

## BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2024



Friday 10th – Sunday 12th May

St Katharine's, Parmoor, Frieth  
RG9 6NN (near High Wycombe)

### Recovering Historical Dance: “We don't reproduce the past, we create it”

(quote from Hilary Mantel - Reith Lecture, 2017)

**Speakers might like to consider exploring the following topics,  
among any others of your choice:**

- ❖ Historiography: how people have understood and written about early dance influences its interpretation.
- ❖ The role of creativity – how precise do we need to be in recreating past dances? How precise can we be?
- ❖ Using dance of the past as a basis for creating and presenting new forms of dance.
- ❖ What purposes can 'recovered' early dance forms serve today?
- ❖ Different stylistic interpretations of the same dance.
- ❖ Different interpretations of the same dance steps – interpreting and misinterpreting the sources.
- ❖ Interpretations influenced by contemporary dance culture.
- ❖ The effect of cultural perspectives on our understanding of early dance, e.g. class, gender, views of the purpose of dance, the nature of performance, current social norms.
- ❖ Varying artistic perspectives on early dance, e.g. ideas of beauty, expression, the relationship of dance to other art forms, the relationship of dance to its own history as an art form.
- ❖ How the understanding of dance costumes from the past can lead to different outcomes.

### WORKSHOPS & SHORT PERFORMANCES

are very welcome; they should include a short introductory talk or commentary.

**ABSTRACTS** should be limited to a single sheet of A4 paper and include a short biography.

**PAPERS** up to 20 mins; **WORKSHOPS** up to 55 mins; **PERFORMANCES** are negotiable.

The **Conference Proceedings** will be published. The text may be expanded for publication.

Abstracts should be emailed to Barbara Segal at [barbara.segal@chalemie.co.uk](mailto:barbara.segal@chalemie.co.uk) by 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Please email or telephone Barbara on **020 7619 9855** for any further information.

**For more information about the Early Dance Circle, please visit**  
[www.earlydancecircle.co.uk](http://www.earlydancecircle.co.uk)