

## **What is Dance without an Audience?**

A series of three seminars exploring this provocative question. For academics in all disciplines, dance artists and movement practitioners, and anyone else who wants to exchange thinking about dance!

**Tuesdays 3 October, 5 December 2017, 6 February 2018, 6-8.15pm**

Heritage Learning Centre, Town Hall, St Aldate's, Oxford OX1 1BX

£5 cash on the door per seminar (£1 off for any repeat attenders). Please email [miranda.c.laurence@gmail.com](mailto:miranda.c.laurence@gmail.com) to reserve your place.

### **5 December: Susie Crow and Maggie Watson**

*Looking in and looking out: ballet performance from the perspectives of the viewer and the doer*

Two presentations which focus on the audience–performer relationship in ballet, seen from different perspectives but both raising questions over the identity of the work. Maggie Watson uses the example of the first performances of Marius Petipa's *La Bayadère* by the Royal Ballet in 1963 to reflect on how the historical and cultural context surrounding performance may colour audience perceptions of a work and understanding of its significance. Susie Crow draws on her own experience as a ballet dancer and choreographer to reflect on the contribution of space, place and different publics to shaping the work in performance, and in consequence to the development of ballet as a form in itself.

### **6 February: Nicky Clayton and Clive Wilkins (Department of Psychology, University of Cambridge)**

*What is dance without an audience? An investigation beyond language and the complexity of our social interaction to explore wordless thoughts~ to include demonstrations of tango and magic.*

- i. Does an audience have to be real?
- ii. Is dance without an audience merely ritual, resulting in an altered state, and if so, what kind?
- iii. Is dance without an audience simply the confirmation of a heartbeat?
- iv. Is the introspection of an intimate partner dance audience free, and if so, what is being explored?
- v. Is dance without an audience the opportunity to invent and explore realities that exist outside of the compass of shared experience?