

# RESIDANCE



# 24.02.2022-23

| FLASHMOB AT OXFORD RAILWAY STATION |





RESISdANCE is a Justice in Motion project that highlights the plight of refugees, their journey & their stories, and yet celebrates their resilience, their strength, their beauty and vulnerability.

**‘We cannot fight in this war in the usual way, as our Ukrainian men do. [...] Therefore, I am proud to be a part of this project... it’s my battlefield.’**

In February 2023 a group of Ukrainian refugee women came together with local dancers from Oxfordshire, to stand or rather dance together in solidarity against the war.

We met a few times over the course of 2 weeks to dance together, and creatively explore the women’s emotional stories and their journeys.

We asked each to bring with them an object that is significant to them, which they then shared with each other during the session. It was touching, heart-breaking, life affirming, and cathartic. We cried a lot, and we laughed a lot, and then we hugged a lot, and cried some more.

Out of this creative process, we developed a dance piece, to an original soundtrack by Quentin Lachapele, inspired by traditional Ukrainian music. This was performed as a Flashmob at Oxford’s train station on 24th February, to mark one year since the invasion of Ukraine.

We subsequently recorded the women’s stories, and met with Ukrainian photographer Vadym Gurevych to capture the women’s portraits, which are presented in this exhibition.

**‘RESISdANCE has become so much more than a creative project, it has become a community.’**





Name: Tetiana Sadchikova | Hometown: Kyiv  
Date of Arrival: 24.11.2022 | Object: A pair of trainers



‘I’m grateful to the organisers of the project for their compassion to Ukrainians, attitude, support, creativity and gathering some of us to tell to the people our true story. From us, they can learn what Ukrainians are experiencing today, what does it mean to lose your house and to become a refugee, how we are getting on in a new reality and how the support of people in Europe is important to us. Glory to Ukraine!’



SCAN THE CODE TO HEAR MORE OF HER STORY



Name: Tanya Rubis | Hometown: Kyiv | Date of Arrival: 08.04.2022  
Children: 1 daughter, age 8 | Object: My scarf

stronger



**RESIDANCE** ‘has started as a social project to expose to all world about Ukrainian women, who flee from war and what they had to go through. And now it’s more than just performance. Thanks to organisers, we opened our minds and souls in this dance and became stronger with it.’



SCAN THE CODE TO HEAR MORE OF HER STORY





Name: Olena Kozlova | Hometown: Kyiv | Date of Arrival: 26.05.2022  
Children: 3 children, age 28, 27 and 21 | Object: My trainers



resilience

**RESISdANCE** ‘ for me: unfreeze my emotions, transform my experience from pain and fear to support and strength, find resilienceE.’



SCAN THE CODE TO HEAR MORE OF HER STORY



Name: Oleksandra Hrydina | Hometown: Kharkiv | Date of Arrival:  
02.11.2022 | Children: 1 son, age 14 | Object: My small travel bag  
(with all documents, phone and money)

warm



**RESISdANCE**, ‘are the meetings when it’s warm, cozy and comfortable. When you are surrounded by wonderful talented people and realize that you are doing something important!’

SCAN THE CODE TO HEAR MORE OF HER STORY



Name: Maryna Soloviova | Hometown: Kyiv | Date of Arrival: 08.08.2022  
Children: 2, age 11 and 17 | Object: My mum's necklace cross



support

**RESISdANCE** ' is a project with a big story behind: it was dedicated to my mum, but became my personal escape-place to survive and my secret peaceful weapon to overcome war times. Now it's my attempt to express the gratitude to all British people, especially to my host Edith, for their continuing support of our country and my family in this vulnerable times.



SCAN THE CODE TO HEAR MORE OF HER STORY



Name: Tamara Kirieieva | Hometown: Kharkiv | Date of Arrival: 07.05.2022  
Children: 1 son, age 5 | Object: My backpack and notebook

help



**RESIDANCE** ‘ is a psychological help for me. ’

SCAN THE CODE TO HEAR MORE OF HER STORY

Name: Yanina Kalnytska | Hometown: Kharkiv | Date of Arrival:  
25.10.2022 | Object: A necklace with Ukrainian symbol Tryzub



**RESISdANCE** ‘for me is the understanding that I am not alone.  
There are people, whose support pushes forward. To life.’



SCAN THE CODE TO HEAR MORE OF HER STORY



Name: Vira Voronova | Hometown: Lviv | Date of Arrival: 19.08.2022  
Children: 3, age 23, 22 and 13 | Object: A jewelry from home



**RESISdANCE** ‘for me it is a part of something, that resonates in my heart. The language of gestures and movements can be used to convey what hurts, what we dream about, and help to restore the inner strength.’

SCAN THE CODE TO HEAR MORE OF HER STORY

Name: Olha Krystynska | Hometown: Chaiki, Kyiv | Date of Arrival:  
28.07.2022 | Children: 1 Son, age 11 | Object: My son's toy



**RESISdANCE** ‘ this is a project that touches the soul.  
Helps to survive our pain and gives strength and hope to move on. ’



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Name: Zoriana Horshkova | Hometown: Lviv | Date of Arrival: 04.05.2022  
Children: 2 children, age 11 and 8 | Object: A Ukrainian necklace

breath



**RESISdANCE** ‘for me: it is very pleasant to participate in the presentation of Ukraine to the world, to show the true feelings experienced during the war. I am very happy to be a part of this project. It’s like a breath of fresh air, being in a foreign country – dancing, expressing feelings, showing important things through dance...’  
The process is very interesting, therapeutic for all Ukrainian women.



SCAN THE CODE TO HEAR MORE OF HER STORY



Name: Valentyna Dmytriieva | Hometown: Mykolaiv | Date of Arrival: 20.07.2022 | Children: 1 son, age 6 | Object: A cherry tree



**RESISdANCE** ‘represents a dance that goes beyond clichés, embodying the powerful interconnection between movement and resilience. It serves as a medium for Ukrainian women to express and release the emotions that have been building up in their hearts.’



SCAN THE CODE TO HEAR MORE OF HER STORY

# Trains

No Entrance





Anja Meinhardt  
Krystal Dawn Campbell  
Maryna Soloviova  
Quentin Lachapele  
Ignite Creative  
Michael Lynch  
John Cairns  
Vadym Gurevych  
Siegi Dethune

artistic direction  
creative collaborator  
Ukrainian collaborator  
soundtrack  
camera  
film  
photography  
portrait photography  
graphic design





# Vadym Gurevych

Vadym Gurevych was born and raised in Kharkiv, Ukraine, and moved to the UK in 2005.

He has been in the IT industry since almost 30 years, but at the same time, has always been fascinated by photography.

During COVID, he started taking portraits of fellow inhabitants of Swindon, Wiltshire, where he has lived now for 18 years. He discovered that it's not just photography in general that he likes, but portrait photography in particular. Taking photos of other people.

He met many people who asked if he'd be willing to photograph them - their love stories, their family photos, even weddings. He was delighted, and continued to expand his photography career.

When the war started, he got acquainted with a number of Ukrainian refugees that came to Swindon, Oxford, London, Reading and Bristol. And that is how he met Maryna Soloviova, who told him about RESISdANCE...

[www.facebook.com/vadym.gurevych](https://www.facebook.com/vadym.gurevych)

# Quentin Lachapele

Quentin Lachapele is an established London-based composer.

He has worked on a varying range of exciting and acclaimed projects across film, theatre, documentaries, TV and promotional campaigns, as well as collaborating with bands and producers on records. His music has underscored TV shows around the globe and his compositions are often featured in trailers and adverts.

Quentin most enjoys writing soundtracks for films and theatre as he relishes “being a storyteller and guiding the audience through the piece”. As well as a collection of short films, Quentin composed the score for the award winning feature film Wasp.

Originally from the South West of France, Quentin moved to London to pursue his studies in music at the London College of Creative Media where he is now a part-time lecturer.

Quentin has worked with us on CONTAINED, ON EDGE, MOVING TOGETHER, RESISdANCE and CODE



OVADA is an artist-led arts centre in Oxford, with a warehouse gallery, studios and an education space. We strive to reflect our community through supporting the delivery of artistic activities that are welcoming for all.

It's very hard to imagine what it must be like to be displaced by war, especially in this day and age when you would think we could and should have progressed from acts of atrocities.

Globally, we are finding many countries are on a nationalist path which make the need for unity even more necessary.

The resilience shown by the people of Ukraine demands our solidarity, and at OVADA, we are honoured to be able to offer cultural support with the hope that this project will have a positive effect for the participants.

Mita Vaghela,  
Director OVADA



OVADA



# OXFORD FESTIVAL of the ARTS

I believe that the arts can speak.

I also believe that the arts should speak.

We are surrounded by beautiful things, but there is also sadness and injustice in the world. As much as a festival is all about a celebration of the arts and the community, it should also be about what is happening in the world.

This year's festival is precisely that: PEOPLE. STORIES. HISTORIES. It is about us: our stories, our histories, our world. Amongst the marvellous, exciting, enriching, and fun things throughout, there are also moments for thought.

Our collaboration with Justice in Motion and OVADA together with women from Ukraine living in Oxford, is one of the most meaningful ones in the festival. This is where we all come together and stand together in solidarity and camaraderie and stand up for what is right. The arts help us do this. The arts have the power to speak that is when we can all come together strongly so our voices are heard.

I am immensely proud of this collaboration, and deeply moved by our experience through the work of Anja with wonderful women from Ukraine.

Dr Michelle Castelletti,  
Director Oxford Festival of the Arts



# Justice in Motion

Justice in Motion is a leading physical theatre company that tells stories of social injustice, powerfully changing lives through the Arts.

Through a compelling mixture of dance, theatre, parkour, aerial acrobatics, film and music - we raise awareness, inspire, inform and connect.

Our performances are fun and engaging, they challenge, excite and surprise you, whilst they show you some of the harsh realities surrounding issues that concern us as a society.

Social justice is a wide field that includes freedoms, mental and physical health, personal safety from harm, the ability to grow and flourish, as well as encouraging creativity in many forms. And of course this applies to everyone.

Our work highlights such issues.

Through live and digital shows, talks and exhibitions, we reach out and touch as many people as possible, of all ages and backgrounds.

When you see our shows, you will be well entertained. You will find out things that you know a little about. But, the post show discussions, programme notes, workshops and our research pages on our website will uncover even more.

We want you to experience the stories and learn about those countless people affected by injustices. You might tell others. You might even make a stand for change. You could become a force for change yourself.

We move to move you, so that together we can make a difference.

ALWAYS MOVING, CREATING CHANGE



RESISdANCE is a collaboration between Justice in Motion, Oxford Festival of the Arts and OVADA with support from Multaka Oxford at Pitt Rivers and Oxford City Council.



Justice in Motion  
Unit 8, The Gallery, 54 Marston Street, Oxford, OX4 1LF  
[justiceinmotion.co.uk](http://justiceinmotion.co.uk)