



GARY CLARKE COMPANY



COAL



COAL WORKSHOP & SHOW PACKAGE 2017

To support the national tour of Gary Clarke’s award-winning dance theatre production COAL, members of Gary Clarke Company will deliver workshops to schools, colleges and universities as part of an exciting integrated student and teacher package.

As part of the package, students will take part in an individually tailored 3 hour dance workshop, watch a live performance of COAL and be invited to give a critical response to choreographer Gary Clarke as part of a unique post show discussion.

These unique workshop packages provide students and teachers with an insight into the history of the British coal mining industry, an opportunity to see a new live production and a platform for young people to voice their opinions and responses to a live dance theatre work.



‘Just incredible. I left feeling really inspired’

Nubrico Youth Dance member

‘Five stars – very enjoyable and fun!’

TIN Arts group member, Durham



MISSION STATEMENT FOR PACKAGE

'Using a subject matter of historical and social relevance, my mission is to provide an exciting, fun, safe, educational and interactive environment where young people are free to explore movement and dance and develop their own artistic voice and opinion'

Gary Clarke



WORKSHOP INFORMATION

Company members are available to deliver workshop packages alongside the COAL tour. To find out about booking a workshop and subsidised show tickets for participants, please contact **Laura Barber**, COAL Tour Engagement Manager, in the first instance to secure workshop dates and confirm your package prior to make a booking directly with the venue box office by emailing engagementcoal@gmail.com

Cost :: Workshop £250 plus show tickets for workshop participants and teachers at a special rate organised by each tour venue (based ideally on a group of min 20 to 30).

Tour dates / Post show talk / Meet the company ::

Please visit coaltour.co.uk for up to date tour listings and when each post show talk will take place.

Age :: Due to the mature subject matter of COAL, the age guidance for the COAL package is 12+.

Experience :: Workshops will be tailored to fit groups studying dance and drama from schools and youth companies with little or no dance experience and younger schools groups from Year 8 and Year 9, as well as more experienced dance / theatre / performing arts college groups and university degree students.

Preparation :: Prior to each workshop, Laura Barber will liaise with a member of staff from each institution to fill out the COAL booking form. The information provided will ensure that each workshop is tailor made for each group, as well as catering for any disability or individual needs.

Gender :: Workshops are suitable for both male and female participants.

Duration :: Workshop: 3 hours / Show: 80 mins with no interval / Post Show Discussion: 30 mins.

Maximum Group Size :: 30.

Workshop Requirements :: At least 1 support staff must be present at all times. A large, warm, studio space suitable for practical work. Access to play loud music from devices such as iPods. Students must be dressed in practical clothing and trainers.

Liability :: All company members are DBS checked and carry full insurance.



WORKSHOP CONTENT

Workshops will be led by 1 or 2 members of Gary Clarke Company.

Introduction :: Participants will be introduced to the company members and their background as well as the work of choreographer Gary Clarke and the production COAL. Participants will be given a detailed breakdown of the production and exposed to source material such as video footage, images, interviews, and written text used to create COAL.

Warm up :: Company members will lead a contemporary dance warm up to adequately prepare the body for moving including simple exercises, movement phrases and stretches. This warm up has been used over many years by Gary Clarke and his company as part of the company's work and has proven to be successful.

Archive :: Archive will act as a tool to educate young people about the history of the British COAL trade and the 1984 miners' strike. Participants will watch documentary footage of the coal industry made up of a collection of interviews and features taken from archive footage from the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) headquarters in Barnsley. This archive footage will help contextualise the show and deepen the students understanding of the stimulus behind COAL.

Repertoire :: Participants will have the opportunity to learn selected choreographed sections from COAL. They will be taken through a thorough step by step process using imagery, intention and physical exploration into Gary Clarke's choreography.

Creative :: Working in small groups, using the COAL repertoire as a starting point and a collection of photographs and books from the NUM headquarters, participants will be led through a creative process and encouraged to create their own movement material. Company members will ensure that the participants are well supported through this whilst following the creative and artistic process used by choreographer Gary Clarke to create COAL.

Showing :: Participants will be encouraged to show their work to the rest of the group, providing them with an opportunity to 'perform' and learn about performance skills. Company members will ensure that the participants are supported through this.

Evaluation :: Participants will be encouraged to speak about the session and feedback any thoughts about points they may have learnt or experienced. They will be encouraged to fill in a feedback sheet which will act as feedback for Gary Clarke and Company to reflect on.

Q&A :: Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions about the production COAL, choreographer Gary Clarke or the dance industry in general. As esteemed and experienced dance artists, the company members have a wealth of experience which they can share with a hope that this will further inspire and encourage young people into dance.

WORKSHOP LEADERS

Workshops will be led by members from Gary Clarke Company. Each member of Gary Clarke Company has a wealth of experience in both performance and education. Company members have worked for some of the worlds most prolific contemporary dance companies including Hofesh Shechter Company, Jasmin Vardimon Company, Ballet Boyz, T.R.A.S.H, National Dance Company of Wales, Vincent Dance Theatre and DV8 Physical Theatre.



Left to right :
Alistair Goldsmith, Parsifal James (PJ) Hurst, Beno Novak,
Joss Carter, Nicolas Vendange, TC Howard.

COAL INFORMATION

'All of us owe the comparative decency to poor drudges underground, blackened to the eyes with their throats full of coal dust, driving their shovels forward with arms and belly muscles of steel'

George Orwell (1934)

Marking the 30th anniversary of the end of the 1984/5 British miners' strike, award winning choreographer Gary Clarke proudly presents COAL, a riveting dance theatre show which takes a nostalgic look at the hard hitting realities of life at the coal face. Strong, powerful and emotive, COAL explores the darker underbelly of the mining industry unearthing the true nature and body wrecking demands of a working class industry now almost forgotten. Bringing together Clarke's striking physical language performed by a company of 7 high class dancers, a local community cast of women and a live brass colliery band, COAL is an emotional, moving and ever-relevant exploration of community, solidarity and survival.

POST SHOW DISCUSSION

Following the performance of COAL, participants will have the rare opportunity to meet choreographer Gary Clarke and the cast of COAL. Participants will take part in a post show discussion where they have an opportunity to view their critical response and opinions as well as contribute a question and answer session about the work.

CHOREOGRAPHER – GARY CLARKE

Gary Clarke is an award-winning dancer and choreographer with a national reputation for creating compelling dance theatre that resonates with both audiences and critics.

'The full-on energy is crowd-pleasing, but the choreography has bite and depth and the dancing crackles with class and conviction'

The Herald ****

By far one of Britain's most exciting contemporary dance artists, originally hailing from South Yorkshire, Gary's breadth of knowledge, experience and dynamism result in him being regularly invited to make new work on various scales and perform with leading companies and choreographers.

Over the last decade he has worked on a variety of projects with Lea Anderson's The Cholmondeleys & The Featherstonehaughs, Matthew Bourne's Adventures in Motion Pictures (AMP), Lloyd Newson's DV8 Physical Theatre, Liv Lorent's balletLORENT, Candoco Dance Company & Jerome Bel, Retina Dance Company, Nigel Charnock + Company, Bock & Vincenzi, Phoenix Dance Theatre, Sadler's Wells Productions, Maresa Von Stockert & Tilted Productions, New Art Club, Javier De Frutos, Wendy Houston, TC Howard, Frauke Redquart Company, Opera North and Compagnie Felix Ruckert. During 2011 and 2012, he worked as a movement artist alongside Brad Pitt on the Hollywood blockbuster film 'World War Z'.

Gary has been making and touring his own work for the past 10 years which has toured both nationally and internationally receiving critical and audience acclaim. His work to date has been featured in The British Dance Edition, The Edinburgh Festival, Spring Loaded, Birmingham International Dance Festival, The Cultural Olympiad and Exposure Dance at The Royal Opera House. He has also created work for The Scottish School of Contemporary Dance, MAP Dance and Ludus Dance Company. He is the winner of the 1998 Brian Glover Memorial Award and the Danceworks UK Artist Development Award. Gary is currently an Associate Artist at Yorkshire Dance and is closely affiliated to Dance4 and Merseyside Dance Initiative (MDI).



'An absorbing, immediate slice of history rendered with the kind of emotional truth that deepens its impact as popular entertainment.'

The Times ****

'Visceral piece of physical theatre recalling the shattering impact of the pit closures in the 1980s.'

The Stage ****