

Máire Clerkin

Dancer, Director, Choreographer, Writer, Educator, Actor

BA (Hons) ADCRG TCRG Post Grad Diploma
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Theatre Companies & Stage Productions

2013 Co-choreographer-director, *Tom Crean's Journey*, Co Kerry Ireland, with Martin Percival.
 2011-12 Director, Vital Xposure, London: *Crazy Jane* play R&D, with Julie McNamara & Liz Carr
 2011-13 Clerkin Dagger, *The Bad Arm – Confessions of a Dodgy Irish Dancer* (see also *Solo Performance*)
 2007-2013 Founder-Director, *A Gaelic Gathering – Irish Music & Dance*. School assemblies, concerts, & festivals. On L.A. Music Center; LA County Arts Commission; PTGO; Segerstrom Center for Arts rosters
 2004-05 Artistic Director, Cadence Irish Dance Theater, Arizona, wrote, directed *The Dancing Warrior*
 1994-2001 Artistic Director, Clerkinworks Irish Dance Theatre Company, London (later KICK) *Malice in Wonderland, Centenary Knees Up, Big Sister, Footy & Squeak, Cinder Reilly, Unconnected Soundings*
 1994-1996 Co-created & starred *The Smarmy Old Sods* comic duo & *Sods in Space* with Angela Clerkin, directed by Phelim McDermott (director, Improbable Theatre). London comedy circuit
 1985-1994 Co-founder, Artistic Director, The Hairy Marys Irish Dance Comedy Theatre Co. - groundbreaking Irish Dance theatre, extensive touring UK & Ireland, TV, education, arts events

Solo Performance

The Bad Arm – Confessions of a Dodgy Irish Dancer – one-woman play, written, choreographed and performed by Máire Clerkin, directed by Dan O'Connor. Press reviews, DVD, online clips available.
 2013 Jacksonville Theatre, International Theatre Festival, FL
 2012 Theatre Asylum, Hollywood, California International Theatre Festival, Calabasas, CA; Santa Cruz Fringe; Minneapolis, Atlanta, Vancouver.
 2012 Theatre Asylum Lab, St Paddy's Day season, Los Angeles, CA.
 2011 New York International Fringe Festival, Bowery Poetry Club, New York.
 2011 Ceim Eile (*The Next Step*) Irish Dance Theatre Festival, Tallaght, Dublin, Ireland.
 2010 Santa Monica Playhouse, Los Angeles, CA.
 2010 Hollywood Fringe Festival, and 'Best of Fest' season, Los Angeles, CA.
 2010 Chicago Fringe Festival, Pilsen, Chicago, IL.
 2008 L.A. Irish Film Festival, opening night performance, Beverly Hills, CA.
 2008 Bang Theatre, Hollywood, Los Angeles, CA, with support from Durfee Foundation

Teaching Artist, Irish Dance Programs & Education Credits

2012 Lecturer, Dances of Ireland, Dance Department, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA
 2012 Director /Coach, *Oliver!* King Middle School production with Aimee Arts Productions & LACER
 2010-13 *Write-Move: Literacy through Dance*, residencies, Los Angeles Music Center, Segerstrom Center
 2010-13 Dance-Drama, Journalism, Assemblies for STAR Education, Aimee Art Productions / Stone Soup
 2007-13 Ongoing step dancing classes for adults at Dance Arts Academy, Los Angeles
 2006-13 Irish Dance, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Orange Co and San Bernardino programs for schools
 2006 & 10 Dance master classes and workshops in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
 2006-07 Artist Fellow, Music Center Institute for Educators, Music Center Professional Development and Teaching Artist on Elementary, Middle & High School Projects
 2006/07/08 Guest artist, Stockton Unified Schools and in New Dance Co Spring Performance
 2006 Lecturer, Dance of Ireland, Theatre Arts Department, Loyola Marymount University, CA
 2004-13 Master Artist, Los Angeles Music Center Education: *Traditional, Rhythmic & Creative Irish Dance & Irish Dance Drama*. Stage Productions: *Magic Shoes, The White Gander, The King's Secret*
 2003 California Dance Education Association: guest teacher, annual conference, Cal-State, Long Beach
 2003 Tutor, Long Beach Ballet Center, Scripps College, CA
 2003 & 04 Tutor, Peninsula School of Performing Arts, Palos Verdes, CA
 2002, 03, 05 Co-leader, Michael Dillon International Summer School for Irish Dance, Co. Clare, Ireland
 1999-2001 Tutor, Irish Dance MA course, Dept Ethnochoreology, University of Limerick, Dr C. Foley
 1998 Guest tutor, BA program, Yorkshire Dance Centre, Leeds

1998 Guest teacher-choreographer, London Contemporary School of Dance, The Place, London
 1997 Leader, *Down by the River Dance*, workshops, master classes, Royal Festival Hall, London
 1994-2002 Adult classes at London Irish Centre, Lewisham Education & Greenwich Dance Agency
 1992-2003 Master classes, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Yorkshire & Swindon Dance
 1986-89 Inner London Education Authority school programs / The Hairy Marys lecture-demos
 1980-1993 Irish Dance principal, choreographer & owner, Clerkin School of Irish Dancing, London

Choreographer Credits (see also *Theatre Companies*)

2013 *Tom Crean, Antarctic Explorer*, Anascaul, Co. Kerry, Ireland
 2013 *Irish Pleasures*, with Bella Issakova & Pacific Chorale at Samueli Theatre, Costa Mesa, CA
 2012 *Big! World! Fun!* Family Summer Series, Ford Amphitheatre, Hollywood, A Gaelic Gathering
 2011 Pergo Floors commercial, Partizan, “*Redneck Riverdancers*”, Venice Beach, CA
 2011 *Global Motion*, Broad Theater, Santa Monica College, CA
 2011 *This is Ireland* concert, Royce Hall, Los Angeles, with Eimear Noone / A Gaelic Gathering
 2006-12 US Regional Championship Titles in Dance Drama, Irish Dance Oireachtas: *Aedin of the Underworld*, West US; *Curse of the Feet Water*, New England; *King of the Fairies*, West US; *Fairies of Trickery*, West US; *The Crossing*, Mid-Atlantic, *The Dancing Master*, Mid-America.
 2010 Silver & Bronze medalists in Irish Dance Drama, North American National Championships, Florida
 2010 Gwacheon Festival, S. Korea, Grain of Sand Puppet Theatre
 2009 Medalist, Dance Drama, World Irish Dance Championships, Philadelphia, with Lynn Academy
 2007 Medalist, World Championships Dance Drama, Glasgow, with Portland Irish Dancers
 2007 *Power* by Nick Dear for Banshee Theatre, Burbank, California
 2005 *The Dancing Warrior*, Cadence Irish Dance Theatre Company, Chandler & Scottsdale, AZ
 2002 Writer, director, *Countess*, Irish Dance theatre production, Lewisham Theatre, London
 2001 *Unconnected Soundings*, Clerkinworks, Clore Studio, Royal Opera House, London
 2001 Director, drama movement program for *Cois Ceim, Ezimotion* project, Ireland
 1999-2000 Co-choreography *Dancing on Dangerous Ground*, featuring *Riverdance* principals Colin Dunne & Jean Butler, Radio City Music Hall, New York and Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, London
 1999 Created/ performed *Fennels, Flannels, Funnels* with poet John Hegley, The Place, London
 1999 Director, Lewisham Education Arts Project (LEAP), Broadway Theatre, London
 1998 *Centenary Knees Up*, Clerkinworks, Purcell Room, South Bank Centre, London
 1997 Staged *Down by the River Dance*, Royal Festival Hall, London. Record attendance
 1997 Choreography / Dancer, award-winning TV / film commercial, Harp lager / Publicis, London
 1997 *Pork Bellies* by Molly Fogarty / Theatre Centre, London. Ireland / UK tour
 1997-2002 Consultant and performer: *Celtic Feet, Mean Fiddler, Publicis, Beware of the Dog, Tricky Feat, Rory Bremner, Theatre Centre, Bullies Ballerinas, Ardent Productions*
 1996 Writer and director, *Granuaile* Irish dance drama production at Lewisham Theatre, London. Cast of forty from London’s top Irish Dance academies and with Royal Opera House funding
 1996 Choreographer, dancer and presenter *Music Makers*, with Steafan Hannigan for BBC TV
 1995 Collaborator, *Enter Achilles*, with Lloyd Newson’s DV8 Physical Theatre; world tour
 1992 *Lake Horses* for Second Level, Dublin, for director Peter Sheridan
 1990 *Blind Fiddler of Glenadauch* by Marie Jones / Charabanc, Belfast. Director, Peter Sheridan
 1984-93 The Hairy Marys (Irish Dance Theatre Co.) Wrote, produced, created and performed plays including *The Rose of Tralee, No Snakes Please – We’re Irish* and *Helicopters with Brogues*. Toured UK and Ireland. Support act for The Pogues, Brixton Academy, 1986
 1984 *Riders to the Sea* by J.M. Synge, production Irish Drama & Folk Ballet Co, Brent Town Hall, London

Dancer Credits

2012 *Shakespeare & Shamrocks*, with Moira Smiley and Vox Femina, Zipper Concert Hall, Los Angeles
 2007-2013 *A Gaelic Gathering – Irish Music & Dance*, Artistic Director, L.A. Music Center; double recipients Barbara & Sheldon Pinchuk Development Fund. Walt Disney Concert Hall performances, ‘World City’. California Trad Music Society & Equinox fests, Irish Tourist Board; Segerstrom Center for the Arts Roster; LA Arts Commission’s Big! World! Fun! at Ford Amphitheatre.
 2008 Dancer with Molly’s Revenge, Celtic band, + outreach education, touring Montana & California
 2004-08 Soloist at Finn McCool’s, Santa Monica, for TV & radio, St Patrick’s Day celebrations
 2004-06 *Oro & Gold Ring* performances at Celtic Arts Center; UCLA, Loyola Marymount University
 2003 & 04 Rehearsal Director, lead dancer, *A Celtic Christmas*, Tomaseen Foley, US tours
 1984-2001 Principal with own dance theatre companies (see above), national / international tours

1977 & 79 Soloist, Irish Folk Dance Co., Dublin, festivals in Germany

Voiceover

2011/ 12 Hirsch Film, *Chicken Weebus*, character of Holy Cow, children's radio production
 2008-9 Pumpkin Lady, *The Goat* animation, Healer, *Wolfhound* feature film, director, Karl Hirsch
 2008 2006 Voiceover and lead character, Amanda Pool, *Truthseeker TV* movie, director Brian Kraft

Storytelling

2011-12 *Legs & Legends* – Irish Folk Tales told through Dance, California Libraries
 2009 *Book of Kells*, children's workshop, Every Picture Tells a Story, for LA Irish Film Festival

Journalist Credits

2009-12 Contributor, *The Artist Chronicles*, published by Los Angeles Performing Arts Center
 2003-04 Writer and broadcaster for KPFK FM radio, Los Angeles.
 2002 Compiler and presenter *Revolver*, world music program for BBC World Service, London.
 1995-2003 Contributing journalist to the Irish Post newspaper, Radio Telefís Eireann, BBC Radio Suffolk, BBC London Radio, BBC World Service and Riverside FM, specializing in the arts.

Miscellaneous

2010 Recipient of 'Green Card' – permanent resident alien status, US Government
 2008 Guest Speaker, Dance Research Forum International Conference, County Kerry, Ireland
 2006-07 Dance Director, Celtic Arts Center, Los Angeles, California
 2003 Assistant Editor, arts degree syllabus, WAC Performing Arts and Media College, London
 2002-2003 Coordinator, *Talent Unwrapped*, Roundhouse, London, 02; Publicist 'WAC 25'
 2000 & 01 Host, *Blazing* and *Summer on the South Bank* festivals, Royal Festival Hall, London
 1999-2000 Ceili caller / dancer with Jacket Potatoes, Slip Gigolos, Irish music events, UK
 1997 Research & Development Project with multi-instrumentalist Steafan Hannigan / London Arts Board
 1996-03 Ceili Caller, Greenwich Dance, Blenheim Palace, Hammersmith Irish Centre, Royal Festival Hall
 1991-2000 Funding from Arts Council of England, London Arts Board, Greater London Arts
 1988-2012 Irish Dance adjudicator: judged competitions in North America, Australia, Europe, plus World, Great Britain, British Nationals and All Ireland championships
 1984 Member, Anstey Mac Clown Trio, Edinburgh Festival & Covent Garden Entertainment
 1980 & 88 Certified teacher and adjudicator awards with An Coimisiun le Rinci Gaelacha, Dublin

Training, Certification & Qualifications

2012-13 Voiceover / Acting for Advertising: Nancy Wolfson, Braintracks Audio
 2000-2010 Comedy improvisation training: Improbable Theatre, Told by an Idiot Theatre Company, LATheatresports, LA Connection, Impro Theatre
 2004 Professional Designation in Arts Education (LACA Ed / Music Center Ed Division)
 2001-02 Post-Graduate Diploma, Broadcast Journalism, London College of Printing
 1981-84 BA (Honours) Performing Arts, Middlesex University, UK
 1980 & 88 Adjudicating ADCRG & Teaching TCRG Diplomas, Irish Dance Commission Dublin
 1962-80 Irish Dance Academies: Clerkin, Kavanagh, Maguire-Way, Griffin-O'Loughlin, UK

Selected References

Dr Liam Lillis O'Laoire, Loyola Marymount University, CA, Universities Limerick & NUI Galway
 Dr Fergal O'Doherty, Professor of English, Palomar College, San Diego, California
 Dr Catherine Foley, Director MA Irish Dance & Ethnochoreology, University of Limerick Ireland
 Diana Cummins, former President of California Dance Educators Association, California
 Peter Sheridan, Director, Playwright, Author, Dublin, Ireland
 Colin Dunne MA TCRG Dancer / Choreographer, *Riverdance*, *Dancing on Dangerous Ground*, *The Bull*, *Out of Time*, Ireland & UK