

First Light Festival

CIRCADIAN

by Rosemary Lee

a 12 minute solo performance every hour
first performance 1pm Saturday 22 - last performance midday Sunday 23 June

Created for the First Light Festival and for this location on the South Beach, CIRCADIAN is a dance performance by Lowestoft born choreographer Rosemary Lee.

One of 24 dancers, ranging in age from 10 to 70 plus years, will perform a short solo on the hour every hour throughout the duration of the festival. Beginning with the youngest and ending with the eldest 24 hours later, each soloist will be accompanied with an original song performed live each time by singer/composer Isaac Lee-Kronick.

Set against the changing sea, sky and light of this special location, this repeating, almost ritualistic performance draws on our inescapable connections with time and place, and with the cyclical rhythms of nature that mould and shape us.

Over the last 30 years Rosemary has created large-scale site-specific and solo works, video installations and short films. Regardless of their scale, these projects have an intimate quality and often explore our relationship with our environment. For this commission, Rosemary returns to her birthplace; she grew up in Lowestoft and spent all her summers on the South Beach, close to the Fisheries Laboratory behind us where her father and grandfather were scientists. During the past year Rosemary has been working with her collaborators, visiting the site through the seasons. In January she selected 24 soloists who live in or have strong connections with East Anglia. For the past month she and the dancers have been regularly working on site in all weathers.

Rosemary writes:

We have spent the last few weeks learning how to move and perform with the elements. On occasions it has become a duet with the wind as we try to ride the gusts or resist them. The sand changes each day- firm one day and soft the next, and each dancer also churns up the sand so that the circle accumulates the imprint of each of our dances. Though its hard work on the sand, when we return to the dance studio we miss the tangible sense of the earth beneath our feet, and the ever-changing light, sea and landscape around us that continually affects the dance and our experience of it. East Anglia's expansive skies, particular light, salt marshes and changing shoreline have subtly affected my work throughout my life. In returning here and creating CIRCADIAN with the dancers, whether they be children or adults, I have been powerfully reminded of our universal, elemental connections with time and space and of the distinctive expressive individuality in each of us. Every solo reflects and affirms this for me as does the song. Perhaps CIRCADIAN can draw our attention to our own and our collective relationship to the earth and how vital it is to honour and protect it.

Do stay and watch the next performance of CIRCADIAN and come back later to see different versions throughout the 24 hours. Thank you.

Conceived and directed by **Rosemary Lee**

Choreography: **Rosemary Lee with support from Sophie Arstall & Aya Kobayashi and interpretation by the performers.**

Composer and performer: **Isaac Lee-Kronick**

Costume design and styling: **Flora Moyes**

Rehearsal Assistant/Cast co-ordinator: **Richard Pye**

Site management: **Des Reynolds**

Site support: **Charlie Kronick**

Produced by **Nicky Childs, Artsadmin with support from DanceEast**

Many thanks to: The Seagull Theatre for opening their doors to us, Patricia Nicholson & family, David & Christine Burgess, Jo & Ken Hurst, Bruno Olliffe, Mabel Olliffe, Jas Musicals in Southall, Lorna Collins of Decodance, Chloe Travers, Casey Sapsford, Alysha Hudson, Sophie Lander, Chrissie Moore, Jane Fisk, Mel Horwood, all the team at DanceEast & First Light Festival

Each dancer will perform a solo lasting 12 minutes at the following times:

Saturday 22 June

1pm Evie Smith
2pm Ralph Bates
3pm Skye Dorward
4pm Isaac Looker
5pm Meredith Winship
6pm Helen Lamb
7pm Tilly Lee-Kronick
8pm Richard Pye
9pm Lizzie Stanley
10pm Sarah Lewis
11pm Laura McGill
12am Abby Page

Sunday 23 June

1am Lynnette King
2am Mary Davies
3am Anna Williams
4am Nicky Gibbs
5am Rebecca Chapman
6am Andy Newman
7am Rosemary Lee
8am Caroline Mummery
9am Diego Robirosa
10am Lyn Matthews
11am Cecil Rowe
12pm Pam Williams

Commissioned by First Light Festival and DanceEast

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