

PRESS RELEASE  
13 September 2016

## **Light Moves, Ireland's international festival of dance on film Limerick 3-6 November 2016 Programme Announcement**

Light Moves, Ireland's festival of dance on film, is back for its third year, with a programme that showcases beautiful, thought-provoking and cutting-edge new work in Limerick venues 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> November.

This year's festival will feature artists from home and abroad, past and present, including **Merce Cunningham, Terence Malick, Olwen Fouéré, Tacita Dean, Jennifer Walshe, Temper-Mental MissElayneous, Laura U. Marks, Vivienne Dick, John Scott, Douglas Rosenberg, and Jonathan Burrows and Matteo Fargion.**

The festival is an opportunity for audiences both local and international to watch, learn, film, compose, dance, discuss and participate. The programme will include Irish and world premieres, performances, installations, workshops, labs and talks from leading artists and thinkers from across the world. The festival includes a special focus on work from Ireland, a participatory project for older people and screenings for audiences aged 4+.

Details were announced at Dance Limerick on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September by **festival curators Mary Wycherley and Jürgen Simpson**, who were joined by special guest **Professor Mel Mercier**, Chair of Performing Arts at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, to officially launch the programme.

Mary Wycherley and Jürgen Simpson said: "We invite you to delve into the rich diversity, boldness and vibrancy of screendance; film experienced through the lens of movement and choreography."

Light Moves will take place in locations across Limerick, including Dance Limerick's home in John's Square with the historic St John's Church, Belltable Arts Centre and Limerick City Gallery of Art.

The festival is produced by Dance Limerick in partnership with DMARC (Digital Media and Arts Research Centre) at the University of Limerick.

### **PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Burrows and Fargion** will be showing a selection of their **52 Portraits**- a year-long online project with Hugo Glendinning, in which a new short filmed portrait of a different dancer is released every Monday through 2016. The project is produced by Sadler's Wells Theatre London and has had a total audience so far of 23,500 across 100 countries. Burrows and Fargion will also give a live performance of their Venice Biennale commission *Body Not Fit For Purpose*.

Programmers are delighted to be showing two films by **Tacita Dean**, Featured Artist at this year's festival. Dean, OBE, is one of the most influential artists of her generation. She has been shortlisted for the Turner Prize and her current work includes her film *Portraits* with David Hockney.

- In November 2008, Tacita Dean filmed the choreographer **Merce Cunningham** and his dance company rehearsing for an event in a former Ford assembly plant. Sadly, it was to be Cunningham's last film collaboration, with Cunningham passing away a few months later. *Craneway Event* is a document of a celebrated practice, of a legendary man at work, and a moment lost in time.
- Dean's 2015 film *Event for a Stage* reflects her experiences working with prolific actor **Stephen Dillane** as they struggled to understand and accommodate each other's disciplines. Dillane is perhaps best known for his work in *Game of Thrones*.

With **three feature-length screenings at the Belltable**, the festival is inviting audiences to experience the choreography inherent in three extraordinary award winning films through the lens of screendance: **Terrence Malick's** *To The Wonder* (starring Ben Affleck), *Milky Way* from **Benedek Fliegauf** and Michelangelo **Frammartino's** *Le Quattro Volte*.

- ***To the Wonder*** by Malick has been described as "A cinematic miracle", a deceptively simple love story, set against the stunning backdrop of rural America. Having fallen in love in Paris, an American engineer (Affleck) and a French-Russian former ballerina (Olga Kurylenko) come to Oklahoma, where problems arise... This work was described by *The New Yorker* "as a sort of dance" with Malick directing "as if using the camera to make paintings in motion." *The New Yorker* concluded that this film "deserves to endure as an artistic landmark."
- ***Le Quattro Volte*** is an extraordinary film, in which director/writer Frammartino documents the life of a goatherd in the beautiful but impoverished village of his birth, leading us to reflect on the world around us and our place in it. "Its view of nature is among the most profound, expansive and unsettling I have every encountered" wrote *The New York Times*, while *Film Ireland* said, "Movie making at its best... Do yourself a favour and go see."
- The third film is ***Milky Way / Tejút*** from Hungarian/German director/writer Fliegauf. Taking place over the course of a single day, each self-contained scene tells a story. With beautiful visual style and a meticulously crafted sound design, the viewer is immersed in an intimate sensory experience. Fliegauf says, "*Milky Way* is a unique kind of nature film where, instead of giraffes and penguins, we see humans." *Milky Way* was winner of the Golden Leopard, Locarno Film Festival 2007 and won the Feature Film Prize at the Barcelona (L'Alternativa) Independent Film Festival.

**The Keynote Address** will be given by Festival Guest **Dr Laura U Marks**. Marks, of Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, works on the media arts of the Arab and Muslim world and intercultural perspectives on new media. Her address will be entitled "Suwar fil Sarayan - Figures in Flow." Dr Erin Brannigan of the University of New South Wales and founding Director of ReelDance will be another a Festival Guest, talking about "Intermedial Composition: Dance and the Contemporary Arts."

**Invited works** will include *Passage* from **Shirin Neshat**. The films of this renowned Iranian-born artist explore the culture of Islam, especially the condition of women in that world. In *Passage*, a group of men carry a body wrapped in white cloth across a beach; in the distance, a group of women veiled in black chadors dig a grave with their hands, while a child arranges a circle of stones. These enigmatic scenes, set to a haunting score by Philip Glass, were inspired by the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Another invited work is *For Maynard*, a cinematic rendition of Simon Whitehead's live performance work *Studies for Maynard*, directed by Tanya Syed, an artist filmmaker whose work explores performance, gesture, ritual and androgyny. In **Shelly Love's** *Betwixt and Between*, the award winning artist and director uses 18<sup>th</sup> century ladies' portraiture as inspiration, exploring the choreography of glances and small gestures, working with a Lady Sitter and a stuffed dog.

**Short films** from across the globe will offer topics including a supernatural thriller, a B-boy's adventure, Tarot theories and women cycling round the Aran Islands. This year, Light Moves pays particular attention to screendance in Ireland, especially as 2016 is an important year in Irish commemoration. *Proclamation* from **Jason Akira Somma** and **John Scott** presents fragments of Patrick Pearse's Proclamation in a dreamscape of water, reflecting on the migrant crisis. **Ingrid Nachstern** will present *Freedom - To Go!* -a commentary on present day America, in verse form. **Vivienne Dick's** *Red Moon Rising* is a journey, "towards a renewal of our embodiment with the Earth through dance, performance and the spoken word." The shorts programmes will also feature new works from students, and a strand of films in black and white.

**Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)** will be home to the screenings from visual artist Tacita Dean and will also exhibit works from the ground-breaking **24 Frames Per Second** project developed by Sydney-based contemporary multi-arts centre **Carriageworks**. These works will include *The Fourth Notebook*, which takes Nijinsky's letter "To mankind" as the score for new choreography by London-

based dancer Benjamin Ord. Other installations at the Gallery will include *Lift, Carry, Hold* by **Douglas Rosenberg**, in which Rosenberg invites participants to allow him to lift and hold them for as long as his strength allows.

**The Light Moves Symposium**, along with Laura U Mark's Keynote Address and Burrows and Fargion's presentation of *52 Portraits*, will include presentations on topics as diverse as politics, mortality, outer space and flamenco in an exploration of the nature of identity in screendance, film, dance and media, and their relationships to wider fields of study.

**The two day Light Moves Screendance Lab** will be an opportunity to explore ideas and create new work, led by **Shelly Love** (*Betwixt and Between*) and composer **Michael Fleming**, whose work for TV and film has been showcased nationally and internationally.

Indicative of the fact that programmers Wycherley and Simpson have created a home in Limerick for international screendance, the festival will host the launch of the publication of ***The Oxford Handbook of Screendance Studies***, edited by **Douglas Rosenberg**. The arrival of this volume is a watershed moment marking the full institutional recognition of the field.

Light Moves is also delighted to be presenting a selection of the **best new short films for children** from around the world. With stories about cool cats, singing chicks, talking mushrooms and bright ideas, there's something for everyone in this collection of short animated and live-action films. The programme, entitled *Short Tales*, is presented in association with IFI Family Festival 2016.

For older people, there will be a **Dance And Filmmaking Workshop For People Aged 50+** with choreographer **Philippa Donnellan**, Director of CoisCéim BROADREACH, the access participation strand of CoisCéim Dance Theatre, and filmmaker **Mary Wycherley**, curator of Light Moves and Dance Artist-in-Residence in Limerick. Taking place 21st October, this workshop will give participants the opportunity to direct and perform in their own dance films.

At the end of the festival, **the Light Moves 2016 Festival Awards** will be presented for works submitted via the Open Call that demonstrate particular artistic excellence in their exploration of screendance.

Funded by the Arts Council, Limerick City and County Council and the JP McManus Fund.

## TICKETS & FURTHER INFORMATION

**Light Moves Festival Passes and Tickets** are available from: [www.lightmoves.ie](http://www.lightmoves.ie) or Dance Limerick, 1-2 John's Square, Limerick (cash/cheque only)  
Tickets to feature films and family film are available from the Belltable, 60 O'Connell St (061) 774774 / [www.limetreetheatre.ie](http://www.limetreetheatre.ie)

Some events are free, single sessions cost €5, feature films and the family film are €7/€5, a full festival pass costs €60/50, as does the Screendance Lab. For details see: [www.lightmoves.ie](http://www.lightmoves.ie)

ENDS

### For more information:

Light Moves & Dance Limerick (061) 400994 / [info@lightmoves.ie](mailto:info@lightmoves.ie)  
See [www.lightmoves.ie](http://www.lightmoves.ie) follow Light Moves on Twitter [@lightmovesfest](https://twitter.com/lightmovesfest)