

# LDP

LAOIS DANCE  
PLATFORM

2018



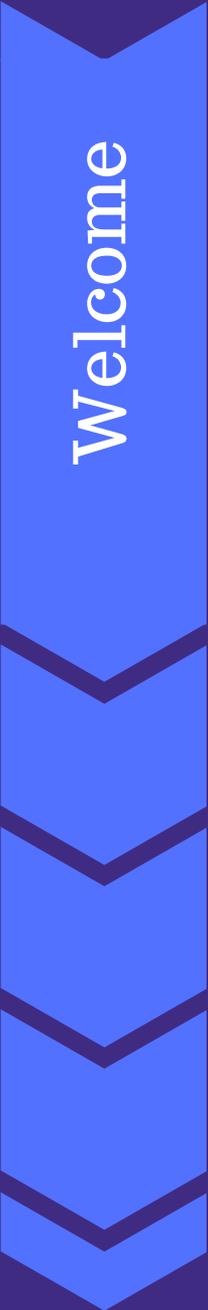
19 - 22 April

Dunamaise Arts Centre  
Portlaoise

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

**LAOIS** Youth  
DANCE  
Ensemble





Welcome

It's my honour to welcome you to Laois Dance Platform 2018. A youth dance event hosted by Laois Youth Dance Ensemble in collaboration with Dunamaise Arts Centre. Our energetic programme welcomes families, artists, dance students and dance practitioners. In this 6th edition, we have in our festival youth dance companies, Laois Dance schools, national and international dance professionals. LDP celebrates the talent of young dancers while contributing to Laois life and culture. With a programme to suit all ages, we aim to offer you inspiring and memorable experiences.

Yours sincerely,

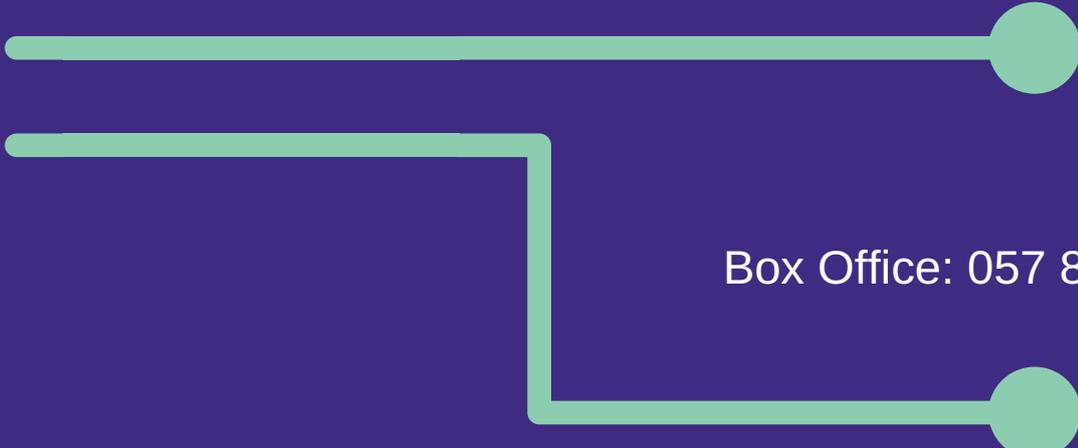
Erica Pessanha Borges

Laois Dance Platform director

Laois Youth Dance Ensemble artistic director



Information: [laoisdanceplatform.ie](http://laoisdanceplatform.ie)



Box Office: 057 866 3355

**Thurs,  
April 19th**



## Bondade que nos guia

Dunamaise Arts Centre

11am

Tickets: €5

A dance/circus performance for children by the Brazilian dancer and choreographer Gabriela Jade. Come along to explore the elements of nature!

\*Suitable for children from 4 - 8 years old

## Bridges

Dunamaise Arts Centre

8pm

Tickets: €5

*'Bridges may be not only physical, but can be built through our life time, as we pursue connections with those we love and the world we live in.'*



Funded by Arts Council (YES Scheme), Bridges is a dance film by Laois Youth Dance Ensemble in collaboration with Company B



**Free event**

As part of the Dance Film Premiere, we'll have the launch of **Heart Dance Photography** in Dunamaise Arts Centre. A work by dance artist Erica Pessanha Borges and photographer Terry Conroy, funded by Creative Ireland and supported by Laois Arts Office & Laois Arthouse.

**Fri,  
April 20th**



## Doesn't suit me

with Daniel Cossette  
(Infusion Theatre, UK)

**Mountmellick Library 11am**

Free admission

\*Primary School event

Booking via email is necessary

## Morning Master Dance class

With Randall Flinn  
(Ad Deum  
Dance Company, USA)

**Ensemble Dance Studio  
11am  
Fee: €15**



Modern /  
Contemporary  
Dance training

## Dance Forum

'Professional dance: When, how, what?'

Professionals sharing their  
knowledge about the  
pathways in becoming a  
professional dancer

**Dunamaise Arts Centre,  
8pm FREE Admission**

**This event will be followed by a  
networking event open to all**

# Evening Performance



## Laois Dance Platform

**Sat,  
April 21st**

Dunamaise Arts Centre

7pm



**Tickets €16/€14**

Featuring performances by  
Laois Youth Dance Ensemble,  
Youth Dance Companies,  
Dance students as part of LED programme,  
Laois Dance Schools  
and professional guests from Ireland, UK,  
Portugal and USA

# Workshops

Sun,  
April 22nd

€10 per workshop or €25 for 3 workshops

Special Offer: 1 Workshop Free with your ticket to the Platform performance, Sat @ 7pm



10am

Dunamaise Arts Centre

**Modern/Contemporary**

Intermediate / Advanced level  
with Ad Deum Dance Company



11am

Dunamaise Arts Centre

**Dance Improvisation**

All levels

with Claire Pritchard, UK



12pm

Dunamaise Arts Centre

**Hip Hop**

Improvers / Intermediate  
with Rachel Sheil, Ireland



12pm

Ensemble Dance Studio

**Lyrical Hip Hop**

Beginners

with Cassie Meyler, Ireland

Ensemble  
Dance Studio  
74 A Main  
Street,  
Portlaoise

For workshops bookings:

087132 8852

## Laois Dance Platform 2018 Professional Guests Biography:



### Ad Deum Dance Company, Houston Texas



Founded in January 2000 by Houston dancer/choreographer Randall Flinn. Ad Deum has performed the works of many amazing choreographers including Steve Rooks (former principal dancer with Martha Graham), Durell Comedy (Jose Limon Dance Company), as well as the works of Flinn and Ad Deum members.

### Daniel Cossette, Infusion Theatre UK

Daniel Cossette, Co-founder of Infusion Theatre, trained at Mimeistry International in Marceau-style French mime by Masters Todd and Marilyn Farley. He has performed in prelude to Dance Houston, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Mark Morris Dance Company. He's taught mime, dance, and theatrical combat/fencing, including for Springs Dance Company, Houston Ballet Outreach Program, the Alley Theatre, Society for Performing Arts, Alvin Ailey Outreach Program. He now lives in Cambridge, England, with his wife Melanie, and dances part time with Springs Dance Company and E33 Dance Company in London.



## Claire Pritchard, UK



Originally from Canada, Claire Pritchard is a contemporary dancer, choreographer, and teacher. Her style is a fusion of various influences, featuring the strength, elegance and lines of her classical training, and informed by a range of ethnic dance styles. Her current interest, in performance and in teaching, lies in somatic and improvised techniques. In 2015, Claire co-founded C&O Dance.

## Alexandra Battaglia, Amalgama Dance Company, Portugal

She is a professional dancer, choreographer, producer, researcher and teacher. Parallel to a course of academic training, with the course of Dance at National Conservatory, she took a Master degree by structuring and validation of the Amalgama Movement Methodology, in Dance University of the Lisbon Polytechnic Institute.

She has worked with diverse teachers, choreographers, national and foreign artists (classical, contemporary, modern, contact improvisation, composition, traditional and ancient dances, Afro-modern, Indian, flamenco, tai ji, gigong, taichi tessens, eutonia, feldenkrais, among others).



## Rachel Sheil, Ireland

Rachel is trained in Hip-Hop with a specific interest in social dances. She also works in the commercial world of K-Pop and creates a lot of choreography based around this genre. She teaches Hip-Hop in Limerick and Nenagh and is deeply passionate about instilling confidence in her students through social dance so that they can become more comfortable in their skin.



## Cassie Meyler, Ireland

Cassie is a dancer and choreographer and began doing hip-hop in her teens and quickly discovered a passion for this dance style. Cassie has done numerous performances both in her home country in Canada and here in Ireland. Her energy and passion is contagious and whether you are a beginner or experienced come expecting to have lots of fun!



## Liam Scanlon, Ireland



Liam Scanlon, from Glenhest, is an award-winning and accomplished sean-nós dancer, collaborator and teacher, working both nationally and internationally. A recent graduate of the MA in Traditional Dance Performance at University of Limerick, Liam has performed extensively throughout Ireland, Europe, New Zealand and Canada. Liam has won numerous awards as a sean nós dancer including Corn TG4 at 'An tOireachtas' in 2008. Between 2015 and 2017, Liam was part the Irish – Quebec collaboration, Sokalo Remix, which brought these two dance and music traditions together. Liam was appointed Dance Ireland Associate Artist for 2017, the first traditional dancer to hold this role. As part of his residency, Liam performed Nascanna at First Looks as part of Dublin Dance Festival.

## Gabriela Jade, Brazil

Gabriela Jade discovered the body as a form of expression at a very early age through drama, circus, ballet and Gymnastics training. At age of 11 she became part of the Brazilian Athlete Team with Ornamental jumps and traveled worldwide winning many medals for Brazil. "What I find extraordinary in dance is that we can integrate all our experience in it. We are part of dance and dance is part of us." says Gabriela.





# LED

## Laois Enlightenment in Dance

LED is a week long training programme for dance students and recent dance graduates with Randall Flinn, US (former principal dancer with Martha Graham, guest faculty and choreographer for Cirque Du Soleil's-Alegria).

Through this programme we offer:  
Mentorship towards solo and dance career plan;  
Opportunity to perform as part of the  
Laois Dance Platform;  
Workshops and networking;  
Accommodation and meals;

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# Laois Youth Dance Ensemble



Founded in 2013 by dance artist Erica Borges, LYDE is a Laois based youth contemporary dance company striving for excellence and giving opportunities for young dancers to participate in the creation, production & performance of contemporary dance. Our mission is to support creativity & confidence, providing an inspiring learning environment for self-expression. Divided into 2 categories (Seniors & Juniors), the company meets once a week and performs nationally (Irish Youth Dance Festival, Noise Moves, Laois Dance Platform) and internationally (Project Dance Paris, Lisbon Dance Platform).

Our most recent artistic achievements are:

- Bridges Dance film in collaboration with Company B (funded by Arts Council, YES Scheme)
- Lisbon Dance Platform (LDP) - We're extending our Laois Festival to Lisbon (July 2018) in collaboration with Amalgama Companhia de Danca
- Performances at the Project Dance Paris 2016, 2017

**LAOIS** Youth  
DANCE  
Ensemble

Join us from September 2018!



For more information contact 087 1328852

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

[info@lyde.ie](mailto:info@lyde.ie)



# Support

Laois Dance Platform acknowledges the generous support of:

Principal Funder



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Funder



Venue Partner



Festival Organiser and Coordinator

**LAOIS** Youth  
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Ensemble

Supporters



If you wish to volunteer at LDP, please contact us.

No experience required.

You'll love to be part of it!

More information: 0871328852

[info@laoisdanceplatform.ie](mailto:info@laoisdanceplatform.ie)

Box Office:

Dunamaise Arts Centre, Church St, Portlaoise

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