

WINTER SPRING 2026

**DANCE
CORK
FIRKIN
CRANE**



**Note from Laurie Uprichard,
Executive Artistic Director**

Welcome to Dance Cork Firkin Crane's Winter/Spring 2026 Season!

We're looking forward to the fourth edition of the Take Off Festival during which international choreographers from the Aerowaves 2025 selection spend the week and perform on mixed bills with Irish choreographers. This year, we introduce you to gergő farkas from Hungary and Ekin Tunçeli from Turkey. Coincidentally, both have studied and lived in Switzerland. Irish artists joining the programme are The Parsley Collective (led by Mary Nunan), Alexandra Vostakova, and Mufutau Yusuf.

The New Year will bring Fiona Quilligan's re-scheduled *Crystal Cloud* and John Scott's *Cloud Study* in a lovely serendipity of titles. Catherine Young's *Ciseach* will stop in Cork during its spring tour for one performance only on 1 May. And with June comes the highly anticipated Cork Midsummer Festival with dance artists to be announced in the spring.

Resident artists undertaking research in our studios this season include Dalila Belaza from France, Helga Deasy, Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín, Fearghus Ó Conchúir, and Kathy Westwater from the U.S., as well as our Cork City Dance Artist in Residence, Luke Murphy | Attic Projects.

Cine Club continues with four insightful choreographer-centred films and Crane Visual will offer a changing landscape of work by Irish artists.

As ever, updates and news can be found on our website www.dancecorkfirkincrane.ie
We can't wait to see you in Shandon!

**Note from Yvonne Coughlan,
Dance Cork Firkin Crane Board Chair**

Every time I climb the hill to Shandon and step through the Firkin Crane doors, I feel the same spark, that flutter when you know you're entering a place where something extraordinary is about to happen. This building hums with stories: the echo of a dancer testing the morning light, the quiet concentration of an artist unlocking a new idea, the laughter of a workshop becoming a little community.

I'm privileged to witness the small, powerful moments that remind me why this place matters: someone discovering dance for the first time, an artist finding the courage to try what once felt impossible, or a visiting choreographer saying Cork feels like home because of the generosity found here.

DCFC is a gathering place where creativity is shared, breathed, and built together, and if you're reading this, you're already part of that story. But I'd like to invite you even closer, to become part of our fundraising story. Becoming a Friend of DCFC means standing with us as we nurture imagination, curiosity, and the cultural bravery that makes Cork so vibrant. It means helping artists stretch further, dream bigger, and take the risks that shape Ireland's dance future, while joining a circle of people who love being part of something alive, hopeful, and beautifully human.

I would love to meet you, at an opening, a workshop, Take Off Festival, or simply over tea in the kitchen, and welcome you into this community that brings me such joy. Together, we can ensure that the magic inside these walls continues to ripple outward to new audiences, new artists, and new possibilities.

Thank you for being here. Let's keep dancing forward, side by side.

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Image: Evin O' Toole

CRYSTAL CLOUD

Fiona Quilligan
(Ireland)

Friday 16 - Saturday 17 January: 7.30pm

Tickets: €15 / €12

Duration: 60 mins

Director | Choreographer **Fiona Quilligan**
 Performers **Olwen Grindley, Yves Lorrhan, Eoin Mac Donncha, Fiona Quilligan**
 Dancers on film **Olwen Grindley, Dylan Holly, Fiona Quilligan**
 Music Recordings on Film:
Paddy O'Mahony *Bare Bones*
Julia Kent *Asperities – Flag of No Country, Empty States and Terrain*
 Text on film **Anthony Bolton**
 Rehearsal Assistant **Zelda Francesca**
 Lighting Design **Sebastian Pizarro**
 Production, Film and Edit **Fiona Quilligan**
 Trailer Editor **Hernan Maher**
 Production Photography **Karol Szarek**
 Programme Design **Justine Doswell**

A compelling dance work etched on screen combined with passionate live performance. Award winning choreographer Fiona Quilligan brings a handful of glorious films that merge with live performance by a superb cast featuring dancers Olwen Grindley, Eoin Mac Donncha and Yves Lorrhan.

In shadowy waters we see images of love, loss and war. We fall into these reflections and dance with passion, fragility and joy. Strong as crystal suspended in time, we live with gratitude for our own freedom and with hope for a more peaceful world. Sometimes dark, *Crystal Cloud* reveals the fractured light that spills into our lives as we dance a rainbow of colour.

Company / Artist Bio:

Fiona Quilligan was born in Dublin, trained at the London School of Contemporary Dance and performed with Dublin City Ballet. In 1986, she founded Rubato Ballet, creating original works for the company which received critical acclaim, including the Nijinsky medal from Warsaw and AIB Better Ireland Award in Arts and Culture. Fiona is a member of Aosdána and a founding member of Dance Ireland. Her film, *ANCESTOR*, premiered in the Irish Film Institute in 2022 and was featured on RTE Player.

Supported by Aosdána, the company would like to thank Dance Cork Firkin Crane (funded by The Arts Council), Lab Studios, Dublin City Council, our private sponsors, the artists and creative team, and Sean Fingleton, Julia Kent, Paddy O' Mahony, Dylan Holly, Joanna Banks, Anthony Bolton, Moya Ní Éilí and Veronica Quilligan.



Image: Ewa Figaszewska

CLOUD STUDY

Irish Modern Dance Theatre (Ireland)

Friday 23 - Saturday 24 January: 7.30pm

Tickets: €15 / €12

Duration: 50 mins

Choreography **John Scott**

Dancers **Salma Ataya, Mufutau Yusuf**

Music **Ryan Vail**

'powerful and mesmerizing' - The Arts Review

Cloud Study by John Scott, with music by Ryan Vail, is part dance, part dream, made for two compelling dancers. Mufutau Yusuf, an Irish dancer born in Nigeria and Salma Ataya, a Palestinian / Irish dancer, use the idea of clouds as a traveling, dreamy mass that float above everything, witnessing, dissolving, and carrying storms. The dancers are running to somewhere or from something, speaking English, Arabic and Yorùbá, communicating with their bodies, hand signs and dance, chasing dreams, memories and home.

Company / Artist Bio:

Irish Modern Dance Theatre, founded in 1991 by dancer and choreographer John Scott, is one of the most original and responsive dance companies working in Ireland today.

John Scott is a choreographer, performer, founder/ Artistic Director of John Scott Dance and Dancer from the Dance Festival, and member of Aosdána. His choreographic works include *Begin Anywhere*, *Migration Sonata*, *Heroes*, *Evolutions*, *Dances for Inside and Outside*, *Divine Madness*, *Inventions*, *Lear*, *Fall and Recover*, and *Actions*, all performed in Ireland and internationally. He dances in Oona Doherty's *Hard to be Soft* and in Meredith Monk's *Quarry* and for Yoshiko Chuma, Sara Rudner, Anna Sokolow and Thomas Lehmann.

Supported by The Arts Council, Dublin City Council and Culture Ireland. Commissioned by Galway International Arts Festival.



TAKE OFF FESTIVAL

Grab your seats as we *Take Off* with Dance Cork Firkin Crane's (DCFC) fourth annual edition. Modelled on Dance Limerick's (DL) WHAT NEXT Festival, *Take Off* features two international choreographers' works, chosen from the Aerowaves Twenty25 selected artists. They will be presented on shared programmes alongside the work of three Irish choreographers.

Each year the Aerowaves network, in which Dance Cork Firkin Crane and Dance Limerick are partners, chooses 20 of the most promising choreographers in Europe from a competitive open call. Partners are committed to annually presenting two of the selected artists. With the goals of maximising the impact of inviting these artists to Ireland, saving on travel costs, and promoting more sustainable touring, DCFC collaborates with DL on selecting the artists, and will present their works in Cork the week following their performances in Limerick.

All artists in the festival will gather in Cork throughout the week to share their stories and their practice with each other. Each performance will be followed by a Q&A and a reception with the artists to allow audiences a deeper insight to the work. The *Take Off Festival* will introduce the artists to each other and to our audiences, not just in the studio and onstage, but also in informal social gatherings.

Roundtable Discussion:

Wednesday, 18 February
Facilitated by Laurie Uprichard

Professional Classes:

Thursday 19 February led by gergő d. farkas &
Friday 20 February led by Ekin Tunçeli.

Programme 1: Thursday, 19 February

Mufutau Yusuf (Ireland/Belgium), Ekin Tunçeli (Turkey/Germany) and Alex Vostakova (Dublin)

Programme 2: Friday, 20 February

Parsley Collective (Limerick) and gergő farkas (Hungary/Sweden)



Image: Marcin Lewandowski

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: WHAT MAKES YOU STAY? WHAT MAKES YOU GO? THE ROLE THAT MOBILITY PLAYS IN YOUR LIFE

Wednesday 18 February: 6-7:30pm

Venue: Maureen's, 14 John Redmond St

Booking: Free event, registration required.

This year's roundtable discussion focuses on the mobility of dancers who are notoriously nomadic. Why do they leave their countries of birth (or not)? When and why do they return home? Where do they find their "family" and their communities? What are the issues and challenges that arise when living with a new language, culture, cuisine, codes?

DCFC Executive artistic director Laurie Uprichard (an Irish-American transplant herself) will facilitate an informal conversation around this inquiry with the artists who are performing and showing work at Take Off Festival 2026 followed by an open discussion. All are welcome to share their questions. Suitable for anyone with an interest in how artists adapt to a variety of circumstances.



Image: Jed Niezgoda

PROFESSIONAL CLASSES WITH TAKE OFF ARTISTS

Thursday 19 February, 11am-12:30pm

Led by gergő d. farkas

Friday 20 February, 11am-12:30pm.

Led by Ekin Tunçeli

Tickets: €5

gergő d. farkas

In this open-level guided dance and movement workshop, titled *organ-ing*, we will weave together fantasy with pre-existing somatic knowledge and the felt sense of our anatomy. We may explore the human body as an ever-changing place of mystery and escape, and challenge it as a static point of reference. This workshop is dedicated to those of you who want to feel a little more and love a little harder.

Ekin Tunçeli

Multidisciplinary artist and choreographer Ekin Tunçeli leads a class focusing on physical material and the practice from her work *heartquake*. Suitable for professional artists and advanced students.



Image: Sasko Lazarov

BENCH #5

PROSES ON NEITHER HERE NOR THERE

Mufutau Yusuf

(Ireland/Nigeria)

Thursday 19 February: 7:30pm

Tickets: €15/€12 (€22 Festival pass)

Choreographer / Performer **Mufutau Yusuf**

Costume Designer **Maryam Yusuf**

Music (live performance)

Sergey Starostin's Vocal Family *Travelling*

Tatars, Sainkho Inuit Wedding,

Abbey Lincoln *Triptych:Prayer/Protest/*

Peace

World Premiere - 10 July 2025,

Georges Dock, Dublin

BENCH #5 Premiere Production Credits

Curator **David Bolger**

Filmmaker **Luca Truffarelli**

Production Manager **Barbara Hughes**

Technician **Sarah Keane**

Production Assistant **Elizabeth Jannetta**

Produced by **Sarah Latty / Bridget Webster**

This work contemplates the fragility of human life and the quiet strength found in its impermanence. By using the body and language of dance, it offers a meditative space to engage with notions of mortality with reflection and curiosity. It embraces themes of decay, transformation and renewal, inviting people to consider death not as an end, but as a vital part of existence, as a cycle within the force of nature. Set against the backdrop of global unrest and personal reflection, the work is a meditation on how we live, what we leave behind and the legacy we shape.

Company / Artist Bio:

Mufutau Yusuf is a Nigerian-born Irish choreographer, performer, and teacher based in Ireland and Brussels. His acclaimed works, including *Òwe* and *Impasse*, have toured across Ireland, Europe, the US, and Nigeria. In 2025, Mufutau was elected to membership in Aosdána, a body which honours artists whose work has made an outstanding contribution to the Arts in Ireland. He has worked with artists and companies such as Wim Vandekeybus/*Ultima Vez*, Liz Roche Company, Irish Modern Dance Theatre and Emma Martin/*United Fall*. Mufutau is a resident choreographer with Luail, Ireland's National Dance Company and shares his practice through teaching and improvisation internationally.

Commissioned by CoisCéim Dance Theatre (funded by The Arts Council) as part of BENCH, a collection of short original dance works, highlighting everyday spaces as creative places, coisceim.com



Image: Jonas Bilberg

HEARTQUAKE

Ekin Tunçeli

(Switzerland/Turkey)

Thursday 19 February: 7:30pm

Tickets: €15/€12 (€22 Festival pass)

Warnings: 10+

Choreography **Ekin Tunçeli**

Dancers **Barış Diker, Gizem Seçkin, Diren Ezgi Yıldızkan**

Sound, including tracks from various artists

Ah! Kosmos, Ekin Tunçeli, Cucina Povera & Haron, Dinamarca

Supervision **Jennifer Lacey, Stina Nyberg**

Sound Supervision **Barış Bingöl**

Costume **Mert Yemenicioğlu**

Light Design **M.Ali Dönmez**

Supported by *Çıplak Ayaklar Kumpanyası*
and *SKH*.

How can you imagine a future while shakes constantly change what you dreamed of? In a land where people grow up hearing of ancient cities that have been destroyed by earthquakes, how can you build something when you know it will eventually be demolished? When everything keeps falling apart, what is left except each other's support and the endless effort of human beings?

The homeland of Sisyphus, tireless master of eternal toil, lies upon one of the most seismically active lands on earth.

Company / Artist Bio:

Ekin Tunçeli is a multidisciplinary artist and choreographer who translates embodied experience into poetic, multilayered forms. Centering the body in her artistic research, she explores its expressive, political, and perceptive dimensions. Holding degrees in Medicine and in Contemporary Dance and Choreography, she combines analytical precision with creative intuition. Her solo *bir şey* was selected for Aerowaves Twenty20, and her latest work, *heartquake*, previously presented at KaaiStudios in Brussels as part of Moussem Cities: Istanbul, is currently on tour including these engagements in Ireland.

Ekin Tunçeli is an Aerowaves Twenty25 Artist.



Image: Kirill Vostokov

BENCH #6 PIT

Alex Vostokova
(Ireland)

Thursday 19 February: 7:30pm

Tickets: €15/€12 (€22 Festival pass)

Choreographer/Performer **Alex Vostokova**
DJ **Jack Colley**
Additional Music *Flying Columns* by
Local Gods

*Commissioned by CoisCéim Dance Theatre
as part of BENCH, a collection of short
original dance works, highlighting everyday
spaces as creative places.*
www.coisceim.com

**World Premiere - 10 July 2025,
Georges Dock, Dublin**

BENCH #6 Premiere Production Credits

Curator **David Bolger**
Filmmaker **Luca Truffarelli**
Production **Manager Barbara Hughes**
Technician **Chris Nolan**
Production Assistant **Elizabeth Jannetta**
Produced by **Sarah Latty / Bridget Webster**

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

Pit is about public space and the social, psychological, and ecological effects of modern urbanism. Set in an unspecified metropolis where concrete has purged all natural life, one defiant weed persists. The work blurs the lines between its fictional world and the reality of contemporary life, provoking audiences to reflect on the relationship between performance, power and pedestrian.

Company / Artist Bio:

Alex Vostokova is a dance artist, choreographer and director working across live performance, improvisation and film as well as teaching and facilitating in Ireland. An Associate Artist at Dance Limerick in 2024-2025, they have been supported by Arts Council and Dance Ireland. Alex explores how our environment impacts identity, with a focus on socio-cultural issues, surrealism, and the intersection of dance with other mediums. Their work invites curiosity about dance as a resilient art form as well as movement that isn't 'perfect' but rather emphasising that it is such a communal practice.



Image: Maurice Gunning

TRACES

The Parsley Collective (Ireland)

Friday 20 February: 7:30pm

Tickets: €15/€12 (€22 Festival pass)

Score for Improvisation **The Parsley Collective**

The Parsley Collective are Dance Artists in Residence in Dance Limerick 2025/26. The Residency is funded by The Arts Council, Dance Limerick, and Limerick City and County Council.

The physical body is only part of what matters for these five dancers. They also seek to draw attention to immaterial and invisible realms. What matters to them is 'emptying to receive'. Through movement and stillness they reveal impulses, images, and fragments of stories as they emerge through the density and porosity of their bodies and the space(s) they occupy. Visible. Invisible. Passing through...

Company / Artist Bio:

Established in 2023, The Parsley Collective comprises Mary Nunan, Angie Smalis, Rachel Sheil, Salma Ataya, and Isabella Oberländer. Individually and together, these dance artists work in the fields of choreography, performance, improvisation, interdisciplinary collaboration, writing, and education.



Image: Menyhert Hivessy

BABES

gergő d. farkas
(Hungary/Sweden)

Friday 20 February: 7:30pm

Tickets: €15/€12 (€22 Festival pass)

Choreography, performance, costume, scenography, text **gergő d. farkas**

Music **Márton Csernovszky**

Virtual objects **Balász Ágoston Kiss**

Costume, textile installation **sigge lissa**

Lights **M. Ali Dönmez**

Outside eye **Áron Birtalan, Anne Juren**

Web design **Dániel Kophelyi**

Writing coach **Alice Chauchat**

Premiere MDT **Moderna Dansteatern**

Thanks to Marie Fahlin, Karin Hauptmann, Veza Fernandez, Fredrik Heimdahl, Jennifer Lacey, Claire Lefevre, Levente Lukacs, Albin Svedlund, Jimmy Svensson, Petter Wennardt, Andrea Bánóczy & Tamás Halász (OSZMI - Országos Színháztörténeti Múzeum és Intézet), and the MDT crew.

Through a set of fantastic organs, *babes* introduces a sensuous world that doesn't stop at the body's borders. These organs don't have vital functions: their byproducts are dances, sounds, objects and poems - a gathering of lovers in lust for touch.

babes cultivates a space where fantasy does matter, matter does fantasy, and where sensual experiences are one's primary way of staying in touch with the world. *babes* is the prelude to farkas' first evening-length group piece *mama* and the first work created through *organ-ing*, a choreographic research which queers the body by weaving together fantasy with its physically felt sense.

Company / Artist Bio:

gergő d. farkas is a gathering of cells with a passion for choreography, dance, organisation, romance and mischief. Being lost in Stockholm, Budapest, Vienna or somewhere in between, they dream of belonging to sensual spaces where not only humans are invited to dance. Their choreographic work has been presented in venues and festivals such as Zürcher Theater Spektakel, Trafó House of Contemporary Arts, Dansehallerne, Open House Festival, MTD Legacy Festival, Dansmakers Amsterdam and MDT Moderna Dansteatern amongst others.

gergő d. farkas is an Aerowaves Twenty25 Artist.



Image: Patricio Cassinoni

CISEACH

AN EMBODIED MANIFESTO

Catherine Young
Dance in association with
Backstage Theatre
(Ireland)

Friday 1 May: 7.30pm

Tickets: €15 / €12

Duration: 60 mins

Warnings: Sudden loud noise; 10+

Director and choreographer **Catherine Young**
created in collaboration with:

Dramaturg **Hanna Slättne**

Music Director **Martin Schärer**

Dance Collaborators **Nana-YAA Appiah,**

Diarmuid Armstrong Mayock, Valentin

Lemaitre, Emily Nicolaou, Simone O'Toole,

Carmen Palacios Sáenz

Original music created in collaboration

Martin Schärer, Jess Kavanagh, Mícheál

O'Dubhghaill, Fionn O'Neill, Jon Sanders

(2026 tour: **Seanan Brennan**)

Set design **Sabine Dargent**

Lighting design **Sarah Jane Shiels**

Costume design **Cherie White**

Sound and sound design **Alan Kelly**

We are in shambles.

Ciseach is a pulsating contemporary incantation weaving together a tapestry of dance, rhythm, live music and voice that seeks to rekindle our broken relationship with the land. *Ciseach* looks to the body, to the collective, in search of a new path as the ground beneath us yields. This stirring work by Catherine Young Dance is an embodied manifesto – urging us to re-member, to re-connect with our past, with nature and with each other. Collecting fragments of native wisdoms, myths and kinships, the work pieces together possible futures to build the wattled causeway, the ciseach to guide us to solid ground.

Like *Floating on a Dead Sea* and *State of Exception*, *Ciseach* takes on the challenging stories of our time to deliver a thought-provoking experience that echoes long after the curtain draws.

Company / Artist Bio:

Catherine Young Dance is a company renowned for its physicality, musicality and the scale of its work. It holds a deep commitment to building community, to social justice and to working through dance to communicate vital stories and ideas, especially from those on the margins. CYD has toured nationally and internationally, notably *Floating on a Dead Sea* (2024), *A Call to You* (2023) and *Ultima Thule* (2016).

Funded by The Arts Council's Touring Award with support from Backstage Theatre & Kerry County Council. No trees were felled in the creation of this work and all set materials will be reused/upcycled.



Image: Deirdre Dwyer

THE ACT OF EXISTING

Croí Glan Integrated Dance Company (Ireland)

Fri 3 - Sat 4 July: 7.30pm

Tickets: €15 / €12

Duration: 60 mins

Choreographer **Phillip Connaughton**

Co-Artistic Directors **Tara Brandel, Bobbi Byrne**

Dancers **Bobbi Byrne, Oran Leong**

Producer / LD / PM **Gearóid O'hAllmhuráin**

Designer **Emily Ní Bhroin**

Composer **Frank Sweeney**

*Supported by The Arts Council, Dance Cork
Firkin Crane and Uillinn West Cork Arts Centre.*

The Act of Existing is a dance work exploring what happens when two artists willingly surrender to an audience's will. Through dance, as a declaration of fearless honesty, the work highlights how marginalised communities have been historically subjected to societal control, forced to conform, obey laws that don't protect them, or perform acceptability for safety. This theme is especially urgent in today's climate of rising far-right rhetoric.

The audience will decide how the artists behave, perform, and respond within clearly defined choreographic structures - leaving little room for autonomy. But this is not passive submission; it's a confrontation. By following every random task, the dancers expose the absurdity of control, the precariousness of autonomy, and the resilience of those who refuse to disappear.

Company / Artist Bio:

Croí Glan is Ireland's leading Integrated Dance Company, working with professional contemporary dancers with and without physical disabilities to produce bold, engaging, high calibre productions for national and international touring and associated participatory work. Based in West Cork, CG was EDI Company in Residence at Uillinn: West Cork Arts Centre 2022-25. Nominated Best Performance Ensemble Dublin Fringe 2012 and 2016. Recent works include *Tilt*, an outdoor aerial dance theatre work celebrated for its approach to EDI; *Armour Off* a multi award winning film; and *In Place* presented at IMMA in 2021.



CEIST RESIDENCY

Image: Jenny Tufts

CORMAC MOHALLY

Throw/Drop/Catch (Ireland)

Monday 19 - Friday 23 January

This emerging duet of Cormac Mohally and Jacob Anderson is the coming together of two of Ireland's premier jugglers. Both coming from contemporary circus backgrounds, they believe that juggling can be accessible and complex, enjoyable and frustrating, meaningful and pointless, and at all times, FUN! During this residency the duo will be guided in juggling composition by Ron Beer, and spend time investigating how physical theatre and movement can help develop juggling for audiences and performance.

Company / Artist Bio:

Cormac Mohally is a circus artist who has toured the world performing award winning comedy-dance acrobatics with Lords of Strut, wowed fans on Britain's Got Talent, and was co-star of *Body Brothers* on RTEjr. Recently his practice has had a focus on the combination of physical theatre and movement to create juggling for audiences..

Supported by an Arts Council Bursary Award. The pair have been supported to develop this work by the National Circus Festival of Ireland and Motion Chapel's Faoiseamh Residency, and received a Shared Island Micro Bursary from Cairde Festival and Festival of Fools.



CEIST RESIDENCY

Image: Zé Bateira

SIOBHÁN NÍ DHUINNÍN

Country OK (Ireland)

Thursday 5 - Friday 6 Feb, Thursday 5 - Friday 6 &
Thursday 19 - Friday 20 March

Led by choreographer Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín, *Country OK* is a dance performance project inspired by the foot-tapping, heart-wrenching songs of country music. In 2026, *Country OK* tours to Kerry, West Cork, Tipperary and Limerick. Siobhán and the creative team will be in residence to prepare to take the show on the road. At DCF, she will be working with dancers Grace Cuny, Molly Kelly, Sarah Ryan and Amir Sabra, plus an inter-generational cast of dancers in each location. Music will be provided by members of the Tan Jackets — Solamh Kelly, Cathal MacGabhann and Caoilian Sherlock, with Robbie Barron.

Company / Artist Bio:

Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín is a dance artist based in Cork city with a passion for place-based performance, improvisation and ecology. She enjoys a multidisciplinary and collaborative process and has created work with sean-nós singers, poets, geologists and visual artists. Siobhán is a member of Cork Dance Initiative and GIORRIA.

Commissioned by Cork Midsummer Festival, funded by the Arts Council. Supported by Dance Cork Firkin Crane, Uillinn West Cork Arts Centre, Cumas Ceantar Uíbh Ráthach, Tipperary Dance & Dance Limerick



CEIST RESIDENCY

Image: Maria Baranova

KATHY WESTWATER

but this stupendous
fragmentariness heightened
(USA)

Monday 9 - Friday 13 March

Showing: Friday 13 March, 6pm

Free event, booking requested.

A dance performance for four, *but this stupendous fragmentariness heightened* extends Kathy Westwater's exploration of her choreographic approach, in which the disorganised body destabilises dominant dance forms. Taking inspiration from the writings of cultural theorist Byung-Chul Han and his notion of an "aesthetics of disaster" – that without pain, illness, or disaster there could not be beauty - Westwater explores the relevance of beauty to contemporary existential experience.

Company / Artist Bio:

Kathy Westwater choreographs experimental dances, creating over ten major works since 1996. In 2023 at Chocolate Factory Theater in NYC she premiered *Revolver + Choreomaniacs*, described by The New York Times as "Revelatory". Westwater is a recipient of the Solange MacArthur Award for New Choreography, the first woman to receive the prize.

Created with support from Bronx Council on the Art, Dance NYC, La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club, American Dance Festival, and Dance Cork Firkin Crane.



CEIST RESIDENCY

Image: Matthew Thompson

FEARGHUS Ó CONCHÚIR

Dúiche: Cúinní an Ghorria
(Ireland)

Monday 20 - Friday 24 April

Don tréimhse chónaithe le DCFC, beidh Fearghus agus a chomhoibrithe ag déanamh forbartha ar *Dúiche*, tionscnamh a chuireann muinín i ngaois an rince le cúinní an ghiorria a chruthú don mbláthú is don gcaidreamh. In this residency, Fearghus and his creative collaborators will be working on *Dúiche*, a project that uses the wisdom of dance to create a hare's corner of flourishing and connection.

Fearghus will be working with dancers Oran Leong, Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín, Robert Bridger, Isabella Oberländer and Annie Hanauer.

Company / Artist Bio:

Fearghus Ó Conchúir is a choreographer, artistic director, performer and dance advocate. Frequently collaborating with experts from across and beyond the arts, he makes film and live performances that create frameworks for audiences and artists to build communities together. www.fearghus.net

Is buíochas leis na maoinitheoirí a leanas gur féidir linn an fhorbairt seo a dhéanamh | Dúiche: Cúinní an Ghorria is supported by The Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon, The Arts Office, Waterford City & County Council, Cork City Council, Ealaín na Gaeltachta, Dance Cork Firkin Crane, Cork Midsummer Festival, agus I gcomhphairtíocht le Chomhlucht Forbartha na nDéise.



RESEARCH RESIDENCY

Image: Vincent McClure

DALILA BELAZA

Un peu pour mon coeur
(France)

Monday 20 - Friday 24 April

Looking to deepen the research aspect of her creative process, Dalila Belaza is experimenting with a new kind of residency integrated directly into the production phase. This residency brings together the development of her new piece and the exploration of local bodily and vocal practices rooted in the region's history. *Un peu pour mon coeur...* opens a new chapter in Dalila's artistic journey, placing chorality at the centre of the work. The piece explores how the body, sound, breath, and collective presence can shape a shared choral narrative. Drawing on Belaza's long-standing exploration of ritual, memory, and vibration, the work seeks a common frequency where movement and sound merge into a single living organism.

Company / Artist Bio:

Dalila Belaza began her artistic journey alongside her sister and collaborator, choreographer Nacera Belaza. In 2020, she founded hiya compagnie. Her artistic research focuses on the connection between the memory of folkloric rituals and the language of contemporary dance. Past works include *Au cœur* (2021), *Figures* (2022), *Rive* (2023), and *Orage* (2025), presented at La Briqueterie – CDCN du Val-de-Marne, where she is an associated artist.



CEIST RESIDENCY

Image: Enrique Carnicero

HELGA DEASY

(Ireland/Germany)

September 2025 - June 2026

During her residency, Helga will investigate native Irish trees and their connection with ancient Celtic mythology and folklore through deep, active and engaged reciprocity between the human body and the natural world. In the face of the climate emergency, her aim is to investigate how a practice of dance and embodied awareness can create new ways of knowing and bring about perceptual transformation in how we relate to and connect with nature. In this research, Helga is working under the mentorship of renowned choreographer Rosemary Lee.

Company / Artist Bio:

Helga Deasy is a choreographer, dance artist and dance facilitator. Supported by the Arts Council, Cork City and County Councils and Culture Ireland, she has created a body of work presented nationally and internationally including dance ensemble performance productions, choreography for theatre and site-specific works with a socially engaged focus.

This residency is kindly supported by an Arts Council Dance Bursary



Image: Stephanie Keane, photo by Marcin Lewandowski



Image: Inclusive Dance Cork, photo by Marcin Lewandowski

APPLY FOR A RESIDENCY

Dance Cork Firkin Crane offers Ceist residencies each year to local and international artists. These residencies provide space for creative investigation to develop ideas, projects and collaborations. They offer a pressure-free environment without the expectation of delivering a finished product.

Applications for September to November 2026 open in Spring. Please keep an eye on dancecorkfirkincrane.ie for info and updates.

INCLUSIVE DANCE CORK

Inclusive Dance Cork (IDC) is a training programme for people with and without disabilities who are interested in learning inclusive dance methods. It is designed for dancers to explore expressive movement and discuss a variety of ways to dance, facilitate, and support dancers of all abilities. The IDC team is led by Artistic Director Rhona Coughlan and Project Coordinator Louisa Sloan.

Please keep an eye on dancecorkfirkincrane.ie for updates.

PROFESSIONAL CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Dance Cork Firkin Crane offers a regular programme of Professional Classes, Workshops and training opportunities throughout the year.

PROFESSIONAL CLASSES

Upcoming Professional Classes on Thursday mornings include guest teachers **Yves Lorrhan on 15 January, Irish Modern Dance Theatre on 22 January** and **Mariah Maloney on 29 January.**

CATCH WORKSHOP SERIES

In June, we will welcome back the Catch Workshop Series - an intensive programme focused on training and creation for professional dancers curated by Luke Murphy | Attic Projects, Cork City Dance Artist in Residence. This year's faculty of choreographers include Seppe Baeyens, Maxine Doyle, Laja Field and more to be announced.

Keep an eye on dancecorkfirkincrane.ie for additional Professional Classes and Catch Workshop Series announcements.



A Light Dance Between Shadow and Glow by Yuan-Wen Wang

CRANE VISUAL

ROTATE(R): 1000 WORKS THAT NEED TO BE SEEN

Monday 19 January - Saturday 14 March

Rotate(R) is a continually changing exhibition that brings one thousand artworks into the public realm. Works are added, removed, and rehung, creating new constellations each time you visit. Inverting the typical open-call group exhibition model, this project seeks to maximise space, time, and impact, reflecting the true abundance of Irish visual-arts studio life. An open, welcoming space to encounter a wide range of artists ideas, and practices.

FRAGMENTS OF BECOMING Yuan-Wen Wang

April - May

Yuan-Wen Wang is an artist originally from Taiwan who has been living in Barcelona since 2008. Her abstract paintings merge her Asian roots with the diverse cultural influences of her life in Spain. Guided by movement, landscape, and the shifting textures of inner experience, this new body of works that make up *Fragments of Becoming* captures the fluidity of change and the impermanence of time.



Still from *Dancing Dreams* by Pina Bausch

CINE CLUB: DANCE ON FILM

Curated by Luke Murphy | Attic Projects,
Cork City Dance Artist in Residence

Free screenings, booked requested.

Suggested donation of €5 welcome.

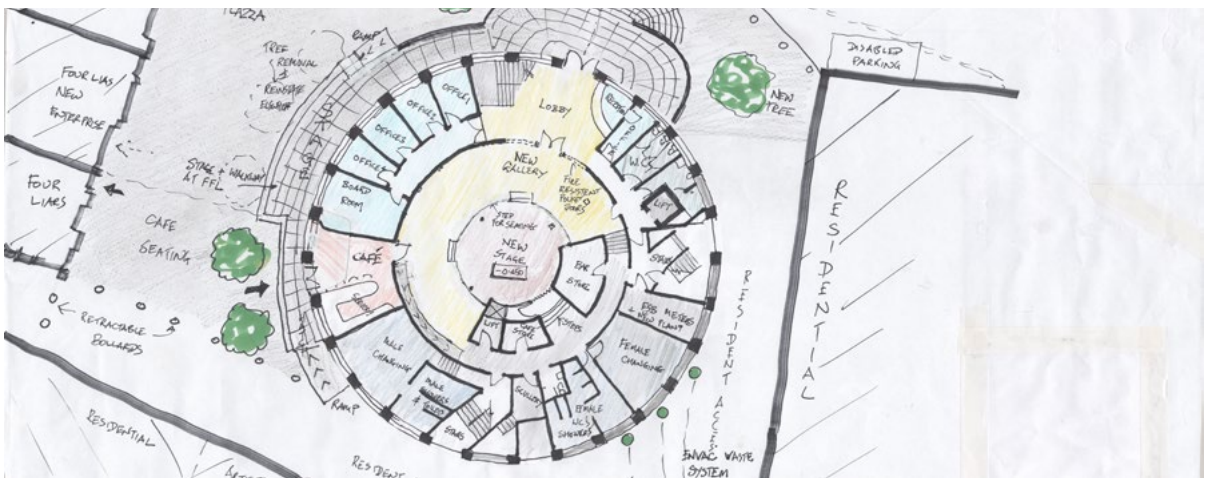
Continuing our evening of dance film screenings on the first Thursday of the month, we are thrilled to announce our spring 2026 titles. Join us for an informal, relaxed night of short and feature-length dance films (and popcorn).

Thursday 5 February, 7.30pm
Dancing Dreams by Pina Bausch (Germany)

Thursday 5 March, 7.30pm
Horrible Creature by Áine Stapleton (Ireland)

Thursday 2 April, 7.30pm
Strange Fish by DV8 Physical Theatre (UK)

Thursday 7 May, 7.30pm
Double Bill:
Dance Stories by Laura Murphy (Ireland)
and *Risa* by Kate Weare (USA)



Vision for the future of Firkin Crane drawing by Chris Southgate, Conservation Engineer and Director of Southgate Associates.

FUTURE-PROOFING THE FIRKIN CRANE

Anyone who visited Dance Cork Firkin Crane this past year — especially during Storms Isha, Éowyn, and again this past November probably encountered a puddle or two. The roof, installed in the 1980s after a fire, had long outlived its lifespan. Under the leadership of Board Chair Yvonne Coughlan and the Board, and with the work of Technical Manager Seamus Hegarty and General Manager Kathleen Aleton, DCFC secured capital grants from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (€50,000) and Cork City Council (€50,000). Further support came from the Machamer Charitable Fund of The Ireland Funds (€10,000) and Ward Funds from Cllrs Dan Boyle, Brian McCarthy and John Sheehan. These grants plus a Cork City Council loan (€78,000) have enabled us to engage Heritage Architect Christopher Southgate and Redmond Building and Restoration Ltd (RBR) to replace the roof.

With a Community Heritage Grant from The Heritage Council (€18,000), Southgate Associates also drafted a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the building, mapping future improvements and maintenance that will enhance the experience of all who use the Firkin Crane.

This support arrives at a key moment as Dance Cork Firkin Crane grows under the Arts Council of Ireland’s Strategic Funding strand and welcomes more artists, young people, and audiences into its studios and theatres.

While we love, and know you love, this wonderfully quirky 1850s building, these works will help us move safely (and warmly) into the next 50 years. Our sincere thanks to our funders, partners, engineers, and the skilled builders helping protect this cultural landmark.

As we carry out this essential work, we continue to fundraise to meet remaining costs and ensure our building stays a safe, inspiring space for years to come. We hope you’ll consider supporting these efforts.

Your gift transforms Cork’s dancers, creators, and communities by turning Ireland’s most iconic dance space into a powerhouse for bold new voices and unforgettable artistic experiences.

For more information on the Fundraising Campaign or to become a donor, please visit dancecorkfirkincrane.ie.



Image: Marcin Lewandowski

LET'S BE FRIENDS

As a non-profit organisation, Dance Cork Firkin Crane relies on the support of many different Government agencies, organisations and individuals to develop and support dance in Cork.

This means that Your Gift Counts!

By becoming a Dance Cork Firkin Crane Friend, you can help us to support dance and dance artists in Cork, and enjoy some great benefits at the same time.

As our Friend, you'll join a culturally curious community interested in exploring dance with us. Our Friends have access to the latest news first, invitations to launches and openings, ticket offers and exclusive access to behind-the-scenes action.

You can choose the level of annual support and involvement that suits you. Benefits include discounted and complimentary tickets, invitations, and special events.

Dance Ally €50

Dance Advocate €100

Dance Ambassador €200

So what are you waiting for? Sign up at dancecorkfirkin Crane.ie/support today! If you'd like more information, please contact laurie@firkin Crane.ie / 021 4507487.

www.dancecorkfirkin Crane.ie

DANCE CORK FIRKIN CRANE

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Yvonne Coughlan (*Chair*)

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Evelyne Legaux

Cllr Seán Martin

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Housekeeping Cáitlin O'Driscoll

Inclusive Dance Cork Artistic Director Rhona Coughlan

Inclusive Dance Cork Project Co-ordinator Louisa Sloan

Located in a heritage building in Shandon, Cork's north city centre, DANCE CORK FIRKIN CRANE specialises in supporting dance artists, presenting dance performances and encouraging people in Cork to engage with dance of all kinds.

www.dancecorkfirkincrane.ie

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