

COMPANYCHORDELIA

DANCE THEATRE

REVEL

ACCESS PACK



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About Revel

A 60+ coming-of-age story, *Revel* is a witty and moving new show fusing dance, physical theatre, dialogue and music.

Moving between Kally and Steinvor's real backstage relationship as they get ready (*they are always getting ready*) and their surreal inner worlds, the two dancers reflect on life in their 60s, with all the losses, gains and adjustments of ageing. Now, these two acclaimed Scottish performers navigate their memories and the shifting realities of their bodies and minds with wry humour as they prepare to step once more onto the stage. In a world where we battle with who we are told to be, who we wish we were, and who we actually are, this funny, fierce and physical show embraces the challenge of learning to accept and embrace ourselves as we are now.

Revel is created and performed by Company Chordelia's founding Artistic Director Kally Lloyd-Jones alongside Edinburgh dance artist and choreographer Steinvör Pálsson.

At the age of 61 and 67 respectively, they are both returning to the stage to perform for the first time since they trod the boards together in *Dance Derby*, Chordelia's hit Scottish Opera co-production in 2014.

Revel is a brand-new show, marking the long-awaited return of Scotland's renowned Company Chordelia.

Age: 12+ Run Time: 55 mins

Credits

Conceived, written and directed by Kally Lloyd-Jones

Created and choreographed in collaboration with Steinvör Pálsson

Performed by Kally Lloyd-Jones and Steinvör Pálsson

Designed by Janis Hart

Lighting Design by Kate Bonney

Engagement Consultant: Dawn Hartley

Content Information

Themes include ageing, changing bodies, memory loss, self-image, friendship and performance. The show contains spoken dialogue, recorded voice announcements, theatrical sound effects (including alarm clock and toilet flush sounds), and music ranging from reflective classical pieces to popular songs.

Characters

Kally and Steinvör are the real names of the performers, as well as of the characters in *Revel*, who are preparing for a show while reflecting on their lives and experiences. The characters in the show are largely based on their real lives, experiences and selves.

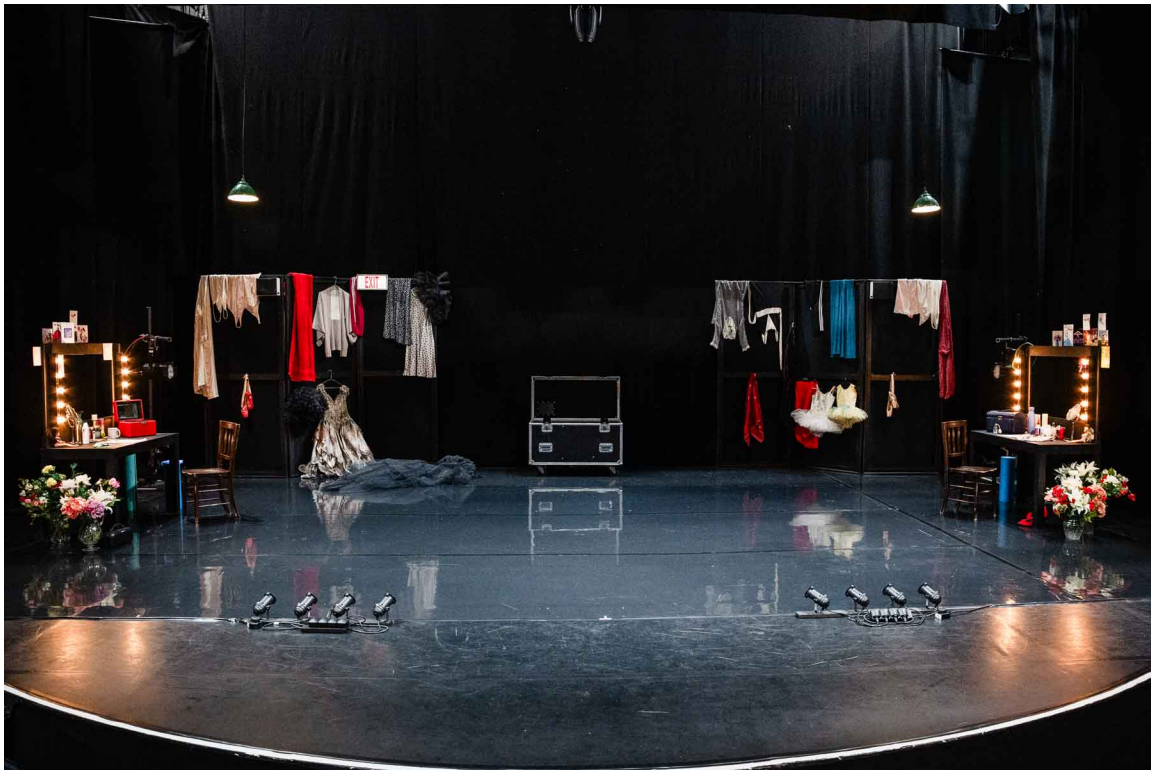
Costumes

At the start of the show, they are wearing dressing gowns and Kally is wearing a sleep mask. As the show progresses, they take layers off to reveal sweaters over slip dresses and T-shirts with leggings underneath. Steinvör's colours are pale blues and rusty orange and Kally is in burgundy and olive green.

During the tea break, Kally tries on an old dress which has an air of faded glamour, like a battered old wedding dress.

Spoiler alert! At the end of the show, a surprise package arrives and they change into the two beautiful floor length red dresses they magically find inside, to dance their final dance.

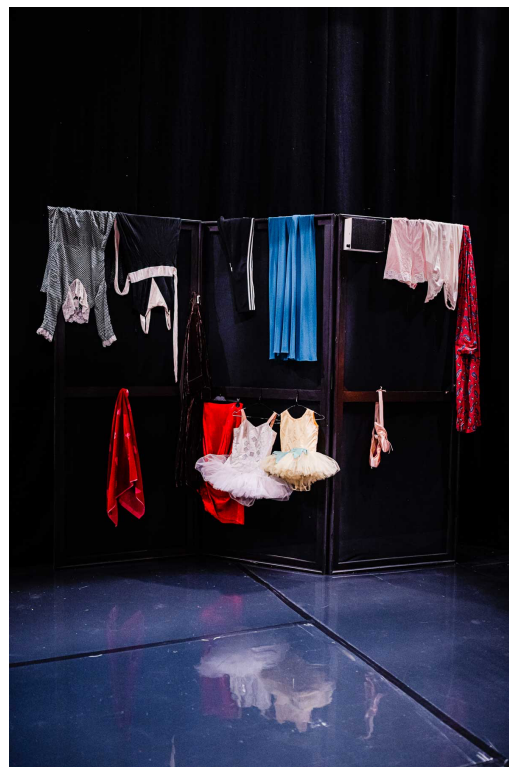
Set and Environment



The action takes place in a dressing room – it is not a particular time or place, but rather a version of every dressing room they have ever been in. It is a simple set with two dressing tables on either side of the stage, with dressing table lights and chairs. The dressing tables have various personal items including vitamin jars, hairspray, water bottles, snacks, makeup and vanity cases. There are good luck cards decorating the dressing tables and vases of flowers to the side of each table. Two large screens are at the back, hung with clothes and costumes, the dressing room tannoy and an exit sign. A large flight case on wheels sits in the middle at the back. The floor is shiny black.



The design of *Revel* playfully recycles costumes and props from over 20 years of Company Chordelia productions and over 50 years of their own personal lives - from the scarlet ballet shoes used in *The Red Shoes* to Steinvor's childhood ballet tutus.



The performers move between real-time dressing-room activity and more surreal dance and movement scenes which are the representation of their inner feelings. Lighting shifts mark transitions into memory, imagination and reflection.

Sound and Music

Recorded announcements from the stage manager feature throughout. There is ticking and an alarm clock at the start and two toilet flush recordings during the show. Recorded music and live dialogue feature throughout the production.

The music is:

- *Opening* by Dabney Morris
- *Cha Cha Retro* by Librairie Musicale
- *Syrup Or Wild Rice* by Hdj Tom
- *The Swan* by Camille Saint-Saëns
- *Liberty Funeral March* by Liberty Brass Band
- *Copacabana (At the Copa)* by Barry Manilow
- *Mambo Sinuendo* by Ry Cooder & Manuel Galban
- *Nocturne No. 1, op. 72* by Frédéric Chopin
- *Jazz Suite #1 – Waltz* by Dmitri Shostakovich
- *Meditation From Thais* by Jules Massenet
- *Sol Ja Camba* by Fantcha

Lighting

The lighting is used to create the dressing room space and uses the mirror bulbs and Exit sign as part of that aesthetic. This lighting shifts according to the mood of the scene. There are more dramatic changes into a surreal world for dance sequences which reflect the inner world of the dancers.



Dialogue Transcript with Music References

This transcript follows the running order of the production. It includes dialogue and music references but omits technical cues and detailed stage directions. There is always dance or movement during the music. The cast will sometimes adlib dialogue to a small degree.

Opening soundscape: Ticking clock and alarm clock.

Music: *Opening* by Dabney Morris

Dialogue:

Steinvör and Kally: Good morning!

Steinvör: (crossword) A term referring to an old person... blank R blank bank K blank blank

Kally: blank R blank Can I see it?

Kally: Oh yes – it's WRINKLY!

Steinvör: oh yes, that fits. Oh! Speaking of, is that a new crow's foot you have today?

Kally: Yes it is! This is so exciting!

Steinvör: It really suits you.

Kally: Oh, thank you Steinvör. I'm still just trying to take it in. It's literally happened overnight.

Tannoy announcement: Members of the cast, this is your 9 hour call, you have 9 hours.

Dialogue:

Kally: That's not very long, we really should get a move on.

Steinvör: How is your osteo-arthritic big toe?

Kally: It's very painful, thanks. And how is your genito-femoral nerve doing?

Steinvör: Oh agony as usual!

Music: *Cha Cha Retro* by Librairie Musicale

Dialogue:

Kally: Better?

Steinvör: Oh yes, much better thanks. I can really hardly notice the persistent pain.

Kally: No pain, no gain!

Steinvör: Don't use it, you lose it!

Kally: No guts, no glory!

Steinvör: Who gathers roses shouldn't fear thorns!

Kally: You can't make an omelet without breaking legs.

Tannoy announcement: Members of the cast, this is your 8 hour call, you have 8 hours.

Music: *Syrup Or Wild Rice* by Hdj Tom

Tannoy announcement: Members of the cast, this is your 5 hour call, this is your 5 hour call.

Dialogue:

Steinvör: Kally, Kally... KALLY I think that's enough?

Kally: Oh thank goodness because I really need a pee.

Music: Steinvör (alone) sings "Whatever Lola Wants".

Dialogue:

Kally: That's better! ! And I've been thi... How did that get here?

Steinvör: Oh, it's my new exercise band

Kally: Okay Shall we checklist?

Steinvör: Oh yes please.

Kally: ready?

(Kally reads Steinvör's Checklist and Steinvör gently agrees she has done everything)

- Head Massage
- Neck Massage
- Foot Massage
- Ear Massage
- Mayan Abdominal Massage
- Facial Moisturiser
- Fanny Moisturiser
- Knees & Elbows Moisturiser
- De-Toxing Body Moisturiser
- Cod Liver Oil
- Sea Buckthorn Oil
- Multi-vitamins
- Pro Biotics
- Pre Biotics
- Post Biotics
- 200g yoghurt
- Handful of mixed nuts
- Crossword
- Eye drops for dry eyes
- Estrogen Plunger for dry ...
- Pelvic Floor Exercises
- Pilates
- Qi Gong
- Gentle Stretching
- Alternate Nostril Breathing

(Steinvör reads Kally's checklist. She has also done everything except drink 2.5L of water.)

- Multivitamin
- Vitamin D and Omega 3
- Proteolytic Enzymes
- Ginger Shot
- Green Tea
- Dark Chocolate
- Protein Powder
- Peanut Butter
- 6 Almonds
- 10,000 Steps
- 5 a day
- Face Yoga
- Floss
- Exfoliate
- Moisturise – Face, Neck, Arms, Thighs
- Hip Stability Exercises
- Core Strength Exercises
- Foot exercises
- Arm exercises
- Shoulder exercises
- Thigh exercises
- Massage toe joint
- Ibuprofen Gel
- Caffeine Shampoo
- HRT Patch
- Pluck Stray Hairs
- Touch up roots
- 2.5 Litres of Water (no I haven't done that)
-

Steinvör: We've talked about that.

Kally: yes, sorry

Music: *The Swan* by Camille Saint-Saëns

Dialogue:

Kally: Hello?

Steinvör: Hello.

Kally: It happened again.

Steinvör: Yes.

Kally: What were you thinking about?

Steinvör: I was remembering when I used to be able to leap high in the air. Quite effortlessly.

Kally: Me too. It was my favourite thing.

Steinvör: I used to be able to spin and spin and spin.

Kally: I used to be able to wear heels.

Steinvör: I used to be able to read the small print.

Kally: I used to be able to sleep - through the night.

Steinvör: I used to be able to stay up all night.

Kally: I used to be able to eat whatever I wanted.

Steinvör: I used to be able to have a drink.

Kally: I used to be able to ... hang on I'll show you (get Barbie doll) do this
(Back bend)

Steinvör: I used to be able to do this! (Multiple Entrechats)

Kally: I used to be able to do this (Splits)

Steinvör: I used to be able to do this (Penché and turn)

Kally: I used to be able to do this (rips top off)

Steinvör: Yes! And they stayed where they were.

Music: *Liberty Funeral March* by Liberty Brass Band

Tannoy announcement: Members of the cast, this is your tea break, that's tea break

Steinvör: Oh, now I need to go! (goes offstage, Kally turns on music machine)

Music: *Copacabana* (At the Copa) by Barry Manilow

Toilet Flush

Dialogue:

Steinvör: I was just wonder Have you been doing battements glissés all this time?

Kally: (nods, out of breath) It's exhausting!

Steinvör: Kally, I was just wondering, what **is** the show we're working on?

Kally: Yeah, I'm not quite sure yet. I was trying to figure out what to let go of.

Steinvör: But we've got a show in five hours!!

Kally: I know that!! I'm thinking. What if we let go of everything we thought we knew and reinvent what's left?

Steinvör: Can you do that in less than five hours?

Kally: Oh that should be loads of time! And we'll do some improvising so we don't have to remember everything.

Steinvör: Well, OK, if you think so ...

Tannoy announcement: Members of the cast, your tea break ends in 5 minutes

Dialogue:

Steinvör: What are you going to have?

Kally: Low cholesterol, high GI, vegetarian, gluten and dairy free oatcake, and a banana. You?

Steinvör: 2 Chocolate digestives and a cup of tea.

Kally: Oh, that sounds lovely...

Steinvör: (crossword) A person who was famous, successful or admired and is no longer any of these... Blank A Blank / Blank E Blank N?

Kally: Um, blank A blank ... Is it SAD something?

Steinvör: or WAS ... something?

Kally: Could be ...

Steinvör: It's HAS BEEN!

Kally: Yeah but you know, 'we don't age, we **upgrade**'

Steinvör: What did you say?

Kally: It's from that advert, you know, with that actress?

Steinvör: Oh yes! The one with the eyes, and the dark, swishy hair "Because I'm worth it"

Kally: No, no, not her, the other one, you know, she's in that programme with the man under the bed. What was that called again?

Steinvör: Was it Californication?? (Kally is trying on a dress, trying to do the zip up)

Kally: No! But she was with **HIM**, in that **other** programme. About aliens. Ages ago. X factor? X ray?

Steinvör: Oh her!! Yes, blond, very small. Played Thatcher. I think she's about 5' tall. What is her name?

Music: *Mambo Sinuendo* by Ry Cooder & Manuel Galban

Tannoy announcement: Members of the cast, this is your 2 hour call, that's 2 hours

Dialogue:

Steinvör: Kally, would you like some help?

Kally: No, I can do it myself!! ... Thank you though.

Kally: I don't think this is me anymore. Also, I'm going to need a side zip moving forward.

Music: *Chopin Nocturne No.1 Op.72* by Chopin

Kally: Steinvör, do you think we should stop?

Steinvör: What STOP stop? RETIRE?

Kally: Yeah, I mean, where is the line? When should we give up?

Steinvör: Why? Do you **want** to?

Kally: No, but is it unseemly?

Steinvör: **Unseemly?** For who?

Kally: You know, INAPPROPRIATE, EMBARRASSING. Are we just making a SPECTACLE of ourselves?

Steinvör: Well, yes, we **are** making a spectacle of ourselves!

Kally: But is that OK?

Steinvör: Well, why shouldn't we?

Kally: Yeah. Why shouldn't we??

Tannoy announcement: Members of the cast, this is your half hour call, this is your half hour call

Dialogue:

Steinvör: We're nowhere near ready!!

Kally: Make-up, warm up, dress up. Oh, and Steinvör, um would it be possible for me to borrow your mascara please?

Steinvör: tells the story about how she **used to be able** to put mascara on in under 30 seconds....

Music: *Jazz Suite #1 – Waltz* by Dmitri Shostakovich

Tannoy Announcement: Members of Company Chordelia - there's a parcel delivery at stage door. A parcel at Stage Door for Company Chordelia

Dialogue:

Kally: Have you ordered something?

Steinvör: No

Kally: Me neither ... I wonder what it could be?

Steinvör: Shall I go?

Kally: Hang on! Those are my shoes. What are you doing with my shoes?

Steinvör: I just thought... because you can't wear them anymore, because of your big toe joint, I could... you know ... wea...?? I'll just go and get the parcel

Kally: (shouts after her) They're still mine! I can still **look** at them...

Music: *Meditation From Thais* by Jules Massenet

Dialogue:

Steinvör: Kally, look at this box!

Kally: Wow! Who sent it?

Steinvör: I don't know – shall we open it?

Kally: Yes, you open it!

Steinvör: No, you open it!

Kally: You open it!

(Steinvör opens it and pulls out a dress and holds it against herself)

Kally: Oh! That's beautiful. It really suits you.

(Kally looks in the box and finds another)

Kally: A side zip!

Kally: Shall we try them on?

Kally: Oh, I've been meaning to tell you. I remembered the name of the actress.

Steinvör: Which actress?

Kally: You know, the one we were talking about earlier?

Steinvör: No, I don't remember that

Kally: Yes, you know. She was in that programme with the man under the bed?

Steinvör: No, I don't remember that.

Kally: No? And the programme about Aliens?

Steinvör: Not ringing any bells

Kally: Well anyway, it's .. Oh now I've forgotten again.

Tannoy announcement: Members of the cast, this is your Beginners' call. Beginners to the stage
please

Kally: Oh! I really feel like a beginner just now.

Steinvör: I know. Kally, could we practice what we're going to do.

(Some adlibbing about where to start the dance)

Music: *Sol Ja Camba* by Fantcha

Kally: Are you ready?

Steinvör: I'm ready.

Kally: Come on then. It's showtime.

(they exit, as if to go on stage)

BLACK OUT / THE END

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