

DIVE IN , DISCOVER DANCE

DANCE  
LIMERICK

WHAT  
NEXT



**DANCE FESTIVAL** 10 – 15 FEB. 2025

## HOW TO BOOK

Online → [dancelimerick.ie](http://dancelimerick.ie)

By phone 061 400 994

### In person

Dance Limerick Office, 1 – 2 John's Square, V94 RRH6, Limerick City (Monday – Friday, 10 am – 6 pm)

### Individual tickets

Individual tickets are available for all performances as well as workshops.

### Festival passes

A Full Festival Pass is available at €40  
A Friday & Saturday Combo Pass is €25

### Pay What You Can tickets

Pay What You Can tickets for selected events make the festival as accessible as possible for all attending. These must be booked in advance.

### Concession tickets

Where available, concession tickets are for: children 17 years and under, students, senior citizens over 65 years, unwaged people and people with disabilities or impairments.

### Access

All venues and locations are wheelchair accessible. ISL interpretation will be available at selected events.

*Prices are inclusive of booking fee.*

*No refunds or returns.*



Photo credit: Maurice Gunning

# WELCOME

We are delighted to bring you the 8th edition of **WHAT NEXT Dance Festival**, a special opportunity to invite you to experience a curated selection of fresh and inspiring works highlighting the many voices shaping dance today. The festival gathers together performers from across Ireland and internationally over five days of discovery and celebration for our audiences and dance artists. **WHAT NEXT** is a special space for exploration and conversation, where we hope you will find stimulating and inspiring experiences.

This year's programme sheds light on dance artists and choreographers bringing their unique voices, experiences and rich questions to their dance-making. Their work offers us perspectives on relationships, resistance, liberation, society and how we want to be together in our communities. Their voices bring us the opportunity to gather and meet the joy, curiosities and pleasure of dance and dancing together. Be with us for these dance-filled days!

We welcome all our visitors who come to share in and contribute to the ambition and spirit of the festival. We are deeply grateful for the energy, time and trust the artists, crews, guest speakers and partners give us. We thank all our funders, volunteers and supporters who make this festival possible and by extension enable Limerick to flourish as a city and a thriving centre for dance.

Get ready to be inspired, challenged and involved in **WHAT NEXT 2025!**

Curators: **Catherine Young** (*Catherine Young Dance*) and **Mary Wycherley** (*Dance Limerick*)

## OUR SINCERE THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR INVALUABLE SUPPORT

Lisa McLoughlin, Victoria O'Brien *and all at The Arts Council of Ireland; Etain McCooney, Aoife O'Connell, Oonagh Kirby and all at the Limerick Arts Office and Limerick City and County Council; Elisabetta Bisaro, Roberto Casarotto, Anna Arthur and all at Aerowaves; Dr. Jenny Roche, Dr. Grant McLay and all at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at the University of Limerick; the Dance Limerick Board of Trustees; Michael Finneran, Carina McGrail, Annette Moloney, Roxy Theobald, Tiziana Margaria and Liz Kelly; Laurie Uprichard and the Dance Cork Firkin Crane team; Reelika Mina and Jacinta Khan at The George Hotel; Mother Macs; Geraldine Cantillon, Anne Clarke, Muireann de Barra, Marketa Dowling, Deirdre Mulrooney, Mark O'Connor, Myra O'Reilly and all our accommodation providers; Tralee Printing; Docucentre; Spike Badges; The Limerick Leader; The Limerick Post; The Limerick Voice; Live 95 fm; I Love Limerick; Pigtown Times and all our volunteers.*

## MONDAY 10 & TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY

10am	Dance Limerick	Artists only	Workshop	Creative Exchange	→ page 06
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## THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY

7pm	DL Performance Space	€15 / 12	Performances	<b>the body symphonic</b> (C. Prince)	→ page 08
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Intermission — 20 minutes

				<b>The Weight</b> (L. Truffarelli)	→ page 09
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## FRIDAY 14 FEBRUARY

10am	DL Studio	€10 / 7	Workshop	<b>the subtle body</b> with C. Prince	→ page 06
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7.30pm	DL Performance Space	€15 / 12	Performances	<b>MANY MEs</b> (R. Domínguez)	→ page 10
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				<b>False Memories</b> (T. Hoàng)	→ page 11
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## SATURDAY 15 FEBRUARY

10am	DL Performance Space	PWYC	Discussion	<b>Guests in Conversation</b>	→ page 07
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7.30pm	DL Performance Space	€15 / 12	Performances	<b>Un-One-Ing</b> (The Parsley Collective)	→ page 12
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				<b>missing you, missing me</b> (J. Thompson)	→ page 13
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				<b>Bridging</b> (A. Sabra)	→ page 14
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9pm	DL Performance Space	PWYC	Closing Event	<b>Céilí Afro Dabke Ukraine</b> (CYD)	→ page 15
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### VENUES

**Dance Limerick Studio**  
1–2 John's Square  
Limerick, V94 RRH6

**Dance Limerick Performance Space**  
St. John's Church, John's Square,  
Limerick, V94 EP62

MONDAY 10 & TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY | 10 AM – 5 PM  
DANCE LIMERICK

## Creative Exchange

Facilitated by **Catherine Young**

The Creative Exchange has been a core part of What Next Dance Festival since its inception in 2018. Festival artists will come together again this year for two days at Dance Limerick to share their practice with one another. This allows the artists to connect, discuss and be inspired while gaining valuable insight into each other's work.

*Note: The Creative Exchange is an event for festival and local dance artists.*

FRIDAY 14 FEBRUARY | 10 AM – 12 PM  
DANCE LIMERICK STUDIO

## the subtle body

Led by **Charlie Khalil Prince**

Open to all professional dancers and students



How can we manifest engaged futurisms through the activation of fantasy and memory? The workshop will focus on the choreographic foundations of Charlie's piece 'the body symphonic'. Through proposals that awaken the body's energetic landscape, we will bring to question the notions of physical experience, porosity and sharing to create meeting points and renewing the infinite pleasure and power of dancing.

Photo credit: Clara Houeix

SATURDAY 15 FEBRUARY | 10 AM – 12.30 PM  
DANCE LIMERICK PERFORMANCE SPACE



## Guests in Conversation



Photo credit: Maurice Gunning

10 – 11 AM

### *Evolving modes to move on, around and in dialogue, together*

Panel speakers including: **Alessandra Azeviche, Tú Hoàng, Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín, Laura Murphy, Mary Nunan, Angie Smalis, Jessie Thompson**

This panel explores the shifting values and evolving priorities as dance careers progress. Bringing together a diverse group of dance artists, we delve into the challenges and openings that emerge as the journey unfolds.

11 AM – 11.30 AM COFFEE BREAK

11.30 AM – 12.30 PM

### *Currents, beats and rhythms: perspectives on sound and dance*

Panel speakers including: **Colin Dunne, Charlie Khalil Prince, Amir Sabra, Jessie Thompson, Joss Turnbull, Catherine Young**

Spanning cultural music traditions, Hip-Hop, live music and electronic composition, this panel discussion brings together practitioners who are shaping how these art forms interact.

12.30 PM Light lunch served in Dance Limerick studio



## the body symphonic

Live music by **Charlie Prince and Joss Turnbull**

With samples and recordings from the voice of **Mouneer Saeed**, from **Mustafa Said's Into The Silent Zone** *تمضدلا باجر في* and of an excerpt from *Sextant* by **Stellar Banger**.

Dramaturgy by **Erin Hill**

Light design by **Joe Levasseur**

—

Performance Duration  
**40 minutes**

Choreography and Performance by **Charlie Khalil Prince**

'the body symphonic' (2024) is a solo performance-concert that observes the body as a site of resistance, an engaged body which journeys through rituals of excavation, revealing new and unbound mythologies and allowing for a limitless agency of self-representation and rootedness. Created in response to the multiple political and geopolitical crises in Lebanon — this work is a meditation on the body's place in the struggle against occupation, where looking back, looking in and forward become strategies of steadfastness and liberation.

Charlie Khalil Prince is an Aerowaves Twenty24 artist. Aerowaves is a platform funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union.



Photo credit: Luca Truffarelli

## The Weight

Performed by **Erin O'Reilly**

Choreographic collaboration by **Oona Doherty and Erin O'Reilly**

Musical Composition by **Greg Haines**

Music performed and recorded by *The RTÉ Concert Orchestra*, conducted by **Gavin Maloney**

Lighting Design by **Roberto Baldinelli (TBC)**

Costume Design by **Valentina Gambardella**

Sound Design by **Luca Truffarelli and Uriel Ireland Rabinad**

—

Performance Duration  
**35 minutes**

Created and Directed by **Luca Truffarelli**

'The Weight' is an immersive new dance work by Luca Truffarelli where ideas of freedom and subjection, the individualism of human beings and their basic human rights are reflected on. 'The Weight' evokes scenes from daily life, turned compelling through the gestural movements of a dance solo and the power of the orchestral score.

The production was born from Luca's desire to creatively conjure the places and people in society so often overlooked, challenging us all to take another hard look at each other.

Against a soaring orchestral backdrop specially composed by Greg Haines and recorded with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, this new dance collaboration by Truffarelli, was originally conceived with Oona Doherty and developed with Swiss-based dancer Erin O'Reilly.



Photo credit: Sebastian Bauer

## MANY MES

Concept, direction, text and performance by  
**Rocío Domínguez**

'MANY MES' explores Rocío's experiences of transit, loss and rebirth. She delves into an unending quest for the completion of a rite of passage, where echoes of a sister's death, the lingering wounds of a violent love relationship, and the ache of a distant home intertwine.

Rocío immerses herself in the liminal space of mourning and uprooting, navigating a realm suspended in time. 'MANY MES' is one of three productions in the series that the artist calls 'Steps Towards Myself', which includes works in different formats. In 'MANY MES', Rocío collaborates with music composer Ingrid Bocek, and visual artist Ross Ryder, who conceived hologram effects within the piece.

Visual design and operation by **Ross Ryder**

PM, lighting design and sound operation by **Gearóid O Hallmhuráin**

Sound design by **Ingrid Bocek**

Voices **Ariel Romano Daglio** and **Margaret Bridge**

Dramaturgy by **Javier Cuevas**

Videography and photography by **Patricio Cassinoni**

Graphic design by **Nuria Vega Bariani**

Producer **Greta Bourke**

PR **Stephanie Dickenson**

—  
Performance Duration  
**40 minutes**

Photo credit: Patricio Cassinoni



Photo credit: Dantzaldia Bilbao 2024

## False Memories

Created by **Tú Hoàng** and **Hiro Murata**. Performed by **Tú Hoàng** and **Ashley Affolter**

Original Music by **David Granstrom** 'Obsidian' and **Flixk1, DB1 'A2'**

Special thanks to **Marjolein Peters, Conny Janssen Danst** and **James Sutherland**

—  
Performance Duration  
**18 minutes**

'False Memories' is created around the concept of the psychological mind through the perspective of two individuals that have an unspeakable connection with each other. In an abstract way, the feeling stays that they are one entity in their spiritual world, whether they are together or separated in physicality.

Our memory is a very fragile concept. Sometimes we remember things the way we want them to be. Our imagination helps us escape our own reality in order to find comfort or peace.

Tú Hoàng is an Aerowaves Twenty24 artist. Aerowaves is a platform funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union.



Photo credit: Maurice Gunning

## Un-One-Ing

Choreography and Performance by **The Parsley Collective**

Artists: **Salma Ataya, Mary Nunan, Isabella Oberländer, Rachel Sheil, Angie Smalis**

Performance Duration  
**15 minutes**

Riding horses of intention. Through gaps in the land of thought. Through the hole in the middle of the word nOw. Expanding. Riding horses of intention. Lightly. Receiving. Through channels where intellect, Intuition and force meet. Meet. Meet. Meet. Soft flesh. Sweet. Shards of narrative. Surges of emotion. Stick. Stuck. Stop. Drop. Riding horses of intention. Un-One-Ing. And One. Becoming. Almost something. Nearly nothing. Together. Riding. Through that good place that is also a no place. Together. Through moments of unobstructed ordinariness. All in the turning of a dance.

*'Un-One-Ing' is supported by a creation residency at Dance Limerick.*

## missing you, missing me

Choreography by **Jessie Thompson**, Performed by **Alex Vostokova**

Choreography, Music  
and Light Design by  
**Jessie Thompson**

Performance Duration  
**15 minutes**

Disclaimer: **subtle nudity,**  
**strobe lighting.**

'missing you, missing me' is a new work in which Jessie Thompson looks at unique familial settings, the recurring experiences of grief, guilt and the consequences of these.

The dancer embodies human resilience and endurance.

The dance doesn't hesitate to expose who its vessel may become in order to persevere.

*Commissioned by Dance Limerick for What Next Festival.*



Photo credit: Karol Szarek



Photo credit: Maurice Gunning

## Bridging

Choreography by Amir Sabra

Performed by Maeve Fahey,  
Lu Han, Molly Kelly, Wenlin  
Li, Yaying Lin, Yaqian Liu,  
Jyoti Soni, Verna Tainio and  
Xiaofeng Yan

Composer  
Rossa Ó Snodaigh

Musicians Brian Hogan  
and Rónán Ó Snodaigh

—  
Performance Duration  
13 minutes

The name 'Bridging' is inspired by the place it was created for, the Living Bridge, located at the Irish World Academy in Limerick. In collaboration with the MA Contemporary Dance Performance students at the Academy, choreographer Amir Sabra with composer Rossa Ó Snodaigh and fellow members of the award-winning Irish band Kíla, invite the audience to experience an intercultural dialogue in a charged and contested movement space.

From the dancers' first step into the space, until their dramatic final movement on the ground, Amir's choreography inflects influences from his background in Dabke and Hip-Hop, supported by Irish traditional music with an Arabic music flavour.

'Bridging' was originally commissioned by Luail — Ireland's National Dance Company, to mark their foundational partnership with the Irish World Academy of Music at Dance at the University of Limerick in 2024. Luail is funded by the Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon.

## CÉILÍ AFRO DABKE UKRAINE

A World Music Céilí Dance

After last year's successful multicultural closing event, we will be hosting another edition of 'Céilí Afro Dabke Ukraine'. This vibrant, upbeat world music Céilí dance conceived by Catherine Young & The Welcoming Project, will feature dance styles from around the world including Palestinian Dabke, Afro-Brazilian, West African Dance and Ukrainian Folk Dance, finishing off the evening with some of the traditional Irish Céilí dances.

Energised by world-class live musicians, this event is open to everyone to join in, try something new, dance together and meet our neighbours from around the world.

ALL WELCOME.

Dabke (Palestine)  
Salma Ataya

Afro-Brazilian  
Tatiana Santos

Ukrainian Folk Dance  
Daria Asieieva

Irish Céilí dance caller  
Kristyn Fontanella

Live music with musical  
director Brian Fleming  
playing traditional and  
original music including  
bespoke compositions by  
Martin Schaerer.

Concertina & Harp  
Aisling Lyons

Fiddle Andreas De Staic

Guitar Quentin Cooper

Percussion Brian Fleming  
Nico Severin and  
Marilia Magalhaes



Photo credit: Maurice Gunning



# More coming up this spring

## Associate Artist **Alex Vostokova**

OPEN STUDIO AFTERNOON | FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY  
WORK IN PROGRESS SHARING | THURSDAY 06 MARCH

Compass Associate Artist for 2025, **Alex Vostokova**, will be in residence at Dance Limerick developing her solo piece 'Logic of Wrong and Rehearsed Carelessness', alongside **Jason McNamara** and **Risteárd Ó hAodha** and featuring live cello accompaniment.

This work spills across themes of pressure, harmony, and the intensity of aliveness, inviting audiences into a world where the main character seeks to navigate these dynamics. During her time in Limerick, Alex will dedicate three days to researching with MA students at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance. Through vigorous and improvisation-based practices, the group will be introduced to Alex's dynamic language that emphasises expression, character building and narrative exploration.

Vostokova's mentor Matt Szczerek will lead a krump-focused session, sharing tools that have informed this work in progress. Jason McNamara will also join with live music, creating a responsive environment encouraging students to access research and performance from a place of spontaneity and authenticity.

On **Friday 21 February**, Alex opens the studio to local practicing artists and enthusiasts for an **OPEN STUDIO AFTERNOON**. This session prioritizes discussion, sharing, and jamming, creating space for community interaction. On **Thursday 6 March** there will be a **WORK IN PROGRESS SHARING**, offering a glimpse into the evolving piece.

Tickets at → [dancelimerick.ie/whats-on/](https://dancelimerick.ie/whats-on/)



Photo credit: Primachroma photography

## 'Begin Anywhere' by **John Scott**

SATURDAY 8 & SUNDAY 9 MARCH | 7.30 PM | DANCE LIMERICK

'Begin Anywhere', a John Cage quote, is a thrilling new work by **Mel Mercier** and **John Scott**, for five outstanding dancers from New York, France and Ireland and three musicians with backgrounds ranging from Sean Nós to electronic. 'Begin Anywhere' channels Cage and Cunningham's artistic universe and inspirations, from Marcel Duchamp to James Joyce. Commissioned by Irish Arts Center, New York, Both Cage and Cunningham have left huge influences on both Mercier and Scott. 'Begin Anywhere' is their response to their shared histories and influences, taking Cunningham and Cage's methodologies as a departure point.

This world premiere will be preceded by 'Four Solos' by Merce Cunningham, an arrangement of four solos choreographed by Merce Cunningham: 'Changeling' (1957), 'Solo' (1975), and excerpted solos from 'RainForest' (1968) and 'Travelogue' (1977). The solos will be presented in a continuous dance event with music by John King.

Dancers: **Boris Charrion**, **François Malbranque**, **Magdalena Hylak**, **Morgan Amirah Burns**, **Vinicius Martins Araujo**.

Musicians: **Kevin McNally**, **Mick O'Shea**.



Photo credit: Primachroma photography

At Mother Macs Public House, we believe that life, like dance, is all about rhythm, expression, and finding joy in the unexpected. Just as Dance Limerick moves the city through art and movement, we bring people together with stories, songs, and the perfect pint.

Whether you're savoring a rare whiskey in Peggy's Whiskey Parlour or toasting to new friendships, every moment at Mother Macs is an opportunity to celebrate creativity and community.

Let's keep Limerick dancing — from the stage to the bar!



Mother Macs Public House  
8 & 9 High St  
[www.mothermacs.ie](http://www.mothermacs.ie)

# Study Dance at the Irish World Academy, University of Limerick

Free your potential - expand your possibilities - in dance performance, choreography and research.

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For more information on our unique programmes contact Dr Grant McLay (Course Director BA Contemporary Dance) - [grant.mclay@ul.ie](mailto:grant.mclay@ul.ie) or Dr Jenny Roche (Course Director MA Contemporary Dance Performance) - [jenny.roche@ul.ie](mailto:jenny.roche@ul.ie)

[www.irishworldacademy.ie](http://www.irishworldacademy.ie)



# DANCE LIMERICK

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or by phone 061 400 994

    #whatnextlimerick

## FESTIVAL TEAM

Curators **Catherine Young** and **Mary Wycherley**

Produced by **Dance Limerick**

Communications **Leonor Miralles**

DL Bridge Artist **Katy Hewison**

Production Management **Seán Murray**

Lighting **Gavin Byrne**

Company & Operations Manager **Catherine Ireton**

Production Assistant **Liz O'Connell**

Festival trailer, Meet the Makers Videos **Lucy Dawson**

Graphic Design **ClareLynchDesign.com**

## PRIMARY FUNDERS



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



Clár Éire Níodach  
Creative Ireland  
Programme



## PROGRAMME PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS



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OF MUSIC AND DANCE  
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RINNE AGUS COOL



## MEDIA PARTNERS



Cover image from the production of 'False Memories' by Tú Hoàng.