

Gail Parmel // Artistic Director

Gail Parmel is the Artistic Director of ACE dance and music (African Cultural Exchange): the leading Black dance organisation in the U.K. today.

Gail was born in Leeds in 1970 and very proud of her Yorkshire roots, graduated from NSCD in 1996. After working for Kokuma Dance Company, Gail founded ACE dance and music with husband Ian Parmel in 1997. The company have toured throughout the U.K. and internationally at the Grahams town Festival in South Africa, in Lyon, France and in Milan, Italy.

The company's touring portfolio is testament to the spirit of collaboration which is at the heart of Gail's approach. Over the years she has joined forces with world renowned choreographers, such as Akiko Kitamura (Japan), Robert Moses (San Francisco), Vincent Mansoe (South Africa), Andile Sotiya (U.K.), Douglas Thorpe (U.K.) and Barwen Tavaziva (Zimbabwe).

As a champion for African and Caribbean Dance, Gail a resilient champion of youth dance formed ACE Youth in 1998. Award winning ACE Youth is now one of the UK's most high profile youth company's.

In 2006, ACE became a Regularly Funded Organisation, gaining recognition for their contribution to the development of dance within the U.K.

In 2010 Gail was nominated as one of 50 Women to Watch in the U.K. today.

