

## **Derby Cathedral celebrate Florence Nightingale with an original ballet based on the life and work.**

In partnership with the University of Derby and Derby & Burton Hospitals Charity, Derby Cathedral will host an original ballet by New Creations Collective to celebrate the life and work of Florence Nightingale.

Florence's legendary life was marked by monumental achievements and extraordinary events. In a society bound by convention, Florence changed history.

During the performance the audience will be taken on a journey from her childhood surrounded by family, to finding her profession as a nurse, to becoming the first woman in history to receive an order of Merit from King Edward.

Narrated extracts from Florence's personal diaries bring her story to life through her own words, alongside a brand-new score, original choreography, beautiful set and costumes.

The Dean of Derby, The Very Revd Dr Peter Robinson said *"Derby Cathedral feels very privileged and honoured to host a memorial plaque to Florence Nightingale and to have a part to play in telling her story which is so connected to Derbyshire. Hosting this ballet adds to that sense of honour, and we are delighted that our partnership with the Derby and Burton Hospitals Charity and the University of Derby has enabled this event to happen. We are looking forward to having the first ever ballet performance in Derby Cathedral and to being inspired once again by Florence's Nightingale's energy and vision for nursing care and public health."*

Performed by an accomplished cast of dancers and musicians, this high-quality, original ballet is guaranteed to be an inspiring and informative experience for adults and children alike.

Dr Denise Baker, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Dean of the college of Health, Psychology and Social care said *"The University of Derby is very proud to have such strong links in the city and being able to recognise the role Florence Nightingale played in establishing nursing as a profession. Our staff, students and practice partners form part of the wider nursing family in Derbyshire and share a common goal of upholding Florence's legacy and commitment to patient centred care. We will continue to do so through our partnership working, excellent teaching and innovation and research."*

The Cathedral will host a matinee and evening performance on Wednesday 10 July 2024, full details, and information on how to book are at: [derbycathedral.org/events/events/nightingale-evening/](https://derbycathedral.org/events/events/nightingale-evening/)

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### **Note to Editors**

#### **About New Creations Collective**

Building on the success of NCC's performances of The Secret Garden, this work offers another original score by Adam Kornas and more authentic, character-driven choreography by Nina Monteiro.

New Creations Collective is a Kent-based dance company, using classical and contemporary artforms to tell timeless, hope-inspiring stories. The company aims to push the boundaries of typically theatrical artforms by creating work that is highly accessible and can be performed outside of the theatre.

#### **About Derby Cathedral**

The Cathedral Church of All Saints was founded in 943 and is at the heart of a modern city of making. It is one of Derby's most beautiful and historic sites, a Grade I listed building that holds many important monuments of Derby's and Derbyshire's past. Inside you will find many treasures such as the tomb of Bess of Hardwick, a memorial to Florence Nightingale and the impressive wrought iron screen by Robert Bakewell. Find out more at [derbycathedral.org](https://derbycathedral.org)