



## Participant Information

# **PASSAGE FOR PAR** ROSEMARY LEE

### **OVERVIEW**

Rosemary Lee is looking for performers to get involved with her next project **Passage for Par**, a site-specific performance for a cast of thirty women.

Commissioned by Groundwork, working in partnership with Dance Republic 2, **Passage for Par** will be created for and presented on Par Beach, near St Austell, in June 2018. The performance will be part of Groundwork, a season of exceptional contemporary art in Cornwall, and as part of the SALT 2018 programme.

Rosemary Lee is a choreographer who frequently makes large-scale, site-specific performances involving large casts drawn together for each context. Her practice also includes solo performances, short films and video installations. Regardless of the scale, these projects have an intimate quality whilst exploring a relationship with a specific environment. In **Passage for Par** Rosemary will be creating an hour-long performance for this unusual site.

## **ROSEMARY WRITES:**

**“Par is a strangely magical beach with its china clay refinery and drying plant churning out white steam on one side and a typical Cornish headland on the other. I hope to create a work that slowly and steadily progresses across the wet sands of Par with the figures augmenting the vista for an hour or so. As well as following the unfolding snaking patterns of Passage for Par I imagine the viewer might equally begin to perceive the wider landscape in more detail. Perhaps they might also take a walk along the beach or coast path or alternatively enjoy being still in a landscape they usually walk in. The image of women purposefully, rhythmically and repetitively carving their meandering pathway became etched into my imagination during my first visit there. I look forward to trying to make this manifest together with a group of women.”**

Following a recruitment/selection process over the next few months, **Passage for Par** will be created over a starter weekend in May, followed by an intensive ten-day period from 11 June leading up to three performances on 22-24 June 2018.

## **THE CAST**

We anticipate that the cast will include approximately 20 women (aged over 21yrs) who come from Cornwall, the South West or even further afield, combined with 8 female students from Falmouth University.

Applicants should have some movement or dance experience. Previous experience of performing in public might also be useful although not essential.

We welcome applications from disabled performers but please bear in mind the following site conditions and specifications. Contact us to discuss further if you have any queries (see what you should do next section).

The performance will involve a combination of simple, travelling, tiny-step patterns carried out in unison for an hour or more. The movement will be very contained and controlled and will require the performers to work closely together, often connected through holding hands. The cast should be prepared for the challenges of working outside, on very wet surfaces and potentially in all weathers.

## **ROSEMARY WRITES:**

**“I am looking for women who are interested in working and performing very closely with an ensemble of fellow women where all are equal, for a short intensive making and performing period.**

**Women who -**

- **would relish the chance to calmly perform simple, rhythmic and repetitive actions that require considerable physical control, concentration and stamina.**
- **are happy to work on very small but exacting movement for long periods of time.**
- **are comfortable with being on challenging surfaces of wet sand and seaweed, possibly in shallow water, in sun, rain or wind.**
- **might consider the above to be both meditative and thrilling!”**

Rehearsals will be relaxed yet focussed, led by Rosemary and supported by Ruth Pethybridge (assistant choreographer) and a team of two professional performers who will be part of the ensemble. The team will work with the cast on site as much as possible, with the back-up of a nearby hall in the village of Par.

## **GETTING INVOLVED**

To be considered for this project you should complete the enclosed application form. Participants will be invited to attend a cast selection workshop at the end of January 2018.

Should more applications be received than can be accommodated at the two workshops, participants will be selected based on information supplied in the initial form. The selection workshop will be a full movement session so that participants can get a real taste of the work.

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### **Application deadline:**

11 January 2018 (You will receive confirmation of invitation to workshop by 15 January)

### **Selection Workshop:**

Saturday 27 January 2018 2.30-5pm (Falmouth University)

or

or Sunday 28 January 2018 2.30-5pm (Rehearsal Space, Par)

**NB** an additional selection workshop in London may be arranged for applicants living out of Cornwall in first week of February.

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Confirmation of cast selection by 26 February 2018.

Rosemary will be basing her final choice of cast on the specified individual criteria and also on how performers work and move together as a group.

## THE CREATIVE PROCESS

You must be able to commit to **all** the following rehearsals in order to be considered for this project.

Initial starter weekend:

Saturday 19 May and Sunday 20 May

Intensive rehearsal period:

Monday 11 June - Thursday 21 June

Performances:

Friday 22 June (evening, time tbc)

Saturday 23 June (evening, time tbc)

Sunday 24 June (morning, time tbc)

We anticipate rehearsal days will be 6 to 8 hours long and will involve some travelling between the indoor and outdoor sites. Start times will be variable and rehearsals may extend into the evening, depending on the tides. At this stage we would ask you keep the whole period available. There will be one day off over the weekend of 16/17 June.

Costumes will be supplied but may include some items provided by the performers.

## FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

We can offer a fee of £750 for each performer.

The eight student placements will be receiving an honorarium.

There will also be a contribution towards travel.

This amount will be confirmed once we know who the final cast is and how far they have to travel.

## ACCOMMODATION

For those living further afield who may need somewhere to stay during rehearsal/performance period, we are currently researching options for camping or caravan accommodation near to Par Beach. We will let you know details at the selection day. If you prefer alternative accommodation (eg B&B/ holiday home /hotel) we can pass on suggestions, but you will be expected to make your own arrangements. A small contribution will be made towards all those having to pay for accommodation.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD DO NEXT

Please complete the attached form, sign and email to [christina@dancerepublic2.com](mailto:christina@dancerepublic2.com) by no later than 6pm on 11 January 2018. Please do not send any supporting material with your application

If you have any questions regarding your application contact Christina at the email above or telephone **07432 657933**.

We look forward to hearing from you.

## ABOUT ROSEMARY LEE

Rosemary is known for working in a variety of contexts and media, Rosemary has created large-scale site-specific works with cross-generational casts, solos for herself and other performers as well as video installations and short films. Her work is characterised by an interest in creating a moving portraiture of the close performing communities she brings together, whilst also exploring and highlighting our relationship with our environment, be it urban or rural.

Her work in the last five years includes **Without** commissioned by and created with Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company, a seven-screen video installation with sound score by Graeme Miller. It captures a panoramic view of the city of Derry/Londonderry as its inhabitants dance and move through the streets. **Under the Vaulted Sky** commissioned by Milton Keynes International Festival involved 100 local people dancing in the Cathedral of Trees where she also shot **Liquid Gold is the Air**, an award winning video triptych created with Roswitha Chesher, touring cathedrals and galleries. Most recently Rosemary has joined forces with artist Simon Whitehead to create **Calling Tree**, a durational performance cycle of songs, movement and messages, which takes place in and around a mature tree. First performed in North Wales with Migrations Festival in 2014, they have recreated it in trees in urban contexts in Tottenham as part of LIFT 2016 then in Bloomsbury presented by the Place and the Bloomsbury Festival October 2016. Rosemary also writes, guest teaches and lectures internationally.

Recipient of both a Bonnie Bird Award and a Jerwood Choreographic Research Project Award in 2013, she is an Artsadmin Artist, a Work Place artist, Senior Research Fellow at C-DaRE Coventry University, ResCen Research Associate Artist (Middlesex University) a DanceEast Artist Associate 2015, she holds an honorary doctorate from Roehampton University and is was recently made a Fellow of Trinity Laban and a life long member of People Dancing.

[artsadmin.co.uk/rosemarylee](http://artsadmin.co.uk/rosemarylee)

## PARTNERS

Organised by Helston-based arts organisation CAST (Cornubian Arts and Science Trust), **Groundwork** is a project bringing internationally celebrated art and artists to Cornwall. Rooted in contemporary art, Groundwork involves working with science, music, film and dance organisations locally and nationally. In partnership with Kestle Barton, Newlyn Art Gallery & The Exchange and Tate St Ives, CAST has developed Groundwork as a three-year programme that culminates in a season of exceptional contemporary art, opening in May 2018. The season of exhibitions and events has an emphasis on moving image, sound and action. New commissions and existing works will be sited in locations that have particular relevance in the context of Cornwall's social, industrial, scientific and cultural history.

[groundwork.art](http://groundwork.art)

**Dance Republic 2** is an organisation delivering a range of dance-based programmes across Cornwall including SALT Landscape/ Dance, a biennial festival of landscape and site-specific outdoor dance works. We work with dance artists and companies from across the UK to develop large and small-scale site-specific events. We also deliver a pan-Cornwall programme of dance training for young people called Propeller and PreFlight. We organise a year round programme of dance projects and activities in Cornwall's schools under the banner of Cornwall Dance Partnership.

[dancerepublic2.com](http://dancerepublic2.com)

**Artsadmin** has produced the work of Rosemary Lee over the past 20 years.

Based in London, the organisation enables artists to create without boundaries, connecting bold interdisciplinary work with local, national and international audiences. Projects range from city-wide outdoor events to long-term participatory projects, from gallery installations to performances, from small local venues to large international festivals. Artsadmin has also established a major resource at Toynbee Studios, nurturing and supporting artists at all stages of their development through advice, training and opportunities to experiment, create and present new work.

[artsadmin.co.uk](http://artsadmin.co.uk)

DR2 and SALT gratefully acknowledge the financial support of Arts Council England, Feast, Cornwall Council and Falmouth University.

Groundwork is funded by an award from Arts Council England's Ambition for Excellence scheme. This award is supplemented by generous support from the Freelands Foundation, Ampersand Foundation, Quercus Trust, Outset Contemporary Art Fund and Cornwall Council. Groundwork is also supported by significant help-in-kind from Kestle Barton Trust.

Dance Republic 2/Groundwork/Rosemary Lee reserves the right to change any information or conditions stated above.

COMMISSIONED AND PRESENTED BY:

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CAST

**CIR**  
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SALT

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:

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