

Sadler's Wells  
**breakin<sup>™</sup>**  
convention

# Open Art Surgery

**Saturday 9 March 2024**

**Featuring:**

**Anja Milicic | Apex Zero & Corrie Onyx David King**

**Gary Clarke - UPG | Luke Lentes**

**Vasiliki Papapostolou**

**#openartsurgery #breakinconvention**

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Luke Lentes



# Luke Lentes

Luke Lentes, a multi-disciplinary creative, initially made his start in the realm of competitive dance, building his expertise in freestyle dance through hip hop and popping styles.

His journey extended into the realms of dance theatre, working on various projects before transitioning into photography, videography, and content creation.

Shortly after, Luke established his platform, The Capsule. Despite his evolving interests, he remains deeply rooted in his passion for creation and competition, balancing both within his ongoing ventures.



Anja Milicic

## **Anja Milicic**

Anja is a 27-year-old artist from Split, Croatia, now based in Rotterdam who started dancing hip hop in 2009 before shifting to breaking in 2011, engaging in competitions worldwide.

Beyond competing, she has taught kids and performed in choreographed shows. Currently, her focus is on performance and expanding vocabulary in diverse dance styles, particularly house dance and movement.

Eager to express beyond breaking, her passion lies in creating and sharing thoughts through dance, aiming to evoke emotions, inspire and connect with the audience.

She is at the beginning of her making career, actively seeking opportunities for personal and artistic growth.



# Apex Zero & Corrie Onyx David King

# Apex Zero & Corrie Onyx David King

Apex Zero is a multi-disciplinary artist, creating as an emcee, beat maker, filmmaker, photographer and writer. Born and raised in West London with African and Grenadian roots, Apex is a member of numerous hip hop and bass music collectives, an organising member of global hip hop community End of the Weak, co-founder of I Am Hip Hop Magazine and a contributor to digital production house GlobalFaction.

Corrie Onyx David King, also known as Corrieography and "The Joy", was born and raised in West London. He is a choreographer, songwriter, poet and professional dancer. Corrie has a BA in dance and is currently working, creating and mapping out his own form of movement that focuses on the essence of free movement, rather than the form itself.

This extract features 'Harvest Rebellion' a metal sculpture by Roxane Simone, visuals created by Daniel Oluwasayo Olabode and styling by Charlita Hall.

You can see more of Drummer Warrior Storyteller's elements at [www.apexzero.co.uk](http://www.apexzero.co.uk)

**Vasiliki Papapostolou**





## **Vasiliki Papapostolou aka Tarantism**

Vasiliki Papapostolou aka Tarantism, holds a BA from Trinity Laban, London, and an MA in Education with Distinction from King's College London.

As a dancer, her credits include performing with Edifice Dance Theatre (UK), Teatro Regio Torino (Italy), Pottporus: Company Renegade (Germany), and Taira Foo Dance Company (UK).

As a choreographer, she has showcased her work at Whitechapel Gallery (UK), TEDx Panteion University (Greece), The Place (UK), Block 336 - ICF (London), Zichri Theater (Israel), Jersey City Theatre Centre (online event, USA).

She was won RDE Champs experimental category and 2 vs 2 Kre8 Lab experimental, representing Soultribe Crew (UK). She has been invited to judge international battles and competitions such as KRE8 Lab (UK), Percorsi Coreografici (Italy) and Torre del Lago Dancing Time (Italy).

# Gary Clarke - UPG



# UPG

Gary Clarke AKA Quake is a 21 year old movement artist born in East London, representing the crew, UPG. His main movement language is KRUMP which he has been practicing for around five years although his movement is rooted in the nuances of hip hop and its many accents. Gary represents the crew UPG which was formed in Birmingham in 2019. The crew champions identity and raw creativity within dance and these are some ideas that he loves to explore within his movement.

UPG is a crew that operates predominantly in the battle scene and are a household name in the UK. They have competed national and internationally in events including Red Bull Dance Your Style and Juste Debout. However, members have also performed at events and festivals such as Love Supreme Jazz festival, Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2023 and Birmingham festival 2023. As well as this, they have been involved in commercial projects like the Google Pixel 8 campaign and the Jonathan Ross Show and have worked with brands such as Nike, Adidas, Champion and Red Bull.



## Jonzi D - Open Art Surgery Leader

An MC, dancer, spoken word artist and director, he is the foremost advocate for hip hop who has changed the profile and influenced the development of the UK British hip hop dance and theatre scene over the last two decades. Since founding Breakin' Convention in 2004 Jonzi has triumphed in raising the profile and giving a platform to hip hop disciplines, which has gained worldwide recognition as being at the vanguard of the development of the art form. Through professional development projects Open Art Surgery and Back to the Lab, Jonzi has supported hundreds of hip hop dance and rap/poetry artists on their journey to creating theatre. His critically acclaimed works include 1995's Lyrikal Fearta, 1999's Aeroplane Man, 2006's TAG... Just Writing My Name, 2009's Markus the Sadist and 2013's The Letter: To Be Or To MBE? about his choice to decline an MBE. Jonzi has been featured in HBO's Def Poetry Jam, had his short films Silence da Bitchin' & Aeroplane Man screened on Channel 4, toured his work extensively all over the world and delivered a TEDx Talk about the influence and evolution of hip hop culture.

In 2020 Jonzi directed Our Bodies Back which won 'Best Artistic Film' as part of the Detroit Black film festival, followed up by the sequel, AUTOCORRECT in 2022. He also wrote Here/Not Here, a short film directed by Bim Ajadi which won the best film category at Deaffest.

## **Jane Sekonya-John**

### **Open Art Surgery Mentor**

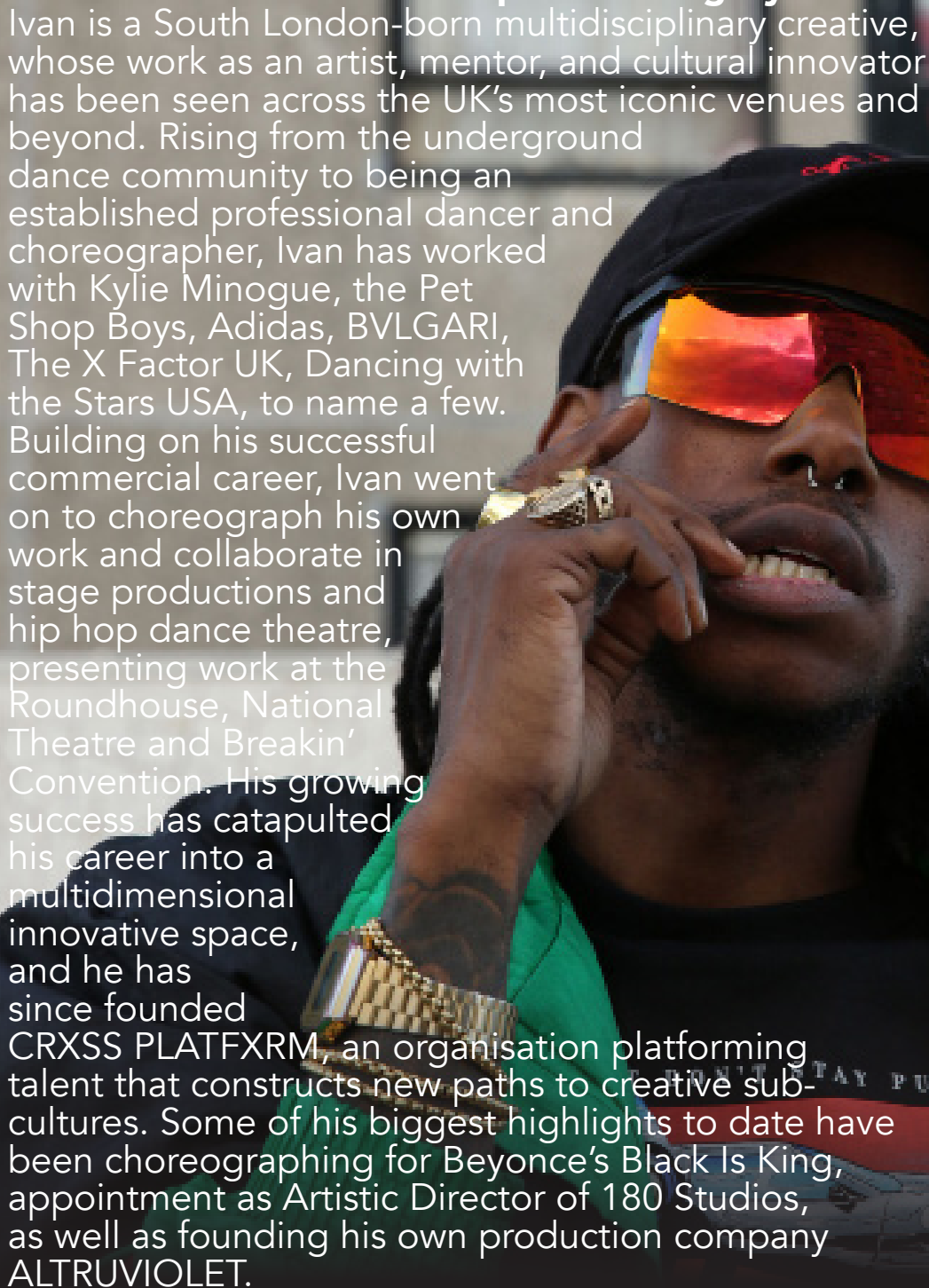
Born and Bred in Katlehong, Johannesburg, Jane's first dance was traditional Sotho and Pedi, followed closely by renditions of early street dance, hip hop and pantsula with her local township crew Bixties Body Rock Club.

Her training includes Johannesburg Dance foundation and Ballet Rambert in London. Jane has performed and toured with Disney's The Lion King, Jonzi D's Aeroplane Man, has worked extensively with traditional South African dance and music group Shikisha.

Jane is among a rare breed of performing artists fusing popular cultures by experimenting with the variables of dance in the genres of ballet, contemporary, Kwaito (house dance), gumboot, krump, traditional African, hip hop and Afro-Caribbean dance styles, to bring her unique craft to the cutting edge of audience, dancers and dance theatres around the world. The unparalleled ability of subtle exploding dynamite' is descriptive of Jane's "AFROFUZE." Jane is also a regular teacher at Artistry Youth Dance Company in London.

## Ivan Michael Blackstock - Open Art Surgery Mentor

Ivan is a South London-born multidisciplinary creative, whose work as an artist, mentor, and cultural innovator has been seen across the UK's most iconic venues and beyond. Rising from the underground dance community to being an established professional dancer and choreographer, Ivan has worked with Kylie Minogue, the Pet Shop Boys, Adidas, BVLGARI, The X Factor UK, Dancing with the Stars USA, to name a few. Building on his successful commercial career, Ivan went on to choreograph his own work and collaborate in stage productions and hip hop dance theatre, presenting work at the Roundhouse, National Theatre and Breakin' Convention. His growing success has catapulted his career into a multidimensional innovative space, and he has since founded CRXSS PLATFXRM, an organisation platforming talent that constructs new paths to creative sub-cultures. Some of his biggest highlights to date have been choreographing for Beyonce's Black Is King, appointment as Artistic Director of 180 Studios, as well as founding his own production company ALTRUVIOLET.



## **COMING UP WITH BREAKIN' CONVENTION**

### **ABC Open Day 30 March, 2-3pm**

ABC invites you to find out more about our FREE ground-breaking Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performance and Production Arts, specific to Hip Hop Theatre. See [academybreakinconvention.com/open-days](https://academybreakinconvention.com/open-days)

### **Training for Teachers: Specialist CPD 30 March, 3:30-5pm**

Translate your knowledge and experience of the creative industry into education with Academy Breakin' Convention's FREE CPD Session. Expand your teaching toolkit and understand ABC's approach to education, plus learn how to reframe your practice in line with academic guidelines, increasing employability prospects for artists.

See [academybreakinconvention.com/open-days](https://academybreakinconvention.com/open-days)

### **Breakin' Convention 2024 3 - 6 May**

Get bank holiday ready for jaw-dropping performances, live DJs, dance workshops, graffiti, emcees, and spontaneous cyphers all over Sadler's Wells in an unforgettable experience.

**Enjoy this evening?** Would you like to develop work with Breakin' Convention or explore an idea in hip hop theatre? We have spaces for the next Open Art Surgery - September 23-28 2024 - email [michelle@breakinconvention.com](mailto:michelle@breakinconvention.com)

**For updates on our upcoming shows and events, visit**  
[breakinconvention.com](https://breakinconvention.com)

Breakin' Convention would like to thank everyone at Sadler's Wells who make Open Art Surgery possible.