

BUILDING RATIONALE – “THE BEST NO LESS FOR BRISTOL” CAMPAIGN

We aim to realise the full potential of our premises, creating a highly visible dance focal point and Dance House for Bristol of international quality.

Our vision is to complete a truly flexible facility capable of fulfilling a range of dance requirements and of presenting dance performance in many formats which challenge audience preconceptions.

From the onset:

- **We are committed to achieving full disability access and operational detail in all aspects of the building.**
- **Increasing the audience capacity from 300 to 450 whilst retaining the dual studio / presentation situation vital to promoting a cycle of doing and viewing dance.**
- **Our vision is to create an inspirational dance presentation venue / studio which will welcome a wide spectrum of dance artists and enthusiasts.**
- **We will revisit current sound-proofing and acoustic treatment and improve specifications.**
- **We will liaise with specialists and incorporate sustainable energy sources including solar panels in the Victorian glazed lantern roof.**
- **Experience informs our understanding of the necessity to create efficient and swift get-in and get-out storage provision.**
- **Practical operation informs the need to separate dance specialist building function from public drop-in usage.**

We will:

- **Create a new pavement level access enhancing security, releasing the huge potential of the derelict boiler house and linking levels necessary for disability access.**
- **Fill the current gap in provision and create a dance resource centre including dance archive / resource IT support in the boiler house.**

- **Create a third studio in the boiler house alleviating current over capacity and demand.**
- **Re-locate the café / bar to the boiler house.**
- **Build a large second studio in the former café / bar area.**
- **Refurbish changing rooms and increase the number of toilets to meet legislation for new capacity.**

Our vision overall aims to fuse contemporary design and function with the inherent Victorian elegance and style, which in its era was designed also to inspire and excite.

The former Victorian baths have proved to be uncannily suitable for dance usage, offering space, height and features such as glass roofs which produce a superb quality of light.