



Scottish Arts Council

**ARTISTIC EVALUATION – DANCE**

**Artist/Company:**

**Venue: Dance Base**

**Title of Event: Uncanny**

**Type of Event:** (e.g. performance, informal showing, work-in-progress, etc)

Performance

**Date of Visit: 19 August**

**Overall Rating** (Please rate the production overall, taking into account your ratings for each section. Please state the key reasons for your overall ratings – i.e. the particular strengths and weaknesses).

Fun, one forgives its faults and is even tempted to justify them as part of Allan Greig's intentions. I am sure pieces like this attract an audience to dance, one which can then go on to enjoy more demanding material.

Marks: 4

Name: Julian Forrester

Date: 24 / 8 / 05

Specialist Advisor

Scottish Arts Council Officer

*Please circle the relevant title*

This report has been commissioned by the Scottish Arts Council to evaluate the artistic quality of the production named below. It has been prepared by either a specialist Advisor, or an officer of the Scottish Arts Council, as indicated at the end of the form. The report will be circulated to the organisation which produced the work and to the management of the venue, if the venue is core funded by the Scottish Arts Council.

The report may be made available to Scottish Arts Council Officers, Council and Committee members, and specialist advisors as appropriate. It will be taken into account in assessing the work of the producing company in relation to applications for funding to the Scottish Arts Council. It may also be used by the Council to report on the overall performance of its Core Funded organisations.

Evaluators should enter their rating under each section, explaining briefly their reason for the rating with reference to their comments under each section. Ratings should be given in accordance with the following:

- 1-Very Poor – standard falls well below what is acceptable.
- 2-Poor – not attaining acceptable standards of conception or presentation.
- 3-Competent – routine rather than especially interesting.
- 4-Good – well conceived and executed
- 5-Excellent – conceived and executed to a high standard.

## 1. Artistic Assessment

*Please evaluate the artistic quality of the event, taking account of the following*

Criteria	Rating	Comments and key reasons for rating
Vision and imagination	4	Lively fun and so more imagination than vision
Clarity of communication	4	Bit chaotic. Structure gave way to anarchic style. This was probably intended, so no quibble
Quality of production – production's success in relation to stated aims i.e., in the programme or other printed material)	3+	It attempted quite a lot. But the piece relished doing so and partially got us to appreciate the weird and wonderful – occasionally it just seemed silly.

## 2. Strengths and Weakness

*Assess the strengths and weakness of the event with reference to the following:*

Criteria	Rating	Comments and key reasons for rating
Choreography - originality, use of space, number and use of dancers, length of piece, etc	3	Choreography was original at times, at others derivative/empty just for the sake of an effect. In respect of the latter, the piece felt too long.
Performers - technical standard, performance skills, and ability to communicate	4	A lively lot who really put the piece across.
Sound – appropriateness and effect of sound or music (whole/part, live/recorded) to the production.	4	Good choice of music and use of Glaswegian.
Design – costume, set, lighting	3	Piece depended on effects, wigs, etc. This is where piece was derivative. Costumes worked very well however.
Technical standards – technical presentation of the production (e.g. lighting and sound cues, etc)	4	Well presented. No problems

Criteria	Rating	Comments and key reasons for rating
Audience – appropriateness of the production for the audience, estimate the size and reaction	4	A good mix of ages. Good reaction. Audience fuller than at 11.30. Greig's work a good intro to dance....

### 3. Management of Event

*Please evaluate the way the event was presented organised by the organisation and the venue, with reference to the checklist below, including additional comments observations.*

Criteria	Rating	Comment and key reasons for rating
Suitability of the venue for the event	5	Dance Base is a brilliant building, creating an ambience for dance audiences so many venues do not have
Information/ interpretive material at venue <sup>1</sup>	4	Fine, given sheer number of events it will have been hard for any one of them to be noticed above another – or to be given more editorial than another. Could have done with more info in the programme
Publicity/ pre-publicity <sup>2</sup>	4	OK
Ease of booking and payment	4	Friendly staff
Location of venue	5	Ideal
External signage and signposting	4	OK
Internal directional signage	4	OK. Although I could not hear the fire announcement to start with.
Access and provision for disabled people	5	Clearly the building has been very carefully thought about in this regard
Timing of the event	4	
Customer service - quality and efficiency of staff (e.g. box office, front of house, bar and/or catering)	4	OK
Acknowledgement of Scottish Arts Council Funding <sup>3</sup>	3	OK

<sup>1</sup> These include programmes, displays etc., assessing the range, quality and clarity

<sup>2</sup> Publicity/pre-publicity (leaflets, posters, etc), including the range, content, and when and where available. Please be alert to the publicity available prior to your visit to the event. Please also view and comment on the company's website where one is advertised. Comment on the ease of use, and quality of content and presentation, and currency of information

<sup>3</sup> The following is an extract from the Scottish Arts Council's conditions of grant for funded organisations: