

## C R E D I T S

Performed by: David and Madge Bolger  
 Concept and Choreography: David Bolger  
 Lighting: Eamon Fox  
 Sound: Ivan Birthistle and Vincent Doherty  
 Projection Artist: Jym Daly  
 Stage Manager: Clive Welsh  
 Bench Design: Ken Bolger  
 Carpenter: Sean Kennedy  
 Production Administration: Sarah Latty  
 Producer: Jenny Traynor



## THANK YOU'S

Abbey Theatre, Belltable Arts Centre, Muirne Bloomer, Louise Bolger, Annemarie Bowden, Centre Culturel Irlandais, Draíocht Arts Centre, Hughie Egan, Conor Horgan, Marion College Swimming Pool, Eimer Murphy, Martha O'Neil, Project Arts Centre, Laurie Uprichard - Dublin Dance Festival and Vincent Woods.

Swimming with my Mother was first presented as a work-in-progress commission for the Dublin Dance Festival 2010. Following its premiere at the Limerick Unfringed Festival in January 2011, **Swimming with my Mother** tours to the Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris (03 February), the Nottedance Festival in Nottingham (01 March) and on tour throughout Ireland in May 2011.

## DANCE ANGELS

With the support of our funders and the generosity of individuals, CoisCéim can nurture growth, creativity and excellence and continue to be an exciting Irish cultural force.

CoisCéim extends thanks to our angels in 2010: Miranda Arkwright & Richard Evans, Elma Carey, Lilian & Robert Chambers, Cliona de Bhaldraithe Marsh, Phelim Donlon, Jill Donnellan, Julian Erskine, Martin J. Munroe, Brian Murray, Madeleine Nesbitt, Ruairí Ó Cuív, Gaby Smyth, Michael & Liz Welsh and to those who wish to remain anonymous.

If you would like to help us fly by taking out CoisCéim wings, please see [www.coisceim.com](http://www.coisceim.com) or email [info@coisceim.com](mailto:info@coisceim.com)

## COISCÉIM BROADREACH

Underpinning CoisCéim's performance programme is Broadreach which offers opportunities for people to engage in and further their understanding of dance as an artform through classes, workshops and projects for communities of place or interest. For further information contact [philippa@coisceim.com](mailto:philippa@coisceim.com) or [www.coisceim.com](http://www.coisceim.com)



## Take a bow!

The arts really matter to us in Ireland; they are a big part of people's lives, the country's single most popular pursuit. Our artists interpret our past, define who we are today, and imagine our future. We can all take pride in the enormous reputation our artists have earned around the world.

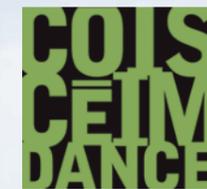
The arts play a vital role in our economy, and smart investment of taxpayers' money in the arts is repaid many times over. The dividends come in the form of a high value, creative economy driven by a flexible, educated, innovative work force, and in a cultural tourism industry worth €2.4 billion directly a year.

The Arts Council is the Irish Government agency for funding and developing the arts. Arts Council funding from the taxpayer, through the Department of Tourism, Culture and Sport, for 2010 is €69.15 million, that's less than €1 a week for every household.

So, at the end of your next inspirational encounter with the arts, don't forget the role you played and take a bow yourself!

Find out what's on at: [www.events.artscouncil.ie](http://www.events.artscouncil.ie)

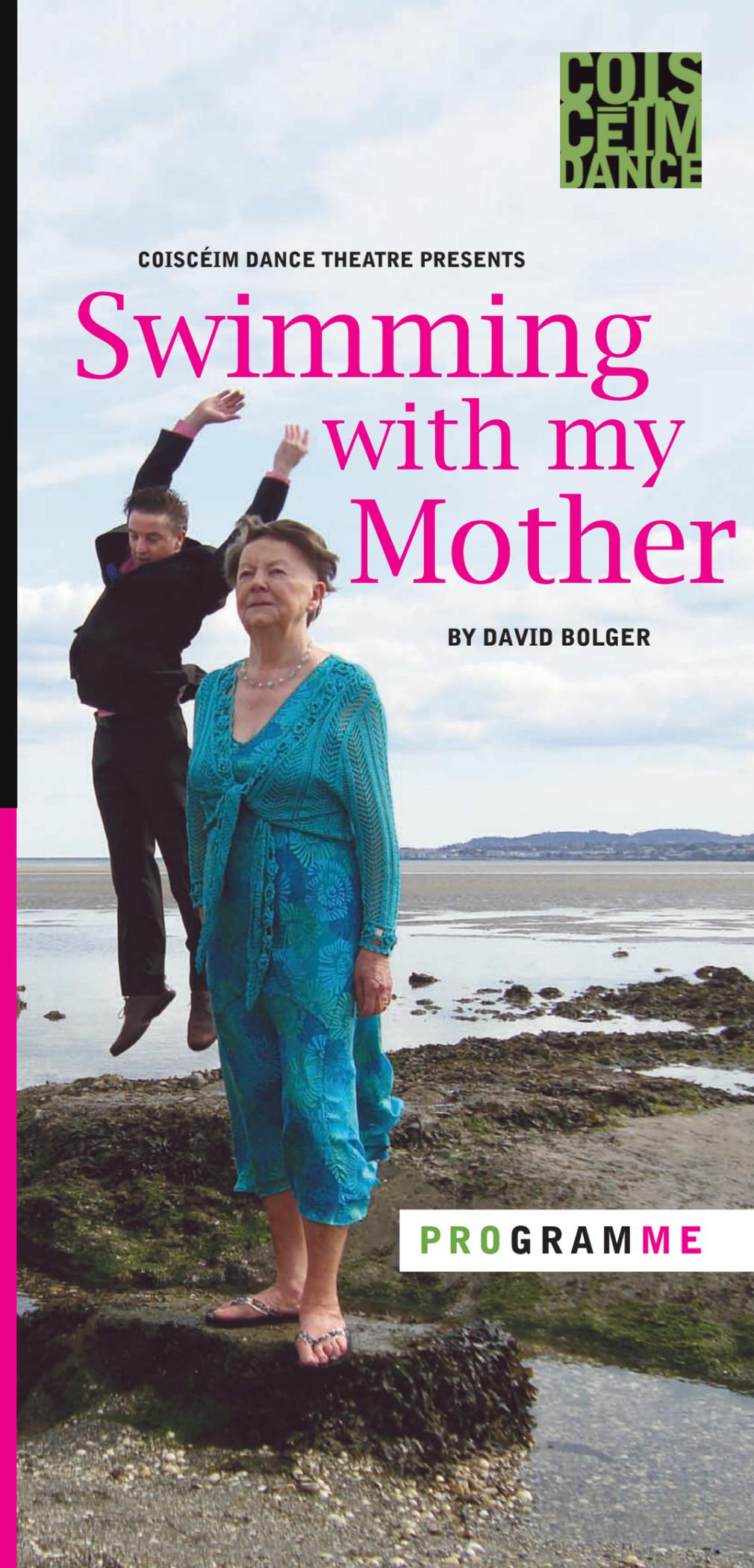
You can find out more about the arts here: [www.artscouncil.ie](http://www.artscouncil.ie)



COISCÉIM DANCE THEATRE PRESENTS

# Swimming with my Mother

BY DAVID BOLGER



## COISCÉIM DANCE THEATRE

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Board of Directors: Elma Cusack, Ali Curran, Richard Guiney, Madeleine Nesbitt, Barney Whelan (Chair)

Artistic Director: David Bolger General Manager & Producer: Jenny Traynor  
 Broadreach Director: Philippa Donnellan Administrator: Sarah Latty

## PROGRAMME



## PROGRAMME NOTE

Having been familiar with David Bolger and CoisCéim's work primarily via watching videotapes, it wasn't until I saw the revival of **Knots** at Project Arts Centre in 2008 that I really got hit with the electricity of CoisCéim. And the highest voltage onstage was David himself.

A modest man, beyond the conventional prime age of a 20-something dancer, David had mostly taken himself out of his work. In Summer 2009, we sat down to talk about what might make sense for the company to present in DDF 2010, given that they had a season in January 2010 with two major premieres. In addition, his most recent pieces had been group works created in collaboration with writers, directors and visual designers. Given all that, I said I would love to see him perform and would he consider making a solo for himself? After a pause, he responded that he'd actually been thinking about making a duet with his mother. He told me about her having been a swimming instructor and how she was still doing a mile a day. Now I've been a swimmer all my life (though only managing ½ mile these days) so I loved this idea. It also fit in with one of the Festival's themes regarding the role of different bodies and ages in contemporary dance. I left that meeting thrilled beyond belief at the prospect of this duet. Having seen Madge perform in CoisCéim's Bealtaine show **La Vie en Rose**, at Dublin City Hall in May 2009, I had first hand experience of her magnetism onstage. It was clear this would be a magical collaboration.

As they say, the rest is history. David and Madge made a beautiful film in a real swimming pool and created a poignant live duet incorporating a theatrical hint of a pool and the Irish Sea. The movement vocabulary is evocative. The relationship of mother and son comes full circle. She taught him to swim, he taught her to dance. They are a superbly well matched team. It's a privilege to be in the company of the honesty, integrity and love of **Swimming with My Mother**.

David is still modest.

Laurie Uprichard Director Dublin Dance Festival January 2011

## BIOGRAPHIES

### DAVID BOLGER CHOREOGRAPHER PERFORMER

David is Artistic Director of CoisCéim Dance Theatre and has directed and choreographed 20 original productions for the Company. CoisCéim has performed throughout Ireland, UK, Scotland, France, Germany, Venice Biennale, USA, China and Tasmania. The Company was awarded two coveted Fringe Firsts at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2006 and 2007. Recent productions for CoisCéim include **Faun**, **Dodgems**, **Out of Harms Way**, **Chamber Made**, **Swept**, **Rite of Spring**, **When Once is Never Enough**, **Nutcracker**, **Boxes** and **Ballads**.

David co-wrote the dance film **Hit and Run** with director John Comiskey. The film was awarded many awards including The Paula Citron Award for choreography for the camera, and The Jury Prize in the Dance On Camera Festival, New York. David was also nominated for an American Choreography Award, one of the highest standards of achievement in choreography throughout the entertainment industry, in 2002. **Hit and Run** will be released on DVD in the spring of this year.

David has received many commissions for his work including Tanztheater Freiburg /Heidelberg, **Fidget Feet** (2008) and **Croi Glan Integrated Dance Company** (2009).

His work with the National Theatre includes **The Relapse**, **The Coast of Utopia** and **Love's Labor's Lost** with director Trevor Nunn, and Nick Hytner's production of **The Man of Mode**.

Productions at the Abbey include **Tarry Flynn**, **The Colleen Bawn** (also National Theatre London), **The Secret Fall of Constance Wilde**, **She Stoops to Folly**, **The Marriage of Figaro**, **The Man who Became a Legend** and **Big Maggie**. For **Druid**, David collaborated with director Garry Hynes on the award winning **Synge Cycle**, **Sive**, **Sharon's Grave**, **The Year of the Hiker** and **The Silver Tassie**. Other projects include **Dancing at Lughnasa** (Théâtre du Nouveau, Monde Montreal), **Madison's Decent** by composer Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin, based on a story and paintings by Page Allen (MontClaire State University, New Jersey).

David was musical stager and choreographer for Cameron Mackintosh's production of **Martin Guerre** (UK/USA) Stephen Sondheim's **Follies** (NCH, Dublin), **Guys and Dolls**, (Leicester Haymarket/Gaiety Theatre), **The Pirates of Penzance** (Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis), and **Gone with the Wind** (New London Theatre). In 2009 David directed and choreographed **Macbecks** (Longroad) at the Olympia Theatre Dublin and the Cork Opera House.

David's Opera direction includes Gluck's **Orfeo** (2004), which won an Irish Times/ESB Theatre Award for Best Opera Production, and was the first Irish Opera production invited to perform at the State Theatre in Wiesbaden (2005). Other Opera Ireland productions include **Imeneo** (2005) nominated for Best Opera Production and Britten's **A Midsummer Nights Dream**. David was assistant director/choreographer on **La Traviata** (ENO) and on the premiere of Nicholas Maw's **Sophie's Choice** (Royal Opera House, Covent Garden).

In 2010 David wrote and choreographed the IFTA nominated film **Deep End Dance**, directed by Conor Horgan and produced by Martha O'Neill (Wildfire Films). Other film work includes **Dancing at Lughnasa**, with Meryl Streep and directed by Pat O'Connor and **Flatbed** (2010) directed by Tom Merilion.

David is a member of Aosdána.

### MADGE BOLGER PERFORMER

Madge is a qualified swimming teacher and life-guard and has a teaching certificate in Synchronised Swimming. Over the years, she has specialised in teaching parent and baby classes in Marian College swimming pool. Madge has a keen interest in dance and as a child attended the Connie Ryan School of Dance. She subsequently performed at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin and in 2010, performed **Swimming with my Mother** at the Dublin Dance Festival and featured in **Deep End Dance**, an Arts Council/RTÉ Dance on the Box commission, directed by Conor Horgan and produced by Wildfire Films. **Deep End Dance** has just been nominated for an Irish Film & Television Award. Madge now keeps fit, swimming half a mile five times each week and attending weekly water aerobic classes. She regularly attends CoisCéim's dance classes for older people and performed in **La Vie En Rose** as part of the Bealtaine Festival in 2009.

### EAMON FOX LIGHTING DESIGNER

Eamon previously lit **Boxes** in 2000 and 2009. Theatre lighting designs to his credit are **Observe The Sons...** (Nomad Theatre Network), **Unravelling the Ribbon** (Gúna Nua), **Danti-Dan** (Gallowglass), **Moonlight Mickeys** (Calipo), **Yerma** (QUB), **Underneath the Lintel** (Landmark Productions), **The Half** (Ransom Productions), **Bailegangaire and An Triail** (Aisling Ghearr) **Foley** (Corn Exchange), **Hades and The Green Fool** (Upstate Theatre) and **Top Girls** (Live Theatre Newcastle). The Merchant of Venice, **Macbeth**, **King Lear** and **Hamlet** (Second Age), **A Dream Play**, **The Seagull**, **A Midsummer Night's Dream** and **The Caucasian Chalk Circle** and **The Old Lady Says No!** (National Youth Theatre) **Talking To Terrosists**, **I Have Before me...**, **Five Kinds of Silence**, **Master Harold and The Boys** and **Stolen Child** (Calypso). Dance designs include **In this Moment**, **RRR Kill to Infinity...** and **Fall & Recover** for Irish Modern Dance Theatre, **Tearmann & Vespers** for Fearghus Ó Conchuir and **Trigger** for Project Arts Centre. Eamon has also designed **Die Fledermaus** for Co-Opera and the opening launch of the **Sea Stallion** exhibition in Collins Barracks.

### JYM DALY PROJECTION ARTIST

Beginning at the Crawford Municipal Art Gallery in Cork, Jym became involved in all aspects of local theatre from acting to set design. Making his first animation in super eight, he received an award from the South Bank in London. After a one man exhibition, he found hanging art on walls far too limited in terms of expression and was attracted to the world of performance art. He used all forms of media including film, sound, a goat's head and a ladder. Forming a group which left to take on the bigger playing field of London, Jym attracted the attention of London's avant garde scene by playing kitchen sinks along with chinese violins in nightclubs such as Camden Palace. Never feeling any one art form to be fully satisfactory, he worked in several fields, from playing with music groups like **Psychic TV** to acting with theatre groups such as **Wet Paint** whilst keeping a hand in the art world. Jym later found himself involved in the development of a new sound combining spiritual music from around the world with dance beats. **Loop Guru** toured for many years leaving a rich legacy of albums. Jym also created videos for the band and a cartoon which ran in a national music magazine. His eclectic artistic past now culminates in **Fidget Feet** aerial dance company, co founded with his wife Chantal McCormick, where music, film, dance, acting and swinging boats off cranes co-exist peacefully in one expression.

### IVAN BIRTHISTLE AND VINCENT DOHERTY SOUND DESIGNERS COMPOSERS

Vincent and Ivan work together on an ongoing collaborative basis. Past work includes: **The Field** (Lane Productions); **No Escape**, **Playboy of the Western World**, **Saved**, **Alice Trilogy** and **True West** (Abbey); **Big Ol' Piece Of Cake**, **Rank**, **Noah** and **the Tower Flower**, **The Gist of It**, **Monged** and **Tadhg Stray Wandered In** (Fishamble); **Swimming With My Mother**, **As You Are/Faun**, **Boxes** (CoisCéim); **Freefall**, **Mud**, **Foley** and **Lolita** (The Corn Exchange); **The Sanctuary Lamp** and **Honour** (b\*spoke); **The Absence of Women**, **The Beauty Queen of Leenane**, **Homeplace**, **Dancing at Lughnasa**, **Much Ado About Nothing**, **Shadow of a Gunman** and **True West** (Lyric); **Dying City**, **Pentecost** (Rough Magic); **This Is Our Youth**, **Wedding Day at the Cro-Magnons'**, **Roberto Zucco**, **This is Not a Life**, **Beckett's Ghosts**, **Shooting Gallery**, **Far Away** and **The Massacre @ Paris** (Bedrock); **Miss Julie** and **Blackbird** (Landmark); **Ladies and Gents**, **God's Grace**, **Adrenalin** and **Slaughter** (Semper-Fi).

### CLIVE WELSH STAGE MANAGER

Clive worked with CoisCéim on the work-in-progress performance for **Swimming with My Mother** as part of the Dublin Dance Festival 2010. Other recent work includes **Slattery's Sago Saga** (The Performance Corporation); **Five Ways to Drown** (Junk Ensemble & Dublin Dance Festival); **Rank** and **Turning Point** (Fishamble); **The Vortex**, **Love and Money** and **Further Than The Furthest Thing** (Hatch Theatre); **Tenderfoot** (Civic); **The Last Days of Judas Iscariot** (Making Strange); **Macbecks** (Longroad); **Macbeth** (Siren); **Off Plan**, **Under Ice** and **The System Part II** (RAW) and **King Ubu** (Fineswine and Galway Arts Festival). Work at the Abbey includes **A Number**, **Saved**, **Terminus**, **Woman** and **Scarecrow** and **The Recruiting Officer**. Work in Opera includes **The Golden Ticket**, **The Ghosts of Versailles**, **Italian Postcard** (Wexford Festival Opera) **A Streetcar Named Desire**, **A Midsummer's Night Dream** (Opera Ireland) and **The Pearl Fishers** (Anna Livia). Clive also worked on **Intimate Details** for the Ryder Cup Opening Ceremony (CoisCéim & Longroad).