

C.V. 2007 ALAN MARTIN

Contact:

Phone 0151 677 7631

E mail: mouse_on_the_move@btinternet.com

Web Address: www.mouseonthemove.co.uk

Personal Details:

I was born in Liverpool in 1963 and have lived most of my adult life on Wirral. I am single. Following a childhood illness, I was left with cerebral palsy, unable to walk and with no intelligible speech. Until I was 31, I had very limited ability to communicate until I was provided with electronic speech aids, first by friends, who fund-raised £10000 to buy one, then later newer models were supplied through the health service and Access to Work.

Once I was able to communicate with people, I set about learning all the skills that I had missed out on earlier and, amongst those, I gained a passion for Dance and also learned to write computer generated music.

I believe that I am the only Dance Workshop Leader in the UK at the moment that uses an electronic speech aid.

Educational Qualifications:

In my childhood and youth I had a very limited academic education in specialist institutions.

Since 1998, I have attended many short courses to fill in some of the gaps in my education in areas relevant to my present life.

- “Disabled Artists into Work” CADT and North West DAF. NVQ Level 3.
- “Leading the Way” Workshop Leaders’ course. LIPA. JMU Certificate of Professional Development.
- CLAIT Computer Literacy. IBMC Birkenhead. RSA Stage 1.
- D.A.T.A. Disability Awareness Training Agency. “Training the Trainer”.
- D.E.E. Disability Equality in Education. “Training the Trainer”.
- Facilitated Communication Training. Bolton Institute. 20 Credits- Grade A.
- Digital Video Editing. NOCN Level 1 Credit.

Arts Workshops, Courses and Events attended:

- “CANDOCO” Dance Company – Dance Residency, Workshops and Performance.
- Forum Theatre course. Enabling Theatre Company, Hebden Bridge with Augusto Boal.
- Drake Music Project – Courses, Workshops and Performances.
- Xtra '04 – Dance Showcase and networking event. Lancaster.
- Cheshire Dance courses – “Bloom”/ Fresh – residential.

- Ludus Dance - Courses in Artistic Practice and work with community groups. Also recognising and celebrating diversity.
- “Soundability” Soundbeam Training – Bristol.
- Blue Eyed Soul – Dance Improvisation Workshop Course.
- Cheshire Dance – “Child and Vulnerable Adult Training
- Merseyside Disability Federation – “Tourism for All” Disability Awareness Training.

Voluntary Work and Experience from 1995—2004

I have given dance workshops, projects and performances, disability equality presentations and Public speaking engagements.

- I have worked for charities and community groups, such as PHAB, Scope, Stockport Cerebral Palsy society, One Voice, Communication Matters, Barnardos, Merseyside CALL (Communication Aid Lending Library), DARE foundation (the RITE project), ACE Oxford, NWDAF, The Greenbank project Liverpool, The Calderdale involvement project, DATA (disability awareness training agency)
- I have worked in many schools nationwide, including Wirral schools and schools in Wigan, Oldham, Chester, Liverpool, Halifax and London.
- • I have worked for many public and private bodies including the Royal College of Nursing, the NHS, RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects), NAEP (National Association of Equipment Providers), CAPITA, the DLCC. Social Services Day Centres.

Conferences Attended:

I have attended many national conferences:

- RADA Jan’04 Disability, Training, employment and performance.
- Dancing Differently. Foundation for Community Dance
- New Beginnings. Unum Provident, London.
- NAEP national conferences.
- RCN Conferences, Stafford.
- CRT (Community Rehab Teams) conference Liverpool.
- Communication Matters. 9yrs consecutively.
- E.A.T. Symposium, Liverpool

I have attended many more conferences on disability issues and dance, and given presentations and workshops at many of them.

Self Employment:

In March 2004, I became self employed. I started my own business, “Mouse on the Move”, giving Dance Workshops, Dance Performances, Presentations and Training across the country including:

- “Colourscape”, workshops and performances in Liverpool, Croydon and Bromley, and North London. Performance at Clapham Common Festival.

- Wigan Social Services. Hunter Lodge Club House. Dance Workshop and Independence Training.
- Wigan Education Service. Mere Oaks school. Dance and Independence.
- Calderdale Parents & Carers Council. Dance workshops.
- Oldham Education Service. Dance workshops.
- Wirral Education Authority. Inclusive Education Presentation.
- Bolton Institute. Communication Rights.
- Merseyside CALL
- Mere Oaks school. Shooting Stars Club. Dance workshop.
- Warrington Council. Disability Awareness Day. Performance.
- CandLE. At Bolton institute, and Nottingham Educational Psychology Dept. Communication Rights.
- SticknStep. Wirral Dance and Disability Rights.
- Stockport Cerebral Palsy Society. Dance Workshops.
- BBC3 performance in comedy pilot programme “I’m With Stupid”, followed by a six-part series.
- Pyramid Arts Centre – performance as part of Nexus.
- Chailey Heritage School, East Sussex.
- St Thomas More School, Oxfordshire. Dance, Music and Movement Workshops, followed by performance.
- Manchester Metropolitan University. Speech and Language Therapist Society. Independence and Communication.
- Chestnut Lodge School, Widnes. Dance Workshops.
- Centre 404, London. Communication training.
- ArtsAatack, Edinburgh. Dance workshops.
- Wirral Family Friends. Equality Training.
- Oldham 1 to 1. Equality training.
- Assist UK. Keynote Speaker at National Conference
- IBK Transitions Conference – September 2007
- Levens School, Cumbria – day of Dance Workshops

And many more!

Project Coordination:

- Cosmic Celebrations- 12 month workshop package culminating in a performance by workshop participants at Pacific Rd Theatre, Wirral. I planned the whole performance, including Choreography, Music, Costume and Lighting
- Seventeen. Choreographed dance piece incorporating SoundBeam. Performed b3 men Disabled and able bodied). Performed at The Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal. Funded by North West Disability Arts Forum - £2000

- Exploration – Workshops with 6 able-bodied dancers exploring ways to make myself more integrated within choreography and the issues it brings out, both from the environment and the artistically. Funded by Unlimited - £ 2500

Dance Showcases:

- In 2005, I performed in the Leap, “Moving on Merseyside” Festival and “Nexus” at Pyramids Arts Centre, Warrington. These both showcased a new piece, “You and Me”, jointly choreographed and performed with Emily Grainger. I wrote the music to accompany this piece.

Music:

I write my own computer-generated music, both for pleasure and for use in my Dance. To date, I have compiled 2 CD's of my work.

Television:

In January 2005, I was approached by a casting director working on behalf of the BBC. She was looking for two wheelchair users to take part in a BBC3 comedy pilot. Although I didn't get the part I auditioned for, they were so impressed that they wrote in an extra character, using a communication aid. “I'm With Stupid” was filmed in February and first shown on 21st March. It starred Mark Benton, Paul Henshall, Ruth Jones and Kevin Davies. The pilot was so well received that BBC3 commissioned a six-part series, which went out in 2006.

Future Plans

- I have received an Arts Council Grant to enable me to work in a number of Wirral Schools, running after-school dance workshops.
- The exploratory project I undertook needs to be documented. I hope to produce a teaching DVD for distribution.
- I am planning to write a book documenting what dance means to me.
- In the longer term, I am researching the opportunities for setting up a fully-integrated local Dance/Arts Studio.

Alan Martin