
Motionhouse

LOUISE RICHARDS MBE | CO-FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Louise co-founded Motionhouse with Kevin Finnan in 1988 and is the driving force behind Motionhouse's trailblazing journey and global success. Her vision shapes the company's activity and strategic direction.

Louise is instrumental in developing the many partnerships Motionhouse enjoys across the industry, skilled at spotting opportunities for the company and persuasive in her pitches for commissioning, project development and collaboration. She has built the company from its original two-hander to become a global force, delivering dance performance and participatory work throughout the UK and internationally and producing many of the acclaimed large-scale productions that have made us the go-to company for the creation and delivery of major international performance events.

She has developed a range of new markets for Motionhouse and brokered collaboration and partnerships with other sectors including local and international businesses, creative industries, educational institutions as well as arts venues and festivals.

Originally a dancer and choreographer, Louise has undertaken numerous commissions for other companies and maintains close links with the Motionhouse performing company and creative process, acting as a sounding board and an outside eye. Louise continues to offer inspirational training to dancers, students, teachers and practitioners both in the UK and throughout the world.

A recognised leader in the sector, Louise is regularly invited to present and speak at seminars and conferences. Committed to the development of the dance sector, she acts as a mentor for performers, arts leaders and organisations, as well as developing a range of apprenticeships and professional development strands for the Motionhouse programme. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. Louise was awarded an MBE for services to dance on the New Year Honours list 2026.

KEVIN FINNAN MBE | CO-FOUNDER AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Kevin is known for his dynamic, highly visual productions integrating dance, circus and digital technology. He is responsible for the distinctive style that Motionhouse is renowned for

Kevin is passionate about exploring and questioning the traditional use of space in performance, which has led to the creation of an extensive body of work developed over three decades. He is regularly commissioned to develop extraordinary dance spectacles, most notably as Choreographer and Movement Director of the Opening Ceremony of the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

Kevin has created major productions celebrated globally. These include more than 45 theatre and outdoor touring productions and a range of large-scale outdoor spectacles, including several bespoke performance events to mark Capital of Culture celebrations across Europe, as well as the launch of the London 2012 Festival with The Voyage in Birmingham city centre. In March 2022, Kevin was commissioned to create Wondrous Stories, the opening show of the Birmingham 2022 Festival, seen by more than 22,000 people over four days. The show launched the six-month cultural festival in the West Midlands running alongside the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. More recently, Kevin was the artistic director for The National Lottery's Big Eurovision Welcome event in Liverpool in May 2023, watched live by 25,000 people on the night.

He also created and directed Watermusic, a large-scale outdoor spectacle for the Aarhus 2017 European Capital of Culture celebrations in Randers Harbour, Denmark in September 2017 and Lumen, a large-scale outdoor spectacle in the lead up to the TM2021 European Capital of Culture celebrations in Timișoara, Romania in October 2018.

Committed to collaboration, he has worked with artists including writer A.L. Kennedy, installation artist Rosa Sanchez, film-makers Logela Multimedia, set visionary Simon Dormon and international companies such as Legs On The Wall and Vancouver's Headlines Theatre.

In 2017 Kevin became first Visiting Professor of Dance at Birmingham City University's Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. He has an MA in Contemporary Performing Arts from University College Bretton Hall and a PhD in Theatre from Warwick University. He is a Research Fellow at the University of Warwick and Associate Artist of Greenwich+Docklands International Festival. In 2013 he was made an honorary Doctor of Letters at the University of Warwick in recognition of the importance of his work and his service to the arts. He was awarded an MBE in 2013 for his services to dance.

DANIEL MASSARELLA | ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Daniel is from Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, in the UK. After 10 years as a Motionhouse performer, Daniel is now the company's Associate Director, supporting Artistic Director Kevin Finnan in the delivery of all aspects of our artistic programme. In this role, Daniel has been closely involved in the creation of Wondrous Stories, the opening show of the Birmingham 2022 Festival, the National Lottery's Big Eurovision Welcome event in Liverpool in 2023, our touring production for families, Starchitects, and our Christmas family production Starchitects Save Santa! After starting dancing aged 14 with Cheshire Youth Dance Company, Daniel graduated from Northern School of Contemporary Dance in 2011, having been a member of Verve11, the school's Post Graduate performance company. Before joining Motionhouse, Daniel worked with Earthfall, touring with the company's award-winning show At Swim Two Boys. Daniel joined Motionhouse in 2013 for the first American tour of Scattered. As a dancer with Motionhouse he performed in BLOCK, Broken, Captive, Cascade, Charge, Fragile, Knot, Lost, Lumen, Midwinter Magic, Nobody, Tigress, Traction, Underground, Watermusic, WILD, Wondrous Stories and Motionhouse's recent TV appearances.

DANCER BIOGRAPHIES

BETH PATTISON | SENIOR DANCER AND REHEARSAL LEAD

Born in Durham in the UK, Beth was introduced to contemporary dance at the CAT Programme at Dance City, Newcastle, before studying for a BA (Hons) in Contemporary Dance at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance. Beth performed alongside Punchdrunk as part of the everyBODY Project in Selfridges and was a part of the creative processes and performances of work by Stephanie Schober and Maciej Kuźmiński. Beth joined Motionhouse in 2017 as a Professional Placement Scheme Dancer through the postgraduate programme at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance. In 2018, she joined Motionhouse as a full-time company member and has performed in BLOCK, Captive, Charge, Happy Hour, Lost, Lumen, Midwinter Magic, Nobody, Starchitects, Starchitects Save Santa!, WILD, Wondrous Stories and Motionhouse's recent TV appearances.

OLLY BELL

Born in Leeds in the UK, Olly began his dance training at the Northern Ballet CAT scheme, later transferring to the CAT Scheme at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance. He completed his BA (Hons) in Contemporary Dance at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance and joined the EDGE Postgraduate Company in his final year. After graduating, he joined Rosie Kay Dance Company for the creation and UK Tour of 10 Soldiers and performed in a UK and USA Tour of 5 Soldiers. Olly has also performed the principal role of Jaschui in the Royal Opera House production of Death in Venice. Since joining Motionhouse in 2020, Olly has performed in Captive, Happy Hour, HENGE, Knot, Lumen, Nobody, Starchitects, Starchitects Save Santa!, WILD, Wondrous Stories and Motionhouse's recent TV appearances.

LLEWELYN BROWN

Llewelyn is from Wick, South Wales in the UK. He got into dancing through gymnastics and through a connection to a local theatre school, learning dance, singing and acting. He joined the National Dance Company of Wales Associates Programme at the age of 13, then moved on to Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance, graduating in June 2021. Llewelyn joined Motionhouse in June 2021 and has performed in Captive, Gravity, Knot, Nobody, Starchitects, Starchitects Save Santa!, WILD, Wondrous Stories and Motionhouse's recent TV appearances.

SIMEON CORDER

Originally from Hexham in the UK, Simeon's dance journey began with Breaking. He then went on to join the CAT scheme at Dance City, followed by National Youth Dance Company. Simeon trained at Northern School of Contemporary Dance and joined Motionhouse in September 2025 as a Professional Placement Scheme dancer through the post-graduate programme at Northern School of Contemporary Dance. In June 2026, Simeon became a full-time company member and has performed in BLOCK, Captive, Hidden and Knot.

DYLAN DAVIES

Raised in Shropshire in the UK, Dylan began his training with the DanceXchange CAT scheme and 2Faced Dance Youth. Dylan co-directed alongside Jules Young at NoSleep Dance Theatre, creating and performing works at Green Man Festival in 2019 and 2022. Dylan is interested in screendance and one of his works was played at the Smithfields Festival site during the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. Dylan graduated from the Northern School of Contemporary Dance with a first-class BA (Hons) in Contemporary Dance in 2022. He joined Motionhouse in 2022 as a Professional Placement Scheme Dancer through the postgraduate programme at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance. In June 2023, Dylan became a full-time company member and has performed in *Captive*, *HENGE*, *Knot*, *Nobody*, *Starchitects*, *Starchitects Save Santa!* and Motionhouse's recent TV appearances.

ALEX MACNAB

Originally from Melbourne, Australia, Alex trained in Australia and New Zealand at Transit Dance and the New Zealand School of Dance. She was the Senior Winner of the Brisbane International Contemporary Prix in 2022. Alex relocated to London in 2023 after being offered a place in the third year at Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance, graduating in 2024. Before joining Motionhouse, Alex performed in the Closing Ceremony of the Birmingham Commonwealth Games, at the Royal Opera House in works choreographed by Faye Tan and Adrian Look, in Italy and Switzerland in a work by Jason Mabana, and in a piece choreographed by Jayden Hicks with Transit Dance Company. Other placements and training include with Sydney Dance Company, Stephanie Lake Company, Dansk Danseteater and Australian Dance Theatre. Alex has performed in *BLOCK*, *Hidden* and *WILD*.

BLAIR MOORE

Originally from the Lake District in the UK, Blair began training in Breakin', starting his contemporary dance training with Cumbria Youth Dance Company and Eden Youth Dance Company. Aged 15, he joined the CAT Scheme at The Lowry in Manchester and in 2017 became part of The National Youth Dance Company. In 2018, he worked with Southpaw Dance Company as an apprentice. He completed the Foundation Course at Northern School of Contemporary Dance before training at Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance, graduating in 2022. Blair has previously worked with artists including Akeim Toussaint Buck and Akram Khan Company. Before joining Motionhouse as a full-time company member in January 2024, he worked with us on residencies of *HENGE* at Bluestone National Park Resort in Wales in summer 2022 and 2023 and joined the cast of *Starchitects Save Santa!* at Midlands Arts Centre in December 2023. He has also performed in *Lost*, *Nobody* and Motionhouse's recent TV appearances.

SOPHIE O'LEARY

Originally from Cork in Ireland, Sophie started dancing aged 5, training in ballet and contemporary dance at Cork School of Dance. She also competed in acrobatic gymnastics for Ireland. Sophie started her professional dance training with the Barcelona Dance Centre and Area Jeune Ballet in Geneva. She graduated from Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance in 2022, where she worked with choreographers such as Alleyne Dance, Darren Ellis, and Akram Khan. Sophie joined Motionhouse in 2022 as a Professional Placement Scheme Dancer through the postgraduate programme at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance. Before joining Motionhouse as a full-time company member in January 2024, she worked with us on a residency of *HENGE* at Bluestone National Park Resort in summer 2023 and joined the cast of *Starchitects Save Santa!* at Midlands Arts Centre in December 2023. She has also performed in *Captive*, *Lost*, *Nobody*, *Starchitects* and Motionhouse's recent TV appearances.

GEORGIA WALLACE

Growing up in Leicestershire in the UK, Georgia began dancing and gymnastics at a young age. Selected at age 7, Georgia trained as an elite artistic gymnast going on to compete nationally & internationally. At fifteen, she expanded her practice into dance, studying contemporary dance and ballet through the CAT Programme at FABRIC, Nottingham. She later went on to complete a BA (Hons) in Contemporary Dance at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, graduating in 2022. Georgia has worked with Corpo Máquina Society in the Netherlands, collaborating with choreographer Guilherme Miotto on the creation and performance of *Fábrica*. She has also collaborated with film director Imogen Harrison on the creation of music videos for artists including Mary Middlefield. Georgia has performed in *BLOCK* and *Knot*.