

Press Release – 22 May 2018

**BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art and Siobhan Davies Dance
announce new partnership and open call to artists:**

CONTINUOUS

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art (Gateshead) and Siobhan Davies Dance (London) are pleased to announce ***CONTINUOUS***, a new four-year partnership. This ambitious collaboration initiates a step-change in the commissioning, creation and presentation of experimental independent contemporary dance within visual arts contexts.

The partnership begins today with an open call to dance artists and choreographers to apply for two ***CONTINUOUS*** Commission opportunities. Developed through working at both venues for up to seven weeks, these first commissions will premiere at BALTIC in autumn 2019. Additional activities, and national and international partnerships will be developed over the coming months and years.

CONTINUOUS will be the first collaboration of its kind in the UK. The partnership has developed in recognition of the need to further grow the dialogue between contemporary dance and visual arts.

Siobhan Davies, comments *“I’m hugely enthusiastic about this new partnership between BALTIC and Siobhan Davies Dance, and between the visual arts and dance. As well as creating new live choreographic works for galleries, a vital part of this activity will be to scrutinise and document the whole process from beginning to end. We wish to use this opportunity to discover together a learning and appreciation of each other’s histories, interests and skills, and generate richer and more sustainable foundations for future artists, venues and audiences.”*

As leaders within their respective fields, BALTIC and Siobhan Davies Dance bring together skills and experience of working locally, nationally and internationally to expand the ambition and reach of contemporary visual arts and dance.

Sarah Munro, comments: *“I am incredibly excited by our new collaboration between BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art and Siobhan Davies Dance. We have committed to a long term partnership together - a journey that unites our practice, knowledge, and organisational resources to create something more powerful and full of potential for our community of dancers and our audiences than either of us could have done alone. Since*

introducing experimental dance to BALTIC two years ago we have seen a real passion from our audiences to engage. This partnership will provide significant support to enable the production of new work to support both artists and audiences in a deeply strategic framework.”

The partnership will combine expertise from dance and visual art to build capacity within each organisation. Working together offers opportunities to support skills development in curating, producing, presentation and audience engagement, supporting the future development of ambitious new dance works and touring opportunities. Shared learning will be made available to professionals in the dance and visual art fields and further support critical dialogue at the intersection of both art forms. Opening up the processes of making will engage new audiences for dance in gallery spaces.

ENDS

For further press information and images please contact:

Fiona Campbell, Siobhan Davies Dance Communications Manager
fionac@siobhandavies.com / 07950105317

For BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art,
Fiona Russell, fiona@suttonpr.com / Julia Schouten, julias@suttonpr.com

NOTES TO EDITORS

Open Call for Dance Artists / Choreographers:

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art (Gateshead) and Siobhan Davies Dance (SDD – London) are delighted to announce **CONTINUOUS**, a new partnership initiative commencing May 2018. Our collaboration seeks to advance the creation, presentation and development of audiences for experimental independent contemporary dance. We will use our combined experience as leaders in our fields of practice to support the development of new experimental dance practice within a visual arts context. The partnership begins with two **CONTINUOUS** Commissions for new dance works to be made at BALTIC and SDD, performed at BALTIC and tour to other venues across the UK.

This is an opportunity for a commission to create an ambitious new work and to exchange knowledge with the staff of SDD and BALTIC. This supports our aim for artists and organisations to learn from one another about how to create the best conditions for making and presenting dance in a gallery context, and for engaging audiences. We also wish to share that knowledge with colleagues and the public.

We are looking for artists with at least 3 years professional experience. Our primary concern is with the rigour of the artist's practice and the artist's interest and enthusiasm for working in a visual art context, evidenced by expression of interest. Previous experience of working in galleries as a performer or choreographer is not required.

We are committed to recognising the value of practices reflecting a range of backgrounds. We are inviting artists with different skills, experiences and voices to join us. We actively

encourage applications from those who consider themselves as having a minority representation in this field.

Deadline for submitting Expressions of Interest is STRICTLY 23:59 on Wednesday 20 June 2018.

All application must be submitted electronically:

<https://balticcentreforcontemporaryart.submittable.com/submit/95305087-ce1c-4653-9868-d6660598ad91/continuous-open-call-2018>

BALTIC is a major international centre for contemporary art situated on the south bank of the River Tyne in Gateshead, England and has welcomed over seven million visitors since opening to the public in July 2002. BALTIC presents a distinctive and ambitious programme of exhibitions and events, and is a world leader in the presentation and commissioning of contemporary visual art.

Housed in a landmark ex-industrial building, BALTIC consists of 2,600 square metres of art space, making it the UK's largest dedicated contemporary art institution. BALTIC has gained an international reputation for its commissioning of cutting-edge temporary exhibitions.

www.baltic.art

Siobhan Davies Dance

Founded in 1988 by pioneering choreographer Siobhan Davies, Siobhan Davies Dance is an artist-led organisation that advances the art forms of dance and choreography. We connect artists and audiences through investigative, collaborative and interdisciplinary artistic activities at our studios and beyond. Recent works have been presented at some of the most prestigious art institutions in the UK and Europe including Lenbachhaus (Munich), Whitworth (Manchester), Turner Contemporary (Margate), Bluecoat (Liverpool), Tramway (Glasgow), Institute of Contemporary Arts and Whitechapel Gallery (London).

The RIBA award-winning Siobhan Davies Studios opened in 2006 establishing a permanent base for the organisation to create new work and support independent artists. The studios are a vibrant arts space in central London which hosts a programme of exhibitions, performances, participation projects and new commissions from leading contemporary artists.

Siobhan Davies Dance has worked at the intersection of dance and visual arts since 2009 when it collaborated with Victoria Miro Gallery to present *The Collection*. More recent work has included touring work for galleries *material / rearranged / to / be* (2017), and *Table of Contents* (2014); its three-year Dance Artist / Curator Mentorship Scheme (2014-17); the Creative Europe collaborative project *Dancing Museums* (2015-17); the publication *Who Cares? Dance in the Gallery and Museum* (2014); and a series of Dance and Art Forum discussion events since 2013. These have facilitated artists' experiments with dance in visual art contexts, raising questions about the opportunities and challenges museums and galleries present for dance and choreography.

www.siobhandavies.com