



Photo credit Jane Hobson

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Important note

All copy must be used as provided. No changes are permitted without Protein's agreement. All information contained in this document, along with high resolution images, can be downloaded from <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tfu7qb5ptvhwvgz/AAC9QvJOCMH57lhNBVX4vrvja?dl=0>

All publicity material, including venue brochures, audience programmes and press releases must be proofed by Protein before going to print.

Crediting (Advance publicity & press release)

The following short billing must appear on all advance publicity including posters, venue/festival brochures, ads (where space allows) and press releases:

Short billing

Conceived and Directed by Luca Silvestrini

Commissioned by Bath Dance, ICIA Bath, DanceEast, DanceXchange, Dance Manchester and The Place.

Full Credits billing

To be used when space allows. It must appear in all programmes:

Luca Silvestrini's Protein

Border Tales

Conceived and Directed by Luca Silvestrini

Performed by

Temitope Ajose Cutting

Salah El Brogy

Andy Gardiner

Kenny Wing Tao Ho

Stephen Moynihan

Yuyu Rau

and by musician Anthar Kharana

Devised by the original cast with Eryck Brahmania, Stuart Waters, Femi Oyewole and Jodie Honeybourne

Music composed by Andy Pink

Lighting design Jackie Shemesh

Production Manager Rachel Shipp

Costume Stylist Valentina Golfieri

Assistant to Director Valentina Golfieri, Kip Johnson

Sound Engineer Thomas Evans

The Making of – Information to build a social media story

Please feel free to use the following information for social media campaigns to build context around the show:

- Luca Silvestrini began the creation process in 2013 with a worldwide research tour undertaken “to find out what real people think, feel, do”.
- He discovered recurring themes: stories that were less about getting over the border and more about the borders that remain in our heads.
- Being stuck between two cultures was a common experience. “That tension really interested me, the sense of in between-ness, and that there’s something you have to give away [for a better life].”
- Originally the impetus for Border Tales came after David Cameron’s 2011 speech on the failure

of multiculturalism. Against today's political landscape, the content will be updated but the debate remains all the more relevant...

- Luca, born in Italy, still feels like an outsider himself. "I'm too English to be Italian, and too Italian to be English. It's a feeling of displacement, of not belonging either to one place or the other. I am a foreigner and I still feel like a foreigner here," he says. "I get in trouble quite a lot because I have a different temperament. The way you express your emotions is culturally different. People view me as arrogant, or not polite enough. Here you're always: 'Sorry, sorry, sorry'. The thing is, you have to adapt. It's your job to adapt — you came here. However, it's not always that simple."
- Luca's methodology focuses on a co-devising approach, intrinsically nurturing all performers as individual artists and giving everyone in the studio a voice to be heard. This collaborative approach to making work is what sets the company apart from its peers and is the reason why he credits the original cast for their contributions to the work.

Quote from Artistic Director Luca Silvestrini:

"I'm dedicating 'Border Tales' to everyone I've interviewed, talked to and worked with over months of research around notions of identity and multicultural living. I've travelled across England, Slovenia, Denmark, Spain, Germany, Palestine and India and learned that there's a common, complex and unresolved space between people...between 'them and us', 'me and the other'. This emotional, sometimes physical, sometimes socially awkward space is strongly influenced by a restless collision of cultures, traditions, religious views and political interests. I see this space in between as a border, the outer part of all of us, a fragile partition that defines who we are, but that perpetuates a yearning to belong. I have nothing to teach or preach about, but I've been moved by the simple desire to share the many tales I've heard and experienced along the way.

The desire to bring back this work created in 2013 comes primarily from the moment we are living in. Back then, we were only at the start of a world crisis; four years down the line a lot has happened, resulting in a more divisive and intolerant co-existence. I feel it is important to bring back these personal yet relevant tales of migration and identity, to both remember the past and to reflect about today. This year's restaging of Border Tales is not only a desire to make sure that more people can see it, but it is primarily a necessity to provoke and increase our capacity to talk and share stories about migration."

Luca Silvestrini

Target Audience

Protein encourages conversation and dialogue with audiences and will encourage this through an online social media campaign *I Think You Think* (see page 8) in addition to offering venues the opportunity to host a post-show talk (see page 9)

Audience research conducted during the first tour of *Border Tales* in 2014 revealed a greater proportion of less-engaged audiences attending compared with other dance performances.

Dancers and dance students: Luca Silvestrini is a leading and acclaimed choreographer in the UK and internationally. *Border Tales* is particularly appealing to dancers looking to experience high quality dance theatre and study Luca's inventive juxtaposition of text and movement. Luca is also well known for pioneering the integration of community and professional performers. Protein can offer workshops to support the engagement of students and schools. (*Please see Wraparound Activity page 13*)

Regular dance attendees: Luca works with 'real life' to create 'real dance' and the autobiographical stories of each of the cast, expressed through movement, music and spoken word, stimulate empathy and curiosity from a contemporary dance audience.

Regular music attendees: The show contains live music played by Colombian musician Anthar Kharana and composed by renowned artist Andy Pink whose portfolio of work spans from theatre (Siobhan Davies's *Bird Song*, Michael Clark's *Come Been and Gone*) to Britpop music with 'The Big Melt' for Jarvis Cocker.

Regular theatre attendees: Luca's inventive use of spoken word interwoven with movement and music can be effectively used to stimulate **audience crossovers**.

University students: *Border Tales* appeals to proactive, socially engaged young people taking an interest in the issues of multiculturalism and identity.

Asylum seekers and Refugees: *Border Tales* was developed from research conducted with migrants and refugees across Europe, Palestine, India and the UK, including participants from Islington Refugee Centre in a dance performance project hosted at The Place where Luca is a Work Place artist.

2nd and 3rd generation immigrants: *Border Tales* explores issues faced by second and third generation immigrants. Issues explored include the complex feelings of being one person at home (amidst families still heavily involved in their indigenous culture) and feeling like someone else at school or in social circles (within networks of British and other multicultural friends).

Politically engaged audiences: The themes within the show will appeal to those who have been actively engaged with the recent general election and referendum, and who connect with editorial and opinion pieces (both online and in the press) relating to current affairs.

Selling Points

- Luca Silvestrini has been making work for 20 years
- Protein is the winner of the Critics' Circle National Dance Awards 2011 for best Independent Dance Company
- Protein was nominated again in 2016 for the same category
- Protein is a Partner with Yorkshire Dance and ARC Stockton
- Protein is an Associate Company with People Dancing
- Protein makes extraordinary dance from ordinary life
- An excerpt of *Border Tales* was broadcast on BBC World Service as part of their Identity season in 2016 to over 166 million viewers
- The show has had a sold out run at The Place, a UK tour in 2014 and appearances at Greenwich Dances 2015

- The Autumn Tour of *Border Tales* will have followed a run within the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August 2017, presented by The Place
- The catchphrase, '*I Think You Think*', is a central 'motif' of the show which relates to self-stereotyping - the performers making assumptions about what they believe others think of them
- Social media campaign and post show talks invite audiences to participate in the conversation about the issues explored by *Border Tales*
- Luca Silvestrini is a Work Place Artist at The Place
- *Border Tales* is politically relevant: Given the on-going cultural and political shifts in post-Brexit Britain, *Border Tales* will resonate with audiences as Britain re-imagines a new cultural self-identity outside of the European Union.
- Luca is renowned for his unique approach to audience engagement and for presenting work in unusual settings such as pubs, parks, high streets, stairwells, community centres, gentlemen's clubs and shop windows

Box office briefing notes for *Border Tales*

One line description:	A satirical look at multicultural Britain blending dance, dialogue and live music.
Running time:	80 minutes
Interval:	No
Audience warning:	Some swearing
Age Guidance:	12 plus
Special effects:	We don't anticipate any use of strobe or haze – but we will update venues if this changes.

Print Provided by the Company

Protein will provide the company with:

- Double sided A5 flyer
- A3 and/or A4 posters for distribution

Brochure Copy - Short and long copy:

Border Tales

Following a phenomenal run at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival to sold-out audiences, award winning Protein presents a satirical look at multicultural Britain. A blend of dance, dialogue and live music, this is a witty and poignant commentary on stereotypical thinking in post-Brexit Britain.

★★★★★ 'Funny, thought-provoking and consistently entertaining.' THE SCOTSMAN

Border Tales

Following a phenomenal run at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival to sold-out audiences, award winning company Protein presents a thought-provoking yet poignant commentary on multicultural Britain through dance, live music and dialogue compiled from the performers' personal experiences. Border Tales looks at post-Brexit Britain seen through the eyes of an international cast and gazes satirically on stereotypical thinking about migrant outsiders and bigoted homelander.

★★★★★ 'Funny, thought-provoking and consistently entertaining, Border Tales celebrates our differences, acknowledges our sameness and does more to repair the rifts than politics ever could.'
THE SCOTSMAN

About Protein

"Luca Silvestrini, director of Protein, is one of the UK's most consistently provocative choreographers, with works such as Dear Body and LOL pointing a satirical finger at society's most absurd contradictions"

Luke Jennings, The Observer

One of the most distinctive voices in British dance theatre, Luca Silvestrini's Protein has been using a blend of original choreography, text, humour and music to entertain and provoke audiences since 1997.

We believe in bringing the audience closer, inviting them to connect with what's happening on stage, whether through subject matter, location or the way performers directly address the audience.

Our socially relevant material connects theatrical experiences with the everyday and real life stories that engage audiences and participants in both on- and off-stage productions around the world. Luca Silvestrini's inclusive creative process and co-devising approach to making exceptional dance theatre for people of all ages and abilities sets the company apart.

Since 1997, the success and impact of Protein has grown in the UK and internationally, reaching thousands of people on the streets of the UK through its outdoor productions (In)visible Dancing at Hull 2017 (originally produced by International Dance Festival Birmingham 2010) and Windows in Progress (commissioned by the Royal Opera House as part of Deloitte Ignite 2014). LOL (lots of love), inspired by online relationships, toured the UK, Europe, the Middle East, Russia, Colombia, Thailand and India and led to four industry award nominations, with Protein being named 'Best Independent Company' at the National Dance Awards 2011 and nominated in 2016 for May Contain Food which toured nationally and to Italy.

Artistic Director Luca Silvestrini

Executive Director Franck Bordese

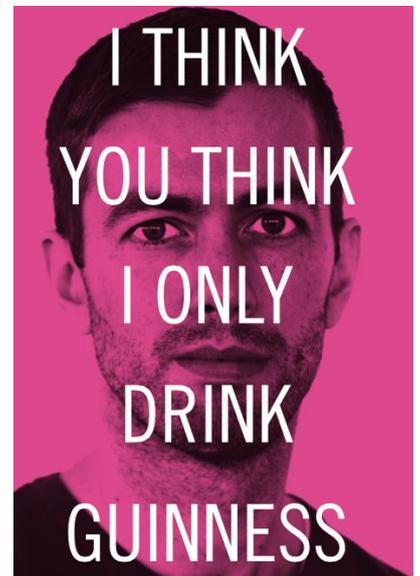
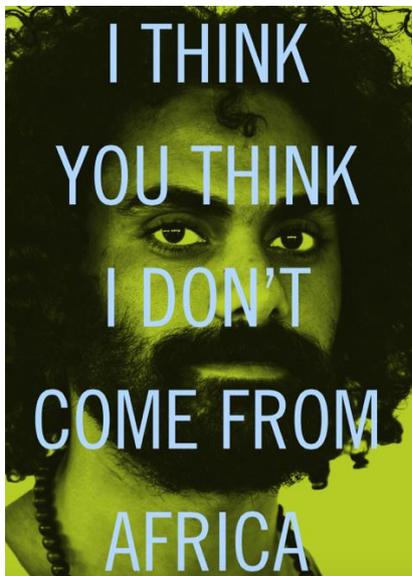
Creative Producer Melanie Precious

Company Administrator Jemma Robinson

I Think You Think Social Media Campaign

Protein will be putting together a comprehensive social media campaign which can link a venues' post show talk with conversations online. It will include:

- Image based campaign (see below for an example) drip-fed across Protein social media platforms in the run up to the tour
- Content relating to the creation and building of the show, to include the use of Facebook live in rehearsal and tech
- A series of trailers focusing on the stories of each performer
- The engagement of bloggers to begin online conversations about identity, multiculturalism and stereotyping
- Vox pops taken front of house during walk ups and intervals
- Recording of soundbites from post show talks
- Twitter chats with the creators



All content will be shared with venues via hashtags and we encourage venues to disseminate this as appropriate through their networks. Please contact Jemma Robinson for more information.

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/proteindance/>

Twitter

<https://twitter.com/proteindance>
@proteindance
#BorderTales

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/lucasilvestriniprotein/>
#proteindance
#BorderTales

Post Show Talk

The themes explored within the show *Border Tales* provide excellent stimuli for an engaging post show talk, offering an opportunity for venues to use their programming to invite further discussion with their audiences about art and its relation to current issues.

In order to maximize on the conversation and activity taking place through the *I Think You Think* campaign, Protein would like to suggest that this is presented in the format of a lively debate with invited panel members and a charismatic Chair and used to discuss the themes within the show and the role dance and the arts can play against today's political backdrop.

'Hook' Questions	Venues are free to programme a post-show talk in whatever manner they wish to accompany the performance. We can offer the following suggestions for 'hook' questions. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do you think I think? – panel and audience experiences of stereotyping.• Who do you think YOU are? – are you who people <i>think</i> you are, what you are <i>told</i> to be or perhaps what you are <i>expected</i> to be?• How has <i>Border Tales</i> changed? – (has it changed) the way you think about other people?• What role can arts and culture continue to play in promoting integration and living harmoniously together?
Chair	We would suggest a person accustomed to public speaking with the ability to challenge different sides of an argument unencumbered by personal viewpoint.
Panel	Suggestion of between 2 – 5 people from a cross section of the community. We suggest that you avoid enlisting the full panel from the arts/dance industry and use the opportunity to make contact with non-dance professionals.
Digital Interaction	Venues can use real time Twitter interaction and/or live streaming, encouraging additional press coverage and social media activity.
Protein Involvement	A member of the company can be available, at no cost, as part of the panel. Protein's PR agency Mobius can help to disseminate press releases.
Contact	Melanie Precious, Creative Producer, Melanie@proteindance.co.uk , 0208 269 2394

Luca Silvestrini's Protein presents:

Border Tales

Protein's satirical and poignant exploration of multicultural life in the UK heads out on a national tour

Conceived and Directed by Luca Silvestrini

XXXXXXXXDATES AND TIMESXXXXXXXXXX

"Superbly staged and performed" *The Telegraph*

Awarding-winning dance company Protein peel back the stereotypes about multicultural Britain by sharing dialogue compiled from the performers' own experiences in a show that has only become more relevant following the Brexit vote and the triggering of Article 50.

With wit, movement and live music, Luca Silvestrini's *Border Tales* rejects the false dichotomy of immigrant outsiders and bigoted natives, preferring to view Britain through the eyes of its international cast.

***Border Tales* was developed from research conducted with migrants and refugees across Europe, Palestine, India and the UK**, including participants from Islington Refugee Centre in a project hosted at The Place where Silvestrini is a Work Place artist. The show has had a sold-out run at The Place, a UK Tour in 2014, appearances at Greenwich Dances 2015, where the company is resident, and was broadcast on BBC World Service as part of their Identity season in 2016.

Luca Silvestrini, Artistic Director of Protein says: "The desire to bring back this piece of work created in 2013 comes primarily from the moment we are living in. Back then, we were only at the start of a world crisis; four years down the line a lot has happened, resulting in a more divisive and intolerant co-existence. I feel it is important to bring back these simple yet relevant tales of migration and identity, to both remember the past and to reflect about today. This year's restaging of *Border Tales* is not only a desire to make sure that more people can see it, but it is primarily a necessity to provoke and increase our capacity to talk and share stories of migration."

Protein recently toured a new version of their show *May Contain Food (May Contain You)* to rural venues with the National Rural Touring Forum's Rural Touring Dance Initiative. Alongside the return of *Border Tales*, they are preparing to make a new version of their celebrated *(In)visible Dancing* commissioned by Hull 2017 UK City of Culture this summer.

Formed in 1997 and currently one of the most distinctive voices in British dance theatre, Protein uses a blend of original choreography, humour and music to entertain and provoke audiences. The company's idiosyncratic dance theatre work provoked by the everyday include *B for Body*, a Place Prize Finalist in 2006, and the award-winning *LOL (lots of love)*, which has toured extensively since its 2011 debut, winning acclaim from critics and audiences alike.

Artistic Director Luca Silvestrini's desire to connect theatrical experience with real life stories results in witty shows, both on- and off-stage, that reflect the absurdity in everyday situations and experiences.

Born in Jesi, Italy, Silvestrini trained at Bologna University and Laban, he has worked on a number of large-scale cross-generational and participatory events, including the world record-breaking Big Dance Class, Eat London (which won a Visit London Gold Award) and Big World Dance 2010. He has won a Jerwood Choreography Award, a Bonnie Bird New Choreography Award and The Place Prize 2006 Audience Award, and was one of the first recipients of a Rayne Fellowship for Choreographers (2006). Protein was awarded the Critic's Circle National Dance Award for Best Independent Dance Company 2011, and was nominated again in 2016. Luca is also a Work Place artist at The Place.

SECTION ABOUT VENUE.

@proteindance | #BorderTales | www.proteindance.co.uk

Running Time: 80 minutes | **Suitable for ages** 12+

Conceived and Directed by Luca Silvestrini

Performed by:

Temitope Ajoose Cutting

Salah El Brogy

Andy Gardiner

Kenny Wing Tao Ho

Stephen Moynihan

Yuyu Rau

and by musician Anthar Kharana

Devised by the original cast with Eryck Brahmania, Stuart Waters, Femi Oyewole and Jodie Honeybourne

Music composed by Andy Pink

Lighting design Jackie Shemesh

Production Manager Rachel Shipp

Costume Stylist Valentina Golfieri

Assistant to Director Valentina Golfieri, Kip Johnson

Sound Engineer Thomas Evans

Listings information

DATES PRICES VENUE WEBSITE

Commissioned by Bath Dance, ICIA Bath, DanceEast, DanceXchange, Dance Manchester and The Place.

Press Quotes

FIVE STAR REVIEWS:

The Scotsman

★★★★★ 'Funny, thought-provoking and consistently entertaining, Border Tales celebrates our differences, acknowledges our sameness and does more to repair the rifts than politics ever could.'

★★★★★ 'Silvestrini plays with...wit and wisdom, giving us an easy, non-judgmental space in which to consider life in another person's shoes.'

Define Arts

★★★★★ 'Border Tales is an important piece of work, especially in today's cultural and political climate. Truly outstanding work.'

★★★★★ 'The fusion of physical theatre, spoken word and verbatim theatre draws together arguably one of the most important issues within today's society.'=

★★★★★ '...Bold, powerful and deeply moving.'

Fest Mag

★★★★★ 'Taking a demoralising, frightening issue and fighting it with wit and poetry cannot be an easy thing to do, but that is what Protein has achieved.'

Broadway Baby

★★★★★ 'Border Tales is essential theatre for the political climate of today.'

North West End

★★★★★ 'A bold, visceral dynamic attempt to sow the lives of multicultural Britain today.'

FOUR STAR REVIEWS:

The Stage

★★★★★ 'Vital exploration of multiculturalism'.

Edinburgh Festival Magazine

★★★★★ 'Border Tales takes on all of the social nuances buzzing around the country with creativity and intelligence'.

★★★★★ 'The live music is a fantastic addition and lifts the whole performance'.

★★★★★ 'One of the greatest successes comes in the honesty of the performers, allowing them to make a real and sincere point about current day Britain.'

Audience Quotes

“Border Tales was simply the best dance performance I've seen in my life”

“A poignant topic, brilliantly explored”

“It was stunning, brilliant. I had no idea what to expect. Nearly went to the cinema... glad I didn't”

“It was an amazing performance of dance, music and narrative telling. Great drama, change of pace and rhythm. Very meaningful and so right for the time”

Images

Images can be downloaded from

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tfu7qb5ptvhwvgz/AAC9QvJOCMH57lhNBVX4vrvja?dl=0>

All images used must be credited accordingly – name clearly marked in the file name if each image

Logos

Venues should include Protein's logo on all material and publicity produced for the show. The logo can be downloaded from

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tfu7qb5ptvhwvgz/AAC9QvJOCMH57lhNBVX4vrvja?dl=0>

Venues should also include the list of co-producers:

Commissioned by Bath Dance, ICIA Bath, DanceEast, DanceXchange, Dance Manchester and The Place.

Trailers

Two videos are available to download:

- 1) **Border Tales trailer** (1.28 minutes) (To Publicise the show)
- 2) **The Making of Border Tales** (4.30 minutes) (Additional content for your website adding further context to the show).

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tfu7qb5ptvhwvgz/AAC9QvJOCMH57lhNBVX4vrvja?dl=0>

Wraparound Activity and Curriculum Links

Protein is able to offer a range of workshops and creative projects to help to attract audiences of secondary schools, colleges and HEI's.

Workshops are particular suited for Key stage 3, 4 and above and can support the teaching of Citizenship by way of encouraging students to explore and engage with diverse ideas, beliefs, cultures and identities and consider the values we share. The workshops also address broader personal values and explore questions of identity, self-belief and confidence.

Please contact **Creative Producer, Melanie Precious** (melanie@proteindance.co.uk) for more details.

Tour Schedule

2	November	The Point, Eastleigh
3	November	Pavilion Dance South West, Bournemouth
4	November	The House, Plymouth
8	November	Mumford Theatre, Cambridge
9	November	Forest Arts Centre, Walsall
10	November	Lakeside Arts, Nottingham
11	November	Curve, Leicester
14-18	November	The Place, London
21	November	ARC, Stockton
