



## Dance Research Matters Networks March 2025 Newsletter

Welcome to your March 2025 Dance Research Matters Network Newsletter

### Cross-Network News

Save the date: Dance Research Matters Festival

**10-11 July 2025:** The Dance Research Matters Festival. More details to follow.

### Network Updates

Future Ecologies: Producing Dance Network (FE:PDN)

'Funmi Adewole, Rachel Krische and Efrosini Protopapa from the FE:PDN have published an article in Arts Professional about the work the Network has been doing and its findings. The article can be [read online here](#).

The FE:PDN is continuing to analyse and discuss data collected from its *Reimagining Producing: Making Dance Happen* survey, which was carried out in December 2024/January 2025.

A summary of the FE:PDN's Early Career Group activities and footage of presentations given during the group's online meetings are [available here](#).

### Upcoming Events

(events arranged chronologically)

Digital Black Dance Ecologies Network

**14 March 2025, 6-8pm:** 'Feast & Fellowship: Black Dance, Performance, and Tech' with Dr Tia-Monique Uzor.

Location: to be provided on registration.

Register to attend: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/feast-and-fellowship-black-dance-performance-tech-tickets-1264221162529?aff=oddtcreator>

This is the final event of the Network's Early Career Mentorship Programme for Black academics in dance, performance, and tech.

Join Dr Tia-Monique Uzor in person at a North London venue for an evening of connection, conversation, and celebration for Black Early Career Researchers (ECRs) in performance and humanities disciplines. This gathering fosters a supportive network, shares experiences, and builds lasting relationships within our academic community.

What to expect:

- A FREE delicious communal dinner to break bread and connect with fellow Black scholars.
- Opportunities to build connections and forge collaborations with colleagues across various performance and humanities disciplines.
- A welcoming and supportive atmosphere to celebrate Black excellence in academia.

Who Should Attend:

- This event is open to Black Early Career Researchers working in Dance, Theatre, Performance, Media, Computing or related fields. Whether you are a Postdoc, a fixed-term, or a permanent lecturer, this is a space to connect and engage with your peers.

Come ready to:

- Share your research and interests
- Meet and network with other Black ECRs
- Discuss the joys and challenges of navigating academia as a Black scholar
- Build a supportive network for your academic journey

**28 March 2025:** 'Thrum: Black Dance, Black Futures, Digital Realms'. Venue: Royal Central School of Speech and Drama

**Register to attend:** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/thrum-black-dance-black-futures-digital-realms-tickets-1259450884499?aff=oddtcreator>

Join the Digital Black Dance Ecologies Network for its final event. This special evening will feature four new seed commissions by Lauryn Pinard, Rose Sall Sao, Bryony Ella, and Keith Alexander, along with an acclaimed guest piece by New York-based artist LaJuné McMillian.

The evening will include a post-show discussion, where we will share the key findings of the Digital Black Dance Ecologies project and offer insights into the future of digital Black dance in the UK. Contributions will come from Dr. Tia-Monique Uzor, LaJuné McMillian, DBDE artists, network members, and partners.

The event will conclude with an after-party and networking session to celebrate the completion of this ambitious 18-month project.

### **Schedule (subject to change)**

#### **Evening Showcase**

**16:45 - 17:15** - The Wake (A Dream Becoming), Imaginal Cells, and The Black Movement Library - Movement Portraits (CSSD Affiliates)

**17:20 - 17:50** - The Wake (A Dream Becoming), Imaginal Cells, and The Black Movement Library - Movement Portraits (Public Showing)

**17:55 - 18:25** - The Wake (A Dream Becoming), Imaginal Cells, and The Black Movement Library - Movement Portraits (Public Showing)

**18:30 - 18:50** - Tè & Moun

**18:55 - 19:10** - Fidy Sumn

## DBDE Commissions:

- *The Wake (A Dream Becoming)* by Rose Sall Sao
- *Fidy Twuny* by Keith Alexander
- *Tè & Moun* by Lauryl Pinard
- *Imaginal Cells* by Bryony Ella

## Guest Piece:

- *The Black Movement Library - Movement Portraits* by LaJuné McMillian

## 19:15 - 20:30 - Post-Show Discussion

- **Speakers:** Dr. Tia-Monique Uzor, LaJuné McMillian
- **Featuring:** DBDE Artists, Network Members, Partners, and Collaborators

## Networking & Celebration:

### 20:30 - 21:30

- Entertainment by DJ Clarkie
- Nibbles, drinks, networking, and celebrating the completion of an 18-month project!

## South Asian Dance Equity (SADE): The Arts that British South Asian Dance Ignores Network

**26 March 2025, 3-5pm:** 'South Asian Dance and Adivasi, Indigenous and Folk Cultures' (webinar). This online gathering and final SADE webinar will host a panel of artists and academics speaking on dance, indigenous knowledges and activism, and folk forms of worldmaking. Webinar speakers include: Muhammad Salman Khan, Arkotong Longkumer, Dilini Seneviratne and Biju Toppo. The event will be chaired by Priyanka Basu (chair).

Register to attend: [https://ucr.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_YSO4Kr8fT8OxkawBk-FeJQ#/registration](https://ucr.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YSO4Kr8fT8OxkawBk-FeJQ#/registration)

**27 March 2025:** South Asian Dance Equity (SADE) Stakeholder Meeting (invitation only). Hosted by Nupur Arts, Leicester. This in-person gathering will bring together regional stakeholders to discuss indigeneity in British South Asian dance research and practice.

**31 March-1 April 2025:** South Asian Dance Equity (SADE): The Arts that British South Asian Dance Ignores Network final 2-day symposium followed by an evening of practice sharing. Venue: The Place, London. More details to follow.

## Critical Dance Pedagogy Network

**28-29 March 2025:** Critical Dance Pedagogy Artist Lab 2. Venue: Northern School of Contemporary Dance.

To apply for a place to be part of this artist lab, please complete this form by **17 March 2025**:

<https://forms.office.com/e/Zd6fzY9PWb>

This unique 2-day Artist Lab reunion, brings back together teaching artists from the Network's first Artist Lab to work alongside a creative team to explore Critical Dance Pedagogy in the studio space together. The objectives of the lab are:

- To bring together teaching artists from across the UK with a creative team, to network, share practice, knowledge exchange, and engage in action learning.
- Raise awareness of Critical Dance Pedagogy, of socially embedded assumptions and dominant structural power relations that produce unjust educational and socio-cultural outcomes in dance.

- To reflect upon the impact the first artist lab had on the artists, and how it has impact their practice, and their students/dancers.
- To explore challenges the artists encountered in their practice, and how they changed and evolved their pedagogy in response

## Links to Networks' main pages

(in alphabetical order)

Critical Dance Pedagogy Network:

<https://www.criticaldancepedagogy.org/home>

Digital Black Dance Ecologies Network

<https://www.digitalblkdance.org>

<https://twitter.com/DBDEproject>

<https://www.instagram.com/dbdeproject>

Dancing Otherwise Network

<https://dancingotherwise.com/>

<https://www.instagram.com/dancingotherwise/>

Future Ecologies Network (FE:PDN)

<https://rescen.net/FEPDN/>

FE:PDN Early Career Group's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ecgfepdn/>

South Asian Dance Equity (SADE)

<https://www.akademi.co.uk/sade-project-launch/>

<https://www.sampad.org.uk/projects/south-asian-dance-equity-sade/>

<https://www.instagram.com/southasiandanceequity/>