



Steypning Festival 2018

26th May – 9th June

PRESS RELEASE

Thick and Tight at the Steypning Festival

Where can you see two classically trained dancers doing something that is often deliberately daft, yet moving and exhilarating? The answer is at the Steypning Festival. On 8 June, on the last Friday of the Festival, Thick and Tight, aka Daniel Hay-Gordon and Eleanor Perry (together with guest artist Julie Cunningham), present an off-the-wall evening of dance, which challenges, intrigues and thoroughly entertains.

Eleanor and Daniel trained at Ballet Rambert, famous for training dancers in ballet and contemporary dance and expecting them to excel in both styles. Asked which of them is which and why, the answers are elusive but sound vaguely rude. Something dark lurks behind the humour, and it's that sense of subversive fun that is brought to the performance.

'There are characters that people will recognise and plenty of populist culture thrown in,' says Daniel. 'We think we're a tad avant-garde but that shouldn't put people off,' adds Eleanor, 'We love to make work that entertains. We do shows for children between 0-5 and they seem to love it so we're sure adults will too.'

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Daniel first became interested in dance when he watched the films of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers with his grandad. He and Eleanor have moved a long way since then. 'My favourite bit of the show is Eleanor searching for landmines,' he says, 'We do deal with topics which are poignant, sad or upsetting, but it's also full of silly humour and dark humour.'

'We've created three new solos as well as revisiting some of our tried and tested pieces,' says Eleanor, 'and we're looking forward to performing on a fabulous stage. The show is for all ages and we want people to feel they've seen a new kind of dance show and have been moved and thoroughly entertained.'

And that name? 'Lost in the mists of time, but we'll tell you if you really want to know,' laughs Daniel as the pair pirouette towards their performance in Steyning.

The Steyning Festival starts on 26 May. For more information visit the website

www.steyningfestival.co.uk

PRESS RELEASE ENDS

NOTE TO EDITORS

- For further information please contact: Nigel Hartley media@steyningfestival.co.uk 01903 810085
- 1 photograph accompanies this press release: Thick and Tight (credit: Darren Evans)

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