

“Mark Smith’s choreography is nothing short of incredible”
Andrew Tomli



Mark Smith Productions

Hut 8

Tour Pack: Spring 2021

Choreographer Mark Smith has incorporated mathematical language into his choreography to make a ground breaking trilogy of dance that reveals the complexity, genius & diversity of Alan Turing. Punished for being different, yet Turing’s legacy of pioneering the computer makes him relevant today. The trilogy consists of ‘Turing’s Machine’, ‘Turing Law’ and ‘3M’s.’ ‘Turing’s Machine’ is inspired by the invention of the Bombe machine, ‘Turing Law’ explores Turing’s homosexuality & the erasure of Gay history. ‘3M’s’ invites all to reimagine Alan Turing’s experiments in movement, music and maths and is a collaboration with composer Michael England. Hut 8 can also deliver a workshop for schools KS2 & KS3 devised in collaboration with Bletchley Park, home of the codebreakers.



The Chemical Basis of Morphogenesis

Mark Smith's Hut 8 choreography is inspired by the life and work of Alan Turing, a scientist who provided the theoretical underpinnings for the modern computer. In 2019 Alan Turing won BBC2's Icon of the Twentieth Century and was nominated to be the face of the new £50, that will be in circulation in 2021.

Mark Smith believes it is also Alan Turing's intersectionality that makes him relevant today. Hut 8 will incorporate Turing's ideas about maths and his complex identity of homosexuality and neurodiversity. Hut 8 will attract audiences that are representative of a range of communities and interests; scientific, LGBT, dance, and mathematics. To maximise press and media coverage; Mark has invited Mobius to create a national and regional publicity campaign.

Alan Turing is also an inspiration for young people and during Mark's second phase of research and development of Hut 8, he collaborated with Bletchley Park's award winning Learning team for maths and composer Michael England to make a workshop for schools called '3M's' (Maths, Music and Movement) and successfully tested the unique learning activity with students from KS2 & KS3. It is anticipated that school workshops will promote ticket sales for matinees and relaxed performances of HUT 8.

Between 2018 and 2019 Choreographer Mark Smith received two Arts Council England grants for research and development of HUT 8. He has made 3 films illustrating the innovation in choreography that he now wants to bring to audiences by touring Hut 8 England in spring 2021 and beyond.



3 Films about Mark Smith's R & D by Ben Simmons
[Link http://deafexplorer.com/artists/mark-smith/](http://deafexplorer.com/artists/mark-smith/)

A brief description of the Hut 8 production

Hut 8 will use the art form of dance to bring **Turing's** mathematical genius and complex identity of homosexuality and neurodiversity to audiences; the intersectionality and the creation of the computer make him relevant today. **Mark Smith** will bring into dance the minutiae and intimacy of **Alan Turing's** story, creating a spectacle of innovative dance that befits Turing's legacy as a great mathematical thinker who has impacted all our lives.

Running time: 110 minutes, including 20 minute interval.

Age guidance: 14+

Number of performers: 7 Dancers

Stage size required: 8 metres x 6 metres

Venue: 150 - 220 seater

Tech: Lighting and sound

Touring Team for Hut 8:

- 1) 7 Dancers
- 2) plus 1 dancer (swing)
- 3) Stage/Production manager

Press and Marketing:

National and Regional campaign led by PR company, Mobius who say, "The project sounds really interesting and right up our street." Mobius previously worked with Mark Smith on Ramps On the Moon production, "Tommy".

Flyers and posters will be available.

Booking information:

Dates show available for Bookings

May 8th - June 13th

Bookings 1, 2 or 3 nights

Sharing of work, London early September 2020

hut8@deafexplorer.com



Mark Smith Productions are looking for a supportive venue to host the technical rehearsal and premiere of Hut 8



Collaboration, Outreach workshops, & Audiences

Workshops for Schools inspired by Alan Turing's mathematical work.

Artist Mark Smith uses dance to bring emotional connection to Alan Turing's story. A focus on science,

technology, engineering, and mathematics (**STEM**)

developed over the period of the R&D, specifically the intersection of mathematics with dance, echoes the

cross-disciplinary history of **Bletchley Park**, home of the codebreakers. Together with

composer **Michael England**, and

Bletchley Park's Learning Manager

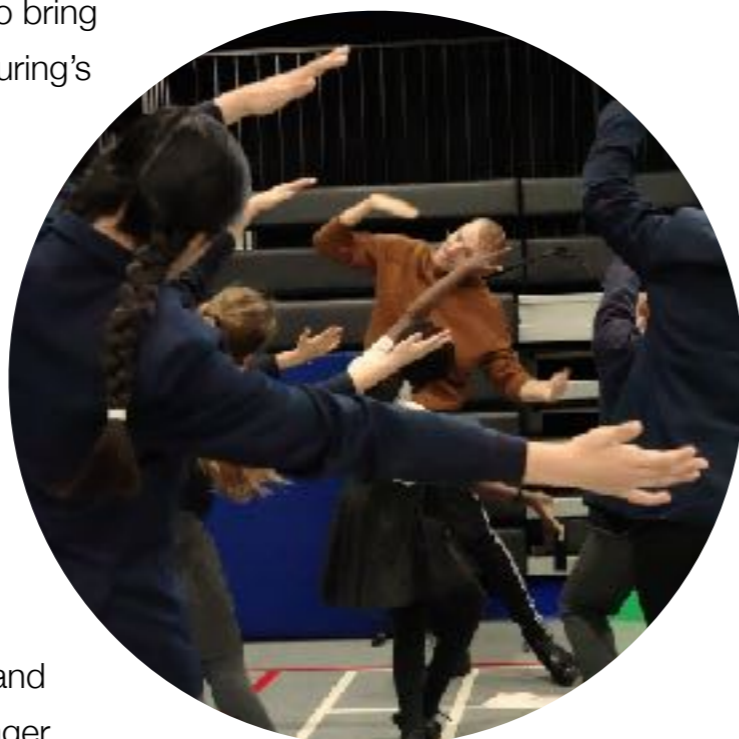
Thomas Briggs, Mark has devised a highly

successful workshop for schools. Together the creative team

will explore the synergies between dance and mathematics

enabling children of all abilities to devise creative interpretation

methods using mathematical code, music and movement.



Workshops for LGBT+ Community about "Turing Law" a posthumous pardon introduced for homosexual crimes that no longer exist.

During the R&D period **Mark Smith** collaborated with **Flourishing Lives** a service for the over 50's **LGBT**

community in London. In 2019 Mark shared the results of this work at **Oscar Wilde Temple** and

Late at TATE Modern, with Hut 8 excerpts performed by **Gavin Eden** and **Joseph Fletcher** and new composition by **Michael England**. The

audience were intrigued by the emotional and artistic side of Alan Turing. **LGBT** audiences laughed at gay

sign language, known as Gay Sign Variation (**GSV**) in the dance 'Turing's Letter' and found 'Turing Law'

incredibly hard hitting; the composition included recordings of members of **Flourishing Lives**

recalling a time when the law and society felt differently about **homosexuality**. This was a finding

of the R&D, that **LGBT** history is hidden, terminology forgotten and stories of oppression untold in the

younger **LGBT** community. Hut 8 and its subject,

Alan Turing, can bring this **LGBT** story to a wider general audience.

BLETCHLEY PARK



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Profile

Mark Smith trained at Royal Ballet School and London Studio Centre. Mark Smith is the founder and artistic director of his own dance company **Deaf Men Dancing** (DMD), commissioned with visual artist Rachael Gadsden by Bradley Hemmings, in collaboration with Greenwich and Docklands International Festival and Ardent Hare, **Alive** toured with the **Without Walls** Festivals in 2011. His choreography credits include **Paralympic Opening Ceremony** - London 2012, **The Threepenny Opera** (New Wolsey Theatre/Graeae Theatre - Tour Production); **Reasons To Be Cheerful** (Graeae Theatre - Tour Production). **Tommy** (New Wolsey/Ramps on the Moon) winning Best Choreographer at Live Theatre & British Theatre Award 2017. **The Last Five Years** (Millennium Wales Centre 2018) winning British Theatre Guide's Best Directors awards: Angharad Lee & Mark Smith. **The Colour Purple** (Leicester Curve / Birmingham Hippodrome 2019.)



Mark Smith Choreography Greenwich Performs 2019 | Photo credit: Jane Hobson

His professional work includes: **Shoes** (Sadler's Wells), **Iolanthe** (Wilton's Music Hall & UK tour), **My Silent World** (Ballet Boyz/Channel 4's Random Acts), **Die Fledermaus** (Oslo Opera House), **The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe**, **101 Dalmatians**, **Noah and A Marvellous Year for Plum** (Chichester Festival Theatre);

Mark was nominated as Best Choreographer in the Off-West End Awards and the Broadway World UK Awards for **Ace of Clubs**, **Call Me Madam** & **Iolanthe**.

Artistic Team

Creatives who have worked with Mark Smith on his prolific Hut 8 R&D between 2018/2019.

Creator, Choreographer & Director:
Mark Smith

Assistant Choreographers:
Joseph Fletcher & Steph Elstob
Gavin Eden

Dancers & Collaborators:

Joseph Fletcher
Sam Archer
Molly-May Gardiner
Steph Elstob
Zoe Leone
Danny Colin-Wright
Hayden Tierney
James Furnel

Composer:
Michael England
Mathematic Advisor:
Thomas Briggs
(Bletchley Park)

BSL dramaturgy:
Daryl Jackson
Audio Describer:
William Elliot
Designer:
Ryan Dawson Laight
Lighting Design:
Jonathan Samuels
Producer:
Deaf Explorer

