



AUTIN
DANCE THEATRE





Up in the Sky is a thrilling aerial adventure for families, where dance takes flight and imagination knows no bounds! Performed on a giant 7-metre circular structure, 6 incredible performers leap, spin and soar through the skies in a playful tale about 2 siblings, finding your way, and what makes us feel at home. Co-created with young people, this bold new show blends spectacular aerial movement, music and magical visuals to inspire hearts of all ages. Gather round, look up, and join us for a journey above the clouds!

Previewing at festivals in summer 2025.



Director/Choreographer: Johnny Autin

Creative Producer: Annalise McIntyre

Learning & Participation Coordinator: Natasha Boyes

Outdoor Arts Consultant: Adam Towndrow

Set Design & Construction: Total Solutions

Technical manager: Jamie Higgins

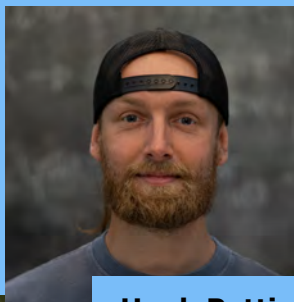
Rigging consultant: Simon Edwards

Aerial Dance Mentor: Lindsey Butcher (Gravity & Levity)

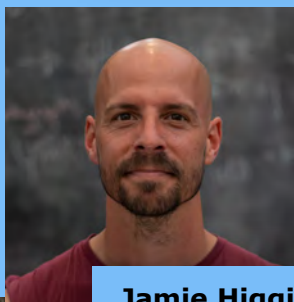
Performers: Hauk Pattison, Jamie Higgins, Johnny Autin, Mitchell Davis, Naissa Bjørn

Music: Richard Shrewsbury - Royal Birmingham Conservatoire

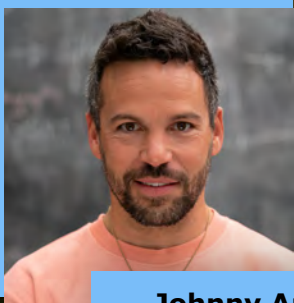



Hawk Pattison

Hawk Pattison is a multidisciplinary performer whose career spans theatre, circus, dance, TV, and film. He began his professional journey in theatre, including early work with the Royal Shakespeare Company, before launching into circus with Scarabeus Aerial Theatre. He went on to graduate from the National Centre for Circus Arts in 2014, specialising in Chinese pole. Throughout his career Hawk's contributions to productions often go beyond performance—he frequently collaborates in co-devising and direction, drawing on a diverse range of life experiences including multiple martial arts, scuba diving, and rock climbing. These disciplines inform his creative process and physical storytelling, enriching the development of characters and scenes. His work includes performances with the National Theatre and the acclaimed The Chosen Haram, where his emotional depth and physical intensity make him a distinctive presence across a range of genres.


Jamie Higgins

Jamie Higgins is a professional aerial dancer with over a decade of experience in the circus and dance industry. Jamie trained as a dancer, and then an aerialist and has found the marriage between these two art forms to be highly complimentary. After graduating London Contemporary Dance School (2008), Jamie has spent the last 15 years performing all around the world, his expertise have given him the chance to perform at The Royal Opera House, Bregenz Opera house, Opera de Lille, performing with some amazing companies, Gravity & Levity, Fidgetfeet, Levantes Dance Theatre, and performing in shows such as The Olympics, The Commonwealth Games, Bear Grylls arena tour (Endeavour).


Johnny Autin

Johnny Autin trained in contemporary dance at the National Conservatoire in Paris. He is Artistic Director of Autin Dance Theatre and Puppetry Director for *Tales from Acorn Wood* (UK tours 2022–2023) and the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony. With over 20 years' experience, Johnny is an award-winning choreographer and dance leader, known for multidisciplinary work across professional, community, and educational settings. He has been commissioned by international organisations including British Council, Dance Hub Birmingham, and Muda Africa. He is Associate Dance Artist at Midlands Arts Centre (MAC) and a trustee of Dancefest, using dance to inspire, educate, and empower communities.


Mitchell Davis

Mitchell Davis is a contemporary dance artist based in London. They first discovered dance through a Balletboyz workshop at school, where the blend of athleticism and artistry immediately captivated them. Mitchell trained at Trinity Laban and later completed a placement with Motionhouse during their time at Northern School of Contemporary Dance. Professional credits include Motionhouse, Southpaw Dance Company, and performances for Burberry at London Fashion Week. Passionate about both performance and education, Mitchell has led and assisted classes for a wide age range. Dance continues to be a grounding and empowering force throughout their life and creative journey.


Naissa Bjørn

Naissa Bjørn is a queer interdisciplinary movement artist, specialising in contemporary dance, aerial harness and bungee. He began his training in circus at National Centre for Circus Arts and is a graduate of London Contemporary Dance School. He has worked with companies such as James Cousins Company, CLOD Ensemble, Shaper/Caper, Scarabeus Aerial Theatre and Tough Boys, and notably performed with Caitlin Barnett Company, at both the Ramallah Contemporary Dance Festival in Palestine and Glastonbury. Screen credits include projects with Channel 4, BBC Young Creatives, Amazon Prime and JGrey. Naissa has also recently movement directed for Piss Carnation at the Soho Theatre, and for Azadi.mp3's music video 'Control'.


Sebastian Parker

My name is Sebastian, but I also go by Seb. I'm extraverted, kind and outgoing. I love to use my body and push my limits acrobatically. I am trained in acrobatics, dance and aerials. I love to game, gym and tumble. You'll rarely catch me sat still as my ADHD loves to get me up and moving



Autin Dance Theatre (ADT) is an innovative touring dance company, established in 2013 under the helm of acclaimed French choreographer & Birmingham-based Artistic Director Johnny Autin. Our mission is to inspire, educate and instigate positive social changes by delivering relevant, highly responsive, multi-disciplinary arts activities to communities, in theatres, outdoors and in non-traditional spaces. ADT provides extensive learning & engagement programmes with a wide range of participants across several local communities.

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**Help support Autin Dance
Theatre's projects, performances,
and day-to-day operation.**

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Creative Director

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