

Chronology of the creation of a National Dance Company for Wales from 1983 to 2013 by Ann Sholem

Book 1 – 1983 to 1999

Welsh Arts Council commits to a Three-Year grant for Jumpers Dance Theatre to become a professional and full-time organisation.

- 1983 Roy Campbell-Moore appointed Artistic Director (June)
Renamed **Jumpers Dance Company**
Company based at Caricature Theatre in the old YMCA building in Station Rd, Cardiff
Mandy Wix as the company Administrator (July)
Ann Sholem engaged as dancer, choreographer and teacher (July)
Autumn tour throughout Wales of duet programme by Roy Campbell-Moore and Ann Sholem of **Small Jumps** consisting of five short works created for Tandem Dance Company in 1982
First Wales' performance – Wyaside Arts Centre – Director Jo Weston (October)
- REPERTORY (originally from Tandem Dance Company)
High Pressure (Roy Campbell-Moore)
No Name Jive (Roy Campbell-Moore)
The Suitcase (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Green Chair Red Socks (Ann Sholem)
Slip Jig (Darlene Stevens)
- 1984 Hired three new dancers (January)
Expanded to six dancers from July (including Roy Campbell-Moore and Ann Sholem)
Relaunched as **Diversions, Welsh Repertory Dance Company**
Autumn and Spring tours to Wales and England
Welsh Arts Council give money to buy a touring truck for the Company and equipment. Nicknamed Trevor Truck, it would take the Company all over the UK for the next five years
First two-week long, annual residential Summer School at Sherman Theatre
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
High Pressure (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Green Chair Red Socks (Ann Sholem)
Mixed Doubles (Philip Grosser)
No Name Jive - expanded to four dancers (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Slip Jig (Darlene Stevens)
Ronsaria (Tony Thatcher)
Quartet (Roy Campbell-Moore)
- 1985 Spring and Autumn tours to Wales and England
Two-week summer school at Sherman Theatre
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
In Our Own Image (Jerry Pearson)
Tangosian (Luis Gonzalez)
Junctions (June Campbell-Davies)
Savage Pastime (Darlene Stevens)
Nothing Ever Changes (Roy Campbell-Moore)
No Name Jive (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Welsh Graffiti (Ann Sholem)

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- Ronsaria (Tony Thatcher)
Free Speech (Rosalind Newman) – created with a Digital Dance Award
Blue Echo (Ann Sholem)
Setting The Sails (Roy Campbell-Moore)
- 1986 Spring and Autumn tours to Wales, England and the Channel Islands
Name change to **Diversions Dance Company**
Two-week summer school at Sherman Theatre
First *Alternative Routes* annual programme of the dancers' choreography at St Stephens Theatre in Cardiff Bay
Welsh Arts Council commits to long-term revenue funding for the Company
Caricature Theatre building condemned
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
Zanic Matanic (Ann Sholem)
Nothing Ever Changes (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Rave On (Roy Campbell-Moore) (Nothing Ever Changes expanded to six dancers)
Setting The Sails (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Just a Song at Twilight (Quinny Sacks)
Free Speech (Rosalind Newman) – created with a Digital Dance Award
Which Way To The Procession, Please? (Mary Niblett)
In Our Own Image (Jerry Pearson)
Move Please (Martha Partridge)
- 1987 Spring and Autumn tours throughout UK incl. Channel Islands
Two-week summer school at Sherman Theatre
Alternative Routes moves to Chapter Arts Centre
Temporary rehearsal base at Eastmoors Community Centre, Splott
Administration office based in Richmond Rd, Plasnewydd
First International tour to Zagreb, Yugoslavia
Ann Sholem in Elle magazine
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
Free Speech (Rosalind Newman) – created with a Digital Dance Award
Move Please (Martha Partridge)
In Our Own Image (Jerry Pearson)
Rave On (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Journey (Ann Sholem)
Which Way To The Procession, Please? (Mary Niblett)
Strictly for the Birds (Mary Niblett)
Shadows Of Childhood (Kedzie Penfield)
Letters – Remember Me (Beppie Blankert) - Digital Dance Award
Flying The Flag (Roy Campbell-Moore)
- 1988 Spring and Autumn tours throughout UK
Two-week summer school at Sherman Theatre
Alternative Routes at Chapter Arts Centre
Roy Campbell-Moore retires as a dancer/performer to concentrate on choreography and teaching

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- 1988 cont. Ann Sholem becomes Company Co-ordinator (remaining as dancer, choreographer and teacher)
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
 Flying The Flag (Roy Campbell-Moore)
 In Our Own Image (Jerry Pearson)
 Letters – Remember Me (Beppie Blankert)
 Journey (Ann Sholem)
 Strictly for the Birds (Mary Niblett)
 Shadows Of Childhood (Kedzie Penfield)
 Trio (Krisztina de Chatel)
 S.O.S (Ann Sholem)
 Tapestry (Roy Campbell-Moore)
 May Your God Go With You (Pebs Jones)
 Why Not? (Graham Browning)
 Seemingly Resolved (Andy Howitt)
- 1989 Spring and Autumn tours throughout UK
 Two-week summer school at Sherman Theatre
 Alternative Routes at Chapter Arts Centre
 Company moves to Ebenezer Chapel Annex in Charles St, Cardiff Mandy Wix leaves as founding Administrator
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
 Flying The Flag (Roy Campbell-Moore)
 Trio (Kristina de Chatel)
 S.O.S (Ann Sholem)
 Tapestry (Roy Campbell-Moore)
 Impromptu (Ann Sholem)
 East Of The Sun (Pedro Sandiford)
 Oakfield Ridge (David Dorfman)
 Seemingly Resolved (Andrew Howitt)
- 1990 International tour to the Canary Islands, Spain
 Spring and Autumn tours throughout UK incl. Northern Ireland
 Trevor Truck is retired and Arts Council funding buys a new minibus and touring truck
 Two-week summer school at Sherman Theatre
 Alternative Routes at Chapter Arts Centre
 Ann Sholem takes Zanic Matanic to National Garden Festival, Gateshead
 Ann Sholem appointed Rehearsal Director
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
 Oakfield Ridge (David Dorfman)
 Impromptu (Ann Sholem)
 Over The Edge (Quinny Sacks)
 Tapestry (Roy Campbell-Moore)
 In Our Own Image (Jerry Pearson)
 Across a Crowded Room (Roy Campbell-Moore) - originally named Interiors

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- 1991 Spring and Autumn tours throughout UK incl. Northern Ireland
 Diversions adds '**national dance company of Wales**' to its name
 Second tour to the Canary Islands (Spain)
 Two-week summer school at Sherman Theatre
 Alternative Routes at Chapter Arts Centre
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
 History of Collage Revisted (Bill T Jones) - Digital Dance Award
 Atalantique (Robert Kovich)
 Over The Edge (Quinny Sacks)
 Oakfield Ridge (David Dorfman)
 Blood and Honey (Frances Newman)
 Across a Crowded Room (Roy Campbell-Moore)
 Never Enough (Shapiro and Smith)
- 1992 Roy Campbell-Moore receives Digital Dance Award from Merce Cunningham
 Name change to **Diversions, the Dance Company of Wales**
 Tour of Cross Currents - New dance with live music to Wales middle-scale venues Spring and Autumn tours throughout UK incl. Northern Ireland
 Two-week summer school at Sherman Theatre
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
 History of Collage Revisted (Bill T Jones) - Digital Dance Award
 Never Enough (Shapiro and Smith)
 Atalantique (Robert Kovich)
 Vernacular Rhythm and Classical Variations (Jerry Pearson)
 So Many Days (Ann Sholem)
 Exhibo (Kenneth Kvarnstrom)
 In Our Own Image (Jerry Pearson)
 Spirit Catchers (Roy Campbell-Moore)
- 1993 Audiences offered money-back guarantee deal. No takers!
 Highly Strung - New dance with live music to Wales middle-scale venues
 Spring and Autumn tours throughout UK incl. Northern Ireland
 British Council supported tour to Stuttgart, Germany
 Company commissioned to create Fframwaith Ffug (Fake Frameworks) – a film for S4C (nominated for Reed MIDEM in Cannes)
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
 Vernacular Rhythm and Classical Variations (Jerry Pearson)
 Spirit Catchers (Roy Campbell-Moore)
 Exhibo (Kenneth Kvarnstrom)
 History of Collage Revisted (Bill T Jones) Digital Dance Award
 Straight Jacket (Roy Campbell-Moore)
 Collecting Gravity (Terry Beck)

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- 1994 Ann Sholem and Jem Treays create first external collaboration (The Quest) performed at Chapter Arts Centre
Company faces bankruptcy by February 1994. Welsh Arts Council offers a bridging financial rescue package to survive until April 1994 when the next grant instalment would be paid
Company lays off its dancers for 4 months after the Spring tour
Company restructures and Roy Campbell-Moore promoted as sole Director, responsible for overall artistic and administration work; including producing tours and projects
Short Spring residency at Chapter Arts Centre with limited resources
Two-week summer school at Sherman Theatre
Autumn tour throughout UK as normal
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
Dig (Terry Beck)
Svsplkt (Daniel Ezralow)
Straight Jacket (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Collecting Gravity (Terry Beck)
- 1995 Ann Sholem promoted to Associate Director
Ann Sholem and Jem Treays create One Giant Leap for National Museums & Galleries of Wales
Troedio Mesur Amser – a one hour film for Welsh Television
Spring and Autumn tours throughout UK
International tour to Ecuador
Alternative Routes at Chapter Arts Centre
Two-week summer school at Sherman Theatre
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
Remembrance (Toni Mira)
Tableaux (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Svsplkt (Daniel Ezralow)
- 1996 Company expands to eight dancers
Awarded 'Wales National Performing Arts Company' by Arts Council of Wales
Generations at St Fagans created by Ann Sholem and Jem Treays
Spring and Autumn tours throughout the UK incl. Northern Ireland
Alternative Routes at Chapter Arts Centre
Two-week summer school at Sherman Theatre
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
Strangers In The Night (Toni Mira)
Tableaux (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Maxen's Dream (Beppie Blankert)

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- 1997 Six-week international tour to Australia
Investors In People – first arts organisation in Wales
Spring and Autumn tours throughout UK incl. Northern Ireland
International tour to Holland
International tour to East Germany with British Council support
Alternative Routes at Chapter Arts Centre
Two-week summer school at Sherman Theatre
Bankruptcy debts from 1994 finally cleared by April
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
From The Desert Through The Forest (Matjaz Faric)
Strangers In The Night (Toni Mira)
Lumen (Toni Mira)
Tableaux (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Maxen's Dream (Beppie Blankert)
- 1998 Diversions/Bill T Jones collaboration with BBC National Orchestra of Wales (major lottery grant)
Company invited to become resident of Wales Millennium Centre
Spring and Autumn tours to UK incl. Northern Ireland
Last Summer School at the Sherman Theatre
Tour to Latvian National Opera, Riga
Spring and Autumn tour across the UK incl. Northern Ireland
Alternative Routes at Chapter Arts Centre
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
From The Desert Through The Forest (Matjaz Faric)
How Does It Feel (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Lumen (Toni Mira)
Nowhere But Here (Bill T Jones)
- 1999 Company transferred its home performance base from the Sherman to the New Theatre
International tour to Volgograd, Nizhny Novgorod and Moscow, Russia
Spring and Autumn tours to UK incl. Northern Ireland
Alternative Routes in Chapter Arts Centre
Gwydion ar Arllach (for the Youth National Eisteddfodd in partnership with Welsh National Opera)
Performance at the National Assembly for Wales opening
First Summer School at the New Theatre
- MAIN COMPANY REPERTORY
Nowhere But Here (Bill T Jones)
From The Desert Through The Forest (Matjaz Faric)
How Does It Feel (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Lumen (Toni Mira)
Metropolis (Roy Campbell-Moore)
Motets and Sawing (Orjan Anderson)