the artists it supports and the communities it engages. In addition to the company's two performance programmes a year, **Kala Sangam** delivers outreach activity in schools and communities across Bradford and throughout the country, as well as delivering classes and workshops in a number of art forms. The organisation's thriving Arts Centre houses two main spaces – The Ganges Theatre and The Indus Hall – alongside a number of high quality meeting spaces and the independently run Roof Top Café, making it an ideal venue for conferences, large events, weddings and meetings of any size.

info@kalasangam.org | 01274 303340 | www.kalasangam.org

Kala Sangam, St Peter's House, 1 Forster Square, Bradford, BD1 4TY

Bradford Cathedral:

Bradford Cathedral has been a place of worship in Bradford since the first millennium. It is the oldest building in the city and, alongside being a place of worship, host's events, arts projects and much more. Bradford Cathedral celebrates its centenary in 2019.

info@bradfordcathedral.org | 01274 777720 | www.bradfordcathedral.org

Bradford Cathedral, 1 Stott Hill, Bradford, BD1 4EH

Eliot Smith Dance:

Based in Newcastle upon Tyne, ESD is an internationally touring, contemporary dance company and is led by Artistic Director Eliot Smith. The Company repertory consists of athletic, technically and theatrically brilliant male and female talented dancers, with works created by Eliot Smith and internationally acclaimed choreographers.

The dance works created by Eliot Smith are built on strength, physical speed and rich emotional narratives. His music choice combines rhythmic excitement, raw emotional power and spiritual meditation.

The Company enjoys working in theatre venues and non-traditional venues such as cathedrals and local memorial halls. It aims to excite and inspire its audiences regardless of their dance experience and knowledge.

www.eliotsmithdance.com | @eliotsmithdance