



**The Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre  
Papers**

**N37**

**The National Dance Archive of Ireland  
Glucksman Library  
University of Limerick**

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The Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre Papers**

**Reference Code:** IE 2135 N37

**Title:** The Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre Papers

**Dates of Creation:** 1986-1989

**Level of Description:** Fonds

**Extent and Medium:** 32 items (27 files)

## **CONTEXT**

**Name of Creator(s):** The Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre (1979-1989).

**Administrative History:** In September 1977, Karen Callaghan and Joan Davis co-founded the Dublin Contemporary Dance Studio in Harold's Cross, Dublin to pioneer modern dance in Ireland. Two years later, they established the studio's performing company, the Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre, which rapidly built up a varied repertoire of both original and guest choreographers' work. Many of Ireland's key choreographers and dancers began their professional careers with this company. In spite of its distinguished track record, the Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre was forced to fold in 1989, when the Arts Council cut its funding. Its spirit lives on in Dance Theatre of Ireland, founded by the company's former co-Artistic Directors Robert Connor and Loretta Yurick.

**Immediate Source of Acquisition:** Donated by Robert Connor and Loretta Yurick of Dance Theatre of Ireland to the National Dance Archive of Ireland on 8 November 2011.

## **CONTENT AND STRUCTURE**

**Scope and Content:** Prospectus, repertoire, promotional material, programmes, and photographs illustrating Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre's activities during the five final years of its existence.

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

**Accruals:** Accruals are unlikely.

**System of Arrangement:** The items have been arranged into three series according to the activities to which they relate. Section 2 (performances) has been further subdivided by choreography and arranged chronologically by date of creation.

## **CONDITIONS OF ACCESS AND USE**

**Conditions Governing Access:** Unrestricted access to all items.

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

**Language/ Scripts of Material:** English.

**Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:** Paper documents and photographs in good condition.

**Finding Aids:** A hard copy of the descriptive catalogue is available at the Special Collections and Archives Department, Glucksman Library, University of Limerick.

## **ALLIED MATERIALS**

**Related Units of Description:** For additional material relating to the Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre, see N39 (Joan Davis Papers) at the National Dance Archive of Ireland. For Dance Theatre of Ireland, see N38 at the National Dance Archive of Ireland.

## **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, *Irish Guidelines for Archival Description*, 2009, *National Council on Archives: Rules for the Construction of Personal, Place and Corporate Names*, 1997, and *EAP Guidance on Data Protection for Archive Services*, 2018.

**Date of Description:** September 2012. Revised July 2019.

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**The Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre Papers**

**1 PROSPECTUS AND REPERTOIRE (1989)**

- 1/1 [c. 1989]  
Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre prospectus, comprising the company's aims and objectives, history, artistic policies, administration, teaching, schools programme, and performances to date. Also incorporated are photocopies of press cuttings of and photographs taken during performances.  
54 pp.
- 1/2 [c. 1989]  
List of choreographies created by Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre between 1979 and 1989, providing the name and date of each dance work and the name of its choreographer.  
3 pp.

**2 CHOREOGRAPHIES AND EVENTS (1985-1989)**

**2.1 Lunar Parables, 1985**

- 2/1/1 1985  
Poster promoting performances of *Lunar Parables*, choreographed by Jerry and Sara Pearson, at the Chaplaincy Centre, Edinburgh on 26-31 August 1985. Outsize.  
1 item

**2.2 Telecom Erring, 1985**

- 2/2/1 [November] 1985  
Video tape containing a recording of Word Works, an evening of dance by Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre in the Molesworth Hall, Dublin. The evening's repertoire included *Éireann go breá*, *Polyester Pyjamas and Things like That*, and *Telecom Erring*. Also a digital copy of same. Duration 01:01:48.  
2 items

### 2.3 Single Line Traffic, 1986

2/3/1 12 April 1986  
Video tape containing a recording of a performance of *Single Line Traffic* by Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre at the Belltable, Limerick. Also a digital copy of same spread across two discs. Total duration 02:12:18. The quality of recording is poor.

3 items

2/3/2 1986  
Flyer promoting performances of *Single Line Traffic* choreographed by Yoshiko Chuma at Lombard Street Studio, Dublin on 29 September-4 October 1986 as part of Dublin Theatre Festival.

1 item

### 2.4 Still in Motion, 1987

2/4/1 [1987]  
Poster promoting *Still in Motion*, an evening of dance performances by Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre [at the Peacock Theatre, Dublin on 29 June-11 July 1987?]. Outsize.

1 item

2/4/2 [1987]  
Flyer promoting performances of *Still in Motion*, an evening of dance performances by Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre at the Peacock Theatre, Dublin on 29 June-11 July [1987].

1 item

2/4/3 [1987]  
Programme of performances of *Still in Motion*, an evening of dance performances by Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre. The evening's repertoire included *Freefall*, *Dreams of a Boy Child*, *Heaven Somewhere*, *Simon Says*, *Sojourn*, and *Don't Ask Me to Choose*. Incorporates a brief history of the company and biographies of its principal members.

12 pp.

## 2.5 Art Bridgman and Myrna Packer, 1988

- 2/5/1 1988  
Card promoting performances by American dancers Art Bridgman and Myrna Packer with Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre at Project Arts Centre, Dublin on 1-6 February 1988.  
1 item
- 2/5/2 1988  
Flyer promoting performances by Art Bridgman and Myrna Packer with Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre at Project Arts Centre, Dublin on 1-6 February 1988.  
1 item
- 2/5/3 1988  
Programme of performances by Art Bridgman and Myrna Packer with Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre at Project Arts Centre, Dublin on 1-6 February 1988. The repertoire, which varied from evening to evening, was selected from the following pieces: *Hypercharge*, *Heaven Somewhere*, *Castrato*, *Warning – Dawning*, *Later That Day*, *It All Came Back*, and *Primate Songs*. The programme incorporates a brief history of the company, biographies of its principal members, and biographies of the guest artists.  
12 pp.

## 2.6 Into the Night, 1988

- 2/6/1 1988  
Poster promoting performances of *Into the Night*, an evening of dance performances by Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre with guest artists at St Francis Xavier Hall, Dublin on 30 May-4 June 1988. Outsize.  
1 item
- 2/6/2 1988  
Invitation to a performance of *Into the Night*, an evening of dance performances by Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre with guest artists at the St Francis Xavier Hall, Dublin on 31 May 1988.  
2 items
- 2/6/3 1988  
Card promoting performances of *Into the Night*, an evening of dance performances by Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre with guest artists at the St Francis Xavier Hall, Dublin on 30 May-4 June 1988.  
1 item

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2/6/4 1988  
Flyer promoting performances of *Into the Night*, an evening of dance performances by Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre with guest artists at the St Francis Xavier Hall, Dublin on 30 May-4 June 1988.  
1 item

2/6/5 1988  
Programme of performances of *Into the Night*, an evening of dance performances by Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre with guest artists at the St Francis Xavier Hall, Dublin on 30 May-4 June 1988. The evening's repertoire included *Celtic Night*, *Bread and Kerosene*, *Later that Day*, *It All Came Back*, *Ancestral Light*, and *Agony, Romance, and other Cosmopolitan Pages*. The programme incorporates a brief history of the company, and biographies of its principal members and guest choreographers Art Bridgman, Myrna Packer, and Randy Glynn.  
12 pp.

### 2.7 Bloomsday: Impressions of James Joyce's Ulysses, 1988

2/7/1 1988  
Poster promoting performances of *Bloomsday: Impressions of James Joyce's Ulysses*, a dance, theatre and opera production conceived and directed by Jerry Pearson, at Lombard Street Studios, Dublin on 3-15 October 1988. Outsize.  
1 item

2/7/2 1988  
Card promoting performances of *Bloomsday: Impressions of James Joyce's Ulysses* at Lombard Street Studios, Dublin on 3-15 October 1988.  
1 item

2/7/3 1988  
Flyer promoting performances of *Bloomsday: Impressions of James Joyce's Ulysses* at Lombard Street Studios, Dublin on 3-15 October 1988.  
2 items

2/7/4 1988  
Programme of performances of *Bloomsday: Impressions of James Joyce's Ulysses*. Incorporates a brief history of the company, biographies of its principal members and guest choreographer Jerry Pearson.  
12 pp.



## 2.8 Modern Daze, 1989

- 2/8/1 [1989]  
Poster promoting a preview and performances of *Modern Daze*, created by guest choreographer Nina Martin, and *Changing Faces*, a solo performance by Nina Martin, at Project Arts Centre, Dublin on 7-18 February [1989].  
Outsize.  
1 item
- 2/8/2 [1989]  
Card promoting a preview and performances of *Modern Daze* and *Changing Faces* at Project Arts Centre, Dublin on 7-18 February [1989].  
1 item
- 2/8/3 [1989]  
Flyer promoting a preview and performances of *Modern Daze* and *Changing Faces* at Project Arts Centre, Dublin on 7-18 February [1989].  
1 item
- 2/8/4 [1989]  
Programme of performances of *Modern Daze* and *Changing Faces* at Project Arts Centre, Dublin on 7-18 February [1989]. Incorporates a brief history of the company and biographies of its principal members and guest choreographer/ performer Nina Martin.  
8 pp.

## 3 PHOTOGRAPHS (c. 1980s)

- 3/1 [c. 1980s]  
Black and white photograph (240 x 304 mm) of Joan Davis of Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre.  
1 item
- 3/2 [c. 1980s]  
Black and white photograph (239 x 303 mm) of Mary Nunan of Dublin Contemporary Dance Theatre.  
1 item