

APRIL 2010



*James Rowbotham 2009*

dance ireland

NEWS

Dance Ireland is the trading name of the Association of Professional Dancers in Ireland Ltd. Established in 1989, Dance Ireland is a membership-led organisation, operating on an all-Ireland basis, dedicated to the promotion of professional dance practice in Ireland. Incorporated in 1992 as a not-for-profit company with limited guarantee, the organisation has evolved into a national, umbrella resource whose core aims are the promotion of dance as a vibrant art form, the provision of support and practical resources for professional dance artists through our training and development programmes and advocacy on dance and choreography issues.

Dance Ireland manages DanceHouse, a purpose-built, state-of-the-art dance rehearsal venue, located in the heart of Dublin's north-east inner city. DanceHouse is at the heart of Dance Ireland activities, as well as being a home for professional dance artists and the wider dance community. Studios are available for hire. In addition to hosting our artistic programme of professional training and development, performances, exhibitions, special events and a fully equipped artists' resource room, DanceHouse offers a range of evening classes to cater to the interests and needs of the general public.

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### **Disclaimer**

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**Cover:** *Cork City Ballet dancer Leigh Alderson*

**Photo:** James Rowbotham

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*All photos submitted must be accompanied by appropriate credits and acknowledgements*





## INTRODUCTION

April, the diamond month, brings blossoming daffodils and tulips, extended hours of sunlight, and World Dance Day on Thursday 29 April. Celebrated all over the world, World Dance Day events aim to cross political, cultural and social barriers and unite people through celebration of dance in all its diversity. This year Daghdha Dance Company will be hosting a very special event in Limerick in the Daghdha Space; curated by Maria Svensson (DMP), they extend a warm invitation to all to join them ([www.daghdha.ie](http://www.daghdha.ie)). Also Siamsa Tire is hosting a day of open classes in a range of dance styles working together to produce a flash-mob style performance that evening in Tralee ([www.siamsatire.com](http://www.siamsatire.com)).

Welcome to another action-packed edition of *Dance Ireland News*, which contains information on a range of upcoming training opportunities, studio showings, performances and special events happening throughout the country including the Dance Ireland AGM on Sunday 18 April.

This year we have a very special reason for you to attend – following the formalities (2pm to 4pm); the Board of Dance Ireland is delighted to host a drinks reception in honour of Joanna Banks, Artistic Director of The College of Dance, who is celebrating a significant birthday this year, and over thirty years of work in Ireland.

Speaking of the college, we carry another special tribute to Ester O'Brolchain, Assistant Artistic Director of The College of Dance, on the occasion of her relocation to Italy – we will miss her dearly and wish her well: *arrivederci Ester and buona fortuna!*

Training-wise it is a busy month, including international guest ballet teacher Catherine Plomteux making a welcome return visit and two weeks of classes with our international associate artist Anneke Hansen at DanceHouse. Regionally, we announce details of a Dance Ireland supported weekly professional class in Galway. All this is in addition to the range of classes, workshops and special training events on offer throughout the country, ranging from Dance Theatre of Ireland's Centre for Dance in Dun Laoghaire to *Longford Dance Fest 2010* and Myriad Dance's programme at the Wexford Opera House.

Looking ahead, we give advance notice of the Mentored Choreographic Lab with Peter Boneham and details of the open calls for our international exchange with Movement Research in New York, Tour d'Europe project and summer residencies at DanceHouse.

Performance-wise we carry information on Cork City Ballet's *Aloys Fleischmann – Music For The Ballet* on 26 April at Firkin Crane, expandance's *Tributaries* concert in New York and upcoming studio showings at DanceHouse from bursary artist Charlotte Spencer (01 April), international associate artist Anneke Hansen (23 April) and the dance artists from the MA in Contemporary Dance Performance (23 April).

Additionally, we carry information on Firkin Crane's Blank Canvas 2010 Professional Dance Residency Programme, another great opportunity for national and international dance artists to research, share and network.

**DANCE IRELAND AGM**  
**Sunday 18 April, 2pm to 4pm, DanceHouse**

For further information, contact Inga Byrne, Administrator:  
E: [admin@danceireland.ie](mailto:admin@danceireland.ie) T: 01 855 8800 W: [www.danceireland.ie](http://www.danceireland.ie)

# DANCE IRELAND PROGRAMME



## INTERNATIONAL GUEST TEACHER

*Catherine Plomteux*

29 March - 02 April

10am - 1pm Ballet & Repertoire

€12 (DI members); €14 (non-members)

## DANCE IRELAND 2009/10 BURSARY RESIDENCIES

### Charlotte Spencer

29 March – 02 April

Studio showing Thursday 01 April, 4pm

Charlotte Spencer will be working on her project *Notions of Journeying*, with collaborators Elena Giannotti, Rohanna Eade, Jennifer-Lynn Crawford, Tamar Daly and Tom Spencer.



*Riverwalk*

Source: Fiona Quilligan



*The Nations of Journeying*

### Fiona Quilligan

12 – 16 April

Fiona Quilligan will be in residence researching material stimulated by a personal memory. In collaboration with film maker Marek Bogacki and dancer Olwen Grindley, Fiona will explore using ESB archival material, movement configurations and texts.

### Muirne Bloomer & Emma O'Kane

26 April – 07 May

Bloomer & O'Kane will be working to further investigate the premise that the body never lies unless highly conditioned to do so and take it in a new and scientific direction.

For more information on the 2009/2010 Bursary Residencies visit [www.danceireland.ie](http://www.danceireland.ie) and check out our What's On section.

## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATE ARTIST

*Anneke Hansen (USA)*

12 - 23 April

Studio showing: Friday 23 April, 5pm

Our second International Associate Artist is Anneke Hansen. Anneke is interested in exploring movement language that is texturally distinct in its shifting dynamic qualities, rhythmic complexities, and unusual layering both within one dancing body and amongst many dancing bodies. These ideas will culminate in a new dance work to be premiered in the autumn at The Chocolate Factory NYC.

Source: Classhopper



**Anneke Hansen**

In addition to working with company members Miranda Jirik and Lori Yuill, Anneke has invited several Irish dancers to join her in the afternoon rehearsal periods. Anneke is interested in the ways in which process is permeable and aims to make these rehearsal/research sessions open to anyone who would like to stop in and observe.

Anneke Hansen is a choreographer, performer, and teacher based in New York City. A graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, her work has been presented widely throughout NYC. Her site-specific work has been performed in NYC parks, Washington DC, Amsterdam, and the Netherlands. In 2006 and 2009 Hansen's work was featured in The Big Range Dance Festival in Houston, Texas. Her original choreography was commissioned by Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, NY, as a part of the college's 75th anniversary celebration. As a performer, Anneke has danced for choreographers Sara Rudner, Susan Rethorst and Russell Dumas, among others. Anneke served as assistant to Sara Rudner from 2005-2007 in the construction of a 4-hour marathon performance commissioned by John Scott's Irish Modern Dance Theatre, and performed in its most recent

incarnation, *Dancing-on-View: The ICA Variations* at Boston's ICA. A student of anatomy, she is an assistant to master anatomist and neuromuscular educator Irene Dowd.

## DANCE RESEARCH READING & DISCUSSION GROUP

*Pilot project coordinated by Antje Schneider*

Tuesdays, 6 - 8pm

20 April, 04 May, 18 May

[infodanceresearch@gmail.com](mailto:infodanceresearch@gmail.com)

This group is an initiative to create a space for verbal exchange about theoretical and practice-based research in dance and performance. It addresses all dancers and researchers who want to reflect their ideas, and engage with the ideas of a wider community. Discussions will be stimulated by reading texts that will be provided to the group. The pilot term will kick off with a focus on improvisational practice. Join us, and enrich and reflect your movement practice through communication with other dancers and stay up to date with the current concerns in dance research. Supported by Dance Ireland and co-facilitated by GradCam (Graduate School of Creative Arts and Media).

## MA IN CONTEMPORARY DANCE PERFORMANCE

Friday 23 April @ 7pm

Studio presentation

Reservations: 01 855 8800 or

[reception@danceireland.ie](mailto:reception@danceireland.ie)

Over the last eight months six dancers, Lisa Cahill, Patric Cashman, Erika Charters, Karen Gleeson, Katrin Neue and Kasia Voetter, students of the MA in Contemporary Dance Performance at the University



**MA Contemporary Dance**

of Limerick have been investigating a range of different approaches to creating and performing original choreographic works.

As part of this process three choreographers, Fearghus O'Conchúir, Liz Roche and Mairead Vaughan have created original ensemble choreographic works with them. They have also developed scores for improvisation under the direction of Elena Giannotti and explored different approaches to creating solo choreographies in workshops led by Colin Dunne, Mary Nunan and Mary Wycherley. Hosted by Dance Ireland, the programme will include some of the ensemble choreographies and 6 short solo choreographies created by the students.

### LAUNCH OF A NEW WEEKLY PROFESSIONAL CLASS IN GALWAY CITY

Wednesdays 08 April– 27 May

Dance Ireland supports a new weekly professional dance class in Galway. Contact Tanya McCrory on 086 1905 018 or [madametwigs@yahoo.com](mailto:madametwigs@yahoo.com).

### MENTORED CHOREOGRAPHIC LAB (MCL)

Phase 1: 24 - 28 May

Phase 2: 27 Sept - 8 Oct

Open to Dance Ireland professional members only

The MCL is a 3-week lab for choreographers wishing to investigate their creative process. Studio space, daily class, stipend and mentorship are provided to selected participants to experiment, workshop and develop choreographic ideas in a structured and safe creative environment.

We welcome back Peter Boneham, who will lead the MCL in two phases: the first from 24 to 28 May and the second from 27 Sept to 8 Oct. To register for phase one, please contact Audrey Houdart on 01 884 8101 or email: [audrey.houdart@danceireland.ie](mailto:audrey.houdart@danceireland.ie).

Phase two is an intensive two-week period for mentored choreographic investigation during which time significant support will be offered to participating artists.

#### Peter Boneham

*As a senior artist, my mission is to ensure dance artists today have the tools to go beyond the creative challenges of tomorrow.*

The role of the mentor is to provide support,

encouragement and creative assistance throughout the process, facilitating the free flow and play of creative concepts by participants in the studio. For further information and Peter's biography, please checkout our website [www.danceireland.ie](http://www.danceireland.ie).

### OPEN CALLS

#### Dance Ireland/Movement Research

Open call deadline: Thursday 15 April

[www.movementresearch.org](http://www.movementresearch.org).

Dance Ireland continues its exchange with Movement Research. Professional performer/choreographer members are invited to submit their expression of interest in being considered for this exchange by contacting Audrey Houdart at [audrey.houdart@danceireland.ie](mailto:audrey.houdart@danceireland.ie) or telephone: 01 884 8101.

MR will host one/two dance artists to take part in the Spring *Hardcorps* Festival, from 02 to 07 June. The 6-day festival incorporates performance, workshops, hangouts, events and talks. *In an environment of recess and resistance, we congregate and move. Join us people.* The selected artist(s) will

have the opportunity to take classes and workshops, attend performances and interact with the MR family of Artists in Residence.

Expressions of interest should include a CV and photos; copy of any visual documentation of your work should be sent in by post. All material must be received by Thursday 15 April. The selection process is jointly curated by MR and Dance Ireland. It is anticipated that decisions will be communicated by the end of April. Priority will be given to artists who have not previously taken part in the exchange.

#### Tour d'Europe des Chorégraphes

Training programme across Europe

Between Sept 2010 and June 2011

Deadline: Friday 30 April, 5pm

Tour d'Europe is a new European partnership programme which aims to tackle the lack of existing training for young and emerging choreographers.

This pilot project enables a group of 10 choreographers to travel to 5 European cities



Peter Boneham

Source: Peter Boneham

(Hamburg, Grenoble, La Coruna, Lublin and Dublin), to develop their skills by discovering another culture, its production and arts organisations. In each city the choreographers are hosted for a week by the project partners who organise a specific training programme. The selected dance artists take part in a series of trainings, workshops, seminars and artistic encounters, in addition to working with a mentor for the duration of the programme. In parallel, each participant will have access to e-learning training in European cultural politics and arts administration, specifically adapted to the dance sector.

Two Ireland-based emerging choreographers will have the opportunity to take part in this exciting project. If you feel you are at a stage where you need some help to develop your work further and are available for periods between September 2010 and June 2011 (exact dates tbc) please send a CV and expression of interest to Audrey Houdart: [audrey.houdart@danceireland.ie](mailto:audrey.houdart@danceireland.ie) or call 01 884 8101, by Friday 30 April, 5pm.

## SUMMER RESIDENCIES @ DANCEHOUSE

June, July and August

Deadline: Friday 30 April

Dance Ireland offers a number of summer residencies at DanceHouse (Dance Ireland professional performer/choreographer members only). This is an opportunity to avail of free studio space to try out a new choreographic idea or to further develop a project you are already working on. Studios will be available from Monday to Saturday, 10am- 6pm during June, July and August. While traditionally a maximum of two weeks is offered to any individual artist/proposal; if your proposal requires longer please let us know and we will try to accommodate. All residencies are offered on the understanding studios will not be used for any fee-paying activities.

All those interested in applying should contact Audrey Houdart, 01 884 8101 or email: [audrey.houdart@danceireland.ie](mailto:audrey.houdart@danceireland.ie) indicating preferred dates and clearly stating the work that will be undertaken during the residency. Closing date for applications is 30 April. Successful applicants will be informed by Friday 07 May.

[www.danceireland.ie](http://www.danceireland.ie)

BOOKING: 01 672 8815  
[WWW.DUBLINDANCEFESTIVAL.IE](http://WWW.DUBLINDANCEFESTIVAL.IE)

CALL NOW - DANCE IRELAND  
MEMBERS GET 10% OFF!



Dublin  
Dance  
Festival  
2010  
May  
8 – 23



Yvonne Rainer *RoS Indexical / Spiraling Down* – May 11 & 12 – Project Arts Centre



# COMPANY NEWS



*Kerry Youth Dance Theatre*

Source: Catherine Young

## CATHERINE YOUNG

Kerry Youth Dance Theatre  
01 & 02 May @ 8pm  
Siamsa Tire, Tralee  
[www.siamsatire.com](http://www.siamsatire.com)

Kerry Youth Dance Theatre (KYDT) will take to the stage 01 & 02 May at Siamsa Tire, Tralee showcasing an evening of repertoire to date, including their latest work *Lost* which premiered in 2009 (funded under the Arts Council's Youth Ensemble Scheme). KYDT was founded in 2008 by Catherine Young out of her residency with Kerry County Council and the company has gone from strength to strength touring their works throughout Ireland and currently features 17 dancers, 6 males and 13 females.

The performances will follow World Dance Day (29 April) which is being organised in Tralee by Siamsa Tire, featuring a full day of open classes including contemporary dance, African, Irish dance, hip hop and ballet among others. Siamsa Tire will host and coordinate this variety of dance classes, all working

together to produce a flash-mob style performance that evening in Tralee.

Catherine Young continues to teach Dance Ireland's professional morning class at Siamsa Tire, Tuesday mornings 10am-12pm and has started a second professional/company class Thursdays 4.30-6.30pm.

## COISCÉIM DANCE THEATRE COMPANY

*Upcoming events*  
[www.coisceim.com](http://www.coisceim.com)

CoisCéim Dance Theatre is embarking on several new projects this spring. Artistic Director David Bolger has just finished filming *Deepdance* for the Arts Council RTÉ Dance on the Box scheme. He is currently in rehearsals for *Swimming with My Mother* which will premiere at the Dublin Dance Festival in May.

The Choreography Project, led by Eddie Kay, is now in full swing. It will culminate in a performance for friends and family at CoisCéim studio on 15 & 16 May.

CoisCéim Creative Steps, CoisCéim's dance theatre performance group for young people, will perform *Night of the Living Debs: PART 2* at NOISE Moves Youth Dance Festival. Based on past and present debutante traditions, PART 2 displays the cosmetic process of transformation; a world of fake tan, hair spray and Barbie blonde highlights. The performance will be on 25 April at the Civic Theatre, Tallaght.



*Dance Arias*

Source: Ros Kavanagh

CoisCéim is delighted to announce *Dance Arias*: a celebration of dance and opera, which culminates in a free public performance in the Round Room at the Mansion House on 30 May. Working with CoisCéim choreographers David Bolger, Philippa Donnellan and Emma O'Kane, participants will create and perform original choreography to some of the most famous opera arias of all time. Drop-in dance classes for people aged 50+ start on 20 April in six venues across Dublin. *Dance Arias* is part of Bealtaine 2010 and our goal is to get hundreds of older people across Dublin dancing to opera.

## CORK CITY BALLET

ALOYS FLEISCHMANN – *MUSIC FOR THE BALLET*

26 April @ 8pm

Firkin Crane

[www.corkcityballet.com](http://www.corkcityballet.com)

Cork City Ballet, in association with the Firkin Crane, presents *ALOYS FLEISCHMANN – MUSIC FOR THE BALLET*, a centenary celebration of one of Ireland's finest composers at the Firkin Crane Monday 26 April at 8pm.

Directed by Alan Foley and Paul McCarthy, the company is delighted to announce the return of Prima Ballerina Chika Temma, who will star in an adaptation of Professor Fleischmann's ballet *The Golden Bell of Ko*. This version is specially choreographed by Russian ballet star Yuri Demakov, who will also dance in the production.

Leigh Alderson, a principal with Cork City Ballet - who trained at the Royal Ballet School, London - will perform Alan Foley's new version of *The Dying Swan*, and students from Colaiste Stiofain Naofa's Diploma in Dance course and The Cork School of Dance will feature in the show.

Renowned international choreographer (and former dancer with Irish Theatre Ballet, artistic director and choreographer to Irish National Ballet) Domy Reiter Soffer will open the exhibition *MUSIC FOR THE BALLET* on the night. The exhibition was prepared from the Fleischmann and Moriarty archives by Anne and Maeve Fleischmann together with a committee of former Cork Ballet Company dancers; it was designed by Max Fleischmann, and documents how the music for the dance arose as well as the performances of the ballets with specially commissioned music.

## DANCE THEATRE OF IRELAND

*Dance workshops throughout April*

Re-Presenting Ireland 2010

[www.dancetheatreireland.com](http://www.dancetheatreireland.com)

April will see a series of four special dance workshops at Dance Theatre of Ireland (DTI). Fosse-style jazz on 11 & 12 April, a DTI Repertory Workshop on 07 & 14 April, a special introduction to Vinyasa Flow Yoga taught by Niamh Condrón on 09 & 16 April, and finally some of the King of Pop's iconic dance routines will be taught by Floor Ripper, an incredible Michael Jackson impressionist and performer. DTI will also host a special one-day informal performance and workshop on Sunday 02 May with the contemporary dance/theatre duet company Casebolt and Smith (USA). Full details of these workshops can be seen at [www.dancetheatreireland.com](http://www.dancetheatreireland.com).

## DUBLIN DANCE FESTIVAL

08 – 23 May

[www.dublindancefestival.ie](http://www.dublindancefestival.ie)

Box Office 01 672 8815

Phone lines open 01 April – DI members get 10% off

It's time to plan your Dublin Dance Festival experience...sit down with a brochure and your diary...and get booking. Immerse yourself in the many layers of this year's programme, which has been inspired by the poetic title of Raimund Hoghe's work *Young People, Old Voices*, the centrepiece of the Festival.

In *Young People, Old Voices*, Hoghe will be joined on stage by a cast of 12 young people. At the end of February, he visited Dublin to hold auditions for young performers to join his cast – and he's still on the look-out for one more man, aged 18-22, to join the performance. Get in touch if you know, or are, someone who could be that guy! Prior dance training is not required to have a chance at being involved in this unique project.

Tickets are already selling well, so don't leave booking until the last minute – especially for the closing night extravaganza – *Soledad Barrio and Noche Flamenca* at Vicar St. It'll be awe-inspiring!

## ECHO ECHO DANCE THEATRE COMPANY

*Interactions*

27 & 28 April @ 8pm

Waterside Theatre, Derry-Londonderry

[info@echochodance.com](mailto:info@echochodance.com)

April sees two evenings of short performances created by members of the talented and growing

[www.danceireland.ie](http://www.danceireland.ie)

Echo Echo dance ensemble. Come and see what happens when a dancer is given collaborators, time and space to explore and experiment, with the instruction to create exactly what they want.

You will be drawn into the individual creative worlds of each member of Echo Echo and see how they meet and move together. The performances will include solos, duets and group pieces – some serious, some wacky – encouraged by Artistic Director Steve Batts to take risks and let their imagination fly.

Also on 27 April, Echo Echo will launch a three-year programme called *Into Contact* which will explore the connections between dance and sport in the lead up to the 2012 London Olympic Games. This project is funded by the Legacy Trust UK Connections Programme, which is managed by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

Echo Echo has announced its busy workshop programme for April to June 2010. This term includes the regular weekly children's, youth and adult classes with a twist. Each group will be working on the development of the company's biggest production yet – *The Chess Piece* – with some participants being asked to perform in the shows in June.

## EXPANDANCE

*Tributaries*

28 April @ 7pm

Tada Theater, 15 West 28th Street, New York

[www.expandance.blogspot.com](http://www.expandance.blogspot.com)

expandance will perform their newest work, *Tributaries*, as part of Emerging Artist's Theatre's illuminating artists: New Work Series One Woman Standing Festival. Choreographed by Rachel Wynne, the piece is accompanied by a sound scape of company members and supporters voices in Ireland and the United States, from interviews conducted throughout the rehearsal process. A sweet, rambunctious and vulnerable foray into the lives of a

choreographer, a dancer and a clown, who just happen to share the same body, *Tributaries* pays tribute to those who have influenced and supported their work over the last few years. expandance is delighted to be showcasing work by an Irish choreographer in New York City.

## FIDGET FEET AERIAL DANCE COMPANY

Irish European Aerial Dance Forum (IEADF)

07 – 13 June

[www.fidgetfeet.com](http://www.fidgetfeet.com)

Fidget Feet is working with choreographer Muirne Bloomer on a new aerial duet *Hang On* funded by Westmeath County Council, Backstage Theatre and Shawbrook. This piece will premiere on Thursday 08 April at Backstage Theatre as part of the Longford Dance Fest. The festival will also see a new work created by Lee Clayden and Chantal McCormick with National Youth Dance Company, to be performed on same day.

Also in April, Fidget Feet will re-work *Madam Silk* at Balor Theatre in Ballybofey before embarking on a 14-venue tour of Ireland. Check out website for tour dates: [www.fidgetfeet.com](http://www.fidgetfeet.com). This will be followed by an outdoor version touring to three UK festivals in June and July and Iceland in October funded by Cultural Ireland.

Following three successful Aerial Dance Forums with Dance Ireland, Fidget Feet are delighted to announce the first Irish European Aerial Dance Forum (IEADF) at An Grianán Theatre, Letterkenny from 07 to 13 June.

Teachers include Chantal McCormick, Lee Clayden and Jennifer Paterson (Fidget Feet), Lindsey Butcher (Gravity & Levity) and Jacques Bertrand (Cie Drapés Aériens). This forum is a unique opportunity to experience the joy of dancing in the air and will include classes for beginners through to advanced aerial dancers and circus aerialists.

To book a place contact Sheenagh Gillen at [sgillen@onstage.ie](mailto:sgillen@onstage.ie) or by phone on 085 1271102. If you need help deciding on what class you are physically able for contact Chantal McCormick at [Chantal@fidgetfeet.com](mailto:Chantal@fidgetfeet.com) or phone 085 7411098. Fidget Feet encourage all interested participants to book early as this event can only go ahead if all the classes are full.

### Early bird bookings before 12 April

07 - 11 June, weekly pass for only €250 - this allows you to book up to 5 classes and *Madam Silk* performance 12 June. Also if you book into the week you can then have the 12 & 13 June for only €85. For full timetable of events, visit [www.fidgetfeet.com](http://www.fidgetfeet.com).



*Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company*

# LONGFORD DANCE FEST

**Thurs 8th April**

Shawbrook Youth Dance  
Dublin Youth Dance  
Tavaziva Dance  
Fidget Feet  
and more

**2010**

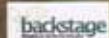
Classical Ballet Competition  
Free stage for  
Contemporary  
Hip hop  
Jazz

**Friday 9th April**

Hang out at Shawbrook  
for more fun with  
Ballet  
Contact Improv  
Pole Dancing  
and Aerial

Photos by JYM

## Backstage Theatre



[www.shawbrook.org](http://www.shawbrook.org)

## IRISH MODERN DANCE THEATRE

*Dance on Film*

Light House Cinema, Smithfield

25 April @ 4pm

Tickets: €7.50 / €6 (Conc)

Charles Atlas returns to Dublin in April to continue work on *Lovestruck* with John Scott and Irish Modern Dance Theatre (IMDT). While in Ireland, Atlas will host special screening of his new film at the Lighthouse Cinema on 25 April. Dublin Dance Festival and Light House Cinema, in association with Irish Modern Dance Theatre, present Charles Atlas' Video Tribute to Merce Cunningham as part of their Dance on Screen series. Films include *Joints* (1971), *Fractions* (1978), *Channels/Inserts* (1981), *Melange* (2000), *Views on Video* (2005) and *Interscape* (2008) – screenings can only take place when Atlas is present to talk about the films.

Filming of the Arts Council RTÉ Dance on the Box scheme film *Admit One*, directed by Steve Woods produced by Camel Productions, has just been completed with dancer Ashley Chen. John Scott's workshops at Visual: Carlow Arts Centre/George Bernard Shaw Theatre in Carlow continues with ASPIRO: Carlow Youth choir.

## KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL ARTS OFFICE

*Laban Guild Dance Leaders Course*

May 2010 – September 2011

NUI Maynooth, Co. Kildare

In response to continuing demand for accredited training, the next Laban Guild Dance Leaders Course will commence this May at NUI Maynooth. This 150-hours, part time course is designed to help participants adapt their professional skills to teaching dance and will teach them how to lead creative dance sessions in a variety of contexts. It will also provide a practical understanding of Laban's Analysis of Movement on which they can base their work, develop skills and improve their personal performance.

The Laban Guild Dance Leaders Course is suitable for a range of people and will enhance the work of school teachers, freelance dance and drama teachers, social or care workers, community arts workers and physiotherapists. The course will be facilitated on a part-time basis over 16 months by the Laban Guild in conjunction with Kildare County Council Arts Service.

For further information please contact Nicola Dunne, Kildare County Council Arts Service, phone 045 448312, email [nmdunne@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:nmdunne@kildarecoco.ie) or visit [www.kildare.ie/artsservice](http://www.kildare.ie/artsservice).

## LEGITIMATE BODIES DANCE COMPANY

From 19 – 23 April Cristina Goletti will take up a residency at Purdue University in Indiana, USA. She will be teaching Contemporary Technique, and a Somatic Workshop in Contemporary Fundamentals. On the last day of the workshop there will be a performance.

Nick Bryson and Damian Punch present *Hanging in There* for *Duets* during Longford Dance Fest at Backstage Theatre, Longford. They are also delighted to have been invited to take to the stage for the opening of the re-developed Crescent Arts Centre in Belfast on 21 April, a night to commemorate the life of Helen Lewis.

## MYRIAD DANCE

*Breaking Boundaries*

10 April @ 5 & 7pm

O'Reilly Theatre, Wexford Opera House

Tickets: €8 / €6

[www.wexfordoperahouse.ie](http://www.wexfordoperahouse.ie)

This month, Myriad Dance will play host to *Breaking Boundaries*, a fantastic European Youth Dance Exchange Project between County Wexford Youth Dance Company and The Academy of Performing Arts, Ghent, Belgium. Working off the themes of cultural and geographical boundaries the ensemble of 24 youth dancers, led by Myriad's Joke Verlinden & Sogni vzw Karen Houthoof, will explore social and cultural realities and influences with a focus on dance theatre practice and performance. This eight day project will accumulate into a dynamic new dance work, which will be performed in the O'Reilly Theatre, Wexford Opera House. Special thanks to Léargas and Wexford County Council for funding this project.

In other company news, Myriad Dance is delighted to welcome Jessica Rowell, Selma Daniel and Annmarie Nolan to the team as participants of their mentoring



*Breaking Boundaries*

Source: Padraig Grant

programme. Over the course of 10 months all three participants will shadow both, Artistic Director, Deirdre Grant and Education & Outreach Director, Joke Verlinden.

Our latest performance work titled *Project 101* is currently in development. Performing outdoors in June in Redmond Park, Wexford *Project 101* will feature 101 performers, including professional dance artists, singers, musicians and participants from our Education & Community Programme. To document the design and development process, we have posted a blog which features notes from choreographer Deirdre Grant's weekly diary and notes from sound designer Pat Jackman. Musicians, sound designers and dancers who have a keen interest in devising outdoor performance work should check out its process on [www.myriad101.blogspot.com](http://www.myriad101.blogspot.com).

Don't forget our professional morning classes in partnership with Dance Ireland run every Wednesday morning at 10am in the Movement Studio at Wexford Opera House. Lastly, despite our recent funding cut from the Arts Council, we are pleased to announce that we will continue to deliver a diverse dance programme this year thanks to the continued support from Wexford County Council, Dance Ireland & Artlinks.

For further information,  
email [info@myriaddance.com](mailto:info@myriaddance.com)  
or visit [www.myriaddance.com](http://www.myriaddance.com).

## PHILIPPE GAULIER

*Bouffon Workshop*

06 – 10 April

10am - 4pm

DanceHouse

Fee: €430

[carlo@artimmediate.com](mailto:carlo@artimmediate.com)

World renowned clown and acting teacher Philippe Gaulier will teach a Bouffon Workshop at DanceHouse from 06 to 10 April. Bouffon's have a fun and special way of making people laugh that makes use of the art of mockery, subversive farce, parody and satire.

Philippe Gaulier, born in Paris in 1943 studied at the Ecole Jaques Lecoq from 1968 to 1970. Subsequently he worked there as a teacher for 9 years. In 1980 he founded his own theatre-school in Paris. He moved the school to London in 1991, returning to Paris in 2002. Gaulier has toured the world as a clown together with Pierre Byland. He is busy directing and writing and has taught master classes throughout

Europe, as well as in Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Brazil, Japan, Hong Kong, USA and Canada. He frequently works with Cirque du Soleil.

## THE ARK

*MonStreS*

13 – 15 May

[www.ark.ie](http://www.ark.ie)

Join La BaZooKa with dance performance *MonStreS*, a unique show co-programmed by The Ark and Dublin Dance Festival from 13 to 15 May. Inspired by mirrors, kaleidoscopes and labyrinths, *MonStreS* is a fascinating dance show for 4 – 7 year olds. Join them in a riveting exploration of dance, reflection and lights. Please note flashing lights are used for a short time during the performance.

The Ark works with the DDF to create exciting and innovative dance experiences for children and families. This year they are adding a very special workshop – Dance with Colin Dunne. On 18 & 20 May, join Colin for an interactive workshop in Irish step dance. These workshops are suitable for children and families who want to gain an appreciation of how to move to Irish music in a relaxed and fun way. For more information and booking, please call 01 670 7788.

## THE FIRKIN CRANE

*Blank Canvas 2010*

[www.firkincrane.ie](http://www.firkincrane.ie)

The Firkin Crane is delighted to announce the launch of this year's Blank Canvas. Conceived in 2008 and inaugurated in 2009 it gives artists freedom to allow their creative ideas to blossom with every possible support from the Firkin Crane. This year we received 52 applications from Irish and internationally based artists. The selection process was highly competitive. Each proposal was considered by a panel of dance experts and we are now delighted to announce that Blank Canvas 2010 will support 11 dance artists and their collaborators in 11 residencies taking place over the course of 2010 divided into five phases.

Blank Canvas phase 3 will take place from 19 to 30 July and includes choreographer/dancer Stephen Moynihan from Cork now residing in London who will collaborate with visual artist Anne-Marie Healy and dancer Pepa Ubera Biedma. The second group in phase 3 are choreographer/dancers Aaron Draper and Kim Almqvist both from New York City. Thirdly in phase 3 will be choreographer/dancer Stephanie Schober who will work with four fellow UK dance artists.

For the full list of selected artists, please visit the

website. During each residency the Firkin Crane provides a supportive environment to germinate creative ideas, build bridges amongst artists via professional exchange and engagement. For further information, email [firkincrane@gmail.ie](mailto:firkincrane@gmail.ie) or phone 021 4507487/086 8147837 Jane Kellaghan, Blank Canvas Manager.

## OTHER DANCE NEWS

### CHOREOGRAPHY.NET

Extract from choreography: *Starvin* by Áine Stapleton & Emma Fitzgerald

- A). stands up and travels all over the stage her voice buzzing with excitement and her whole body making celebratory movements. Just beginning with finishing touches and royal rushes she creates one million shimmering bright touches. She enters touch entirely with each touch. She supplements this action with a light gaze all around the stage. She orchestrates the light, sound and her presence in the space to make way for the entrance of...
- B). enters from the most extreme end of the up-stage left bench, striding rigidly and without desire in a spiralling passage which begins by travelling along the periphery of the far upstage edge and travelling gradually towards the centre. She is accompanied by a failed acquaintance with her own desires. She is endlessly recreated in hollow spaces as she travels, taken by surprise with moments of extra-special rejoicing.

### ON THE OCCASION OF HER RELOCATION TO ITALY:

#### A TRIBUTE TO ESTER O'BROLCHAIN

Ester O'Brolchain was born in Dublin where she studied with the Russian ballet teacher, Valentina Dutko, and later with Patricia Ryan at the National Ballet School. In her early teens, she trained with Nadine Nicolaeva-Legat at The Legat School in Turnbridge Wells, before returning to Dublin to perform with the National Ballet Company under the direction of Patricia Ryan. It was during this period that she worked alongside Annette Page, Ronald Hynd, Ben Stevenson, Norman Maen and Victor Kruglov. As well as reproducing works such as *Swan Lake* (which she had learned at the Royal Ballet, London), *Giselle* and *Les Sylphides* for the National Ballet Company, Ester also choreographed several original dance works, the caliber of which is best reflected in the follow review from 1962:



Source: Victoria O'Brien

**Students from the National Ballet School, circa 1956; Ester is at far right, beside Director Patricia Ryan.**

*Last night's second triumph was Ester O'Brolchain's original ballet "Saudacao a America" (score by Morton Gould; finely set by Carey Clarke). This cross-section of Latin-American social strata – conquistadors, Indians, Gauchos, and Negroes, has been put together not only with sophistication but with remarkable choreographic feeling and skill by its young writer.*

*The Irish Times, 20 September 1962*

A knee injury interrupted Ester's career in late 1962 and she went to Italy to study Opera Production at the Rome Opera House. While studying in Rome, she also worked as an interpreter to Eric Bruhn who was then working with Rudolf Nureyev and Carla Fracci.

After marrying and raising a family, Ester returned to ballet; this time as a teacher in her own school in Cerveteri. After over thirty years in Rome, Ester came back to Dublin in 1996 and became the Assistant Artistic Director at The College of Dance, where she taught ballet and dance history. As well as creating original works for the students, Ester occasionally revived *Saudacao a America* and *Symphony Classic*, works she originally choreographed for the National Ballet Company in the 1960s. Ester also continued to perform professionally up to quite recently; most memorable are her performances in *Chamber Made* (2004) by David Bolger and in *The Murder Ballads* (2002) by Finola Cronin.

We wish Ester every good wish on her return to Italy. We also acknowledge, however, that her absence will be a huge loss to dance in Ireland and, in particular, we will miss her integrity, insight, and love, which are the measure of her character and stature.

## JOANNA BANKS: 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION – A TRIBUTE

Source:



*Joanna Banks*

Joanna Banks was born in London and trained at the Royal Ballet School. Upon graduation she joined the Royal Ballet Company performing at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. She later performed world-wide with Ballet Rambert,

London Ballet Theatre Company, National Ballet of Canada, Bat-Dor Dance Company and the Bavarian State Ballet before joining Irish National Ballet to dance both soloist and principal roles.

During her career, Joanna performed in most of the major classical repertoire as well as works by Balanchine, Tudor, and McMillan; working with such distinguished choreographers as Anton Dolin, Peter Darrell and Lucas Hoving.

Joanna also performed with her partner, the late John Regan who choreographed pieces especially for her. Joanna has continued her performing career by making guest appearances with Irish Modern Dance

Theatre, performing in Ireland, France, Germany, Estonia, Brazil and Sicily. She is also a founder member of the Association of Professional Dancers in Ireland, now Dance Ireland.

In 1990 Joanna joined the faculty of The College of Dance and became Artistic Director in 1992.

The dance community has reason to be grateful that Joanna has chosen to spend the last 30 years in Ireland. Her dedication to the cause of classical ballet is absolute but it is her commitment to her students which is outstanding. She has enabled innumerable talented students to take their rightful place on the stages of the world.

On a personal level, I have also witnessed, over the years, the affection and respect which Joanna inspires in her students and staff. I have become close friends with Joanna over the past twenty years, and shall be forever grateful to her for the professional advice and encouragement which she gave me all those years ago. Without that I would not have had the courage to change careers.

Joanna is undoubtedly a leading light for her chosen art form. On behalf of the dance community we wish her a very happy 70th birthday on the 12 April and we thank her for her contribution to dance in Ireland.

*Ingrid Nachstern, Night Star Dance Company*

junk ensemble present

# Five Ways to Drown



*'junk ensemble have guts and ingenuity'* **The Irish Times**

The living room strewn on the front garden for all to see.

*Five Ways to Drown* looks into the interior of peoples' lives and exposes the sadness, the absurdity and the banality through vignettes of dance and installation. In this public display of the private, the choreography of everyday life becomes extraordinary. Continuing junk ensemble's explorations of how spaces can be reinvented, *Five Ways to Drown* creates a different perspective on live performance.

Choreography and creation: junk ensemble  
Visual and Lighting design: Aedin Cosgrove  
Sound Composition/Design: Denis Clohessy  
Producer: Richard Wakely

Performers: Lee Clayden, Patty Doyle, Joshua Dyson, Jessica Kennedy, Megan Kennedy

*Five Ways to Drown* is a Dublin Dance Festival Commission and supported by The Arts Council, Dublin City Council, Project Arts Centre and Dance Ireland.

Date: Saturday 08 May & Sunday 09 May  
Venue: Project Arts Centre – Space Upstairs  
Time: 8pm  
Tickets: €22 / €18 (conc.)  
[www.dublindancefestival.ie](http://www.dublindancefestival.ie)

## INTERNATIONAL GUEST TEACHER @ DANCEHOUSE

29 March – 02 April

Catherine Plomteux

Ballet & Repertoire

**Fees:** €12 (members) / €14 (non-members)

**Time:** 10am – 1pm

## DANCE IRELAND MORNING PROFESSIONAL CLASSES

06 – 09 April

Jane Magan

Ballet

12 – 23 April

Anneke Hansen

Contemporary

26 – 30 April

junk ensemble

Contemporary

**Fees:** DI members: €7 / non-members: €10 per class (Class card available)

**Time:** 10 - 11.30am

For further information: [reception@danceireland.ie](mailto:reception@danceireland.ie) or 01855 8800

## PROFESSIONAL CLASS AT FIRKIN CRANE with Dance Ireland

Every Wednesday

Contemporary

Firkin Crane, Cork

**Time:** 11am - 12.30pm

**Fees:** DI members: €7 / non-members: €10 per class

For more information: Firkin Crane @ 021 4507487

## PROFESSIONAL CLASS AT SIAMSA TÍRE with Dance Ireland

Every Tuesday

Contemporary

Siamsa Tíre, Tralee, Co. Kerry

**Time:** 10am - 12noon

**Fees:** DI Members: €5 / non-members: €8 per class

For more information: Catherine Young @ 087 2660012

## MAIDEN VOYAGE PROFESSIONAL CLASS with Dance Ireland

Every Wednesday

Contemporary

Dance Resource Base Studio

**Time:** 6.30 - 8pm

**Fees:** DI Members: £4 / non-members: £5 per class

For more information: Maiden Voyage @ 0044 2890 330925

## MYRIAD DANCE PROFESSIONAL CLASS with Dance Ireland

Every Wednesday

Contemporary

Myriad Dance Studio, Wexford

**Time:** 10am – 12 noon

**Fees:** DI Members: €8 / non-members: €10 per class

For more information: Myriad Dance @ 053 9174 665

## GALWAY CITY PROFESSIONAL WEEKLY CLASS with Dance Ireland

Every Wednesday

Contemporary

April 8 to May 27

**Fees:** DI members: €5 / non members: €8

For venue and time: contact Tanya McCrory on 086 1905 018 or [madametwigs@yahoo.com](mailto:madametwigs@yahoo.com).