

DECEMBER 2010



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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Cover: *Romeo & Juliet*

Source: Ballet Ireland

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January 2011 Copy & Photos: Friday 03 December Inserts: Friday 10 December

All photos submitted must be accompanied by appropriate credits and acknowledgements



INTRODUCTION

December and the holiday season are here. Despite the difficult financial climate and uncertainty – 2010 will be memorable for the tenacity, collective support and new ideas generated by a resilient and creative dance sector. We should celebrate; looking back we can all share in acknowledging the wonderful range of dance projects, performances and tours undertaken over the past twelve months. So, we hope you will all find the time to join us for Xmas drinks on Wednesday 15 December from 5 to 7pm, following a studio sharing of new work at 4pm by Liv O'Donoghue (*Ten: white/grey studies in movement*). At our Xmas drinks we will also launch our second commissioned essay from Jeffrey Gormly; *Everyone Is Going Solo, Together*, a copy of which is enclosed here as our present to you.

As usual, we carry news of performances from members throughout the country, including Irish National Youth Ballet's *The Nutcracker*; Youth Ballet West's *Once Upon a Time*; Fidget Feet/Galway Community Circus Young Ensemble new collaboration and CoisCéim Broadreach *The Choreography Project* at The Hugh Lane Gallery.

For the third year Birr Theatre and Arts Centre hosts I.F.O.N.L.Y (International Festival of a Necessarily Lonely You) with a range of national and international guests, established by Legitimate Bodies. Nationally, Ballet Ireland concludes its extensive tour of *Romeo and Juliet*, while in Cork The Firkin Crane presents its final work-in-progress showing of the year with Blank Canvas artists Fearghus Ó'Conchúir and Kyle Abraham on Friday 03 December.

Project Arts Centre hosts a range of interesting dance work this month, including IMDT's *In this Moment*, a collaboration between John Scott and Charles Atlas; Project Brand New (featuring work from DI member Peter Duffy) and *The Bobby Sands Memorial Race* by performer Eddie Ladd. Presented as part of Queer Notions Festival, DI members can purchase tickets at the concession rate on production of your current DI membership card.

Our morning professional classes continue with guest ballet teacher Judith Reyn-Stroux (29 November to 03 December), guest contemporary teacher Iñaki Azpillaga (06 to 10 December) and conclude with a week of ballet led by Jane Magan (13 to 17 December).

Dance Ireland and DanceHouse will be closed from Saturday 18 December until Tuesday 04 January. Morning professional class will resume on Monday 10 January with Elena Giannotti.

Inside you will also find details on the open call for *Re-Presenting Ireland: a showcase initiative by Culture Ireland, Dance Ireland and Dublin Dance Festival*, which will take place next May as part of the Dublin Dance Festival at DanceHouse. Please note the closing date for applications is Wednesday 15 December 2010.

And finally, Daghda Dance Company, Dance Ireland and The Firkin Crane are working in collaboration with the Arts Council on hosting four workgroup discussion sessions. Framed around the recently published report on dance touring by Jane Daly: *New Framework for Professional Dance Touring in Ireland*; we hope to see you at one or other of the sessions.

Dance Ireland takes this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and we wish you and yours a happy, prosperous and dance-filled new year. We look forward to working with you all again in 2011... warm regards from Brenda, Elisabetta, Glenn, Inga, Paul and Siân.

DANCE IRELAND PROGRAMME



CONTACT IMPROVISATION JAM WEDNESDAYS @ DANCEHOUSE

11.30am - 1.30pm
Fee: €2

Open to all those with contact improvisation and movement experience these contact improvisation jams will run every Wednesday until 15 December.

DANCE RESEARCH READING & DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesdays @ DanceHouse
07 December
6 - 8pm

Free
infodanceresearch@gmail.com

Led by Antje Schneider, and open to those interested in exchange about theoretical, practice-based and practice-led research in dance and performance. Providing the space to reflect on ideas, and to engage with the ideas of a wider community; texts will be provided to stimulate discussion. New members always welcomed.

INTERNATIONAL GUEST BALLET TEACHER

Judith Reyn Stroux

29 November - 03 December
Professional Morning Ballet Class
(with piano accompaniment)
10 - 11.30am

'Anatomical Articulation of the Limbs in Ballet'

Two Afternoon Ballet Lecture Demonstrations
for dance teachers

30 November & 02 December
1 - 4pm

Fees: €30 members/€50 non-members
(two lecture demonstrations)

Judith Reyn-Stroux studied at the Royal Ballet School, London. On graduation, she joined The Royal Ballet, dancing solo roles in works by Ashton, MacMillan and Wright. She was invited to join Stuttgart Ballet where she was



Judith Reyn Stroux

Source: Judith Reyn Stroux

Principal for many years, dancing the leading roles in all John Cranko's full-length ballets: *Eugene Onegin*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Julia*, *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Giselle*.

Under the sponsorship of Professor Michael Birkmeyer, Director of the Vienna State Opera Ballet School, Judith studied Ballet Pedagogy with the leading teachers in Europe, in addition to studies in Anatomy, corrective Gymnastics, Pilates and Kinesiology. In 1986, she joined the staff of the Vienna State Opera Ballet School as teacher of classical ballet, variations and repertoire. She taught graduate classes with prize-winning students, a majority of whom received contracts with leading European dance companies.

She taught Liz King's modern dance company Tanztheater Wien (resident at the Vienna Volksopera) for ten years and created a system adapting the classical ballet education and training programme to the needs of modern dance training. Most notably, Judith evolved a workshop with a powerpoint presentation to acquaint dancers/students of ballet and

contemporary dance with a simplified course concerning anatomy and kinesthetic awareness in the articulation of the limbs in rotation.

Much in demand as an international guest teacher, Judith teaches for leading classical ballet companies and contemporary dance companies and schools, including Stuttgart Ballet Company, HET National Ballet, Introdans, Preljocaj Company, Royal Ballet School London, HET National Theatre Ballet School Amsterdam, American Academy of Ballet New York, Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts, Basel Ballet Theatre School, Kudo Academy of Ballet Japan, Tanzhaus NRW Düsseldorf, Madrid Associatione for Professional Dancers and ImpulsTanz.

INTERNATIONAL GUEST TEACHER IÑAKI AZPILLAGA

Professional Morning Class

06 – 10 December

10 – 11.30am

Fee: €7 DI members / €10 non-members

Dance Ireland is delighted to welcome back International Guest Teacher Iñaki Azpillaga to DanceHouse from 06 to 10 December. These classes are directed at people interested in dance as an art of expression. The class will turn around one or two themes per day including warm up, floor-work and dance evolutions in the space, from high voltage to lazy-looking forms where energy and imagination are the rulers of

the rhythm. Dancers are encouraged to appropriate the given material and 'stage' it in the shortest delay of time, assimilating mistakes and adaptations as new versions and personal results.

Iñaki Azpillaga is dance teacher based in Brussels. Since 1994 he has been associated with the company Ultima Vez as dancer, teacher, repetitor and choreographic assistant to Wim Vandekeybus on numerous productions. Iñaki has a dance studies background in Folk, Classical ballet, Jazz, modern/contemporary dance. He has performed with the companies of Ultima Vez/W. Vandekeybus, Mathilde Monnier, Bocanada Danza, National Ballet Company of Spain, among many others.

NEW FRAMEWORK FOR PROFESSIONAL DANCE TOURING IN IRELAND

Earlier this year, Dance Ireland hosted a members' meeting and a meeting with the Arts Council. An outcome of these meetings was consensus to continue fostering a process of constructive dialogue between the sector and the Council.

Recently the Arts Council commissioned Jane Daly to undertake a consultation process centred on the development of dance touring in Ireland. The findings were collated in a report titled *New Framework for Professional Dance Touring in Ireland*. The document can be downloaded from www.artscouncil.ie/en/areas-of-work/dance-introduction.aspx.

As a next step, Dance Ireland, Daghda Dance Company and The Firkin Crane are working in collaboration with the Arts Council on hosting four workgroups aimed at discussing the report's findings. Each workgroup will be structured as a focused round table facilitated by Jane Daly, and it will last for no more than two hours. These workgroup meetings represent a valuable opportunity to feedback into the ongoing development of a new policy framework for professional dance touring in Ireland.

In order to have an informed discussion, we encourage participants to read the report in full



Kopia

before attending a meeting. Your participation will be much appreciated. To keep the discussion focused, there is a maximum of 12 people per session. Places will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. Please RSVP by Wednesday 01 December to confirm your availability.

Workgroup Session 1: DanceHouse
07 December, 11:00 to 13:00

Workgroup Session 2: DanceHouse
07 December, 14:00 to 16:00

Workgroup Session 3: Firkin Crane
09 December: 14:00 to 16:00

Workgroup Session 4: Daghdha Space
10 December: 11:00 to 13:00

RSVP to Áine Kelly at aine.kelly@artscouncil.ie or phone 01 618 0254.

RE-PRESENTING IRELAND: A SHOWCASE INITIATIVE BY CULTURE IRELAND, DANCE IRELAND AND DUBLIN DANCE FESTIVAL

Open Call Deadline:
Wednesday 15 December @ 5pm

For the fourth successive year, Dance Ireland in association with Dublin Dance Festival and Culture Ireland, invites proposals from choreographers (Dance Ireland professional category members only) and dance companies (Dance Ireland organisation category members only) to submit work for consideration for *Re-Presenting Ireland*.

What is Re-Presenting Ireland?

Re-Presenting Ireland is a showcase platform to be held during the 2011 Dublin Dance Festival in which experienced professional artists present a sample of current work, either as work-in-progress, extract or repertoire. Due to the technical limitations of a mixed bill showcase, there are constraints on the programming and, therefore, works presented must be no longer than *20 minutes* and have very limited set-up requirements.

Re-Presenting Ireland is an opportunity for national and international programmers and national audiences to experience, as part of a mixed bill, some of the work currently being made in Ireland. It is our intention to curate a programme that is representative of current dance practice and of the very highest standards. It is also a networking opportunity for dance artists to present themselves to their international peers and press during the festival.

Please note, there is no production fund available for this studio-based showcase platform.

Assessment process and criteria

Proposals will be considered by a peer panel, comprising representatives from Culture Ireland, Dance Ireland, Dublin Dance Festival and international colleagues.

Assessment will be based on the choreographer's track record and suitability of the work within the confines of a mixed bill programme. The final selection will be made by the end of January 2011.

How to apply

Proposals should be submitted using the *Re-Presenting Ireland* application form, and accompanied by 5 copies of a DVD of the work that you propose. Application forms can be downloaded from both the Dance Ireland (www.danceireland.ie) and Dublin Dance Festival (www.dublindancefestival.ie) websites.

Completed application form and DVDs should be sent to: Inga Byrne, *Re-Presenting Ireland*, Dance Ireland, DanceHouse, Foley Street, Dublin 1, to arrive no later than Wednesday 15 December at 5pm. All applications will be acknowledged by email and decisions will be communicated by the end of January 2011.

Please note, late applications will not be accepted. All applicants must be professional category members of Dance Ireland.



FROM DUBLIN TO LUBLIN

by Liadain S. Herriott

From Dublin to Lublin, a letter in difference and a world apart

Lublin Dance Theatre hosted the second leg of Tour d'Europe, a pilot programme designed for ten "young emerging choreographers" from France, Poland, Germany, Spain and Ireland. I found the week in Poland thoroughly informative and rich in cultural exchange and artistic sharing.

Warmly welcomed by Ryszard Kalinowski, director of Lublin Dance Theatre, our first day was an intensely profound introduction to the city's heritage. One of the Lublin's most interesting theatres, No Name Theatre is situated in the old city's original gate linking the Christian and Jewish neighbourhoods of the old city. A group of actors settled down in this ruined city gate, Grodzka Gate, in 1992 and gradually through much research and labour, transformed the historical location into a theatre. Today, the theatre they designed in that space, NN Theatre is dedicated to telling the city's history, keeping heritage alive through performance and exhibition.

At the onset of World War II, eighty percent of Lublin's population was Jewish. They were taken from their homes, put in labour camps and their neighbourhood, then the Jewish district of the old city of Lublin, was completely demolished. It appears today as though this part of the city never existed, apart from this renovated gateway. NN Theatre pays homage to the old city's Jewish neighbours, by bringing the memory of them alive through intricate exhibitions of authentic testimonies and photos collected from this time period. Through intriguing in-house installations, NN Theatre has virtually remapped the old Jewish city which no longer exists in reality. Grodzka Gate NN Theatre acts as a museum as well as a theatre. Situated in a gateway between two neighbourhoods it is now a gateway to memories brought alive through art.

What impressed me most was the cross collaborative approach to the organisation of the city's performance events. Lublin Dance Theatre itself is housed in a building which is used by artists from various backgrounds. Each set of artists has a company which corresponds to their particular field including dance, fine arts, theatre, music and puppetry. It is no surprise that collaboration is often characteristic when it comes to the events in the city related to performance. This building is called Centrum Kultury w Lublinie - Culture Center of Lublin. Centrum Kultury is responsible for the organisation of the city's events, such as Lublin's annual International Dance Festival.

The 14th edition of this dance festival took place the week we were there. Throughout the week we trained every morning at Lublin Dance Theatre's studio with Inna Aslamova, a choreographer from Belarus who has performed her work in the International Dance Festival. During the week, the festival opened, hosting performances from Belgium, Portugal, Poland, Greece/Slovakia. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet artists from other countries and to see their work.

Dance writer Jadwiga Grabowska talked to us about the history of contemporary dance in Poland, Polish contemporary dance festivals and the current residential platforms for artistic research and performance.

All in all, the week in Lublin was thoroughly enriching both artistically and culturally. The festival facilitated networking and the Tour d'Europe team grew tighter in knowing more about one another. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet other artists, see their work and observe how they operate. Tour d'Europe's third leg in Hamburg will take place at the end of January 2011 where we will be hosted by the city's choreographic center, K-3.

COMPANY NEWS



ARTS & DISABILITY IRELAND

Abära International Disability Film Festival
www.dochas.ie/abara

Motion Disabled

Simon McKeown (UK), 12 mins
(running on loop)
03 December @ 5pm
Meeting House Square, Temple Bar

A digital exploration of the bodies of people who are physically different, this remarkable work makes use of 3D animation and motion capture, a technique more commonly associated with feature films and computer games, to create a kinetic connection with the human form. Conceived by recording the physical movements of fourteen people with conditions such as Spina Bifida, Cerebral Palsy and Brittle Bones, the film highlights the wonder of everyday movements with all the intricacies and uniqueness of each person's physicality. Abara's screening of *Motion Disabled* is one of 12 screenings happening worldwide on 03 December as part of International Day of People with Disabilities Coordinated by VSA.

My Dream

Wang Honghai (China), 90 mins
05 December @ 6.30pm
CinemoBILE, Point Village

China has long been renowned for the beauty, precision and physical perfection of its performing arts troupes. That 'perfection' takes on a new meaning in this beautiful executed showcase of a Chinese performing arts company whose every performer is physically impaired. A dazzling display of dance and movement and an

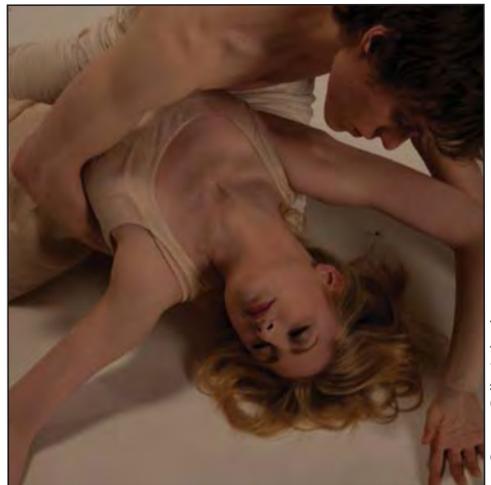
uplifting examination of a group of young people who are as energetic and ambitious as any other young folk of their age, *My Dream* is a testament to artistry and perseverance.

BALLET IRELAND

Romeo & Juliet 2010
Touring until 12 December
www.ballet-ireland.com

Ballet Ireland is touring a brand new production of *Romeo & Juliet* choreographed by Morgann Runacre-Temple, which had its world premiere at the Gaiety Theatre on 19 October.

Shakespeare's tale of the star-crossed lovers, Romeo and Juliet, is one of the greatest love stories of all time. Against a backdrop of ancient feuds and gang warfare, the ill-fated young couple falls instantly and hopelessly in love. But their families are bitter enemies, and in order to be together the two lovers must be prepared to risk everything...



Romeo & Juliet

Source: Ballet Ireland

www.danceireland.ie

Romeo and Juliet is a dazzling combination of passion and hatred, comedy and high tragedy, making it the perfect vehicle for the talents of choreographer Morgann Runacre-Temple who delighted audiences last year with her adaptation of *Cinderella*. Don't miss this innovative and exciting new production of *Romeo & Juliet* coming to a theatre near you.

COISCÉIM DANCE THEATRE

CoisCéim Broadreach
The Choreography Project
www.coisceim.com

Over six weeks, participants from the Choreography Project have been working with choreographer Philippa Donnellan to create dance theatre drawing inspiration from the work of painter Francis Bacon. This Choreography Project is in collaboration with The Hugh Lane where Bacon's studio is on permanent exhibition. The project culminates in an informal presentation open to friends, family and members of the public on 11 and 12 December at 3pm at The Hugh Lane, Parnell Square North, Dublin 1. This is the fourth Choreography Project, which offers professional and non-professional dancers the opportunity to work with choreographers to explore and create dance.



CoisCéim Broadreach

Gift vouchers are available this holiday season for upcoming terms of evening classes for adults at CoisCéim Studio. These classes in Contemporary, Ballet and Jazz for new and experienced dancers will continue until 17 December and resume on 18 January. Also in January, drop-in dance classes for people aged 50+ will continue in Donnycarney and in the city centre. Visit www.coisceim.com for more information.

DAGHDHA DANCE COMPANY

Successful Gravity and Grace
in association with Limerick City Council
www.daghdha.ie

Daghdha are delighted with the success of their *Gravity and Grace* festival in November. More than 200 people braved the storms over the four evenings to experience exhilarating contemporary dance and choreography.

The first evening, 'An Opening', hosted and welcomed the first performance installation by the new DMP programme participants who joined Daghdha on 01 November 2010: Helen Cerina, Jesse den Dulk, Claire Keating, Ruairi O'Donovan, Asher O'Gorman. The following evenings were a performance series programmed by Artistic Director Michael Kliën, and featured the dance artists and choreographers Kaspar Aus, Mark Carberry, Laura Dannequin, Giorgio Convertito, Jesse den Dulk, Ellen Kilsgaard, Edd Schouten and Lucy Suggate.

Daghdha would like to thank everyone involved within the festival for their time and inspirations and we look forward to featuring *Gravity and Grace* in the national calendar in 2011.

ECHO ECHO DANCE THEATRE COMPANY

Season's Greetings

The team at Echo Echo would like to wish all of our fellow Dance Ireland colleagues and members a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

We have been blown away by the passion and diversity of the work being produced all over the country, despite many challenges. May it continue in 2011!

Echo Echo's programme will be announced in the January issue but will include elements of the *Into Contact* project working with Steelstown Primary School to integrate movement into the culture, sports clubs in the North West and producing a performance/installation piece on climbing, created by Artistic Director Steve Batts and artist Dan Shipsides.

The company will continue to offer an extensive education and outreach programme for all ages and abilities as well as tour children's production *Undercurrent* in autumn 2011. Plus much, much more to be announced! We hope to see some of you with us next year and look forward to seeing everyone's work. Best Wishes from Echo Echo DTC.

FIDGET FEET AERIAL DANCE THEATRE

Attack of the Circus

22 December @ 8pm

Black Box Theatre

Tickets: €12/8

Family ticket: €32 (4 people)

www.tht.ie

Fidget Feet Aerial Dance Theatre in collaboration with Ireland's first youth circus, Galway Community Circus, presents a contemporary circus show combining aerial skills with music and video art. Developed and performed by a group of spectacularly talented young Galwegians, the Galway Community Circus Young Ensemble. *Attack of the Circus* takes place at Black Box Theatre on 22 December at 8pm. This project is funded by the Arts Council.



Attack of the Circus

Source: Fidget Feet

FITZGERALD & STAPLETON

www.fitzgeraldandstapleton.com

Season's Greetings

Fitzgerald and Stapleton send a huge thank you to everyone who supported the company's work during a very busy and productive 2010.

Our score writing commission with Daghdha Dance Company is now in its exciting final phase as we collaborate via writing and internet with four women ranging in age from 8-63 in the creation of four original choreographies - MINE.

Áine Stapleton was named among the top artists aged under 30 for her work with the company and its contributions to Ireland's cultural life. She spoke passionately about the value of contemporary dance to society in a radio interview on Newstalk and in *The Sunday Times*.

Fitzgerald & Stapleton expanded their work into a new dimension, reaching new audiences with a commission from RTÉ and Absolut Fringe RADIOACTIVE to create the choreography for radio, *In My Father's Name*. The piece can be heard on our website.

We were featured in an interview in Hot Press magazine which allowed us to raise further awareness of contemporary dance as a means to ask burning questions about our society.

Fitzgerald & Stapleton move into 2011 with a deepening conviction of the unique and essential voice of contemporary dance in all of our lives. We consider it an honour to be part of this vibrant, creative and supportive community of artists and wish you all a safe and fun holiday.

IRISH MODERN DANCE THEATRE

In this Moment

29 November – 04 December

Project Arts Centre

www.projectartscentre.ie

Irish Modern Dance Theatre (IMDT) presents the world premiere of *In this Moment* choreographed by John Scott with live video, projections and visuals by Charles Atlas. *In this Moment* will include a cast of eight outstanding dancers featuring Joanne Banks, Philip

**Actions**

Connaughton, James Hosty, Marc Mann, Sebastiao Mpmbele Kamalandua, Rebecca Reilly, Michael Snipe Jr and Florence Welalo Poudima. A dazzling, dreamlike meeting of high energy dance, vibrant colours, quirky humour with giant projections filmed live by Atlas and dancers. *In this Moment* unites dance, film and technology to stunning effect.

Kyle Abraham Triple Bill

04 December @ 6pm

Project Arts Centre

www.projectartscentre.ie

Kyle Abraham will create a new work for Irish Modern Dance Theatre (IMDT) in 2012 but until then he'll give a thrilling taste of his exciting work with performances of three of his works *Inventing Pookie Jenkins*, *Live!* and *Work-in-Progress* at Project Arts Centre on 04 December.

Kyle Abraham is one of New York's most dazzling dancer/choreographers; called *equal parts power and grace* by Dance Magazine, which listed him among its elite 25 to Watch in 2009. Abraham's diverse training in classical music, visual art, and dance forms from ballet to hip-hop give range and depth to his sleek, evocative work. Hailed as *the best and brightest creative talent to emerge in New York City in the age of Obama* by Out Magazine, Abraham's works probe the complex relationships between identity and personal history. He has recently

won a coveted "Bessie" award and created new works for Alvin Ailey II, Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival and Danspace Project at St Mark's Church.

Actions & The Bowing Dance

08 – 10 December

3 Vaningen, Goteburg, Sweden

www.3vaningen.se

IMDT are delighted to announce that they are touring their hit show *Actions* together with *The Bowing Dance* to 3 Vaningen, Goteburg this month for three nights in a special double-bill performance. *Actions* will be performed by Philip Connaughton and Ashley Chen who recently performed it to a full house in VISUAL, Carlow. IMDT artistic director, John Scott will perform his iconic *The Bowing Dance* which returns from its successful run at Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2010.

IRISH NATIONAL YOUTH BALLETT COMPANY

The Nutcracker

03 & 04 December

O'Reilly Theatre

10 & 11 December

Pavilion Theatre

www.inyb.com

The Christmas season is not complete without seeing the delight and magic of Irish National Youth Ballet Company's production of *The Nutcracker*. 40 of Ireland's most talented young dancers will perform together with guest dancers Juliana Bastos, Oliver Speers and Julianne Rice-Oxley. They will dazzle everyone from the youngest to the most seasoned theatregoers. Snowflakes, flowers, mice and sweets all wrapped up in Tchaikovsky's glorious music, what could be more festive?

**The Nutcracker**

LD DANCE @ SHAWBROOK

Auditions

18 December @ 11am

www.shawbrook.org

Shawbrook will host a one-day audition for their Shawbrook Youth Dance programme on Saturday 18 December at 11am.

Shawbrook Youth Dance (SYD) will commence work with teacher Anica Louw on Friday 14 January. The participants in this year's SYD will be working towards a "classical ballet" performance for LD DanceFest. Up to twenty senior and 20 junior dancers will work for twelve weeks receiving classes in ballet, jazz, aerial and contemporary dance, and workshops with visiting professional dance companies, outings to dance theatre performances and perform in various festivals around the country.

LEGITIMATE BODIES DANCE COMPANY

IF ONLY (International Festival Of A Necessarily Lonely You)

DARI Masterclass

10 & 11 December 2010

Birr Theatre and Arts Centre

www.birrtheatre.com

Offaly's Birr Theatre and Arts Centre has been hosting this very innovative dance festival for the past two years. The festival was established in 2008 by Cristina Goletti, one of the two directors of Legitimate Bodies Dance Company, the resident dance company at the venue. It was conceived out of the desire and the remit of the company to make contemporary dance more accessible and available to the audience in rural Ireland. We also place huge value in hosting such an extraordinary gathering of artists in rural Ireland. The manager of the theatre, Emma Nee Haslam, was very enthusiastic about the idea of bringing national and international dance artists to Birr and the solo format suited the stage of the local theatre particularly well.

Now in its the third edition IF ONLY (International Festival of a Necessarily Lonely You), thanks to the support of the Arts Council, Offaly County Council and Birr Theatre and Arts Centre, will be an event to remember for both the dance community and the local community.

The programme for this year includes artists Cindy Cummings and Jazmin Chiodi from Ireland, Lily Dwyer (Levy Dance) from San Francisco, Robin Dingemans from the UK and Julie Rothschild from Colorado. The evening performance will take place Saturday 11 December at 8pm.

A variety of DARI workshops including Alexander Technique, Contact Improvisation and Yoga for dancers will take place on Friday 10 and Saturday 11. DARI (Dance Artists in Regional Ireland) is supported by Dance Ireland and Birr Theatre and Arts Centre is delighted to be one of the principal DARI venues.

DARI WORKSHOPS

10 & 11 December

€45/ 2 days workshops and performance

€30/ 1 day workshop and performance

€15/12 (concession)/ performance only

10 December

4:30-6pm Alexander Technique for dancers (Julie Rothschild)

6:15-7:30pm Open Class Yoga

11 December

10 - 11:15am Yoga for dancers

11:30-12:45pm Contact Improvisation (Cindy Cummings)

2 -4pm Alexander Technique for dancers

For more information:

legitimatebodies@gmail.com



Lily O'Dwyer



Lily O'Dwyer

LIV O'DONOGHUE

TEN: white/grey studies in movement

15 December @ 4pm

DanceHouse

Admission free

Following a year of personal development and movement research, Liv O'Donoghue will be presenting a short solo and duet at DanceHouse on 15 December. This is an informal studio showing and feedback at the end is welcome. This research has been made possible through a bursary awarded by the Arts Council in 2009 and with support from Dance Ireland.

Choreography: Liv O'Donoghue

Composition: Tom Lane

Performers: Maria Nilsson Waller, Tom Lane, Liv O'Donoghue

PETER DUFFY

Threads

Presented as part of Project Brand New December

Project Arts Centre

www.projectartscentre.ie

Peter Duffy has been selected to present *Threads* (working title) at the upcoming Project Brand New in the Project Arts Centre. *Threads* came about as a result of a residency in DanceHouse in early August 2010. The plan for the residency

was to draw from dancer and performer Michael Cooney's life and dance experience to generate material for a solo work. The piece has been devised and choreographed by Peter Duffy and is performed by Michael Cooney.

PROJECT ARTS CENTRE

The Bobby Sands Memorial Race

Presented as part of Queer Notions

07 December @ 7.30pm

Project Arts Centre

Tickets €12/8

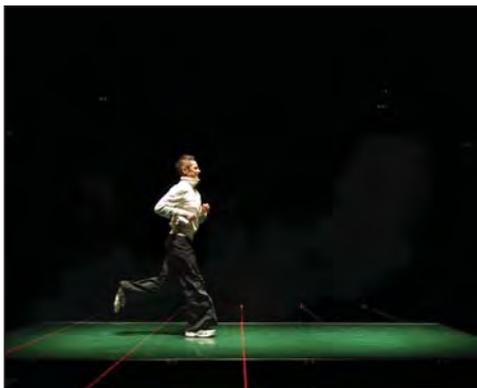
www.projectartscentre.ie/queernotions

Eddie Ladd, one of Wales' most exhilarating artists brings her breathtaking performance *The Bobby Sands Memorial Race* to Dublin for its Irish premiere.

Combining dance, text, music and new media technologies and set on a 12ft x 6ft running machine, Ladd's stunning solo follows the sixty six days of the hunger strike and considers the long-distance goal of resistance.

Bobby Sands was a long distance runner as a teenager. During his time in the infamous Maze prison in Belfast, Sands wrote articles and essays on endurance and running. His essay, *The Loneliness of a Long Distance Cripple*, inspired this piece.

A uniquely physicalised distillation of the life and death of the IRA man who died on a hunger strike in Belfast's notorious H Blocks in 1981. Impressive...compelling **The Times**



The Bobby Sands Memorial Race

The Bobby Sands Memorial Race is at Project Arts Centre for one night only as part of the Queer Notions Festival. Dance Ireland members can purchase tickets at the concession rate for all Project Arts Centre events with a valid Dance Ireland membership card.

THE FIRKIN CRANE

BLANK CANVAS 2010

Work-in-progress

Fearghus Ó Conchúir & Kyle Abraham

03 December @ 1pm

Suggested donation €5

The Firkin Crane's BLANK CANVAS 2010 has included artists from Iceland and Israel, Argentina and Switzerland, Ireland and the UK.

During the month of November 2010, two dance artists from opposite sides of the Atlantic, but whose artistic trails have criss-crossed the globe, will take up the final residencies of the year. Fearghus Ó Conchúir and Kyle Abraham, from Ireland and the USA respectively, will research, develop and explore creative ideas, within the supportive structures at the Firkin Crane, the home of dance in Cork.

Fearghus Ó Conchúir is an independent choreographer and dance artist. Brought up in the Ring Gaeltacht in Ireland, he completed degrees in English and European Literature at Magdalen College Oxford, before training at London Contemporary Dance School. Fearghus' current creative preoccupation with the relationship between bodies and buildings in the context of urban regeneration has manifested itself in filmed and in live performances in Europe, the US and China. Recent projects have included collaboration with Chinese choreographer, Xiao Ke, which was performed in Beijing, Edinburgh and at the World Expo in Shanghai. His dance film, *Mo mhórchoir féin*, premiered on RTÉ.

Kyle Abraham, dancer and choreographer, has received tremendous accolades and awards for his dancing and choreography and was heralded as one of the "best and brightest creative talent to emerge in New York City in the age of Obama." His choreography has been

presented throughout the United States and abroad, including at the Okinawa Prefectural Museum & Art Museum, Japan, and the Internationales Solo-Tanz-Theater Festival in Stuttgart. In addition to performing and developing work for his company, *abraham.in.motion*, he teaches his unique approach to post-modern dance in various schools and studios throughout the US.

To celebrate the culmination of BLANK CANVAS 2010, the Firkin Crane will present an exciting look at work-in-progress by Fearghus and Kyle, on 03 Dec 2010 at 1pm, lasting approximately an hour. Light refreshments will be served from 12.30; suggested donation €5.

YOUTH BALLET WEST

Once Upon a Time & Nutcracker Suite

18 December @ 8pm

19 December @ 3pm & 8pm

Town Hall Theatre, Galway

Tickets: €16 / €12

www.tht.ie

The West's leading Youth Ballet Company is delighted to present *Once upon a time* and *Nutcracker Suite* this December. The show promises to be the perfect start to a magical Christmas with a wonderful mixture of fairy-tale favourites and seasonal ballet delights. The first piece *Once Upon a Time*, takes the audience on a spellbinding journey through many favourite classic tales, including Snow White, Red Riding Hood and Goldilocks. Inspired by the vibrant visual images in these fairytales and set to a magical score by John Lanchberry, the ballet is choreographed by Judith Sibley, Artistic Director of Youth Ballet West. This work premièred at Baboró 2009 to great acclaim and the ballet has since toured to arts festivals in Dingle and Dublin.

Sibley's staging of *Nutcracker Suite*, the classic Christmas family favourite, played to sold-out audiences in Galway when it was first performed in 2008. The gifted young dancers of Youth Ballet West shine as they bring to life *The Land of Snow* followed by excellent interpretations of the well-known *Divertissements* and *Waltz of the Flowers*. The roles of *The Sugar Plum Fairy*



Snowflake

and the Prince will be performed by Judith Sibley and Leighton Morrison. With specially commissioned costumes hand-made in Moldova and a stunning new set this is a wonderful opportunity for dance enthusiasts to see some of Ireland's most talented young ballet dancers and the perfect family show to kick off the holiday season.

For information visit www.youthballetwest.ie

OTHER DANCE NEWS

CHOREOGRAPH.NET

www.choreograph.net

Extract from Fitzgerald & Stapleton, *MINE*.

Question One

Can you imagine that your whole life is a dance?

Imagine a perfect circle – at the centre of the circle is a single point and the circle is composed of an infinite amount of points at equal distance from this one central point.

Each and every single one of this infinite amount of points is necessary to the existence of the circle. If you imagine moving or removing a single one of these points then a hole or warp is created in the circle – and the circle is no longer a circle.

Let's use the idea of the circle and its infinite number of points as a metaphor to look at this

first dance. Just as each of the points that make up the circle is essential to the circle – everything that you notice in your life for the next ten days is essential to your dance.

In 2009, with the help of Daghdha Dance Company, choreograph.net commissioned dance company Fitzgerald & Stapleton. We are delighted that the final element of the commission is now under way: the creation of an exclusive original score for choreograph.net, developed specifically for the internet.

Over the next weeks, Fitzgerald & Stapleton will entangle four Irish women – Poppy Kane, Jenny Doyle, Kay O'Grady, and Grannymar – in a discursive, dialogical choreographic process. The participants live in different locations around Ireland, have some or no dance training, and are aged between 8 and 63 years.

Every ten days Fitzgerald & Stapleton will post a question structure on choreograph.net, which the participants may respond to through any medium. In this way they create the material for their own 'choreographic scores' – a compilation of language and visual materials to direct a dancer's attention during performance. At the end of this period, choreograph.net will publish *MINE*, four individual scores by Fitzgerald & Stapleton, edited from the transcripts of the conversations and tailored for each participant.

MINE is a culturally specific multigenerational project which aims to:

- Raise further public awareness about contemporary dance.
- Reveal how relevant dance can be to today's society.
- Provide an accessible and contemporary means by which dance can be engaged with on a broader level.
- Reflect from personal perspectives what it means to be woman in Ireland today.

The entire process for *MINE* can be followed online at www.choreograph.net

CONTACT IMPROVISATION JAM @ DANCEHOUSE

Wednesdays

11.30am – 1.30pm

Fee: €2 per jam

DANCE IRELAND PROFESSIONAL MORNING CLASS @ DANCEHOUSE

29 November - 03 December

Judith Reyn-Stroux

Ballet

06 – 10 December

Iñaki Azpillaga

Contemporary

13 – 17 December

Jane Magan

Ballet

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

Time: 10am – 11.30am

AFTERNOON BALLET LECTURE DEMONSTRATIONS

'Anatomical Articulation of the Limbs in Ballet'

30 November & 02 December

Judith Reyn-Stroux

Time: 1pm - 4pm

Fees: DI Members: €30 / non-members: €50 (two lecture demonstrations).

For booking and further information: reception@danceireland.ie or 01 855 8800

PROFESSIONAL CLASS AT FIRKIN CRANE with Dance Ireland

Every Wednesday

Contemporary

Firkin Crane, Cork

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

Time: 11am – 12.30pm

For more information: Firkin Crane @ 021 4507487

PROFESSIONAL CLASS AT SIAMSA TÍRE with Dance Ireland

Every Tuesday

Contemporary

Siamsa Tíre, Tralee

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

Time: 10 – 12 noon

For more information: Catherine Young @ 087 2660012

MAIDEN VOYAGE PROFESSIONAL CLASS with Dance Ireland

Every Wednesday

Contemporary

Dance Resource Base Studio

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

Time: 6.30 – 8pm

For more information: Maiden Voyage @ 0044 2890 330925

MYRIAD DANCE PROFESSIONAL CLASS with Dance Ireland

Every Wednesday

Contemporary

Myriad Dance Studio,
Wexford

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

Time: 10am – 12 noon

For more information: Myriad Dance @ 053 9174 665