

BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

8 –10 May 2026

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

European Early Dance: Creators, Creations and the Role of the Performer



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

- ❖ Exploring the lives and influences of key figures in early dance.
- ❖ Examining the role of dancers, teachers, and performers in preserving and interpreting early dance.
- ❖ The process of dance creation:
 - How early dances were structured and developed.
 - The influence of rules, aesthetics, and notation on choreography.
 - The relationship between music and choreography – what comes first?
 - Collaboration and co-creation in early dance.
- ❖ The role of the practitioner in dance creation:
 - The extent of a performer's creative freedom.
 - The role of improvisation in shaping early dance.
- ❖ Adapting early dance for modern contexts, e.g. for films, stage etc.
- ❖ The influence of non-European dance on European early dance creations
- ❖ Comparing versions and creators:
 - Variations of a single dance across different sources or periods.
 - Contrasting interpretations of the same dance by different choreographers.

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 by **7th January 2026**.

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