

# International Dance Festival Birmingham 2012

## Costume Designer Brief

investing  
in **your** future  
European Regional Development Fund  
European Union



This opportunity is funded by the European Union

- Project title:** Wings of Desire  
Part of International Dance Festival Birmingham 2012 (IDFB 2012)  
Performances, Wednesday 16 May – Saturday 19 May 2012
- Project type:** Dance // Festival // Arts // International
- Clients:** DanceXchange and Birmingham Hippodrome
- Primary contact:** Hannah Sharpe, IDFB 2012 Producer  
+44 (0)121 689 1093  
[hannah.sharpe@danceexchange.org.uk](mailto:hannah.sharpe@danceexchange.org.uk)
- Planning / creation period:** April and May 2012
- Delivery period:** 13-19 May 2012. Must be based in Birmingham Accommodation provided
- Fee:** Maximum budget to the value of £6500 to include fees and materials  
All figures exclude VAT

**International Dance Festival Birmingham (IDFB)** is a major biennial festival produced by DanceXchange (dx) in partnership with Birmingham Hippodrome. One of the largest dance festivals in the world, IDFB is unique in its diversity and internationalism, programming exceptional dance from across the globe and fostering new collaborations with international choreographers and artists.

IDFB is a key showcase for the region's impressive arts infrastructure. It strives to highlight Birmingham as a world centre of dance and plays a powerful role in positioning Birmingham as an internationally significant cultural city, at the heart of a thriving, active, region.

Additional background information relating to IDFB 2012 and previous Festivals is available on request.

Building on the popular acclaim of Watch This Space (IDFB 2008) and Utopia (IDFB 2010), **Wings of Desire** is a major new outdoor dance theatre spectacular created by IDFB. Made in Birmingham for Birmingham, this internationally ambitious production will transform Victoria Square from the ordinary to the extraordinary!

The production is a celebration about the city of Birmingham – its voice, its heart, its past and its aspirations. Incorporating dancers, rock climbers, circus, soundscape and architectural projection, the audience will watch the production from the centre, with the action taking place on all sides as well as on/in the buildings around the square.

Jaw-dropping circus acrobatics will be performed by world famous Australian company Circa, and exhilarating dance will come from Hereford's 2Faced Dance Company. The soundtrack to this visual spectacle, created by a DJ and incorporating stories from Birmingham people, will surround audience members throughout the event. Architectural projection experts, seeper, will create stunning visuals for the facade of Town Hall (see the video opposite for a sneak preview of what to expect from seeper!).

## WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

### Essential

A self-motivated costume designer with:

- creativity, imagination and flair
- proven experience in costume design and making specifically for theatre productions
- proven experience of developing costumes for outdoor performances in non-traditional settings – i.e. not a performance on a stage indoors with lighting and heating. They will be performing outside in the evening on a built stage as well as scaling buildings.
- the skills and ability to:

# International Dance Festival Birmingham 2012

## Costume Designer Brief



This opportunity is funded by the European Union

- design and produce innovative, professional standard costumes for this outdoor event that are suitable for the purpose, duration and conditions for which they are intended. There will be no less than 18 professionals to be costumed in this event and a generic design for community participants.
- work collaboratively and be able to communicate internationally (using means such as Skype)
- work within the budget provided for the manufacture of the costumes
- offer creative solutions that enable the vision to be delivered within budget
- work efficiently to deadlines and have effective time-management skills
- work well under pressure
- adhere to the design brief and take direction
- availability to work during April and May 2012

### Desirable

- An understanding and appreciation of the movie Wings of Desire
- An interest in performing arts

### BUDGET

A maximum budget of £6,500 has been allocated to the design and creation of all costuming for the event. This budget must include all preparation of the design process from initial concepts through to production of the costumes. Return travel to Birmingham for pre-meetings and the delivery period will be provided, as well as accommodation for the delivery week.

### APPLICATION PROCESS & SELECTION CRITERIA

Submissions will be assessed on their value for money, their ability to deliver effectively within the supplied timeframes, the strength of previous work and past experience, and the suitability of any creative response to the brief.

Submissions should include the following information:

1. Covering letter showing how you meet the requirements outlined in the 'What we are looking for' section above, and stating why you are interested in the job.
  2. A current CV/Biography, including recent client list, at least one testimonial, and contact details for two referees.
  3. Evidence of relevant previous work in this area, for example images of your costumes and links to websites showing events featuring your costumes.
  4. A breakdown of the budget apportioned to show your fee, making, design and creating.
  5. Confirmation that you are available during the required timeframe.
  6. Full contact details including;
    - Full name
    - Company Name (if applicable)
    - Full postal address
    - Email address
    - Telephone number
    - Website
- PLUS:**
- **If you are a Ltd. company** registered with Companies House, please provide your company registration number and your registered office (if different from your correspondence address)
  - **If you're a sole trader or a non-Ltd company**, we may carry out a credit check in advance using the personal details supplied

Failure to provide any one of the above required elements may result in your submission being disregarded.

## International Dance Festival Birmingham 2012 Costume Designer Brief

investing  
in **your** future  
European Regional Development Fund  
European Union



This opportunity is funded by the European Union

### SELECTION PROCESS

We will check each submission and rank them according to the following criteria:

Criteria 1 (40%): relevant experience, skills, track record and suitability for the job

Criteria 2 (30%): creativity, imagination and flare (evidenced in examples of past work)

Criteria 3 (30%): value for money

All proposals will be scrutinised by the International Dance Festival Birmingham senior management team.

### DEADLINES & CONTACT DETAILS

To discuss this opportunity further, please contact Hannah Sharpe on +44 (0)121 689 1093.

**Deadline for responses to this brief:** 10am, Friday 24 February 2012

**Notification to successful / unsuccessful organisations:** by Friday 9 March 2012

**Work to begin:** April 2012

Please submit your response to the brief via email to **[hannah.sharpe@dancexchange.org.uk](mailto:hannah.sharpe@dancexchange.org.uk)** or by post to:  
**Hannah Sharpe, IDFB 2012 Producer, c/o DanceXchange, Birmingham Hippodrome, Thorp Street, Birmingham, B5 4TB**

Please note that postal submissions must be received by the deadline of 10am, Friday 24 February 2012. Applications may come from individuals or from companies with appropriate expertise. IDFB is committed to equal opportunities and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.