



## New education packages

are now available following the launch of Ascendance Rep's ground-breaking dance piece 'My Castle | A Company of All Ages' choreographed by Artistic Director Rachel Wesson, performed by 12 dancers ranging between 5 - 70 years.

My Castle is both a light-hearted and melancholic study of pleasures and pastimes in medieval England, encompassing literature, paintings, music, social dances, banquets, war and loss.

Visit [www.ascendance.org.uk/repertoire](http://www.ascendance.org.uk/repertoire) for further information

The dance begins with Shenanigans in the garden with the traditional games of Chess, Blind Man's Bluff and piggyback wrestling. In the popular Dance of the Knights and Ladies we see the dancers march together with heroic strength with an inevitable end through the dance of death where we are asked to pause for reflection. The dance of peace embodies the daily strain of loss and loneliness experienced by women in powerful positions such as Anne Clifford who was the last Clifford to own Skipton Castle in the 17th century. A traditional social dance starts the celebration banquet dance – an escape from the reality of our daily lives.

# New education packages now available.

## Package 1 MY TOWN

Explore castle history through Myths and Legends and the Bayeux tapestry using medieval dances and creative based movement. This package also studies local and personal heritage focusing on the town where your school or group is based to develop your own stories and group dances.

## Package 2 MY CASTLE | Repertory Workshop

Introduce your group to contemporary dance technique, learn repertoire and draw on creative processes from the current Castle production. Led by professional dancers from Ascendance Rep who will take you through the themes behind the dance.

## Package 3 LIVE PERFORMANCE

Experience a live performance by members of the cast followed by a repertory-based workshop where students can learn, and be inspired by, the professional dancers.

## Package 4 ASCENDANCE REP | CREATE A DANCE

Create a dance in three days with Artistic Director Rachel Wesson and members of the company towards a performance or module assessments.

### About Ascendance Rep

Ascendance Rep is a Leeds based contemporary dance company, offering performance led dance projects for all ages across Yorkshire and the UK. The company is known for its high quality choreography and has delivered a wide range of professional tours, educational projects and workshops, creating over 1000 dance pieces with community and education groups, in a range of inspiring spaces, over the past ten years.

The company works extensively in site-specific venues, including bookstores, cathedrals, train stations, shopping centres, city and rural art galleries, museums, libraries and is now working across UK Castles and heritage sites in partnership with English Heritage and Local Authorities.

Ascendance Rep specialises in intergenerational projects bringing younger and older participants together in a range of dance activities, performances and workshops.

Contact and Bookings  
Artistic Director Rachel Wesson  
or Education Manager Nicola Phillips

Tel 0113 2454693 / 07977 127753  
email [education@ascendance.org.uk](mailto:education@ascendance.org.uk)  
[www.ascendance.org.uk](http://www.ascendance.org.uk)

### DELIVERY

Ascendance offers one-off workshops and longer-based residencies lasting 3- 5 days. The company also offer longer term projects and can work with you to develop projects and performances.

### SUITABILITY

Dance workshops can be adapted for students from Year 3 up to HE level, together with community-initiated projects for the very young through to adult and older people groups. Workshops and residencies can be tailored to the specific requirements of your group or curriculum.

### QUALITY ASSURANCE

All workshops are delivered from a committed team of dance professionals who have a wealth of experience as dancers, teachers and choreographers and all artists undertake an enhanced CRB. Ascendance Rep also holds Public Liability insurance.

