Live Archive revisits the archive of Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre through practice. Original company members selected works they would like to revisit and dancers they would like to work with, in order to re-examine and pass on their work. Of particular interest is the process of revisiting as much as recreating the works in their entirety – what happens when dance artists reinvestigate their past work with a new generation of dancers?

The performance is necessarily limited in focus, particularly working closely with four key artists in the company Robert Connor, Joan Davis, Mary Nunan and Loretta Yurick, as an important point of departure for revisiting the company’s archives. Please get in touch with any comments and suggestions for future development. Thank you!

Director/Curator
Emma Meehan

Administration & Production Support
Kristyn Fontanella

Technical Manager
Gearóid O hAllmhuráin

Poster Design
Néill O’Dwyer

Post-show Conversation Host
Mary Wycherley

Special thanks to:
Ken Bergin and Anna-Maria Hajba, The National Dance Archive of Ireland and Special Collections, University of Limerick; Pascal Letellier and Victoria O’Brien from The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon; Centre for Dance Research, Coventry University; Dance Ireland; Dance Limerick; Firkin Crane; Loretta Yurick at Dance Theatre of Ireland; Eline Kieft, Hetty Blades, Aoife McGrath, Mary Wycherley, Roisin O’Gorman, Finola Cronin, Paul Lenihan and many others who have contributed to supporting and developing this performance.
Choreographer: Jerry Pearson with Robert Connor
Dancer: Anderson de Souza
Music: Jerry Pearson
Poem: The Second Coming by William Butler Yeats
Reading: Níall Tóibín

2. Search – Up to a Point 1983/2016
Choreographer: Mary Nunan
Performers: Katherine O’Malley, Mary Nunan, Óscar Mascareñas
Voice coach: Óscar Mascareñas
Text: Company by Samuel Beckett

Choreographers: Robert Connor and Loretta Yurick
Adapted and edited w/ dancers: Anderson de Souza, Eimear Byrne, Robert Connor and Loretta Yurick
Music: Thanksgiving, Midnight & Minstrels from December by George Winston;
Octet by Steve Reich

Choreographer: Joan Davis
Performers: Joan Davis and Lisa Cahill
Sound: Joan Davis and Robert Connor
Choreographers/Original Members of DCDT

**Joan Davis** has lived her whole life in Ireland, where she has pioneered innovative contemporary dance practices since 1976. From 1996, when she moved to Wicklow, she developed the arts practice and performance offerings of Maya Lila. In 2012 Joan offered a somatic training, the first of its kind in Ireland, called ORIGINS. This training covers somatic experiences, developmental and psychological movements from pre-conception to approximately eighteen months of age. In 2013, Mary Wycherley, a dance filmmaker based in Limerick, Ireland, was funded to make a film of the work of Maya Lila. This film called *In the Bell’s Shadow* was given a private showing in the Lighthouse Cinema, Dublin in December 2014. [www.gorsehill.net](http://www.gorsehill.net)

**Mary Nunan** is a contemporary dance artist - choreographer and performer and teacher. Her professional career began when she joined Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre (1981-86). She was founding Artistic Director of Daghdha Dance Company (1988-1999) and founding Course Director of the MA Contemporary Dance Performance at the University of Limerick (1999-2016). Throughout her career Mary has created a substantial body of solo and ensemble choreographies that have toured extensively to national and international venues. Artists with whom she has collaborated include Joan Davis (Maya Lilla), Karen Power, Óscar Mascareñas, Nigel Rolfe, Monica Spencer, Jürgen Simpson and Mary Wycherley. She earned a practice-based PhD from Middlesex University in 2013.

**Robert Connor & Loretta Yurick**, former co-Artistic Directors of DCDT, went on to found Dance Theatre of Ireland (DTI) where, as Artistic Directors and choreographers, they have created and produced over 40 original dance theatre works for theatre and outdoor festivals, collaborating with many dancers, composers, choreographers and designers. Their productions have been described as “a constant reflection on our human states of frailty and strength” (*Sunday Times*) and have toured widely throughout Ireland, Europe, the USA and South Korea since 1989. They are also co-founders of Dance Ireland, the Dublin Youth Dance Company (DYDC) and The Centre for Dance in Dun Laoghaire, (opened by former President Mary McAleese,) where a programme of innovative classes, workshops and performances for all ages takes place year-round.

As dance educators and progenitors of Ireland’s largest, most diverse, Educational Outreach programme, their work is aimed at increasing access to dance and is driven by a passionate belief in the power of dance to transform people's lives, improve their health and put people in touch with their creative selves. They were recently shortlisted for a Social Entrepreneurs Ireland Award for their latest programme, *Well–Dance for Seniors*, a programme of modern dance classes for seniors which has now had over 350 participants and has been the subject of Trinity College Occupational Therapy’s published research confirming its effectiveness at improving mobility, engagement and quality of life. They also direct *Nature Moves*, which combines guided outdoor
experiences for students and the creation of dance projects inspired by Nature, Vintage Youth a performance group for seniors and Dancing Well with Parkinsons on-going Classes in partnership with Move4Parkinsons. www.dancetheatreireland.com

Performers

Eimear Byrne holds a BA (Hons) in Dance and has just recently graduated with a First Class honours in her Masters in Contemporary Dance Performance from UL. While based in the UK she performed with Remote Intermedia Dance Theatre Company. She is the contemporary dance tutor at BIFE and teaches Intermediate Contemporary at DTI. She has a strong interest in duet work and is exploring and developing this area of her dance practice further by collaborating with different dance artists at present.

Lisa Cahill graduated in 2010 from the MA Contemporary Dance Performance at the University of Limerick. Her practice integrates performance, choreography and dance in education. Since 2014, she has been Dance Artist in Residence at the Froebel Dept of Primary and Early Childhood Education at Maynooth University. This residency is funded by the Arts Council of Ireland. Lisa’s own work has been shown nationally, most recently as part of the Limerick Dance Collective, ‘Making Space: Changing Ground’. In 2015, Lisa received a certificate of attendance from ‘Origins’, a somatic movement and therapy training delivered by Joan Davis.

Óscar Mascareñas (PhD) is a poet, composer, performer and musicologist. He has published work, given concerts, conferences and masterclasses extensively in Europe and the Americas. He is the founding course director of the BA in Voice and Dance at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at UL, and founding chair of the Cage-Cunningham Professorship in Contemporary Performance at the Monterrey Conservatory in Mexico. Óscar has collaborated with Mary Nunan for the past 11 years focusing on the study of the interaction between voice and movement. He currently lectures and researches full time at the Academy.

Katherine O’Malley is a dancer, teacher, choreographer and Amatsu Practitioner. She is Associate Dance Artist with Liz Roche Company and holds an MA in Contemporary Dance Performance from UL. Katherine has performed work by Mary Nunan, John Scott Dance, Sara Rudner (USA), Fearghus Ó Conchuír, Ciotog Dance Company, Liv O’Donoghue, Dylan Quinn, Splinter Productions with Morleigh Steinberg and Oguri (USA), Thomas Lehman (GR) and Catapult Dance Company, the Abbey Theatre, Pan Pan Theatre and Bedrock Productions, among others. Katherine choreographed and performed Bias for Dublin Dance Festival 2016, produced by Liz Roche Company and presented as part of Originate 2016.

Anderson de Souza has been dancing since he was 14. He trained in Brazil with Andrea Pivatto, Cristina Moreno, Fabia Vasconcelos, Mauro Rodriguez, Roseli Rodrigues, Ruben Terranova and Tony Oliver in Modern Dance and Contemporary Dance and Classical Ballet. He has been a guest performer to the project Distante Dialogue in the Akademie Schloss Solitude - Stuttgart /
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Germany in 2013. And in Ireland in August 2014 he was guest teacher at COISCEIM Studios in Dublin. He also recently choreographed Body Talk2 for the Dublin Youth Dance Company.

**Production Team**

**Emma Meehan** is a Research Fellow at Coventry University’s Centre for Dance Research. She received her BA and PhD from the Drama Department, Trinity College, Dublin. Her doctoral research focused on the work of Irish choreographer Joan Davis. Emma is associate editor for the Journal of Dance and Somatic Practices, and co-convenor of the Performance as Research Working Group at the International Federation for Theatre Research. Most recent creative projects in 2016 include: ‘Home Practice’ exhibit at Shrine to Women’s Work, Awol Studios, Manchester and ‘Lace Dance’, Bantham Beach, Dorset, both of which explore her female lineage and Irish heritage.

**Kristyn Fontanella** is a dance artist/choreographer and holds an MA in Contemporary Dance Performance from UL. She has toured with Riverdance, Michael Flatley’s Lord of the Dance and performed lead female role in Gaelforce Dance. Kristyn most recently was awarded the Traditional Arts Bursary for her new work IN LiMBO, which will be shown in the first ever Limerick Fringe Festival in March 2017. She was recently invited to perform her duet As We Know It with Sibéal Davitt, at the DRFI conference in NYC and in Dusseldorf Germany at the Tanzmesse Performance Platform. [www.kristynfontanella.com](http://www.kristynfontanella.com)

**Néill O’Dwyer** (PhD) is an artist and full-time practice-based research fellow in the School of Creative Arts, at Trinity College Dublin. He is technical advisor and digital administrator at the Arts Technology Research Lab (ATRL), and also has part-time teaching duties in the drama department. He is a co-editor of the newly published Palgrave book, *The Performing Subject in the Space of Technology: Through the Virtual, Towards the Real* (2015). He is a member of the international Digital Studies Network at the Pompidou Centre and he is an associate researcher of the Graduate School of Creative Arts and Media (GradCAM).

**Post-show host**

**Mary Wycherley** is a contemporary dance artist whose work embraces live performance, choreography and film. She was appointed Limerick Dance Artist-in-Residence from 2015-2017 by the Arts Council of Ireland and she is a curator and co-founder of Light Moves Festival of Screendance. Mary is currently the course director of the Masters in Contemporary Dance Performance at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance.