

**PRESS RELEASE** 14 October 2011

## **Choreographer Jasmin Vardimon receives Visiting Professorship at the University of Wolverhampton**

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Dance theatre choreographer **Jasmin Vardimon** has been awarded a **Visiting Professorship of Performance** from the **University of Wolverhampton** following the wide recognition of her work by the University's School of Sport, Performing Arts and Leisure and a shared desire to bring together practice and theory.

Vardimon's work with the University aims to encourage intellectual debate and to develop a deeper process of analysis and interpretation of a live artistic work - a practice which rarely exists outside of academic institutes.

Vardimon's Professorship follows the recent announcement of her dance theatre company's move into a new "home" at the Stour Centre in Ashford, Kent, where the company will have the facilities to present work in a full production setting. Together with the University of Wolverhampton, Vardimon plans to host performances followed by debates at the new space in Ashford and also in the University's new performing arts building, inviting representatives from multi-disciplines to analyse, debate and produce written responses to a performed work.

**Jasmin Vardimon** says:

*"I am honoured and excited about the possibilities this position might open to develop projects within the University. I'm very keen to develop and expand the intellectual debate about the genre I'm working in and it seems like I have great new partners to work with."*

**Dr Paul Johnson** Principal Lecturer & Head of Drama at the University of Wolverhampton says:

*"This Visiting Professorship recognises the work that has already taken place between Jasmin Vardimon Company and staff and students at the University of Wolverhampton. There has been real interest generated by the company, for example we have PhD and MA students investigating their work, and I have recently spoken about their piece Yesterday at a national conference. Our students have always been incredibly inspired by JVC, both by seeing performances and taking part in workshops. This appointment signals the start of a period of intense collaboration between Performing Arts at the University of Wolverhampton and Jasmin Vardimon Company and this relationship between practitioners and academics will greatly enrich both sides."*

Jasmin Vardimon Company is an Arts Council England Regular Funded Organisation, based at The Stour Centre, Ashford, Kent.

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