My Stimulus
Nir Arieli:
Nir Arieli launched his career as a military photographer for the Israeli magazine Bamachane. Nir's photographic passion is within the portraiture and dance fields. He is an admirer of gentleness, beauty that embodies a sense of conflict and physical intelligence. Arieli believes his work “exposes the dancer in their most vulnerable state.”
Arieli explained that he attempted to choreograph his subjects using words instead of movements. With adjectives and descriptive language, the artist called out directions like "release the movement from your body," Arieli hopes his photos can capture an alternative image of the contemporary dance world, one that usually remains hidden in shadow. "My interest in the dance world is never where the mainstream spotlight is. I want to show my viewers something that they can’t see on stage. Something private, something personal.

Image:
The image is of two people (one male, one female), situated at the centre of the image; around them is a soft, smooth blur of pastel colours. Within the colours, you can see a variety of people softly layered underneath, i.e the heads, or arms of the people. The pastelised people seem to have an entwining nature to them. The two people sat in the middle are surrounded by people that have been blurred and look a little ghost like; this could represent their thoughts are escaping round them. Or they are trapped within thought.
Pastel Colours:
‘A soft and delicate shade of a colour’
In the image there are:
Green Pastels
Blue Pastels
Pink Pastels
Peach Pastels
Whites
Blacks

Pastels evoke openness and relaxation. Pastels are considered relieving and soothing and are even sometimes equated with sanity

The image has a sense of ‘swish’ to it. We could explore this practically, using swishing movements.
Ideas:

We could lay out a massive sheet of paper on the floor and up a wall. We could dance covered in pastelly coloured paints over the paper; we could use a lot of entwining between the four of us. This could be performed on stage or outside the theatre. We could be dressed in all white, to really enhance the colours. If performed on stage we could just have a neutral wash of lights, as a pastel colour has been described as near neutral.

We could create a piece about being trapped within a confined space. This could incorporate contact work, and lots of entwining like within the image. Lighting wise there’s the possibility of lighting the outside in a lighter colour, similar to the pastels, then in the centre a darker more saturated colour, to symbolise the trapped nature.

We could create a piece, using relaxed and open movements, similar to the pastels meanings. We could use movements that portray a sense of vulnerability so when we dance it exposes us in a sensitive state; similar to Arieli when he takes his pictures.

We could use soothing/relaxed music.

If performed inside, we could use projections of images taken in Long exposure which have created blurred sequences of movement.

Music:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r2rIm_Td2Mk
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oupRSgld_5I
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FkB9ZGsVCvg