

IRIE! DANCE THEATRE

WINTER PROGRAMME 2025



**DANCE THAT
CONNECTS US TO OUR
ROOTS, OUR CULTURE,
AND EACH OTHER**

Photo Credit: VizionKraft

IRIE!
dance
theatre *years*
Anniversary

IRIE! dance theatre is proudly celebrating its Ruby Anniversary! Forty (40) years in service, devoted to heightening the profile of Dance of the African Diaspora (DAD) in the UK.

As we move into year forty, I am reminded of how lucky and grateful I am to work for a wonderful company like IRIE! dance theatre. I have had the opportunity to engage with creatives at home and abroad, and over the years we have changed lives together, and I continue to learn and grow creatively and with more compassion each day. During this celebratory year we will take time to reflect, celebrate and futureproof the organisation, always keeping the next generation in mind. In keeping with the theme “Past, Present, and Future”, throughout the year our established programmes will feature several key events including an **exhibition** reflecting four decades of the company’s work; a **short film** highlighting our engagement and impact within Lewisham and the wider community; a **new production** entitled *Kehã Seebii* (for those left behind), a work motivated by the tragic New Cross fire in 1981, and we will conclude the celebrations at the end of the year with a **BIG Anniversary Dance**. So, look out for all of the above and more on our website, social media platforms and quarterly programmes.

Reflecting on a few highlights from the past three months, we are still buzzing from the success of **FOUNDATION: Dancing from the Archive** production, which closed its autumn season with two sell-out performances at our homebase at Moonshot Centre. Validated by Goldsmiths, University of London, we launched our new MA Diasporic Dance styles and welcomed a new intake of first-year students

to the BA (Hons) Diverse Dance styles. As part of Black History Month (BHM) IRIE! partnered with the Deptford Caribbean Forum and students from Grinling Gibbons Primary School to deliver our Vintage Tea programme engaging over 80 local elders. Sadly, we said a fond goodbye to Connah Talyor, our Education and Community Engagement Coordinator and wish him the very best in his new post.

As we continue to plan for the coming year, we are excited to have international dancer and choreographer, Vincent Mantsoe and our very own Nii Kwartey Owoo to deliver the first two-day Making Tracks professional development programme of 2025! More information is available via our website, social media or simply scan the QR code.

As always, the most important contributors to the success of our work are YOU - the community, the IRIE! team, our trustees, partners, funders, volunteers, students and supporters.

I want to express heartfelt gratitude for your unfading support over the last 40 years, and with your continued support, I look forward to seeing IRIE! soar to new heights!

Beverley Glean MBE
Artistic Director and CEO



COMMUNITY IN-HOUSE

African Dance

Days: **Tuesdays**
Time: **7:30pm - 9:00pm**
14th Jan - 25th March

£5.00

Join us for our authentic West African Dance Class with Nii Boye. You will immerse yourself in the vibrant rhythms and movements of Africa's rich cultural heritage through the drum language of the dances and engage with others in a fun and welcoming space. Open to all abilities and ages.



Moonshot Lions Dominoes Club



Are you ready to unleash your competitive spirit and join a community of like-minded dominoes enthusiasts? Join Moonshot Lions for our weekly dominoes sessions.

Days: **Wednesdays**
Time: **6:00pm - 9:00pm**
15th Jan - 26th March

FREE

Hip-hop & Urban Dance

Days: **Thursdays**
Time: **7:30pm - 8:15pm**
16th Jan - 27th March

£5.00

Cynthia is a professional dancer from Paris based in London. She is part of Paradox Sal crew, with whom she has been travelling worldwide performing and leading workshops.

Under the umbrella of street dance, she has focused on hip hop and house to express herself.

The session is an open practice where everyone is welcome to come and exchange within the space with some exercises given during the hour.

Intermediate to advanced level.



COMMUNITY IN-HOUSE

Days: **Fridays**

Time: **4:30pm – 6:00pm**

17th Jan – 28th March

IRIE! Youth Dance Company

We are looking for young people between the ages of 5-10yrs and 11-16yrs to join our youth company focusing on traditional West African dance.

Our aim is to support and develop young people's creative and cultural engagement.

The youth company will enrich the lives of local young people by exploring themes of identity and culture, exploring creative ways of connecting and fusing current dance styles.

For more information on the session, please contact: info@iriedancetheatre.org



Drumology with Guru Ras Happa of African and Caribbean riddims

Join us on a journey through the vibrant rhythms and traditions of the Caribbean! In this interactive drumming class, you'll delve into the rich cultural heritage of Caribbean drumming, exploring the unique styles and techniques of rhythms through drum language.

You'll learn how to play and feel the infectious energy of Caribbean drumming. Open to all ages and abilities.

£5.00

Days: **Saturdays**

Time: **11:00am – 1:00pm**

18th Jan – 29th March



OTHER CLASSES AT IRIE!

£13 DROP-IN
OR £10 WITH
BLOCK
BOOKINGS

BOTH Dance: Monday Morning Ballet

An intermediate/advanced drop-in-class for adult learners who would like to keep strengthening their ballet technique and move with fluidity and flavour.

Last class of each block will be accompanied by a musician.

For bookings & more information visit:
www.bothdanceclasses.com
or email: Info@bothdance.com

Days: **Mondays**
Time: **10am - 11:30am**
Block 1:
13th Jan - 3rd Feb
Block 2:
24th Feb - 31st March



Days: **Thursdays**
Time: **7:00pm - 8:30pm**
Oct 17th - Nov 28th
Half term: **7th Nov**

Planet Hoop

Planet Hoop's summer course, Fusion Flow, is running from the 6th of June until the 18th of July. Join Clara and a group of friendly hula hoopers in having fun with new tricks and transitions, ready for the sunny days in the park. The classes are mixed-level and the techniques are broken down into steps that are easy to follow. You are encouraged to go at your own pace and enjoy the process.

To book, visit our website: www.planethoop.co.uk

Let us know if you have any questions on:
07460767969 or at: info@planethoop.co.uk

See you in Studio 1!

CLASS PASS
3 FOR £48.00

Days: **Tuesdays**
Time: **7:30pm - 8:30pm**
21st Jan - 28th March

Pañuelos Libres

Pañuelos Libres is a Marinera dancing group that promotes Peruvian folklore to share and enjoy with the community.

The group started in April 2023 and since then has been growing and developing into a strong intergenerational well-being group that welcomes everybody, irrespective of age, ability, gender and nationality to come and dance the beautiful Marinera.

£5.00



UPCOMING EVENTS

MAKING TRACKS - RE:CONNECTING TO SELF

MAKING TRACKS is IRIE! dance theatre's professional development intensive that offers in-depth professional training focused on Dances & Music of the African Diaspora. The programme aims to bring together professionals in dance, the performing arts, academia and other fields including healthcare, whose practice or work may intersect with dance. At IRIE! we are keenly aware of the far-reaching benefits of dance and music and are committed to making dance accessible to the wider London community. Participants will meet experts in traditional dance and drumming from all over the African diaspora, gaining invaluable knowledge on the history, culture and traditions that shaped African and Caribbean dance, whilst learning the movement and rhythms unique to each style.

You'll develop your understanding of:

- African & Caribbean dance aesthetics
- Rhythmic Sensitivity & Polyrhythm
- The demands and function of African & Caribbean dance forms & technique
- Drum languages: The conversation of the drums

In this series subtitled Reconnecting to Self, we invite participants on a journey to re-discover and reaffirm their sense of self-awareness through reflection on ancestral modes of being and living. Featured artists include Vincent Mantsoe from South Africa and Nii Kwartey Owoo from Ghana.

Friday Feb 28th
& Saturday March 1st
9:30am – 5:30pm
IRIE! dance theatre

IRIE!
dance
theatre
Anniversary

MAKING TRACKS
(RE:CONNECTING TO SELF)

with
Vincent Mantsoe
Movement
and
Nii Kwartey Owoo
Music

Friday, 28th Feb to Saturday, 1st Mar 2025
9.30 am – 5.30 pm

www.riedancetheatre.org/making-tracks-spring-2025

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

UPCOMING EVENTS

MA Diasporic Dance Styles – IRIE! dance theatre OPEN CLASSES

Come and join the MA Diasporic Dance Styles for a series of Open Classes with key lecturers on the course. Meet current students and find out all you need to know about this innovative course.

£12 PER CLASS
OR £50 BLOCK
BOOKING FOR
ALL 5 CLASSES

Monday 6th January **June Yuen Ting**

This workshop will introduce the movement frameworks of Butoh. Leaning into Butoh's deep curiosity about our relationship with otherness, our investigation will be guided by improvisational and sensorial contemplation.

Tuesday 7th January **Dr H Patten MBE**

Traditional Caribbean Dance Forms

Wednesday 8th January **Beverley Glean MBE**

An African Caribbean Dance fusion class which will give an understanding of grounding and rhythmic sensibilities.

Thursday 9th January **Nii Kwartey Owoo**

The class will provide an introduction to the relationship between African dance techniques and the nuances inherent in traditional dance styles.

Friday 10th January **Hopal Romans**

This open level class will use Horton inspired technique activities as a means of working the body somatically and developing core strength and coordination.

**Monday 6th
– Friday 10th
January 2025
10:00am – 11:30am**

IRIE! dance theatre,
Fordham Park, Angus St,
London SE14 6LU, UK

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN, CONTEMPORARY AND HIP HOP

Apply through UCAS Institution Code G56. Course Code: W540

COURSE ENQUIRIES: www.iredancetheatre.org/ba-degree

e: ba@iredancetheatre.org | t: 0208 691 6099

Auditioning for September 2025

www.iredancetheatre.org

📍 IRIE! dance theatre | ✉ @IRIEdance | 📷 @iredancetheatre

Photography: Beth MacInnes.



Arts & Culture Finance
by **nesta**



Goldsmiths
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

TABLE OF ACTIVITIES

Day	Class Description	Time	Cost
Mondays	BOTH Dance: Monday Morning Ballet	10:00am – 11:30am	£13 drop-in or £10 with block bookings
Tuesdays	African Dance	7:30pm – 9:00pm	£5.00
	Pañuelos Libres	7:30pm – 8:30pm	£5.00
Wednesdays	Moonshot Lions Dominoes Club	6:00pm – 9:00pm	FREE
Thursdays	Hip-hop & Urban Dance	7:30pm – 8:15pm	£5.00
	Planet Hoop	7:00pm – 8:30pm	Class Pass (3 for £48.00)
Fridays	IRIE! Youth Dance Company	4:30pm – 6:00pm	
Saturdays	Drumology with Guru Ras Happa	11:00am – 1:00pm	£5.00

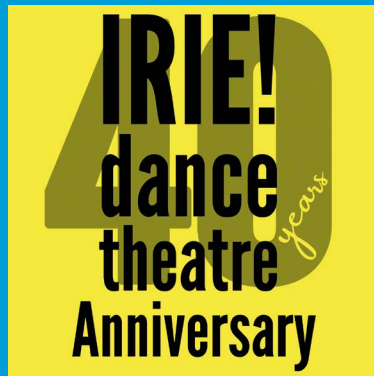
AVAILABLE NOW



Moonshot Centre Room Hires

Our dance studios and meeting rooms are available for hire on **Monday – Friday evenings and Saturday mornings.**

Call **020 8691 6099** for more information.

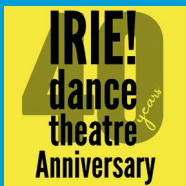


HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

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Scan me to book via our What's On page
Or use the link: www.iredancetheatre.org/what-s-on



IRIE! dance theatre
Moonshot Centre
Angus Street
New Cross SE14 6LU

Phone: 020 86916099
www.iredancetheatre.org

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