

**COIS  
CÉIM  
DANCE**

**COISCÉIM DANCE THEATRE PRESENTS**

A hand is shown holding a glowing, illuminated banner that reads "PALIMPSEST". The banner is held taut and glows with a warm, golden light, set against a dark background with some faint, out-of-focus lights. The banner is held by a hand from the left side of the frame, and the word "PALIMPSEST" is written in large, bold, capital letters across it.

**PALIMPSEST**

**BY DAVID BOLGER**

**13–23 MARCH 2024**

**WORLD PREMIERE 15 MARCH 2024**

**ST PATRICK'S  
FESTIVAL**

**THE COMPLEX  
ARTS CENTRE, DUBLIN 7**



# PROGRAMME NOTE

*\pal-imp-sest\ noun. (formal)*

*something that has many different layers of meaning or detail that build on each other*

**PALIMPSEST** layers artforms and histories to trace and own the ghostly-edged histories our shadows leave behind. Part of Art:2023, the work draws on the visual archive that Ireland has accrued over the past hundred years to explore and animate key notes in our history and interleave them with representations drawn from the century's creative outpourings across different media and poetry including Eavan Boland's "Our Future Will Become The Past Of Other Women".

Older images will co-exist with the newer ones, each one telling and resonant, but only ever part of a constantly evolving panorama – history, actuality, alongside the invented, all of it to be mistrusted as mythopoeic as much as it to be cherished.

The making of **PALIMPSEST** has harnessed the talent, energy and enthusiasm of over 50 exceptional creative artists, performers and technical experts – its creation has been a consummate team effort and we would like to say a huge thank you to all involved.

Enjoy the show!

**MARCH 2024**



# CREDITS

**CAST** VITOR BASSI, LEE CLAYDEN, JUSTINE COOPER, MORGAN CROWLEY,  
EILÍS DEXTER, KATE ELLIS, MÁIRE NÍ GHRÁINNE, VANESSA GUEVARA,  
SARAH LUTTRELL, RENAKO MCDONALD, JONATHAN MITCHELL,  
ALEX O'NEILL, DONKING RONGAVILLA, ROSIE STEBBING,  
MATEUSZ SZCZEREK, JESSIE THOMPSON, ALEXANDR VOSTOKOVA

**DIRECTOR** DAVID BOLGER

**CHOREOGRAPHY** DAVID BOLGER  
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DANCERS

**COMPOSITION AND SOUND DESIGN** DENIS CLOHESSY

**SET DESIGN** MAREE KEARNS

**LIGHTING DESIGN** JOHN GUNNING

**COSTUME DESIGN** ARRAN MURPHY

**PROJECTION DESIGN** NEIL O'DRISCOLL

**HAIR & MAKE-UP** VAL SHERLOCK

**DRAMATURG** CONALL MORRISON

**PRODUCTION MANAGER** SEÁN DENNEHY

**STAGE MANAGERS** AARON KENNEDY, DONNA LEONARD, STEPH RYAN

**CHIEF SOUND** EOIN MURPHY

**CHIEF LX** ROSS MCSHERRY

**CHIEF AV** LAURA RAINSFORD

**DEPUTY AV** JOHN NORTON

**LX OPERATOR** T. KOKALJ

**DESIGN ASSISTANT** RONAN DUFFY

**REHEARSAL DIRECTORS** JUSTINE COOPER, JONATHAN MITCHELL

# CREDITS

SET CONSTRUCTION SET 4 STAGE

SET PAINTER VINCENT BELL

PROP MAKER MARTIN CAHILL

AERIAL RIGGING TONY MAHON

ADDITIONAL RIGGING GORILLA DESIGN

COSTUME ASSISTANTS EIMEAR HUSSEY, PAULA O'REILLY  
(REDISCOVER FASHION) SIV KEATING, BRIKENA LIKO, EWA MAHER,  
SAMMY SAVARIS

STAGE CREW EL MOSTAPHA KADDOURI, ADRIAN LEAKE,  
STEPHEN MAHER, DAMIEN WOODS

LIGHTING CREW RORY DONNELLY, DAVID HANNAFIN, SARAH TIMMINS.

STAGE MANAGEMENT INTERN TARYN SHUCHA

COSTUME INTERN SIMON CHRISTOPHER

CHOIR LEADER MORGAN CROWLEY

ALTERNATE VOCALIST SARAH THURSFIELD

REHEARSAL CELLIST SOKOL KOKA

WORKSHOP VOCALISTS CHRIS BOWEN, EILEEN COYLE, EILÍS DEXTER

PHOTOGRAPHER ROS KAVANAGH

VIDEOGRAPHER PATRICK BLUE

GRAPHIC DESIGN ALPHABET SOUP

AUDIO DESCRIPTION BRÍD NÍ GHUAGÁIN

ESSAYIST VINCENT WOODS

PUBLICIST CULTUREHEAD

BOOKKEEPER SUSAN HOFFMAN

PROJECT COORDINATOR INNA MAZURENKO

BROADREACH COORDINATOR CAOIMHE COBURN GRAY

PRODUCED BY SARAH LATTY AND BRIDGET WEBSTER

# CREDITS

## ADDITIONAL MUSIC

EXCERPTS FROM THE LIMITS OF LIBERTY (2010)

COURTESY OF SOUTH WIND BLOWS.

PHILIP LYNOTT, DUBLIN, THE LOST RECORDINGS.

RYLJI IKEDA, DATA.MATRIX.

THE DUBLINERS, GRACE BY FRANK AND SEAN O'MEARA.

AG CRÍOST AN SÍOL AND MNA NA HÉIREANN, MUSIC BY SEAN O'RIADA.

MISE ÉIRE BY PATRICK PEARSE.

MONTAGUE AND CAPULETS BY SERGEI PROKOFIEV.

## SPECIAL THANK YOU

TO THE CHOIR'S AMICI, DUBLIN AIRPORT SINGERS

AND SONGS IN THE KEY OF D.

## THANK YOU

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE KIND SUPPORT OF ALL OF THE STAFF AT THE COMPLEX AND TO EPSON IRELAND, THE REDISCOVER FASHION TEAM, RUAIDHRI O DALAIGH, EAMON FOX, EIMER MURPHY AND THE ABBEY THEATRE, VERONICA COBURN, BALLET IRELAND, LENAMORE PRODUCTIONS, IRISH NATIONAL OPERA, THE ARK, JOHN COMISKEY, GARY FINNEGAN, CLIVE WELSH AND ALEX PEANUT BOLGER WELSH.



**PALIMPSEST** IS FUNDED BY ART: 2023,  
A DECADE OF CENTENARIES COLLABORATION  
BETWEEN THE ARTS COUNCIL AND THE  
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, CULTURE, ARTS,  
GAELTACHT, SPORT AND MEDIA AND PRESENTED  
IN COLLABORATION WITH ST PATRICK'S FESTIVAL  
AND SUPPORTED BY EPSON IRELAND.

IN PARALLEL WITH **PALIMPSEST**,  
COISCÉIM BROADREACH PRESENTS  
**SPARKING DEBATE**  
— A VIBRANT, CURATED PARTICIPATION  
PROJECT FOR AND BY YOUNG ADULTS  
TO PROVOKE DIALOGUE AROUND IRISH  
IDENTITY, HOSPITALITY AND SOVEREIGNTY  
THROUGH THE QUESTION “WHO DO WE  
WANT TO BE”.



# COISCÉIM DANCE THEATRE AND ST PATRICK'S FESTIVAL 2024

– A GROUND-BREAKING PARTNERSHIP  
ANCHORED IN SHARED VALUES TO SHOWCASE  
ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE AND CELEBRATE THE  
DIVERSE LIVED EXPERIENCES THAT DEFINE  
OUR ISLAND TODAY WITH A PROGRAMME  
THAT TRAVERSES THE ENTIRE FESTIVAL.





**13-23 MARCH**  
ONE CITY  
WORLD PREMIERE OF  
**PALIMPSEST**  
AT THE COMPLEX  
PAY WHAT YOU CAN  
**BOOK NOW**  
[THECOMPLEX.IE](http://THECOMPLEX.IE)  
01 537 8352



**16 MARCH**  
FESTIVAL  
QUARTER  
**FRANCIS**  
**FOOTWORK VR**  
AT COLLINS  
BARRACKS  
FREE



**17 MARCH**  
PARADE  
SPARKING  
DEBATE  
**BROADREACH**  
**PAGEANT**  
FREE



**18 MARCH**  
ONE CITY  
SPARKING  
DEBATE  
**PHYSICAL**  
**DEBATES**  
AT TU DUBLIN  
GRANGEGORMAN  
FREE

## BIOGRAPHIES CAST



### VITOR BASSI PERFORMER

Vitor is a passionate multidisciplinary artist from Brazil with 24 years of experience in the arts, creating and performing in dance, theatre, musical theatre, film and television. In Brazil, he worked with important companies and names of the artistic landscape. He has been doing the same in Ireland with well-known companies such as Irish Modern Dance Theatre, Femme Bizarre, Spraoi Studios, Smashing Times, Fidget Feet, Pan Pan Theatre and Company Philip Connaughton. Work with CoisCéim includes **Orfeo ed Euridice** for Blackwater Valley Opera Festival.



### LEE CLAYDEN PERFORMER

Lee is a shapeshifter who traverses the world of dance and aerial, finding his voice and flow in both. He trained at the London Contemporary Dance School, honing his skills within 4D at LCDS dancing pieces by renowned choreographers like Wayne McGregor, Jonathon Lunn, Paul Taylor, Sue Davies and Mark Baldwin amongst others. His journey includes collaborations with prestigious companies such as Ricochet Dance Company and Richard Alston Dance Company. Notably, he appeared in Rafael Bonachela's award-winning duet, **E2 7SD**, earning a Critics' Circle National Dance Award nomination. As an aerial dancer, Lee flies off cranes, walls, and any surface that can be transformed into art. Often seen with Gravity & Levity performing vertical dance pieces, **Why?** and **Crawdaddy**. With FidgetFeet for 13 years he has worked on **The Snow Queen, Catch me, Hang on, Firebirds, A Fairies' Tail, The Elves and the Shoemaker** and **The Second Coming**. On the ground for the last 10 years dancing with Company Chameleon in **Beauty of the Beast, Of man and Beast, Hands down** and **the Shadow**. Lee teaches, choreographs, mentors and devices on the floor and in the air regularly for various companies and dance establishments across the United Kingdom and Internationally. He is also a certified Gyrotonics and Vayu Aerial yoga instructor which he runs from his studio 360 Bodyworks in Manchester. He is delighted to be back once again with CoisCéim adding to **Boxes, Faun, Body Language, In The Magic Hour** repertoire.



## **JUSTINE COOPER** **PERFORMER & REHEARSAL DIRECTOR**

Originally from New Zealand, Justine has been based in Ireland as a freelance dance artist, teacher and choreographer since 2008. She is a guest lecturer at The University of Limerick, Dance Ireland & Dance Theatre of Ireland and this year graduated as an advanced teacher in Quan Yin Qi Gong. Work with CoisCéim includes **The Piece With The Drums, Go To Blazes, In The Magic Hour, Body Language, These Rooms, Invitation to a Journey** and **Agnes**. As a dance artist Justine has had the pleasure of working most recently with 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 and choir work) at the National Concert Hall, Una Kavanagh, Corn Exchange's **MISFITS**, nominated for Best Movement Direction 2018 Irish Times Theatre Awards, and 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) also presented at Dublin Dance Festival 2016 and What's Next Festival 2018.



## **MORGAN CROWLEY** **PERFORMER**

**Palimpsest** marks Morgan's CoisCéim Debut. Dublin-born, he has had a diverse career across five continents, appearing on a Grammy-winning CD, Tony Award winning musical and the stage version of an Oscar-winning film. Morgan trained classically in music and drama and is a Masters Graduate of Trinity College Dublin. He works extensively in all media with credits worldwide including BBC's **Eastenders**, Disney, The Wiggles, National Theatre/RSC, Royal Opera Covent Garden, Prometheus, Messiah, Universal Pictures & Columbia Artists. Notable Broadway/West-End/international theatre leading roles include **Phantom of the Opera, Hairspray, Chicago, Sweeney Todd, Cirque du Soleil, Riverdance, Scrooge** and **Playboy of the Western World**.



## **EILÍS DEXTER**

### **PERFORMER**

**Palimpsest** marks Eilís's CoisCéim debut. She is a mezzo-soprano from Dublin whose work spans from choral music to opera and contemporary compositions. She studied Music at Trinity College Dublin and Voice at the Royal Irish Academy of Music. Eilís is an established ensemble singer, performing regularly with groups such as Resurgam, Lassus, Tonnta and Ardú. As an oratorio soloist she has performed works by Handel, Bach, Pergolesi, d'Astorga, Saint-Saëns and Duruflé. Operatic engagements include Irish National Opera, Opera Collective Ireland and Blackwater Valley Opera Festival. Eilís was awarded 1st Place in the Mezzo-soprano Solo competition in the 2022 Feis Ceoil and was a member of the Glyndebourne Academy 2023. Eilís also has a strong dance background and looks to engage in multidisciplinary projects.



## **VANESSA GUEVARA**

### **PERFORMER**

**Palimpsest** marks Vanessa's CoisCéim debut with the company. A Dancer-Choreographer specialising in contemporary and traditional Mexican and African diaspora dance. She was first introduced to movement at a very young age by her parents who were both yoga teachers at the time. Her passion and curiosity for storytelling and community-related projects led her to perform Mexican traditional dances around the world, sharing her practice to professional dancers, children, senior citizens, young offenders and refugees. She started her professional training as a dancer at the National School of Contemporary Dance in Mexico and continued her training in the USA, Africa and Cuba. She has worked with Jose Agudo, Akram Khan (Opening Ceremony of London 2012 Olympic Games), Vocab Dance, State of Emergency, ACE Dance and Music, Voxed, National Company of Mexico, Heartbeat of Home (Riverdance) and Catherine Young Dance. Vanessa also worked with Gecko theatre company performing in their new show **KIN**, at the National Theatre, London, throughout January 2024.



## SARAH LUTTRELL PERFORMER

**Palimpsest** marks Sarah's CoisCéim debut. A mezzo-soprano, Sarah graduated from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Master's degree in performance in 2022.

She was the recipient of the RCS Trust Postgraduate Scholarship. To date, Sarah has been a soloist on the Operatic, Concert and Oratorio platform in Ireland, The United Kingdom and Europe. In 2021–2022, Sarah was a scholar with the 2023 Grammy-nominated British vocal group Voces8, a full time member of Chamber Choir Ireland 2022–2023 and a member of the Wexford Festival Opera Young Artist Programme 2022–2023. Future engagements include INO's **La Traviata**, Stanford's Mass in G Major, Dublin and the East Cork Choral Society's performance of Handel's **Samson**.



## RENAKO MCDONALD PERFORMER

**Palimpsest** marks Renako's CoisCéim debut with the company. He is an award-winning dancer, who starred in the West End, toured globally, and worked on multiple films, TV series and commercials. His

credits include Cirque Du Soleil, Walt Disney Studios, Netflix, Marvel, Jason Derulo, Riverdance and Disney's Musical **Tarzan** to mention a few. Renako has been acknowledged by Madonna, and won her *Art for Freedom Campaign* for his starring role in multi award-winning short film **Shift**. He has also had the incredible honour of being personally invited to perform his choreography for The Queen of the United Kingdom and 400+ VIP guests at Buckingham Palace.



## **JONATHAN MITCHELL**

### **PERFORMER & REHEARSAL DIRECTOR**

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 **The Piece With The Drums**.



## **MÁIRE NÍ GHRÁINNE**

### **PERFORMER**

**Palimpsest** marks Máire's CoisCéim debut. She was an Abbey Player from 1967–1999. She has appeared in over 150 productions at the Abbey Theatre. Among her favourites are **The Loves of Cass McGuire, The Cherry Orchard, Famine, The Playboy of the Western World, The Hostage** (Best Supporting Actress Evening Herald), **A State of Chassis, The Plebians Rehearse the Uprising, Innish, Uncle Vanya, Finders Keepers** (Irish Times Theatre Award nomination for Best Supporting Actress), **Ulysses in Nighttown** and **April Bright**. Ghlac sí páirt ina lán léirithe as Gaeilge ina measc **An Baile Seo 'Gainne, Cúirt an Mheáin Oíche, Séadna, Scéal Scealaí** agus **Cré na Cille**. Other theatre work includes **The Loves of Cass McGuire** (Broadway), **An Triail** (Damer Theatre), **The Liar**, Best Supporting Actress Theatre Festival (Gate Theatre), **Spokesong** (Player Wills Theatre), **Children of Eve**, Best Supporting Actress Evening Herald (Andrews Lane), **Translations** (Hampstead and Lyttelton Theatre), **Sharon's Grave** (Druid), **Factory Girls** (Kilkenny) and **Long Day's Journey into Night** (Leatherhead Theatre). Television work includes **Going into Exile, The Country Boy, Glenroe, O'Flaherty VC, Ballykissangel, The Loves of Cass McGuire, Mother Courage, The Hanging Gale** (BBC and RTÉ), **Z-cars** and **The Pallisers** (BBC) and **Ros na Rún** (TG4). Film work includes **The Fighting Prince of Donegal, Ulysses, Here are Ladies, Ar Dover Féin**. Máire recently appeared in the **Long Christmas Dinner** at the Peacock Theatre and was nominated for a Best Supporting Actress by The Irish Times, 2022.



## ALEX O'NEILL PERFORMER

Alex's work with CoisCéim includes **The Piece With The Drums** and **Orfeo ed Euridice** for the Blackwater Valley Opera Festival. He has performed on RTÉ's **Supercrew** 2010–2011, **Mrs Browns Boys Da Movie** 2014, **Ek Tha Tiger** 2012 and **Vikings** 2018. He was a featured dancer in the Ireland's **Got Talent** Advert live shows 2019, Alex's work in film includes Ridley Scott's **The Last Duel** 2021, James Vincent McMorrow's **Gone** 2020 and Disney's **Disenchanted** 2022. He has worked on Red Bull, RTÉ, Apple, Heineken, Ryanair, Facebook, Google, Vodafone and Orchard Thieves and Lifestyle Sports Christmas Campaign/Adverts 2018 & 2021. He was head choreographer for the 80's & 90's Disco European Arena Tour (2018–2020). He has been a soloist in Monica Loughman's annual production of **The Nutcracker** 2012–2015 and Michael Jackson **Man in the Mirror Tribute** tour 2014–2016. Other theatre performances include **The Hardest of Women** Anu 2022. Recent work includes being cast as *The Watcher* in Dakota Fanning's upcoming film **The Watchers** 2023 and performing in **Mosh** winner of Best Ensemble at the Dublin Fringe Festival Awards 2023.



## DONKING RONGAVILLA PERFORMER

Donking is originally from the Philippines, and has been based in Ireland since 2002. He started his professional dance career at 16 as a choreographer, acrobatic teacher, actor and dance fitness coach. His dance credits for CoisCéim include **Agnes, Our Father** and **Orfeo ed Euridice** for Blackwater Valley Opera Festival. He has danced in RTÉ's Centenary 2016. Irish National Opera's production of Bizet's **Carmen** 2022 at the Bord Gais Energy Theatre. He also performed in RTÉ's **Toy Show the Musical** 2022. Television and film credits include **The Vikings, Love Hate, Raw, Aisling's Diary, Grand Opening** and commercials for The Orchard Thieves and EIR Sports. **Ballet Chancers** with Monica Loughman for RTÉ. Acting credits include Netflix's **nocebo** with Eva Green, 2023. **Love Rosie** with Lily Collins, 2015. **Herself** produced by Sharon Horgan, 2021. **West Side Story** at the Bordgas theatre 2021. Choreography credits include the award-winning Bollywood short film **Moore Street Masala** and RTÉ's **Tina Times Two** for Dyehouse Films. **Cinderella** 2021 and **Matilda Jr** 2022 for RNR musical society. And assistant choreographer for the annual Gaiety Pantos 2016–2021.





## **ROSIE STEBBING**

### **PERFORMER**

Rosie is a contemporary dance artist from Kildare. After studying at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance (UK) on their foundation course, she moved to the Netherlands to train at ArtEZ Institute of the Arts, graduating with a BA(Hons) in Dance in 2021. During the final year of her studies she joined Holstebro Dansekompagni in Denmark as an apprentice dancer. She also participated in Dance Limerick's Step Up project, working with choreographers David Bolger and Lucyna Zwolinska on the creation and tour of two new works. Rosie made her CoisCéim debut in **Go To Blazes**. She has also performed with Fidget Feet Aerial Dance Theatre, Fíbín sa Taibhdhearc, Emily Aoibheann and Peter Power/ Sparsile Collective. Her choreographic debut **Test 1**, created and performed with Ornella Dufay-Miralles, premiered at the Dublin Fringe Festival in 2022 and was winner of the Judges' Choice Award. Rosie has been supported by the Arts Council of Ireland through the Dance Agility and Bursary Awards, and was the recipient of Dance Ireland's HATCH Mentorship Award 2023. This year she has been commissioned by Dublin Youth Dance Company to create a new work for the senior company.



## **MATEUSZ SZCZEREK**

### **PERFORMER**

Mateusz is a Dublin based dancer/choreographer and creative director for Human Collective, his movement is based in street dance and contemporary, Krump and Breaking. He also curates one of the biggest festivals for street dance in Ireland called **Dance2Connect**. Matt made his CoisCéim debut in **The Wolf and Peter**. He previously worked with choreographers Botis Seva, Jill Crovisier, Joseph Toonga, Monica Martin Munoz and many others.



## JESSIE THOMPSON PERFORMER

Jessie is a Dublin based dance artist specialising in experimental contemporary and Hip Hop dance. In 2023 Jessie Thompson was the Inaugural artist commissioned by CoisCéim and Waterways Ireland to create and perform a site specific solo titled **Bench**. Jessie also choreographed and performed in **This Solution** in Dublin Theatre Festival and presented a solo in progress **Crawler** at Dublin Dance Festival 2022 and 2023, Jessie is now a guest choreographer for Limerick Youth Dance Company 2024. She has performed in Maria Nilsson Waller's **Riverine**, Emma Martin/United Fall's **Night Dances** in Dublin Theatre Festival and Edinburgh Fringe, Rosie Stebbing's **Test 1** in WhatNext Festival and worked with companies such as TasteinYourMouth, OnetwoOneTwo, Monica Munoz, Liz Roche Company, Simone O'Toole. Jessie won Red Bull's **Dance Your Style Ireland** in 2023 and represented Ireland in the world Final.



## ALEXANDRA VOSTKOVA PERFORMER

**Palimpsest** marks Alexandra's CoisCéim debut. She is an Irish dancer, choreographer, teacher and director, working across live performance, improvisation and film. Alexandra began her education in contemporary and theatre in Izhevsk, Russia, before coming to Ireland, where since 2015 she had been extensively involved with Dublin Youth Dance Company, which facilitated her growth and development in contemporary dance. She continued her training across several dance hubs in Europe, most prominently in Berlin engaging with contemporary, Hip Hop, acrobatics and physical theatre practices. Alex has performed in works by Liz Roche, John Scott, Simone O'Toole, Pan Pan Theatre, Dance2Connect and Stereo 48 dance company.



## **KATE ELLIS**

### **CELLIST**

Cellist Kate Ellis is dedicated to the performance and exploration of all things new in music with collaboration at the heart. Her work with CoisCéim includes **Invitation to a Journey** and **Cello Counterpoint**. She is Artistic Director of Crash Ensemble, cellist with Martin Hayes' Common Ground Ensemble and toured with Bono as part of his **Stories of Surrender** show 2022–2023. Kate has collaborated with, commissioned, premiered and recorded works by composers Steve Reich, Bryce Dessner, David Lang, Michael Gordon, Nico Muhly and Donnacha Dennehy and continues to push musical boundaries performing and recording with musicians including Bono and the Edge, Bobby McFerrin, Rhiannon Giddens, Martin Hayes, Gavin Friday, Ye Vagabonds, Lisa O'Neill and Glenn Hansard. Kate has toured and broadcast in Australia, USA, Europe and China, performing at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Centre, Shanghai EXPO, Istanbul Akbank Jazz Festival and Edinburgh International Festival with releases on Nonesuch, Cantaloupe, Rough Trade, Domino, Brawl Records, Bada Bing, Crash Records and Claddagh Records. Recent projects include the release of a major new work for solo cello by Northern Irish composer Ed Bennett on the Ergodos label, a duo collaboration with Martin Hayes, curation of a contemporary music series **Europe: Here and Now** at the National Concert Hall, Dublin and the creation of new music for the Multi-Traction Orchestra's album '**Reactor One**' and **Echolocation: Resonate from Here**; a collaborative album with UK and US based musicians.

## BIOGRAPHIES ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM



### **DAVID BOLGER** **DIRECTOR & CHOREOGRAPHER**

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 **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.



### **DENIS CLOHESSY** **MUSIC & SOUND DESIGN**

Denis has worked with numerous dance and theatre companies. He won the Irish Times theatre award for Best Design Sound in 2019 and 2010 and was a nominee in 2015. Work with CoisCéim includes **Breakin' Brothers**, **Our Fathers** and **Francis Footwork**. Denis was an associate artist with the Abbey in 2008 and was a participant on Rough Magic's ADVANCE programme in 2012. In 2016 Pat Kinevane's play **Silent** (Fishamble) won an Olivier award for which Denis composed the music. His work in film includes music for the feature films **Older Than Ireland** (Snack box Films), **The Irish Pub** (Atom Films) and **His and Hers** (Venom Film).



## MAREE KEARNS SET DESIGN

Maree is an award-winning set and costume designer based in Ireland. She has collaborated with David Bolger and CoisCéim Dance Theatre many times in the past on productions which include the critically acclaimed **Agnes** and **Invitation to a Journey**. Maree has designed sets and costumes for most of Ireland's leading companies, in theatre, dance, musicals and opera. She is also the course director for the MFA in Stage Design at the Lir Academy, Trinity College, Dublin.



## JOHN GUNNING LX DESIGN

John is an alumnus of Dublin Youth Theatre and a founding member of Malaprop Theatre. Lighting credits include: **Hothouse**, **Where Sat The Lovers**, **Everything Not Saved**, **Jericho**, **BlackCatfishMusketeer**, **LOVE+** with Malaprop Theatre. **This Solution** (Shaun Dunne), **Navy Blue** (Oona Doherty), **Mosh** (Rachel Ní Bhraonain), **Tiny Plays 24/7**, **Tiny Plays for a Brighter Future** (Fishamble), **Venus in Furs** (Rough Magic SEEDS), **The Roaring Banshees** (Devious Theatre Co.), **We can't have Monkeys in the House** (Sad Strippers), **Bulrusher**, **The Three Sisters**, **The Laramie Project**, **Demons** (Lir Academy) and **The Egg is a Lonely Hunter** (Hannah Mamalis).



## ARRAN MURPHY COSTUME DESIGN

Arran is a Designer, Maker and Educator working in Sustainable Fashion, Costume and Community Arts. She has designed for numerous theatre, dance and street performances including the St Patrick's Day Parade, CoisCéim's Broadreach Programme, Dance Limerick's Step Up Programme, The Dockers and Demons Festival and Mario Rosenstock's **Gift Grub Live Show**, **Hope it Rains**, **Drowned Galway**, Galway 2020, as well as for CoisCéim's **Body Language**, **In The Magic Hour** and **Go To Blazes**, for which she was nominated for Best Costume Design in the Irish Times Theatre Award 2023. Arran is also the Programme Manager of Rediscover Fashion, a social enterprise at the Rediscovery Centre, Ireland's National Centre for the Circular Economy.



## NEIL O'DRISCOLL PROJECTION DESIGN

Neil is a multidisciplinary artist whose work incorporates painting, illustration, film and video design for live performance, work with CoisCéim includes **Go To Blazes** and **Our Fathers**. His work has appeared on stage at venues around Ireland including the Belltable in Limerick and Dublin's Abbey Theatre, most recently in Edna O'Brien's **Joyce's Women**. In addition to freelance work, Neil sustains a practice as a visual artist and independent filmmaker.



## VAL SHERLOCK HAIR AND MAKE-UP

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 the majority of CoisCéim productions as well as multiple productions for the Lyric Theatre, Druid, Rough Magic Theatre Company, Fishamble: The New Play Company, the Abbey Theatre/Peacock Theatre, The Corn Exchange and Landmark Productions, amongst others.



## CONALL MORRISON DRAMATURG

Conall is an award-winning theatre director and playwright. He has twice won the Irish Times Theatre Award for Best Director, and twice won Best Production. Most recently he directed **Quake** by Janet Moran (Samuel Beckett Theatre) and **The United States vs Ulysses**, by Colin Murphy (Pavilion Theatre), both for Once Off Productions. He has directed thirty plays for the Abbey Theatre and has directed for the Lyric Theatre, Belfast, the Royal National Theatre, the Royal Shakespeare Co., the Globe Theatre, English National Opera, Irish National Opera, Cameron Mackintosh Productions, and for many leading independent companies. Several of his productions have been in collaboration with David Bolger. He has written many original plays and adaptations, including **Woyzeck in Winter**, his own adaptation from Buchner and Schubert (Landmark/GIAF/ Barbican Theatre); **The Travels of Jonathan Swift**, adapted from Swift's work, for the Blue Raincoat Theatre Company.





## 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 – seen on international stages including 14-18 NOW & 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. Find out more at [www.coisceim.com](http://www.coisceim.com)

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# PALIMPSEST AND SPARKING DEBATE ARE CORNERSTONES OF COISCÉIM'S PROGRAMME CELEBRATING IT'S 30TH YEAR OF MAKING DANCE THEATRE.

## OTHER SPRING HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE...

The world premiere of **BREAKIN' BROTHERS** at Dublin International Film Festival, a compelling new dance film about hope, love and the joy of dancing, produced for RTÉ and the Broadcast Authority of Ireland in partnership with Wildfire Films ahead of festival presentations world-wide throughout the year.

Three new **BENCH** commissions in collaboration with Waterways Ireland – watch out for the first in a new series of captivating outdoor dance performances at Grand Canal Dock as part of Dublin Dance Festival on 24–25 May.

The 21st iteration of Broadreach favourite, **THE CHOREOGRAPHY PROJECT**, will be led by esteemed choreographer, Philip Connaughton kicking off in early April. A regular feature, it offers dance enthusiasts the opportunity to work with professional choreographers in the exploration of contemporary dance theatre. Only a couple of spaces remain so snap yours up now at [coisceim.com/the-choreography-project-21](http://coisceim.com/the-choreography-project-21).

**FRANCIS FOOTWORK VR** – our pioneering 180° virtual reality presentation of **FRANCIS FOOTWORK** together with Broadreach’s **CREATIVE DANCE TALES** will tour to Darmstadt, Germany in June and as part of Culture Ireland’s Zeitgeist Ireland programme and feature as part of the Five Lamps Festival closer to home.

Later in the year, audiences will be able to encounter two further **BENCH** commissions along Dublin’s waterways in late August, **a brand new experimental duet by David Bolger** in collaboration with Dublin Fringe Festival and **THE PIECE WITH THE DRUMS** – as we head out on tour. Directed by David Bolger and featuring the groundbreaking jazz percussionist Conor Guilfoyle, this vibrant performance, hailed as *“a colourful exploration of relationships, spirituality, and our connection to rhythm, life and the cosmos”*, will tour to Belfast International Arts Festival; Town Hall Theatre, Galway; Everyman, Cork; An Grianan, Letterkenny and Draiocht, Civic Theatre, and Pavilion Theatre in Co. Dublin.

Running in parallel with **PALIMPSEST**, CoisCéim Broadreach presents, **SPARKING DEBATE** – an initiative for and by over 100 young people to provoke dialogue around Irish identity, hospitality and sovereignty through the question *“who do we want to be”*.

# 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:** JOHN COMISKEY, ELMA CUSACK, MARGARET FINLAY, JULIAN ERSKINE, MARTIN J MUNROE, CIAN O'BRIEN, MADELEINE NESBITT, BRIGID MCMANUS, M & E WELSH, NICK HEINZEN, AENGUS O'HANRAHAN, LOUIS HERBERT, ÉMER O LAOGHAIRE, GWEN BOLGER & MICHAEL CRANSTON, EAMONN MAGUIRE, JACQUELINE STRAWBRIDGE, EILEEN KEATING, AND ALL THOSE WHO WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS.



# COIS CÉIM DANCE

## COISCÉIM DANCE THEATRE

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### A REGISTERED CHARITY

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An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,  
Éalaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán  
Department of Tourism, Culture,  
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

**ART:2023**

A Decade of Centenaries Collaboration



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council

**EPSON**



# St. Patrick's Festival

PART OF ART: 2023, A DECADE OF CENTENARIES COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE ARTS COUNCIL AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, CULTURE, ARTS, GAELTACHT, SPORT AND MEDIA, AND PRESENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH ST. PATRICK'S FESTIVAL.