



DAGHDHA DANCE COMPANY INFORMATION BOOKLET 2006

DAGHDHA DANCE COMPANY



WWW.DAGHDHA.IE

Daghdha Dance Company, the leading Irish professional contemporary dance company, is a group of active, highly skilled artists, dedicated to a rigorous discourse in dance, choreography, arts and culture. Pioneers of contemporary dance, choreography and education in Ireland for almost twenty years, Daghdha Dance Company challenges existing practice with bold thinking and courageous actions. Based in a beautiful new home in Limerick's city centre Daghdha Dance Company is a company of international renown.

Daghdha Dance Company proposes a new model of a cultural institution linking artistic production and enquiry to social relevance. Daghdha Dance Company is a catalyst as well as a laboratory for change, whether the output is dance, choreography, performances, festivals, workshops, seminars or experimental formats. In 2006 Daghdha Dance Company launches a comprehensive cultural programme, presenting a number of activities Daghdha Dance Company has initiated over the past years as well as presenting new formats, events and collaborations. Choreography and dance will feature in many disguises from distilled forms of Michael Klien's dance works (such as *Sediments of an Ordinary Mind* or *Once Beneath the Skin*) to open formats such as *Mamuska Nights* and *Gravity and Grace*.

“With choreographic practice at the very core of the enquiry into life, Daghdha Dance Company sets out to explore dynamics and processes of a deeply interconnected world. Choreography is proposed and developed as a ‘pattern-language’ dealing with relations, their dynamics and consequences, exploring change within the fluidity of life. Routed in performance, Daghdha’s work examines its practice from a discursive and transformative perspective, offering aesthetic knowledge to other fields of human enquiry whilst exploring its concerns within a social context.” (Michael Klien, artistic director)

03 CONTENT

04	DAGHDHA'S NEW HOME
06	NEW PRODUCTIONS
08	REPERTOIRE – MAJOR PRODUCTIONS
12	REPERTOIRE – SHORT PIECES
15	ONGOING PRODUCTIONS
17	CULTURAL PROGRAMME
24	PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION
25	INITIATIVES
27	DAGHDHA'S HISTORY
28	INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL KLIEN
32	FRIENDS OF DAGHDHA DANCE COMPANY
33	ARTISTIC PATRON – WILLIAM FORSYTHE
34	SCHEDULE 2006

04 DAGHDHA'S NEW HOME

Located in Limerick's city centre, Daghdha Dance Company lives in beautifully restored historic buildings; the Daghdha Space (formerly the Church of St. John of the Cross) houses a multi-purpose space uniting creative work, play and life under its roof and No 1 John's Square (formerly the Limerick City Museum) houses a dance studio, offices and storage space.



Designed by the architectural company Quinn Savage Smith, the buildings were officially opened by Minister John O'Donoghue in May 2005. The refurbishment project was funded and supported by the Limerick City Council, the Department of Arts Sports and Tourism, the Arts Council/an Chomhairle Ealaíon, the Limerick County Council, Shannon Development, local businesses and individuals.



06 NEW PRODUCTIONS

CHOREOGRAPHY FOR BLACKBOARDS

Michael Klien will create a new choreographic work for six blackboards to be performed in galleries and museums. A carefully constructed choreographic structure brings a fragile fabric of mental relations into sight. Far from the conventional forms of dance and performance, this work will premiere in Daghdha Space in September 2006 and embark on a national tour thereafter.





WOCHENKLAUSUR

As part of EV+A 2006 (exhibition of visual arts, Limerick) Daghdha Dance Company is co-producing a new social intervention by Austria's renowned arts-group Wochenklausur (www.wochenklausur.at). The group will be resident at Daghdha Space throughout April 2006.

THE DREAM MAKERS

Conceived and created by Davide Terlingo as a co-production between EV+A 2006 and Daghdha Dance Company, the Dream Makers consists of a series of choreographed events and suggestions to be experienced in the span of a single day, all leading towards having a specific dream at night. Choreography is here seen as an epistemological tool, a means to explore and reshape the possibilities available to us. The Dream Makers aims to expose the relationship between mind, body and social context. This relationship is a continuum of a fluid nature; it is open to change and innovation.

STUFFSHUFFLESTUFF, A WHOLLY SOUL GUN MYSTRY

Jeffrey Gormly, Irish based poet and associate artist of Daghdha Dance Company has been commissioned to choreograph his first stage-based dance work; a solo danced by Angie Smalis establishing connection between writing, dance, perception and choreography.

"An exercise in imagineeering, 'intense and penetrating into those smiling places where we create' – our real human superpower to manipulate 'stuff all around you, tiny specklestuff locked in everything around you in the air'." (Jeffrey Gormly)

08 REPERTOIRE – MAJOR PRODUCTIONS

These productions are available for national and international touring.

For bookings, please contact:

RÓISÍN KINSELLA

PHONE +353-61-467872 | EMAIL ROISIN@DAGHDHA.IE



LIMERICK TRILOGY (2005)

DURATION: APPROX. 55 MINUTES

CHOREOGRAPHY: MICHAEL KLIEN

DANCE: DAVIDE TERLINGO, NICOLE PEISL, ANGIE SMALIS

MUSIC: LOCKERUNGEN BY VOLKMAR KLIEN

CONDUCTOR: GOTTFRIED RABL

MUSICIANS: WEIPING LIN, ELAINE KOENE, SABINE ZWICK, ALEXANDER KRENN, BALAZS SEBESTYEN

LIGHTING/STAGE: DAVE GUY

Limerick Trilogy sheds a distinct light over an artist's enquiry that, far detached from the clichés of social representation, probes deeply into the function of human consciousness and social coding. Limerick Trilogy is a recollection of movements, processes and thoughts uncovered and woven together at Daghdha Dance Company over the past two years. Michael Klien in collaboration with his dancers has developed new choreographic and compositional methodologies, which filter and reconfigure the sediments of everyday life into patterns and movements. The resulting fabric is imbued with the rudimentary principles and elemental dynamics of life. Klien examines essential structures and phenomena such as mortality, growth, adaptation, interdependence, exchange and propagation. These processes are not only examined in terms of the body, but also in their relationship to other organisational realms of existence such as ideas, memories, conscious awareness and confrontation. Limerick Trilogy outlines an unassuming, rudimentary aesthetic – a primer in the life of steady movement. This delicate process lays bare the human capacity for sensitive knowing. Its manifestation in movement yields a simple and nameless beauty.

“As creators and investigators of every movement, there is an earnestness and truthfulness behind every action.” (Michael Seaver, The Irish Times)

10



SEDIMENTS OF AN ORDINARY MIND (2004)

DURATION: APPROX. 55 MINUTES

CHOREOGRAPHY: MICHAEL KLIEN

DANCE: SHAI TAMIR, MAMI SHIMAZAKI, DAVIDE TERLINGO, NICOLE PEISL

MUSIC: VOLKMAR KLIEN (IM FETT IN COLLABORATIONS WITH WEIPING LIN)

LIGHTING/STAGE: DAVE GUY, MICHAEL KLIEN

A thought is a physical act.

Sediments of an Ordinary Mind is an enigma of human idiosyncrasies and extraordinary traces of the ordinary. This work's distinct choreographic and performative language builds on an ongoing quest for new forms of artistic expression. Michael Klien has devised a range of procedures guiding the dancers to embody their personal 'streams of consciousness' in real-time on stage. Thereby an artefact is created that actively and purposefully channels the existing personal and social setup of the four dancers. A world that is as real as it is fake, utilising underlying dynamics of the human condition: learning, faith, love, trust, hate, remembering and forgetting, trial and error ... in search of the social glue.

"This piece is like watching a Jackson Pollock painting unfold ... Klien's style is radically different to everything else in Ireland." (Paul Clancy, Dance Europe)





ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN (2004)

DURATION: APPROX. 55 MINUTES

CHOREOGRAPHY: MICHAEL KLIEN

DANCE: NICOLE PEISL, MAMI SHIMAZAKI

MUSIC: GOLDBERG VARIATIONS BY J. S. BACH

PIANO: FRANÇOISE PAPILLON

LIGHTING: DAVE GUY, MICHAEL KLIEN

Once Beneath the Skin is a meeting of two works, J. S. Bach's famous Goldberg Variations and a dance-duet choreographed by Daghdha's artistic director Michael Klien. Klien's examination of the semantics of Bach's work is reflected in the choreographic structure of the duet. The pieces, although sharing the same stage are very much sovereign, allowing both the dance as well as the music the time and space to unfold. Synergies appear and dissolve, are created and abandoned. During Once Beneath the Skin the dancers explore their most precious personal memories – facing demons and reliving moments that formed them, creating a physical album of what has been and what is left behind. Endless stories embedded in a directed stream of consciousness.

"Once Beneath the Skin is refreshingly less about the ego of the director and more about the interior of the dancer." (Mary Coll, Irish Independent)

12 REPERTOIRE – SHORT PIECES

These productions are available for national and international touring.

For bookings, please contact:

RÓISÍN KINSELLA

PHONE +353-61-467872 | EMAIL ROISIN@DAGHDHA.IE

IM FETT (2003)

DURATION: APPROX. 10 MINUTES

CHOREOGRAPHY: MICHAEL KLIEN

DANCE: NICOLE PEISL, ANGIE SMALIS

MUSIC: VOLKMAR KLIEN

LIGHTING: DAVE GUY, MICHAEL KLIEN

Im Fett is inspired by the concept of mind streaming – collecting material from the past and transforming it into a crude abstraction of self. Originally conceived as a solo it can also be performed as a duet.



**MUD (2005)**

DURATION: APPROX. 9 MINUTES

CHOREOGRAPHY: MICHAEL KLIEN

DANCE: NICOLE PEISL, ANGIE SMALIS, DAVIDE TERLINGO

MUSIC: VOLKMAR KLIEN

LIGHTING: DAVE GUY, MICHAEL KLIEN

Mud is a realm of effortless existence, embracing a life unknown ... a softening of distinctions ... a rare instance of dedicated spacetime ... a patient substance ... a place to roam the territory of some newfound reality.

14

DUST (2005)

DURATION: APPROX. 12 MINUTES

CHOREOGRAPHY: MICHAEL KLIEN

DANCE: NICOLE PEISL, ANGIE SMALIS, DAVIDE TERLINGO

MUSIC: VOLKMAR KLIEN

LIGHTING: DAVE GUY, MICHAEL KLIEN

A process and instance of loss and release.

“I can’t keep track of each fallen robin.” (Leonard Cohen)

EINEM ... (2002)

DURATION: APPROX. 20 MINUTES

CHOREOGRAPHY: MICHAEL KLIEN

DANCE: NICOLE PEISL

MUSIC: VOLKMAR KLIEN

SOFTWARE-DESIGN: NICK ROTHWELL, MICHAEL KLIEN

Einem ..., a ‘work in movement’, is subject to continuous change and adaptation. In synergy with the dancer Nicole Peisl, Einem ... grows, learns, mutates and lives together through the dancer. This groundbreaking work was originally produced by Ballett Frankfurt, ZKM and Tanzquartier Wien and has been performed by Daghdha Dance Company to critical acclaim since 2004.



15 ONGOING PRODUCTIONS

SEDIMENTS OF AN ORDINARY MIND – THE BOOK

Daghdha Dance Company has commissioned up and coming Irish writer Jeffrey Gormly to write a book documenting and exploring the choreography and processes behind *Sediments of an Ordinary Mind*, the production for four dancers created by Daghdha's artistic director Michael Klien in 2004. In dialogue with Klien and the dancers Gormly unravels the performative language developed by Klien to guide the performers to present their 'streams of consciousness' on stage. The book endeavours to lay a paper trail of the individual and group thought processes behind *Sediments of an Ordinary Mind*.

IRIS – WWW.YOUCOULD.NET

CONCEPT/CHOREOGRAPHY: MICHAEL KLIENT, DAVIDE TERLINGO

DESIGN: RAFAL KOSAKOWSKI

Although the project has now officially ended, almost 10,000 stainless steel rings distributed by Daghdha Dance Company still roam the streets of Cork, Ireland and rest of the world on the fingers of their hosts. The ring is a symbol of an expanded community; an invitation to actively engage with each other, acknowledging potential in seemingly ordinary encounters. Anyone can become a performer simply by wearing an Iris ring. Each Iris ring comes with a set of five simple, written instructions. Each instruction invites the wearer of a ring to show a physical or mental response whenever he or she meets someone wearing the same ring. Iris has a life of its own: rings can change owners; responses can be followed or developed into personal tasks. Here, the choreographers' work is not centred on the creation of a tangible artefact, but upon the facilitating of a social dynamic. The work created, the human patterns of being and moving, become a choreographic work at once ephemeral and playful, the ring becoming the key to a world of invisible links.

Iris has been commissioned by Cork 2005: European Capital of Culture and supported by Absolute Events.



SLATTERY'S LAMP

CONCEPT: MICHAEL KLIEN

TECHNICAL DESIGN: DAVE GUY

PROGRAMMING: NICK ROTHWELL

Michael Klien's installation of a street-lamp, previously situated in Limerick has been selected to join IMMA's (Irish Museum of Modern Art) permanent collection. Originally conceived as an installation complementary to Klien's choreography *Sediments of an Ordinary Mind*, the lamp presents a working mind spread across the fields of the social, the ordinary and the in-between. The lamp is technologically equipped with the capabilities to gain knowledge, to build meaning and to express itself in a limited manner. It gathers information in a public space and uses its light to communicate its findings. To fully perceive and engage with *Slattery's Lamp* is an exercise in trust.

Slattery's Lamp was originally produced as part of EV+A 2004.



17 CULTURAL PROGRAMME



Established in 2006, Daghdha's Cultural Programme consolidates a number of diverse activities, which have been developed by the company over the past three years. These innovative activities and formats lead an extended view of choreography and dance, and have already emerged as a powerful reference in the cultural landscape of Limerick and Ireland. Activities include a series of events, discursive enquiries, social interactions, performances, exhibitions and collaborative initiatives on the backdrop of a choreographed environment – Daghdha Space.

Headed by Davide Terlingo the Cultural Programme 2006 focuses on three fields of activities: Daghdha Space, Choreograph.net and collaborations.

18

DAGHDHA SPACE

Daghdha Space is a space of negotiation, inviting people to socialise and work within a self managed environment. Daghdha Space calls people to gather, take refuge, discuss and participate in open creative processes.

Inclusively minded, Daghdha Space works as a beacon for artistic production and discourse, presenting itself as a creative force, an artistic power station rather than an empty shell to be filled with ready made works put up for display. Many of its activities directly relate to Limerick and interact both with its landscape and its people.

DAGHDHA SPACE MEMBERSHIP

Daghdha Space Membership is open to everyone and aims to bring together all people united by a curiosity about arts, society and processes of change. As well as creating the opportunity to join a creative and inclusive community meeting and working on a daily basis in Limerick, Daghdha Space Membership offers a range of unique benefits, particularly in expanding the possibilities of collaboration and exchange.

For further information on Daghdha Space Membership, please contact:

DAGHDHA DANCE COMPANY
PHONE +353-61-467872 | EMAIL MAIL@DAGHDHA.IE

DAGHDHA SPACE – OPEN STUDIO

A living/working environment providing free access to a broad range of resources, ranging from digital media to kettles, from rehearsals space to sofas. The Open Studio is above all an idea, a proposition to people to interact with and contribute to a particular social landscape defined by forms, actions and thoughts.

Open to members Monday–Saturday, 10 AM–5 PM.
Closed in July and December 2006.



DAGHDHA SPACE EVENTS

All events are artist led initiatives where both formats and contents blend with Daghdha's overall artistic vision. Each event actively immerses both participating artists and public in a shared environment.

MAMUSKA NIGHTS | PLATFORM OF SOCIAL PERFORMANCE NIGHTS | CURATOR: DAVIDE TERLINGO

GRAVITY AND GRACE | DANCE PLATFORM WITH INVITED GUESTS | CURATOR: MICHAEL KLIEN

SOUNDINGS | ELECTRONIC MUSIC, SOUND ART, TEA | CURATORS: DANIEL VAIS, JÜRGEN SIMPSON, ROBIN PARMAR

FRAMEMAKERS | DISCUSSION AND ENQUIRY | CURATORS: MICHAEL KLIEN, STEVE VALK, JEFFREY GORMLY

MAMUSKA NIGHTS

3 FEBRUARY 2006 | 7 APRIL 2006 | 2 JUNE 2006 | 6 OCTOBER 2006 | 1 DECEMBER 2006

DAGHDHA SPACE, JOHN'S SQUARE, LIMERICK

FREE ADMISSION | DOORS OPEN AT 8 PM

Dust off those dreams in the drawer.

Mamuska Night is a bi-monthly appointment of stimulating performances and exciting characters right in the heart of Limerick. The night is a celebration of the creative spirit, placing emphasis on playfulness and experimentation, a place to socialise and be inspired. Expect a rich programme of short videos and performances in a suggestive environment, alternating with musical breaks and visual presentations. Meet people, chat, or enjoy bar service available throughout the night ...

Mamuska Nights are accessible, inspiring and fun.

To submit your work, please contact:

DAVIDE TERLINGO

PHONE +353-61-467872 | EMAIL DAVIDE@DAGHDHA.IE



GRAVITY AND GRACE

13-17 DECEMBER 2006

Running since 2003, Gravity and Grace is Daghdha's annual pre-Christmas dance and performance festival. Opening with three performances of *Sediments of an Ordinary Mind* (see repertoire – major productions), the Gravity and Grace Festival 2006 will focus on extraordinary contemporary dance and performance work drawn from all over the world. Throughout the weekend a comprehensive programme will be scheduled, offering the finest dancing against the backdrop of a relaxed and socially inclusive environment. For a detailed programme consult Daghdha's website or pick up a flyer closer to the date.





SOUNDINGS – AN EVENING OF ELECTRONIC MUSIC, SOUND ART AND LIVE PERFORMANCE

30 MARCH 2006 | 19 OCTOBER 2006 | 16 NOVEMBER 2006

Soundings is a stage for both silence and noise, drone and beat. Experience concerts and live video by local, national and international artists working at the forefront of the audio arts and new media.

FRAMEMAKERS – CHOREOGRAPHY AS AN AESTHETICS OF CHANGE

12–14 OCTOBER 2006

Framemakers is an ongoing series of projects enquiring into a world understood in terms of relations, order and ecologies. Framemakers poses the question of how we can move things in an ever-changing and deeply interconnected world, how we can imaginatively order and re-order aspects of our personal, social, cultural and political lives. Framemakers aims to embody and foster a new understanding of choreography, choreography as the creative act of setting humans, actions, ideas and thoughts in relation to one another, to create order, channel energies, explore dynamics and create the conditions for something to happen.

After the highly successful and well-attended Framemakers events in 2005 (public think tank, Limerick and On Social Choreography in the Project Arts Centre, Dublin), 2006 will be a year to reflect, take stock and plan next year's think tank. A public presentation and roundtable discussion on 12 and 13 October 2006 will be hosted by the initiators of Framemakers followed by a public breakfast at Daghdha Space the next day, Saturday, 14 October 2006.

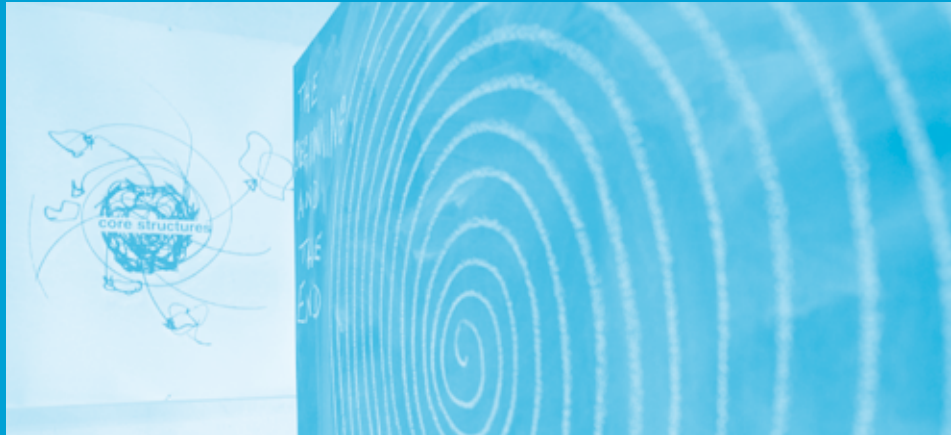


CHOREOGRAPH.NET

Choreograph.net is a web forum hosting a number of discursive initiatives fostering choreography as an autonomous discipline. It advances the development of choreography's methodological bases, challenging established notions of choreography, re-examining its definitions and by posing it in relation to different fields of human activities and subject matters. Since 2002 Choreograph.net has grown into the most important online-reference for choreography.

For more information, please visit:

WWW.CHOREOGRAPH.NET



COLLABORATIONS

Daghdha's Cultural Programme actively seeks to establish working relationships with other institutions. While focusing on local and national networking, the Cultural Programme strives to maintain an active presence and dialogue with international institutions, opening cross border channels and enriching the possibilities available to the Irish arts scene.

If you are an independent artist or a representative of an organisation and would like to propose/discuss an idea or collaboration, please contact:

DAVIDE TERLINGO

PHONE +353-61-467872 | EMAIL DAVIDE@DAGHDHA.IE

MAIN COLLABORATION PARTNERS FOR 2006**UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK**

Daghdha Dance Company is currently involved in teaching for a number of courses in the University of Limerick including the MA in Irish Traditional Dance Performance, the MA in Contemporary Dance Performance and the MA in Dance in Education.

EV+A 2006

The Cultural Programme has teamed up with EV+A 2006, Ireland's premier annual exhibition of national and international contemporary art. Working in close contact with this year's curator Katerina Gregos, the Cultural Programme is actively engaged in a broad range of activities, taking shape in different formats; exhibition of works in Daghdha Space, co-production, collaborations and support to participating artists.

For more information, please visit:

WWW.EVA.IE

24 PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION



DAGHDHA MENTORING PROGRAMME IN CHOREOGRAPHY AND DANCE LOCAL TRAINING INITIATIVE IN ASSOCIATION WITH FÁS

Running since September 2004, the one year full-time Daghdha Mentoring Programme in Choreography and Dance (DMP) is designed for emerging, self-motivated artists nearing the completion of their practical and/or theoretical training. DMP aims to develop and support the artistic, practical and creative abilities of the participants.

Run in association with FÁS, the DMP 2006/2007 Programme has places for 14 financially supported participants. Throughout the year participants are very much integrated with the company's own calendar and are expected to participate in various aspects of the company including company classes, rehearsals, productions, events, promotions and initiatives. In an open laboratory setting this programme aims to develop an extended view of choreography and dance, testing borders and distilling new forms of knowledge. The programme includes workshops in choreography, performance skills, marketing/publicity, production, dramaturgy and audio/visual technology. In addition to assisting and devising company activities, participants are supported to create and present their own artistic work and encouraged to develop as artists, entrepreneurs or to pursue further scholarly study. The programme is suitable for dance-artists as well as individuals wishing to pursue a career in the field of choreography, curation, dramaturgy and artistic direction.

This full-time programme begins in September 2006. Daghdha Dance Company is seeking motivated enthusiastic and open-minded people to take part in the programme.

People interested in participating in the DMP 2006/2007 Programme should send an application letter and curriculum vitae to:

MAIL@DAGHDHA.IE



25 INITIATIVES

DANCE IN EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Running since 2003, the Dance in Education Programme is an innovative programme for schools that introduces dance to the classroom and encourages children to explore their potential in movement and to experiment with motion. As part of the programme the pupils receive a series of weekly dance classes by an experienced dance teacher. The classes are designed to encourage individual expressiveness together with concentration, physical skill and to develop critical appreciation.

Teachers interested in introducing the Dance in Education Programme to their school should contact:

RÓISÍN KINSELLA

PHONE +353-61-467872 | EMAIL ROISIN@DAGHDHA.IE



**RICE – SOCIAL THINKING SOCIAL DREAMING SOCIAL CHOREOGRAPHY**

RICE embodies a new and growing consciousness about how human activity transforms the world. Initiated by Daghdha Dance Company to explore fully the broader implications and applications of Michael Klien's proposition: Choreography as an Aesthetics of Change, RICE specialises in communication, deep research, and social choreography. RICE choreographs unique social situations that allow a deeper surface to become apparent, enabling citizens to sense the encompassing systems within which we perform our private and public lives.

PROJECTS 2006

MEANINGFUL PUBLIC SPACE | A NEW INTERFACE BETWEEN CULTURAL, SOCIAL, COMMERCIAL AND POLITICAL ORGANISATIONS IN FRANKFURT

HOW TO BE INVISIBLE | A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE GARVEY CENTRE FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, DAGHDHA DANCE COMPANY AND ATELIER GOLDSTEIN

DREAMING LIMERICK | A SERIES OF NETWORKING EVENTS FOR LEADERS OF CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS IN LIMERICK, COMMISSIONED BY THE LIMERICK CITY COUNCIL

COMMISSIONED PROJECT FOR 'I CONFESS THAT I WAS THERE ...' | A CITY-WIDE EXHIBITION/EVENT OF/ON ART IN CONTESTED SPACE, PRODUCED BY INTERFACE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER

RICE is led by Jeffrey Gormly and Steve Valk. RICE is sponsored by Daghdha Dance Company and the Limerick City Council Arts Office. RICE is supported by BASTA! Youth Collective, the Project Arts Centre, CityArts, the Dublin Fringe Festival, Dublin; the Garvey Centre for People with Special Needs, Limerick; Atelier Goldstein, Raumpool, Frankfurt; Interface Research Department at the University of Ulster, Belfast; the Free International University, Amsterdam.

27 DAGHDHA'S HISTORY

Daghdha Dance Company was formed by Mary Nunan at the University of Limerick in 1988. Daghdha Dance Company quickly established itself as a dance company with a unique artistic identity and attracted funding from the Arts Council/an Chomhairle Ealaíon. During Nunan's directorship, the company toured extensively throughout Ireland and was invited to perform at international dance festivals in London, Paris, Berlin, Munich, Barcelona and Mexico City. In 2000 Yoshiko Chuma took over as artistic director. For the next three years, Chuma further developed Daghdha's international profile by touring theatrical dance concerts, street performances and large-scale productions throughout Europe, America and Japan. Michael Klien was appointed artistic director in July 2003. Under the stewardship of Klien, Daghdha Dance Company has moved to its inspiring new premises in Limerick's city centre, where it has continued to develop and strengthen its position as a pioneer of contemporary dance in Ireland.



28 INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL KLIEN

Following are extracts from an interview by Katarina Mojzisova of Michael Klien during Daghdha's Framemakers symposium. Katarina Mojzisova, first participant of Daghdha Mentoring Programme in Choreography and Dance, is an independent artist living and working in Limerick. Daghdha Dance Company would like to thank Katarina Mojzisova for her kind permission to print this interview.

FRAMEMAKERS – CHOREOGRAPHY AS AN AESTHETICS OF CHANGE AND CLOUDS INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL KLIEN BY KATARINA MOJZISOVA

Always when a discussion about choreography starts, I have a feeling that big doors made of steel are closing and just a few people are staying in the room – the ones who are making it. Austrian Michael Klien is a choreographer and I wouldn't say that he tries to open that door. He puts an explosive under it and detonates it. From 13 May till 12 June 2005 in West Ireland's Limerick a symposium happened, which connected philosophy, sociology, religion, politics, arts and other kinds of human activities under the title Framemakers – Choreography as an Aesthetics of Change. It is not about a few people behind closed doors anymore. In the reconstructed former protestant church of Daghdha Dance Company it is about changing the world. About 'playing for real'. That's how the Framemakers symposium is introduced by one of its founders, Michael Klien, the artistic director of Daghdha Dance Company.

SO, HOW TO PREPARE THE EXPLOSIVE? WHAT IT IS ALL ABOUT?

It just has a lot to do with seeing a lot of structures that don't seem to have validity anymore. They might have come about for a reason at some stage but they have turned to an empty frame and everybody is accepting them, almost nobody is questioning the deeper frameworks of society, human communication and interaction. There are a lot of elements that have gone wrong, a point of crisis, in the sense of humanity. It's also a deep existentialist need to start asking questions regarding the field we are engaged in, which is dance – sometimes



so pointless that to some degree 'crisis' would be a compliment to this field. It basically wants to reposition what we do and think in a wider sphere of life, not just art, not just social life but life as such and make cultural practice a real part of it.

YOU PUT 'CHOREOGRAPHY AS AN AESTHETICS OF CHANGE' AS SUBTITLE OF THE SYMPOSIUM, HOW DID YOU MAKE PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT DANCERS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS INTERESTED IN THIS SUBJECT?

I think if you are really onto something, then people can feel it. I used the term choreography as a metaphor for certain processes and thinking that at the moment are very apparent in different lines of inquiry of human knowledge. Thinking of interdependentness, interconnectedness. Going back to the Heraclitean river where everything flows and that within this flow there is a need to steer and navigate. If you use the metaphor of a choreographer who works with movement, ignore the stage for a while and treat life as such as your stage – then you have to deal with real dynamics. The stage should give sufficient information on dynamics. Also training your own body should give information on how a complex system behaves. So, it's time to try those things on a higher organizational order like a social organism, to test your ideas that you have formulated against nature and see if they stand up.

COULD THIS BE CALLED A SOCIAL CHOREOGRAPHY?

Yes, I guess ... I just call it choreography. When I talk about choreography then I actually mean the choreography of how birds are flying, how birds' flocks behave, how clouds and waves and the water move around, how people get together, how ideas get exchanged, how cultures pass on their information over generations ... that's choreography. And there is lot of similarities between the movement of the clouds, the ecology of water and the movement and ecology of ideas and humans. There are parallels right across every field of organisation. The base problem is that these things are too simple. The world is interconnected and we don't get it. So what Framemakers tries to do is to find a way to grow a 'sensitive knowledge' that we live in an interconnected continuum and to see what can be done to understand that and to live within it in a healthy way.

BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO BE A CHOREOGRAPHER TO DO THAT.

There is a choreographer in each of us, we all constantly create frameworks in which things can happen and we always manipulate, move and affect people. Much more than we know. Those effects can be used, if you inquire creatively into that, to pursue certain values, to start to see and act differently.

YOUR ARTISTIC VISION AND FRAMEMAKERS ARE STRONGLY INFLUENCED BY CONCEPTUAL ARTIST JOSEPH BEUYS AND ANTHROPOLOGIST GREGORY BATESON. HOW DOES A CHOREOGRAPHER COME TO AN ANTHROPOLOGIST?

Well, I always had this sort of idea that choreography or dance as such isn't particularly highly regarded in society, and not just that, I also felt a thirst for knowledge. I wanted to know more. I did different things, basic computer programming, fine arts. But at the age of 26 I realized I don't know anything. I didn't feel the school system has schooled me right, I didn't understand the current lines of thought in chemistry, physics, biology, maths. Sociology – I didn't really know what it is. It frustrated me. So for one year I just read. By chance, the right books. I was always interested in organisation because I was a choreographer. How things can change if you organise them differently was a bit of a fascination. So I started with chaos theory, complexity theory, went into physics, math ... and I was fascinated to learn they all work on the same thing, look at it from different angles of describing the same reality, inquiring into the fabric of life with their own tools. Sculptor, baker ... if you are curious, you will inquire what makes the taste ... different people have got different lines of inquiry but they all work on the same thing. It took me about 28 years to realize that, which I find extremely sad. Also, choreographically, there is a story behind it, going from the stage, working with software, computer systems, creating non-linear choreographic systems. It was working parallel to the reading, to that knowledge curve going up.

YOU ARE A CHOREOGRAPHER AND AN ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF A DANCE COMPANY ...

Strange, isn't it?
(smile)

... IN THE SAME TIME YOU ARE THE AUTHOR OF A THOUGHT – “DANCE BEING A CRADLE OF CHOREOGRAPHY AND MANY STILL DON'T WANT TO SEE IT GROWING UP”.

Ah, that's a nice line, isn't it?

SO, WHY DO YOU WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD?

Do I really want to change the world? Well, to change the world is relative. I would like people to start understanding and knowing their own epistemology, their own way of knowing to know, how they know what they know ... and rather than changing for the pure sake of progress, I would like to look inside and figure out why we work the way we do. Once you know that, there is no way back, actually. What was the question?

WHY DO YOU WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD. IS THE WORLD BAD HOW IT IS?

I think humanity is in a problematic situation. Absolutely.



32 FRIENDS OF DAGHDHA DANCE COMPANY

ANGELS AND PATRONS SCHEME

“Dance first. Think later. It’s the natural order.” (Samuel Beckett)

Join Daghdha’s Angels and Patrons Scheme and become a Daghdha Dance Company supporter. Become a key contributor to the dance and arts community of Limerick, Ireland and indeed Europe. Benefit from up-to-date information about company activities and social events, complimentary membership and discounted ticket deals.

There are two levels on which you can contribute, each displaying an array of benefits for you and/or your company:

DAGHDHA PATRON – EUR 2,000 +

DAGHDHA ANGEL – EUR 300

For further information on supporting Daghdha Dance Company, please contact:

DAGHDHA DANCE COMPANY

PHONE +353-61-467872 | EMAIL MAIL@DAGHDHA.IE



33 ARTISTIC PATRON – WILLIAM FORSYTHE

Daghdha Dance Company is delighted to have gained William Forsythe as an artistic patron. Forsythe is recognised worldwide as the foremost choreographer of contemporary ballet. For twenty years as director of the Ballett Frankfurt, his choreography and his company's performances have consistently won overwhelming audience acclaim and the most prestigious awards the field has to offer. His work has significantly re-oriented the practice of ballet from its historical encapsulation in classical repertoire to a new viability as a dynamic art form of the 21st century. Daghdha Dance Company, whose artistic director Michael Klien worked formerly as a guest choreographer to Forsythe, is looking forward to an ongoing, inspiring exchange between the two companies in the form of collaborations and mutual support.



34 SCHEDULE 2006

27.01.2006	PERFORMANCE OF LIMERICK TRILOGY DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
28.01.2006	PERFORMANCE OF LIMERICK TRILOGY DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
03.02.2006	MAMUSKA NIGHT DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
10.03.2006–21.05.2006	EV+A 2006, EXHIBITIONS AND COLLABORATIONS DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 10 AM–5 PM
13.03.2006–25.03.2006	PHOTO EXHIBITION BY LIMERICK SENIOR COLLEGE DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 10 AM–5 PM
24.03.2006	PERFORMANCE OF ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
25.03.2006	PERFORMANCE OF ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
28.03.2006	THE DREAM MAKERS, OPENING DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
30.03.2006	SOUNDINGS, GUEST ARTIST KEITH ROWE DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
01.04.2006	PERFORMANCE OF ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN LUDWIG FORUM, AACHEN, GERMANY
02.04.2006	PERFORMANCE OF ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN LUDWIG FORUM, AACHEN, GERMANY
04.04.2006	PERFORMANCE OF ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN DOCK 11, BERLIN, GERMANY
05.04.2006	PERFORMANCE OF ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN DOCK 11, BERLIN, GERMANY
07.04.2006	PERFORMANCE OF ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN TANZSPEICHER, WÜRZBURG, GERMANY
07.04.2006	MAMUSKA NIGHT DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
08.04.2006	PERFORMANCE OF ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN TANZSPEICHER, WÜRZBURG, GERMANY
11.04.2006	PERFORMANCE OF ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN KULTURZENTRUM ROHRMEISTEREI, SCHWERTHE, GERMANY
04.05.2006	SOCIAL DREAMING BY RICE DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND
16.05.2006	LAUNCH OF DAGHDHA'S CULTURAL PROGRAMME DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 2.30 PM
18.05.2006	THE DREAM MAKERS, CLOSING EVENT DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
27.05.2006	EVENING OF PERFORMANCE BY DMP PARTICIPANTS DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
28.05.2006	DMP CURATED EVENING OF PERFORMANCE DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
02.06.2006	PERFORMANCE OF ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN BLURRED BORDERS FESTIVAL, SAN DIEGO, USA
02.06.2006	MAMUSKA NIGHT DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
03.06.2006	PERFORMANCE OF ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN BLURRED BORDERS FESTIVAL, SAN DIEGO, USA

04.06.2006	PERFORMANCE OF ONCE BENEATH THE SKIN BLURRED BORDERS FESTIVAL, SAN DIEGO, USA
08.09.2006	PERFORMANCE OF CHOREOGRAPHY FOR BLACKBOARDS DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
09.09.2006	PERFORMANCE OF CHOREOGRAPHY FOR BLACKBOARDS DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
06.10.2006	MAMUSKA NIGHT DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
12.10.2006	FRAMEMAKERS, OPEN PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
13.10.2006	FRAMEMAKERS, OPEN PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
14.10.2006	FRAMEMAKERS, BREAKFAST DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 11 AM–3 PM
19.10.2006	SOUNDINGS, SOUND INSTALLATION AND PERFORMANCE DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
09.11.2006–19.11.2006	SIONNA FESTIVAL OF WORLD MUSIC VENUE TO BE CONFIRMED
16.11.2006	SOUNDINGS, SOUND INSTALLATION AND PERFORMANCE DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
01.12.2006	MAMUSKA NIGHT DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
13.12.2006	GRAVITY AND GRACE, DAGHDHA PERFORMANCE DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
14.12.2006	GRAVITY AND GRACE, DAGHDHA PERFORMANCE DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
15.12.2006	GRAVITY AND GRACE, DAGHDHA PERFORMANCE DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 8 PM
16.12.2006	GRAVITY AND GRACE, DAGHDHA AND OTHERS DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 11 AM–10 PM
17.12.2006	GRAVITY AND GRACE, DAGHDHA AND OTHERS DAGHDHA SPACE, LIMERICK, IRELAND 11 AM–10 PM

For an up-to-date performance schedule, please see:

WWW.DAGHDHA.IE

For bookings, please contact:

RÓISÍN KINSELLA

PHONE +353-61-467872 | EMAIL ROISIN@DAGHDHA.IE

Many of our activities are free of charge.

Please contact Daghdha Dance Company for details.

DAGHDHA DANCE COMPANY LTD

1 JOHN'S SQUARE, LIMERICK, IRELAND

PHONE +353-61-467872 | FAX +353-61-311144

EMAIL MAIL@DAGHDHA.IE

WWW.DAGHDHA.IE

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

MICHAEL KLIEN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DAVID O'MAHONY

PATRICIA HASSELBECK FLYNN

JAN O'SULLIVAN

JOHN LOGAN

JOANNE MOLES

GIANNANDREA POESIO

