

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

### **May Weekend 2020 Cancellation**

After a period of consultation with professional advisors, some of the contractors and different insurers in relation to our May weekend for 2020, and given the likely increase in risk with events being affected by the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, we have extremely heavy-heartedly decided to cancel the May weekend this year.

***The events over the weekend will no longer take place and those who already paid for tickets will be refunded in full very shortly.***

In part, the decision was taken due to the complete lack of insurance to guard against cancellation due to COVID-19; despite running all of our events completely by the book, with comprehensive event and public liability insurances, there is no insurance product currently or previously available to cover us for cancellation or interruption due to enforced venue closures, public transport restrictions, movement restrictions, contractors non-appearance due to coronavirus related issues and other eventualities.

With the lack of insurance, the risks associated to us in running the event were increasing significantly almost on a daily basis, particularly after the Prime Minister's statement of yesterday where a more widespread outbreak was anticipated within the coming days and weeks; potentially by early May we might therefore be facing a much tougher scenario in running the event and with five figure liabilities to contend with we would have been in a very serious situation ourselves.

In cancelling the event today, we can ensure our existing liabilities are correctly managed, and everyone who has already purchased tickets will receive a full refund.

We are extremely disappointed and sorry not to be running the event this year, particularly when all of the hard work in planning was already well passed and we loved hosting and developing such a unique, rich, dance experience for everyone. We are also aware that dancers may well have made other arrangements to fit around the weekend especially and there will be some secondary inconvenience for which we apologise.

We remain fully committed to offering a high-quality weekend in Bath for everyone to enjoy in the future so we look forward to returning positively to the event once the dust has settled.

Sincere apologies,

James & Joanna Whitehead  
Viva La Dance

