

MARCH 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 artform, 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.

BOARD MEMBERS

Adrienne Brown *Chairperson*, Cindy Cummings, Megan Kennedy *secretary*,
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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to an action-packed March issue. While the country seems paralysed by recessionary concerns, the dance sector – as tenacious and creative as ever – is getting on with its work. That is, teaching, researching, making and performing. Inside you will find details of the range of members' work, including company updates from Chrysalis Dance, Daghdha Dance Company, Dance Theatre of Ireland and ponydance, among others. You will also find information on tours by CoisCéim, Echo Echo, Legitimate Bodies, and Elena Giannotti plus touring by international companies, Cathy Sharp Dance Ensemble and Diversions Dance Company.

Continuing our focus on *choreograph.net*, we highlight an extract from this stimulating discussion website for choreography and related issues.

Highlights from the Dance Ireland programme include the upcoming Multi-Disciplinary Exchanges with Hayo David (*Body and Space*) and later in the month *Body and Text* with Jonathan Burrows and Adrian Heathfield (30 Mar to 1 Apr). As places are limited, you are advised to book early. For those in Dublin we have morning class with Olwen Grindley, Katherine Lewis and Stephen Brennan, for others living in Belfast, Cork, Tralee and Wexford we continue our support of weekly classes in association with Firkin Crane, Maiden Voyage, Myriad Dance and Catherine Young/Siamsa Tíre.

Looking further ahead, we announce this year's *Re-Presenting Ireland* line-up, which will be presented at DanceHouse in May as part of the Dublin Dance Festival. We sincerely thank all the choreographers who applied and the peer panel for taking on this selection challenge. There is no better indication of the healthy state of dance than this showcase of six choreographers works, selected from a very strong pool of 17 proposals.

Nevertheless, not all is rosy in our dancing garden; to paraphrase – *while there is a lot achieved, there is still much more we can do*. This was one of the points raised at our recent round table conversation (25 January), which was an opportunity for you, our members, to discuss how we can work together to support creativity in a changing funding climate. For a report on the meeting, please consult our website: www.danceireland.ie. While there is no doubt the severe consequences that funding reductions will have on the future development of dance, the meeting also highlighted a number of suggestions and ideas for action. The Dance Ireland board welcomed the valuable contributions made and noted with great pleasure that 38 members took the time to attend. The board are currently considering all the points raised and they are working on next steps/follow on series of actions arising. We will report back to the membership at the AGM (Sunday 26 April). While it might be a cliché to say that there is opportunity in adversity, nevertheless these round table conversations are important to show solidarity and for us as a sector to collectively find ways to push forward with our creative paths.

DANCE IRELAND PROGRAMME



RE-PRESENTING IRELAND

Dublin Dance Festival
www.dublindancefestival.ie
www.danceireland.ie

Following the successful pilot in 2008; the second *Re-Presenting Ireland* platform will take place during the Dublin Dance Festival in May at DanceHouse.

Selection was made by a peer panel, from a pool of 17 proposals received in response to an open call issued by Dance Ireland. The panel comprised Laurie Uprichard (Dublin Dance Festival); John Ashford (Artistic Director, The Place); Róise Goan (Director, Dublin Fringe Festival); Brian Brady (Head of Theatre Programme, Laban Centre); Mary Brady (Programme Director, Woking Dance Festival).

Two mixed bills will take place at 1pm and 3pm on 15 & 16, and 22 & 23 May. The featured choreographers and companies are Rex Levitates with *Go* (duet/choreographer: Liz Roche), Jean Butler with *thicker than this* (solo); Night Star Dance Company with *Watch...Es* (quartet/choreographer: Ingrid Nachstern); junk ensemble with an extract from *Drinking Dust* (duet/choreographers Megan and Jessica Kennedy); Ciotóg with *Phrases from a lost year* (trio/choreographer Rionach Ní Néill) and Dylan Quinn with extracts from *Fallout* and *Bonus Tracks* (solo).

This is a joint initiative by Dance Ireland and Dublin Dance Festival with support from Culture Ireland.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY EXCHANGE: BODY AND SPACE

02 - 07 March
10am - 3pm
DanceHouse
€50 (members); €80 (non-members)
Public Presentation: 07 March @ 4pm
(free admission)

As the first in our second series of multi-disciplinary workshops, Dance Ireland presents *Body and Space* with German choreographer Hayo David.

This workshop builds on last year's exchange, when David worked with a mixed group of dance artists and architecture students. While the focus will be again on the connections between body/space/time, it will expand to include the virtual space in relation to the body and architecture that surrounds it.

This workshop is open to dancers, choreographers as well as architecture students and experts with a particular interest in engaging in the working process but all participants should be prepared to work physically.

Hayo David has been working on the theme 'body and space' for the last 15 years, primarily through his work as a dancer and artistic assistant of Frederic Flamand, working alongside some of the most outstanding architects of our time.

The multidisciplinary exchanges are seen as the opportunity to link practice to theoretical debate: an arena where dance practice intersects with issues of aesthetics, philosophy, sociology; a vehicle of debate and sharing between dance artists and experts in other fields which would help eventually spark off new inspirational and provocative approaches to dance practice.

A public presentation is scheduled for Saturday 07 March at 4pm. This will be open to all and free of charge but booking is required. Please note that workshop places are limited, so advance booking is essential. To reserve your place email: info@danceireland.ie or 01 855 8800.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY EXCHANGE: BODY & TEXT

30 March - 01 April
11am - 5pm
DanceHouse
Fee: €50 DI members; €80 non-members
Level: experienced performers from all arts sectors

Choreographer Jonathan Burrows and writer/curator Adrian Heathfield lead a three-day intensive workshop on the relationship of movement to language and the uses and abuses of text in dance

performance. The workshop is open to anyone with experience of making or performing; work will involve both discussion and practical task based investigation.

Jonathan Burrows started his career as a soloist with the Royal Ballet in London, but left in 1991 to pursue his own choreography. Since 2002 he has collaborated with the composer Matteo Fargion on a trilogy of duets, *Both Sitting Duet* (2002), *The Quiet Dance* (2005) and *Speaking Dance* (2006), which have had over 170 performances across 25 countries, including winning a 2004 New York Dance and Performance *Bessie Award*. Other high profile collaborators include Sylvie Guillem's performance of his choreography in Adam Robert's film *ÆBlue Yellow* in 1996, and his invitation in 1997 to choreograph for William Forsythe's Ballet Frankfurt. In 2008 he was Associate Director on Peter Handke's *The Hour We Knew Nothing Of Each Other* for the National Theatre, London. Currently artist in residence at Kaaitheater Brussels; he is a visiting member of faculty at P.A.R.T.S and is also a Visiting Professor for the Department of Drama and Theatre at Royal Holloway, University Of London. In 2002 he was given an award by the Foundation for Contemporary Performance Arts in New York in recognition for his ongoing contributions to contemporary dance. He lives in Brussels.

IRELAND'S LEADING DANCE ARTISTS CAPTURED IN STILL, LIFE:

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION BY JONATHAN MITCHELL AT DANCEHOUSE

Created with the support of Dance Ireland and assistance from the Office of Public Works, *still, life* is a photographic study of 26 of Ireland's modern dance



Still, Life

Photographer: Jonathan Mitchell.

artists, including David Bolger, Cindy Cummings, Joan Davis, Mary Nunan, Liz Roche and John Scott, celebrating these unique artists and their contribution to cultural life in Dublin.

Set in evocative locations around Dublin - doorways, car parks, under bridges, behind walls and trees - these are not only images of dance, but are snatched moments from somebody's story. Set together, these individually compelling images form a bold visual record of a community of dance artists without whom Irish cultural life would be significantly poorer.

Exhibition times: Monday to Thursday 10am-10pm, Friday & Saturday 10-6pm.

For more information: www.danceireland.ie,
Tel: 01 855 8800 or info@danceireland.ie.

FABULOUS BEAST

in association with Dance Ireland

Professional training opportunity

20 April – 01 May

8am – 1.30pm

DanceHouse

€65 (Dance Ireland members), €75 (non-members)

Fees are non-refundable.

Those who complete the full course will receive a refund of €25.

www.fabulousbeast.net

Fabulous Beast Dance Theatre, in association with Dance Ireland, are offering a two-week training opportunity for professional performers from all disciplines. The award-winning company will be in residence at DanceHouse from 20 April to 01 May 2009. Applications are now sought from performers (including students in professional training) who wish to train with the multi-skilled performers of Fabulous Beast each morning over a two-week period. The workshops will be suitable for dancers, actors, musicians, singers, and other performers who are interested in developing or deepening a commitment to physical training and a serious, disciplined daily practice.

For seven years Irish director / choreographer Michael Keegan-Dolan and the members of his Fabulous Beast company have been developing practices which can be beneficially applied to the daily working lives of performing artists. This open residency is the result of the company's desire to share these experiences and in the process attempt to understand them more fully. Each day will begin at 8am with introductory class in Shadow Yoga (www.shadowyoga.com). From 10.30am to 1.30pm the ensemble will then share the basic elements of a



The Bull

The workshops will be led by Michael Keegan-Dolan and a core of six members of the ensemble cast of *Giselle* and *The Bull*, Fabulous Beast's two Olivier Award-nominated productions, both of which were coproduced with Dublin Theatre Festival. Fabulous Beast and Michael Keegan-Dolan are artistic associates of London's Barbican Centre.

Fabulous Beast is supported by The Arts Council.

Applications & further information:
By email only to info@fabulousbeast.net.

Deadline for applications: 17 March at 6pm.

typical day in the creative process of Fabulous Beast, and explore the application of these principles to a dance theatre practice.

Places are limited and will be allocated based on an assessment of each applicant's suitability, relevant training & performing experience. Preference will be given to applicants who can commit to both weeks, and all 11 sessions. Those who have limited availability may also be considered. For full details email: info@fabulousbeast.net.



RIPPLEAFFECT

touring in March 2009
 Dates :
 16 March – The Waterside Theatre, Derry - 028 71314000
 18 & 19 March – Old Museum Arts Centre, Belfast - 028 90233332
 20 & 21 March – The Waterside Theatre, Derry - 028 71314000
 24 March – The Hawks Well, Sligo - 071 9161526
 26 March – An Grianán Theatre, Letterkenny - 074 9120777
 29 March – Civic Theatre, Tallaght - 01 4627477

All performances will take place at 8pm

echo
 Dance Theatre Company
echo

COMPANY NEWS



CHRYSALIS DANCE

Upcoming events

www.chrysalisdance.com

2008 was a busy time for Chrysalis Dance. In August the company presented *Soul/S*, in Leitrim as part of the Flights of Fancy Festival. Transforming a parish hall in Cloone into a venue, the company performed *Soul/S* to a sold-out house and received a standing ovation. Marese McDonagh, writing for a local paper included some audience reaction in her review of the company, *all the dancers were very energetic and graceful, it was wonderful to get the opportunity to see something like this, and It's great to see them bringing something fabulous like this into the local community*, were just a small example of the communities reaction to the show. Chrysalis has always aimed to bring dance to audiences who don't normally attend dance and this show was a real example of the positive affects it had.

In September Chrysalis presented *Love and Other Disguises*, in collaboration with Catastrophe Theatre as part of the Dublin Fringe Festival. Performed in the Unitarian Church, Stephen's Green; the show sold-out for seven performances and received rave reviews: *sprightly and mesmeric dancing (Metro); imaginative production with wonderfully choreographed dance numbers (RTE.ie). All the cast give charmingly committed high-energy performances. They shine during the dancing set pieces, displaying great virtuosity and are a pleasure to watch (Irish Theatre Magazine Online).*

Chrysalis Dance was therefore devastated to have received no funding what so ever from the Arts Council this year. Despite this, the company has decided to go ahead with their plans. In April, they will tour a new show *Ways you Wander* to eight venues around Ireland. The show will feature three new modern ballets, two choreographed by company director Judith Sibley and one by guest choreographer Kerry Biggen. With music by John Spillane, Vivaldi, Justin Ryan and a host of international dancers, Chrysalis aims to produce an excellent, beautiful evening of work. We will continue



Chrysalis Dance

Source: Judith Sibley

our work as one of Ireland's only modern ballet company, with a fine reputation, built over 6 years, despite our current financial difficulties.

As part of the company's outreach programme, each venue will also host a workshop for young people interested in dance. For further information contact the individual venue or e-mail us at info@chrysalisdance.com.

COISCEÍM DANCE THEATRE

Boxes

Preview 05 March

Performances 06 & 07 March

8pm

Civic Theatre, Tallaght

€20/16

Booking 01-4627477

www.civictheatre.ie

Boxes 2009 will open at the Civic Theatre in Tallaght on 06 March before embarking on a national tour during March, April and May.

The company are very excited to be taking this new production on its first-ever tour of Ireland. Alongside the performances, CoisCéim is working with each of the venues and local communities to deliver a

comprehensive workshop programme led by choreographers David Bolger and Philippa Donnellan and members of the company.

This is a real opportunity to get actively involved with CoisCéim in your local region either as a professional dance artist or as a non-professional individual with an interest in dance. Further information about the workshops is available from Philippa Donnellan at 01-8784063.

For a full list of the touring schedule please visit www.coisceim.com

CoisCéim Broadreach

Square Peg by Eddie Kay and

Death by Sofa devised by participants of The Choreography Project

Saturday 28 February, 6pm and Sunday 01 March at 3pm

CoisCéim Studio, 14 Sackville Place, Dublin 1
Admission free

Friends, family and members of the general public are welcome to attend the premiere performances of *Square Peg* performed by Creative Steps and *Death By Sofa* performed by participants of The Choreography Project.

Square Peg is a novel and surprising dance work by Scottish Choreographer Eddie Kay with a wry sense of humour and revealing the person who fails to conform; the one that chooses not to fit in.

Death by Sofa was devised by the 16 participants of The Choreography Project over a two-month period, led by Philippa Donnellan. The group explored the use of words and text to create material which draws from a macabre Reuters news article and offers a variety of choreo-graphic examples.



Square Peg

CoisCéim are also delighted to see Jonathan Mitchell's stunning exhibition of dance photography at DanceHouse. Mitch has danced with CoisCéim many times and we wish him the very best of luck with his future projects.

DAGHDHA DANCE COMPANY

Funding in 2009

www.daghdha.ie

Daghdha has experienced an unexpected 52% reduction in funding from the Arts Council since 2007. This comes after encouraging revenue increases between 2003 and 2007, a major capital investment and despite the very largely affirmative outcome of an external review in 2008:

Daghdha is now at a funding level below that of 2003 when based in the University of Limerick. The Company will be affected heavily by the funding cuts; it will impact internally on the dance artists and the team and externally on the artistic and community of Limerick. There will be a reduced programme of activities, with the truly local and groundbreaking *Cultural Events Programme* suspended for 2009.

Daghdha wishes to express its sadness at the impact this will have on the City of Limerick and regions and will strive to find new ways of working on a local, national and international level.

Our Artistic Patron, William Forsythe says:

All of us can look to the work, the ideas and the innovations developed at Daghdha with deep respect and admiration. Under the leadership of Michael Klien, Daghdha Dance Company has been an inspiration to myself and too many of my dancers and artistic collaborators.

Artistic Director, Michael Klien says:

We know that the Arts Council's decision will not be reversed and we will save our energies for more exciting endeavours to come. However, we would like to express our distress and trust that there will be a time when Daghdha will be officially acknowledged for what it has accomplished during this period. We will now restructure Daghdha according to our new economic reality, genuinely building upon our ideas and our passion for pioneering modes of practice, production and distribution.

General Manager, Gemma Carcaterra says:

Please feel free to contact me in relation to the funding cuts, the external review and the reduced programme. Daghdha is an open space available to the artistic community in many ways, from 'Artist Support' to the hiring of Daghdha Space or Studio. I look forward to hearing from anyone with queries and ideas.

Daghdha mentoring programme in choreography and dance (DMP)
Recruiting – 09/10
Deadline: 01 June / Interviews commencing mid June

Daghdha Dance Company, Artistic Director Michael Klien, invites European dance artists and choreographers to apply for the DMP – a full-time, yearlong residency programme designed for emerging artists in choreography and dance. Individuals seeking to develop their own practice within a professional context are encouraged to apply for one of 15 full-time grant aided places becoming available in October 2009.

For an application form and further information please visit www.daghdha.ie.

DANCE THEATRE OF IRELAND

Upcoming events
www.dancetheatreireland.ie
danceire@iol.ie

Special Feldenkrais workshop at DTI Centre for Dance with guest USA teacher Catrina Choate-Heretoiu,
Sunday 08 March
4-6 pm
€20

Improve your quality of movement with an experienced Feldenkrais teacher. Awareness Through Movement® is highly regarded as an enjoyable sensory-motor approach to learning both new ways of moving, eliminating pain, and increasing self-awareness. With Catrina Choate-Heretoiu, a professionally trained ballet dancer, choreographer, Certified Feldenkrais® Practitioner, and a member of the Feldenkrais® Guild of America. *Freedom Moves* is focused on freeing the back and neck muscles. Treat yourself. Please pre-register.

DIVERSIONS DANCE COMPANY OF WALES

Bitter Suite
08, 10 & 12 March
www.diversionsdance.co.uk

Bitter Suite is Diversions spring 2009 programme, comprising of three exciting new dances packed with passion and energy that will certainly raise the temperature.

Ground-breaking dance from bold Belgian Stijn Celis combined with the voice of the legendary James Brown and music from celebrated New York



Bitter Suite

Source: Gemma Hughes

composer Steve Reich is fused in *FORM*, a piece of sheer entertainment.

Celebrated star performer and choreographer, the totally captivating, Nigel Charnock brings raw physicality in a new production working with *Diversions* for the first time. His work, *Lunatic*, will interlink theatre and dance as he explores themes of night, madness, insomnia, set against the 1950s with gorgeous music from that pivotal decade.

Diversions artistic associate and founding director Roy Campbell-Moore presents a beautiful new creation accompanied by the gorgeous music from the late Welsh composer Alun Hoddinott. Rich in movement, colour and atmosphere, the work will appeal to audiences on many levels, including the unfolding story of the five dancers. For tour dates, see *Dance Ireland Listings* on page 15.

ECHO ECHO DANCE THEATRE COMPANY

Ripple Affect
Touring 16 –29 March
www.echoecho.com

Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company, based in Derry, has an exciting *all-female* production to offer audiences this March called *Ripple Affect*.

Arising from questions such as: What do you do after you have been hugged? What resonates in your body and memory and where does that lead you? Do you dance together? In unison? Closely? With a leader or as equals?

Steve Batts, co-artistic director of Echo Echo has used these questions as a starting point to devise, direct and choreograph a new work for 5 exceptionally expressive, technically gifted, and creative female dancers.



Ripple Affect

Regular ensemble members Ayesha Mailey and Emily Welther are joined on stage by new collaborators Leilani Weis, Maite Larraneta, and Siobhan Simpson. Music is performed live by sisters Lorna, Karen and Joleen McLaughlin - the remarkable Henry Girls.

8 women. A warm, inviting blend of solos, duets and group dances, vocal harmony and rich instrumentation.

Movement that makes sense. Beauty on a human scale. This is going to be one that touches you deep, deep down. Don't miss it!

Welcoming Ripple Affect, Gilly Campbell, Arts Development Officer with the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, said: *Echo Echo has been one of our core clients for a number of years. We are delighted to see Ripple Affect come to fruition, through additional funding from the National Lottery through the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. Supporting Dance is a major strand of our work, reflected in the recently developed Dance Strategy for Northern Ireland. This work, with Steve Batts at the helm, is an excellent example of professional dance creation, development, production and performance, and I would encourage everyone to take advantage of the opportunity to attend what promises to be a great event.*

ELENA GIANNOTTI

04 March
Kingsplace, London
www.kingsplace.co.uk

This month Elena will be premiering her new work with Sacconi String Quartet playing live at the prestigious and new Concert Hall Kingsplace in King's Cross, central London.

Elena was commissioned by the Sacconi Quartet to choreograph on the Robin Holloway String Quartet

no. 2 and to perform in the main Hall 1 as part of *Sacconi Quartet exploring the arts* at Kingsplace.

After the main concert Elena will curate a late night show in Hall 2, an informal late night evening of dance performances where she and her guest artists will perform improvisation and choreographed work while the audience can wind down with a drink. Legitimate Bodies Dance Company will feature during the event as well as Irish-based sound artist Dorota Konczewska.

Elena has been supported by Dance Ireland for this event, through a residency at the DanceHouse during February 2009.

FEARGHUS Ó CONCHÚIR

March is *Match* month
www.bodiesandbuildings.blogspot.com

March is *Match* month. The film has been selected for inclusion in the Cultural Olympiad associated with Vancouver's Winter Olympics. It will be screened alongside other sport-related films in a month-long programme that's free to the public. I wonder if RTE and the Arts Council realised what a long term and wide-ranging benefit their joint commission would allow.

The live version of *Match* will be performed in a triple bill of Irish work (with Rex Levitates, Legitimate Bodies, and a memory of Catapult) that goes to Holyoke in Massachusetts for a St Patrick's Day festival. It's a pleasure to revisit the work with the other performer, Matthew Morris, as we have such an understanding of the piece now from its incarnations in Beijing, Bilbao, Bassano, London, Edinburgh, and of course, Croke Park. I'm very grateful that Culture Ireland funding has enabled this repeated refinement



Match-Artium

of *Match*, as well as the international exposure it provides.

It's a new experience for me to have this sense of repertoire. Though *Niche* is a relatively new piece, I am already thinking about how to deepen the understanding that made it successful for me by finding other contexts in which to continue working on the piece. I've just been to Paris where, despite the established grandeur of the city, I've found areas of urban regeneration that would be an appropriate backdrop for the work. Thanks to the Centre Culturel Irlandais, *Niche* may find a new expression there.

FIDGET FEET AERIAL DANCE COMPANY

Raw & other performances
www.fidgetfeet.com

Fidget Feet will lead a one-day aerial dance workshop on 22 March at The Factory in Sligo for the Sligo Circus Group. If you are interested in attending this workshop please email John at daftantics@gmail.com for further details.

Jym and Chantal are on a three-month residency in Shawbrook working on a new company piece and a new piece with the National Youth Dance Company. For the Longford Dance Festival, Fidget Feet will perform *Awaken* on 16 April and Let Loose National Youth Dance Company will perform on 17 April at the Backstage Theatre. Please contact the Backstage theatre for tickets: info@backstage.ie or 043 47888.

Fidget Feet are excited to work with An Grianán Theatre in Donegal on a new Christmas show version of *The Snow Queen*. We are looking for a male actor to play the young boy and a female actor to play two or three older female roles. Dates required: 25 May – 14 June, and 22 Nov – 20 December. All auditionees will need to be available to take part in a five-day training workshop in Donegal from 25 - 29 April inclusive. To audition for these roles please send your CV to Sheenagh Gillen at sgillen@onstage.ie.



Fidget Feet

Source: Jym Darling

IRISH YOUTH DANCE FESTIVAL 2009

Call for submissions

Deadline: 03 April

Dublin Youth Dance Company is pleased to invite submissions for the 9th Irish Youth Dance Festival, which will take place on 04 July 2009 at the Pavilion Theatre, Dun Laoghaire. This call is open to youth dance companies and young dancers/choreographers wishing to showcase their work in a professional environment.

Please submit a covering letter with a sample of your recent work to Mariam Ribon, 37 Hamilton Street, Off South Circular Road, Dublin 8, or contact Mariam at 086 8639702 for further information.

KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

Dancers in Residence

www.kerrycoco.ie

The six month community dance residency in Kerry held by Laura Murphy and Ailish Claffey will be coming to an end on 20 March. Since September 2008, Laura and Ailish worked in collaboration giving workshops and classes in creative dance to over 29 centres and schools reaching out to 1,064 members of Kerry's community.

The areas of the community targeted by the dancers included young males aged 7 – 12, older adults, and persons with intellectual and physical difficulties throughout the five constituencies in Kerry.

For the final month of the residency, Laura and Ailish plan to re-visit the outlined schools and centres to present an informal sharing of their own choreographic work. This will also incorporate an interactive workshop with all the participants.

Here, the dancer's aim is to widen dance awareness, interest and audiences in Kerry through fun and interaction with professional dancers.

For the professional side of the residency, Laura and Ailish choose to work with Steve Batts of Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company, Derry producing *Like Sisters*. This was performed as a work in progress at the Project Arts Centre on 15 January as part of Project Brand New.

LEGITIMATE BODIES DANCE COMPANY

Hanging in There

legitimatebodies@gmail.com

Following on from their successful 10-date tour to Mexico with *Touching Distance* in January and



Hanging in There

February, Legitimate Bodies present further performances in March with the popular *Hanging in There* at The King's Place in London on 04 March. Damian Punch and Nick Bryson are pleased to be part of an evening organised by Elena Giannotti.

There are also engagements in Holyoke Massachusetts as part of an Irish contemporary dance programme in the annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration, then a further engagement at *Dance Currents* organised by East London Dance.

The company would like to thank Culture Ireland for their support of touring activity.

PNYDANCE RESIDENCY IN THE DOCK

www.ponydance.com

ponydance undertake a two-week residency at The Dock, Carrick on Shannon from 30 March to 9 April.

Leonie McDonagh, artistic director of ponydance is a lover of clown and comedy and brings these elements to her dance work. She trained at London Contemporary Dance School, Middlesex University and Sallynoggin College, Dublin.



Ponydance

ponydance is committed to bringing humorous, heart warming, honest, entertaining dance to lots of people everywhere and accessible dance theatre to new audiences. They are passionate about dance and they are happy to share this while they are at The Dock, by offering classes to the public in the afternoons (from 5pm) in various forms of dance from contemporary and jazz to hip hop or street dance.

Their morning company classes (10am) are open to those with some experience of contemporary dance or yoga. Classes will be based on demand and incur a nominal charge, so if you or a group of people are interested in participating in a class with ponydance or would like more information about the residency please contact Sarah at The Dock on 071 9650828.

SOUTH TIPPERARY COUNCIL ARTS SERVICE & TIPPERARY EXCEL ARTS AND CULTURE CENTRE

A new space for the development of dance in Ireland

South Tipperary Council Arts Service and Tipperary Excel Arts and Cultural Centre, have joined forces to offer to the public a Dance Residency in South Tipperary. The residency is hosted in the new dance studio of the Excel Centre and aims to reach out to communities and artists within South Tipperary and throughout Ireland.

Jazmin Chiodi and Alexandre Iseli have been appointed resident artists and have put together an ambitious program to develop dance in South Tipperary. You may have seen them perform in theatres across Ireland, and their extensive careers have also taken them to France, Switzerland, Argentina, Belgium and Korea.

The programme aims to give the public the opportunity to experience dance in many ways, through a range of activities accessible to everyone. A pre-professional training session is programmed to respond to what experienced dance performers Iseli & Chiodi feel is often a difficult moment in a dancer's career: the transition between academic training and the highly demanding life within professional dance companies. Whereas traditional training involves mainly technical and individual skills, Iseli & Chiodi underline that some professional skills are rarely or never trained: collective creative work, fine sensorial work, development of a performative presence (an often 'mythified' aspect of stage performance), and personal contribution to the creative process.

This pre-professional session will provide the experience of a creative process as it happens in a

professional company, but clearly oriented to transmit and teach professional tools and confidence to the students. National Choreographic Centres in France have experimented with this approach successfully by including young dance graduates into the professional company's process, allowing students to live the company life close to experienced fellow dancers.

If you are a young dancer with a desire to make a career in dance, or similarly if you are not specifically a dancer, but want to acquire performance skills in your art, or would like to link with the performative arts, these sessions are for you, whether you are an actor, a video-performer, ...

For further information about the residency programme contact Sally O'Leary, Arts Officer, South Tipperary County Council: tel.: 052 345 65 or email sally.oleary@southtippercoco.ie.

THE FIRKIN CRANE

Blank Canvas

Professional Dance Residency Programme

Having received 29 applications in this first year from Irish, European and International based artists the selection process for the Firkin Crane's innovative *Blank Canvas* residency programme has been highly competitive. Each applicant's proposal was considered by a panel of dance experts and we are now delighted to be in a position to announce that *Blank Canvas* will support 11 artists and companies during 2009.

The Firkin Crane's focal point is continually identifying new horizons as a dedicated venue and a resource for dance development in Ireland and it is within our unique facilities that we have just launched this year's *Blank Canvas* into motion.

In February we begin this exciting programme with the first four independent dance artists commencing residencies. These are Ursula Chapman, Inma Moya Pavon, Laura Murphy and Catherine Young. Each of these artists will be given their individual space and time every week from now until the end of May. Then the first week of June has been set aside for a series of showings in the tradition of allowing members of the public to glimpse at the world of contemporary dance in the making. Throughout the process the Firkin Crane aims to provide a supportive environment to germinate creative endeavours, build bridges amongst artists allowing for professional exchange, exploration, and artistic growth.

The full *Blank Canvas* programme for 2009 will be announced shortly.

OTHER DANCE NEWS

CATHY SHARP DANCE ENSEMBLE

2 new dance works – 2 very different approaches

The Cathy Sharp Dance Ensemble from Basel, Switzerland presents its newest production *Two-Way Split* on its 8th tour of Ireland. *Two-Way Split* features two very different, exciting choreographies: *Double Je* from Felix Dumeril, former Artistic Director of the Berne Ballet and ... *like shattered glass* by CSDE Artistic Director Cathy Sharp.

For tour dates, see Dance Ireland listings.

COLLEGE OF DANCE

Professional class

www.collegeofdance.com

40 students are currently in full-time training, including 14 boys at the College of Dance in Monkstown, County Dublin.

Open days will take place at the end of this term on Monday 23 & Tuesday 24 March, from 10am – 6pm. All are welcome to visit and watch the students in training in a variety of classes. Further details are available from the College of Dance office.

All members of Dance Ireland are welcome to join the daily senior ballet classes and the boys' ballet technique class. The timetable is available from the office. Special rate: €8 per class.

Applications are now being received for entry to the College in September 2009, with auditions scheduled for March. For further information contact the College of Dance, Knox Hall, Monkstown Road, Monkstown, Co Dublin. T/F: 01 2304115; or email: admin@collegeofdance.com.

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL ARTS SERVICE AWARDS & OPPORTUNITIES 2009

Deadline: 18 March

www.kildare.ie

Kildare County Council Arts Service invites applications for the following awards and opportunities to individuals / groups and organisations living in or from County Kildare:

Arts Act Grants Scheme:

- Arts Education/ training projects
- Bursary awards for individual Kildare based artists for the development of their work.

- Assistance to groups/organizations/schools towards the cost of projects or events that stimulate public interest in and improve arts practice in the county.
- Assistance to groups / organisations for the purchase of equipment

Kildare Dance Summer School Bursary Award

Two bursary awards will be made to dancers, teachers or facilitators to participate in the Kildare Dance Summer School at NUI, Maynooth 20-24 July. The Summer School will have workshops in Choreography, Education, Youth dance and Dance with Disability. The awards include tuition fees and light refreshments.

Application forms and further information are available at www.kildare.ie/artsservice or contact: Kildare County Arts Service, Riverbank, Main Street, Newbridge, County Kildare, Tel: 045-448328 or Email: bbrady@kildarecoco.ie.

CHOREOGRAPH.NET

Hiveminding

Jeffery Gormly

www.choreograph.net

A screen shot, *Hivemind 4*, taken from the choreograph.net website:



Hivemind 4

Source: Jeffery Gormly



DUBLIN DANCE FESTIVAL 2009

08 -23 May

www.dublindancefestival.ie

Dublin Dance Festival 2009 is on its way! We're thrilled with the artists and shows we have in store for you and can't wait to let you know who from the wide world of dance will be taking to the stages of Dublin 08 - 23 May. We'll have 18 artists/companies from 9 countries bringing you 38

performances over 16 days, including Evidence, A Dance Company – Artistic Director Ronald K. Brown with their uplifting and vibrant show *One Shot* and Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui with his beautiful and haunting work *Apocrifu*, both at the Abbey Theatre.

Do you want to be the first to know who is coming to DDF 09? Do you want to get complimentary tickets to selected shows? Do you want discounts and special offers on tickets? Do you want to be in the know about DDF news before anyone else? You do? Then we want you to be our Friend.

Becoming a Friend of Dublin Dance Festival is simple: just visit our website, decide just how friendly you'd like to be, then fill in the simple form and follow the instructions to make your payment.

As a Friend of DDF you are contributing to the sustainability and longevity of Ireland's only major festival, dedicated to the best in home grown and international contemporary dance.

BRAY INSTITUTE OF FURTHER EDUCATION

Professional full-time Courses



Ballet Class

Source: Gabriel Allen

- Dance – Degree, Dance
- Higher National Diploma
- Dance – Foundation year

Classical Ballet, Jazz, Hip Hop, Tap, Contemporary, Modern Theatre Dance, Performance, Choreography.

New state of the art dance studio

Enquiries to Bray Institute of Further Education

Tel: 01-2829668

Email: enquiries@bife.ie Website: www.bife.ie

EVENTS LISTINGS

Date	Event	Location
04 March	Elena Giannotti <i>New York</i>	Kings Place, London www.kingsplace.co.uk
04 March	Cathy Sharp Dance Ensemble <i>Two-Way Split</i>	Town Hall Theatre, Galway 091 569777 www.tht.ie
05 March		Cork Opera House 021 427 0022 www.corkoperahouse.ie
07 March		Watergate Theatre, Kilkenny 056 776 1674 www.watergatekilkenny.ie
04 March	Legitimate Bodies Dance Company <i>Hanging in There</i>	Kings Place www.kingsplace.co.uk
20 March		Holyoke, Massachusetts www.holyokepatricksparade.com
28 March		Dance Currents East London Dance www.eastlondondance.org
08 March	Diversions Dance Company of Wales <i>Bitter Suite</i>	Cork Opera House 021 427 0022 www.corkoperahouse.ie
10 March		Backstage Theatre 043 47888 www.backstage.ie
12 March		Solstice Arts Centre 046 909 2300 www.solsticeartscentre.ie
23 & 24 March	College of Dance <i>Open Days</i>	The College of Dance 01 2304115 www.collegeofdance.com
March to May Touring	CoisCéim Dance Theatre <i>Boxes 2009</i>	CoisCéim Dance Company 01 878 0558 www.coisceim.com
March Touring	Echo Echo Dance Theatre <i>Ripple Effect</i>	Echo Echo Dance Theatre 028 7134 2266 www.echoechodance.com

DANCE IRELAND CLASSES & RESIDENCY @ DANCEHOUSE

09 - 13 March	Olwen Grindley	Contemporary
16 - 20 March	Katherine Lewis/Stephen Brennen	Ballet
23 - 27 March	Katherine Lewis/Stephen Brennen	Ballet

Class Fees:

DI Members: €7 per class; Non-members: €10 per class. Class card available! **Time:** 10.00am to 11.30am

Please note there will be no class on 17 March

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY EXCHANGE PROGRAMME @ DANCEHOUSE

02 - 07 March	Hayo David	Body & Space
Fees: €50 (Members) €80 (Non members). Time: 10am to 3pm		
30 March - 1 April	Jonathon Burrows & Adrian Heathfield	Body & Text
Fees: €50 (DI Members) €80 (Non members). Time: 11am to 5pm		
Level: experienced performers from all arts sectors		
For further information: www.danceireland.ie ; concession rates: DI members		

PROFESSIONAL CLASS AT THE FIRKIN CRANE with Dance Ireland

Every Wednesday	Contemporary	Firkin Crane, Shandon, Cork
Time: 11am to 12.30pm		
Fees: DI Members: €7 per class / Non-members: €10 per class		
For more information: Firkin Crane @ 021 450 7487		

PROFESSIONAL CLASS AT SIAMSA TÍRE with Dance Ireland

Every Tuesday	Contemporary	Siamsa Tire, Tralee, Co. Kerry
Time: 9am to 11am		
Fees: DI Members: €5 per class / Non-members: €8 per class		
For more information: Catherine Young @ 087 266 0012		

MAIDEN VOYAGE PROFESSIONAL CLASS with Dance Ireland

Every Wednesday	Contemporary	Dance Resource Base Studio, 35 Donegall Street, Belfast
Time: 6.30pm to 8pm		
Fees: DI Members: £4 per class / 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 to 12noon		
Fees: DI Members: €8 per class / Non-members: €10 per class		
For more information: Myriad Dance @ 053 9174 665		