

Graduate School Showcase 2026

Week 2: 13 - 15 July 2026

Welcome to the *Graduate School Showcase 2026*, a festival of performances created, choreographed and presented by our postgraduate dance students.

Each day you'll encounter 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

MA/MFA Choreography

MA/MFA Creative Practice: Dance Professional

MA/MFA Creative Practice: Transdisciplinary

MA/MFA Dance Performance

Find out more about Week Three:

<https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/seasons/graduate-school-showcase-2026/>

TRINITY LABAN

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As you see it

Grace Penny, MA Dance Performance

13 July 2026, 15:30

Studio Theatre, Laban Building

At the time of writing this, I am still in an unknown space of what this performance will bring.

There is no correct way of interpreting this work. It has no destination or answer. The work does not ask the audience to arrive at a shared understanding, instead, it is a space for individual reflections and encounters. How is movement perceived, valued and experienced? This performance and research remains in a constant dialogue with questions rather than conclusions. It is rooted in enquiry and exists solely as an exploration of dance itself.

“Every image embodies a way of seeing” - John Berger in *Ways of Seeing*.

PERFORMERS

Grace Penny

Izzy Mitchell

Mia Allison

Nadia Elizabeth Brayley

Rebecca Francis

Valeria Millan Barreiro

Zion Martin-Hayes

SOUND & MUSIC

White Noise by Disclosure

Bliss by Klsr

Perspective by Klsr

Fell by Klsr

Ketamina by Yaego and Kucka

Reala by Mover

Original Composition by Sam Dabreo

SOUND AND LIGHTING

Trinity Laban Production Team

FILM AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Trinity Laban Audio Visual Team

ADDITIONAL CREDITS

Many thanks to Nadia Elizabeth Brayley and Rebecca Francis for supporting with filming and editing.

Special thanks to Sam Dabreo for editing and creating the music.

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Special thanks to my supervisor and all the dancers involved for their collaboration, contributions to movement creation and support throughout this project.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Instagram: [grace.penny_](#)

Encountering the Sacred

Nadia Brayley, MA Dance Performance

13 July 2026, 16:30

Laban Theatre

Where does the sacred live when it leaves the church? A performance research project rooted in the landscapes and cultural memory of Wales.

Ble mae'r sanctaidd yn byw pan fydd yn gadael yr eglwys? Prosiect ymchwil perfformio sydd wedi'i wreiddio yn nhirweddau a cof diwylliannol Cymru.

SOUND AND LIGHTING

Trinity Laban Production Team

FILM AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Trinity Laban Audio Visual Team

SOCIAL MEDIA

@brayleydance_ @nadiabrayley

Fathom

leok May Lei, MA Dance Performance

13 July 2026, 17:30

Laban Theatre

In this research, I aim to bring the story world created in my mind into reality without using projection technology. Instead, I will rely on characters, music, and props to evoke a sense of distant virtuality for the audience. Through the performers' emotional expressions, the story will be narrated in a way that makes the audience feel immersed yet unable to touch it—akin to the experience of dreaming, where everything feels real yet detached, as if in a lucid dream. She drowns.

She wakes.

The shore is wrong.

The people speak in tongues she cannot enter.

But there is one—a shadow, wordless, constant—who walks beside her through the impossible:

goldfish on land,

bodies misassembled,

crowds that break them and bend them back together.

She walks until the world folds into its own edge—

the other shore, they say, the place where the fallen can climb back up.

So she turns.

She says goodbye to the only one who ever followed.

She steps forward.

The water takes her.

Again.

PERFORMERS

Shiting Tao

Jiacong Li

Laura Castiblanco

SOUND & MUSIC

Hi- Temporex

Are you lost- William

Green to blue-Aurenth

SOUND AND LIGHTING

Trinity Laban Production Team

FILM AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Trinity Laban Audio Visual Team

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Everyone who showed me support and love, Thank you guys so much.

VIEWER DISCRETION

Might have slightly body interaction (like passing by and light shoulder touches)

SOCIAL MEDIA

ieokmang (instagram)

SILTRATE /SOAKED PANTS

Tess Wood, MA Creative Practice: Dance Professional

Tuesday 14 July, 14:30

Laban Building, Studio 10

depths pulse sinking ebb edge swell stench to pour tender murky

It started through an anatomical exploration of the axial line and the back body, which freed my hip sockets. I could feel these long, wet, drippy legs. That feeling pulled me back to the estuary where I grew up. As kids, we used to call it bog jumping. I returned there for the first time as a dancer.

Around the same time, someone described my life as "muddy" - my art practice, my relationships, the way everything seems to seep into everything else.

It felt a shame to call my life muddy, but then...

I walked the vast mudflats, feeling for ways of being within this material. Being with the mud, the raw sewage, and my feet, my balance, sinking and rising. Horizon lines and swelling tides. Something rich in nutrients, Complex, yeah, sure, but... Constant and satisfied, greedy and powerful. A life-giver, A life-killer, a preserver of history. A big old body. Its suction, seduction, its rude squelching, its ability to hold and release a body. To be in another body.

I tried to deny it, but they're right. Life is muddy.

This performance brings together movement, writing, sound, and estuarine matter to explore how bodies hold experience before language does. It asks what happens when places become active collaborators in making performance, when materials carry memory, and when writing emerges from sensation rather than explanation.

The work is informed by Skinner Releasing Technique, somatic practice, site-responsive performance, writing from the body, and my ongoing curiosity about non-monogamy as a practice of attention, care, and relational imagination.

An invitation to sink.

PERFORMERS

Tess Wood

SOUND & MUSIC

Original sound composition and field recordings by Tess Wood

SOUND AND LIGHTING

Trinity Laban Production Team

FILM AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Trinity Laban Audio Visual Team

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Special thanks to Simon Whitehead, Beth Greenhalgh, GWENBA, tactileBOSCH, Robert Lynch, Judith Rees, George Wood and Craig Wood, Trinity Laban and all those who have contributed conversations, walks and shared experiences during the research process

VIEWER DISCRETION

Contains themes of sexuality, intimacy, grief and bodily experience. Includes mud and live performance elements.

Contains possible partial nudity. Themes of sexuality and bodily experience.

SOCIAL MEDIA

@tesswood

Close to the Ground: A Body Listening to Voices

Ruotong (Lexie) Wang, MA Creative Practice: Dance Professional

14 July 2026, 17:00

Studio 8, Laban Building

This is a live sharing of my movement research. Through crawling close to the floor, I explore how rules, voices, and being watched affect the body. During the performance, audience comments and observations become part of the sound and influence how I move. Rather than presenting a finished dance piece, this work shows a body moving through pressure, expectations, and personal choices.

PERFORMERS

Ruotong (Lexie) Wang

SOUND & MUSIC

Spoken voice / live reading

Audience comments read aloud

No recorded sound

SOUND AND LIGHTING

Trinity Laban Production Team

FILM AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Trinity Laban Audio Visual Team

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Special thanks to my supervisor, Heni Hale, for her guidance, encouragement, and support throughout this process; to Emilyn Claid and Kathryn Crick, my Investigative Practice tutors, for their valuable feedback; to Angel; and to all the peers who have witnessed, responded to, and supported the development of this practice.

What Happens When We Dance With Our Eyes Closed?

Valeria Millan Barreiro, MA Dance Performance

15 July 2026, 16:00 (20 mins)

Studio 10, Laban Building

This studio sharing focused on the dancer's own experience: How do dancers experience movement when they have their eyes closed?

Dancers present their bodies as vessels that gather information from sensations, memories, images, and impulses that emerge in the present and are embodied through movement. They listen to their internal impulses as they enter a multi-sensory exploration, travelling through space while relying primarily on their auditory and tactile senses. The movement has been created from tasks carried out during rehearsals, and some movements continue to evolve and develop in the present moment.

As an audience, I invite you to witness this sharing and to hold the space for the dancers. Pay attention to what emerges when witnessing: Is there any image, memory, sensation or a movement/moment that stands up to you?

PERFORMERS

Researcher: Valeria Millan Barreiro

Performers: Laura Castiblanco, Grace Penny and Tessa Wangdak

Movement created in collaboration with: Laura Castiblanco, Grace Penny and Tessa Wangdak

SOUND & MUSIC

Bell sound by Sound-and-Silence from YouTube, edited by me (Valeria Millan Barreiro)

SOUND AND LIGHTING

Trinity Laban Production Team

FILM AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Trinity Laban Audio Visual Team

ADDITIONAL CREDITS

Movement created in collaboration with: Laura Castiblanco, Grace Penny and Tessa Wangdak.

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

I would like to give a special thank you to my dancers for taking part in this research, for their dedication and contribution to the research.

SOCIAL MEDIA

@valeria_millan_b

Trace

Shiting Tao, MA Dance Performance

15 July 2026, 16:30

Laban Theatre

Fugue traces the body's passage from listening to moving. Grounded in the dancer's sustained observation of natural dynamics—the fall of leaves, the drift of water, the pull of wind—the work translates sensory encounter into live improvisation across both movement and piano. The instrument becomes an extension of the listening body; the body, a resonant surface for what it has heard. This solo asks: when perception deepens, what emerges through the limbs and keys?

PERFORMERS

Shiting Tao

SOUND & MUSIC

Shiting Tao

SOUND AND LIGHTING

Trinity Laban Production Team

FILM AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Trinity Laban Audio Visual Team

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Kathryn Crick

do you know me?

Rebecca Francis, MA Dance Performance

15 July 2026, 16:30

Laban Theatre

“do you know me?” is an exploration of observation, perception and the unseen pressures of being watched. Moving between the rigid structures of London and the vast openness of the coast, the film navigates the tension between performance and authenticity, questioning how identity is shaped by external expectations and asking what remains when those expectations fall away.

PERFORMERS

Rebecca Francis

SOUND & MUSIC

Rebecca Francis

boogz - Joe James

What Was I Made For? (Live From The Oscars 2024) - Billie Eilish and FINNEAS

SOUND AND LIGHTING

Trinity Laban Production Team

FILM AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Trinity Laban Audio Visual Team

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

My friends and family, my tutors and supervisor for their guidance, support and encouragement throughout the creation of this film.

SOCIAL MEDIA

@rebeccafrancis_