

About Candoco Dance Company (in plain English)

Who we are

We are a producing dance company and artist development organisation. We were founded in 1991. We are based in Peckham, South London and work across the whole of the UK.

What we do

Candoco exists to expand what dance can be, who makes it, and who experiences it.

We work to create the conditions for brilliance, by removing systemic barriers to dance for D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent makers, performers and leaders through our four activity pillars of

performance and commissions, skills and leadership,

partnership and **advocacy.**

What we believe

We believe dance is better when difference is celebrated.

That belief sits at the heart of everything we do.

Our values are **equitable, creative, nurturing, and accountable.**

How we have changed

Candoco has always been ambitious. But we have recently made some significant changes to how we work. We used to tour productions performed by a company of disabled and non-disabled dancers. We are now **a producing and artist development organisation.** This means we focus on creating the conditions for D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent artists to make bold, transformational and unexpected work, rather than maintaining a permanent ensemble.

We have also changed how we make artistic decisions. Instead of a single Artistic Director, we now share decision-making across many people through a model called the **Artistic Assembly.** This is a

deliberate move away from hierarchical structures toward something more collaborative, distributed, and democratic.

What we do

Our work is organised around four areas: **performance and commissions, skills and leadership, partnerships,** and **advocacy.**

Across all of these, our goal is to develop the creative and professional capacity of disabled artists, expand the impact of disabled-led dance, and strengthen inclusive practice across the sector.

The dance we make

We curate dance that is **bold, transformational,** and **unexpected.**

We support choreographers to realise their vision fully and faithfully, with the collaborators they need. We have a Curatorial Statement that guides all of our artistic decisions, which you can read on our website.

The Artistic Assembly

The Artistic Assembly is our radical new approach to artistic leadership. Groups called Assemblies come together to make curatorial decisions, then disband once the work is done.

Membership changes depending on the decision, but at least 75% of members will have lived experience of disability. All Assembly members are paid and access costs are covered. Anyone can express interest in taking part by completing a short form on our website.