

# PIPER & CHANTRY

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Rae Piper and Paul Chantry are a vibrant and skilled choreographic duo and award-winning film producers whose work includes the Olivier-nominated West End production of David Walliams' *Gangsta Granny* and *Billionaire Boy*, the multiple award-winning 2021 film *Whoever You Are*, several of the *Horrible Histories* stage shows, a special anniversary commission for the Prince of Belgium, Opera, Theatre, Musicals and more. Prior to knowing each other, Piper and Chantry's performance careers encompassed appearing in musicals in London's West End, Opera at the Royal Opera House, contemporary work at Sadler's Wells, production shows on cruise ships, cabaret and circus work in the UK's most notable cabaret clubs such as Café de Paris, music videos, corporate work and touring classical ballet companies.

The couple met while Piper was performing in the West End and Chantry was dancing at Sadler's Wells. They discovered an instant connection. After less than a year of working together as choreographic partners, they were asked to create their first work at Sadler's Wells, which also coincided with becoming husband and wife. Piper and Chantry are able to draw on their varied backgrounds to bring a unique level of innovation and creativity to their choreography. They aim to create works which are compelling and engaging for both performers and audiences alike, and their artistic vision enables them to bring life to stories through their powerful and expressive use of dance and movement. They are also the co-Artistic Directors of the contemporary ballet company, Chantry Dance, which produces touring work focused on narrative and character, and aimed at building and expanding dance audiences.

Piper and Chantry are also highly invested in education work, having taught and choreographed for numerous vocational theatre and dance schools, as well as in academic and community settings.

With over 40 years combined industry experience, Piper and Chantry are able to offer a huge amount to any company or theatre, including their boundless love and passion for their art and industry.

## CHOREOGRAPHIC CREDITS

### OPERA & OPERETTA

#### Production

2023 Pirates of Penzance  
2023 The Yeoman of the Guards  
2020 Boyhood's End (direction & choreography)  
2015 The Queen of Spades (revival)  
2015 Un Ballo in Maschera (assisting Lucy Burge)  
2014 Gloria – a Pigtale

#### Company/Venue/Director

National Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company, Buxton Opera House  
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English Touring Opera/UK Tour & Marquee TV/Rae Piper  
Teatro Dell'Opera Di Roma/Richard Jones & Linda Dobell  
Royal Opera Company/Royal Opera House/Katharina Thoma  
Mahogany Opera Group/Linbury ROH & UK tour/Frederic Wake-Walker

2014 Die Fledermaus	John Wilson/Royal Festival Hall/Simon Butteriss
2014 The Queen of Spades (revival)	Grange Park Opera/Anthony McDonald & Lucy Burge
2013 The Merry Widow	Opera Danube/St. Peter's Square/Simon Butteriss
2013 The Magic Flute	Merry Opera Company/Riverside Studios/Kit Hesketh-Harvey
2012 The Merry Widow	John Wilson Philharmonia Orchestra/Royal Festival Hall/Simon Butteriss
2012 La Traviata	Merry Opera Company/Upstairs at the Gatehouse/Kit Hesketh-Harvey
<b>NOMINATED - "Best Opera", OFF WEST END AWARDS 2012</b>	
2012 Rumbled	English Touring Opera/UK Tour/Tim Yelland
2012 Ring Around The World	English Pocket Opera/The Unicorn & The Rose Theatre/Mark Tinkler

## THEATRE

### Production

2022-2023 Demon Dentist  
2020-2022 Billionaire Boy

**NOMINATED - "Best Family Show", OLIVIER AWARDS 2022**

### Company/Venue/Director

David Walliams & BSC/UK Tour/Neal Foster  
David Walliams & BSC/UK Tour & Garrick Theatre, West End/Neal Foster

2016-2022 Gangsta Granny

David Walliams & BSC/4 UK Tours, Garrick Theatre & Harold Pinter Theatre, West End/Neal Foster

**NOMINATED - "Best Entertainment & Family Show", OLIVIER AWARDS 2018**

**WINNER - "Best Children's Show", What's On Reader's Awards 2018**

**WINNER - "Best Home Produced Show", What's On Reader's Awards 2017**

**NOMINATED - "Best Touring Play", What's On Reader's Awards**

**NOMINATED - "Best Children's Show", What's On Reader's Awards**

**NOMINATED - "Best Young People's Theatre Production", UK THEATRE AWARDS**

2016 Brideshead Revisited (choreographic consultant)

2015 The Engineer's Corset

2015 Neverland

2014 The Engineer's Corset

2013 Scoop

2013 Glengarry, Glen Ross

2013 The Last Days of Mankind (UK Premiere)

2012 The Borrowers

2012 The Clangers (R&D)

York Theatre Royal/York Theatre Royal & Tour/Damien Cruden

Redgrave Theatre/Janet Goddard

Lakeside Arts, Nottingham/Martin Berry

Bread & Circuses/The Brewery Theatre/Nick Philippou

Pins & Needles/Lyric Hammersmith – Theatre in the Square/Emma Earle

Engage/The Ustinov Studio, Bath Theatre Royal/Emma Earle

BOVTS/Bristol Old Vic Theatre Royal/John Retallack & Toby Hulse

Ojo Collective/Sadler's Wells/Lenja Saenz

Birmingham Stage Company

## CONTEMPORARY & CONTEMPORARY BALLET

**All productions below were written, choreographed and produced by Piper & Chantry for Chantry Dance.**

2023 A MATTER OF TIME	UK Tour
2023 Ghost Dances	Guildhall Arts Centre, Grantham
2022 Beauty & the Beast	UK Tour
2021 The Little Mermaid	UK Tour
2021 The Imprisoned Moon	Outdoor Tour in association with SKDC, Guildhall & Stamford Arts Centres
2020 Extracts from 'The Imprisoned Moon'	Digital Performance
2020 La Danza	Digital Performance
2019 ALICE – Wonderland Through the Looking Glass	UK Tour
2018 DRACULA – Welcome to D's	UK Tour
2017 THE SANDMAN	UK Tour
2016 Ulysses Unbound	UK Tour
2016 The Stacked Deck	UK Tour
2015 Vincent – a Stranger to Himself	UK Tour
2015 Eine Kleine Nachtmusik	UK Tour
2014 The Happy Prince	UK Tour
2014 Rhapsody in Blue	UK Tour
2014 Chasing the Eclipse	Chantry Dance & Rosa Productions for Gravity Fields Festival
2013 All I Can Do Is Be Me – the Bob Dylan Ballet	UK Tour
2013 404 – not found	UK Tour
2013 Ad Fidem	UK Tour
2012 Chinese Calligraphy Concert	Chantry Dance/Sadler's Wells/Vienna Donube Media
2011 The Yellow Wallpaper/Lullaby for a Lost Soul/Songs of the Elder Sisters	The Village Underground

## FILM

## Production

2023 The Sequestered Disc

2021 Whoever You Are

**WINNER – 29 international awards including:**

**BEST PRODUCER (Rae Piper & Paul Chantry) – Vegas Movie Awards**

**BEST EXPERIMENTAL SHORT OF THE YEAR 2022 – INDIEX FILM FEST**

**BEST INDIE SHORT – Vegas Movie Awards**

**BEST EXPERIMENTAL FILM – Vegas Movie Awards, Imagine Rain, Calgary IFF, Cooper Awards**

**BEST SCREENDANCE – Independent Shorts Awards, Indie Short Fest, Indie X Film Fest**

‘Whoever You Are’ was screened at Raleigh Studios, Hollywood in Sept 2022

## Director/Producer/Key Cast

Javier De Frutos/Piper & Chantry/Rae Piper (Charlie Cooper) & Paul Chantry (Adam Wild)

Javier De Frutos/Piper & Chantry/Rae Piper (She) & Paul Chantry (He)

## MUSICAL THEATRE & PANTOMIME

### Production

2023 Jack & the Beanstalk

2022 Aladdin

2021 Sleeping Beauty

2019 Peter Pan

2018 Jack & the Beanstalk

2017 Beauty & The Beast

2017 Cinderella

2016 Peter Pan

2015 Our House

2014 Sister Act

2013 Chicago...and all that Jazz

2012 Chicago...the Roaring Twenties

2011 Christmas and All That Jazz

### Company/Venue/Director

Oxford Playhouse/Toby Hulse

Little Wolf & Derby Live/Derby Arena/Mark Chatterton

Little Wolf & Derby Live/Derby Arena/Scott Ramsey

Little Wolf & Derby Live/Derby Arena/Tim Ford

Little Wolf & Derby Live/Derby Arena/Tim Ford

Little Wolf & Derby Live/Derby Arena/Owen Calvert-Lyons

Greenwich Theatre/Chris Hallam

Greenwich Theatre/Andrew Pollard

Pimlico Opera/HMP YOI ISIS/Michael Moody

Pimlico Opera/HMP Bronzefield/Michael Moody

Best Parties Ever/Swindon/David Downie

Impact Artists & Best Parties Ever/FIVE & The Meadow, Reading

Impact Artists & Best Parties Ever/FIVE

## CHILDREN'S THEATRE

### Production

2013-present Horrible Histories Horrible Christmas (& multiple revivals)

2013 Tom's Midnight Garden (and 2014 revival)

2013 Horrible Histories–Terrible Tudors & Vile Victorians

2009 Artistic Licence

2008 Actaeon

2008 The Mysteries

### Company/Venue/Director

Birmingham Stage/Derby Rep, Birmingham Old Rep, Cambridge Corn Exchange, Lowry Salford, Alexandra Palace, London, UK Tour/Neal Foster

Birmingham Stage Company/Birmingham Rep & Tour/Neal Foster

Birmingham Stage Co./Harlequin Redhill/Neal Foster

The Pied Pipers/The Wickham Theatre, Bristol

Activ8/Nat Brennar Studio/Gail Gordon

Activ8/The Wickham Theatre, Bristol/David Wike

## CIRCUS

### Production

2009 Shadow Box

2009 A Sense of Shakespeare

2004-2005 Morpheus – silks and contortion duo act

### Company/Venue/Director

Impact Artists & SIAN Dubai/BESIX, Dubai/David Downie

MGR/Circomedia/Laura Colgan

Norwegian Cruise Lines/Norwegian Dawn

## QUALIFICATIONS & TRAINING

### PAUL CHANTRY

- 2001-2004 Central School of Ballet, Diploma in Classical Ballet and Related Subjects
- 1999-2001 Brooksby Melton College, BTEC in Performing Arts
- IDTA Level 4 Diploma in Teaching Dance
- A-Level Art

### RAE PIPER

- Dance: **Gail Gordon** (head of Dance, Bristol Old Vic Theatre School), **Penelope Wright** (Ballet Gulbenkian & Rambert Ballet), **Julie Felix** (Birmingham Royal Ballet & Dance Theatre of Harlem) & **Anna du Boisson**
- Singing: **Maureen Scott & Neil Rhoden** (Musical Director, BOVTS)
- Voice: **Francis Thomas** (head of Voice, BOVTS)
- 2000-2003 BSc (1<sup>st</sup> Class Hons) in Sport and Exercise Sciences, The University of Birmingham (*Chancellor's Award winner for*

*outstanding academic achievement across the University)*

- 1999 Personal Trainer with Distinction, Lifetime Fitness; Nutrition and Weight Management N/SVQ Level III; Gym Instruction NVQ level II; Exercise to Music NVQ level II; Circuits and Step RSA Certificate
- 1996 Associate Teacher with the I.D.T.A
- 1996 English, Latin, Maths, Further Maths A-Level (all grade A)
- 1994 10 GCSEs & 1 A-O Level (all grade A/A\*)

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## EDUCATION WORK

Piper and Chantry are the Directors of Chantry School, the official education department of Chantry Dance. Both are qualified teachers with the International Dance Teachers' Association. Chantry holds the Level 4 Diploma in Teaching Dance and Piper holds an A.I.D.T.A. Piper also holds a BSc (1<sup>st</sup> Class Hons) in Sport and Exercise Science, and is a qualified Personal Trainer and Fitness practitioner in multiple fields.

### Techniques taught:

Ballet, Contemporary (Limon & Graham-influenced), Contemporary Ballet, American Jazz, Commercial Jazz, Fosse-style, Classical repertoire, Contemporary repertoire, Musical Theatre repertoire, Acrobatics & Hand-balancing, Actor's Movement, Contortion, Laban-inspired movement

### Company class taught for:

Ojo Collective – Sadler's Wells  
The Merry Opera Company

### Institutions/Organisations taught at:

- Central School of Ballet, Ballet Central
- English National Ballet School Summer School
- Elmhurst School for Dance
- The Bristol Old Vic Theatre School
- Rambert School of Ballet of Contemporary Dance
- The Old School Danceworks
- 19°, 20°, 21°, 22° Stage Internazionale di Danza del Lago di Garda
- Art Studio Danza Easter Festival del Lago di Garda
- MOVE IT
- Circus Space
- The University of Bristol
- The Bristol Actors' Institute
- Warwick University
- The Bristol Acting Academy
- Save The Children Day of Dance
- Lincoln College
- Love Dance Events

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## REVIEWS

### Choreographic Reviews

#### PIRATES OF PENZANCE

- *"A word must be said about the choreography for we were presented with some nice and original routines very much akin to those D'Oyly Carte ones we all liked. Memorable was the 'Paradox' trio with its clever arm-twisting and footwork routine."*  
**SEEN & HEARD INTERNATIONAL** (Raymond J Walker)

#### GANGSTA GRANNY

- *"nimply uses dance to bridge the gaps between scenes"* **THE GUARDIAN** (Michael Billington)
- *"entertaining dance interludes at every scene change"* **THE TIMES**
- *"the dancing runs through the show, lifting it along with the sparkle of the glitter ball."* **THEATRE BUBBLE**

#### BILLIONAIRE BOY

- *"the songs...are bolstered by choreography from Paul Chantry and Rae Piper"* **THE STAGE** (Paul Vale)
- *"Energetic choreography from Paul Chantry and Rae Piper"* **THEATRE WEEKLY** (Greg Stewart)
- *"the songs remain relevant and the catchy tunes and choreography are lighthearted and entertaining to keep the story bouncing along."* **BATH AND WILTSHIRE PARENT** (Susy Douch)

## THE SANDMAN

- “beautifully structured choreography throughout” **VIEW MAGAZINE** (Soffia Pugh)
- “enchanting dance sequences” **THE GRANTHAM JOURNAL** (Costanza Pearce)
- “the choreography was breathtaking” **NORTH WEST END** (Angela Kelly)

## THE LAST DAYS OF MANKIND

- “Choreography by Paul Chantry & Rae Piper is incredibly expressive. The whole chorus moves sometimes en masse, sometimes as soloists in a crowd of solo dancers, making the chorus truly, star of the show.” **REMOTE GOAT**
- “an exuberant cast dancing and creating huge movement and life on stage. ...its strengths in this production were the visual and audio presentation and stylish choreography. Paul Chantry and Rae Piper created a series of breath-taking sequences.” **STRAWBERRY LINE TIMES**
- “The ensemble work from the cast is superb, especially the physical work and cleverly-choreographed dances, and the energy coming off the stage is tangible.” **A YOUNGER THEATRE**

## ULYSSES UNBOUND & THE STACKED DECK

- “Just wanted to say how much we enjoyed the programme on Saturday evening. A highly entertaining and thought-provoking performance. Please convey my congratulations to your dancers who were utterly charming and totally committed, and indeed to all involved!” **DAVID BINTLEY - Artistic Director Birmingham Royal Ballet**
- “Chantry Dance delivered an inspiring performance. Driven by original and creative choreography and danced with commitment and heart from a very strong group of dancers” **PETER PARKER – former Northern Ballet Principal & Britain’s Got Talent Finalist**
- “It was an absolute honour to invite the Chantry Dance Company to perform once again in the studio theatre of Elmhurst. The company continues to go from strength to strength, the dancers performing with raw energy and passion and a wonderful dramatic ability! It was fabulous to see the Elmhurst students perform alongside the company in a curtain raising performance, an experience that they will cherish forever. My sincere thanks go to Paul, Rae and the team in taking them under their wing, allowing them to take company class and including them in such a wonderful performance!” **ROBERT PARKER – Former Birmingham Royal Ballet Principal, Artistic Director, Elmhurst Ballet School**

## THE MERRY WIDOW – ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

- “The most elaborate choreography was for a barnstorming male septet which culminated with a smile inducing kick-dance. Such periodic flashes of razzle-dazzle were welcome...” **CLASSICAL SOURCE** (Graham Rogers)
- “...the memorable highlight was the all-male high stepping chorus line for ‘What to think, what to say, what to do?’ in Act 2, and this had panache and true style...” **SEEN & HEARD INTERNATIONAL** (Jim Pritchard)

## CHANTRY DANCE TRIPLE BILL

- “What a hugely impressive event last night – amazing; and what a great venue. Makes me feel very embarrassed I only ask you to choreograph operetta! Many congratulations.” (**SIMON BUTTERISS** - Director; Writer/Translator; Opera Singer)
- “Thank you so much for the wonderful interpretations of my music. I was overcome by ‘The Yellow Wallpaper’ - but also found the other two completely ‘at one’ as creative works of art - as if we had collaborated and worked together over months!!! - and they were really fab!!!” (**RONALD CORP OBE** – Composer; Founder/Conductor New London Orchestra)

## Education work reviews

“I have worked in teaching for over 20 years and I was completely overwhelmed with how well versed you both (Paul and Rae) were in dance, choreography and teaching. Everyone who took part had an amazing time and felt valued and able to achieve their best. Word has spread how exciting and enjoyable the last session was and as a result of this I have had to change venue to accommodate everyone!” **LISA BURGESS - AISTD, MAAD (HONS), COMPANY DIRECTOR STAR ACADEMY LIMITED**

“Chantry Dance tick every box as they approach the work in a thoroughly professional manner and have a plethora of experience that is so vital to be able to impart to our students. The girls are aged from 13 to 18 years of age and are always keen to welcome Chantry back to our studio for a brilliant workshop of really diverse and interesting work that is presented in a completely professional manner.” **FELICITY REDGRAVE - BRISTOL SCHOOL OF DANCING**

“Thank you so much for coming to deliver such a fabulous workshop. The students were so inspired by your teaching and your work. Thanks again for such a wonderful day you are amazing.” **RACHEL LINTHWAITE - DANCE ATTACK, SUTTON COLDFIELD**

