

CORK MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL

12 - 23 JUNE 2024



HOW TO BOOK

ONLINE

From 2 May
www.corkmidsummer.com

For box office enquiries contact
info@corkmidsummer.com

BY PHONE

From 6 May (Mon-Fri)
From 10 June (daily)
+21 4215159

IN PERSON

From 10 June
(11.30am – 6pm),
Festival box office in
Merchant's Quay
Shopping Centre

Booking fees apply on all tickets online or by phone through the festival box office (€1, with exceptions for venues including The Everyman and Cork Opera House which may charge venue-specific booking fees). Ticket concessions are available for children (18 years and under), students, senior citizens (65 years and over only with identification) and registered disabled/unwaged (available with appropriate ID). See www.corkmidsummer.com for full terms and conditions. For venue specific terms and conditions, please see the venue websites.

EARLY BIRD, LIKE


Want the best ticket prices? All events have a limited amount of early bird tickets available for certain performances at €10 – these are likely to sell out fast so to confirm your festival line-up at the lowest prices, book early!


PARKING


We have partnered with Q-Park to provide an exclusive discount at their safe and secure car parks in Cork. Pre-book online and use promo code CMF2024 to receive 15% discount on the online prices. Pre-book online at www.q-park.ie.


ACCESS


This year the festival is providing access details about its sites and venues:

 Events marked with this symbol are wheelchair accessible

 Events marked with this symbol use an Assistive Listening System

 Events marked with this symbol will be performed using ISL

 Events marked with this symbol will have Live Captions.

 Events marked with this symbol will have live verbal explanation for visually impaired audiences

The brochure includes the symbols above for relevant shows and events. If you need any further assistance regarding accessibility, please contact Susan Holland, Head of Participation and Engagement at susan@corkmidsummer.com. The festival brochure is also available as a PDF which can be used as a large print version – contact info@corkmidsummer.com for a copy.

WELCOME TO CORK MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL

We are so thrilled to present the 2024 programme for Cork Midsummer Festival! For 12 days the city will become the stage for an unmissable line up of exciting events. As well as theatres and galleries, the Festival will take place in a range of unusual places including; performances, installations, immersive experiences, shows in nightclubs, parades through the streets, social dances in halls, ping pong tournaments in a gallery, shows in swimming pools, music in a butcher's shop, a céilí at the fort, dance shows in warehouses, aerial shows in derelict buildings, adventures in woods, theatre for just one, secret gigs, music until the early hours, and plenty more!

We are premiering work from an eclectic and diverse range of impressive Irish and international artists this year, with award-winning, five-star shows spanning genres; circus, aerial performance, family shows, theatre, visual art, spectacle and live art. Our participatory programme will present co-created projects that have been developed throughout the year, connecting artists and communities to produce thrilling, new and inspiring productions and events that we are so proud to feature. Alongside this, we are delighted to present new work by some of Cork's most exciting emerging artists.

The Festival is rooted in Cork and in the arts and cultural venues and institutions of the city with whom we work with year-round to plan, develop and present this extraordinary programme, the Festival wouldn't be possible without these collaborations. A big thank you to our core funders the Arts Council and Cork City Council, as well as Fáilte Ireland and our individual programme funders, sponsors, partners and friends for their constant support.

We can't wait to welcome our brilliant audiences to this year's festival – without our curious, engaged and risk-taking audiences, both those returning year on year and the new faces taking the plunge for the first time, the festival would not be the same.

Take some time to read through the following pages and pick out your favourites – try something new and different, something that you won't see anywhere else. We're so looking forward to it all. So get out there, support the work, buy tickets and tell your friends all about it!

The Festival Team

Cork Midsummer Festival would not be possible without the generous support of:

PRINCIPAL FUNDERS



FUNDERS



EVENT FUNDERS / SPONSORS



MEDIA PARTNERS



ACCOMMODATION PARTNERS



OFFICIAL BEER SPONSOR LAUNCH SPONSOR TRANSPORT LEAD ACCOMMODATION



PROGRAMME PARTNERS



A NOTE FROM OUR BOARD

Greetings everyone, and welcome to Cork Midsummer Festival 2024! We're thrilled to unveil yet another captivating line-up of experiences and events for our cherished Cork city.

At a time marked by ongoing local and global challenges, we take immense pride in being part of such a resilient, dynamic and supportive creative community. The Board of Cork Midsummer Festival and I extend our heartfelt gratitude to the remarkable festival team, under the leadership of Director Lorraine Maye and Acting Director Rose-Anne Kidney, whose unwavering dedication has brought this year's festival to fruition.

From ground-breaking new works to acclaimed performances, from captivating street spectacles to community-driven creations, the festival remains deeply rooted in the spirit of our city and its people. This year's programme offers opportunities for active engagement while nurturing artists at every stage of their journey, providing a distinctive platform for both Irish and international talents to shine.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our principal funders, the Arts Council and Cork City Council, as well as our numerous sponsors, patrons, and supporters – your steadfast support is essential to our vision for Cork Midsummer Festival.

As you immerse yourself in this cultural celebration, we invite you to savour each moment and embrace the richness of the events and experiences on offer.

Ruairí O'Connor
Chair

FRIENDS

Cork Midsummer Festival is back for another edition, but we can't do it without your help. Along with the support of our brilliant funders and partners, we rely on our Friends and Patrons to help us make extraordinary events happen for everyone. You'll be helping to strengthen one of Cork city's most important events and your support will allow us to get a head start on some amazing projects for next year. Become a Friend or Patron and be at the heart of the Cork Midsummer Festival experience, receiving a range of benefits, special offers, and discounts as well as access to priority booking to grab the best seats and secure tickets to events likely to sell out. Sign up today at corkmidsummer.com!

Platinum Patron



Gold Patrons



Silver Patrons

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Festival Friends

Marie Baker
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Thomas Creed
Marjorie Farrelly
Catherine Kirwan
Jamie Monagan
Muireann Ni Shuilleabhain
Lorraine O'Sullivan
The Dean Hotel



NOW AND NEW

World-class performance,
art and bold new work

Cork Midsummer Festival and National Sculpture Factory

THIS YOUIIYOU

TINO SEHGAL

Renowned artist Tino Sehgal's *This youiiyou* pays tribute to the bonds of care and love between generations – between child and guardian – in this fleeting constructed situation between infants and their parents.

Created in 2023 in dialogue with El Greco's *The Adoration of the Shepherds*, *This youiiyou* transforms and expands that tribute to life itself by honouring the birth of children and those that care for them. Parents and infants participate together as voice, rhythm, body language and affections that create an inspiring live encounter between the spectator and those enacting the work.

Critically acclaimed artist Tino Sehgal is known worldwide for his artistic practice of 'constructed situations' between visitors and participants. A previous winner of prizes such as the Golden Lion at the Venice Biennale and the Hans Molfenter Prize, Sehgal has exhibited in some of the world's biggest galleries from Tate Modern in London to New York's Guggenheim, Palais de Tokyo in Paris to Hong Kong's Tai Kwun.

"[the room] has never before been so empty of things and so full of sensations and intangible experiences ... everything experienced seems beautiful from the first minute"

ABC on *This youiiyou*

"Sehgal's art evokes passionate reactions"
The New York Times on Tino Sehgal's work

"He has created some of the most affecting exhibitions of the past couple of decades"
The Guardian

Millennium Hall

18 June 2pm–7pm (preview)

19–21 June 2pm–7pm

22 & 23 June 12–5pm

Drop in to experience this live installation involving children and their parents

Free

IMAGE: THE ADORATION OF THE SHEPHERDS, EL GRECO, COURTESY OF FUNDACION BOTIN



ALTER

KAMCHÀTKA

World-renowned outdoor theatre makers Kamchàtka take you on a late-night journey to a secret location for an unforgettable experience of joy, hope, and surrealism.

Seven characters appear, each carrying their own suitcase. Who are they, what are their stories? *Alter* is a journey into the heart of night in search of a shared humanity – a beautiful performance about life, and the stories we carry with us.

Kamchàtka, an extraordinary award-winning collective of international artists, first came together in Barcelona in 2006, and previously performed at Cork Midsummer Festival in 2018. They create powerful award-winning outdoor theatre, drawing audiences in to their world through silent gestures, exploring themes of migration and displacement.

“Takes immersive theatre to the next level” *The Guardian on Alter*

“You are slowly immersed in another place and emerge with an extra set of eyes”
10 best shows of 2023, *The Observer*

Nominated for the Critics' Choice Award 2022

Winner of the MAX Prize 2022
'Best Street Theatre Show'

Meeting point – city centre
14–16 June

10pm

€18/€15

150 mins

12+ accompanied by parents/guardians

City centre meeting point will be sent to ticket holders in advance.

Please note this performance is not wheelchair accessible as it involves walking outdoors at night on rough terrain; appropriate footwear and clothing is advised

PHOTO: JEAN ALEXANDER LAHOŠINSKY



Cork Midsummer Festival and The Everyman

GOOD SEX

DEAD CENTRE WITH EMILIE PINE

Every night, two brand new actors will try to answer a question: How do you have sex on stage? How do you even have sex?

Acclaimed masters of innovative theatre Dead Centre, with award-winning writer Emilie Pine, present a sublimely funny love story for a loveless age.

Each show will feature two new performers – some of the best actors in the country – to tell a story of desire, betrayal and loneliness. They have not rehearsed, and have never read the script.

But they are not alone – to help and guide them they're joined by an Intimacy Director, trained in the art of teaching people how to touch.

So you can rest assured that the sex will be safe. It will be consensual. And it will be good.

Dead Centre is an award-winning theatre company in Dublin, founded in 2012. Their work has premiered in Dublin, Vienna, Berlin and Gothenburg, and toured the world including to the USA, Hong Kong, South Korea, Australia, France, Estonia, Holland, Romania, Italy, and UK. Dead Centre's previous productions include *LIPPY*, *Chekhov's First Play*, *Hamnet*, *Beckett's Room*, *To Be a Machine (Version 1.0)* and *To Be a Machine (Version 2.0)*. *Good Sex* is the company's first presentation in Cork.

★★★★★

"Beguiling, chaotic, hilarious and profound ... a brilliant, vital piece of theatre"

Irish Examiner

★★★★★

"Raw, unsettling, seductive, provocative ... and very, very funny"

The Irish Times

The Everyman**20–23 June**

8pm (20–22 June), 3pm (23 June)

€26/€22

70 mins

16+ | Strong language and scenes of a sexual nature throughout

Good Sex is a Dead Centre production supported by the Arts Council | An Chomhairle Ealaíon. The show premiered in 2022 as part of Dublin Theatre Festival.

Text by Dead Centre with Emilie PineDirector **Ben Kidd**Dramaturg **Bush Moukarzel**Featuring **Liv O'Donoghue, Alexandra Conlon, Barry McKiernan**Onstage Crew **Ciarán Murphy, Emma-Kate O'Reilly**Stage Design **Aedin Cosgrove**Lighting Design **Stephen Dodd**Sound Design and Music **Jenny O'Malley**Costume Design **Mae Leahy**Intimacy Directors **Abigail Kessel and Sue Mythen**

PHOTO: SIE MURRAY

Cork Midsummer Festival and Sugarglass

TEMPESTA

DEIRDRE KINAHAN

New theatre from Deirdre Kinahan, one of Ireland's best loved contemporary playwrights, with a score composed and performed live by Steve Wickham (The Waterboys).

Two Dubliners caught up in the onslaught of war in 1930s Europe navigate the storm of love that surrounds them. Inspired by real events in Ireland and Spain as war looms, from the jazz clubs of Dublin to the battlefields of Catalonia, *Tempesta* is an homage to the majesty of the human heart in the face of great evil – and a reminder that sometimes, when faced with catastrophe, the only choice is to turn and fight.

Deirdre Kinahan is an award winning playwright, working in theatre since 1997. Plays include *The Saviour*, *An Old Song*, *Half Forgotten*, *The Unmanageable Sisters*, *Rathmines Road*, *Halcyon Days*, *Moment* and *Bogboy*. Her work is produced by companies and venues such as The Abbey Theatre, Landmark Productions, Fishamble, The Old Vic (London), Irish Repertory Company (New York), Solas Nua (Washington), Staatstheatre Mainz (Germany). She is published by Nick Hern Books.

Originally developed at Glass Mask Theatre, Dublin.

"Stunningly crafted performances ... wildly romantic and deeply moving"
The Arts Review

The Pav
Preview 14 June 7pm
16–19 June 7pm
20 June 6.30pm
22 June 6.30pm
23 June 5pm
€20/€18

Written by **Deirdre Kinahan**
Directed by **Marc Atkinson Borull**
Set and Costume Design by **Molly O'Cathain**
Original music written and performed by **Steve Wickham** (The Waterboys)
Lighting Design by **John Gunning**
Sound Design by **Martha Knight**
Stage Manager **Michael Greene**
Company Producer **Cally Shine**

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE IRISH EXAMINER PICTURE ARCHIVE



Cork Midsummer Festival and Dance Cork Firkin Crane

PARADISE LOST

(LIES UNOPENED BESIDE ME)

LOST DOG

An award-winning re-telling of the creation of everything inspired by Milton's *Paradise Lost* – told through words, music and movement.

Hailed by The Guardian as one of the best dance performances of the 21st century, this one-man show is for anyone who has created anything (child, garden, paper aeroplane) and then watched it spiral out of control. Conceived, directed and performed by Ben Duke, who brings vividly to life the often forgotten and misunderstood story from the rebellion of the angels to the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden.

Lost Dog is an award-winning dance/theatre company based in rural East Sussex and led by Artistic Director Ben Duke who finds the ordinary in the extraordinary, making classic works entirely relatable to modern audiences, seeing tragedy and comedy in the everyday - genuine, laugh-out-loud entertainment, while also breaking hearts.

Winner of the National Dance Critic's Award for Outstanding Male Performance for Ben Duke.

"An enchanting and very funny show"
The Independent

"A brilliant dance theatre ode to the clumsy and crushing art of creation"
The List

★★★★★ The Independent
★★★★★ The Evening Standard
★★★★★ The Observer

Dance Cork Firkin Crane
21 & 22 June 6.30pm
€22/€18
75mins
13+ Strong language

Conceived, directed and performed by **Ben Duke**
Associate Artist **Raquel Meseguer Zafe**
Light & Set Design **Jackie Shemesh**
Production Manager **David Sherman**
Executive Producer **Daisy Drury**
Producer **Emma Evans**

Originally created in 2015. Co-commissioned by The Place and Battersea Arts Centre with further commissioning support from The Point, Eastleigh and South East Dance. Supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

PHOTO: ZOE MANDERS





Cork Midsummer Festival and Cork Opera House

NIGHT DANCES

EMMA MARTIN / UNITED FALL

An exhilarating and ferocious performance of pure dance and live music at the Marina Market warehouse.

Created by acclaimed choreographer Emma Martin to a pounding soundtrack by Daniel Fox (Gilla Band).

A celebration of dance culture – from clubs to competitions to ceremonies – and a sweaty love letter to dance in all its forms. Through raucous choreography and rumbling bass that reverberates in your belly, *Night Dances* revels in fury, rebellion, hope and freedom. It unleashes the exhilaration of getting lost in your own rhythm where nothing else matters, just the sweat and the groove.

Choreographer Emma Martin's work spans artforms - often combining different disciplines to create distinct visual universes with each piece, and always with a raw style of dance as its heart. This is the first presentation of the company's work in Cork.

★★★★★

"Joy and release ... a thrilling hour of relentless dancing and music"
The Irish Times

★★★★★

"Served up with all-consuming passion ... a spiritual connection with the music"
The Scotsman

PHOTO: SIE MURRAY

Warehouse @ Marina Market

13 – 15 June

8.30pm

€24/€22

60 mins

Loud music and strobe lighting

Created by **Emma Martin**

(in collaboration with the dancers)

Music by **Daniel Fox** (Gilla Band)

Performers **Robyn Byrne, Aoife McAtamney, Ryan O'Neill, Jessie Thompson, Dance Republic**

Designer **Katie Davenport**

Lighting Designer **Stephen Dodd**

Band **Daniel Fox, Jamie Hyland, Brian Dillon**

Co-produced by Dublin Theatre Festival.

Supported by by the Arts Council with additional support from VISUAL Carlow, Empire Dance Academy, Dance Republic Carlow and Studio 85.

Cork Midsummer Festival and Cork Opera House

THEATRE FOR ONE: THIS IRELAND

LANDMARK PRODUCTIONS AND OCTOPUS THEATRICALS

Part confessional, part peep-show booth, and completely visceral, 12 short plays will be performed by one actor for one audience member at a time in a purpose-built booth located on Emmet Place.

Returning following its triumphant Irish premiere at Cork Midsummer Festival 2019, *Theatre for One: This Ireland* features the six original writers (Marina Carr, Stacey Gregg, Emmet Kirwan, Louise Lowe, Mark O'Rowe and Enda Walsh), working with an electric line-up of new writers (Iseult Deane, Susannah Al Fraihat, Aoibhéann McCann, Joy Nesbitt, Ois O'Donoghue and Aoife Delany Reade), whose short plays were selected from a nationwide public call-out.

One booth, 12 voices and a uniquely intimate experience for each audience member.

Conceived and created by the Olivier and Tony Award-winning designer Christine Jones, and constructed by LOT-EK architects, each original 5-minute play is written specifically for this specially-designed, state-of-the-art theatre for one actor and one audience member at a time. It's completely free – no tickets required – just join the queue.

★★★★★

The Irish Examiner

★★★★★

"An exhilarating sense of aliveness"

The Guardian

"If live theatre is an intimate artform, this is like theatre distilled to its purest, most intense version and injected directly into the vein"

The Irish Times

Emmet Place

15–23 June (excl. 17 June)

1pm–8pm (15 & 16 June)

12pm–8pm (18–21 June)

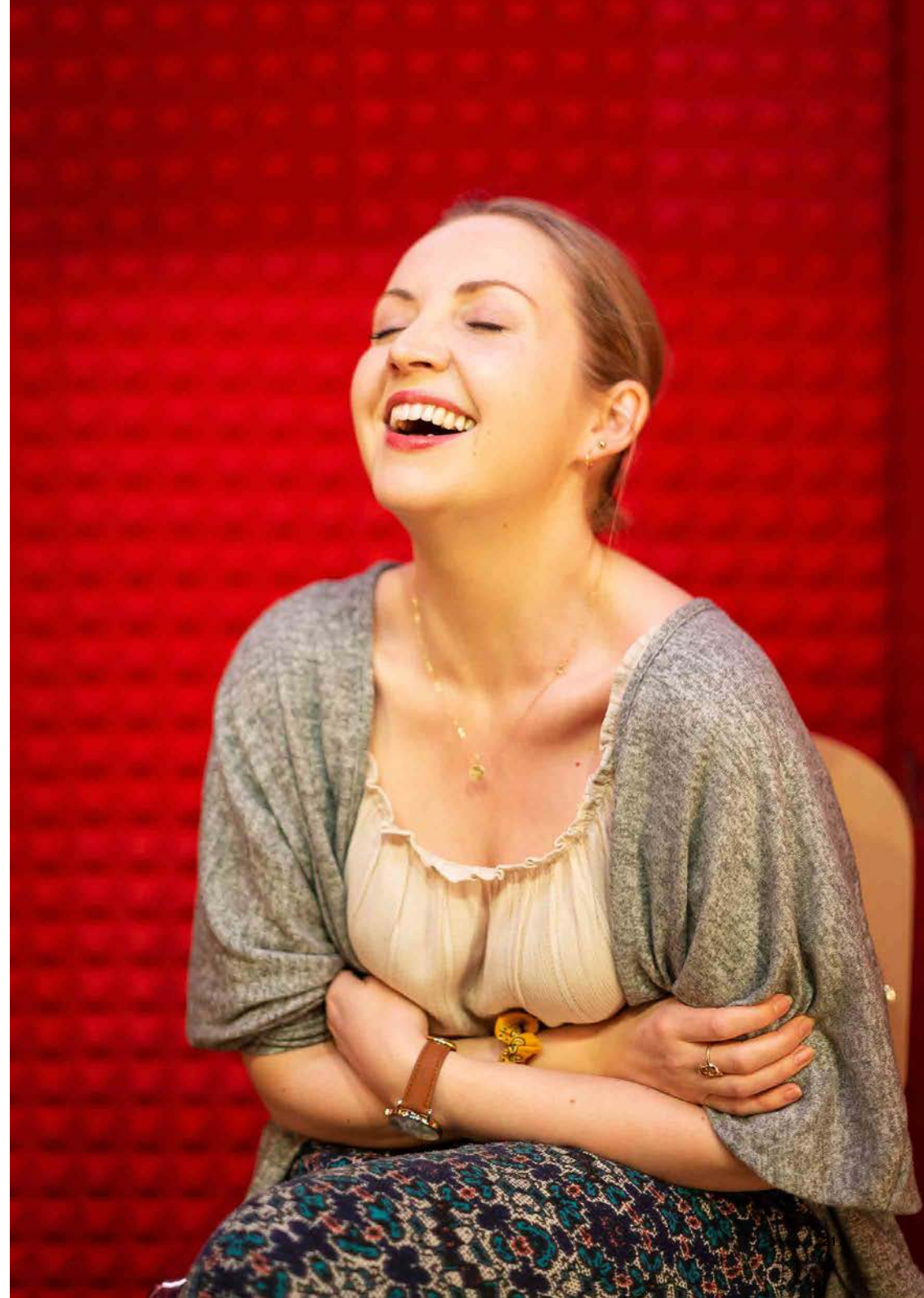
10am–8pm (22–23 June)

Free

10 mins

Supported by The Arts Council.

PHOTO: JED NIEZGODA



The Glucksman, UCC, TEST SITE and Cork Midsummer Festival

THE SUN AND ONLY!

ISADORA EPSTEIN

A new performance and outdoor exhibition by artist Isadora Epstein about weather lore and classical mythology, presented as a weather report with a surprising forecast...

Curated by Chris Clarke and commissioned by the Glucksman, music and visual art bring together forgotten and familiar stories of the sun – from Icarus' melty wings to the shepherd's delight of a red sky at night. Taking place at TEST SITE, an urban research initiative situated on Kyril's Quay in Cork City dedicated to the examination and promotion of sustainable social engagement within the built environment, the exhibition of interactive set pieces will be open for audiences to view in the garden spaces – even with all this talk of the sun, there's always a chance of rain.

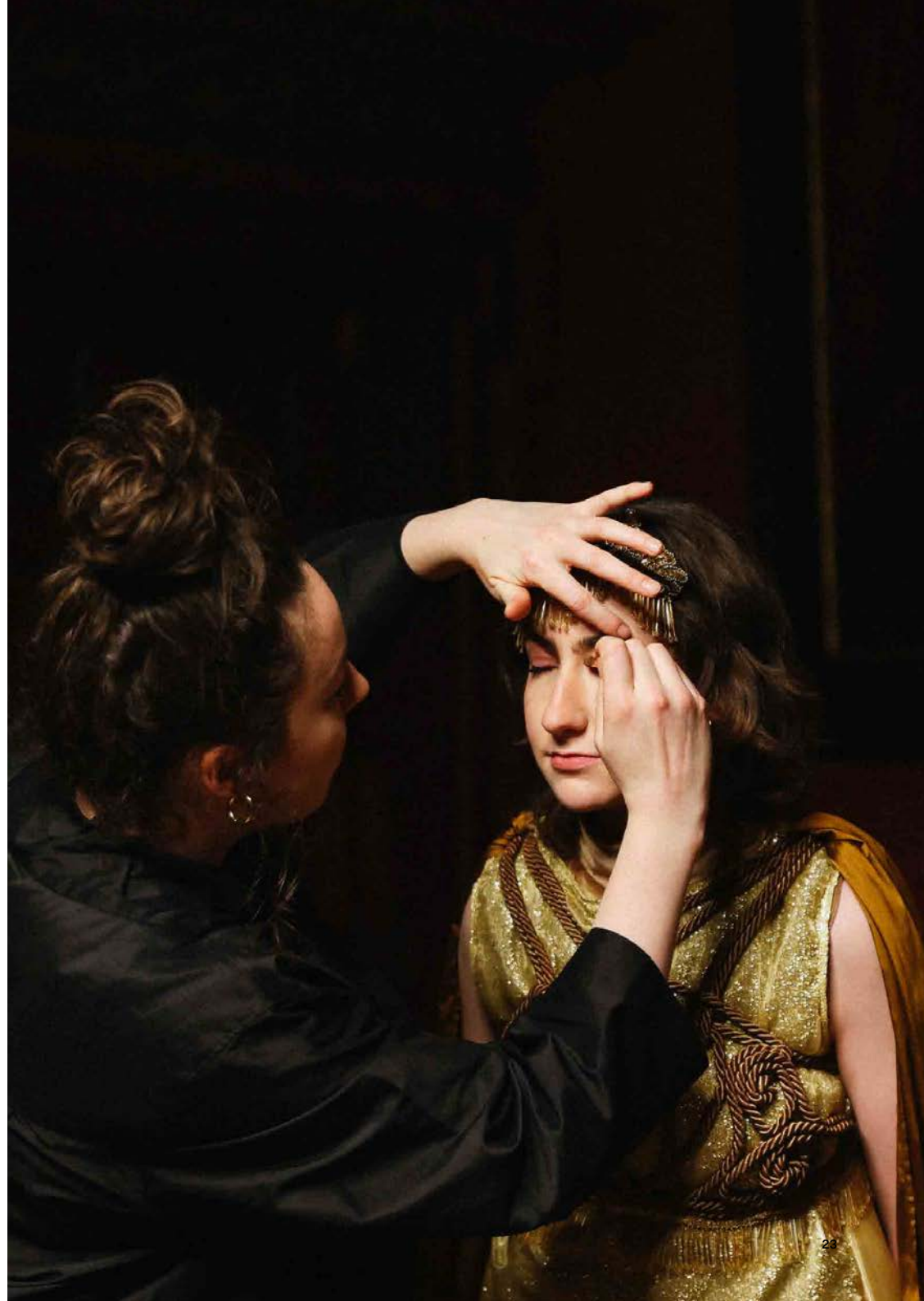
Isadora Epstein makes performances from her research of art history and mythology. Epstein has previously performed works at the Hugh Lane Gallery, the Douglas Hyde Gallery, Sirius Arts Centre, and IMMA. Her work brings together an ensemble of artists working in visual art and music. Costumes by artist Amie Egan become weather patterns and set pieces, alongside performances by musicians Méabh McKenna and Sarah Grimes.

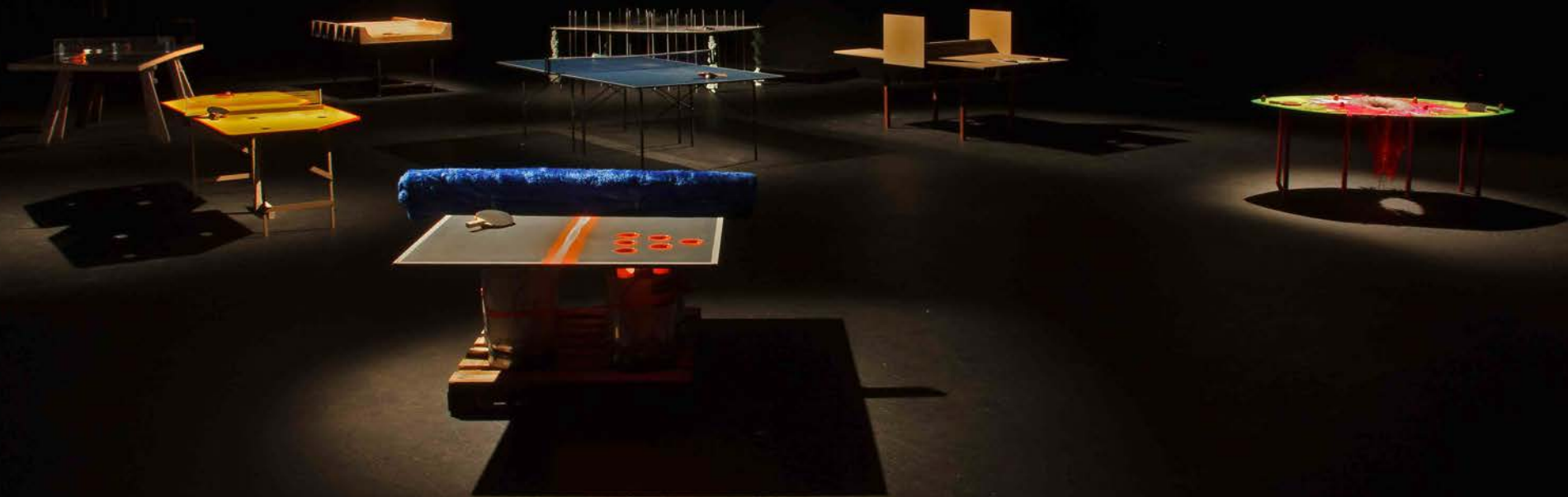
TEST SITE, Kyril's Quay
15 & 16 June
4pm
Free
40 mins
Booking via glucksman.org

Performed by **Isadora Epstein, Sarah Grimes, Méabh McKenna**
Costume Design by **Amie Egan**
Production and Set Design by **Millie Egan**
Curated by **Chris Clarke**

Supported by the Arts Council. Commissioned by The Glucksman and University College Cork.

PHOTO: CAIT FAHNEY





Crawford Art Gallery

WIFF WAFF IS PLAYING AT MY GAFF*

CURATED BY DAVEY MOOR

**Table tennis with an (unhinged) twist!
King Ping Pong and the Crazy Tables
comes to Cork for the very first time.**

Play artist-made Crazy Tables from the National Novelty Ping Pong Table Collection, installed as an interactive exhibition in Crawford Art Gallery, which have amused (and frustrated) participants and spectators alike since King Ping Pong started commissioning them. If you think your table tennis talent is up to scratch, watch out for surprise pop-up tournaments!

King Ping Pong is the fever-dream of curator Davey Moor. (*And 'Wiff Waff' is an old name for table tennis!)

PHOTO: DAVEY MOOR

**Crawford Art Gallery
13 June–7 July**

10am–5pm
(Thursdays 10am–8pm, Sundays 11am–4pm)
Free

**Thursday 13 June, 5pm–7pm
Visual Art Workers Tournament**

**Saturday 15 June, 2pm–4pm
Cruinniú na nÓg Challenge**

The Everyman and The Ark

THE SUMMER I ROBBED A BANK

MARK DOHERTY, adapted from the book BY DAVID O'DOHERTY

David O'Doherty's award-winning book for children is brought to life in this colourful, moving and hilarious stage adaptation.

12-year-old Rex has to spend his summer holidays on Achill Island and he doesn't quite know what to make of such a mad place and its wacky characters. Little does he know his holiday is about to get a whole lot more exciting: his eccentric Uncle Derm is hatching his most hare-brained plan yet! A madcap robbery, plenty of sheep and a summer of discoveries are just some of the things in store for Rex.

Adapted for the stage by Mark Doherty and directed by Sophie Motley, come meet Rex, his new friend Kitty and the gang by their side – this might just be the summer adventure of a lifetime.

The Everyman

15 June 12pm & 4pm

16 June 2pm

€15 (€50 for family of 4)

60 mins approx.

7+

There will be an ISL-interpreted performance and audio-described performance with touch tour, on Sunday 16 June. To book tickets, headset for our audio-described performance and place on the touch tour, email access@everymancork.com, or call 021 450 1780.

From the book by David O'Doherty,

adapted by Mark Doherty

Director Sophie Motley

Associate Director Katrina Foley

Set and Lighting Design Sarah Jane Shiels

Costume Design Valentina Gambardella

Sound Design Arran MacGabhann

AV Designer and Illustrator Neil O'Driscoll

Commissioned by The Ark and The Everyman.



Graffiti Theatre Company and Once Off Productions
in association with Cork Opera House

GRACE

JODY O'NEILL

A new play for young people and families, *Grace* tells the story of a girl who has a relationship with her father where no words are needed. In fact, *Grace* doesn't use words to speak at all. When her father dies suddenly, *Grace* needs to find a new way to communicate.

'A ghost, a sparrow, a mother and a girl. Love doesn't need words. You can just feel it.'

This exciting new production explores the universal themes of grief and communication as *Grace* and her father invite you into the multisensory landscape of *Grace*'s world.

*Words offered by Fiacre Ryan (author of *Speechless*) in response to his reading of *Grace*.

Written by UCC and Cork Opera House Theatre Artist-in-Residence, Jody O'Neill (*What I (Don't) Know About Autism*) and directed by Niall Cleary (*Humans: A Robot Musical*).

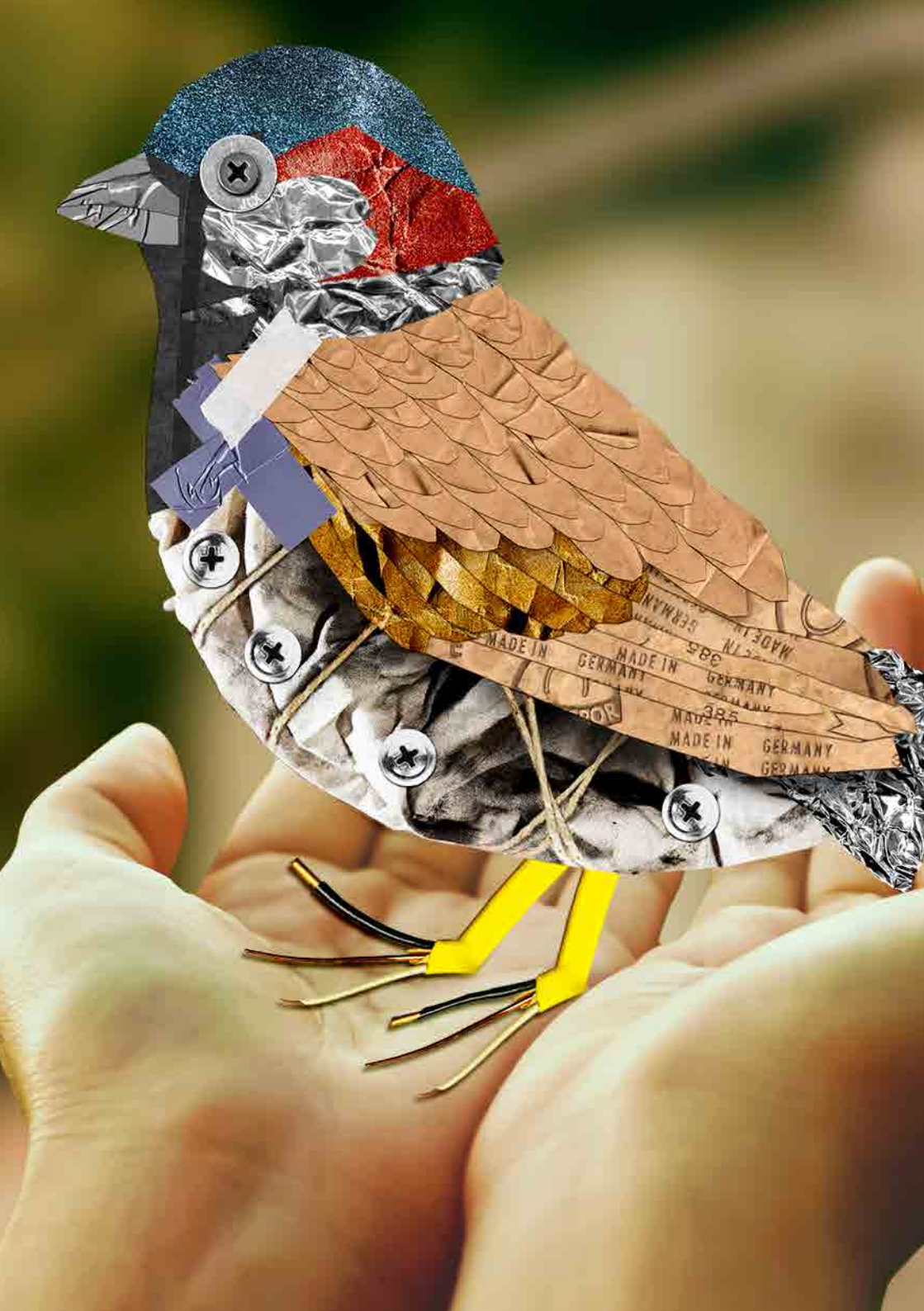
All performances of *Grace* are relaxed performances, making them more accessible for people with sensory sensitivities. All performances will be captioned. (ISL interpreted performances are also available please contact sadhbh@onceoffproductions.com or visit our website for more details.)

Graffiti Theatre, Blackpool
14 June 4.30pm
15 June 11am & 2.30pm
€10 (family ticket €40)
60 mins approx.
10+

Written by **Jody O'Neill**
Directed by **Niall Cleary**
Cast includes **Eleanor Walsh**,
Bryan Burroughs & Grace Kiely
Set and Lighting Design by
Zia Bergin Holly
Sound Design by **HK Ní Shioradáin**
Costume Design by
Valentina Gambardella
Dramaturgy by **Louise Stephens**
Movement by **Inma Pavon**
Produced by **Sadhbh Barrett Coakley**

Supported by the Arts Council, Babór & The Abbey Theatre.

ARTWORK BY AARON ROSS



In association with Loosysmokes

DETACHED AND THE MOTH

ELAINE MCCAGUE / THE DETACHED PROJECT

A journey for the senses through film, installation, aerial acrobatics, dance, and sound, delving into the interaction between identity and environment in an evocative exploration of home.

Amidst the embrace of a rural derelict house, a moth's erratic movements disrupt stagnant air, stirring forgotten memories and igniting tension between past and present. Through restless recollections, interpreted through movement and sound, acclaimed circus performer Elaine McCague uses the symbolism of the moth, exploring personal identity and the ever-shifting notion of home - in a promenade-style performance of destruction and metamorphosis.

PHOTO: OLGA KUZMENKO

Marina Market**20–23 June**

7.30pm (20–22 June), 4pm (23 June)

€18/€16

40 mins

12+ with guardians

Adult themes, strobe lighting

Created by **Elaine McCague** in
collaboration with:

Cinematographer **Olga Kuzmenko**Installation **Hazel McCague**Sound design **Oliver Ryan**Lighting and Rigging **Conor McCague**

Performance development

Micheál Rowsome

Elaine McCague is an interdisciplinary artist and co-artistic director of award-winning modern art circus company Loosysmokes, as well as associate artist at Uillinn, West Cork Arts Centre. Work to date includes *Behind the Dark*, *Raven Eyed* and *In Rhythms* which premiered as part of Cork Midsummer Festival 2022. The *Detached.collab* project sees Elaine explore a new interdisciplinary approach, blending circus artistry with film and diverse disciplines, pushing the boundaries of circus performance.



Cork Midsummer Festival and Dance Cork Firkin Crane

THIS IS IT | 8 DANCE PORTRAITS

LAURA MURPHY DANCE

A series of candid film portraits of eight iconic women in dance in Ireland, directed and choreographed by dance artist Laura Murphy.

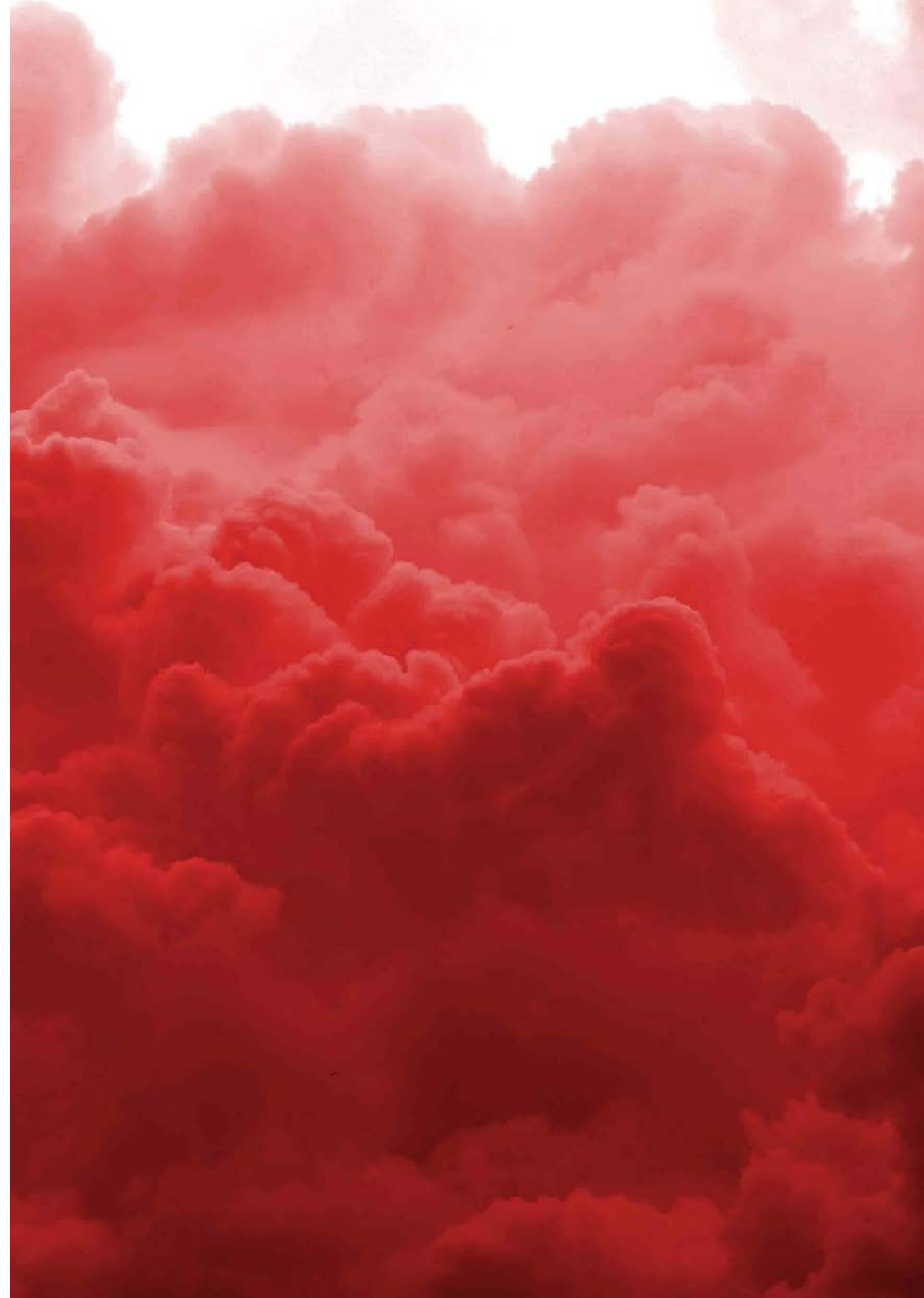
Traditionally, the worth of a dancer's career has been measured by time spent in the limelight. Yet a dancer's experience of their career extends beyond the stage – influencing the personal, the mundane and the philosophical. Collaborating with filmmaker Pato Cassinoni, animator Alan Early and composer Irene Buckley, Murphy presents an innovative and multifaceted exploration of eight women in dance in Ireland: Jean Butler, Alicia Christofi Walshe, Lisa Cliffe, Finola Cronin, Joan Davis, Katherine O'Malley, Mary Nunan and Angie Smalis.

Challenging conventional views on dance and success, the portraits reveal the unspoken values that are often difficult to articulate and easy to forget, creating a unique living archive of untold stories of dance. This collection of multimedia portraits expand our understanding of dance beyond traditional structures into the personal realm.

Triskel Arts Centre
21 & 22 June
 3pm
 €12/€10
 55 mins

Director and Choreographer Laura Murphy
Filmmaker Pato Cassinoni
Animator Alan Early
Music and Sound Irene Buckley
Text Editor Laura Murphy with Niamh Prior and Stephen Collins
Dancers Marion Cronin, Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín, Sarah Ryan

Co-presented by Cork Midsummer Festival and Cork Dance Firkin Crane, Funded by The Arts Council | An Chomhairle Ealaíon. Created in association with Dance Ireland, Dance Cork Firkin Crane, Galway Dance, Mermaid Arts Centre, CoisCéim Dance Theatre, Dance Limerick and Joan Davis | Gorse Hill.





MUSIC

Thrilling music shows and performances
in venues and site-specific locations
across the city

Islander, Sophie Motley and Cork Midsummer Festival

WINTER JOURNEY

WINTERREISE REIMAGINED

A new interpretation of Franz Schubert's much-loved song cycle performed across surprise locations in the stunning, historic neighbourhood of Shandon on the northside of Cork.

Follow the trail through the bustling and vibrant city streets, stepping into once-familiar spaces to discover *Winterreise* in a way never heard before – through intimate close-up performances from some incredible musicians and performers.

Performers will include JFDR, Gavan Ring, Gary Beecher, Lina Andonovska, Outsiders Ent., Neil O'Driscoll, Peter Power, Rachael Lavelle, Ciara O'Leary Fitzpatrick, Johnny McCarthy, and Bláithín MacGabhann.

The original poems by Wilhelm Muller, which Schubert set to music in 1827, depict the dark, beautiful journey from summer to winter, from life towards death. Musicians and artists from Cork, Iceland, and beyond – in eight very different spaces around Shandon – will create responses to the iconic song cycle (exploring genres including folk, hip hop, opera, traditional and more) through which audiences are free to create their own Winter Journey, in cosy pubs, wild gardens, austere churches and other stops throughout the neighbourhood.

Throughout Shandon

15 June 3pm

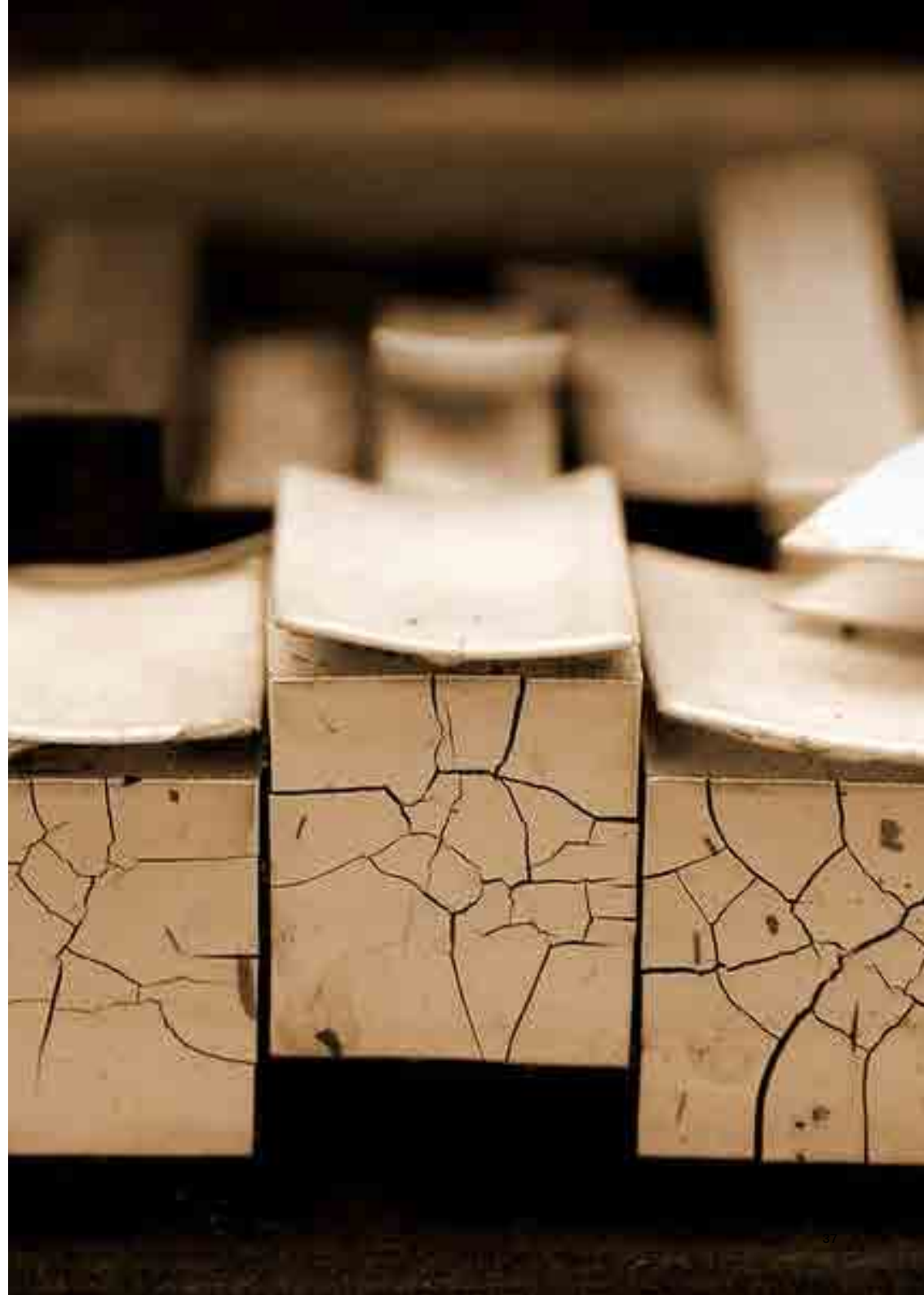
16 June 3pm & 6pm

€24/€22

80 mins

Meeting point will be sent to ticket holders in advance.

PHOTO: STEVEN DEGROOS



Cork Midsummer Festival, Sample-Studios and Triskel Arts Centre

9.57 (SUNSET)

CURATED BY FESTIVAL ARTIST IN RESIDENCE
ELLLL AND SAMPLE-STUDIOS

Two electrifying weekends of live performance, electronic music,
and late-night DJs celebrating the summer solstice.

15 & 16 June

Curated by ELLLL

Saturday 15 June

Immerse yourself in the psychedelic, free-form, and spiritually-charged dub-dance music of **Holy Tongue**. Originally a studio collaboration between percussionist Valentina Magaletti and producer Al Wootton, Holy Tongue has evolved into a dynamic live trio with the addition of Susumu Mukai. Opening for them is the experimental music ensemble **Fixity**, led by composer, improviser, and drummer Dan Walsh. After the evening's live performances, surprise guest DJs takeover the CTC at TDC space.

Sunday 16 June

Experience the unpredictable stylings of cellist, composer, and improviser **Okkyung Lee**. With a repertoire that seamlessly blends noise, improvisation, jazz, classical and traditional Korean music, Lee's performances form a highly distinctive approach. Joining her is pianist, composer, producer and artist **Jasmine Wood** from Portland, now based in Dublin, whose craft incorporates her love of noise and distortion, blending analog instruments with electronic manipulation. Rounding out the Sunday lineup is harpist **Méabh McKenna**, whose explorations span contemporary techniques, electronics and a fusion of genres rooted in the rich tradition of Irish music and song collections.

21 & 22 June

Curated by Emer Yip for Sample-Studios

Friday 21 June

Performing what will be their debut Irish gig, post-punk ambi-dustrial stalwarts **Cindytalk** will take to the stage on Friday night. Vocalist and producer Cinder (This Mortal Coil) will be joined by bassist Massimo Pupillo (Zu) and keyboardist Thighpaulsandra (Spiritualized, Coil) for an evening of poetic, emotionally charged sonic exploration. Cork duo **Howlbux** (Elaine Howley, Irene Buckley) will set the tone for the evening, opening a portal of atmospheric textures with their signature ghosted vocals and hypnotic synths.

Saturday 22 June

Bringing her infectious synth pop to an Irish audience for the first time, Moscow-based artist **Kate NV** presents her brand of polished, playful instrumentals and surreal songs served with equal parts wit and chintz in Triskel Christchurch. She will be joined by US sound artist and NTS resident **Felisha Ledesma** who will open the evening with a shimmering sonic warm-up exercise in musical meditation, found sounds and field recordings.

5lowershop Soundsystem will continue the journey late into Friday and Saturday night with DJ sets from **Binnie** and **Cáit**, along with live performances from **Vi**, **darqhorse**, and more in the CTC at TDC space.

IMAGE: IRENE MANSOLDO



Across both weekends, Berlin-based artist **Kayleigh Maimaran** will create an immersive chill space in the Triskel Sample Project Space where audiences can relax, reflect, and refresh.

CTC at TDC / Triskel Arts Centre
15 & 16, 21 & 22 June
From 9.57pm until late
€18 / €15 (individual events)
€30 / €26 all-night pass (limited availability)
18+

Supported by the Arts Council and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under the Night Time Economy programme.

Cork Opera House and Cork Midsummer Festival

THE CORK PROMS

CORK OPERA HOUSE CONCERT ORCHESTRA

The Cork Proms brings together some of Cork and Ireland's finest musicians and performers to celebrate a mix of contemporary and classical music, alongside the Cork Opera House Concert Orchestra.

Designed by a team of curators led by Cork Opera House CEO and Artistic Director, Eibhlín Gleeson, and directed by Davey Kelleher, The Cork Proms will feature three exciting programmes of music.

Heyday – A Mixtape of Irish Rock and Pop (12 & 13 June)

Celebrating a wonderful and continuing legacy of Irish Rock & Pop music, Heyday will present new arrangements of beloved songs by artists such as Sinead O'Connor, The Cranberries, The Pogues, Enya, Van Morrison, Thin Lizzy and many more. Joining the Cork Opera House Concert Orchestra, conducted by John O'Brien, will be soloists Jack O'Rourke, May Kay, Lucia Evans, Laoise Leahy and Niall McCabe.

New World Symphony and Rhapsody in Blue – Dvořák, Gershwin and music inspired by America (16 June)

Including Dvořák's *New World Symphony*, this programme is curated by the renowned and award-winning Cork pianist, Gary Beecher, who will join the orchestra onstage to perform *Rhapsody in Blue*, following his debut performance of this piece with the National Symphony Orchestra in 2023.

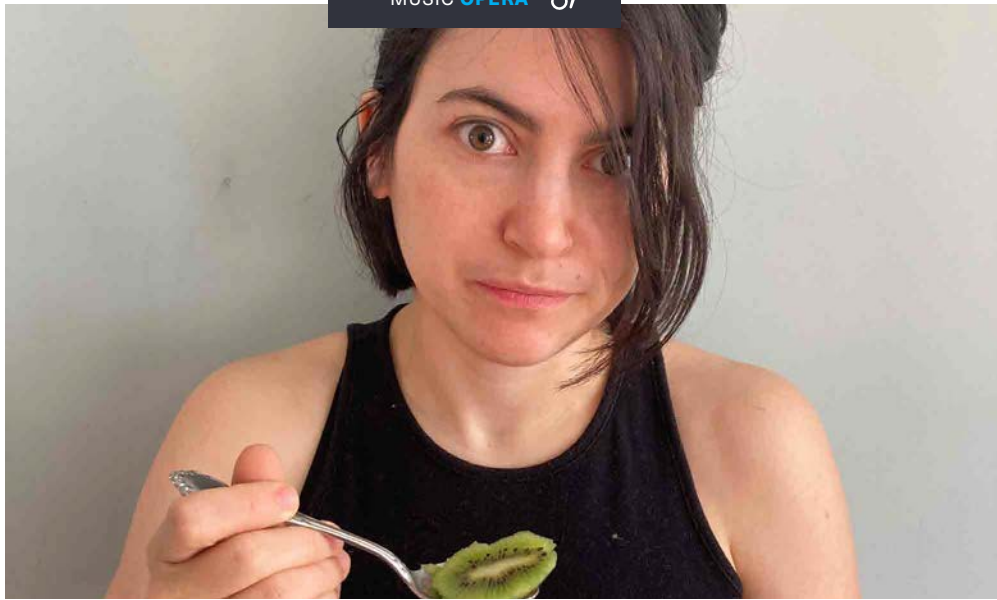
The programme will also feature music by composers Copland, Korngold and Barber. This concert will be conducted by Elaine Kelly.

There's No Place Like Home – A Musical Theatre Revue (19 & 20 June)

Cork Opera House presents two nights of musical theatre - from *Wicked* to *The Sound of Music*, *Dear Evan Hansen* to *The Phantom of the Opera* - *There's No Place Like Home* will feature hits from Broadway and the West End; with some surprises along the way. Starring some of Ireland's greatest voices; Killian Donnelly (*Les Misérables*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Kinky Boots*), Majella Cullagh (Puccini's *La bohème*, Donizetti's *Maria Stuarda*), Molly Lynch (*The Last Five Years*, *Sunset Boulevard*), Shane O'Riordan (*Miss Saigon*, *Back to the Future*) and Claire O'Leary (*Les Misérables*, *The Wizard Of Oz* and *Hairspray*), alongside the Cork Opera House Concert Orchestra, conducted by Colm O'Regan, this evening of music and song will explore some of musical theatre's best known and most-loved works.

Cork Opera House
12, 13, 16, 19, 20 June
8pm
€32
(€75 when you purchase a ticket to all three)
90mins





Ulysses Opera Theatre, Once Off Productions and Cork Opera House

CREATURES OF HABIT

LILY AKERMAN AND TOM LANE

Directed by Conor Hanratty, a song cycle about how to live when your everyday decisions contribute to ecological collapse

What actions matter? Why is it so hard to do anything, even when we stand to lose everything? How can people change? Five singers and a piano contemplate these questions, giving music to existential crises.

Cork Opera House foyer
22 June 12.30pm
23 June 12.30pm & 4pm
 €15/€12.50
 40 mins



The Good Room and Cork Midsummer Festival

NEW BLOOD

FRESH SOUNDS FROM CORK

Cork has long pushed against the tide when it comes to music with incredible artists, bands, DJs, songwriters and musicians coming to the fore – in part thanks to a vibrant legacy of Cork's punk and DIY scene that embraces rock, house, techno, pouring into the clubs and the dancefloor as well as within the folk and traditional scene.

Join The Good Room and Cork Midsummer Festival in celebrating some of the city's most exciting contemporary music and musicians to the backdrop of one of Cork's most iconic neighbourhoods. St. Luke's Cross is a lively slice of Cork City, with its own rich heritage and history – so expect new sounds at Live At St. Lukes as well as free shows and DJ sets at iconic Cork pub Henchy's with additional sessions taking place next door at St. Luke's Wine Tavern and across the street in Cork Coffee Roasters.

21 June 7.30pm
Live At St. Luke's, €20
Ezra Williams, I Dreamed I Dream and Rua Rí

22 June 7.30pm
Live At St. Luke's, €20
The Love Buzz, The Cliffords, Pebbledash

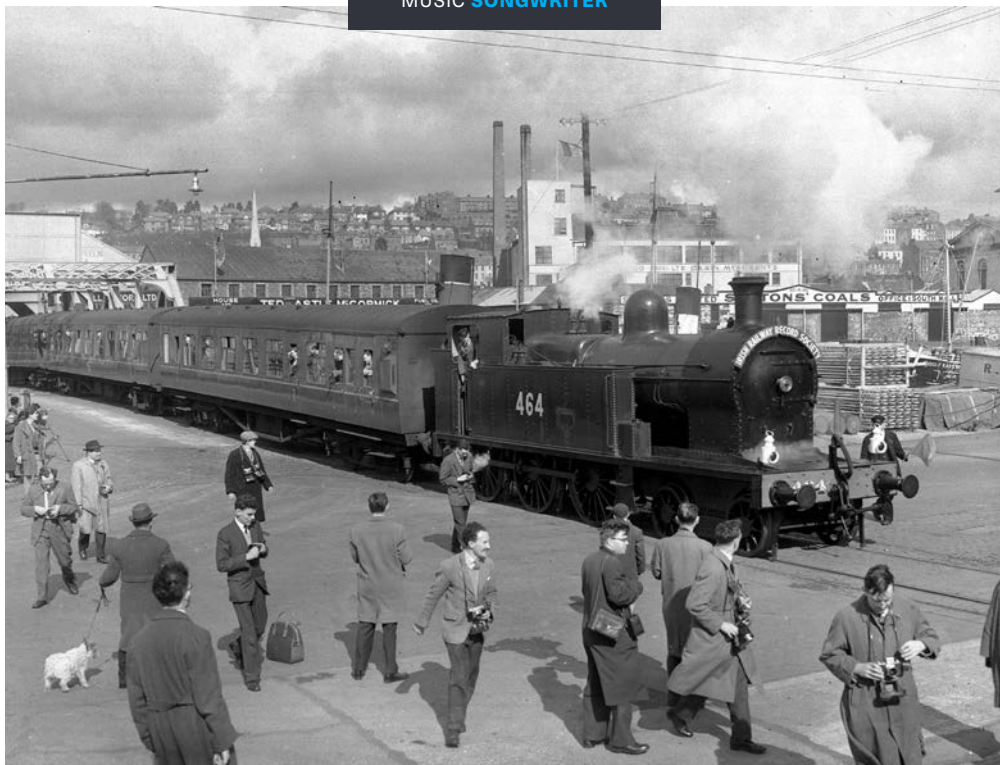
22 June – Free music trail

3.00pm Cork Coffee Roasters
Eternal Youth Eternal Beauty

4.30pm St. Luke's Wine Tavern
Luke O'Neill

6pm Henchy's Bar
Gerron

10.30pm Henchy's Bar
AbbieLee



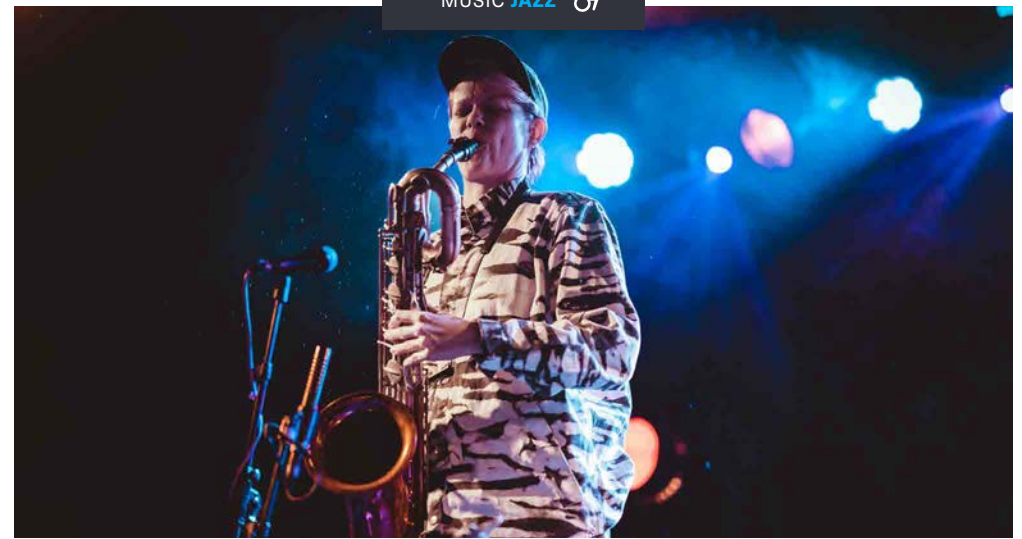
SECRET GIG

A one-night-only intimate performance from an acclaimed Irish singer and songwriter exclusively for Cork Midsummer Festival.

Expect tenderness, grit and transcendence as one of Ireland's best loved musicians performs all the songs - some familiar, and some brand new - from a musical in development, with a cast of very special guest singers and performers.

The Frisky Whiskey Bar at the Oliver Plunkett
22 June
 Doors 9pm, show 9.30pm
 €30
 60 minutes approx.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE IRISH EXAMINER PICTURE ARCHIVE



Presented by Music Network and Triskel Arts Centre

LINDA FREDRIKSSON JUNIPER

Internationally acclaimed jazz artist Linda Fredriksson presents a live full performance of their award-winning debut album, *Juniper*.

Following the release of *Juniper* in 2021, they quickly established themselves as an important creative force on the national and international jazz scene. Winner of a Teosto Award in 2022, one of Scandinavia's most prestigious awards recognising musical work that is considered bold, original and innovative, *Juniper* also received the Emma Award for Best Jazz Album of the Year in 2022.

Fredriksson began their studies on alto saxophone at the age of nine at the Helsinki Pop and Jazz Conservatory and went on to major in jazz saxophone at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam, graduating from the Sibelius Academy in 2014. Musical collaborators have included such accomplished artists as Timo Lassy, Raoul Björkenheim, Ultra Bra, Pyhimys, Jimi Tenor, The Valkyrians, The Northern Governors, Niillas Holmberg and the European Jazz Orchestra.

PHOTO: TUOMAS ERONEN

Triskel Arts Centre
14 June
 8pm
 €20/€18
 70 mins

Saxophone
Linda Fredriksson
Keyboard Tuomo Prättälä
Bass Mikael Saastamoinen
Drums Olavi Louhivuori



ON THE STREETS

Sensational circus, spectacle
and outdoor participation events

SPONSORED BY BUS ÉIREANN

Cork Community Art Link and Cork Midsummer Festival

MIDSUMMER PARADE

THE GLORIOUS RAMBLINGS OF THE FAMILY SHENANIGAN

Street 'Art'-itude and community engagement at its best and wackiest, encompassing utmost energy, passion and imagination.

Come and join The Family Shenanigan, an eccentric troupe of more than 150 makers and performers, and rejoice in their spectacular antics, weird contraptions, dazzling floats and stunning costumes in a unique Cork celebration of Midsummer for all.

Cork Community Art Link are back on the streets of Cork with their renowned creative vision and unique take on creative collaboration. Local groups showcased in the parade will include Suisha Inclusive Arts, Blackpool Community Access Program, National Learning Network, Blackpool Men's Shed, Joan Denise Moriarty School of Dance, Tribe Dance Academy, CCAL Drama Troupe and many more. This free street-art spectacle invites everybody to join in, dance to the beat of the street and get in the community spirit.

**Oliver Plunkett Street
(Grand Finale on Grand Parade)
16 June**

**Free
3pm
60 mins**

Supported by the Arts Council and The Tomar Trust.

Tribe Academy in collaboration with Cork Community Art Link invite you to join the parade finale, a huge Street Salsa workshop, in front of City Library on Grand Parade.

All are welcome to join volunteer workshops from 2pm to 5pm Wednesdays / Thursdays, and 2pm to 4pm on Saturdays, with drama workshops taking place from 7pm to 9pm on Thursdays.

Accessible area at 7 Cook street next to Murphy's Ice Cream. Ear defenders are recommended for those sensitive to loud noise.

PHOTO: JED NIEZGODA



Cork Midsummer Festival in partnership with Cork City Council

TRAVELLING ROPE

IEF SPINCEMAILLE



A giant, oversized rope appears on the streets and parks of Cork – inviting you to reimagine the city by moving, holding, or just visiting *ROPE* on its adventures and explorations as it pops up in surprise locations.

Created to bring imagination and people together in a temporary social space, this 60m travelling rope (which weighs 196kg and takes eleven people to carry) needs your help to explore the city and meet interesting Corkonians – young and old, residents and visitors, come say hello.

Ahead of its arrival in Cork, *ROPE* has toured across Europe, China, South America, and South Africa. Based in Belgium, artist Ief Spincemaille develops in-situ projects and social sculptures in non-artistic spaces.

Cork city streets and parks
20–23 June
11am–4pm
Free

Locations will be announced online and on social media

Presented as part of Creative Parks, an annual partnership between Cork City Council's Culture and Creativity Team and Cork Midsummer Festival, collaborating with artists and communities to develop an all-ages creative day within a city park. Supported by Cork City Council through the Creative Ireland Programme, an all-of-government initiative which places creativity at the centre of public policy. Further information from creativeireland.ie

Cork Midsummer Festival and Cork City Council

KAMCHÁTKA

STREET THEATRE

Exhilarating and inspiring street theatre company Kamchátka return to Cork once more with their acclaimed and anarchic performance after an iconic debut in 2018.

Seven characters lost in the city, each carrying their own suitcase. Are they simply passers-by, or immigrants to this city? Naïve but curious and wearing their hearts on their sleeves, they interact with passing citizens to interrupt and disrupt what we may otherwise take for granted.

Seen in 32 countries with more than 450 performances since 2007, Kamchátka is contemporary street theatre which bounds into new frontiers in a breathtaking waltz of compassion and humanity. The company's performances have achieved regular critical acclaim, including for site-specific performance *Alter* which also features as part of Cork Midsummer Festival 2024.

Patrick's Street
16 June
2pm
Free
45 mins

A CARRER 88, S.L. production, accompanied by Melando. Special thanks to Escena Poblenou and Centre Civic Can Felipa, Barcelona. Supported on tour by INAEM-Spanish Ministry of Culture.

Presented as part of Cork City Council's Open Streets campaign.

PHOTO: JED NIEZSODA



UROBOROS

LA CASA OSCURA

Contemporary dance performed on the street by two dancers, moving through the different but universal stages of life.

15 June
3pm, **Cornmarket St**
4pm, **Patrick's Street**

Using diverse elements from different styles of dance, physical theatre and performance, *Uroboros* is a playful and fun creation that contrasts with the intensity of movement – reflecting the human journey from birth, youth, adulthood and death. Developed by La Casa Oscura, *Uroboros* was showcased at Fira Tarrega in 2023.

16 June
1pm, **Grand Parade**

Free
25 mins

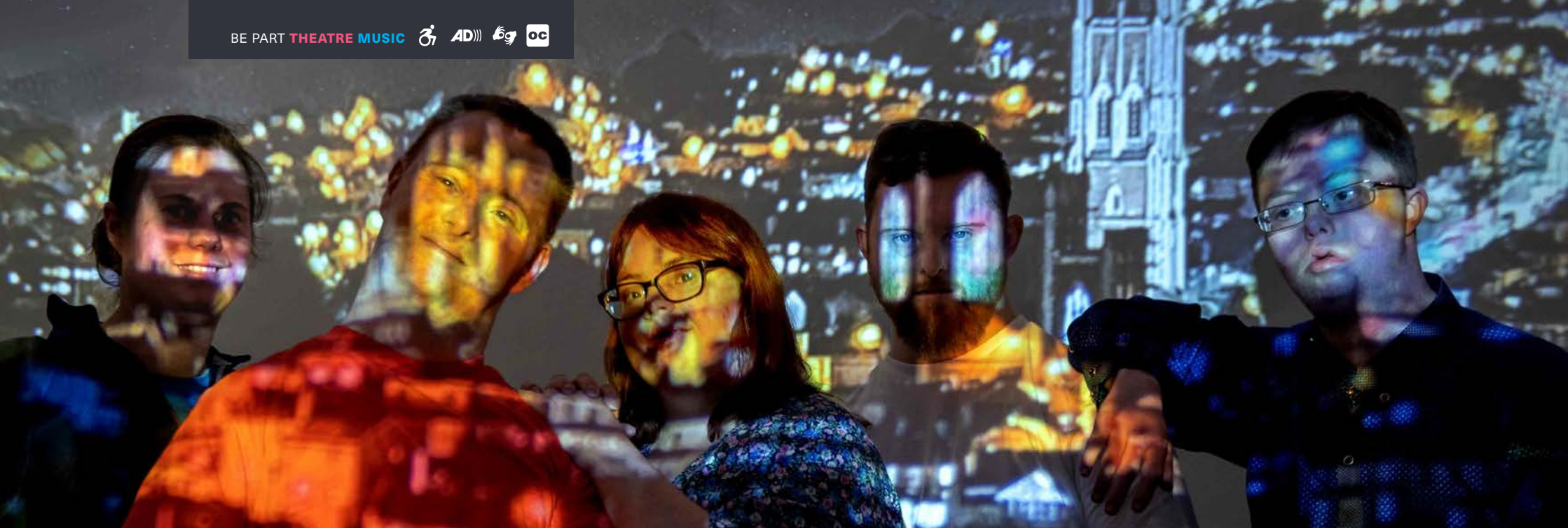
Developed in coproduction with Artemis Danza

La Casa Oscura is an emerging contemporary dance company directed by Sabino Barbieri and Núria Argilés, based between Catalonia and Italy. Using a unique dance language across various styles, they challenge themselves to create artistic works capable of empathizing with the spectator and adapting to different spaces.



BE PART

Inspiring new community-led art
from Cork and beyond



Cork Midsummer Festival

HOME SWEET HOME

**SUISHA INCLUSIVE ARTS WITH
AL BELLAMY AND JODY O'NEILL**

Following two years of development, the artists from Suisha Inclusive Arts present their play about housing, horror films and protest.

In Cork, in a not-so-distant future, a group of artists are living together. Some are rappers, some comedians, some dancers, and some actors. Their home is their right, and their comfort, but the newly elected government

doesn't agree. The gang decides to fight back, with protests, cups of tea and viral music videos - determined to keep their Home Sweet Home.

This ambitious disability-led production, which features creatively-embedded access including Audio Description, Captioning, Irish Sign Language Interpretation, and Relaxed Performances, is a collaboration with director Al Bellamy and playwright Jody O'Neill, and marks 10 years of Suisha Inclusive Arts.

The Granary Theatre

12-14 June 7pm

15 June 3pm

€15 / €12

50 mins

12+

PHOTO: CLARE KEOGH

Performed and Devised by **BenÓg Brady, Ruby Hardie Brown, Jason Buckley, Paul Fitzgerald, Andy Forrestal, Fergus Hegarty, Brendan Looney, Sarah Lynch, Matthew Murphy, Florin Nolan, Diarmuid O'Leary, Aoife O'Sullivan, Gerard Whealy**
Writer **Jody O'Neill**

Director **Al Bellamy**

Access Support **Birds of Paradise**

Set Design **Olan Wrynn**

Costumes Design **Suisha Arts with Valentina Gambardella, Lauren Reynolds**

Music Composition **Eoin Nash with Suisha Arts**

Lighting Design **Eoin Winning**

Sound Design **HK Ní Shioradaiin**

Movement **Inma Pavón**

Producer **Eoin Ó hAnnracháin**

Exec Producer **Susan Holland**

Supported by the Arts Council, Cork City Council, and Benefact's Movement for Good programme, Cork Opera House and UCC Department of Theatre. Initially conceived as part of the BE PART (art BEyond PARTICipation) Creative Europe network.

Home Sweet Home is a relaxed performance, using ISL, audio-description and closed captioning.

Based on a script by Teresa Deevy

POSSESSION

AMANDA COOGAN, LINDA BUCKLEY, LIANNE QUIGLEY,
ALVEAN JONES AND CORK COMMUNITY DEAF CHOIR

New opera from artist Amanda Coogan and composer Linda Buckley along with collaborators Alvean Jones, Lianne Quigley and the Cork Deaf Community Choir.

Based on a script from the deaf artist Teresa Deevy telling the story of An Táin through the eyes of Queen Medb, combining Irish Sign Language with experimental sonic and vocal composition, this immersive production explores one of Ireland's foundational myths with a fresh perspective on diversity in storytelling, connecting our past with our future.

Continuing her collaboration with Cork Deaf Community Choir following last year's *Ode To Joy*, Amanda Coogan is an internationally recognised and critically acclaimed artist working across the medias of live art, performance, photography and video. She is one of the most dynamic and exciting contemporary visual artist's practicing in the arena of performance.

The Granary Theatre
21–23 June, 6.30pm
(Matinee 23 June, 2pm)
€25/€15
110 mins

12+

Some flashing lights and loud sound

Performed in ISL

Director Amanda Coogan
Composer Linda Buckley
Cast Amanda Coogan, Lianne Quigley, Alvean Jones and Cork Community Deaf Choir

Developed as part of ART:2023 – a Decade of Centenaries. A collaboration between the Arts Council and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. This collaboration and presentation is further supported by Cork City Council.



PHOTO: PATO CASSINONI

Cork Midsummer Festival

COUNTRY OK

SIOBHÁN NÍ DHUINNÍN

Invoking the spirit of dance halls and dancing bodies from across the city, Country OK dance event is a rollicking celebration of live performance, live music and a party that invites you to let loose and join in!

Featuring an inter-generational dance cast from communities across Cork, joined by professional dancers with live music by members of The Tan Jackets. *Country OK* will have you foot-tapping and hip-twisting to the heart-wrenching songs of country music - and the exhilarating nature of a fleeting moment of dancing together. Following the performance will be a dance party, inviting the audience to join in and let loose!

Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín is a dance artist based in Cork. Her work is primarily place-based and site-specific and includes *Bád Shiobhán* and *Big Dance Night*. Siobhán has worked with a range of people; boat-builders, sean nós singers and geologists amongst others. She is an avid country music fan.

**South Parish Community Centre
15 & 16 June**

7pm–9pm

€7/€5

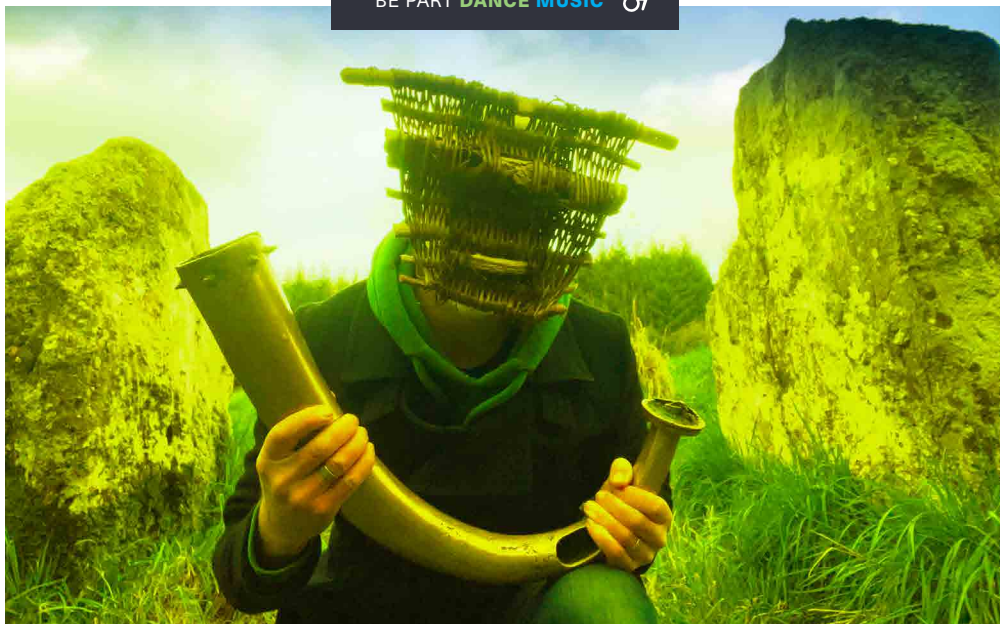
120 mins total (45 min performance /
15 min interval / 60 min dance party)

Created by Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín, commissioned by Cork Midsummer Festival, and seeded by the Pan Pan Mentoring Programme.

Supported by the Arts Council, Dance Cork Firkin Crane, Brian Dillon's GAA Club, Redmonds GAA Club, Rockbán Club and Pan Pan Theatre Company through the Pan Pan Mentoring Programme.

PHOTO: CLARE KEOGH





Martin O'Donoghue and Cork Midsummer Festival

SOLSTICE CÉILÍ

Get your dancing shoes on and celebrate the summer solstice as a time-traveling band of traditional musicians and dancers explore the history of our island's social dancing from 2024 BC to 2024 AD.

Re-inventing the fading art of the céilí, come dance your way through 4000 years from the bronze and stone ages to the puritanical waltz of the 1940s and finishing by raving to reels in the polka mosh pit – this is so much more than your average céilí!

Solstice Céilí will be overseen by improvised trad band Damhsa Liomsa, and Fear an Spraí Martin O'Donoghue – acting as your guide through these dances created for Cork Midsummer Festival and this celebration of the Solstice. Come celebrate and join in the mayhem as we dance, laugh and sing our way forward from the sounds of past to present.

Elizabeth Fort

21 June

€7/€5

9pm

Includes flashing lights, loud music

PHOTO: MARTIN O'DONOGHUE



The Glucksman and Cork Midsummer Festival

UP CYCLING!

CHRIS JUDGE

New public artworks highlighting the importance of cycling by celebrated Irish Illustrator Chris Judge.

Get on your bike and explore an ambitious new trail of temporary public artworks that will run across Cork city, showcasing the importance and joy of cycling in urban spaces. Curated by Tadhg Crowley, the project is a collaboration between the artist and Cork Cycling Campaign involving a public consultation to shape the design and message behind the artworks.

Chris Judge is an illustrator, artist, and children's picture book author from Dublin who has written and illustrated over 35 children's books, many of which are in collaboration with authors such as Roddy Doyle, David O'Doherty and Eoin Colfer. His first book, *The Lonely Beast*, won the Specsavers Irish Children's Book of the Year 2011. Chris also creates large-scale artworks, including murals, installations, and wood-cuts.

6 sites across Cork city

12-23 June

Map available at glucksman.org

Up Cycling! is a project delivered in partnership with Cork City Council.

IMAGE: CHRIS JUDGE



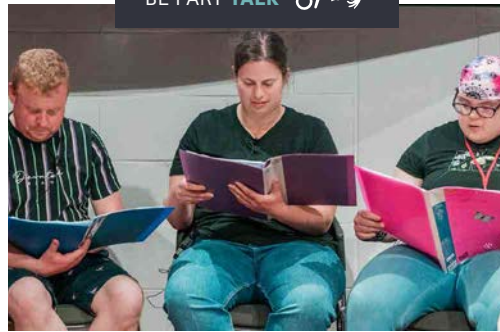
YOUNG CRITICS FORUM

YOUTH THEATRE IRELAND

The Young Critics are coming to Cork! One of Youth Theatre Ireland's most popular and innovative programmes, the Young Critics recruits 16 young people from youth theatres across the country. Guided on their journey of critical discovery by expert facilitators, they learn about how and why theatre is made, see incredible shows and voice their opinions on theatre. Over the course of the festival, the Young Critics will watch a selection of productions and will present their critical responses at this special panel event. Chaired by Dr. Karen Fricker, The Young Critics Panel is always lively and informative as the young people share their views and opinions with good humour, passion, and eloquence.

This Youth Theatre Ireland programme is funded by the Arts Council, and the Department for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

Cork Arts Theatre
21 June 1pm
 Free | 60 mins



COMMUNITY + COLLABORATION

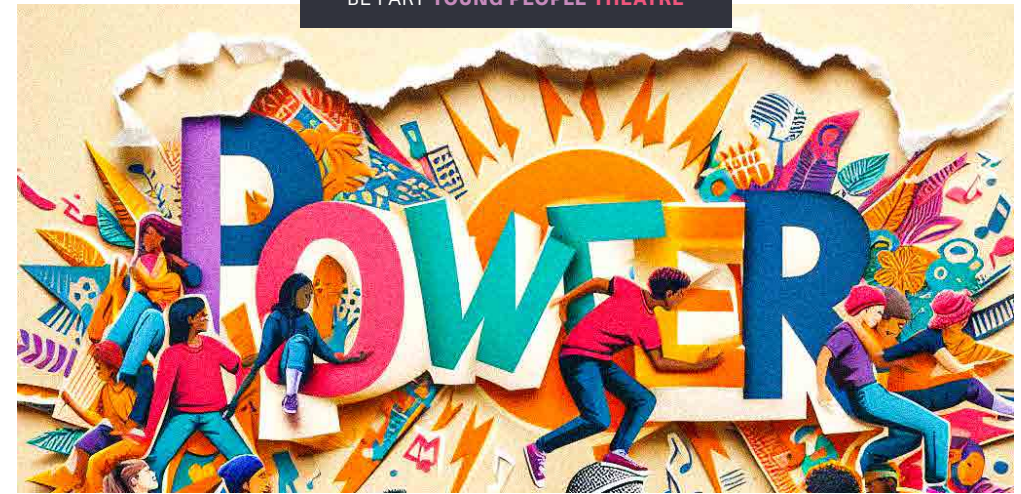
A lively panel discussion bringing together community collaborators and artists from exciting festival projects to share their creative exchange experiences. Artists and participants will chat about nurturing community through collaboration, developing co-creation processes, raising the visibility of less heard voices, and the ambitions of community collaborators.

Projects highlighted include: Cork Community Art Link's now annual Midsummer Parade; Suisha Inclusive Arts' new play *Home Sweet Home* developed with Al Bellamy and Jody O'Neill; Cork Community Deaf Choir's collaboration with Amanda Coogan, Lianne Quigley and Alvean Jones; *Rising Voices* by Elevate Youth Arts; and Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín's GAA dance collaboration *Country OK*.

Cork Arts Theatre
21 June 11.30am
 Free | 60 mins

Speakers will include Susan Holland, William Frodé de la Forêt, Al Bellamy, Amanda Coogan, Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín, Chriszine Backhouse, and community participants from across festival projects. This event will be ISL interpreted.

PHOTOS: JED NIEZGODA



Elevate Youth Arts, Irish Refugee Council with Creativity and Change

RISING VOICES

Exploring Power Dynamics and Unity Through Art.

Experience a profound journey through an innovative collective creation, delving deep into issues of power, discrimination, and the harsh realities of war.

Through a fusion of storytelling, singing, dancing, theatre, and spoken word poetry, our talented youth performers will guide you through a narrative that challenges perceptions and ignites conversations. Witness the unyielding honesty and artistic ingenuity as we confront pressing societal issues with creativity and hope.

This isn't just a performance; it's a movement. Be a part of the transformative experience as the voices of the next generation courageously tackle themes that resonate deeply in our world today.

IMAGE: KELVIN AKPALOO

ActorsVision, 4 St Patrick's Quay
15 June 7pm
 Pay what you can | 50mins
 16+ References to war

Facilitated by the Irish Refugee Council with Creativity and Change (MTU), and Kelvin Akpaloo. Funded by Creative Ireland and the Communities Integration Fund.



FUTURE- PROOF

New events from some of Cork's most
exciting emerging artists

Alchemy Arts

THE COLLECTOR: THE PRESENCE OF ABSENCE

WILL FLANAGAN

Energetic new circus and theatre exploring the fantastical but isolated life of a man who has closed himself off from the outside and has built his own world from the discarded scraps of society.

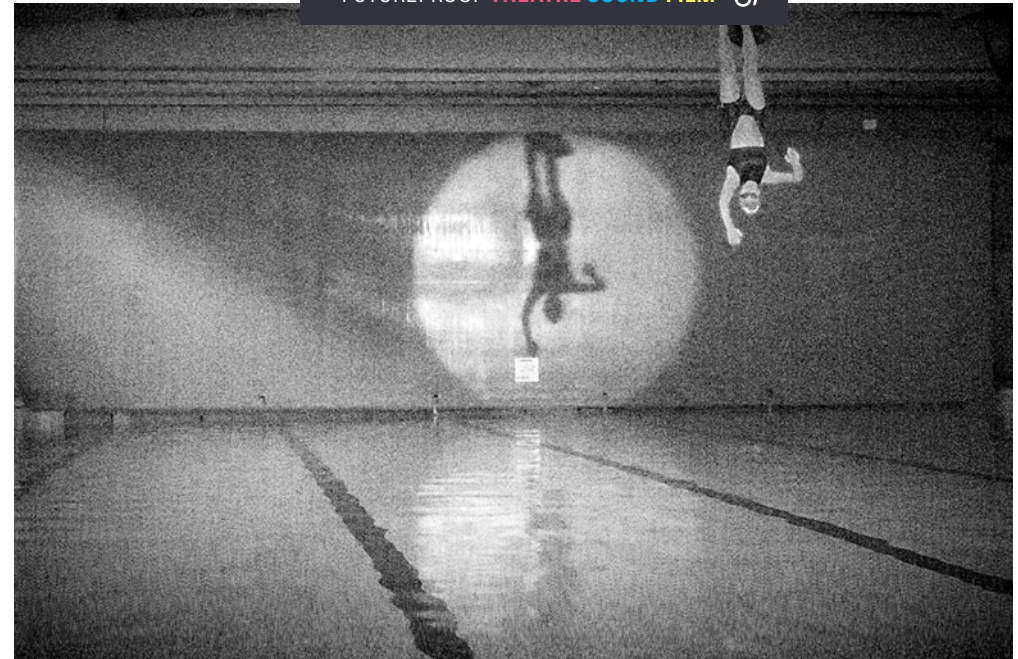
Directed by award-winning choreographer Eddie Kay, and blending circus, projections, physical theatre and a unique soundtrack into a beautiful celebration of the unexpected, *The Collector* explores social isolation, mental health, and finding wonder in the seemingly eccentric.

Writer and performer Will Flanagan is the artistic director of Alchemy Arts, a contemporary circus and street theatre company inspired by collaborative frameworks for theatre-making that integrate a variety of performative practices from physical theatre, to contemporary dance and circus skills.

Cork Arts Theatre
21 June 5.30pm
22 June 4pm
23 June 2pm & 5.30pm
 €15/€12.50
 8+

Director and Choreographer **Eddie Kay**
 Performer and Writer **Will Flanagan**
 Sound Designer **Arran MacGabhann**
 Lighting Designer **John Hurley**
 Projectionist **Christian O' Shea**
 Voiceover **George Hannover**
 Set Design **Elisa Gallo Rosso**,
Triangle Productions & Will Flanagan
 Photography **Marcin Lewandowski**

PHOTO: MARCIN LEWANDOWSKI



KILTER, MATTER AND GHOSTS

NATASHA BOURKE

Genre-defying new solo performance – in a swimming pool – using movement, film, and sound.

Performed in a unique setting, *Kilter, Matter and Ghosts* embraces a breadth of poetic languages to present a story of wit and pathos about legacy, identity, transience and survival in an odd, chlorinated, urban womb.

Natasha Bourke is a Cork-based interdisciplinary artist with a fine art and extensive movement background. Her current practice spans performance, film, photography, installation, archive, text, drawing, sound and water-based work to explore themes in a surreal, playful and sincere way. She has also created a large body of live/filmic works including her feature *Concrete Keys* which premiered at Cork International Film Festival in 2022.

PHOTO: MARIE GRANDEAN

Gus Healy Swimming Pool, Ballinlough
18–21 June
 10.15pm
 €15/€12.50
 60 mins
 16+ for Strong language, references to body dysmorphia, discrimination. Some audience members may be sensitive to pool area chlorine.

Cork Midsummer Festival

RADIO SOLSTICE

ELINOR O'DONOVAN

Celebrating the longest day of the year, a pop-up community radio station will make its home in the heart of Cork city, featuring a diverse programme of music, conversation, and audio theatre, broadcasting live from Cork city centre.

Radio Solstice is an ear to the Otherworld, receiving sounds from the 'thin places' where our world connects most closely with the world of dreams, the afterlife and the unseen. Taking inspiration from Irish folk tales, where a traveller on a country road follows sounds of revelry coming from a magic portal in a hill or a field only to discover the land of the Sídhe, Radio Solstice is a digital receiver to otherworldly frequencies, where things may go unseen – but not unheard.

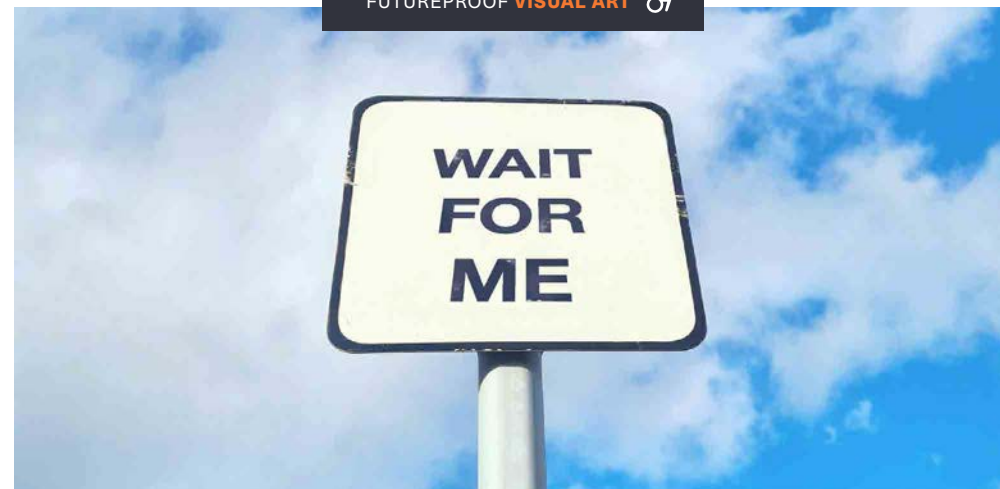
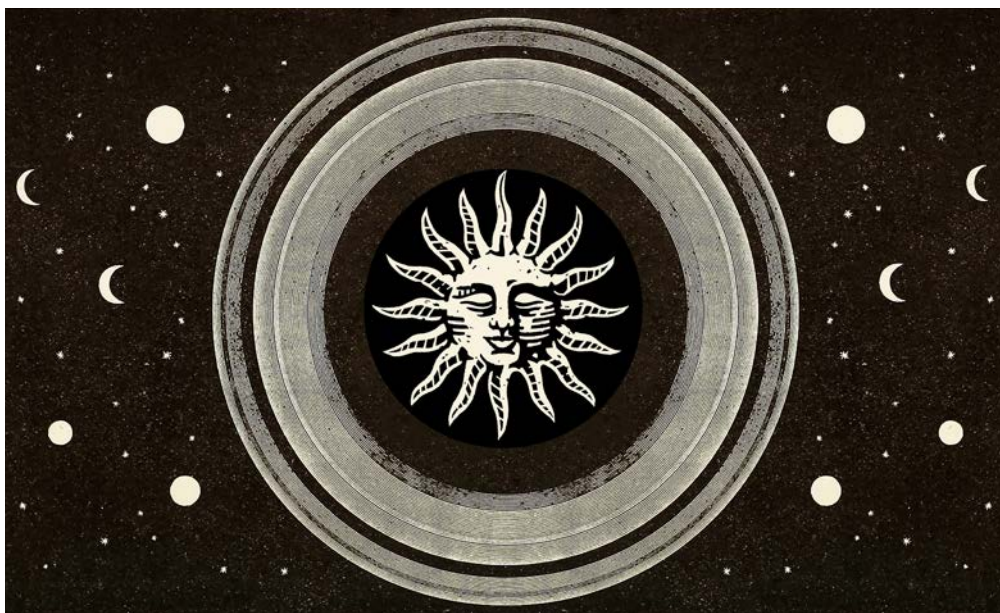
Elinor O'Donovan is a multidisciplinary artist based in Cork, and the recipient of the Jane Anne Rothwell Award for 2024. Working with DJ John Bosteels (Fleece) and musician Caoilian Sherlock (The Tan Jackets, Quarter Block Party) to deliver Radio Solstice, O'Donovan aims to apply a visual art approach to audio programming.

TEST SITE
13–16, 20–23 June
 10am–10pm

Visit corkmidsummer.com to listen live during the festival!

With additional support from Cork City Council Arts Office.

IMAGE: ELINOR O'DONOVAN



Sample-Studios and Cork Midsummer Festival

I'M OKAY, YOU'RE OKAY

RIKI MATSUDA

Three public installations spread across cork city that playfully discuss the humor within misunderstandings and the myriad ways in which communication keeps us connected.

Take a walk through the streets of Cork and you may find the personal messages placed throughout the city by artist, Riki Matsuda. Nettled amongst the countless posters, site notices, and traffic signs, are the private letters and intimate thoughts she's shared with anyone willing to find them.

Riki Matsuda is a multidisciplinary artist based in Cork and the 2024 recipient of the Sample-Studios + Cork Midsummer Festival Emerging Artist Award. Her practice focuses on the limitations of language through experimental text and physical forms. In these new installations, pieces about vulnerability and complex feelings, interact with the public in unexpected locations.

IMAGE: CHRIS JUDGE

The Way The Wind Blows: You Give Up / I Give In
 Cork City Hall / RTÉ Cork, Fr. Matthew Quay
 12–23 June

Public Notices
 Cork City Centre, locations at corkmidsummer.com
 12–23 June

Keeping It Together (screening)
 in collaboration with Haru Plugd
 11am–5pm, 15–16 June

Free

WORK IN PROGRESS

SKIN

HANAN SHEEDY

What happens when your protective layer cracks and trust breaks down? Emerging from artistic research with the National Sculpture Factory, *SKIN* is a powerfully personal story of living with Eczema and how it feels to question whether your body will work or wilt. Cork-based artist Hanan Sheedy's design-led approach to theatre features visual art and design from Jenny Whyte, sound design by Tyler Kieffer, and performances from Bláithín MacGabhann and James Brown.

National Sculpture Factory
14 June 10.30pm
30 mins | Free but ticketed

Supported by the Arts Council, Project Arts Centre, and the National Sculpture Factory.

WORKING LOAD LIMIT

GILL BYRNE

Circus performer Gill Byrne and composer Emmet White explore technology, nature, and the human psyche through circus arts, physical theatre, and a bespoke live score; this sensory experience oscillates between the realities of urban existence and the serenity of untouched landscapes. Inviting audiences to reflect on their relationship with the digital world and the importance of having time and spaces in which to connect with the natural world in an increasingly chaotic landscape.

Circus Factory
19 June 2pm
(following the critical feedback workshop)
30 mins
Free but ticketed

Supported by the Arts Council, ISACS, The Irish Aerial Creation Centre, and Taking Flight Dublin.

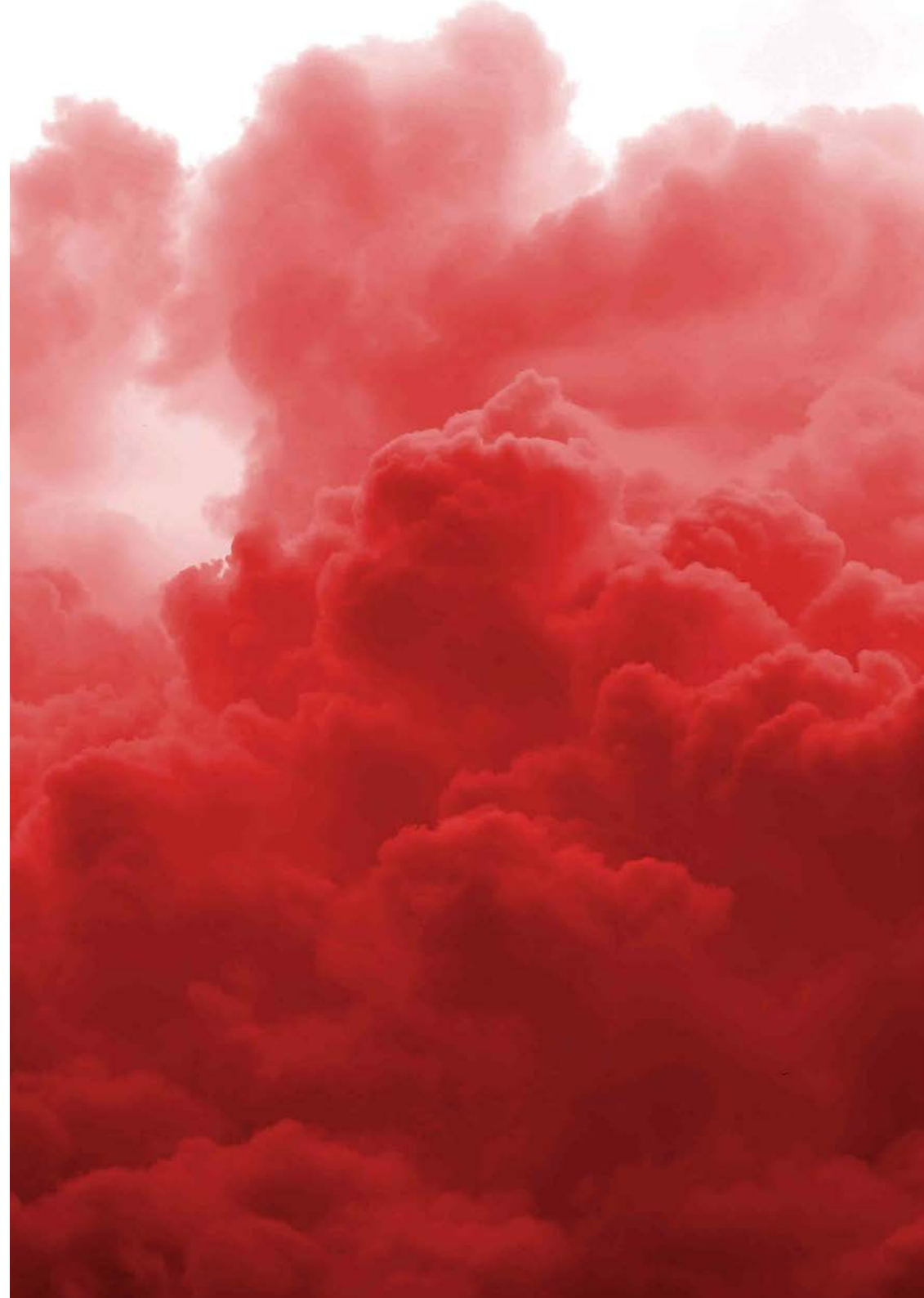
DAUGHTER

RAY SCANNELL

A rehearsed reading of a new play written by Ray Scannell (*Deep, The Bluffer's Guide to Suburbia*), directed by Louise Lowe (ANU Productions) exploring the relationship between Máire MacSwiney Brugha and her mother Muriel Murphy. From the ripple effect of hunger strikes, the War of Independence and the Civil War, mother (radical and member of the wealthy, Cork distilling family) and daughter (only child of Terence MacSwiney) remain parted and estranged from 1932 through to Muriel's death in 1982. Two distinct perspectives on the same events in our history - two incredible lives.

CTC at TDC, Triskel Arts Centre
20 June 5.30pm
120 mins | Free but ticketed

Developed with the assistance of the Abbey Theatre, with development support from Cork City Council and The Everyman.





Cover photos by Bríd O'Donovan (clockwise from top left: Amanda Coogan, Ezra Williams, Kestine, Suisha Inclusive Arts)

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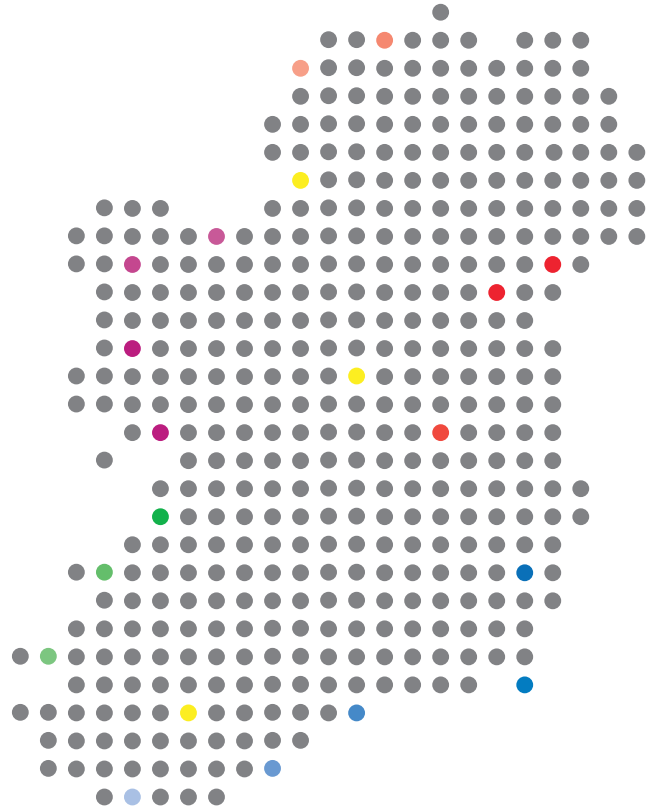
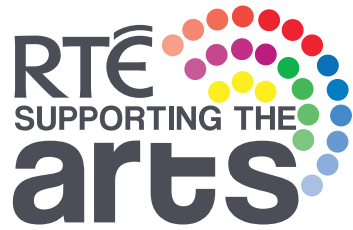
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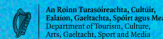
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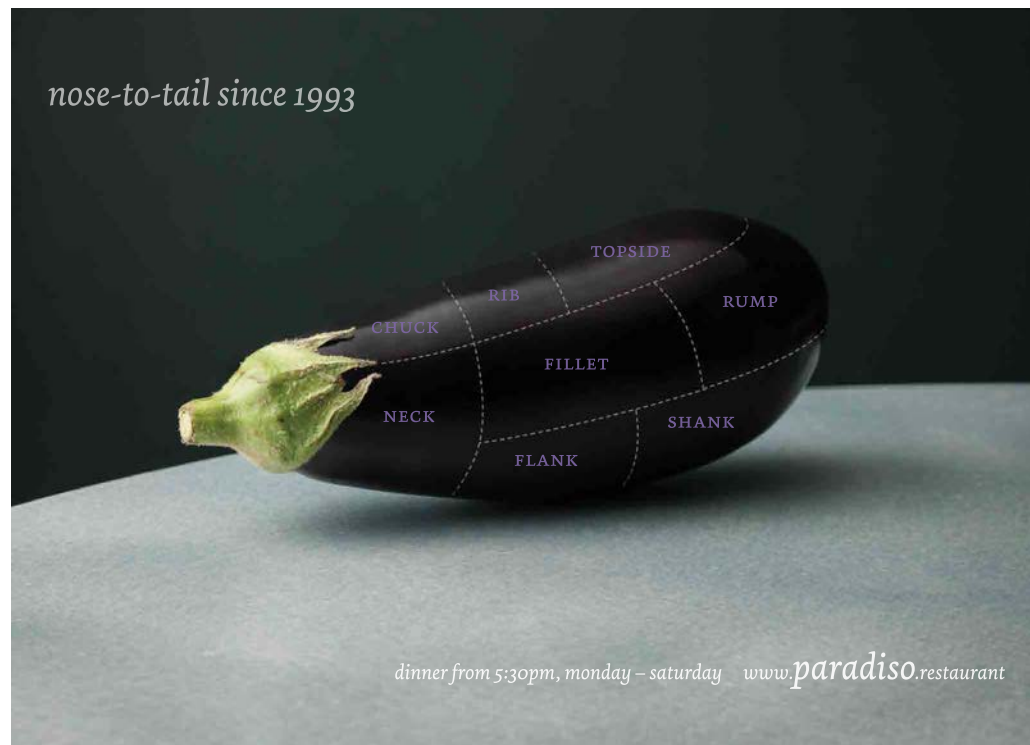
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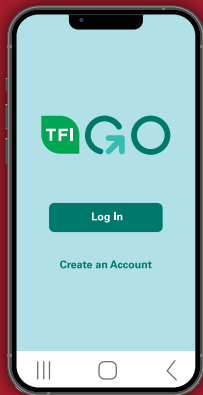
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*“Our three basic needs, for
food and security and love,
**are so mixed and
mingled and entwined**
that we cannot
straightly think of one
without the others.”*

MFK Fisher
The Gastronomical Me
(1943)

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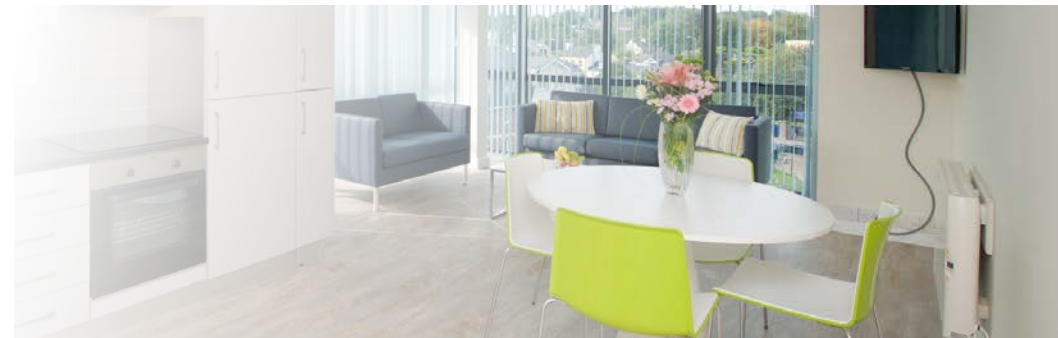


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OPEN STREETS

Cork City Council, in association with Cork Business Association, Cork Chamber of Commerce, Cork Environmental Forum, Transport & Mobility Forum, Bus Éireann, Irish Rail and Cork Cycling Campaign, will hold a series of **OPEN STREETS** events in Cork City centre throughout the summer months – the first of which will take place on Sunday 19 May to coincide with Bike Week.

We are encouraging people to walk, cycle or take public transport into town on Sunday 19 May to enjoy a colourful and lively programme of dance, music and street performances on Cornmarket Street, North Main Street and St. Patrick's Street. These streets will be closed to private cars between 1pm and 5pm to facilitate the events, creating a safe and people-friendly atmosphere. All city car parks will remain open during this period and parking and access for blue badge holders will be facilitated as normal.

This is a kick-off event in a series of 6 planned events, the subsequent events to take place on:

Sunday 16 June, 2pm Kamkàtcha
on St. Patricks Street with Cork Midsummer Festival

Sunday 16 June Midsummer Parade
on Oliver Plunkett Street with Cork Midsummer Festival

Saturday 24 August North Main Street Carnival

Sunday 1 September Autumnfest, Douglas Street

Friday 20 September Culture Night
Cornmarket Street and North Main Street

Times and streets affected and further details on these events will be announced at a press launch in early May and in the run up to each event



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







MAP VENUES

- | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Millenium Hall | 6 Emmet Place | 11 Cork Opera House | 16 The Granary | 20 The Frisky Whiskey Bar at the Oliver Plunkett | 24 Plug |
| 2 The Everyman | 7 Triskel Arts Centre | 12 Live At St. Luke's | 17 Cork Arts Theatre | 21 Actor's Vision | 25 National Sculpture Factory |
| 3 The Pav | 8 TEST SITE | 13 Oliver Plunkett Street | 18 South Parish Community Centre | 22 Gus Healy Swimming Pool | 26 Circus Factory |
| 4 Dance Cork Firkin Crane | 9 Crawford Art Gallery | 14 Elizabeth Fort | 19 Cornmarket Street | 23 Grand Parade | 27 Cork City Hall |
| 5 Marina Market | 10 Graffiti Theatre | 15 Patrick Street | | | 28 Fr. Matthew Quay |














DAY-BY-DAY SCHEDULE

EVENT	PAGE	VENUE	WED 12	THURS 13	FRI 14	SAT 15	SUN 16	MON 17	TUES 18	WED 19	THURS 20	FRI 21	SAT 22	SUN 23
NOW AND NEW														
THIS YOUIIYOU	8	Millennium Hall							2pm-7pm	2pm-7pm	2pm-7pm	2pm-7pm	12pm-5pm	12pm-5pm
ALTER	10	Meeting point – city centre			10pm	10pm	10pm							
GOOD SEX	12	The Everyman									8pm	8pm	8pm	3pm
TEMPESTA	14	The Pav			Preview 7pm		7pm	7pm	7pm	7pm	6.30pm		6.30pm	5pm
PARADISE LOST	16	Dance Cork Firkin Crane										6.30pm	6.30pm	
NIGHT DANCES	18	Marina Market		8.30pm	8.30pm	8.30pm								
THEATRE FOR ONE	20	Emmet Place				1pm-8pm	1pm-8pm		12pm-8pm	12pm-8pm	12pm-8pm	12pm-8pm	10am-8pm	10am-8pm
THE SUN AND ONLY!	22	TEST SITE				4pm	4pm							
WIFF WAFF IS PLAYING AT MY GAFF	24	Crawford Art Gallery		10am-8pm	10am-5pm	10am-5pm	11am-4pm	10am-5pm	10am-5pm	10am-5pm	10am-8pm	10am-5pm	10am-5pm	11am-4pm
THE SUMMER I ROBBED A BANK	26	The Everyman				12pm & 4pm	2pm							
GRACE	28	Graffiti Theatre			4.30pm	11am & 2.30pm								
DETACHED AND THE MOTH	30	Marina Market									7.30pm	7.30pm	7.30pm	4pm
THIS IS IT	32	Triskel Arts Centre										3pm	3pm	
MUSIC														
WINTER JOURNEY	36	Shandon				3pm	3pm & 6pm							
9.57 (SUNSET)	38	Triskel Arts Centre				From 9.57pm	From 9.57pm					From 9.57pm	From 9.57pm	
THE CORK PROMS	40	Cork Opera House	8pm	8pm			8pm			8pm	8pm			
CREATURES OF HABIT	42	Cork Opera House (foyer)											12.30pm	12.30pm & 4pm
NEW BLOOD	43	Live At St. Luke's										Doors 7.30pm	Doors 7.30pm	
SECRET GIG	44	The Frisky Whiskey Bar											Doors 9pm	
LINDA FREDRIKSSON JUNIPER	45	Triskel Arts Centre			8pm									

 Visual Art	 Dance	 Film	 Participation
 Theatre	 Spoken Word/Talk	 Family	 Young People
 Music	 Circus	 Spectacle	

DAY-BY-DAY SCHEDULE

EVENT	PAGE	VENUE	WED 12	THURS 13	FRI 14	SAT 15	SUN 16	MON 17	TUES 18	WED 19	THURS 20	FRI 21	SAT 22	SUN 23
ON THE STREETS														
MIDSUMMER PARADE	48	Oliver Plunkett Street					3pm							
TRAVELLING ROPE	50	City parks and streets									11am–4pm	11am–4pm	11am–4pm	11am–4pm
KAMCHÄTKA	52	Patrick's Street					2pm							
UROBOROS	53	Various locations				3pm & 4pm	1pm							
BE PART														
HOME SWEET HOME	56	The Granary Theatre	7pm	7pm	7pm	3pm								
POSSESSION	58	The Granary Theatre										6.30pm	6.30pm	2pm & 6.30pm
COUNTRY OK	60	South Parish Community Centre				7pm	7pm							
SOLSTICE CÉILÍ	62	Elizabeth Fort										9pm		
UP CYCLING!	63	Various locations	All day	All day	All day	All day	All day	All day	All day	All day	All day	All day	All day	All day
YOUNG CRITICS FORUM	64	Cork Arts Theatre										1pm		
COMMUNITY + COLLABORATION	64											11.30am		
RISING VOICES	65	ActorsVision				7pm								
FUTUREPROOF														
THE COLLECTOR	68	Cork Arts Theatre										5.30pm	4pm	2pm & 5.30pm
KILTER, MATTER AND GHOSTS	69	Gus Healy Swimming Pool							10.15pm	10.15pm	10.15pm	10.15pm		
RADIO SOLSTICE	70	TEST SITE		10am–10pm	10am–10pm	10am–10pm	10am–10pm				10am–10pm	10am–10pm	10am–10pm	10am–10pm
I'M OKAY, YOU'RE OKAY* <i>*Public installations 12–23 June</i>	71	Various locations				11am–5pm (screening)	11am–5pm (screening)							
WORK IN PROGRESS	72	Various locations			10.30pm (Hanan Sheedy)					2pm (Gill Byrne)	5.30pm (Ray Scannell)			

 Visual Art	 Dance	 Film	 Participation
 Theatre	 Spoken Word/Talk	 Family	 Young People
 Music	 Circus	 Spectacle	

THANKS

Cork Midsummer Festival would not be possible without the support of the brilliant community that surrounds it.

Thank you to our co-presenting and producing partners in the city and further afield for your vision and energy.

Thank you to our core funders, sponsors, friends and patrons for your vital and ongoing support of the festival.

Thank you to the most hard-working board, staff, crew and volunteers, who bring the festival brilliantly to life each year.

Thank you to the inspiring and fearless artists whose work we are so incredibly proud to present in this festival.

Thank you to our wonderful audiences, for diving in with us – there would be no festival without your sense of adventure. You activate the art.

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