

Maggie Killingbeck, Chair

Maggie has an M.Phil from De Montfort University. She is a Principal Lecturer at the University of Bedfordshire where she leads the PGCE Dance course and is Head of Dance on the undergraduate Physical Education programme. Maggie has taught dance at all levels from primary through to higher education in addition to dance inset courses for the NRCD, NDTA, BAALPE, Sadler's Wells and a number of local education authorities. Maggie wrote the dance interpretation of the NCPE (95) for PEA UK, she has written dance materials for the BBC Radio Workshop also and contributes articles to *Dance Matters* and the Laban Guild's *Movement, Dance and Drama* magazine. Maggie has been Chair of the Laban Guild for Movement and Dance since 2006. She has been the recipient of research awards for Curriculum Development [De Montfort University 2005], Laban: The Way Forward in Dance Education [Bedford Physical Education Old Students Association 2008] and The development of ePortfolio to support dance study [University of Bedfordshire 2009]. Her research interests include the interactive use of e-portfolio to tutor choreography and the value of Laban's work in achieving high quality dance outcomes. These interests resulted in the recent introduction of a Dance Education Masters unit based on the application of Laban's work in education. Currently Maggie is a co opted member of the Lisa Ullmann Travelling Scholarship Fund Management Committee. In addition Maggie has been a moderator for GCSE Dance for many years.

Sadie Hunt, AGM Co-ordinator



Sadie is the AGM and conference coordinator for the Laban Guild. Sadie gained her undergraduate degree at Roehampton University graduating in 2000. Following the completion of her PGCE she taught dance in secondary schools, completing her MA in Choreography at Middlesex University in 2007. Sadie has extensive experience delivering dance in the community and currently holds a part time academic position at the University of Bedfordshire lecturing on their dance and Professional Practice course. Sadie is the artistic director and choreographer for Shunt Dance Company.

Ann Ward, Courses Officer



Ann was previously Head of the Art Department and Lecturer in Dance at an FE College in Northern Ireland, with experience of leading movement and dance sessions in a range of community settings. Whilst in Ireland she was a member of the Advisory Panel for the Performing Arts for the Arts Council of N Ireland and also worked closely with the Arts Council of Ireland in Dublin, setting up Laban Guild Training Courses in both North and South. Now back in England, Ann is the Courses Officer for the Laban Guild, involved in teaching, setting up new courses and writing and piloting new schemes of work. She has written both the Leadership and Marketing manuals for the Laban Guild Dance Leaders Course, with an emphasis on professional responsibility.

Selina Martin, Laban in Places Co-ordinator

Selina is currently Head of Dance in a secondary school in the Midlands having introduced Dance into their curriculum and developed a department. Selina has a BA Hons in Dance from Bretton Hall (University of Leeds) and a Post-Graduate Certificate of Education from DeMontfort University, Bedfordshire. Aspects of her current role include creating Primary school projects, working with Northants Dance and mentoring new P.G.C.E/G.T.P students. She has been involved with the Laban Guild for 18 months now developing Laban in Places amongst other elements. Selina is interested in making Laban's work accessible to all, especially students to equip them with the tools to be 'thinking dancers'.

Liz Farquhar, Treasurer



Obtained a BSc in Mathematics from the University of Sussex in 2004.

Shortly after graduation, joined her local County Council as a Finance Assistant and worked her way up within the department.

In 2008, she began studying ACCA to become a fully Qualified Accountant whilst at the same time securing a position as a Senior Finance Officer within the County Council.

She offered to take on the role of Treasurer to the Laban Guild thinking it would be very good experience.

Janet Harrison, Membership Secretary



I trained to teach at St.Luke's College, Exeter and it was here that I experienced my first formalised dance classes with sessions focused mainly on Rambert and Laban methodology. Having rejected an opportunity to go to Canada to work in Theatre in Education my first job was in a rough and ready Secondary Modern school in Hayes, Middlesex. This baptism by fire has stood me in excellent stead throughout my 35 years in the profession.

My involvement in Laban Dance occurred in 1976 when I moved to Harrow and joined the same amateur dramatic group as Sam and Susi Thornton. By this time I was teaching dance as part of recreation studies but I needed to acquire a more formal training in technique and choreography and the 1979 Laban Summer School at Dartford seemed to be the answer. Some 15 years later I completed Community Dance Leaders courses Stages 1 and 2 at Powys Dance and was invited to become minuting secretary for the Guild.

In 2004 I trained with The Actors Company in London and realised my life ambition of becoming a professional actor. I now spend a good deal of time touring the UK whilst still teaching and coaching when time permits. I have tried to stay in touch with The

Laban Guild throughout my working life and in 2009 assumed responsibility for Membership.

Vanessa Downie, Secretary

Vanessa has been a dance artist and facilitator since 1999 as part of Impact Dance Company but has focused in on this since training with Laban Guild in 2004 and as a result, diversifying from classroom teaching shortly afterwards.

Whilst directing dance performances and choreographies with youth groups, she has eagerly explored and developed innovative connections between school curricula, dance and creativity as well as dance just for the sake of dance!

Vanessa's work continually pushes boundaries in terms of project ideas; recent creations include a site-specific performance at a local museum incorporating dance maths and history, and a performance in a local community park as part of Walthamstow's annual art festival which conveyed ideas and sentiments about the history and heritage of the area.

Vanessa has led numerous training sessions disseminating creative and kinaesthetic approaches to learning, presenting case studies and developing teaching resources around the same particularly in her role as dance consultant for Bigfoot Theatre Arts, where she also works with dance artists in a similar way.

Finally, Vanessa is a creative and reflective practitioner who regularly updates her own training and practice and is currently applying for the Lisa Ullmann Travelling Scholarship Fund in order to train for a sustained period with Isadora Duncan Company before recreating one of Duncan's works with trained and untrained dancers back in the United Kingdom.