

Touring 2023-2024

UK & International



BODY POLITIC

THEM

Promoters Pack

Images by Rocio Chacon & Camilla Greenwell



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ENGLAND



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The Company: Body Politic

Body Politic is a flagship female led arts organisation, led by Artistic Director Emma-Jane Greig and founded in 2012.

Our vision is to transform the lives and experiences of young people through engaging with high quality Hip Hop Dance theatre.

Our work empowers young people from under-represented communities both, on and off the stage, through touring productions, creative learning and participation programmes, and digital learning and engagement opportunities.

The company's past show Father Figurine have toured to venues including The Place, Stephen Joseph Theatre and Stratford Circus, to critical acclaim.

"Body Politic is changing the face of dance theatre in the UK. THEM is an incredible piece of work that comes at a time when the arts community must continue to work together, to take risks, present bold and dynamic work, and use our shared talents to make change in the world. Rajpal Pardesi, Body Politic Chair of Directors

Body Politic is artist in residence at Pegasus Theatre in Oxford, and is the leading dance company for provision of classes for young people aged 5-19 in Oxfordshire.

THEM is Body Politic's current touring production and is gratefully funded by Arts Council England to help deliver positive outcomes for young people.

THEM is commissioned by Swindon Dance and Dancin' Oxford and supported by Arts Council England, Pegasus Theatre and South East Dance.

THEM

"It wasn't that bad... He didn't really mean it... Did he tell my friends?"

Nina's boyfriend dumped her. He slept with her, then dumped her. She didn't say 'yes'. She was a bit drunk. She only remembers fragments. Now, the whole school knows....

THEM is a riveting Hip Hop Dance theatre show about consent, affirmation and the journey to finding your power through sisterhood and solidarity.

THEM follows the incredible journey of three young women who meet at a support group for survivors. Each one has a different story to tell, and as an unspoken bond of shared lived experience develops between them, they find courage to reflect, learn and accept their pasts, together. They move on.

A unique movement vocabulary conveys complex emotions, the stunning choreography flows seamlessly, from being powerfully gripping, to joyful and harmonious.

THEM is directed by Emma-Jane Greig, choreographed by Jackie Kibuka, and is set to a driving, electronic score by acclaimed composer C. Bickley.

THEM features three compelling dancers, Emily Jordan, Viki Čerček, Christina Dionysopoulou, who have trained and toured with Far From The Norm and Avant Garde.

THEM aims to build confidence in all young people, to empower them in decision making.

An emotional yet hopeful story for ages 14yrs+

"Body Politic's artistic director, Emma-Jane Greig has crafted a show that fits perfectly within the company's heartfelt, bold and dynamic ethos."

Sophia Holme, Daily info



Details

Artistic Director: Emma-Jane Greig

Choreographer: Jackie Kibuka

Dance Artists: Viki Čerček, Christina Dionysopoulou, Emily Jordan

Lighting Designer: Chloe Kenward

Sound Production: Char Bickley

Additional Music and Composition: Josh Davies

Costume/ Set Designer: Charlie Cridlan

Artist: Hannah Buckman

Relighter & Associate Lighting Designer: Sam Osborne

Assistant Stage Manager: Bella Blythe

Dramaturg: Miranda Laurence & Emma Webb

Producer: Body Politic

Duration: 50mins

Performance includes an additional 25min post-show discussion with the creative team, and guests invited from local organisations and charities. This engagement opportunity adds vital context, and offers signposting and support information to audience members

Why This Work?



It is a stark reality to know that 1 in 4 women in the UK will experience sexual violence at some point in their lives. Roughly 85,000 women a year*.

THEM is a vehicle to reflect the upheaval sexual violence has on young women today, physically, mentally, and politically. This is an opportunity to use the universal language of Hip Hop to engage with audiences to discuss a poignant topic continually in the headlines.

"This is an opportunity to create space for discussion, learning and understanding from young audiences around issues of consent and sexual assault, which has become commonplace within school settings."

**- Emma-Jane Greig,
Artistic Director**

*Stats from (Crime Survey from England and Wales)



Quotes & Reviews

"It's been a pleasure working with Body Politic. It was amazing that you took the time to seek out professionals when it came to the post show talk. It really showed a level of responsibility and sensitivity to the conversation your work creates" [Tiffany Argumedo, Programmer, Aberystwyth Arts centre](#)

"The important themes that THEM explores combine with beautiful choreography and brilliant performances to make a show that is both moving and exhilarating. Body Politic have once again shown themselves to be a company who are sensitive, ambitious and collaborative in their approach. Pegasus is very proud to call them an Associate Company." [Georgia Bradley, Director, Pegasus Theatre](#)

"The piece was excellent. It really gently pulled at the issue and left the audience wanting to talk about what they had experienced." [Joe Flavin, Artistic Director, The Core at Corby Cube.](#)

"THEM comes at you gradually, viscerally, sonically, layer by layer, in its vitally innovative retelling of experiences known by young women the world over." [Hannah Hutchings-Georgiou, Lucy Writer's Platform](#)

"In its impressively delicate way, THEM condemns victim blaming and portrays the consequent feeling of self-doubt this generates in survivors" [Maria Elena Ricci, Dance Art Journal](#)

"I was unprepared for this show but the energetic relief after all the fighting twisted pain literally made tears come into my eyes. Thank you"
[Audience member](#)



Creative Learning

Body Politic has a diverse range of creative learning, engagement and participation opportunities for young people aged 14-25, all inspired by the work of THEM.

Our headline offers include:

- Schools and Youth Group Workshops
- Youth Residencies which develop short performance works
- Large-scale Masterclasses for 40+ participants

We can send on more details for each offer on request.

Learning objectives in all of our work:

- Demonstrate an understanding of hip hop and street dance styles
- Explore movement techniques to help develop narrative and choreographic vocabularies
- Create simple choreographic motifs that explore the themes of consent

Learning materials we can offer include:

- Full length video of THEM
- Follow up session plans and a wide range of resources created exclusively by Body Politic. These can be found on our online platform DIGITAL THEM which can be accessed by teachers free of charge. This includes a pre-recorded dance workshop, podcast episodes, discussion points, creative tasks and more.

Creative Learning opportunities are delivered by experienced Body Politic practitioners. All practitioners are DBS checked and have a wide range of experience of delivering workshops with young people and facilitating safe environments to discuss challenging themes.

We appreciate that every group has different needs, and may need a slightly different approach. We are committed to working with partners to create enriching experiences for all.

Browse DIGITAL THEM Content

READ



PROGRAMME

**FEAR FOR
STAYING
SILENT, FEAR
FOR SPEAKING
UP**

READ ABOUT THE WORK

A DAY IN CREATION

**THIS IS AN
OPPORTUNITY
TO CREATE
SPACE FOR
DISCUSSION.**

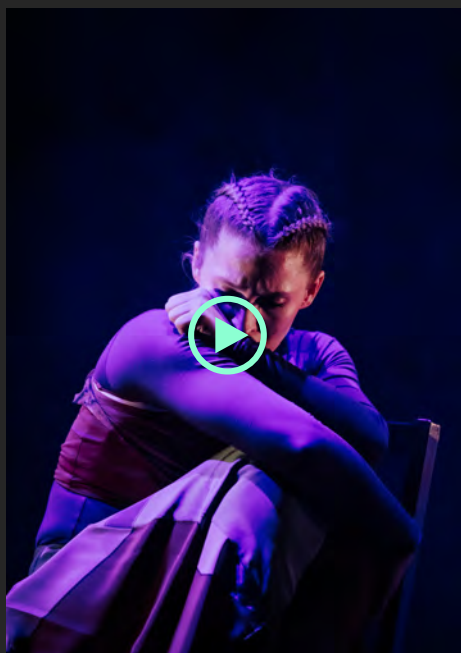
FOLLOW THE JOURNEY

ESSAY

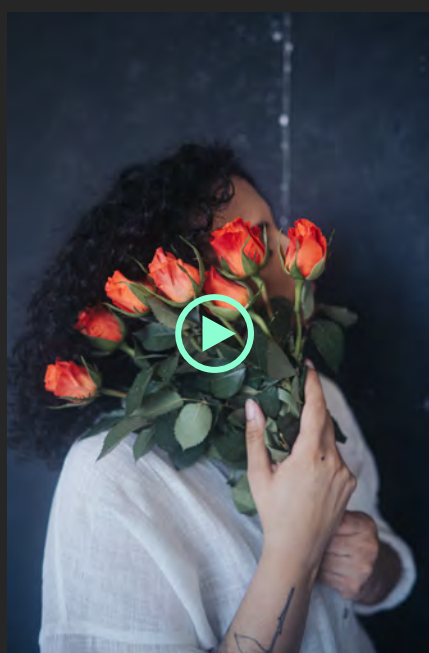
**HIP HOP IS
GLOBALLY
PERMEATED BY
PATRIARCHY.**

READ THE ESSAY

THEM Trailer



Film



Podcast Episode



"We would 100% programme the work again it produced such an outpouring of emotion from our college students in particular and I personally was incredibly impressed with the piece and the emotion it evoked amongst our audiences."

Sally Polden, Redbridge Drama Centre

Basic Technical Requirements

Stage & Venue

THEM requires a 6.5m wide x 7.5m deep playing space, without a rake. Venues should provide black matt dance floor to cover the playing space. The dance floor should be laid prior to company arrival.

Flooring should be at least semi-sprung.

Please contact us as soon as possible if your floor is not sprung or you do not have a dance floor.

Lighting

Provided by the venue

Sidelight

3x 1.5m booms per side (total 6), with 2x boom arms per boom (total 12). 6x CP62 PAR64 (booms, with lenses at 1000mm)

Overhead

4x 25-50 deg profiles (LED preferable)

3x 1k fresnels

FOH cover featuring a separate centre cover

1x DMX controlled hazer, positioned USR

We tour our own colour for all units.

Toured lighting

3x Aryton Diablo moving lights (approx 22kg per fixture)

6x ETC 50 deg ColorSource Spots (shins, boom arm at 580mm)

Cabling for the above. CS Spots are on 16A tails, please advise if your venue does not have 16A hot power.

THEM requires an ETC Eos lighting desk provided by the venue.

A specific lighting plan for your venue will be sent nearer the time.

Technical requirements continued:

Sound

THEM uses a QLab Mac (toured) with a stereo output to run the audio playback for the show.

We require the use of a venue PA, and require full frequency coverage across the entire auditorium. The show contains a lot of sub-frequencies, so please contact us if your PA does not include subs.

Onstage monitoring / foldback is required at the downstage corners (mono). Where a pre- or post-show talk is scheduled, we request a minimum of 2x handheld radio mics from the venue. If radio mics are a chargeable item, we will use wired handhelds. No mic stands required.

Show Operation

The show is self-operated, with lighting cues triggered over OSC by our touring network between QLab and Eos. Lighting and sound must be able to be operated from the same location.

Communications

A comms system should be in place between the control position (FOH or in a booth) and backstage. The performers start off-stage and will be cued on by the ASM.

Set & Masking

The set consists of 6x black metal chairs.

We require a full black or black cyc on the upstage edge

We require leg masking rather than flat masking, with one leg downstage of each boom

Parking

We require 1x van parking space from the beginning of the get-in until the end of the get-out.

FULL TECHNICAL SPEC AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

Marketing

THEM is very much aimed at young audiences and their families, as well as more general arts audiences. It is therefore important that venues ensure affordability for young people, as well as community groups that may be affected by the topic of the show. Our team are highly experienced at outreach and engagement and work with venues and a local Community Activist to ensure we can together access new audiences who would benefit from this opportunity.

We will take guidance from venues in regard to print as we are an environmentally conscious company and understand the need to cut down on unnecessary print.

Body Politic can provide the venue with publicity materials for the show:
A5 flyers / A3 or A1 Posters

We are also committed to creating a dynamic and engaging social media campaign to accompany each performance. This can include live rehearsals insights, venue Instagram takeovers, and interviews with the cast. We are also open to creating a bespoke campaign with the venue to maximise audience engagement around the show.

Contact: marketing@bodypoliticdance.com



Booking Details

Availability: From Spring 2023

Touring Company: Company consists of three dancers and one Relighter, a Production Manager and Assistant Stage Manager.

Running Time: 50mins (approximately)

Get-in: On the day with lighting pre-rigged in advance (to be discussed)

Technical staff required by promoter: Two staff

- UK Touring fees: £1500 per performance, £2500 for two performances, runs to be discussed.
- Fee for curtain-raiser: £800 this represents 15 performers and a curtain raiser of 15mins.
- Full day workshop: £300 this represents up to 30 participants aged 14-19yrs.

**CONTACT: Artistic Director, Emma-Jane Greig at
emj@bodypoliticdance.com | 07791905851**

BE THE CHANGE

2023

We look forward to hearing from you.



Images by Rocio Chacon & Camilla Greenwell



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