

Press Release

***Maze*: Immerse yourself in the unknown...**

11 April - 15 April 2015

Winter Gardens, Margate

Tickets: £15 / £10 concessions

Book: 01843 292795 / maze-event.org (full website available from 18 Feb 2015)

Maze is an immersive new performance presented by Turner Contemporary and Jasmin Vardimon Company. Choreographed by critically-acclaimed director Jasmin Vardimon, with collaboration from artist, designer and architect Ron Arad and artist Guy Bar-Amotz. The new production is supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England's Exceptional award programme.

Maze is where the two worlds of dance and visual art collide. Staged in Margate's caves, within the Winter Gardens, *Maze* will occupy a foam structure of industrial proportions conceived for the performance by artist, designer and architect Ron Arad in collaboration with artist Guy Bar Amotz.

Audiences will be asked to leave their inhibitions behind and immerse themselves in the unknown. They will choose the 'light' or 'dark' path and enter *Maze*, to experience an intimate adventure.

Moving through the labyrinth, a feast of multi-sensory moments submerge visitors into the *Maze*. Intimate and moving, delightful and uneasy, audiences become observers and participants, as the world of *Maze* shifts and surprises.

This major collaboration between two of the UK's leading arts organisations, Jasmin Vardimon Company and Turner Contemporary, is one of their most ambitious projects to date, bringing together the visual arts and dance.

An element of the *Maze* installation will also feature in Turner Contemporary's upcoming *Risk* exhibition exploring the relationship between art and risk, which runs from 7 October 2015 - 17 January 2016. This further consolidates the ongoing relationship between Jasmin Vardimon Company and Turner Contemporary. The staging of *Maze* at the Winter Gardens in Margate, from 11 until 15 April 2015, will be followed by a major national tour of the work in early 2016.

Jasmin Vardimon states:

"I'm excited to create a project that will allow audiences to experience my work at an extremely close and intimate proximity. This will be an experience that is similar to being on stage with the dancers and face-to-face with the artwork itself. The adventure each visitor will have will be dictated by the individual path they might choose within the architectural structure."

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Victoria Pomery states:

“We are delighted to be working with Jasmin Vardimon Company on one of the most ambitious projects we have supported to date. This unique collaboration allows both organisations to create an exceptional new work which draws together choreography, the visual arts and architecture. Jasmin Vardimon is an extremely talented choreographer and her experimental approach will be inspiring and unsettling.”

Ron Arad states:

“I always thrive on not knowing how something I haven't started yet will end up. If you're working with someone who comes from another discipline the chances of being surprised by your own work are definitely far bigger.”

Hedley Swain, Area Director, South East, Arts Council England, said:

“We are delighted to be able to support Jasmin Vardimon Company and Turner Contemporary as they create a highly imaginative and engaging site-specific performance piece. *Maze* will provide audiences with a completely new experience of dance – immersing them in the performance as they traverse one of the two paths they could take through the labyrinth. The project represents wonderful collaboration between two excellent and innovative, but very different, National Portfolio Organisations and cements the importance of arts and culture in the regeneration of East Kent.”

Additional funding has been awarded by Kent County Council to support the delivery of an education programme associated with *Maze*. Educational activities led by an artist and dancers will explore the making of *Maze* as well as themes in the work, such as chance and decision making. The activities will engage families, and schools groups from Margate and Ashford to reach their own creative responses to the work. Turner Contemporary will hold a family workshop, inspired by *Maze*, to create labyrinth-like structures on 15 April, 1-4pm.

Jasmin Vardimon's work is visually stunning and thought-provoking, often taking on complex ideas and situations and translating them into mesmerising dramatic productions that ask audiences to question their assumptions about the ideas she tackles and the nature of dance itself. Though an interrogation of points of view and spectators' perspectives has long been central to her work, *Maze* will be Vardimon's first venture beyond the proscenium stage, inviting audiences to physically determine their position within the work and to create their own narrative by moving through it. Turner Contemporary has fast become one of the leading galleries in the UK. Since opening in 2011 the gallery has welcomed 1.5 million visits and is renowned for its exceptional programme of temporary exhibitions and major off-site commissions, leading ambitious and innovative partnerships to spearhead the regeneration of Margate and East

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Kent.

Notes to Editors

Monique Kent, Press Manager, Turner Contemporary

mkent@turnercontemporary.org +44 (0)1843 233019 turnercontemporary.org
@TCMargate

David Burns, David Burns PR, Publicity for Jasmin Vardimon Company
david@davidburnspr.com +44 (0)7789 754089 davidburnspr.com @DavidBurnsPR

Turner Contemporary

Turner Contemporary is a contemporary arts organisation based in Margate, Kent that aims to enhance the understanding and enjoyment of historical and contemporary art with a dynamic and diverse international programme of exhibitions and events. Turner Contemporary takes inspiration from JMW Turner, situated on the exact same site as the 'Cold Harbour' guest house where the artist stayed on his frequent visits to Margate, recreating his original view and capturing the same unique Thanet light that inspired many of his works.

- In copy please refer to Turner Contemporary and not 'The Turner Contemporary'
- Gallery opening times: Mon: Closed, Tue - Sun: 10.00 - 18.00 (admission is free)
- Address: Turner Contemporary, Rendezvous, Margate, CT9 1HG
- Information: +44 (0)1843 233000, turnercontemporary.org

Jasmin Vardimon

A leading force in British dance theatre for nearly twenty years, Jasmin Vardimon has built a reputation for challenging, exciting and visually stunning dance and continues to add to the body of critically acclaimed, artistically respected yet accessible work both for the company she formed in 1997 and for some of the leading dance companies across the world. Born and raised in Israel, she has been an Associate Artist at Sadler's Wells since 2006. Jasmin has also been recognised with the positions of Associate Artist at The Place in 1998 and at Yorkshire Dance as a Partner from 1999 - 2005.

Enjoying sell-out performances across the UK and internationally, Jasmin Vardimon Company's works include: *Freedom* ('Breath-taking, mesmerizing and frequently thought provoking' - South Wales Echo), *7734* ('Theatrical gold. Piercingly powerful' - Daily Telegraph), *Yesterday* ('Beautiful. A deft

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Jasmin Vardimon

theatrical touch' - *The Observer*), *Justitia* ('Terrific - stylishly designed, vividly played' - *The Guardian*), *Park* ('Extraordinary... sexy and beautiful'- *New Statesman*), *Lullaby* ('Dangerous and beautiful impassioned and remarkable' - *Daily Mail*).

Jasmin has also been commissioned to choreograph for the Royal Opera House (*Tannhäuser*, 2010) and for ROH2's OperaShots season with composer Graham Fitkin at the Linbury Studio (*Home*, 2012). Other commissions include Bitef Theatre Belgrade, Hellenic Dance Athens, CandoCo, WID, Bare Bones, Transitions and curating the Dance Ballads Festival at the Oval House.

Ron Arad

Born in Tel Aviv in 1951, educated at the Jerusalem Academy of Art and later at the Architectural Association in London, Ron Arad co-founded with Caroline Thorman the design and production studio One Off in 1981 and later, in 1989, Ron Arad Associates architecture and design practice. In 2008 Ron Arad Architects was established alongside Ron Arad Associates, and the two branches of the practice are now referred to as Ron Arad Studio.

Ron Arad's constant experimentation with the possibilities of materials and his radical re-conception of the form and structure has put him at the forefront of contemporary design, architecture and art.

Ron Arad was awarded the Royal Designer for Industry (RDI) in recognition of his 'sustained excellence in aesthetic and efficient design for industry' in 2002 and was awarded the 2011 London Design Week Medal for design excellence.

He was Professor and Head of Design Products at the Royal College of Art in London up until 2009. In 2013 he was elected as a Royal Academician by the Royal Academy of Art in London.

Ron Arad Studio's prolific work has been shown extensively at retrospectives such as 'No Discipline' at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris (2008), MoMA in New York (2009), and 'Restless' at the Barbican Centre in London (2010). Subsequent shows and installations such as 'Curtain Call' and '720' (at the Roundhouse in London and Israel Museum in Jerusalem, respectively), 'In Reverse' at the Design Museum Holon (Israel), Ivorypress Gallery in Madrid, and Pinacoteca Agnelli in Torino (2013), and 'Last Train' at the Venice Biennale (2013) continue to challenge the boundaries of architecture, design and art.

Guy Amotz

Bar Amotz has been active as an artist since his graduation from the Bezallem Academy of Art & Design (Bachelor of Fine Arts, Hons,

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Jasmin Vardimon

Distinction), Jerusalem (1994). In 1997 Bar-Amotz graduated from the Master of Fine Arts course at Goldsmith's College, London (supported by a full scholarship from the British Council). During 1998-9 he participated in the Two Year Residency Programme at the Rijksakademie Van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam, Netherlands (with a full scholarship from the Dutch Government).

His projects have been commissioned by art spaces such as The Israel Museum (Jerusalem), Tate Britain (London), CCA (Geneva), Project (Dublin) the Ein-Harod Museum, the Stedelijk Museum's Bureau (Amsterdam), Kwangju Biennale (South Korea), The Biennale of Sydney 1998, The Ikon Gallery (Birmingham UK), Fuori Uso (Italy), Saitama Museum of Modern Art (Japan), The Trade Apartment and the APT (London), W139 (Amsterdam), Fashion House W<'s Show Room (Antwerp), and Transport for London's 'Platform for Art' (London). Bar Amotz's collaboration with Jasmin Vardimon Company on previous productions includes video, media, set design and dramaturge.

Exceptional awards

The Exceptional award programme was set up so that arts organisations could respond to extraordinary one-off opportunities with projects that are of such ambition that it sits outside of the normal programme of the organisation. Each successful project will make a substantial additional contribution to helping the Arts Council deliver its strategic vision of Great art and culture for everyone, through at least one of its five goals.



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