**Creative Commons Licences**

If you decide to choose an open strategy to licensing, then you might like to think about using a Creative Commons License (CC) with your work.

Creative Commons licenses are a useful tool for allowing third parties to know what they can do with your work. The basics of Creative Commons licenses are four license elements:

* Attribution – credit the author
* Non-commercial – no commercial use allowed
* No Derivative Works – no remixing of the content
* ShareAlike – share only if you let others remix

These can be used in various combinations. If you want to make your dance work available on the web, but not for commercial purposes, but be credited for it, you could choose a CC-BY- NC license element combination. Or you could use a CC-BY-SA which credits you as the author, but informs anyone using the content that if they release their own new work which builds upon it, it should also bear a Share-Alike clause. This way the openness is passed downstream.

There are benefits to using CC licenses. The standardised nature of the licenses makes them compatible and interoperable. They are acknowledged in many countries and available in a multitude of languages. They are both understandable by humans and computers, due to a machine-readable license code that can be integrated into content metadata.

If you want to use one of these licences it is important to think about what it is that you want to license, and for what purposes.

For more information, look at the CC webpage at <https://creativecommons.org>

Note in particular the CC license chooser at <https://creativecommons.org/choose/>

CC might also be an interesting source of material for you. Use of CC is already a widespread practice. Look at [http://search.creativecommons.org](http://search.creativecommons.org/) and you will find number of search portals and content hubs that hold CC-licensed content that you could use in developing your dance works.

**Activity**: have a look at <http://search.creativecommons.org> to see if there is anything useful that you might like to use in your work. What sort of licence does it have attached to it? What does that allow you to do?