

COIS
CÉIM
DANCE

PROGRAMME



COISCÉIM
DANCE THEATRE
PRESENTS

THE
PIECE
WITH
THE
DRUMS

BY
DAVID
BOLGER

PULSATING WITH THEATRICAL MAGIC
FEATURING LEGENDARY JAZZ
PERCUSSIONIST CONOR GUILFOYLE

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

**Everything we do has a natural frequency.
All motion has a vibration and sound.**

Three years ago a 'ping' on my computer alerted me to a new message. I opened it and discovered it was from Conor Guilfoyle – the jazz percussionist. It was an invitation to experiment – borne from the feeling that as he plays the drums, Conor imagines himself dancing or dance being an extension of how he creates sound from the drum kit.

Coincidentally – I had been researching sound – how it moves, how the waves and vibrations have huge influences on how we feel, behave – and how we use these energy pulses as primary ways to communicate.

And so we met, and workshopped some ideas focussing on the science behind the making of rhythm. How the dancers bodies could not only respond to sound – but they could create a unique universe and vibe that affects the rehearsal room and drives the work itself. Together we explored the fundamental frequencies of motion and the profound effects these have on the body.

In creating the piece I have had an extraordinary opportunity to play with visualising sound waves – and together with the dancers to discover how greatly sound vibration can communicate complex ideas. Live music has always played a huge part in CoisCéim's previous creations – by marrying Conor's extensive knowledge of the history of jazz music and percussion with my own body of experience of jazz and commercial dance and its roots – **THE PIECE WITH THE DRUMS** will deepen and add colour to our experience of the symbiotic relationship between dance and music.

I would like to say a special thank you to the dancers who have brought so much to the work, to all of the team who have supported the creation and to Conor for the 'ping'. We hope that you enjoy the performance and sharing the space together.



CREDITS

CAST

**JUSTINE COOPER, CONOR GUILFOYLE, IVONNE KALTER,
JONATHAN MITCHELL, ALEX O'NEILL, DONKING RONGAVILLA**

DIRECTOR DAVID BOLGER

CHOREOGRAPHER DAVID BOLGER IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DANCERS

MUSIC CONOR GUILFOYLE

SET AND COSTUME KATIE DAVENPORT

LIGHTING EAMON FOX

HAIR & MAKEUP VAL SHERLOCK

PRODUCTION MANAGER MICHAEL LONERGAN

STAGE MANAGER BARBARA HUGHES

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER MICHAELA CONLEY

CHIEF LX MAEUBH BRENNAN

SOUND ENGINEER JOHN NORTON

CHIEF AV LAURA RAINSFORD

COSTUME SUPERVISOR JAMES SEAVER

DESIGN ASSISTANT FLORENTINA BURCEA

**COMPANY CLASS TEACHERS MUIRNE BLOOMER, JUSTINE DOSWELL,
JONATHAN MITCHELL, DEIRDRE MURPHY**

VOCAL COACH CATHAL QUINN

SET CONSTRUCTION STEPHEN BOURKE, RE-STAGING

RIGGER JOHN HEFFERNAN FOR IRISH RIGGING SERVICES

TRANSPORT TREVOR PRICE

PHOTOGRAPHER ROS KAVANAGH

PROMOTIONAL VIDEOS JASS FOLEY, ROS KAVANAGH/ELTON MULALLY

GRAPHIC DESIGN ALPHABET SOUP

COMMUNICATIONS JEANETTE KEANE

BOOKKEEPER SUSAN HOFFMAN

PUBLICIST CULTUREHEAD

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR INNA MAZURENKO

PRODUCED BY SARAH LATTY AND BRIDGET WEBSTER

SPECIAL THANKS TO GHALIAH CONROY, DIARMUID ARMSTRONG

THANK YOU We are grateful for the kind support of all of the staff at our presenting venues and to Peter Jordan, Ivan Birthistle, Seán Dennehy, Steph Ryan, Laura Murphy, Caoimhe Coburn Gray, Michael Stapleton, The Ark, Clive Welsh, Isaac Jones, Noel Murphy and the team at QLX, Lenamore Productions, Grace Cuny and Yumi Lee from the Step Up Dance Project Limerick, Riverdance, Stephen O'Rourke and all those who have helped since this programme has been published.



BIOGRAPHIES

CAST

JUSTINE COOPER PERFORMER

Originally from New Zealand, Justine has been based in Ireland as a freelance dance artist, teacher and choreographer since 2008. A guest lecturer at The University of Limerick, Dance Ireland & Dance Theatre of Ireland & recently graduated as an advanced teacher in Quan Yin Qi Gong. As a dance artist Justine has had the pleasure of working most recently with CoisCéim Dance Theatre, Croí Glan, Justine Doswell, Junk Ensemble, Jools Gilson, Liz Roche Company, Laura Murphy, Mary Wycherly, Oona Doherty, United Fall, Maria Nilsson Waller, Anu Productions & Dead Center among many others. As a Movement Director Justine has worked with Ann Cleare on **MIDHE** (large scale orchestra & choir work at the National Concert Hall), Una Kavanagh, Corn Exchange's **MISFITS**, (nominated Best Movement Direction 2018 Irish Times Theatre Awards), & Noelle Brown Theatre Company. Justine was a member of Meryl Tankard Australian Dance Theatre from 1998-2000. Her own work **Folds of the Crane** was presented as part of Tiger Dublin Fringe Festival 2015 (nominated for Spirit of the Fringe & Best Lighting & Design) and was also presented at Dublin Dance Festival 2016 and What's Next Festival 2018.

IVONNE KALTER PERFORMER

Ivonne studied at Heinz Bosl Stiftung Ballet Academy in Munich and subsequently at Iwanson School of Contemporary Dance. She made her professional stage debut in 2009 as part of choreographer Jochen Heckmann's cast at TIK Theatre Kempten. Since then, she has travelled extensively with shows, to teach and to draw inspiration for her work, honing her distinctive style and movement. Ivonne's impactful work has received international acclaim, including the Isadora Award in 2010 for the most promising young dancer. She is an associate artist of Levantes Dance Theatre in London, who combine contemporary circus and dance-theatre. She enjoys working with people of all ages, leading workshops for the community and professional dance education programmes, and is a certified yoga teacher. Her work with CoisCéim includes: **Invitation to a Journey, The Wolf and Peter, Body Language, In the Magic Hour, How to Sink a Paper Boat** and **Francis Footwork**.

JONATHAN MITCHELL

PERFORMER

Jonathan graduated from the Rambert School, London, in 1992. Since then he has been fortunate to work with a host of choreographers and companies, including Adventures in Motion Pictures, Mathew Hawkins, Liz Roche Company and IMDT, performing on four continents and in both hemispheres. Jonathan's association with CoisCéim began in 2001 with **The Rite of Spring**, and he has worked with the company many times since, including **When Once Is Never Enough, Mermaids, Pageant, Agnes, The Wolf and Peter, These Rooms, Body Language/In The Magic Hour, Francis Footwork, Orfeo ed Euridice** for the Blackwater Valley Opera Festival, **Go To Blazes.** and **Palimpsest.**

ALEX O'NEILL

PERFORMER

Alex's career began on RTÉ's **Supercrew** (2010-2011) **Mrs Browns Boys Da Movie** (2014) **Ek Tha Tiger** (2012) **Vikings** (2018). Featured dancer in the **Ireland's Got Talent** Advert live shows (2019) Ridley Scott's **The Last Duel** (2021) James Vincent McMorrow's **Gone** (2020) Disney's **Disenchanted** (2022). Feature work with Red Bull, RTÉ, Apple, Heineken, Ryanair, Facebook, Google, Vodafone and Orchard Thieves and Lifestyle Sports Christmas Campaign/Adverts (2018 & 2021). Head choreographer the 80's & 90's Disco European Arena Tour (2018-2020). Soloist in Monica Loughman's annual production of **The Nutcracker** (2012-2015); Michael Jackson **Man In The Mirror Tribute** tour (2014-2016). He made his CoisCéim debut in **Orfeo ed Euridice** for the Blackwater Valley Opera Festival 2022 and has performed in **Palimpsest** and **Dancehall Blues.**

DONKING RONGAVILLA

PERFORMER

Donking is a Filipino choreographer, acrobatic teacher, actor and dance fitness coach based in Ireland since 2002. His work with CoisCéim includes **Palimpsest, Agnes, Our Fathers** and **Orfeo ed Euridice** for Blackwater Valley Opera Festival. He has danced in RTÉ's **Centenary 2016**; Irish National Opera's **Carmen** and RTÉ's **Toy Show the Musical**. TV and film credits include **Harry Wild, The Vikings, Love Hate, Raw, Aisling's Diary, Grand Opening**, RTÉ's **Ballet Chancers** with Monica Loughman and commercials for The Orchard Thieves and EIR Sports. Acting credits include Netflix's **NOCEBO** with Eva Green, 2023; **Love Rosie** with Lily Collins, 2015; **Herself** (Sharon Horgan), 2021; **West Side Story** (Bord Gais Energy Theatre). Choreography credits include **Harry Wild** Season 4 with Jane Seymour 2024; **Moore Street Masala** and RTÉ's **Tina Times Two** (Dyehouse Films); **Cinderella** and **Matilda Jr** (RNR musical society); and assistant choreographer for the annual Gaiety Pantos 2016–2021.

CREATIVE TEAM

DAVID BOLGER CHOREOGRAPHER/DIRECTOR

David is the Artistic Director and co-founder of CoisCéim Dance Theatre. His work has been seen by millions of people worldwide and has received prestigious awards for its innovation, performance and choreography. David has directed and choreographed over 30 original productions for CoisCéim, including **Dancehall Blues, Palimpsest, Breakin' Brothers, Go To Blazes, Francis Footwork**, the highly lauded **The Wolf and Peter, Body Language**, and the major international co-production **These Rooms** (Irish Times Theatre Award, London International Festival of Theatre (LIFT), TATE Liverpool). His work for the company has been presented at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival and Peak Performances in the USA, Spring Loaded (The Place) and the Brighton Festival in the UK, Ten Days on the Island (Tasmania), Arts Centre Melbourne and Sydney Opera House (Australia). David has received numerous choreographic commissions for theatre and opera including Druid (Ireland), Spoleto Festival (USA), Guthrie Theatre (USA), RTÉ (Ireland), National Theatre (UK), Abbey Theatre (Ireland) and Opera Ireland. He is a member of Aosdána.

CONOR GUILFOYLE MUSIC/PERFORMER

Conor is one of Ireland's leading jazz drummers and educators. As a performer he has toured and recorded with some of the finest jazz musicians in the world today. On the domestic front he runs the Conor Guilfoyle Octet and has led many Salsa and Latin jazz groups making the first recordings of that genre in Ireland. He is co-founder of the Newpark music jazz programme now in DCU which offered the first BA in jazz performance in Ireland. He has lectured on many of the leading jazz programs worldwide and is the author of three books, **Odd Meter Clave for drum set, Rhythmic reading for drummers** and **Keeping the drummer occupied**.

KATIE DAVENPORT SET AND COSTUME DESIGN

Katie is a theatre designer, currently in residence at The Dean Art Studio Dublin. She has an Irish Times Theatre Award for costume design 2021 & 2022 and has been nominated twice. Katie has designed for many major theatre, opera and dance companies in Ireland, including The Abbey, The Gate, Irish National Opera, Landmark, United Fall, Liz Roche Company, CoisCéim, Northern Ireland Opera, Theatre Lovett, thisispopbaby and Rough Magic. She recently created the installation **Pegeen's** at The Abbey Theatre – a pop up theatre café. Katie is vice chair of the Irish Society of Stage & Screen Designers and was Designer in Residence at The Gate Theatre Dublin in 2017. She represented Ireland in Beijing NCPA at Evolving Design for Performance in 2016 and again at The Prague Quadrennial 2019, a world exhibition of theatre design.

EAMON FOX

LIGHTING DESIGN

Previous lighting designs for CoisCéim include **Our Fathers, Missing, Swimming with my Mother** and **Boxes**. Other work includes: **Orfeo ed Euridice** for Blackwater Valley Opera; **The Wasteground Party** for The Peacock Theatre (The Abbey); **The Visit** for Draiocht Arts Centre; **Hansel & Gretel**, Hans Christian Anderson for Verdant Productions; **Chance to Dance** film for Jess Rowell Dance & Draiocht; **A Holy Show** for Verdant Productions; **Carmen, The Nutcracker & Swan Lake** for Ballet Ireland; **The Merchant of Venice, Macbeth, King Lear** and **Hamlet** (nominated for an Irish Times Theatre Award) for Second Age Theatre Company; **It Only Ever Happens In The Movies, A Dream Play, The Seagull, A Midsummer's Night Dream** and **The Caucasian Chalk Circle** for The National Youth Theatre at The Peacock Theatre (The Abbey); **This is a room, The Comedy of Errors** for Dublin Youth Theatre; **The Field** for Verdant Productions, **Stones In His Pockets** for Pat Moylan Productions – all at The Gaiety Theatre.

VAL SHERLOCK

HAIR & MAKEUP

Val has worked as a hair and makeup artist as well as a wigmaker for a quarter of a century. As well as television, film and advertising work, Val has worked for all major theatre companies in Ireland and Northern Ireland. Val has had the pleasure of working across all aspects of theatre, opera, contemporary dance, and ballet. He has worked on multiple productions for the Lyric Theatre, Druid, Rough Magic Theatre Company, CoisCéim Dance Theatre, Fishamble: The New Play Company, the Abbey Theatre/Peacock Theatre, The Corn Exchange and Landmark Productions, amongst others.



COISCÉIM DANCE THEATRE

CoisCéim Dance Theatre is one of Ireland's leading dance companies known for its expertise and track record in presenting highly original work to audiences large and small across artforms and media. Led by David Bolger, a member of Aosdána, our work is benchmarked with the best in the world and celebrated for its artistic excellence. It challenges, stimulates, inspires and entertains and has been seen on international stages including 14-18NOW & LIFT (UK), Peak Performances, Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival (USA), Sydney Opera House and Venice Biennale.

In tandem with the performance programme the company conducts an integrated, inventive artform awareness and participation initiative: Broadreach. Established in 2006, its activities are pioneering, targeting all sections of the population in an exciting and innovative manner to create a genuine curiosity in dance.

CoisCéim is proud to be funded by the Arts Council of Ireland and supported by Dublin City Council and Culture Ireland.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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BECOME A DANCE ANGEL WITH YOUR WINGS WE CAN FLY!

SHARE THE SPIRIT AND VISION OF THE WORK WE PRODUCE. PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN ADVANCING OUR CREATIVE AMBITIONS. BE AN ADVOCATE FOR ARTS AND CULTURE IN OUR SOCIETY.

THANK YOU TO OUR DANCE ANGELS: ELMA CUSACK, MARGARET FINLAY, JULIAN ERSKINE, CIAN O'BRIEN, MADELEINE NESBITT, BRIGID MCMANUS, M & E WELSH, AENGUS O'HANRAHAN, LOUIS HERBERT, GWEN BOLGER AND MICHAEL CRANSTON, EAMONN MAGUIRE AND ALL THOSE WHO WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS



COIS CÉIM DANCE

COISCÉIM DANCE THEATRE

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