



## The Fearghus Ó Conchúir Papers

N5

The National Dance Archive of Ireland  
Glucksman Library  
University of Limerick

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The Fearghus Ó Conchúir Papers**

**Reference Code:** IE 2135 N5  
**Title:** The Fearghus Ó Conchúir Papers  
**Dates of Creation:** 2002-2010  
**Level of Description:** Fonds  
**Extent and Medium:** 58 items (44 files)

## **CONTEXT**

**Name of Creator(s):** Ó Conchúir, Fearghus (b. 1969)

**Biographical History:** Fearghus Ó Conchúir was born in the Gaeltacht region of Ring in County Waterford. He completed degrees in English and European Literature at Magdalen College, Oxford before training at the London Contemporary Dance School. He was the founder of Corp Deasa Contemporary Dance Company but later developed his career as an independent choreographer and dance artist. He has performed live and in film in Europe, North America, and China. In addition to his own work, Ó Conchúir has danced for other companies and collaborated with numerous dance and other artists. He has also taken an active role in the promotion and development of dance in Ireland and is a board member of Dance Ireland, Project Arts Centre, and Dance Digital. In 2019, he was appointed Deputy Chair of the Arts Council. A more detailed overview of Ó Conchúir's career and individual choreographies as well as recordings of his performances can be found at [www.fearghus.net](http://www.fearghus.net).

**Immediate Source of Acquisition:** Donated by Fearghus Ó Conchúir to the National Dance Archive of Ireland on 10 March 2011.

## **CONTENT AND STRUCTURE**

**Scope and Content:** The collection comprises programmes, brochures, posters, and other promotional material relating to Fearghus Ó Conchúir's choreographies and other projects in which he has participated. The items reflect both the diversity of Ó Conchúir's international career and his intimate connection with his Gaeltacht roots.

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

**Accruals:** Further accruals are expected.

**System of Arrangement:** Documents have been arranged into four series according to their role in Fearghus Ó Conchúir's career (his choreographies; his other projects; choreographies by others; and other items) and thereunder chronologically by date.

## **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:** Predominantly English, with some items in Irish, Spanish, Basque, Italian, Chinese, and Norwegian.

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

**Finding Aids:** A hard copy of the descriptive catalogue is available 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:** April 2011. Updated in March 2020.

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The Fearghus Ó Conchúir Papers

**1 HIS CHOREOGRAPHIES (2003-2010)**

**1.1 Tearmann, 2003**

- 1/1/1      2003  
 September 2003 issue of *Ealaíona na Gaeltachta*, containing a photograph of and brief biographical note in Irish on Fearghus Ó Conchúir, and details of the performance of his choreography *Tearmann* on 1-4 October during the Dublin Fringe Festival.

1 item

**1.2 Cosán Dearg, 2005**

- 1/2/1      2005  
 Programme of Éigse Carlow Arts Festival on 11-19 June 2005. The programme includes details for a performance by Corp Feasa Dance Company of Fearghus Ó Conchúir's choreography *Cosán Dearg (Céim Eile)* on 17 June.

56 pp.

- 1/2/2      2005  
 Project Arts Centre programme of events for May-July 2005. The programme includes details of performances by Corp Feasa Dance Company of Fearghus Ó Conchúir's choreography *Cosán Dearg* on 29 June-2 July.

1 item

- 1/2/3      2008  
 Brochure in Spanish and Basque, containing an entry for performances by Mikel Aristegui and Fearghus Ó Conchúir at La Fundicion Theatre, Bilbao, Spain on 8-9 November 2008. The performances formed part of the *A Man's Touch* tour, which incorporated Ó Conchúir's choreography *Cosán Dearg*.

24 pp.

- 1/2/4 [2008]  
Poster in Spanish and Basque, advertising a performance by Mikel Aristegui and Fearghus Ó Conchúir at Artium, a museum of contemporary art in the Basque city of Vitoria on 6 November [2008]. The performance formed part of the *A Man's Touch* tour, which incorporated Ó Conchúir's choreography *Cosán Dearg*.

1 item

### 1.3 Match, 2006

#### 1.3.1 Film Version

- 1/3/1/1 April [2006]  
Two pages of TV highlights from an unidentified magazine. The highlights include a reference to the premier of four short dance films, including Fearghus Ó Conchúir's *Match*, on the programme *The View Presents... Dance on the Box*.

2 pp.

- 1/3/1/2 2006  
Programme of Dance on Screen, the UK's premier dance film festival, on 31 October-5 November 2006. The programme contains a reference to the international screening of *Match*, directed by Dearbhla Walsh and choreographed by Fearghus Ó Conchúir. The screening took place on 4 November at the Robin Howard Dance Theatre, London.

16 pp.

- 1/3/1/3 2009  
Programme guide to the Vancouver Cultural Olympiad (1 February to 21 March 2009), a countdown festival to herald the 2010 Winter Olympics. One of the Olympiad events was ContainR, during which international dance, sport, and performance films, including *Match*, were screened in shipping containers converted into a cinema.

80 pp.

- 1/3/1/4 [2009]  
Pocket-size cards promoting the ContainR event, which ran from 19 February to 1 March 2009 during the Vancouver Cultural Olympiad.

2 items

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**1/3/1/5** 2009  
Photocopies of press cuttings and on-line press material relating to ContainR and the screening of *Match*. Newspapers featured include *Vancouver Courier*, *The Province* and *Vancouver Sun*. Also see **1/3/1/6**.  
6 items

**1/3/1/6** 15 March 2009  
Photocopy of a letter from Evann E. Siebens, 1415 Walnut Street, Vancouver BC, Canada, thanking Fearghus Ó Conchúir for participating in ContainR and reporting on the excellent response to the screening of *Match*. Items in **1/3/1/5** were probably originally attached to this letter.  
1 p.

### 1.3.2 Live Version

**1/3/2/1** 2007  
Programme in Italian of Opera Estate Festival Veneto in Bassano de Grappa, Italy. The programme contains a reference to live performances of *Match* at the Trinita football pitch on 28 June-4 July 2007.  
48 pp.

**1/3/2/2** March 2008  
Visual arts programme of the Irish Cultural Festival in Beijing in 2008. The festival included performances of *Match* by Fearghus Ó Conchúir and Matthew Morris in the Beijing Art Museum and on the city's main shopping street, Wanfujing.  
4 pp.

**1/3/2/3** June 2008  
Programme in Spanish and Basque of Lekuz Leku, an urban dance festival in Bilbao. The programme contains an entry for *Match*, performed by Fearghus Ó Conchúir and Matthew Morris in front of the Guggenheim Museum on 28 June 2008.  
32 pp.

**1/3/2/4** June 2008  
Spanish-language article from the performing arts magazine *Artez* relating to Lekuz Leku. The article contains a reference to *Match*.  
2 pp.

- 1/3/2/5 July-August 2008  
 Cardboard sleeve containing photocopies of mainly reviews from *The List Festival Magazine*, *Scotsgay*, *Fest Magazine*, *The Herald*, *The Scotsman*, and *The Skinny of Match* performed by Fearghus Ó Conchúir and Matthew Morris at the Dance Base Festival in Edinburgh in August. The performance formed part of an Irish work called *Irish Cream*, a selection of contemporary dance from Ireland. Also two articles relating to the festival in general.
- 7 items

#### 1.4 Trín a Chéile, 2007

- 1/4/1 [2007]  
 Flyer promoting *Trín a Chéile*, ‘a contemporary dance performance about what other people do’ choreographed by Fearghus Ó Conchúir and performed by Ríonach Ní Néill, Katherine O’Malley, Rebecca Walter, and students from Meánscoil San Nioclás in Ring, county Waterford. The performance took place in the Irish College in Ring, county Waterford on 15 March [2007] as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge.
- 1 item

#### 1.5 Dialogue/ Dialogue Shanghai, 2008

- 1/5/1 2008  
 Fold-out flyer promoting the premiere of *Dialogue* choreographed and performed by Fearghus Ó Conchúir and Xiao Ke with music by Yin Yi. The choreography was commissioned by the Intercultural Unit of Dublin City Council with support from the Arts Council of Ireland and was premiered at Dance House in Foley Street, Dublin on 30-31 July 2008. The flyer provides background information to the choreography and brief biographies of Fearghus Ó Conchúir, Xiao Ke, and Yin Yi. The reverse of the flyer contains a fundraising appeal for Ó Conchúir’s new production, *Niche*.
- 1 item
- 19 [2009]  
 1/5/2 Flyer promoting the UK premiere of *Dialogue* at Dancebase, National Centre for Dance, Edinburgh, during the Dance Base Fringe *Give Dance a Chance* on 5-16 [August 2009].
- 1 item



N5/

- 1/5/3            2009  
Booklet entitled *The Shimmy Skinny*, being a guide to dance performances during the Dance Base Fringe *Give Dance a Chance* on Thursday 6 August 2009. The booklet contains an interview with Fearghus Ó Conchúir about *Dialogue*.  
8 pp.
- 1/5/4            2009  
Booklet entitled *The Shimmy Skinny*, being a guide to dance performances during the Dance Base Fringe *Give Dance a Chance* on Friday 7 August 2009. The booklet contains a review of *Dialogue*.  
8 pp.
- 1/5/5            2009  
Photocopies of reviews of performances of *Dialogue* at the Dance Base Fringe *Give Dance a Chance* at Edinburgh, published in *Scotland on Sunday*, *The Herald*, and *The Scotsman* on 9 and 10 August 2009.  
3 items
- 1/5/6            2010  
Programme in Chinese and English accompanying performances of *Dialogue Shanghai* in the Ireland Pavilion on 19-23 May during Expo 2010 in Shanghai, China. The choreography was performed by Fearghus Ó Conchúir and Xiao Ke, with music by Feng Hao.  
4 pp.
- 1/5/7            [2010]  
Programme of the Shanghai Repertory Theater's International Spring Arts Festival of theatre, dance, and photography on 21-31 May 2010 in collaboration with the Ke Center for Contemporary Arts. The festival formed part of Expo 2010 in Shanghai, China and included performances of *Dialogue Shanghai* on 21-22 May. The programme gives background information to the choreography and short biographies of Xiao Ke and Fearghus Ó Conchúir.  
36 pp.

1.6 Niche, 2008

Also see 1/5/1

- 1/6/1      2010  
 Ring-bound programme of Culture Ireland held in New York in January 2010 to promote Irish music, dance, and theatre. The programme includes an entry for Fearghus Ó Conchúir's choreography *Niche*, an extract of which was performed by Mikel Aristegui, Stéphane Hisler, Bernadette Iglich, and Matthew Morris at the Baryshnikov Arts Center on 9-10 January.  
 46 pp.
- 1/6/2      [2010]  
 Flyer printed on card, promoting performances of *Niche* by Mikel Aristegui, Stéphane Hisler, Bernadette Iglich, and Matthew Morris at the Baryshnikov Arts Center, New York, on 9-10 January [2010].  
 1 item
- 1/6/3      2010  
 Brochure entitled *The Green Apple (An tÚll Glas) – A Sense of Ireland in New York*, produced jointly by Consulate General of Ireland, Culture Ireland and Tourism Ireland. The brochure contains brief introductions to the key showcase performances in New York and their dates and venues, including a reference to a performance of Fearghus Ó Conchúir's *Niche* on 9 January 2010.  
 32 pp.
- 1/6/4      2010  
 Media book in Chinese and English of events in the Ireland Pavilion during Expo 2010 (1 May to 31 October) in Shanghai, China. The book contains an entry for Fearghus Ó Conchúir and his performances with Stéphane Hisler and Matthew Morris of *Niche*, 'a vivid and silent dance without musical accompaniment', in the Ireland Pavilion Gazebo throughout May.  
 122 pp.

## 1.7 Open Niche, 2010

- 1/7/1 [2010]  
 Programme of a tour of *Open Niche* in Dun Laoghaire, Limerick, Sligo, Tralee, and Cork on 19 March-1 April [2010], produced by Richard Wakely in association with Project Arts Centre. The programme outlines the background to the choreography and some of its characteristic features (such as lack of music); and provides biographies of Wakely and the principal performers, and summary notes on Project Arts Centre, Master of Arts in Dance Performance UL, Daghdha Mentoring Programme, and Belltable Arts Centre.

8 pp.

- 1/7/2 [2010]  
 Flyer promoting a performance of *Open Niche* at the Pavilion Theatre, Dun Laoghaire on 19 March [2010]. The reverse contains a potted background note to the choreography and an extract from a review in the *Irish Times*.

1 item

## 2 HIS OTHER PROJECTS (2006-2009)

### 2.1 Idir Performance Installation, 2006

- 2/1/1 2006  
 Fold-out brochure promoting an interdisciplinary performance installation, *Idir*, by dancers, artists and singers at Ionad Cultúrtha, Ballyvourney, county Cork on 6-9 January 2006. The brochure incorporates short biographies of Chris Hurley (video artist), Iarla O'Lionáird (singer), Robert Rasmussen (visual artist), Bernadette Cotter (visual artist), Bernadette Iglich (dancer), and Fearghus Ó Conchúir.

1 item

### 2.2 Duan Déiseach, 2006

- 2/2/1 2006  
 Programme in Irish of an interdisciplinary performance installation, *Duan Déiseach*, at Meánscoil San Nioclás in Ring, county Waterford on 4-5 May 2006. The programme incorporates brief biographies of Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin (composer), Áine Uí Fhoghlú (poet), Róisín Ní Chionnfhaolaidh (stained glass artist), Áine Uí Cheallaigh (Sean Nós singer), and Fearghus Ó Conchúir.

12 pp.

### 2.3 Tattered Outlaws of History, 2009

- 2/3/1 [2009]  
Brochure promoting *Tattered Outlaws of History*, a site-specific performance installation created by Dan Dubowitz and Fearghus Ó Conchúir and sponsored by Fingal County Council. The brochure is divided into twelve panels, each featuring an image and brief history of one of the twelve Martello Towers in Fingal. The design of the brochure reflects the nature of the performance, which comprised twelve short films shot from the gun turrets of each tower and screened on twelve panels inside the Skerries Martello Tower from 18 July to 30 August [2009].  
1 item
- 2/3/2 [2009]  
Flyer printed on card promoting *Tattered Outlaws of History* and its performance times in July and August [2009].  
1 item
- 2/3/3 May 2009  
Issue of *Lusk & Rush News* Vol. 2 No. 4 (May 2009). The magazine includes an article on *Tattered Outlaws of History* on pp. 8-11.  
40 pp.
- 2/3/4 September 2009  
Issue of *Skerries News* Vol. 22 No. 7 (September 2009). The magazine includes a short article on *Tattered Outlaws of History* on p. 23.  
54 pp.

### 2.4 Pick'n'Mix: The Dance Selection, 2009

- 2/4/1 2009  
Flyer printed on card promoting *Pick'n'Mix: The Dance Selection* performed in a disused Woolworths Supermarket at Leytonstone, London on 24 October 2009. The performance comprised seven choreographies performed by twenty dancers, with a visual art installation illuminating the shop windows. The event was conceived and presented by Fearghus Ó Conchúir in association with East London Dance and with the support of the Arts Council of England, the London Borough of Waltham Forest, and the BBC Big Screens.  
1 item

### 3 CHOREOGRAPHIES BY OTHERS (2006-2007)

- 3/1 2006  
 Programme in Norwegian of a performance of *Schreibstück*, a choreography based on a score for dance by the German choreographer Thomas Lehmen, performed at Dansens Hus, Oslo, Norway on 7-8 April 2006. The programme incorporates brief biographies of the performers, including Fearghus Ó Conchúir.  
 8 pp.
- 3/2 2007  
 Programme of the world premiere of joint performances of *Eros-Eris* (choreographed by Liz Lea and performed with Fearghus Ó Conchúir) and *Echo and Narcissus* (choreographed by Cathy Marston) at Linbury Studio Theatre, London on 21-24 May 2007. The programme provides background information to the performances and brief biographies of the performers and other participants.  
 1 item

### 4 OTHER ITEMS (2002-2009)

- 4/1 2002  
 June 2002 issue of *Ealaíona na Gaeltachta*, containing an interview with Ríonach Ní Néill, a fellow native Irish speaker and a dancer with whom Fearghus Ó Conchúir has collaborated.  
 1 item
- 4/2 2004  
 Programme in Irish of Ealaín ar Oileán, an annual networking seminar for Gaeltacht and Irish language artists, held in Áras Éanna, Inis Oírr on 3-5 September 2004. Fearghus Ó Conchúir was one of the participants.  
 4 pp.
- 4/3 2004  
 Outline of presentations given during a one-day National Sculpture Factory symposium, *Synergies and Signatures: Collaboration, Chaos and Interdisciplinary Arts Practice*, held at the Granary Theatre, Cork on 6 November 2004. Fearghus Ó Conchúir was one of the speakers at the symposium.  
 3 pp.

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[2006]

Book entitled *Annaghmakerrig*, edited by Sheila Pratschke, Ruairí Ó Cuív, and Evelyn Conlon and published by the Tyrone Guthrie Centre in association with Lilliput Press. The book was compiled to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Tyrone Guthrie Centre, a creative retreat for artists, poets, writers, and composers. Fearghus Ó Conchúir was one of the artists in residence in 2004.

256 pp.

4/5

[December 2009]

Essay in booklet form entitled *Counting Capital: The Real Value of Dance in Irish Society*, written by dance critic Michael Seaver and commissioned by Dance Ireland. The booklet was the first in a planned series of events leading up to Dance Ireland's 21st anniversary celebrations in 2013. The essay includes a reference to Fearghus Ó Conchúir, who is also portrayed on the front cover dancing in Dublin's Docklands.

1 item