



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE  
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



IRISH THEATRE INSTITUTE



## BALANCING ACTS ISTR 2023 5-6 May, University of Galway

Sponsored by the University of Galway and Irish Theatre Institute in association with  
Dundalk Institute of Technology

### Schedule Key

PINK: PANEL/PG-ECR Workshop

GREEN: BREAK/CATERING

YELLOW: KEYNOTE

### **Conference Team**

Miriam Haughton, Sarah Hoover, Luke Lamont, Ciara L. Murphy, Finian O’Gorman

### **FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

#### **PANEL 1: Performing Balance in Crisis, Care, and Covid**

**9.15-10.30: Studio 1, ODC**

**Chair: Ian R Walsh**

**Vicky Angelaki (Mid Sweden):** Balancing Intersecting Crises: Sustainability, COVID and Climate in Crimp and Kirkwood

**Sinéad O'Donnell-Carey (ATU Sligo):** Where is live performance in a post-pandemic world?

**Yingjun Wei (Trinity):** “Hybrid organising saved us”: Hustling Feminist Theatre through the Precarity of the Covid-19 Pandemic

**PANEL 2: Embodiment, Experience and Self in Contemporary Performance Practices**

**9.15-10.30: Studio 2, ODC**

**Chair: Mike Finneran**

**Alinne Fernandes (UFSC):** Asphyxia and Isolation in Marina Carr’s ‘Grow a Mermaid’: A Brazilian Radio Play

**Aoife McGrath (QUB):** Shared Experiences of Care: embodied knowledge in PaR collaborations between dance and social science

**Maria Tivnan (UoG):** Parent as Artist/Artist as Parent: Making Work ‘work’

**COFFEE: 10.30-11, SULT**

**Opening Remarks:** Aoife Noone (GTF), Miriam Haughton (UoG), Ciara L. Murphy (DKIT)

**PANEL 3: Balancing at the Intersection of Theatre and Education: Ethics, Partnerships, and Research-based Approaches**

**11-12.15, Studio 1, ODC**

**Chair: Luke Lamont (UoG)**

**Fiona Fearon (DKIT):** The Ethics of Teaching Trauma, Criminality and Deviance in Contemporary Irish Theatre

**Fiona McDonagh and Dorothy Morrissey (MIL):** Teacher-artist partnerships: Navigating between education and theatre

**Charlotte McIvor and Gavin Friel (UoG):** “Can We Ever Really Know This *Works?*”: Experimenting with Research-based Theatre as Consent Education with an Irish National Policy and Secondary School and Third-Level Education Ecology

**PANEL 4: Balancing genre, tradition and the future**

**11-12.15, Studio 2 ODC**

**Chair: Finian O’Gorman (TCD)**

**Daithí Kearney (DKIT):** Balancing Time: Seeing the past, present, future and other time in the productions of Siamsa Tíre, the National Folk Theatre of Ireland

**Marianne Kennedy (UoG):** Ar Ais Arís and coming back again

**Sharon Phelan and Jackie Gallagher (MTU):** The Use of Contemporary Dance as a Tool to Enhance Wellness in Educational Settings

**12.30-1.30 Lunch – brown bag lunches available from SULT**

**1.00-1.45: Postgraduate/ECR Workshop with Charlotte McIvor ODC Studio 2**

Job Applications and Interviews

Delegates are welcome to bring their lunch with them

**1.15-2.00: ISTR AGM: All welcome**

Moore Institute, G010

Delegates are welcome to bring their lunch with them

**2-3: ARTIST KEYNOTE: Studio 1**

Sonya Kelly in conversation with Ursula Rani Sarma

Chair: Maria Tivnan

**3-3.30: BREAK**

**3.30-4.30: KEYNOTE LECTURE: Studio 1**

David O'Shaughnessy (UoG), 'Balancing the repertory: Richard Brinsley Sheridan, theatre manager'

Chair: Miriam Haughton

**4.45-6: Book/Project Launch**

**Wine reception and finger food, SULT**

**Ciara Murphy**, *Performing Social Change on the Island of Ireland: From Republic to Pandemic* (Routledge 2023), launched by Miriam Haughton

**Paul J. Halferty and Cathy Leeney**, Ed. *Analysing Gender in Performance* (Palgrave 2022), launched by Aoife McGrath

**Miriam Haughton**, IRC Laureate 2023-2025 'The Price of Performance: A Question of Economic Sustainability for Independent Theatre Production in Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland 2000-2020' launched by Máiréad Ní Chróinín.

**Suggested Evening Entertainment - Galway Theatre Programme Link:**

<https://galwaytheatrefestival.com/collections/shows>

**SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**PANEL 5: Unraveling Complexities: Perspectives on Irish Arts Practices, Funding, and Community Wellbeing**

**9.15-10.30: Studio 1 ODC**

Chair: Alinne Fernandes

**Mike Finneran (MIL):** Balancing expectations and outcomes and so much else in Irish applied arts practices

**Ciara O'Dowd (SGI):** Should the Arts Council of Ireland be paying by the word?

**Ian R. Walsh (UoG):** Crossed Wires: Galway Community Circus's *LifeLine* and Issues in Measuring Wellbeing

**PANEL 6: Off-Balance: Inequality, Precarity, and Liveness in the Theatre Industry**

**9.15-10.30, Studio 2 ODC**

**Chair: Cathy Leeney**

**Abir Al-Laham (Heidelberg):** Of Bodies and Spaces: Balancing Inequality in Theatre Representations

**Samantha Cade (UCD):** “Live” in a Pandemic: How Dublin’s Theatre Industry Addressed Work in the COVID 19 Pandemic

**Eamonn Jordan (UCD):** Precarious and Intersectional Class Imbalances and Inequalities

**10.30-10.45: COFFEE SULT**

**PANEL 7: Contemporary Irish Theatre: Navigating Ethics, Aesthetics, and Auteurship**

**10.45-12.15, Studio 1 ODC**

**Chair: Sarah Hoover**

**David Clare (MIL):** “Otherness in Ursula Rani Sarma’s *Blue*”

**Stefanie Weenink (UoG):** Gawd and Gulder: Language as a Key Marker of Identity and Irishness in Brian Friel’s Plays

**Justine Zapin (UCD):** *Playboy*, *Blanco*, and a Jury of One’s Peers: Balancing Drama Off and On the Irish Stage

**Luke Lamont (UoG):** The author on stage: *auteur-ships*, precarious ethics and documentary aesthetics

**PANEL 8: Class, Gender, and Academic Challenges: Balancing against the odds**

**10.45-12.15, Studio 2 ODC**

**Chair: Eamonn Jordan**

**Alexander Coupe (Liverpool):** Stitched Up: Class and Compromise in Post-Agreement Feminist Performance

**Bogdan Mihai Florea (Nu Nu Theatre):** Theatre, the pandemic, a bit of Treplev, some Sloterdijk, an academic journal, depression and (my) mental health in general

**Finian O’Gorman (TCD):** Artificial Intelligence and Irish theatres studies: How ChatGPT can turn academics into amateurs.

**Helena Young (UCD):** Gender Balance in Brokentalkers

**12-1: Lunch SULT**

**Brown bag lunch**

**12.30-1.15: PG/ECR Workshop G010 Moore Institute with Patrick Lonergan**

**Publishing and Grant Applications**

**Delegates are welcome to bring their lunch with them**

**KEYNOTE Lecture: 1.15 -2.15 O'Donoghue Theatre**

**Danielle Bainbridge (Northwestern)**

**Chair: Ciara L Murphy**

**BREAK 2.15-2.30**

**KEYNOTE PANEL: 2.30-3.30 O'Donoghue Theatre**

**Safe to Create/Irish Theatre Institute**

**Panel: Louise Crowley, Olwen Dawe, Esosa Ighodaro, Ciara L. Murphy, Niamh O'Donnell**

**Chair: Mary McGill**

**3.30-3.45: BREAK**

**PANEL 9: Adapting Tradition: Exploring Intercultural, Philosophical and Feminist Perspectives in Theatre**

**3.45-5.15, Studio 1 ODC**

**Chair: Vicky Angelaki**

**Gustav Parker Hibbett (TCD): Reimagining *Othello***

**Patrick Lonergan (UoG): Balancing Acts: Caryl Churchill and Anthropocene Feminism**

**Jiayu Yin (Soochow/TCD): On the "Going Out" and "Going Back" of Chinese Intercultural Theatre: Reflecting on Meng Jinghui's Intercultural Adaptation**

**Chengyun Zhao (TCD): A Study of the *Xiqu* Features in Lin Zhaohua's *Three Sisters Waiting for Godot* from the Perspective of Taoist Philosophy**

**PANEL 10: The art of balance: Dramaturgies of identity and ethics in contemporary Irish theatre**

**3.45-5.15, Studio 2 ODC**

**Chair: Paul J. Halferty**

**Chaomei Chen (TCD): Gender, Ethics, Ableism: A Dramaturgical Balancing of Contemporary Irish Identities in *Ulysses 2.2***

**Sarah Hoover (UoG): Balancing on one heel: mixed live/digital dramaturgy in *It's True I Love You All So Much***

**Shonagh Hill (QUB): Moving in Feminist Solidarity**

**Conference Ends**