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For Immediate Release

Contemporary Dance 2.0 opens at Theatre Royal Plymouth next week for its UK Premiere

Following the success of POLITICAL MOTHER UNPLUGGED and the short film POLITICAL MOTHER: The Final Cut, Hofesh Shechter Company presents Contemporary Dance 2.0 performed by Shechter II, the acclaimed apprentice company of the celebrated choreographer for dancers aged 18-25.

Eight dancers, representing the very best of the next generation of international, contemporary artists, have been selected from over 1000 auditionees to join the 2022 Shechter II development programme. They are Tristan Carter (Australia), Cristel de Frankrijker (The Netherlands), Justine Gouache (France), Zakarius Harry (UK), Alex Haskins (USA), Oscar Jinghu Li (UK), Keanah Faith Simin (The Netherlands), Chanel Vyent (The Netherlands)

The production premiered in Teatro Comunale Città di Vicenza, Italy on 23 March 2022 before playing at Théâtre de la Ville – Les Abbesses, Paris with 11 performances from 31 March - 10 April before receiving its **UK premiere at the Theatre Royal Plymouth on Wednesday 20 April where it will play two performances only**. The production will then travel to The Venue MK (Milton Keynes) on Saturday 28 May, The MAC (Belfast) from Thursday 16 to Saturday 18 June, and Battersea Arts Centre (London) Wednesday 26 to Saturday 29 October with further UK and international dates to be announced.

Inspired by Shechter's original production created in 2019 for the GöteborgsOperans Danskompani and re-imagined by Shechter II, Contemporary Dance 2.0 will be set to an eclectic sound-score of club-like euphoria, throbbing beats, pulsating hip hop, folk, Bach and jazz. Shechter serves up the intensity of his signature ensemble work, yet dipped in ironic references to pop culture, it's a playful take on his own art form.

Contemporary Dance 2.0 is produced by Hofesh Shechter Company and co-



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commissioned by Düsseldorf Festival!, Espace 1789 Saint-Ouen, with production support from Théâtre de la Ville Paris, Teatro Comunale Città di Vicenza and a production residency at Arts Depot, London.

Hofesh Shechter Company gratefully receives support towards the delivery of Shechter II 2022, which includes core funding from John Ellerman Foundation.

Hofesh Shechter Company is supported using public funding through Arts Council England and benefits from the support of BNP Paribas Foundation for the development of its projects.

Tickets are available now on the [TRP website](#).

[Images are available here.](#)

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For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on public.relations@theatreroyal.com / 01752 230439

ABOUT HOFESH SHECHTER COMPANY

Hofesh Shechter Company Hofesh Shechter Company is a boundary-breaking dance company that produces exceptional work created by Artistic Director Hofesh Shechter OBE, with, at its core, an extraordinary company of internationally diverse dancers.

Founded in 2008, the company's repertoire includes Uprising (2006), In your rooms (2007), The Art of Not Looking Back (2009), Political Mother (2010), Political Mother: The Choreographer's Cut (2011), Sun (2013), barbarians (2015) and Grand Finale (2017) , Double Murder (2021) with SHOW (2018) and POLITICAL MOTHER UNPLUGGED (2020) performed by Shechter II, its apprentice programme. Hofesh Shechter Company has played in cities around the world including Paris, New York, Melbourne, Tokyo, Berlin, Tel Aviv, Rome, Seoul, Rio de Janeiro and many more.

The company collaborates on exceptional, world-leading, large-scale stage and film projects including a revival of Hofesh's production of Gluck's Orphée et Eurydice at La Scala, Milan (2018), co-directed with John Fulljames; East Wall (2018) at Tower of London, in partnership with East London Dance, Historic Royal Palaces and LIFT;



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short films - Hofesh Shechter's Clowns (2018), broadcast on the BBC and POLITICAL MOTHER: The Final Cut (2021); and LIGHT: Bach Dances (2021) winner of the FEDORA – VAN CLEEF & ARPELS Prize for Ballet 2020, produced in collaboration with Royal Danish Opera and Theatre.

In all our work, we strive to move ourselves, and our audiences, beyond reason.

Hofesh Shechter Company is supported with public funding through Arts Council England.

Hofesh Shechter Company benefits from the support of BNP Paribas Foundation for the development of its projects and, with thanks to the UK Government's Culture Recovery Fund, continues to be #HereForCulture.

Hofesh Shechter is an Associate Artist of Sadler's Wells, London and Artist-in-Residence of Gauthier Dance (2021-2023). Hofesh Shechter Company is Resident Company of the Brighton Dome.

www.hofesh.co.uk

ABOUT SHECHTER II

Shechter II is Hofesh Shechter Company's paid development programme for the next generation of emerging artists aged 18-25 – a company of young dancers selected every two years and representing the most exceptional world-class dancers from across globe.

Shechter II is not just about performance – it's a full programme of professionally aligned research and development which aims to develop young dance artists who deeply understand their practice, who are engaged, curious and who embrace self-reflection.

The programme offers an extraordinary proximity to the workings and practices of a major international dance company, working closely with renowned choreographer Hofesh Shechter and touring the UK and Europe with a recreation of his most renowned works, while at the same time providing the support and underpinning that ensures heightened professional readiness.



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Launched in 2018, Shechter II attracted critical acclaim and won the Prix de la Critique award for Best Performers at Théâtre de la Ville, Paris, where they staged 29 sold-out performances over two seasons of Hofesh Shechter's SHOW. In 2020 and 2021, 10 dancers marked the 10th anniversary of Shechter's acclaimed classic Political Mother by reaching live and digital audiences with POLITICAL MOTHER UNPLUGGED and POLITICAL MOTHER: The Final Cut, a captivating short film, created and directed by Hofesh Shechter. In 2022 the Shechter II dancers will bring to audiences a newly reimagined production, Contemporary Dance 2.0.

Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP) is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement in Plymouth and across the region. It engages and inspires with the aim of touching lives. Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales as the South West's principal centre for performing arts.

Theatre Royal Plymouth works with partners to understand the challenges people face accessing the arts, especially vulnerable and disadvantaged people. It creates pathways that are genuinely accessible to those who might otherwise never get to engage with the arts. They collaborate to co-create and co-author work that represents the community, creating the space needed for people to tell their story in their own way.

Theatre Royal Plymouth is the UK's largest regional producing theatre. With a focus on embracing the vitality of new talent and supporting emerging and established artists. It collaborates with a range of partners to provide dynamic cultural leadership for the city of Plymouth.