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16 May 2016

South East Dance launches pioneering new website for artists and performance makers

South East Dance has launched a new website called **The Red Line**, a site which enables users to interactively explore the process of making performance. It aims to encourage and support dramaturgical thinking within the personal experience of the preparation, making and presentation of performance work.

The Red Line is the brainchild of South East Dance's Dramaturg in Residence Lou Cope and is inspired by the French phrase 'le fil rouge' (referring to the 'common thread' that runs through the heart of a show, or in this case - a making process). It is part of **South East Dance's Dramaturg in Residence programme**, supported by **Jerwood Charitable Foundation**.

The site is for artists, makers, choreographers, dramaturgs, producers and performers, at any stage in their careers. A host of artists including **Ben Duke**, **Charlotte Vincent** and **Dan Daw** have already shared content on the site to explore and demystify their own processes.

The Red Line lives as a site which consists primarily of user generated content. Users can explore how work is made by asking questions, getting advice, share thoughts and getting a glimpse into the secret worlds of other artists, dramaturgs and makers via blogs, videos and audio shared by other users. The site has three focus areas: Prepare, Make and Present; and content can be shared via a blog or forum within these categories.

South East Dance is asking anyone involved in performance-making to take a look, explore the site and get involved by submitting content as well as exploring content submitted by others.

Lou Cope, Dramaturg in Residence, South East Dance said:

"At last! A chance to share ideas for and experiences of process. This is a great resource for all those wonderful artists beaver away behind closed studio doors. I hope it can offer support, inspiration and validation to them all."

Elizabeth Mischler, Producer – Artist Development, South East Dance said:

"We are thrilled to be launching The Red Line. Through this online hub for artists, ingenuity and process, South East Dance can offer a rare glimpse into the intricate world of creation and the many different ways that artists craft their work. We are excited to share this new resource with artists, enabling them to connect, inspire and develop the broad range of knowledge and experience they hold within their practice."

Jon Opie, General Manager, Jerwood Charitable Foundation said:

"Our approach is to support the processes of learning and making, and here we are delighted to help share more widely the enormous value of dramaturgy in creating excellent new work. South East Dance and Lou Cope have really taken the lead with this new website, it is a fantastic hub of information and conversation for artists."

Visit www.theredline.org.uk



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FOR MORE INFORMATION / FEATURE ENQUIRIES:

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

- **SOUTH EAST DANCE** is a leading arts organisation focused on developing dance. We want to ensure the best dance by the most talented artists gets made and that people from all walks of life can access greater opportunities to enjoy the exhilaration and health benefits of dance. We give artists the opportunity to discover new and surprising ways of exploring their creativity and developing their choreographic practice. Our work happens locally in Brighton and Kent, in the South East region, and further afield across the UK, Europe and beyond. Over the past 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. We are a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. www.southeastdance.org.uk



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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 Stopgap Dance Company, 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
- **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. The aim of its funding is to allow artists and arts organisations to thrive; to continue to develop their skills, imagination and creativity with integrity. It works with artists across art forms, from dance and theatre to literature, music and the visual arts. For more information visit www.jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org

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