

PRESS RELEASE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **CHOREOGRAPHER JASMIN VARDIMON DISCUSSES PSYCHOANALYTIC THEMES IN DANCE AT CONNECTING CONVERSATIONS EVENT**

Jasmin Vardimon, choreographer and Associate Artist at Sadler's Wells will discuss the many themes and ideas in her work that resonate with psychoanalysis at a Connecting Conversations event on Thursday 16 June 2011. The event takes place at 7.30pm at London Metropolitan University, 166-220 Holloway Road, London, N7 8DB.

Vardimon's work is unique in contemporary dance for its fusion of the physical and the conceptual. In her performances, the body becomes an instrument for exploring fundamental philosophical and psychological questions.

Josh Cohen, psychoanalyst and Professor of Modern Literary Theory at Goldsmiths University will join Vardimon to explore a number of preoccupations shared by artists and psychoanalysts: the creative process, the nature of interpretation and the outer reaches of bodily and psychic experience.

Vardimon says, "I see the interpretation of a work of art or dance as an extension of the artwork itself. I am fascinated by the multiple understandings one piece of art can have, and by the condition of intersubjectivity. I believe it might be similar to the 'truth' that is created through the interaction between a therapist and a patient, and that's what intrigued me to take part in Connecting Conversations."

Connecting Conversations is an ongoing series of events bringing together practitioners from different fields and aims to explore artistic creativity and practice. The events aim to make connections between individuals, organisations and ideas, and the conversations are made widely accessible via audio files on the website, [www.connectingconversations.org](http://www.connectingconversations.org). Former participants include Sebastian Faulks, Rachel Whiteread, Tamara Rojo, Alicia Alonso, Anthony Horowitz, Wendy Cope, Loipa Araujo and Grayson Perry.

This event is part of Holloway Arts Festival 2011. For the full festival programme visit [www.hollowayartsfestival.co.uk](http://www.hollowayartsfestival.co.uk)

Members of the press are invited to attend. For more details contact Amy Smith on 07515647208, [amy@therowanartsproject.com](mailto:amy@therowanartsproject.com)

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### **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

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## Listings Information:

### **Connecting Conversations with Jasmin Vardimon**

Date: Thursday 16 June 2011

Time: 7.30 - 9.00pm (doors open 7pm)

Venue: London Metropolitan University, 166-220 Holloway Rd, N7 8DB

Nearest tube Holloway Road.

Tickets: £10 (£8 conc.)

Booking: free online booking at [www.connectingconversations.org](http://www.connectingconversations.org), or by phone 07787 814316 (£2.50 fee for phone bookings)

Website: [www.connectingconversations.org](http://www.connectingconversations.org)

**Jasmin Vardimon** is a leading force in British dance theatre. Born and raised on a Kibbutz in central Israel, she joined the Kibbutz Dance Company and in 1995 won a British Council 'On the Way to London' Choreography Award. She moved to London in 1997 where she founded Jasmin Vardimon Company (previously Zbang). Jasmin is an Associate Artist at Sadler's Wells since 2006. Previously, she was an Associate Artist at The Place in 1998 and a Yorkshire Dance Partner from 1999–2005. Jasmin has been commissioned to choreograph for the Royal Opera House (Tannhäuser, Dec 2010), Hellenic Dance Athens, CandoCo, WID, Bare Bones, Transitions and she curated the Dance Ballads Festival at the Oval House.

**Dr Josh Cohen's** main interests are in modern and contemporary American literature, literature and philosophy and psychoanalysis. He has published books and articles on a wide range of American writers and European philosophers, and on more general questions in aesthetic theory, post-holocaust literature and philosophy, and psychoanalytic thinking. He is currently working on a project, working title *The Ironic End of Art*, exploring the history and theory of the drive to 'self-annihilation' and erasure in contemporary art and literature.

**Connecting Conversations** is an ongoing series of events bringing together practitioners from different fields and aims to explore artistic creativity and practice. The series is produced by Rowan Arts in association with the following partners: the Institute of Psychoanalysis, the Freud Museum, Hampstead Theatre, Gate Theatre, Sadler's Wells, London Metropolitan University, British Association of Psychotherapy, British Library, The Institute of Group Analysis, The Women's Therapy Centre, UCL Psychoanalysis Unit, Tavistock Centre for Couple Relationships, Wiener Library, Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust. For more information see [www.connectingconversations.org](http://www.connectingconversations.org)

**Rowan Arts** is a not-for-profit organisation based in North London. It works with local organisations and groups to bring the arts into everyday life through a variety of events, activities and projects. It produces regular larger scale events, including Holloway Arts Festival and Islington Exhibits, that give the wider community a chance to come together, both as performers and as audience. [www.therowanartsproject.com](http://www.therowanartsproject.com)