

# TRAMWAY

Richard Chappell Dance presents

WEBSITE | [www.richardchappelldance.co.uk](http://www.richardchappelldance.co.uk)

## Land Empathy

Saturday 10 May– Two 20 minute performances at 1pm and 4pm.

**AUDIENCE NOTES** | Land Empathy will be performed in Pollok Country Park outside The Burrell Collection. It is free and open to all ages.

**ACCESS** | There will be a Touch Tour 40 minutes prior to the 1pm performance at 12:20pm.

### CREDITS |

**Choreographer:** Richard Chappell  
**Dancers:** Marla King, Juan Sanchez Plaza, Richard Chappell  
**Sculpture:** Anna Gillespie  
**Production Design:** Charlie Knight  
**Production Support:** Kaitlyn Howlett  
**Composers:** Larch (Matthew Allmark and Kai Hellstrom)  
**Dramaturg:** Neus Gil Cortes  
**Original Cast Dancer:** Riz Golden

### COMPANY CREDITS |

**Artistic Director:** Richard Chappell  
**Production Manager:** Charlie Knight  
**Producer:** Clare Parker  
**Company Manager:** Kaitlyn Howlett  
**Lighting Technician:** Nico Bray  
**Communications:** Robert James  
**Board:** Danny T. Reid, Lois Taylor, Bojana Daw Srdanovic, Lara Goodband, Kio Tomiyama

### NOTES

*'As your heart breaks open there will be room for the world to heal.'* - **Joanna Macy**

Inspired by the pressing challenges of the climate crisis, *Land Empathy* explores how movement can enhance people's spiritual connection to the natural world. The work weaves a powerful narrative that helps foster climate consciousness, whilst conveying a passionate message of urgency for the future and grief for the past and present. In *Land Empathy*, mother nature is dying, or perhaps already gone and is represented by a sculpture created by Anna Gillespie for Extinction Rebellion's Funeral for Nature. She is encased and suspended in the scaffold of the man-made built world; separated from the earth that she both is and that sustains her. The dancers anoint themselves with white clay as a public declaration of grief and disavowal of the materialism that we are all complicit in. The final red clay represents compassion and its important role in restoring strength to activists. *Land Empathy* ultimately adopts University of Cumbria Professor Jem Bendall's philosophy of Doom and Bloom instead of Doom and Gloom.

Tramway is a renowned international arts venue with an interdisciplinary spirit whose mission is to enrich and inspire our communities by providing ambitious, innovative and culturally relevant contemporary visual art and performance.

For more information visit: [www.tramway.org](http://www.tramway.org)



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## COMMISSIONING CREDITS |

*Land Empathy* has been commissioned by Theatre Royal Plymouth and through Stomping Ground (The Place, GDIF, Sismograf, Tramway, Strike a Light and FABRIC), with additional funding from The Linbury Trust. The work has been created with support from 101 Outdoor Arts, The Place, Sterts Arts and Environmental Centre and National Dance Company Wales.

## NOTE FROM RICHARD CHAPPELL |

*"I am very grateful for my collaborators' contributions to Land Empathy. I'm extremely thankful for their trust, emotional intelligence and co-authorship. I see my choreographic role as a co-creator with the dancers and other artists I collaborate with. Their creativity, empathy and passionate activism has brought this work to being."*

**- Richard Chappell**

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