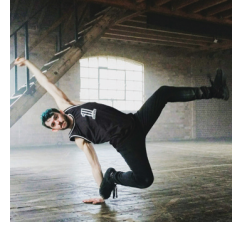


## Avant Cymru Blue Scar by James Humpfreys



### A Hip Hop Dance Tale from the South Wales Valleys

A Hip Hop dance theatre production, inspired by stories from the local community in the Rhondda Valley, particularly childhood memories from the 1970s/80s. Created in collaboration with **RCT Theatres** and supported by **Arts Council Wales**.

**Avant** are the **Park & Dare Theatre** resident company, we have undergone two stages of R&D on this project – the first in January 2017, supported by **Creu Cymru**, where the dancers and musicians worked together for the first time and established our approach and inspirations. The second (October 2017) was a chance to explore and push the boundaries of the form, while developing their theatre skills. We researched the history of Hip Hop and the Valleys, also the history behind lockin' because in the 70s and 80s, children in areas of deprivation would mimic cartoon characters using their bodies, to create the lockin' style. During this time, Rhondda residents were playing on the local landscape, and so we have brought these elements together to create **Blue Scar**.

**Avant's** championing of valleys' stories and experiences is at the heart of our work, and we were drawn to the legend of the 'blue scar'. The term originates from young people falling and cutting themselves on the hillside; coal dust would enter the wound, meaning it would turn into a blue scar. Director **Rachel Pedley's** mother has a blue scar, and she refers to it as her 'mark of the Rhondda'. The show uses three dance performers, bringing different skills in Hip Hop: breakin', lockin', poppin', wackin', and tuttin', and new Hip Hop sound using beatboxing, rapping and Welsh folk music.

The dancers include **Bboy Tommy Boost** and **Bboy Flexton** both of whom have performed on international stages and who have worked with Rachel to mix breakin with other Hip Hop and theatre techniques. including original music by **Beat Technique** (Beat Boxers) and **Angharad Jenkins** (welsh violinist). The show is also uses graffiti animation by **Owen Ling** who has created characters that assist the storytelling.

**Blue Scar** is a Welsh Hip Hop theatre show for all the family, not to be missed, we guarantee you will be leaving the theatre wanting to dance.

[www.avant.cymru](http://www.avant.cymru)

#### Listings Information

Venue	C, Adam House, Chambers Street, EH1 1HR, venue 34
Dates	1-27 Aug
Time	15:20 (Ohr50)
Ticket prices	£8.50-£10.50 / concessions £6.50-£8.50 / under 18s £4.50-£6.50
C venues box office	0131 581 5555 / <a href="http://www.CtheFestival.com/2018/blue-scar">www.CtheFestival.com/2018/blue-scar</a>
Fringe box office	0131 226 0000 / <a href="http://www.edfringe.com">www.edfringe.com</a>

**C venues**  
vibrant vivacious variety

general manager  
Rosie Wake  
artistic director  
Hartley T A Kemp

year round administration  
**C venues London**  
5 Alexandra Mansions  
Chichele Road  
London NW2 3AS

during the Fringe in August  
**C venues Edinburgh**  
Adam House  
Chambers Street  
Edinburgh EH1 1HR  
Ticket collection at any C venue

press office tel 0131 581 5550  
box office tel 0131 581 5555

email [press@Cvenues.com](mailto:press@Cvenues.com)  
[www.Cvenues.com](http://www.Cvenues.com)

**C venues**

For further information, images and interview availability please contact Rachel Pedley at Avant Cymru on 07834 402953 / [hello@avant.cymru](mailto:hello@avant.cymru) or the C venues press office on 0131 581 5550 / [press@cvenues.com](mailto:press@cvenues.com)

The Edinburgh Festival  
**fringe**