

Breakin' Convention Tour - Kings Lynn, 2016

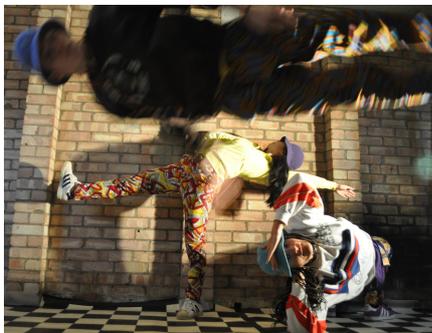
Edited by Ilona Zmija, Work experience placement

SIN Cru is a major participant in the Breakin' Convention festival which takes part once a year. The professional touring company *Fly No Filter* took a train journey from Cambridge to Kings Lynn on the 24th May this year to take part in the exciting festival. The festival's enthusiastic crowd is mostly entertained by street dance and some groups, like SIN Cru, created theatre work using B-boy technique.

Bboy Reecently who went to see the show, stated that he enjoyed the fun day although the journey was a bit nuts. In order to make the train on time we had to get to the train station by 16:20, not an easy feat given I don't finish school until 15:40 on the other side of town. Still, after a somewhat hectic journey to the train station, trying to avoid Cambridge traffic, the struggle is real, we thankfully all made it in time to set off on our way to King's Lynn to show some love for the rest of our B-boy family.

Chaya Crowe, a young SIN Cru volunteer said the first performance was a group of local dancers at primary and possibly secondary school age called *Noise And Chance School Of Dance*. Considering the amount of kids that were on stage at one time I was very impressed with their timing. There were only few moments in which the timing was slightly off, other than that their hard work and rehearsals had definitely paid off. This was a tight piece choreographer to a soundtrack of pop songs. Next time I would like to see *Noise and Chance* work with more of a storyline.

The show in Kings Lynn included a variety of pieces. The one that stood out the most for me was performed by a European company from Spain called *Iron Skulls Co*. Their piece was briefly summed up to the audience as to be based on the future. Once the lights had gone down a few rapid moving torches appeared, shining from the audience. After a momentary shock and surprise it was clear that the dancers had decided to break the fourth wall by starting their piece from in front of the stage with the audience. This instantly grabbed my attention as it was a different approach to the previous performances I had watched. However for some of the younger audience members I feel this unique approach, along with the costume, may have put people off enjoying the choreography. The masks that covered the dancers' faces were somewhat frightening, leaving the audience scared. Although this might've been the intended effect some people might view it as inappropriate for an audience with young members.



SIN Cru were represented by Fly No Filter who also performed in the show. I had seen their piece on stage once before and I think the dancing was a lot stronger at Breakin' Convention.

Although there were a few minor issues with the lighting, the timing, speech and execution on a whole were a lot tighter and clearer. If adding some criticism, I do feel like the balance between speech and dance isn't quite even; perhaps if there was more dancing or at least more focus on the dancing I would've enjoyed it more. It was still a very good performance though as with the other pieces that were in the show. I would definitely go back to Breakin' Convention next year.



Reecently explains that during the interval, we started a freestyle circle, where anyone who wanted to throw some shapes could get involved. The vibes were positive and the energy was being transferred to everyone. The circle was fun, welcoming and a place to enjoy yourself and to show everyone what moves you've got. To me it was the best part. After the interval everyone sat in their chairs and the host Jonzi-D announced a competition... To get a free Breakin' Convention t-shirt all you had to do was be willing to sing in front of the whole auditorium, and who wasn't better for the job than B-boy Owned? When Jonzi-D asked who was up for the challenge Owned stood up on the chair. He was picked and sung 7 Years by Lukas Graham. The crowd went wild no matter how cringy it was.

Even though it was stressful get to the train station on time I would rush there again as the show was explosive!



It was obvious that SIN Cru had an amazing day and are very looking forward to the next edition when they can enjoy the fun, laughter and dance all over again!

Photos by NonSINthetic
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