



# Meet the Mentor



Dance Ambassador Information Pack 2026-27

# ABOUT THE SHOW

A magical, cinematic dance and multimedia spectacle.

Joss Arnott Dance return with their production – ***Meet the Hatter***. Prepare to be amazed by this fantastical and extraordinary family show!

Combining powerful dance with new storytelling and mesmerising visuals, complemented by an emotionally charged original score, this dance and multimedia show is an epic retelling of the iconic Hatter from Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* – but with a twist.

Brought to life through projections and immersive animations, you'll marvel at his breathtaking make-believe world and the amazing characters he meets along the way.

For audiences aged 5 – 105, ***Meet the Hatter*** takes you on a journey through a new world that celebrates the importance of play, whilst highlighting how self-belief can create opportunities you've only ever dreamed of.

*Supported using public funding by the National Lottery through  
Arts Council England.*

*Commissioned by Lincoln Arts Centre. Supported by Abderrahim Crickmay Charitable Settlement, Z-arts, Northern Ballet, University of Salford, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, Children's Capital of Culture, The Golsoncott Foundation, Bradford Arts Centre, Barnsley Civic and Unity Theatre Trust.*



**PROMO TRAILER**

★★★★★

*Visually breathtaking, emotionally engaging and bursting with imagination, this ambitious dance and multimedia production from Joss Arnott Dance is pure theatrical magic.*

**All About Theatre**

★★★★★

*Triumphant – this production is gold dust in today's world, an hour-long memory to cherish forever.*

**Jack Stage**



★★★★★

*Clever, funny and engaging, this is a stunning performance using today's technology with amazing results.*

**Reviewer Number 9**

# ABOUT JOSS ARNOTT DANCE

Joss Arnott Dance (JAD) are a professional, contemporary dance company based in the North West of England, founded in 2010 by Artistic Director, Joss Arnott. The company produces and tours high quality and relevant dance productions, and participatory dance programmes, that are grown from classical techniques, inspired by music and shaped by a modern aesthetic.

We hold our communities and audiences at our core and our people-powered touring productions are created for a variety of settings and audiences, including indoor, outdoor, children and family dance productions. Our Human Centred Design process and approach to producing work allows us to create relevance for our intended audiences and empower those who we engage with.

The company prides itself on bringing new audiences to contemporary dance through Arnott's bold choreographic language that has been described as "exquisite to watch" The Stage, and "the perfect tonic for British contemporary dance" londondance.





## DANCE AMBASSADORS PROGRAMME

As part of our 2026-27 touring activity, JAD has launched our Dance Ambassadors programme, a new artist development network. We will recruit and train local dance artists in regions we tour to, equipping them with the skills, knowledge and tools to deliver JAD's work in their own communities, and to keep doing so long after our visit.

Artists selected will undergo a training programme with the JAD team, immersing them in our style, methods and philosophy. They will be delivering participatory workshops inspired by themes of ***Meet the Hatter***, exploring self-expression and celebrating individuality through dance.

The training for artists ensures they can be adaptable in their delivery, accommodating a range of settings and participants, including:

- Primary school children
- Secondary school students
- Dance school settings
- Chair-based approaches

# WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

JAD believes in creating lasting change in the places we visit through nurturing talent, building audiences, and strengthening the infrastructure of dance at a local level.

The Dance Ambassadors programme is our most targeted ambition to make the change we want to see. By training and employing artists who are already rooted in their communities, we can:

- Support meaningful relationships between tour venues and local dance artists
- Provide genuine employment opportunities in the local dance sector
- Inspire more community members to take part in and champion dance
- Build a network of skilled professionals embedded in their regions
- Create a sustainable legacy and ongoing presence beyond our touring visits, connecting theatres with local professionals
- Develop long-term audiences for dance performance and participation
- Establish JAD as a sector leader in community dance engagement





## AN EXAMPLE OF OUR APPROACH:



*Go behind-the-scenes as we visit schools in Bradford and Rochdale to work with children to develop ideas for a production of **Tin Man and the Scarecrow**.*

The artist we train in your region will be a genuine local resource, someone already embedded in your community who can keep delivering high-quality dance activity long after our visit. We'll stay connected with them through the JAD network, and we hope that connection extends to you too, opening doors to future collaborations, audience development and continued participation in dance.



# FOR MORE INFORMATION

[www.jossarnottdance.com](http://www.jossarnottdance.com)

[info@jossarnottdance.com](mailto:info@jossarnottdance.com)

