



PRESS RELEASE – 26 March 2019

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**DANCE UMBRELLA ANNOUNCES UK PREMIERE OF
GISÈLE VIENNE'S *CROWD* AND WORLD PREMIERE
OF GEORGIA VARDAROU'S *WHY SHOULD IT BE
MORE DESIRABLE... AT SADLER'S WELLS FOR 2019
FESTIVAL***

- **Dance Umbrella announces two premieres at Sadler's Wells as part of its 2019 festival.**
- **Gisèle Vienne's *Crowd* will open the festival on the Sadler's Wells stage on 8 & 9 October**
- **Georgia Vardarou's *Why Should It Be More Desirable...* will premiere at the Lilian Baylis Studio on 23 & 24 October**

***CROWD* – GISÈLE VIENNE**

UK PREMIERE

Opening Dance Umbrella 2019 will be the UK premiere of *Crowd* by French choreographer, director and visual artist Gisèle Vienne. *Crowd* is a hallucinatory rollercoaster, swept along by the intense emotions and collective euphoria of a committed party crowd, whose innermost selves are laid bare through intoxicating movement.

To the pulsating ebbs and flows of a techno-trance soundtrack, 15 mud-splattered individuals dance with articulate and stylised precision. Ritualistic scenes are slowed down to reveal moments of love, violence, intimacy and aversion amid exhilarating shifts in rhythm and pace.

Drawing on her own experiences in Berlin, Gisèle Vienne expertly harnesses the undulating, stuttering, liquid physicality of the club scene to magnify the interactions of a group of revellers.

Gisèle has previously worked with Etienne Bideau-Rey, writer Dennis Cooper, musicians Peter Rehberg and Stephen O'Malley, and lighting designer Patrick Riou.

Crowd is supported by the Institut Français as part of FranceDance UK

WHY SHOULD IT BE MORE DESIRABLE FOR GREEN FIRE BALLS TO EXIST THAN NOT? – GEORGIA VARDAROU

WORLD PREMIERE

As part of Dance Umbrella's milestone *Four by Four* initiative, launched in 2018 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the festival, the Greek artist was nominated by Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker as an up-and-coming talent making pioneering work for a 2019 Dance Umbrella commission. Georgia Vardarou has previously worked as a dancer with Salva Sanchis, Marc Vanrunxt, Cecilie Ullerup Schmidt, Lance Gries and Rosas.

For this premiere, Georgia draws on a highly personal physical language to illuminate the space between the audience's perception and her own. Made in collaboration with visual artist David Bergé, known for his silent *Walk Pieces*, *Why Should It Be More Desirable...* intricately overlaps image and movement, inviting a range of potential narrative readings.

More Dance Umbrella 2019 programme announcements coming soon.

-ENDS-

For further information please contact The Corner Shop PR on 020 7831 7657

[Laura Myers](#) | [Augustin Wecxsteen](#)

LISTINGS

CROWD – GISÈLE VIENNE

UK PREMIERE

Sadler's Wells: Tuesday 8 – Wednesday 9 October at 7.30pm

Press Night: Tuesday 8 October at 7.30pm

Tickets: £20

On sale 15 April at sadlerswells.com

Free post-show talk: Tuesday 8 October

WHY SHOULD IT BE MORE DESIRABLE... – GEORGIA VARDAROU

WORLD PREMIERE

Lilian Baylis Studio: Wednesday 23 – Thursday 24 October at 8pm

Press Night: Wednesday 23 October at 8pm

Tickets: £17

On sale 15 April at sadlerswells.com

NOTES TO EDITORS

GISÈLE VIENNE

Choreographic credits include: *Crowd* (2017), *The Ventriloquists Convention* (2015), *The Pyre* (2013), *Last Spring: A Sequel* (2011), *This Is How Your Will Disappear* (2010), *Eternelle Idole* (2009), *Jerk* (2008), *Kindertotenlieder* (2007), *A Young, Beautiful Blond Girl* (2005) and *I Apologize* (2004).

Her other credits include: *Showroomdummies #3* (2013), *Showroomdummies #2* (2009), *Tranen Veinzen* (2004), *Stéréotypie* (2003) and *Showroomdummies* (2001)

GEORGIA VARDAROU

Choreographic credits include: *New Narratives* (2016), *Phenomena* (2013) and *Hardcore Research on Dance* (2011).

As a dancer, credits include: *Prototype* (2017), *Golden Hours (As You Like It)* (2015), *Now here* (2011), *For Edward Krasinski* (2010), *The Organ Project* (2008), (2008) and *Objects in mirror are closer than they appear/ Objects in Athens are closer than they appear* (2008).

About Dance Umbrella

Dance Umbrella is London's international Dance festival. We shine a light on new choreography every October, sharing memorable shows from around the world with audiences across the capital.

We are committed to taking dance out and bringing audiences in by touring in inner and outer London, broadening definitions of contemporary dance, and developing partnerships with non-dance venues and organisations such as The Big Draw, National Theatre, Battersea Power Station and local councils.

Founded in 1978, Dance Umbrella has reached audiences of well over a million people. Pioneering commissions by world class choreographers have been presented at sites ranging from the Royal Albert Hall and inner city rooftops, to Tate Modern and outer London parks. Emma Gladstone was appointed Artistic Director & Chief Executive in 2013, and in addition to the festival, Dance Umbrella now runs digital projects, creative learning schemes and professional development programmes throughout the year.

danceumbrella.co.uk