

Graduate School Showcase 2025

Monday 7 – Thursday 24 July

Welcome to the Graduate School Showcase 2025, a festival of performances created, choreographed and presented by our postgraduate dance students.

Doors open at 12:00pm each day, with a curated programme of performances, site-specific events, screenings and sharings.

*Every day will be different. What's certain is that you'll encounter surprising, challenging and ground-breaking new work from students our **MA / MFA courses in Choreography, Creative Practice (Dance Professional and Transdisciplinary pathways), Dance Leadership and Community Practice, Dance Performance and Dance Science.***

You might get to see work on the main stage of Laban Theatre, or in the more intimate space of the Studio Theatre. Dance in unexpected places that takes you on a journey, or research laboratory sharings in our Dance Science studio. Maybe you'll get to participate in a performance that brings the audience into the experience, or enjoy watching more contemplative pieces unfold outside or at studio spaces in nearby Laurie Grove.

What is guaranteed is that you'll encounter thought-provoking new choreography and movement developed by our postgraduate dance community during their time studying at Trinity Laban.

Come and join us. Bring your curiosity and an open mind.

Members of the audience are reminded that smoking, the use of mobile phones and the use of photographic or video equipment is not permitted in the auditorium.

Principal
Prof. Anthony Bowne

Artistic Director,
Dr Aleksander Szram

*Associate Director of Dance
Programme Leader, MA/MFA Creative
Practice*
Dr Naomi Lefebvre Sell

*Head of Postgraduate Programmes
Programme Leader, MA/MFA Dance
Leadership and Community Practice*
Melanie Clarke

*Programme Leader, MA/MFA Dance
Performance*
Hilary Stainsby

*Programme Leader, MA/MFA
Choreography*
Gary Lambert

Postgraduate Studies Administrator
Minghao Li

Head of Production
Fay Patterson

Technical Manager
Assad Jan

Acting Senior Technician
Rachel Shipp

Technician (Sound and AV)
Jabin Law

Graduate Interns (Production)
Bebe Abban
Rachel Messer

Head of Customer Services & Events
Lj Cook

Brand & Communications
Imogen Copp
Tara Hughes
Fiona Moorhead

TRINITY LABAN

Tree In The Desert

Kait Dron, MA Creative Practice: Dance Professional

Monday 21 July, 17:00-17:20

Laban Theatre, Laban Creekside

Performer Kait Dron

Lighting Trinity Laban Production Team

This performance results from research into memory, imagination and voice through butoh with a theological lens. It explores the body as theophanic storyteller; vessel for the Word – or body as a site of divine revelation.

The score is semi-improvised, emerging from a recent butoh workshop I ran, imagining walking into a tree.

We became trees, moving together as a forest. Then, as trees, we walked into the desert, slowly becoming sand, before disappearing into the wind.

Inspired by landscape and Kazuo Ohno's visionary metamorphic dance journeys, often involving dying and being born with cosmic and surreal imagery.

Also drawn from a study of Taliesin, a mythic Welsh shapeshifting bard rooted in Druidic lore and Christian mythos. Taliesin traverses worlds and time, leaping and riddling out the mouths of anonymous poets between the 6th and 14th centuries. The 14th-century Llyvyr Taliesin manuscript, 'The Book of Taliesin', archives his strange, glimmering poetry.

This emerges after a long journey reinhabiting my body following trauma. Exploring somatic practices and butoh as healing arts and prayer through movement, continually questioning what beauty truly is.

At a time when beauty is hyper-industrialised, embracing beauty as powerful, dangerous and honest – involving frailty and paradox, unbound by aesthetic rules and spanning from soft and sensuous to raging and grotesque, joyful to deadly – feels a radical necessity.

I view my practice as embodied participation in the symbolic reality of Christ's life and through this experiencing metamorphosis.

Special thanks:

I'd like to acknowledge and thank my main teachers throughout the module, Zoi Dimitiou, Heni Hale, Gaby Agis, Vanio Papadelli and Seke Chimutengwende for all of their guidance and introduction to worlds and artists I wouldn't otherwise have known. I'd also like to thank my supervisor Lizzi Kew-Ross for her support at this time, as well as Naomi Lefebvre-Sell for her presence throughout.

Outside of the University I'd like to acknowledge and thank Ashley Ramsden, Sarah Perceval, Paul Matthews and Yumiko Yoshioka for their continued mentorship and friendship and my musicians who sadly can't be here today, Maxwell Owain Reynish and Vincent Morris.