

# Jessica Ann May Squire BA Hons

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Based in West Devon, England

*I am currently working as a freelance dance practitioner. I am a vibrant, enthusiastic teacher and performer, dedicated to working with the strongest effort and application. Dance has always inspired me and now I am committed to sharing my enthusiasm for dance with others through teaching, choreography and performance.*

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## Education

2008-2011, Bath Spa University, BA Combined Degree: Dance & English (1<sup>st</sup> Class in Dance, 2.1 in English).

2006-2008, Okehampton College A Levels: Drama & Theatre Studies-A English Lit-A Geography-A French-B

2001-2006, Okehampton College, 11 GCSEs, A\*: Dance, English, French, Geography, ICT, Science.

A: Drama, English Literature, Maths, R.E., Resistant Materials.

## Training: *Certificates and Courses*

Public Liability Insurance £10 mil / Enhanced DBS / Level 2 Safeguarding / Emergency First Aid at Work / UK Driving Licence / Restraint Training / Equity member / Sports Leaders UK: Dance Leaders Training.

2006-2008, Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing, Modern Theatre Dance: Intermediate, Inter Foundation.

1994-2006, Royal Academy of Dance, Pre-Primary - Grade Eight in Classical Ballet.

## Dance Styles: *Teaching and Performance*

(main styles) Ballet / Bollywood / Charleston / Commercial / Contemporary / Dance Fitness / Historic / Jazz / Movement to Music / Musical Theatre / Rock'n'Roll / Seated Chair / Street Dance / Stretch & Relax

## Work Record: *References available on request*

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### Dance Teacher, freelance self-employed: 2006 to present

Roles include:

- Planning, choreographing and teaching curriculum and non-curriculum based dance workshops, either as one-off workshops, regular classes, wow days/topic kickstarters, or towards a performance.
- Researching topics, themes and issues, then using dance as a vehicle to explore these ideas within educational settings, creating workshops and movement material for different ages and abilities.
- Publicising, networking, adapting, working to a budget, booking dance space, invoicing, evaluation.
- Delivering teacher training workshops on how dance can be used and taught in primary schools.

I have taught a range of abilities, from ages 1 up to 93, in a variety of styles. Locations include pre-school, primary, comprehensive and private schools and colleges, special needs schools, activity centres and hotels, as well as running my own classes in halls and in schools as afterschool clubs. I have a very inclusive approach to dance and am regularly required to adapt my dance sessions on the spot, depending on the level or needs of the participants, particularly at the hotel where this information is not known in advance.

As well as weekly dance sessions in schools, I have also run teacher training courses for primary school teachers wanting to use more dance in the classroom. I have taken primary school teachers through their Dance Leaders Level 2 to enable them to use dance more confidently and effectively in the classroom.

I regularly lead wow days to kick-start topics, teach routines for assemblies or shows. I deliver inspiring dance workshops, regularly, periodically and as one-off sessions, combining dance as a sport and a performing art, incorporating fitness and creativity.

To date I have taught dance in 4 continents. When I taught dance in China, the pupils did not speak English. Previous and current contracts include: BBC Blast, Bounce Studios, Dance in Devon, Devon Arts in Schools Initiative (DAISI), Devon County Council (over 20 primary schools), The Manor House Hotel, Novato Dance Company, Okehampton Community Recreation Association (OCRA), PQA, Seize the Moment Ltd, Stagecoach.

### **Movement Instructor, freelance self-employed: 2016 to present**

Rob Pudner – Entertainingly Different.

Theatre in Education – workshops and performances.

Position held: actor and movement workshop leader for the company.

Roles include: planning, leading and evaluating curriculum-based movement activities and workshops in schools, performing shows based on topics in the curriculum, spontaneous improvisation, character acting, script work. We work both within and outside of educational settings – at special needs schools and centres, mainstream schools, children’s parties, special events (RHS, Big Sheep, Beautiful Days).

### **Area Dance Ambassador: 2012**

Gillian Dale – Dance in Devon.

I was West Devon Dance Ambassador as part of the year long Devon Dance Compass Project. This job involved working with schools and local communities to promote sustainable dance projects, and culminated in a collaborative showcase of work with local artists, dancers, and the Birmingham Royal Ballet.

### **Self-employed artiste: 2006 to present**

Contracts include:

- Dartmoor Dance Company, 2017, co-founder and company director, choreographer and performer. Roles: performing and choreographing variety dance shows, managing, marketing, web design.
- Manor House Hotel, 2017, Show Team Captain/Choreographer - ‘Through the Decades’, ‘Christmas’  
Roles: • Establishing a structure and framework for the launch of the evening entertainment programme.
  - Managing and leading the show team, teaching, timetabling rehearsals and producing rotas.
  - Planning, producing and choreographing shows, holding auditions, selecting and ordering costumes and music, lighting design, performing the show.
- Chaplins Pantos, 2015: ‘Beauty’ in *Beauty and The Beast*. Touring pantomime show. Director: Matt Oliver.
- Bourne Leisure: Haven, 2015. Roles: Dancer, Singer, Presenter - teaching dance workshops, running daytime children’s activities, performing in shows, delivering evening entertainment programme.
- Disneyland Paris, 2014- 2015: Dancer, actor, character and parade performer. Director: Pierre Clerot.
- Exim Dance Company, 2012: Dancer in ‘I Saw Them Fall’, live contemporary dance performances and a dance film. Role included teaching dance in schools, collaborative workshops. Director: Claire Summers.
- London Paralympic Games, 2012: Dancer in the Paralympic Opening Ceremony. Director: Kevin Finnan.
- Urban Mess, Street Dance Crew, 2009: Dancer, 3<sup>rd</sup>, European Dance Championships. Director: Fiona Hay.

### **Other Skills and Interests**

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Versatile Actor, Singer, Dancer, Presenter. Spontaneous & Contact Improvisation. Good level of ICT skills.

Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, Singing: Grade 6 (distinction), 7 (merit), 8 (distinction).

Vocal Range: Soprano (Low E to top E, belt to Eb). Music Theory Grades 4 & 5. Classical Flute Grades 1 - 8.

In 2016 I was vice chairman of Winkleigh YFC and I assist with their charity events and theatrical productions. I often go to music events, from classical concerts to volunteering on the John Peel Stage at Glastonbury.

I sing with the Tarka Collective choir, who were 2016 national champions, and featured on ‘The Choir’ on BBC2 with Gareth Malone. I also enjoy extra work, my highlight was meeting Brad Pitt whilst filming ‘Allied’.