

Fevered Sleep celebrates 20 years of innovation with two major funding awards

Fevered Sleep, which celebrates its 20th Anniversary on June 17, is delighted to announce that it has received two significant funding awards in acknowledgement of its past and present work bridging the space between arts and science, and to carry on into the future.

The Awards, which total £732,000, have been given by the **Wellcome Trust** and the **Paul Hamlyn Foundation**. They will enable the company to continue to develop its artistic vision of producing work centred on enquiry and research, working in partnership with scientists and academics, and on its process of collaboration and participation.

Artistic Directors **David Harradine** and **Sam Butler** said:

"We are hugely grateful and incredibly excited that in our 20th birthday year the work we make, and the ways we make it, are being acknowledged and supported in this way. We've never felt loyalty to any particular form, but we care passionately about exploring big ideas in imaginative and accessible ways. As a result we've made many choices that have felt like risks. What matters to us is making work that invites people to think differently and to experience the world in fresh ways, and we've insisted that all sorts of people in all sorts of places have the right to experience this. Over the last 20 years we have developed a collaborative and participatory creative process in which our work as artists is enriched and enabled by partnership with all sorts of people: world class artists, academics and scientists, members of the public, children and our audiences. We look forward to continuing this journey."

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Fevered Sleep has an eclectic portfolio which includes theatre and dance for adults and children, films, books, a newspaper, digital art, an interactive app and research projects. This work explores a range of scientific themes from ageing, grief, climate science, touch and perception to crystallography. The work has been seen by 100,000 people over the last 8 years across the UK and beyond, in theatres, galleries and cinemas, parks, beaches and schools, and in the spaces of everyday life: in people's homes, on phones, and online.

Over the next four years, new Fevered Sleep projects will include a dance piece featuring men and girls, a clothing range for grieving in, and a participatory gallery experience for children. These combined programmes will involve over 100 partners/collaborators and reach 90,000 people across the four years. Details are below.

Fevered Sleep's funding partners said:

"Having been involved with Fevered Sleep for many years, we are very excited about their work and working practice, and so Wellcome Trust is pleased to support the next phase of the company's journey. Over the next four years Fevered Sleep's Sustaining Excellence Award will give this innovative organisation time and capacity to continue to evolve their collaborative processes across arts and science, and to produce work of outstanding quality and engage more deeply with their audiences."

Greer Roberts, Sustaining Excellence Manager, Wellcome Trust

"I am so thrilled that we are continuing our funding of Fevered Sleep. Our relationship with Fevered Sleep holds great value for us, in addition to the brilliant work that Fevered Sleep does, as a Foundation it has helped us to learn about how to be more flexible and responsive in our support."

Ushi Bagga, Senior Grants Manager, Paul Hamlyn Foundation

Full programme details below

CURRENT AND FUTURE PROJECTS

MEN & GIRLS DANCE is an innovative work of dance performed by a cast of five high profile professional male dancers and nine girls – cast from the local community in each tour town - aged between 8 and 11. While the production is at once delightful and fun, it's also politically charged and thought provoking, challenging societal preconceptions. The company works closely with families and groups in each town in which the show is produced. menandgirlsdance.com

Already performed in Folkestone, the tour for the coming year is:

2016

June 3 – 4 7.30pm	Huddersfield, Lawrence Batley Theatre	theibt.org
August 11 – 12	Salford Quays, The Lowry	thelowry.com
August 25 – 27	Nottingham Dance4	dance4.co.uk
October 27 – 29	Brighton South East Dance	southeastdance.org.uk

2017

April 14 – 29 (tbc)	The Place, London WC1	theplace.org.uk
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CLOTHES FOR GRIEVING IN looks at our capacity as humans to talk about death, investigating the psychology and cultural expression of grief. Fevered Sleep will create a clothing range to encourage people of all ages to talk about grieving more openly, working with researchers at the Centre on Death and Society at the University of Bath and at the London College of Fashion.

TOUCH/DO NOT TOUCH is a playful and participatory experience for children in a gallery setting focusing on the theme of touch. Created in collaboration with child development experts and children themselves (under 7s), the project will explore the development of touch in children, and how the mechanisms of touch – and in particular the sense of touch in the mouth – are essential to a child's physical and intellectual development and learning. Creating this piece for gallery spaces where there is usually a prohibition on touch – especially for children – opens up a rich theme for creative exploration and opportunities for the audience to participate in the making and experience of work.

A PERFORMANCE FOR ANIMALS a new piece which will be developed through research on animal perception of humans, and which seeks to explore human/animal relationships by exploring the possibility of a human performer engaging an audience of animals.

AN OPEN FIELD is a participatory walking project and online text-based artwork exploring links between wellbeing, landscape and our connectedness to nature, curated by associate artist Luke Pell. Created over the past year with people across the UK, the project explores how deeply we know ourselves in relation to the places where we live and where we walk.

feveredsleep.co.uk/current/an-open-field/

STILLED is a durational improvised dance (performed for up to 12 hours) and an exhibition of pinhole photographs inspired by the scientific process of X-ray crystallography. Pinhole cameras take long-exposure photographs of the movements, which are then developed and displayed. The audience witnesses both the performance taking place, and the images that bear witness to earlier improvisations.

feveredsleep.co.uk/current/stilled/

Artists Residencies in School Fevered Sleep is conscious that the best way to engage a diverse audience is to work directly in schools. The Company is currently developing a programme of artist residencies in schools alongside major artistic projects. These would involve scientists, and feed the research programme, as well as engaging children, through art, with biomedical research.

ALSO IN THE FEVERED SLEEP REPERTOIRE OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS

ON AGEING is a theatre piece for adults performed by children which explores, through image, sound, light, text and the choreography of hundreds of objects, what it is to change, to grow, and to age.

feveredsleep.co.uk/archive/onageing/

AN INFINITE LINE is an ongoing series of projects created in response to the quality of natural light in different places. The first *An Infinite Line* was about Brighton. The next will be in Merseyside.

feveredsleep.co.uk/in-development/aninfineteline/

BRILLIANT FILM is a short film based on Fevered Sleep's acclaimed eponymous theatre piece, set in the magical space between wakefulness and sleep following the journey of a girl who overcomes her fear of the dark. Created especially for 3-5 year olds and their families.

feveredsleep.co.uk/current/brilliant-film/

FUTURE PLAY a ground-breaking research project which ran from 2011-2015 investigating the creation, presentation and touring performance for children in the UK

feveredsleep.co.uk/current/future-play/

IT'S THE SKIN YOU'RE LIVING IN is a film, installation and smartphone app that explores and challenges images of climate change. Shot in a series of locations from the islands of Svalbard in the High Arctic to a kitchen in a house in London, the project suggests that climate change isn't a matter just concerning distant landscapes and threatened animals, but is an ever present part of everyone's daily lives.

feveredsleep.co.uk/current/its-the-skin/

feveredsleep.co.uk/itstheskin-app

INVISIBLE THINGS is a book about devising made as part of Fevered Sleep's project *An Infinite Line: Brighton*.

feveredsleep.co.uk/archive/invisible-things/

STILL LIFE WITH DOG is a short film made as part of the *On Ageing* project. Performed by seven female performers, from a 7 year old girl to a woman over 80, it takes the idea of the 'seven ages of man' as the basis for a reflection on time, ageing and change.

feveredsleep.co.uk/films/still-life-with-dog/

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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Pictures are available at keanlanyon.smugmug.com

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