The National Dance Archive of Ireland
University of Limerick
The Irish Modern Dance Theatre Papers

Reference Code: IE 2135 N19
Title: The Irish Modern Dance Theatre
Dates of Creation: 1992-2011
Level of Description: Fonds
Extent and Medium: 1 box (107 files)

CONTEXT

Name of Creator(s): The Irish Modern Dance Theatre (founded 1991).

Administrative History: Irish Modern Dance Theatre was founded in 1991 by Dublin-born John Scott to create and commission new works to expand the experience of dance theatre for audiences in Ireland and abroad. Since its instigation, the company has operated the policy of employing Irish dancers in its work whenever possible and seeking Irish dancers living abroad to bring them back to work in Ireland. It has also forged links with international choreographers and other artists, including Meredith Monk, John Jasperse, Thomas Lehmen, Sara Rudner, Sean Curran, Chris Yon, Deborah Hay and Charles Atlas. The Irish Modern Dance Theatre has produced several ground-breaking works which break traditional theatre and dance conventions, leaving audiences thrilled and sometimes shocked. They have been performed in theatres, art centres and schools across Ireland. International venues include PS 122, Danspace Project at St Marks Church, La MaMa (New York), Forum Cultural Mundial, SESC (Rio De Janeiro), l'Étoile Du Nord (Paris), Pustervikstheatern (Göteborg), Varna Summer Festival, Kanuti Gildi SAAL (Estonia), Scenario Pub.bli.co (Sicily) and Al Kasaba Theatre (Ramallah).

Immediate Source of Acquisition: Donated by John Scott on behalf of the Irish Modern Dance Theatre to the National Dance Archive of Ireland on 21 June 2011.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Scope and Content: Mainly promotional material (posters, flyers and brochures) relating to performances given by the Irish Modern Dance Theatre in Ireland and abroad, and other events organized by the company.

Appraisal, Destruction and Scheduling Information: All records have been retained.

Accruals: Accruals are possible.

System of Arrangement: The documents have been arranged into four series according to the activities to which they relate. Series B (Performances) has been arranged chronologically by performance.
CONDITIONS OF ACCESS AND USE

Conditions Governing Access: Unrestricted access to most items. N19/105 contains personal information relating to persons other than John Scott and is closed until 2042 to protect individual privacy.

Conditions Governing Reproduction: Standard copyright regulations apply to all items. For photocopying or reproducing material, please consult with the staff.

Language/Scripts of Material: Predominantly English. A small number of items are in German, French, Russian and Croatian.


Finding Aids: A hard copy of the descriptive catalogue is available at the National Dance Archive of Ireland.

ALLIED MATERIALS

Related Units of Description: Recordings of performances of the Irish Modern Dance Theatre and related images are available on the dance company’s website at http://www.irishmoderndancetheatre.com/IMDT/Home.html.

DESCRIPTION CONTROL

Archivist's Note: Papers arranged and described by Anna-Maria Hajba.

Rules or Conventions: This description follows guidelines based on ISAD(G) 2nd edition, 2000.

Date of Description: August 2012.
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1. **Palace of Emptiness, c. 1995**
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C. **EVENTS ORGANIZED BY THE IRISH MODERN DANCE THEATRE (2001-2008)**

# The Irish Modern Dance Theatre Papers

## A. GENERAL (1993-2011)

1. **[1993]**
   - Irish Modern Dance Theatre Christmas greetings card signed by the company manager Donal Sheils, with a list of its 1993 productions printed on the reverse.
   - 1 item

2. **1998-2008**
   - Extracts of quotes, mainly from dance magazines, concerning John Scott and the Irish Modern Dance Theatre.
   - 2 pp

3. **[1999?]**
   - Postcard promoting John Scott’s Irish Modern Dance Theatre, containing the dance company’s contact details.
   - 1 item

4. **2007**
   - Flyer promoting Irish Modern Dance Company’s spring and summer activities.
   - 1 item

5. **2009**
   - Card promoting Irish Modern Dance Theatre’s spring activities.
   - 2 items

6. **2010**
   - Card promoting the activities of Irish Modern Dance Theatre between April and December.
   - 1 item

7. **2010**
   - Large flyer/ small poster promoting modern dance classes for beginners and intermediate dancers during spring 2010 at Dance House, Dublin, under the instruction of Laura Macken. The classes were organised by the Irish Modern Dance Theatre.
   - 1 item
B. PERFORMANCES BY IRISH MODERN DANCE THEATRE (1992-2010)

I. Choreographed by John Scott (1992-2010)

1. Rough Notes and Dance Points, 1993

11. [1993?] Flyer promoting performances of Rough Notes and Dance Points (with music by Michael Seaver) at the Project Arts Centre on 23-25 April.

2. Night Dances – A Retrospective, c. 1993


3. Dance for Another Place, c. 1993

13. 1993 Programme for performances of Dance for Another Place (with music by Michael Seaver) at the Project Arts Centre, Dublin, on 7-9 October 1993. The programme contains background notes to the performance and brief biographies of company members.
4. Ruby Red, c. 1994

14 1994 Invitation to a preview of Ruby Red (with music by Michael Scott) at the Samuel Beckett Centre, Trinity College, Dublin, on 12 June 1994. 1 item

15 1994 Programme for performances of Ruby Red at the Tivoli Theatre on 10-15 October 1994. With background notes to the dance company; short biographies of its members; and a touring schedule for Ruby Red. 16 pp

16 [1994] Postcard promoting Ruby Red, with contact details of the dance company. 1 item

5. Macalla, c. 1995

17 1995 Flyer promoting performances of Macalla (a collaboration between Scott, musician Ciaran Farrell and visual artist Marie Louise Holland) at the RHA Gallagher Gallery, Dublin, on 9-13 January 1995. 1 item

18 2011 Colour photocopy of an article in German which appeared in Tanz (May 2011). The article focuses on Scott and his choreographies, particularly Macalla, Fall and Recover and Actions. 4 pp

19 2011 English translation of 18. 2 pp

6. Perfect State, c. 1996

20 [1996] Programme for performances of Perfect State (a collaboration between Scott and musician Ciaran Farrell) at various venues throughout Ireland between 12 January and 2 February [1996]. Contains background notes to the dance company and short biographies of its members. 12 pp
7. **You Must Tell the Bees, c. 1996**

21 [1996?] Programme for performances of the dance theatre work *You Must Tell the Bees* (a collaboration between Scott and theatrical writer Tom MacIntyre) at various venues throughout Ireland between 26 September and 19 October. The programme contains short biographies of company members. 

16 pp

8. **Just Bodies, c. 1997**

22 1998 Brochure folding out into a large poster promoting dance performances at the Theatre L’étoile du Nord in Paris in June 1998. These included performances of *Nous – The Loss of the Winds* (choreographed by Fabrice Dugied for the Irish Modern Dance Theatre) and *Just Bodies* (choreographed by Scott) on 5-7 June. In French.

1 item


8 pp

9. **Intimate Gold/That Place Those People, c. 1998**


2 items

25 1998 Invitation to the opening of *That Place Those People* on 20 November 1998 at the SFX Centre, Dublin.

1 item
   1 item

27 2000  Programme of events for the International Theatre Festival Varna Summer 2000, providing dates and venues of performances. These included performances of *That Place Those People* and *Intimate Gold* by the Irish Modern Dance Theatre on 5 June. In English and Russian.  
   1 item

28 2000  Programme for a performance of *Intimate Gold* and *That Place Those People* on 5 June as part of the International Theatre Festival Varna. The programme provides background notes to the two choreographies and their creators. In Russian.  
   4 pp

29 [2004]  Brochure folding out into a small poster promoting performances of *That Place Those People* and *Intimate Gold* in April and May [2004]. With background notes to the works and details and dates of venues. The reverse also contains performance dates and venues for *Distanzlos*, a work by Thomas Lehmen; and for *Rough Air; Fall and Recover;* and *Friezes*, by John Scott.  
   1 item

10. Wishing Time: Notes from an Unfinished Heart, 1999

30 1999  Programme for performances of *Wishing Time: Notes from an Unfinished Heart* at various venues throughout Ireland between 18 October and 13 November 1999. The programme contains background notes to the Irish Modern Dance Theatre and short biographies of its members.  
   12 pp

11. Off the Wall – Millennium Dances, c. 2000

31 [2000?]  Invitation to the launch of *Off the Wall – Millennium Dances* (created in collaboration with musician Ciaran Farrell and photographer Chris Nash) at Belgo, Temple Bar, Dublin, on 25 April [2000?].  
   1 item
12. The Bowing Dance, c. 2001

Also see 88

2001 Programme for a showcase performance Acts of Dancemaking: A Moment in Irish Dance Theatre at Firkin Crane, Cork, on an unidentified date [possibly 24 November] in August 2001. The performance comprised nine dance acts, among them The Bowing Dance which was performed in two parts.

4 pp

Extracts from press reviews for The Bowing Dance.

1 p

Programme for the La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival 2008 held at The Club at La MaMa ETC, New York, on 23-25 May 2008. The participants included the Irish Modern Dance Theatre who performed The Bowing Dance – A Duet for Me and You.

12 pp

Card promoting a double bill of Bow, Wow Oh Baby (by Hagit Yakira) and The Bowing Dance at Dance Base, Edinburgh, on Monday 16 August [2010] as part of the Edinburgh Festival.

1 item

13. Rough Air, c. 2001

Also see 29

2001 Invitation to a performance of Rough Air at Project Arts Centre on 7 February 2001.

1 item

Poster promoting performances of Rough Air at the Project Arts Centre, Dublin, on 7-10 February [2001]. Outsize.

1 item
Brochure folding out into a small poster promoting performances of *Rough Air* at various venues across Ireland in February [2001].

1 item

Postcard promoting performances of *Rough Air* in Dublin, Tralee, Limerick, Cork, Drogheda, Galway, Monaghan and Waterford in February [2001].

1 item

Programme for the Irland Festival in Ludwigsafen on 7-22 October 2001. The participants included the Irish Modern Dance Theatre who performed *Rough Air* on 12 October. The programme contains an introductory article on the dance company and the status of modern dance in Ireland. In German.

56 pp

Card promoting performances of *Rough Air* in Newbridge, Germany, Mullingar, Dublin and Belfast in October-November [2001].

1 item

Programme for a performance of *Rough Air* [at St Frances Xavier City Theatre, Dublin] with no details of dates. The programme contains brief biographies of the dance company members.

8 pp


Poster promoting *Autumn Dances*, a double bill of *Missed Fit* created by John Jasperse and *Left and Right* created by John Scott, performed by Joanna Banks, Philip Connaughton, Olwen Grindley, James Hosty, Robert Jackson, Jenny Roche, Liz Roche and John Scott. With no detail of dates or venues. Outsize.

1 item

Brochure folding out into a poster promoting *Autumn Dances* at various locations across Ireland between 24 October and 20 November [2002]. The brochure incorporates background notes to the two choreographies.

2 items
Large flyer/ small poster promoting the touring schedule for Autumn Dances during October and November [2002].

15. (like) Silver, c. 2004

Brochure folding out into a small poster promoting performances of (like) Silver in Tralee, Mullingar, Roscommon, Dublin and Bray in November and December between 22 November and 8 December [2004?]. The brochure incorporates background notes to the work and details of performance dates and venues.

Poster promoting performances of (like) Silver at the Project Arts Centre, Dublin, on 30 November-4 December [2004?]. Outsize.


2008 Poster promoting performances of (like) Silver by the Irish Modern Dance Theatre at the Scenario Pubblico Performing Arts Centre in Florence, Italy, on 1-2 March 2008. Outsize.

16. Fall and Recover, c. 2004

Also see 18-19, 29

Poster promoting performances of Fall and Recover (a dance choreographed by Scott for 13 survivors of torture from 10 countries) at the Project Arts Centre, Dublin, on 8-12 March 2005. Outsize.
Brochure promoting a performance of *Fall and Recover* at The Belltable, Limerick, on 8 April [2006]. The brochure incorporates extracts from press reviews relating to the choreography and a list of the dance company’s February tour dates.

1 item

Poster promoting performances of *Fall and Recover* at the Project Arts Centre, Dublin, on 14-16 May 2009 as part of Dublin Dance Festival. Outsize.

1 item

Copy of *Movement Research: Performance Journal* No. 35 (August 2009). The journal includes an article (p. 12) relating to *Fall and Recover* entitled ‘Making Dance to Survive Torture’.

48 pp

Photocopy of page 12 of 53.

1 p

Flyer promoting the US premiere of *Fall and Recover* at La MaMa ETC, New York, on 25 March-9 April 2011.

1 item

Programme promoting performances of *Fall and Recover* at the Ellen Stewart Theatre at La MaMa, New York, between 25 March and 9 April 2011. The programme includes brief biographies of the performers and quotes by the cast about their dance work.

12 pp

Press release providing an introduction to *Fall and Recover* and its US premiere.

2 pp

Press release announcing the postponement of the US premiere of *Fall and Recover* from 17 to 25 March owing to ‘issues with homeland security’.

1 p
Extracts from press reviews for the performance of *Fall and Recover* at La MaMa ETC in 2011.

1 p

Poster promoting performances of *Fall and Recover*, with no detail of dates or venues but identical in its general design to 50 and 52. Outsize.

1 item

17. *The White Piece, c. 2005*

Poster promoting performances of *The White Piece: For Today and Tomorrow (the effect of love)* at Project Arts Centre, Dublin, on 23-27 August. Outsize.

1 item

Brochure promoting performances of *The White Piece: For Today and Tomorrow (The Effect of Love)* at various venues in Roscommon and county Dublin between 23 August and 9 September [2005].

2 items

Programme of events for the Fórum Cultural Mundial (World Culture Forum) in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, in November 2006, established ‘to promote culture as a fundamental dimension of contemporary life’. The forum incorporated a number of theatre and dance performances, including *The White Place* on 27-28 November. Damaged.

44 pp

Introductory notes to *The White Piece*, and related extracts from press cuttings.

2 pp

18. *RrrrrrrKILLKILLKILL … to Infinity (Make It Look Real), c. 2005*

Poster promoting a preview and performances of *RrrrrrrKILLKILLKILL…to infinity (MAKE IT LOOK REAL)* (a collaborative effort between John Scott and Chris Yon) at Project Arts Centre on 6-10 December [2005]. Outsize.

1 item
66 [2005] Flyer promoting a preview and performances of *RrrrrrrKILLKILLKILL…to infinity (MAKE IT LOOK REAL)* at the Project Arts Centre on 6-10 December [2005].

1 item


1 item


1 item

69 2007 Programme of events at Performance Space 122, New York, for March-June 2007. These included performances of *RrrrrrrKILLKILLKILL…to infinity (MAKE IT LOOK REAL)* on 15-18 March.

18 pp

70 [2007?] Poster promoting a performance of *RrrrrrrKILLKILLKILL…to infinity (MAKE IT LOOK REAL)* at Roscommon Arts Centre on 9 November. Outsize.

1 item

71 [2007] Brochure promoting a performance of *RrrrrrrKILLKILLKILL…to infinity (MAKE IT LOOK REAL)* at The Playhouse, Derry, on 10 November [2007]. The brochure incorporates background notes to the work.

2 items

72 2007 Brochure folding out into a large poster promoting the fourth Mois Américain à Grenoble Festival on 16 November-23 December 2007. Among the festival participants was the Irish Modern Dance Theatre who performed *RrrrrrrKILLKILLKILL…to infinity (MAKE IT LOOK REAL)* at Cité Danse on 16-17 November. In French.

1 item

73 [2006?] Card promoting a double bill of *Silvery Snot* (created by Scott) and *Efecto Mariposa* (created and performed by Blanca Arrieta).

1 item


74 2006 Programme for the International Dance Festival Ireland held on 21 April-7 May 2006 in Dublin. The events included a performance of *Close Ups* at the Temple Bar Gallery on 3 and 4 May.

32 pp

21. *Next to Skin*, c. 2007

75 [2008] Poster promoting performances of *Next to Skin* at the Project Arts Centre, Dublin, on 15-19 January [2008]. Outsize.

1 item

76 2008 Large flyer/ small poster promoting performances of *Next to Skin* at the Project Arts Centre on 14-19 January 2008.

1 item

77 [2008] Card promoting the touring schedule of *Next to Skin* in January-February [2008].

1 item


78 2008 Flyer promoting performances of *Rhythmic Space* at Temple Bar Gallery and Studios on 15-20 September 2008 as part of Dublin Fringe Festival.

1 item
23. Actions, c. 2010

Also see 18-19

79  [c. 2011] Poster promoting *Actions*, with no detail of dates or venues. Outsize.

80  2011 Card promoting a performance of *Actions* at La MaMa ETC, New York, on 10-11 January 2011.

81  2011 Card promoting a performance of *Actions* at the Mermaid Arts Centre, Bray, on 19 January 2011.

82  2011 Card promoting a performance of *Actions* at St John’s Arts Centre, Listowel, on 20 January 2011.

83  2011 Card promoting a performance of *Actions* at Mullingar Arts Centre on 1 February 2011.

84  2011 Card promoting a performance of *Actions* at the Civic Theatre, Tallaght, on 3 February 2011.

85  2011 Card promoting a performance of *Actions* at West Cork Arts Centre, Skibbereen, on 4 February.

86  2011 Card promoting a performance of *Actions* at The Courthouse Arts Centre, Tinahely, on 6 February.

87  2011 Card promoting a performance of *Actions* during the Queer Zagreb Festival on 26 April-6 May.
Programme for the This Is Queer Zagreb Festival on 26 April-6 May 2011. Among the participants was the Irish Modern Dance Company who performed John Scott's choreographies Actions and The Bowing Dance on 27 April. Inserted between the pages is a smaller fold-out programme for the same festival. Both items in English and Croatian.

2. In This Moment, c. 2010

Poster promoting performances of In This Moment (a work created in collaboration with video artist Charles Atlas) at Project Arts Centre, Dublin, on 27 November-4 December [2010]. Outsize.

Card promoting performances of In This Moment at Project Arts Centre, Dublin, between 26 November and 4 December 2010.

Brochure folding out into a small poster promoting performances of In This Moment at Project Arts Centre, Dublin, between 27 November and 4 December [2010].

II Choreographed by Other Artists (1995-2007)

Also see 24-29

1. Palace of Emptiness, c. 1995

Flyer promoting the tour dates for Palace of Emptiness (created by John Wisman) at venues across Ireland in August and September.

Also see 22-23

94 [1997] Invitation to the opening of Nous [The Loss of the Winds] (a choreography by Fabrice Dugied) at the St Francis Xavier Centre, Dublin, on 23 October [1997].

1 item

3. It Is Better to…, c. 2004

95 2004 Invitation to the world premiere of It Is Better to…, choreographed by Thomas Lehmen, at Project Arts Centre on 30 September 2004.

1 item

96 [2008?] Poster promoting performances of It Is Better to… at Draiocht Arts Centre, Dublin, The Dock Arts Centre, Carrick-on-Shannon, and the Mermaid Arts Centre, Dublin, on 21-23 October [2008?]. Outsize.

1 item

4. Double B(l)ind, 2004

97 2005 Brochure folding out into a small poster promoting performance of Double B(l)ind, a work conceived by Agnès Chekroun, Fabrice Mazliah and Jone San Martin, at the Samuel Beckett Theatre, Trinity College, Dublin, on 21-22 July 2006. The event was organised by the Irish Modern Dance Theatre in association with the Alliance Francaise, the Goethe-Institut Dublin and the Instituto Cervantes. The brochure also promotes workshops by the three choreographers and by Sara Rudner and Deborah Hay in July, August and November 2006.

1 item
5. This Dancing Life, 2007

98 [2007] Poster promoting performances of *This Dancing Life* (a celebration of dance and dancers featuring an international cast on 20 virtuoso dancers choreographed by Sara Rudner) at the SS Michael and John Hall, Temple Bar, Dublin, on 12-19 August [2007]. Outsize.

1 item

99 [2007] Card promoting performances of *This Dancing Life* at the SS Michael and John, Temple Bar, Dublin, and at Kilkenny Arts Festival, on 12-19 August.

1 item

III Unspecified Performances (2010)

100 2008 Invitation to a benefit event entitled *Save the Date* to honour Micki Wesson for her continuing support for the New York dance community. The event was held at La MaMa ETC, New York, on 22 May 2008 and comprised 18 performers, among whom was John Scott.

1 item

101 2010 Card promoting the La Mama Moves! Dance Festival in June 2010, containing details of performances, dates and venues. The performers included John Scott.

1 item

C. EVENTS ORGANIZED BY THE IRISH MODERN DANCE THEATRE (2001-2008)

102 [2001] Brochure promoting films, workshops, public talk and a concert by Meredith Monk at various venues in Dublin on 27-31 October [2001]. This was Monk’s debut in Ireland, at the invitation of the Irish Modern Dance Theatre.

1 item
103  2006  Postcard promoting a lecture by Deborah Hay on the Performance of Beauty at Basement Space, Temple Bar, Dublin on 7 November 2006. The event was organised by the Irish Modern Dance Theatre in association with Critical Voices 3.

2 items

104  2007  Card promoting performances of *Romeo and Juliet*, *Foulplay* and *Sologroove* by the Italian dance company Compagnia Zappala Danza at the Civic Theatre, Tallaght, on 10 December 2007. The event was organised by the Irish Modern Dance Theatre assisted by the Italian Cultural Institute. The reverse of the card also promotes the 2007/2008 performances and classes by the Irish Modern Dance Theatre.

1 item


105  1996:1998-1999  Photocopies of letters from dancer Jacqueline Robinson, Paris, to Scott, concerning her itinerary, Scot’s performances, and Robinson’s wish to leave to Scott all documentation relating to modern dance in Dublin in the 1940s that she has collected for a book she has wanted to write but now feels incapable of completing owing to her failing health. *Closed. Review 2042.*

6 items

106  June 2000  Itinerary for a return flight from Dublin to Sophia via Paris.

1 item

107  Undated  Running order for the cast for an unspecified choreography.

2 pp