

Arts in Leicester

On-line magazine for arts, entertainment, culture and heritage

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Dance in Leicester 2010

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Dance News 2010

13th November

Spirit of the Dance

Read our review of the night with the [LSO and dancers from Leicester College of Performing Arts](#).

The Journey to Ten - Workshop

Join Hetain Patel in this practical workshop on a journey into movement, spoken language and vocal percussion. A unique opportunity to discover Indian rhythms to bring out your own musicality and explore a different kind of performance through movement, music and dance. Open to advanced dance and non-dance practitioners.

With support from Dance Development for Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland.

Emrace Arts, Richard Attenborough Centre, Lancaster Road, Leicester, LE1 7HA.

Express Yourself and Do the Locomotion!

Can't get Kylie out of your head? Or maybe you love Madonna's Music? Leicester based dance school, Desi Masti, are putting on a show that'll have you Spinning Around in the aisles!

Kylie vs. Madonna, taking place at the **Peepul Centre** at the end of September, promises to be a spectacular dance show, showcasing songs of the iconic singers. Hits will include Can't Get You Out of My Head, Holiday, I Should Be So Lucky, Revolver, Frozen, Locomotion and Spinning Around, amongst others.

Working with dance groups like Addict and nationally renowned choreographers such as Aakash Odedra, the show is sure to bring back memories of the 80s as well as some of their more recent numbers. The

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students in the show range from as young as three years of age to adults in their 40s.

Producer Aarti Lodhia, 25, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for a Bollywood dance school to produce something different to what it normally does. We have already put on Michael Jackson 50 and Michael Jackson 51 at the Peepul Centre and Curve respectively, both of which were sold out. This is our third non-Bollywood show and we're sure it's going to be just as impressive."

Co-Producer Bhavin Bhatt, 21, said: "Kylie and Madonna are both pop Goddesses in their own right and so this show was a perfect way to pay tribute as well as get the fans in to party the night away! It's going to be a great evening out for families and individuals alike."

Principal of the school, Anand Bhatt, 30 said: "Like every year, we are aiming to do something different with this show. Working with the wealth of talent here in Leicester means we get to showcase this and add an 'X factor' to our show. I'm sure all the performers will put on a show worth remembering!"

The show takes place Friday, 24, Saturday, 25 and Sunday, 26 September. Matinee shows are also available. For more information or to book tickets, please call the Peepul Centre on 0116 2616000 or visit the [Peepul Centre web site](#).

Desi Masti is a Bollywood dance academy that has been in practice for seven years. It specialises mainly in Bollywood style dancing, but also offers classes in Kathak, Bharatnatyam (both classical forms of dance), yoga, drama Hip Hop and Contemporary dance, as well as various fitness classes. More information about these classes can be obtained by calling Anand Bhatt on 07957 148150.

Spirit of the Dance - Saturday 13th November 2010

The LSO and dancers from the Ann Oliver Stage School and Leicester College of Performing Arts perform excerpts from Swan Lake, Prelude & Mazurka from Coppelia, Adagio from Spartacus, Polovtsian Dances and Berstien's Overture Candide.

The Concert will be at the De Montfort Hall, at 7.30 p.m.

Tickets £16/£13/£10, children age 16 and under £3.

available from the De Montfort Hall Box Office.

Friday 20th August

Phizzical and their performance of Anjali in Wonderland

by Adam Taylor

Phizzical is an up and coming dance and theatre production company and is the brainchild of **Samir Bhamra** and **Leylah Rumi**, two emerging directors based in Leicester.

Over the last six weeks they have held a dance workshop for young people aged between sixteen and twenty-five incorporating established international choreographers from Argentina, New Zealand, India and South Africa.

The aim was to help develop and eventually produce a taster of their own ongoing production, '*Anjali in Wonderland*', which was previewed in front of a selected crowd at De Montfort University's PACE building this last week.

The story of the production was loosely based around 'Alice in Wonderland', as well as many of the main characters being tied to those seen in other childrens fairytales. It began with a first glimpse of Anjali and her grandmother dancing a traditional Indian dance, when we are also introduced to the red and gold anklets that both women hold so dear.

It seems from the outset that these anklets are a prized asset to Anjali and she is overjoyed when her grandmother gives them to her. What happens next is an amazing journey through Wonderland where Anjali meets some strange characters, some loving ones and faces adversity in trying to hold onto her beloved anklets.

Her journey ends with an almighty clash against the evil queen Mabuse and her army of Bakwari. Along the way the many forms of dance are represented with clever choreography and a smart but clear storyline. Each dance is shown in it's truest form as we carry on from the traditional Indian dance at the start, we explore the brash New Zealand 'Haka' with Mabuse's army of creatures, are enticed by the sensual but fiery Argentine tango when Anjali meets the prince, made to laugh at the comical elements of the hip hop street dance on show and then spoilt with a wonderful rendition of authentic South African dance towards the end.

Though the piece was only roughly fifty minutes long and was presented on a somewhat limited floor space, it cannot be said just how well Phizzical and it's cast of performers have done to create a quite magical theatrical experience. The story

was easy to keep with but not so simplistic that you knew where you were going with it.

The costumes were a very good use of story telling also as we immediately knew who was good and who was bad in relation to the characters. The choreography itself was very pleasant on the eye and the fact that you could tell the performers were loving every minute of each dance really did make me smile.

It's so good to see a performance full of verb, brightness and edge and it reflects the fact that it was obviously a well run six weeks of work. Amongst the crowd watching the performance were the Creative Programmer of the Cultural Olympiad, the Igniting Ambition team and the Regional Coordinator for the Children and Young People's Legacy from the 2012 Games Leicester/Shire and Rutland Sport.

Phizzical hope to attract some form of investment from these companies in order to further their own productive forces for future productions. I for one hope that they do achieve the funding necessary to develop this piece further as in the short time I was able to see them perform I have to say it has great scope for growing into a brilliant piece of big stage work.

I can see them turning it into an amazing visual spectacular on a grander stage and do not think that it is a piece you will watch just the once. It really was great to see a fresh new production that incorporated so many different styles and techniques and I wish Phizzical and it's band of merry dancers and choreographers the best of luck for the future.

[See Phizzical Productions on Myspace](#)

Oxfam dance event

Oxfam in the Midlands are holding a dance and movement event in Leicester on Monday 20 September

This is to raise awareness of improving the health of expectant mothers around the world. We would love to get an African dance or music group to be involved. All activities would be in a public space to interact with the public.

The event in Leicester is one of several taking place in the country on the same day. These events organised by Oxfam is for our campaign called 'Mums Matter'.

We are doing this to highlight how many women are dying, around the world in childbirth because of poor healthcare, poverty and lack of facilities. Around the world every day, at least 1,000 women die due to pregnancy or giving birth. It is especially risky in areas such as India and

Sub-saharan Africa. If you would like further information you can contact me by email (gsidhu@oxfam.org.uk) or by phone. My mobile number is 07786 660 378. Gurvinder Sidu.

Indian Classical Dance

Find out about classical dancing from India through the [Centre for Indian Classical Dance](#).

Leicester's Best Dance Crew!

by Sarah Jane Healey

Twelve of Leicester's finest dance crews will battle it out to win the 2010 trophy and £500 cash prize. With a record number of registrations, this promises to be an unmissable event! There will also be a surprise guest artist performing on the night and a £50 prize for the best dancer from the audience. The event kicks off at 8pm, Saturday 20th February 2010 (Doors open 7.30pm), The Peepul Centre, Orchardson Ave, Leicester. Advance tickets £8/ £5 (under 14's) available from: 2Funky: 0116 299 0700/ www.2funktickets.co.uk or The Peepul Centre: 0116 261 6000. More tickets may be available on the door, but they're going fast, so booking in advance is advisable.

Dance to Do in Leicester

Information about American Square dancing in Leicester can be found on the website of the [Association of American Square Dance Clubs](#).

Belly Dance in Leicester

[Andrea's Oriental Dance](#)

46 - 48 Church Gate
Leicester,
LE1 3AN

Tel: 07704 334 121

A B C Ballroom

75 Humberstone Gate
Leicester,
LE1 1WB

Tel: 0116 253 0463

African dance and drumming workshops

African Caribbean Centre
Maidstone Road
Leicester
LE2 0UA

Lindy Hop in Leicester

Monday nights, 8-9pm for beginners, 9-10pm intermediate

Firebug,
Millstone Lane,
Leicester
Bharat Natyam/ Salsa/ Hip-Hop dance,
Tap and Modern and Bollywood dance
classes

All provided by [Nupur Arts UK](#) at
Peepul Centre
Orchadson Avenue
Leicester

Dance to See in Leicester

Matthew Bourne's Dorian Gray, Curve Sept 15th-19th 2010

Bourne's first new creation in three years is coming to Curve and a chance to see the choreography of arguably the most successful choreographer/director from the U.K. should not be missed.

When Bourne and his company took 'Dorian Gray' to the Edinburgh festival, it was the highest attended dance event in the history of the festival and the premiere season was a sell-out success.

Oscar Wilde's dark fable about an alluring young man who makes a pact with the devil has been re-told by Bourne and set in an image obsessed world of contemporary arts in modern day London.

Like most of Bourne's work, the sexuality of the piece is overt and perhaps overdone, which is why it is only suitable for over 14's, but you can guarantee that it will be an entertaining show and Lez Brotherson's set design will be genius, as always.

[For more information about the piece](#)

Useful pages and links

[Dancers and troupes: contact us to be featured on artsIn](#)

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[Clubs and DJs](#)

[Addict Dance Studios on Facebook](#)

[Leicester College of Performing Arts on Facebook](#)

[The main web site for the Leicester College of Performing Arts](#)

[Diversity at the Peepul Centre](#)