



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jerwood Charitable Foundation backs another two years of South East Dance's Dramaturg in Residence programme following successful pilot year

South East Dance has secured investment from Jerwood Charitable Foundation for years two and three of its *Dramaturg in Residence* programme. The investment follows a successful pilot year in 2015/16, which was also funded by Jerwood Charitable Foundation.

The programme aims to introduce more UK artists to the potential of dramaturgy within the creative process, providing them with the resources to collaborate with a dramaturg and develop their own learning in this area of practice. The activity for years two and three will take place between November 2016 and October 2018 and is set to include a variety of opportunities, from weekend intensives to a range of collaborative models that support artists to work with dramaturgs.

During the pilot year, dramaturg Lou Cope was South East Dance's first *Dramaturg in Residence*. She will continue in her role as primary dramaturg for the duration of the programme, alongside Guest Dramaturg for year two, Martin Hargreaves.

In the first year of *Dramaturg in Residence*, South East Dance worked with 76 people, 100% of them reporting that the activity had challenged them in a positive way and that it should continue in the future. The programme has helped artists to focus on their creative development and how they make work through one-to-one sessions, workshops, an open investment pot to support working with a dramaturg, and the website www.theredline.org.uk. In addition, the *Dramaturg in Residence* worked with the South East Dance staff team to help the organisation apply the principles of dramaturgy within its own work.

Dramaturg in Residence continues to be timely for South East Dance as it plans for *The Dance Space*, an ambitious new build in Brighton central to its vision to develop a home for choreographic research and development.

Jamie Watton, CEO/Artistic Director, South East Dance, said: "*Dramaturgy is an often unrecognised ingredient in the creation of distinct and powerful performance. We are excited to be building on the success of our pilot year and look forward to offering artists this vital support, whilst growing the profile of dramaturgy within the UK dance sector.*"

Lou Cope, Dramaturg in Residence, said:

"It's so exciting that Jerwood have once again supported this project. I'm thrilled to be able to continue working with South East Dance and look forward to collaborating with even more dance makers, dramaturgs and Martin to go deeper and further in this fascinating exploration of what performance dramaturgy can be and can do."

Jon Opie, General Manager, Jerwood Charitable Foundation, said:

"The outcomes of the first year exceeded our expectations and showed how influential conversations around dramaturgy, its practice and its practical application to projects – and as it turns out organisational development – can be. We look forward to seeing these continue and grow over the next two years."

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

- **SOUTH EAST DANCE** is a leading arts organisation focused on developing dance locally, within the region and as part of a national network. We want to ensure the best dance by the most talented artists gets made and that people from all walks of life have greater opportunities to enjoy the health and wellbeing benefits of dance. We want to give artists the opportunity to truly discover new and unexpected ways of pushing their creativity and evolving their choreographic practice. Over the last two years 185,000 people have benefited from our work. Most recently we supported 250 artists, co-commissioned 43 new dance works and presented 158 performances. www.southeastdance.org.uk



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- **JERWOOD CHARITABLE FOUNDATION** is dedicated to imaginative and responsible revenue funding of the arts, supporting artists to develop and grow at important stages in their careers. It works with artists across art forms, from dance and theatre to literature, music and the visual arts. For more information on Jerwood Charitable Foundation visit www.jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org

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- **LOU COPE** is a performance dramaturg based in Brighton. She works with choreographers and companies in Sweden, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and throughout the UK. Current projects include working with Scottish Dance Theatre, Phoenix Dance Theatre, Gary Clarke, Brighton Festival and many others. She was dramaturg on the double Olivier Award winning 'Babel (words)' by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui and Damien Jalet. She also teaches, and has written a number of articles and chapters on contemporary processes. www.loucope.com
- **MARTIN HARGREAVES** is a dramaturg, writer, and performer and his research practices range between boredom and hysteria. His primary interests are in the recent history of contemporary dance, queer performance arts, and camp misunderstandings. In 2003 he was awarded a PhD for his thesis entitled Performativity, Spectrality, Hysteria and from 2003 to 2013 he was the Editor of Dance Theatre Journal. He has worked recently with Yvonne Rainer, Boris Charmatz, Rahel Vonmoos, Pablo Bronstein and Nicola Conibere. Martin is also a Lecturer in Fine Art at Goldsmiths, University of London and a Visiting Lecturer in Performative Practices at DOCH, Stockholm.