

BRIDPORT DANCE FESTIVAL

Where everybody moves

Friday 23rd May 2025
Saturday 24th May 2025

Featuring:

Nafisah Baba

winner BBC young dancer of the year 2017

PLUS:

Workshops - Performance

Dance Jam - Open Mic



Book NOW! 01308 424901

The first ever Bridport Dance Festival gathering of superb local and guest dance artists for workshops and performance to delight and excite across venues in Bridport, Dorset.

www.bridportdancefestival.org.uk

Directed & produced by
Carla Steenkamp Sheills
& Nikki Northover

Photo: @nicholasguttridge

Supported by:



A World of Dance Comes to Bridport

The first ever Bridport Dance Festival is an exciting and colourful multicultural gathering of dancers and artists from far and wide, as well local dance groups from West Dorset. During the weekend festival there will be performances and workshops in the centre of Bridport offering a very wide range of dancing from all around the world: Argentinian Tango, Indian classical, holistic ballet, jazz fit, jive, hip-hop, tap, contemporary, creative and circle dance. As well as specially choreographed dance films.

Founder Carla Steenkamp Sheills has been a pioneer in inclusive dance education, establishing My Ballet in Bridport in 2010. Her co-producer Nikki Northover is the creator of Bridport Youth Dance which has been running for over twenty years. Carla says 'This festival is family friendly and includes everybody in our community. There is nothing like dance and music to bring people together. If you think you are not a dancer, don't worry, it will be a feast for your eyes!'

Key dancers will be Fiona Harvey, former ballerina with the Royal Ballet; Nafisah Baba from London, winner of the BBC young artist award 2017; Aakash Odedra from Leicester; Leo and Tracey Fandago Acosta from Buenos Aires & Bournemouth; Grace & Growl founded by Anna Golding from West Dorset; Vrushali Harihar from India & Bournemouth; My Ballet Dancers; Bridport Youth Dance and alumni as well as local community dance groups. There will also be opportunities for those in wheelchairs and those

living with Parkinson's. Something for everybody.

Locations. All events will be held in Bridport: The Bull Hotel Ballroom, Bridport Town Hall, Bridport Arts Centre, Electric Palace, St Mary's Church Hall, British Legion Hall and Lyric Theatre. There will be dance workshops for all ages. There will be some free events at BAC and in the Bridport Community Orchard including Nature Voices - songs and raps about endangered species like Dormice and Natterjack toads.

Find out more at www.bridportdancefestival.org.uk

There will be a special Dance Finale in the Electric Palace on Sat 24th May featuring many of the key dancers and groups as well as a series of short films: 'Inner voices of the Sea' Dance portraits produced by Carla Sheills

Plus 'Dance Weavers' and 'Ocean of Tears' produced by Nikki Northover.

It's all happening in Bridport on Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th May 2025.

For more information Contact: Carla Sheills info@bridportdancefestival.org.

Crowdfunding: There is also a vital crowd funding opportunity as Carla and Nikki need to raise £15,000 to make all this happen. Visit: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/bridport-dance-festival>



Come and be Inspired

Look out for a variety of FREE activities on Saturday 24th May, including...

Early morning boogie with local DJ talent Kathy Kelly 9.30am to 11am at Bucky Doo square.

Nature Voices in the Community Orchard at 10am/11am/12noon: Wild tales from Britain's green and pleasant land written and performed by poet, musician, and storyteller **Martin Sheills**. Entertainment and facts for children and imaginative grown ups!

Pop Up Performances on the Arts Centre Forecourt at 11am!

Silent Disco with Angie Porter at 4.30pm



The tickets for the Bridport Arts Centre and Electric Palace events can be bought in person or over the phone from the Bridport Tourist Information Centre. To book online go to the Arts Centre or Electric Palace websites.

Little Murmur tickets are available from Bridport Arts Centre Box office - **01308 424204**

All other tickets are sold through the website **www.bridportandwestbay.co.uk** or through the Bridport Tourist Information Centre - **01308 424901**

Bridport Dance Festival has been brought to you by Carla Steenkamp Sheills and Nikki Northover

www.bridportdancefestival.co.uk