

Perchance to Dream

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES THURSDAY 08 DECEMBER

ALISON BAKER KERRIGAN

Alison Baker Kerrigan is a fine art photographer living and working in Dublin, graduated in 2012 with a 1st Class Honours Degree in Photography from IADT - Dun Laoghaire. Working as Programme Manager & Curator in the National Centre for Arts and Health, Tallaght Hospital her work is embedded and strongly influenced by the area of Arts and Health with interest in the patient experience. Highlighting awareness of issues that surround Breast Cancer has been a particular topic she has explored. Whilst predominantly working with digital photography she has also developed a keen interest in 19th Century Alternative Processing (Chasing Shadows Collective), Fine Art Printing and curating of exhibitions within a Healthcare setting. www.abkphotography.com

MADELINE BOUGHTON

Madeline Boughton is an experienced arts professional with a track record of over twenty years working at senior management level in the Irish and international arts sector. She began her career working as Administrator with the Dance Council of Ireland, before specialising in communications and public relations. Subsequent roles included Press Officer with Project Arts Centre, Head of Press and Marketing at the Abbey Theatre and Head of Marketing and Press at Draíocht Centre for the Arts, Blanchardstown. Her appointment as the first Arts Officer with the British Council in Ireland activated her interest in international cultural relations and her five years with the organisation was the foundation for her subsequent role as Director of Showcases and Communications with the newly formed Culture Ireland in 2008.

Madeline established her own company in 2012 and, as an independent arts consultant, her clients include Culture Ireland, the Arts Council of Ireland, the Irish Writers Centre, the Irish Architecture Foundation, Limerick City and County Council and The Royal Institute of Architect's in Ireland. She is currently Head of Communications and Special Projects with the Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme, a major national and international State commemorative programme to mark the events of 1916. Madeline has a Degree in Arts Administration [UCD] and an MA [Honours] in Intercultural Studies [DCU]. She served on the Irish Times Theatre Awards panel in 2008 and 2009, as Chairperson of Pan Pan Theatre Company and an associate board member of Hatch Theatre Company. She is a board member of the Liz Roche Company.

CAROLANN COURTNEY

Carolann Courtney is the Arts and Health Coordinator for County Kildare. The work supported by the arts and health coordinator considers not just the health element of the individual in terms of sickness and / or absence thereof, but that of the individual's complete wellbeing. She has interpreted this as a means to examine the impact that community, societal structures & the environment has on the mental and physical wellbeing of the individual. She feels that art is a catalyst for discussion, exploration, research and production. She uses her position as Arts and Wellbeing coordinator to explore the accessibility of the arts in the county and promote inclusion and wellbeing.

UNA CARMODY

Una Carmody is a consultant working across a range of organisations with a particular focus on audiences. She is a lecturer in marketing in UCD for the masters programme in Cultural Policy and Management. She has worked in a range of senior positions in the arts in Ireland including CEO of the Helix, Cultural Manager of Temple Bar Properties and most recently was Co-Cultural Programme Lead for the Three Sisters bid for European Capital of Culture 2020.

PHILIPPA DONNELLAN

Philippa Donnellan trained in Contemporary Dance Technique at The Martha Graham School, New York, and gained an M.A in Dance Studies from Surrey University, UK. Philippa has extensive experience as a performer, teacher and choreographer. She continues to evolve her creative dance practice through working with a wide variety of communities of place, age, ability, and location.

Philippa joined CoisCéim Dance Theatre in 2006 to set up BROADREACH – participation and engagement programme. As part of BROADREACH, she has facilitated residencies and partnerships projects with a number of leading Irish institutions. Amongst others, Philippa has directed and choreographed work for CoisCéim's youth dance group Creative Steps and adults in The Choreography Project, developed an annual Dublin City Council/ BROADREACH performance project for people aged 50+ as part of Bealtaine Festival (2007 – 2015), and choreographed performances with Dublin Bus drivers as part of Gut Busters - a major health initiative for CIE. In addition, Philippa led and coordinated the Teacher Education strand of CoisCéim's 3 Year Dance Residency at St Patrick's College, Drumcondra 2013 - 2016. In 2015 she led a workshop programme, CREATIVE DANCE TALES, for primary school children and for teachers, which ran in parallel to CoisCéim's production and national tour of The Wolf and Peter.

She is currently directing a large scale intergenerational women's project 38 WOMEN, as part of the public engagement strand for THESE ROOMS, a co-production between CoisCéim and ANU. 38 WOMEN culminates in a site specific performance at National Museum of Ireland, Collins Barracks in December 2016.

MIHAELA GRIVEVA

Mihaela Griveva is the founder and editor of Dancing Opportunities. With more than 60,000 visits per month <http://dancingopportunities.com/> has become the go-to website for dancers worldwide. Over the past five years Mihaela has worked with organisations and companies such as The Princeton University, The Place, Rambert Dance, SEAD, Dance Ireland, Middlesex University, P.A.R.T.S., Trip Space Projects, Theater Regensburg, Dance Company Wales, Joffrey Ballet School and many more. Mihaela is also a dancer and choreographer and has successfully developed and taught various workshops in Europe and Asia.

DR AOIFE MCGRATH

Dr Aoife McGrath is a lecturer in the School of Arts, English and Languages at Queen's University Belfast. After a professional dance career in Germany and Ireland, Aoife worked as a choreographer, director, dance critic, and as Dance Advisor for the Irish Arts Council. Before joining Queen's in 2012, Aoife lectured at the School of Drama, Film and Music, Trinity College Dublin, and was assistant to the academic director of Ireland's National Academy of Dramatic Art, the Lir Academy. Her work has been supported by awards from the Arts Council of Ireland, the DAAD (German Academic Exchange), and the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Recent publications include work on dance and affect ('Dancing the Downward Slide', in Tommy DeFrantz and Philipa Rothfield (eds.), *Choreography and Corporeality: Relay in Motion*, Palgrave, 2016), dance and modernity ('Choreographies of Irish Modernity', in Paige Reynolds (ed.), *Modernist Afterlives in Irish Literature and Culture*, Anthem Press, 2016), and the politics of creativity in traditional Irish dance ('Do you want to see my hornpipe?' in Barbara Sellers-Young and Anthony Shay (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Dance and Ethnicity*, Oxford University Press, 2016). Aoife's monograph, *Dance Theatre in Ireland: Revolutionary Moves* (Houndmills: Palgrave, 2013) provides the first critical and contextual study of contemporary and historical dance theatre practice in Ireland. Aoife is currently working on a co-edited collection on contemporary dance in Ireland (*Dance Matters* with Emma Meehan, CDaRe, Coventry University, Palgrave, 2017) and a monograph on Dance and Affect.

Aoife is the Co-Convenor (with Prarthana Purkayastha, Royal Holloway University, London, and Philipa Rothfield, La Trobe University, Australia) of the Choreography and Corporeality Working Group of the International Federation for Theatre Research. She is also a member of the executive committee of the Irish Society for Theatre Research, a member of the board of directors of Dance Limerick, and a performer/choreographer member of Dance Ireland.

DR EMMA MEEHAN

Dr. Emma Meehan is a Research Fellow at Coventry University's Centre for Dance Research. She received her BA and PhD from the Drama Department, Trinity College, Dublin. Her doctoral research focused on the work of Irish choreographer Joan Davis. Emma is associate editor for Journal of Dance and Somatic Practices, and co-convenor of the Performance as Research Working Group at the International Federation for Theatre Research.

DR BRIGITTE MOODY

Brigitte Moody is a lecturer in Dance Pedagogy at the University of Limerick (UL). She gained her first degree in post primary Dance Education from University College Worcester (UK), specialising in Laban Studies and her Masters in Dance from Trinity Laban. Over her professional career her contribution in Dance has been to undergraduate, post graduate, initial teacher training, and Continued Professional Development in the UK and Ireland. Her passion for enabling teachers and dance artists to develop their skills in teaching dance has included running the part time Graduate Diploma/Masters in Dance at UL and the Masters in Applied Dance Studies for the Birmingham Royal Ballet dancers (UK). Her research is situated in the field of Self-Study through which she is exploring best practice in Dance Pedagogy and her professional identity as a dance teacher educator.

DR HILARY MOSS

Hilary Moss is Senior Lecturer in Music Therapy at the World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick, Ireland and until recently the Director of the National Centre for Arts and Health, Tallaght Hospital, Dublin. She completed her PhD in 2014 on aesthetic deprivation and the role of the arts for older people in hospital at Trinity College Dublin School of Medicine under the supervision of Prof Desmond O'Neill. She is a musician and Music Therapist and has an MBA in Health Service Management. Her research interests include arts therapies; singing and health; arts and health; health humanities and inter-disciplinary research between artists and clinical scientists.

For more information on her work see: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Hilary_Moss and/or <http://www.irishworldacademy.ie/postgraduate-programmes/ma-music-therapy>

FEARGHUS Ó CONCHÚIR

Fearghus Ó Conchúir is a choreographer and dance artist whose film and live performances create a space for audiences and artists to build communities together. Frequently collaborating with artists and experts from other disciplines, he is a champion for what dance can help us understand about how we live in the world. He is a Project Artist, a member of Project Arts Centre's associate artist scheme, and a PhD student at Maynooth University with the support of an IRC Scholarship.

His current work, The Casement Project, is an multi-platform, transnational project for ART:2016, the Arts Council's programme for Ireland 2016 and of the Culture Ireland International Programme. It is also co-commissioned by 1418NOW for the centenary commemorations of the WW1.

www.the-casementproject.ie / www.fearghus.net

TOBI OMOTSEO

Tobi Omoteseo has been dancing for over 10 years having had some training in Broadway Dance Centre New York, USA. Back here in Ireland, Tobi has been awarded Hip-hop King of Ireland in 2005/06/07/08 and has won the Hip-Hop All-Ireland crew championships in 2008, 2009 and 2010, which gave him the opportunity to represent Ireland in Las Vegas. Tobi has also taught the finalists in Class Act (2006) and the All Ireland Talent Show (2009) which were aired on RTE 2 and he has appeared in numerous music video awards. Tobi got through to the live shows of the dance series on Sky One's 'Got to Dance'. He also appears as a movement artist in the US hit TV show "Penny Dreadful". He performed in Corke Park as part of the iconic 1916 Commemoration LAOCHRA.

NINA PONGRATZ

Nina Pongratz is a professional dancer, teacher, and choreographer based in Dublin, Ireland. She is a graduate of the Master of Arts degree in Contemporary Dance Performance at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Muhlenberg College (USA) where she studied Theatre, Media & Communication and Dance with a concentration in Movement Composition. Nina is currently the Director of Dance at Ireland's leading stage school and children's talent agency, The Independent Theatre Workshop. At ITW Nina oversees programme development and management as it relates to the dance sector. She teaches students ages 3-19 in Jazz, Musical Theatre, and Contemporary techniques and mentors two performing Dance Companies for advanced students. Here, her students have performed at national dance festivals including Dance Platform (The Helix), and international Dance Competitions including VAD Productions and the 5,6,7,8Elite Dance Competition (Belfast).

Prior to ITW Nina taught dance technique, performance, and composition at The University of Limerick, Dance Limerick, Dance UL, and with the Limerick Hip Hop Intervention Project (LHHIP): dance intervention to improve social integration, physical, and mental health in students with and without complex disabilities. With the LHHIP she worked with organizations like Enable Ireland, Downs Syndrome Ireland, the University of Limerick Postgraduate Entry Medical School, and St. Gabriel's School where she engaged in research looking at the effects of dance in students with complex neurological conditions.

Current projects for Nina include Holding On, a full length dance work commissioned by Hues Productions in The Axis (Ballymun) exploring grief in two parts. The choreography responds to recent global tragedies and the affect it has on the international community. This project is in partnership with Syracuse University (USA). Nina is also directing and choreographing the musical Once on This Island Jr., a Caribbean adaptation of Hans Christian Anderson's The Little Mermaid. Nina is researching Haitian movement vocabularies and incorporating Haitian culture and movement themes into the performance which will premier in the Sean O'Casey theatre this May. Nina is a member of the Limerick Dance Collective, recently presenting choreography in Sum of Parts and performing in Making Space: Changing Ground at Dance Limerick. In 2015 she was an Artist in Residence at Shawbrook (Co. Longford Dance) composing a postmodern dance film, and in residence with Dance UL choreographing and directing a commercial dance film Holding On funded by Limerick City Arts Office. Nina has served as Public Relations Officer, Vice President, and President of The University of Limerick's Dance Society, Dance UL. She produced the only national level dance competition in Ireland, the All Ireland Dance Intervarsity Competition 2015 hosted for the first time by The University of Limerick. Her choreography Vulnera was featured and won first place in the Contemporary Dance competition.

Nina has studied with David Parsons Dance Company (NYC), and performed with Six Meters Improv Dance Company (Allentown, PA), and as a guest with Fidget Feet Dance Company (Ireland). She has studied with professional choreographers such as Mary Nunan (Ireland), Helene Cathala (France), Colin Dunne (Ireland), John Scott (Ireland), Karen Dearborn (USA), Emily Johnson (USA), Nicole Wolcott (USA), Charles O. Anderson (USA), and Sydney Skybetter (USA). In 2012 Nina received a Collaborative Research Grant from Muhlenberg College where she conducted research for the musical Hairspray studying the dramaturgy and ethnochoreology among the racial crossroad of movement in the 1960s while assisting Director of Dance, Karen Dearborn in the choreography for Hairspray. She has choreographed dozens of musicals including 25th Annual..Spelling Bee, Seussical the Musical, Annie Junior, Oklahoma, and The Marriage of Figaro with world renowned director Francine Rousel. Nina has been nationally recognised in the USA for excellence in choreography by the American College Theatre Festival for her choreography in the 2012 production of 44 Plays for 44 Presidents.

JUAN URBINA

Juan Urbina is dance artist from Venezuela currently living in Ireland. Following extensive training in ballet and contemporary dance with Escuela Taller de Danza de Caracas Juan has performed with dance and dance-theatre companies nationally and internationally. In Ireland he has worked with choreographers such as John Scott, Michael Keegan-Dolan, Liz Roche and Lea Anderson (UK). Most recently he has developed a dance program for homeless people in Dublin in collaboration with Dublin Simon Community.

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ROBBIE BLAKE

Robbie Blake is an artist working as a vocalist and composer based in Dublin with a particular interest in dance, theatre and live art. Recent projects include *Low Lying*, a site-specific dance and music theatre performance for Tiger Dublin Fringe, created with choreographer Jessie Keenan and visual artist Ciara McKeon. Robbie was a vocalist for Rob Heaslip's HATCH residency at Dance Ireland to R&D a new work. Robbie recently facilitated and participated in the Trans Live Art Salon with artist Robyn McQuaid-O'Dwyer as part of Live Collision 2016. Upcoming projects include *Town Choir*, a collaboration with Canadian theatre company Theatre Replacement and Vancouver Youth Choir for the PuSh International Performing Arts Festival 2017. Robbie is the director of Tonnta, Ireland's only dedicated new music vocal ensemble. Tonnta works to broaden the context in which music is experienced and has premiered over 25 Irish works in 2016 in venues such as Smock Alley Theatre, Irish Architectural Archive and Project Arts Centre. www.tonnta.ie

JAZMIN CHIODI

Jazmin Chiodi was born in Argentina in 1976. She started dance at a very early age, graduated at Buenos Aires' prestigious Taller de Danza de San Martin in 1996, and performed with various Argentinean choreographers including Mariana Bellotto.

Awarded a bursary from the Antorcha Foundation, she moved to France between 2001 and 2005, taking countless workshops and classes with some of the most prominent companies and teachers such as Pina Bausch, Trisha Brown, Mathilde Monnier, Carlotta Ikeda, Michelle Anne de Mey, Susan Buirge, Julyan Hamilton, etc. She moved to Ireland in 2006, where she pursued her career as a performer, and got more and more involved in dance teaching. Jazmin developed her approach to dance and teaching through the practise of somatic techniques: mainly Yoga, Feldenkrais technique, Alexander method.

Since she arrived in Europe, Jazmin's work included the following Companies and Choreographers: Mathilde Monnier (National Choreographic Centre in Montpellier, France); Fabrice Ramalingom, La Camionetta; Patrice Barthes Co.; Liz Roche, Rex Levitates (now Liz Roche Company); Dance Theatre of Ireland.

In 2008 Jazmin Chiodi was appointed resident Artist at Tipperary Dance Residency, where she developed the Residency's comprehensive programme in collaboration with Alexandre Iseli. On this base, they founded together Iseli-Chiodi Dance Company and Tipperary Dance Platform.

SHEILA CREEVEY

Sheila Creevey is Head of Creative Programmes at Pavilion Dance South West, a UK Dance House, and national dance development organisation. She has worked as a youth dance artist, arts manager and consultant in various contexts, over the past 15 years, and specialises in creative and strategic development.

Sheila has a BA (Hons) Dance Studies and Music from University of Surrey (Roehampton), an MA in Contemporary Dance Performance (University of Limerick), and an MBA in Professional Arts Management (IT Carlow). She held the position of Chairperson of Dance Research Forum Ireland from 2010 to 2014. From 2013 to 2015, Sheila participated in the Léim Project, a European dance leadership programme, led by Dance Ireland.

MICHAEL GALLEN

Michael Gallen is an Irish composer and performer. Having been brought up primarily with Irish traditional and folk music, he later pursued studies in composition with Jose Manuel Lopez Lopez in Paris and is comfortable meandering at the borders of different musical styles. Recent work includes *Wilde Stories*, for the RTÉ Concert Orchestra and *Cór na nÓg*; *What You Forget*, for Ireland 2016, and several collaborations with dance and theatre (*TARDIGRADE*, *Age of Transition*). His work was featured in the National Concert Hall's "Composing the Island" 2016, and he has participated on *MAKE*, the "Next Stage", and residencies at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre and Cill Rialaig. Next year he begins work on a new opera *A Month in the Lock*. His work as a documentary maker includes *Vocal Chords*, a series made with singer Iarla O Lionaird (Gold Medal, New York Radio Awards 2016). Michael is the pianist and lead vocalist with Irish band *Ana Gog* and is the current Artist in Residence at the Trinity Long Room Hub.

ALMA KELLIHER

Alma Kelliher is a composer, sound designer and musician based in Dublin. Favourite recent theatre credits include: *RIOT (THISISPOPBABY)*, Winner Best Production, Tiger Dublin Fringe 2016) as composer, sound designer, musical director and performer; *riverrun* (Emergency Room, worldwide tour); *The Casement Project (ART:2016, Fearghus Ó Conchuir)*; and *In The Shadow of the State* (a live art piece, ART:2016, Jesse Jones and Sarah Browne); *The Elephantom* (UK National Theatre, West End). Current film projects include *A Report to an Academy* by Sarah Browne and *I Am Roger Casement* directed by Dearbhla Walsh, soon to be broadcast on RTÉ. Alma is a recipient of the prestigious Next Generation Bursary (Arts Council) with which she is creating an electro album and live theatre event inspired by the stories of Irish mythology. She has a BA in Music (Trinity College) and an MSc in Sound Design (Edinburgh University) and is a graduate of the Rough Magic SEEDS Programme 2010-11. Alma is a member of *The Evertides* – a musical trio influenced by folk, gospel and vocal harmony. www.almakelliher.com

EMMA MARTIN

Emma Martin is artistic director of *United Fall* whose previous productions include *Dancehall* (Dublin Theatre Festival 2015), *Tundra* (Dublin Dance Festival 2014), *Dogs* (Dublin Fringe Festival 2012), *Listowel Syndrome* (Dublin Fringe Festival 2010). Her work has been commissioned by Dublin Dance Festival and co-produced by Dublin Theatre Festival. Emma is the Dance Artist in Residence at Visual Centre for Contemporary Art and Dance Ireland Associate Artist.

Most recently she collaborated with Enda Walsh on *Arlington* (Landmark/ Galway International Arts Festival). Other choreography/ movement credits include: *Taming of the Shrew* (The Globe Theatre 2016) *Romeo & Juliet* (Gate Theatre, Dublin 2015) *Luck Just Kissed You Hello* (HotForTheatre/ Galway International Arts Festival 2015), *Teh Internet is a Serious Business* (Royal Court 2014).

NATALIE MORNINGSTAR

A current PhD in Social Anthropology at the University of Cambridge and Visiting Scholar in the Department of Sociology at Trinity College Dublin, I conduct research on cosmopolitan development, performance, and the politics of contemporary art in Ireland and Europe more broadly. I have a background in dance and music performance and am a practising ethnographic photographer. My work integrates collaborative artistic practice with more conventional academic research methodologies, with a focus on bridging the gap between the kinds of knowledge and experience generated within academia and the arts sector.

RÍONACH NÍ NÉILL

Ríonach Ní Néill is a dance artist and curator, based in the Conamara Gaelacht. Her work is inspired by an engagement with human and social issues, viewing dance as a form of civic dialogue, creating spaces for us to engage with one another and our surroundings, provoke reflection and allowing us to imagine ourselves, and others differently. As Galway Dance Artist in Residence, Ríonach curates the Corp_Real |Galway Dance Days Festival, a platform for multi-disciplinary engagement with dance and social issues, and is the dance curator at Firkin Crane, Cork, responsible for artistic programming and development.

She founded Ciotóg in 2006, and her 11 works have been performed worldwide, winning international awards. She has developed dance projects for older people (including the Macushla Dance Club), for people living with dementia, and people living with psychiatric illness. She holds a PhD in Geography from UCD, and guest lectures in dance in Germany and Sweden.

DR NIAMH NIC GHABHANN

Niamh NicGhabhann is the course director of the MA Festive Arts programme at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at the University of Limerick. Her research engages with public space, the built environment, and issues of memory and the body, as well as aspects of cultural entrepreneurship.

BENJAMIN PERCHET

Benjamin Perchet joined Dublin Dance Festival in August 2015. He will lead the Festival as Director for the 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 editions. Most recently, he was the Deputy Programme Manager and Artistic Advisor for two major French institutions in Lyon: Maison de la Danse (since 2004) and Biennale de la Danse (since 2008). In these roles he embraced dance in all its forms, being loyal to the most important choreographers of the 20th century and highlighting young creators, while developing the international profile of both institutions. He has been an Aerowaves Partner/Presenter since 2012 and was a board member of European Dancehouse Network (EDN) from 2009 until 2015.

ARGYRO TSAMPAZI

Argyro Tsampazi is a dance practitioner from Greece. She is currently completing a PhD in Dance at Queen's University, after finishing her Masters in Choreography at Fontys University in The Netherlands. She also graduated from Aristotle's University in Greece with Bachelor degrees in Dance Teaching and Theology. Argyro has worked in Thessaloniki for many years leading her own Dance School, professional Dance Company and Dance Supplies shop. She took part in numerous seminars and festivals in Greece and abroad and won several awards in international dance competitions from where she also gained two scholarships, one for the Ballet Dance Open in St. Petersburg, Russia and one for John Moore's University in Liverpool, UK. Her repertoire as a dancer includes such ballets as 'Swan Lake', 'Don Quixote', 'Paquita', 'The Nutcracker', 'The Sleeping Beauty' as well as original contemporary dance choreographs. She has showcased her own choreographic work in festivals in Greece, Germany, Russia, The Netherlands and UK. She is currently engaged in research on a choreographic method investigating the use of rituals and trance in the choreographic process, and lecturing at the Dance Department of Ulster University.