

DM Dance Manchester

PRESS RELEASE – For immediate release

Dance Manchester is delighted to announce that it has appointed Grand Visionary Solutions to work on its Organisational Development Project. Grand Visionary Solutions won the contract following proposals from a strong and highly competitive field of established and experienced consultants.

Grand Visionary Solutions (GVS), marries the expertise of June Gamble and Gwen Van Spijk, who have over 55 years combined track record of visioning, creative thinking, strategic development and project delivery. Using a combination of practical processes, coaching and management tools, they deliver projects that are client-led and focused.

“June and Gwen feel privileged and excited to have the opportunity to work with Dance Manchester to establish its sector position, define its Unique Selling Point and build a model for future sustainability and a practical strategy to achieve this through the development of a clear business model and plan.”

The project will connect with stakeholders, funders, partners & artists to identify and evidence need and opportunity for dance in Greater Manchester to inform the basis of Dance Manchester’s future plans. It will explore future opportunities for Dance Manchester to exploit its specialism in Dance for Place-making building on the legacy of the Urban Moves International Dance Festival which presented dance outdoors and in unusual spaces.

Deb Ashby, Director at Dance Manchester said

We are excited to have this opportunity to be looking towards the future, to reimagine and redefine our role and impact on the dance landscape in Greater Manchester and beyond and to have the support of GVS throughout this time to help us navigate our route to achievable dreams.

This consultancy support has been made possible through National Lottery funding through Arts Council England Grants for the Arts scheme.

For more information visit www.dancemanchester.org.uk

Deb Ashby, Director, Dance Manchester

deb@dancemanchester.org.uk 0161 232 7179

GMCA



Supported using public funding by

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

NOTES to Editors

Dance Manchester is the dance development organisation for Greater Manchester (previously known as Dance Initiative Greater Manchester). It is one of four dance development organisations based in the North West of England and part of a national infrastructure supporting the dance sector.

It runs a range of community projects & activities to increase access to dance in the area and raise the profile of dance, taking high quality dance direct to the public. Key examples of previous programmes include STRIDE – Greater Manchester’s young men’s dance project in partnership with Company Chameleon which resulted in a sited or outdoor performance each year from 2009-2017 to Urban Moves International Dance Festival presenting professional dance performances outdoors and in unusual spaces from 2005-2014 and including performances by companies from Belgium, France, Greece, Italy, Spain, South Korea and the UK.

Most recently the organisation commissioned new dance works from Greater Manchester based professional dance artists for the outdoors and unusual spaces, these included *Getting from A to B* by Hawk Dance Theatre, commissioned specifically for libraries and *The Awakening* by Chad Taylor commissioned to be developed as an outdoor hip hop performance, exploring mental health themes. Dance Manchester now seeks to tour both works and if you are interested in finding out more please contact clare@dancemanchester.org.uk

Grand Visionary Solutions was established in September 2012 and have subsequently:

- Designed, developed, delivered and produced the *Rugby League World Cup 2013 Dance Programme*, which had an overall budget of £1 million (£600,000 cash) and involved 4,500 participants aged between 7 and 70 participated and an audience in excess of 450,000
- Fulfilled a commission to evaluate the Arts Council Grants for the Arts Project - *Emma Jane Benning - Dance Producer, hosted by Theatre Bristol 2012 – 2015*
- Fulfilled a commission from Marketing Gloucester to evaluate and produce an impact study of *Gloucester’s Rugby World Cup 2015 Cultural Programme*
- Fulfilled a commission from Marketing Gloucester to evaluate and produce an impact study of *SoMAC 2016 (Summer of Music Art and Culture)*

Alongside their work together, June and Gwen have individually undertaken organisational development work with companies and organisations including Plymouth Dance, City Ballet of London, Siobhan Davies Dance Company, The Mill Arts Centre – Banbury, Retina Dance Company and a range of independent dance artists including Hofesh Shechter, Humanhood, Wired Ariel Theatre, Yorke Dance Project.

If you are interested in finding out more please visit www.grandvisionarysolutions.co.uk and/or contact june@grandvisionarysolutions.co.uk