



Megan Kennedy trained at Alvin Ailey Dance Center in New York City and received a B.A. Honours from Queen Margaret University in Edinburgh. Megan is Co-Artistic Director of multi-award winning Junk Ensemble, who are previous resident artists at the Tate and creators of Dolores and The Falling Song. Choreography / direction for live performance includes Portia Coughlan (Abbey Theatre, dir: Caroline Byrne), What Did I Miss (The Ark, dir: Sean Dunne), Fleeting (Seve Feathers), Gym Swim Party (O'Reilly Theatre Dublin), Vilette (West Yorkshire Playhouse), Town is Dead (The Abbey Theatre), Tasting Blue (Live Collision), Tchaikovsky's Queen of Spades Opera (Edinburgh Festival Theatre), Marble & Bread (Dance Limerick).

For film, choreography and performance include Wildfire (Samson Films/dir: Cathy Brady), It Is In Us All (dir: Antonia Campbell Hughes), In Velvet & Fallow Table (Junk Ensemble), 6SKIN (dir: Alice Maher & Aideen Barry), Five Letters to the Stranger Who Will Dissect My Brain (dir: Oonagh Kearney), The Wake (dir: Oonagh Kearney), Óiche Nollaig na mBan (RTÉ), Wonder House (Dublin Film Festival), Her Mother's Daughters (Winner Best Actress Capalbio Festival Italy/dir: Oonagh Kearney). Megan has performed with Retina Dance Company (UK), Brokentaklers (The Blue Boy, On This One Night) (IRL), CoisCéim Dance Theatre (Faun, As You Are) (IRL), The Abbey Theatre (Romeo & Juliet) (IRL), Loosysmokes Aerial Company (IRL), Tanz Lange (Germany), Blast Theory (UK), Bedrock Productions (IRL) and productions for The Ark and The Pavilion (IRL). She is a Fellow of Salzburg Global Seminar.



Jessica Kennedy is an award-winning choreographer and dance artist based in Dublin. She is co-founder and Co-Artistic Director of Junk Ensemble, a multi-award winning & leading Irish dance-theatre company. Jessica trained in the United States, Dublin and London, completing a Bachelors Degree in Dance Performance & English Literature at Middlesex University London and a Photography Diploma at Dun Laoghaire College of Art & Design. She has performed extensively with dance and theatre companies throughout Europe and the UK including Blast Theory (UK), Retina Dance Company (UK), Tanz Lange (Germany), Firefly Productions (Belgium.) In Ireland she has collaborated regularly with Brokentaklers and has performed in and choreographed for numerous short and feature films (dir Oonagh Kearney; Alice Maher; Robert Manson; Antonia Campbell-Hughes) and opera work. She was awarded Best Female Performer for Dublin Fringe Festival 2006. Jessica co-created the internationally acclaimed short film Motion Sickness (2012) which has screened across thirty festivals worldwide and has worked regularly in Scotland as a movement director for productions with The Tron (Glasgow/Beijing) & Theatre Gu Leor. She is part of an all-female experimental electronica group 'Everything Shook'.



Walé Adebusuyi is a singer/songwriter, actor and dancer. Born in London, the family moved to Ireland when Walé was an infant. Initially residing in Ballymun for some time before finally settling in the leafy Dublin suburb of Raheny

His career as a performer started in his local gospel church where he was personally guided and tutored by the renowned musical director Oto Laleye, best known for his remarkable career as one of the original cornerstones of legendary Afrobeat creator Fela Kuti's ensemble.

It was at St. Paul's secondary school in Raheny where Walé's theatre journey began. He took centre stage in the school's musical production, Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody". Walé is a regular guest performer for many artists and performers. Featuring on numerous tracks for artists such as Tolu Makay, Malaki and the funk group that is the "X collective" made up of numerous of Ireland's most talented musicians. Walé currently resides in Dublin's Clontarf where he is working on his debut album. He is also working as executive producer on a short biopic about his life. The film was commissioned this year with shooting having started and a release date expected in 2023



Robyn Byrne is a contemporary dancer and emerging choreographer working across theatre, film & dance. Her film *O before I* has been screened nationally and internationally, most notably being Leeds International Film Festival 2021. Her most recent work *Glimmer* in collaboration with Rachel Ní Bhraonáin was presented as part of Live Collision International Festival 2022. Robyn is currently researching a new show *Queen of the Meadows* which had a work in progress sharing at Dublin Dance Festival's Originate Programme this year. To support this work, Robyn is this year's National Dance Residency Partnership artist. Through the six major contemporary dance organisations across Ireland. She is also currently supported by field:arts. As a performer, Robyn's credits include Emma Martin/ United Fall, Irish National Opera, Iseli-Chiodi Company, Philip Connaughton, RedBear Productions, Extended Play/Jamaal Burkmar Dance (UK), Jessica Dessner (Italy), Theo Clinkard (UK), People Festival Berlin, Body & Soul, RTÉ & Sounds from a Safe Harbour. This will be her first stage production with Junk Ensemble.
www.robbynbyrne.com

Kévin Coquelard began dance and theatre in France. In 2008, he entered the Conservatoire de Paris where he danced in choreographies by Hofesh Schechter, Itzik Galili, Merce Cunningham and Pina Baush. Kévin made his Irish debut with Irish Modern Dance Theatre in 2013, performing widely including in New York, Paris and Dublin. Since then, he's performed for Philip Connaughton, Catherine Young, Maria Nilsson Waller, Liz Roche, Jenny Roche, and Junk Ensemble. His first solo, *Le somnambule* won the Public's Final Choice Award and the 2nd Prize for Best Performance in the 22nd Solo Tanz Festival in Stuttgart, March 2018. In 2019, he became Birdboy as he was invited by Emma Martin/United Fall to collaborate on an unconventional dance show for children. In 2022, he collaborated with Theatre Lovett and the Gate Theatre on the production of *The Tin Soldier*



Lucia Kickham is a Wexford based dance artist performing and collaborating internationally since 2011. Trained in the Netherlands she has worked with companies and artists including Liz Roche Company, Company Philip Connaughton, Junk Ensemble, Jessie Keenan + Tonnta, Maria Nilsson Waller, Mary Wycherly, Laura Murphy, TRASH(NL) and Oonagh Kearney. In recent years she has been a recipient of awards from Dance Ireland, Tyrone Guthrie Centre, Tipperary Dance, Tanztendenz Munich and the Arts Council of Ireland, including the Next Generation and Commission Awards. Lucia has toured extensively across the UK and Sweden and has presented her own work at Dublin Dance Festival, Dublin Fringe Festival, Modes of Capture Symposium and What's Next Festival along with other venues. Lucia was Dance Ireland HATCH Artist 2018 and Associate Artist with Liz Roche Company 2018/21. In 2022 she took up the role of rehearsal director on *Step Up*, a development programme for early career dancers.
www.luciakickham.com



Julie Koenig was born in France. Julie trained in Ballet Junior of Geneva for two years after graduating high school. Her professional career started with the company Ballet Actuel/Nathalie Bard (France) in 2012. Since then, she has worked with several artists and companies including Company Skanesdansteater (Sweden) working with Alexander Ekman, Liat Dror and Nir Ben gal, Ben Wright; French choreographer Sylvain Groud; French company La Vouivre and Irish based choreographer Luke Murphy on the production Carnivoer. Julie has been working with Junk Ensemble for five years, on Soldier Still, Dolores, The Misunderstanding of Myrrha. The Cold sings is her fourth production with them.



Mary Barnecutt is a Dublin-based musician, composer, and music organiser. She has written music for short films, theatre, dance productions, and worked with artists such as Amanda Coogan, Inni-K, Liz Roche, Ruth O'Mahony-Brady, Justine Doswell and Ray Harman. She was cellist and vocalist with Teać Damsa in their world-touring production of Loch Na hEala 2017-2020 and in 2019 created an improvised music show for children, String Play with her sister Kathrine for the Ark in association with IMC. In 2020 she was nominated for an O'Bhéal poetry-film award with poet Nell Regan eavesdrop.ie and has been musician in residence in Sirius Arts Centre, Cobh 2020 and Dun Laoghaire Lexicon 2021 with Heligo. She is concert programmer of the weekly Sundays@Noon concert series in the Hugh Lane Gallery, www.hughlane.ie, and with Lioba Petrie is co-director of Spike, Dublin's alternative cello festival. <http://www.spikecellofest.com>
Her album, *Into Air*, was released in 2016 on her own label, Sharkwoman records. marypigeons.com



Katerina Speranskaya is a pianist and cellist, drawn to all things musical. She has a special interest in ensemble playing and piano accompaniment, and she holds a Masters Degree in Piano Accompaniment from TUD Conservatory of Music and Drama. Katerina has performed across the country accompanying various choirs, music festivals and operas, such as Fiona Linnane 'No.2 Pery Square' opera by Opera Workshop, and Limerick Conducting International Summer School by Sing Ireland. Her music performances have taken her to such stages as the National Concert Hall and the Mansion House, and she has performed for President Michael D. Higgins. She is a multiple prize winner of various national competitions, including Feis Ceoil competitions. Katerina maintains a busy performance schedule, and after this show she will spend the rest of the month in Limerick rehearsing and performing 'Twisted Tales' opera by Opera Workshop. Katerina also holds an ATCL diploma in cello performance from Trinity College, London. Over the pandemic Katerina developed an interest in computer science and completed a HDip in Software Development in Maynooth University.



Caitríona Frost is a freelance percussionist who performs regularly with Ireland's national ensembles including the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra, Irish National Opera, and the Irish Chamber Orchestra.

In 2021 she undertook an artistic residency at Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris, writing a work for marimba based on the Irish tradition. This year she was a recipient of the Music Network Capital Scheme which enabled her to upgrade her marimba, facilitated by Music Network, the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, and The Arts Council.

She has toured extensively with Celtic Woman in the USA, Europe, Japan, Brazil, and Australia, and was a featured percussionist on their symphony tours including The Seattle Symphony Orchestra and The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra to name a couple. She is also drummer for celebrated singer-songwriter and author Declan O'Rourke and a member of Bangers and Crash percussion group, a collective of Irish percussionists who regularly collaborate for a wide range of projects. Caitríona holds a Masters in Performance from the Royal Irish Academy of Music.

Valerie Reid is an artist and designer based in Edinburgh, Scotland. She works across many mediums from print to set design and visual art and enjoys working in cross-artform practice. She has created performance designs for dance and theatre companies in the UK and Ireland (including Junk Ensemble, Visible Fictions, Luke Pell), and works for young audiences (Spellbound, Lyra) and is particularly passionate about experiential, space-driven work.

Jo Timmins is the founder and Artistic Director of Scottish company Lyra. Originally trained as a director at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, she has worked in theatre, dance and design, with a focus on performing arts for children and teenagers. Jo has created Wild Heart, We Are All Just Little Creatures (in association with Curious Seed and Lung Ha Theatre Company) This Way Up, Helen's Letters, Lone Wolf, Sampler, Pigeon, Hush and Rebecca's Midnight for Lyra and has worked with Junk Ensemble as dramaturg (Dolores), co-creator (Bird with Boy), designer (Sometimes we break, Tate Britain commission) and director (The Rain Party). Jo has directed for Kopergieterij (Belgium) and Catherine Wheels (Scotland) and is former Director in Residence with Imagineate and National Theatre of Scotland.

Sarah Jane Shiels began designing lighting in Dublin Youth Theatre, completing M.Sc in Interactive Digital Media 2021 and a BA in Drama and Theatre Studies 2006 (Trinity), and the Rough Magic Seeds3 programme 2006 - 2008. From 2010 - 2017, she was co-artistic director of WillFredd Theatre. Previous work with Junk Ensemble include The Veiled Ones, A Different Wolf, Man at the Door (Number 54), Dolores, Soldier Still, It Folds and Dusk Ahead.

LaurA Fajardo Castro is a Colombian costume and set designer based in Dublin. LaurA graduated with a Bachelor in Fine Arts from Los Andes University in Bogotá and with an MFA in Stage Design from The Lir, Trinity College Dublin, 2019. Recently she has designed for Roisin Whelan Dance/Ballet Ireland (costume design, The Glass House, 2022), Monica Muñoz (set and costume design, Fall and Float, Tour show 2022), Marc Atkinson Borrull (costume design, Three Sisters, The Lir 2022) and more.

Sarah Bacon trained on the Motley Theatre Design Course in London, having previously studied Architecture at University College Dublin. She designs set and costumes for theatre, opera and dance. Recent designs include, Luck Just Kissed You Hello at the Peacock, Irish National Opera's 20 Shots of Opera (filmed in the Gaiety Theatre, Nov 2020), Escape from The Seraglio (Covid cancelled), Drama at Inish, City Song, (Winner 2019 ITTA Best Set Design, nominated Best Costume Design) Anna Karenina, The Shadow of a Gunman (Winner 2016 ITTA Best Set Design, nominated best Costume Design) (Abbey Theatre) Beginning / The Children, ASSASSINS (The Gate Theatre), Hecuba, Melt, The Effect, Other Costume Designs include Look Back in Anger at the Gate, The Patient Gloria (The Peacock) The Rehearsal: Playing The Dane (Pan Pan Theatre Co./The Abbey). She was a Linbury Prize finalist and has exhibited her work at the National Theatre in London.

Denis Clohessey has worked with numerous dance and theatre companies including Junk Ensemble, CoisCéim, The Gate Theatre, The Abbey Theatre, Fishamble, Rough Magic, Brokentalkers, Corn Exchange, The Tron Theatre, Glasgow, Northlight Theatre, Chicago and Beijing Children's Theatre. He won the Irish Times theatre award for Best Design Sound in 2019 and 2010. Denis was an associate artist with the Abbey in 2008 and was a participant on Rough Magic's ADVANCE programme in 2012. In 2016 Pat Kinevane's play 'Silent' (Fishamble) won an Olivier award for which Denis composed the music. His film work includes music for the feature films Older than Ireland (Snack box Films), His and Hers (Venom Film) and The Land of the Enlightened (Savage Film). His television work includes The Toy Shop and The Confessors (Atom Films) and the TV series The Limits of Liberty (South Wind Blows) performed by the RTE Concert Orchestra.

Dennis Kennedy, who held the Samuel Beckett Chair of Drama in Trinity College Dublin for many years, has published ten books on theatre history and live performance. He has worked as a playwright, director, or dramaturg in theatres from London to Beijing, and his short stories and poems have appeared in a number of literary journals. Born in Cincinnati, he has lived in Dublin since 1995

Jennifer Aust is a stage manager and arts worker from Dublin. Stage Manager credits include Paper Plane (2021), Narcissus (Dublin Fringe 2021/Chiswick Playhouse), Youse: Biz from the Age of Surveillance Capitalism (Dublin Fringe 2020), Road (Queen Margaret University Theatre 2020), Dubs (Complex Youth Theatre 2019), B(l)oom (Dolmen Theatre 2019), Beauty and the Beast (DLR Mill Theatre 2018), Viva Voce (Dublin Fringe 2018), Love A La Mode (Smock Alley Theatre 2018), pool (no water) (Granary Theatre 2018), This is a room... (Dublin Theatre Festival 2017), Papini (Dublin Fringe 2017), Gays Against The Free State! (Dublin Fringe 2016), The David Fragments, The River, God's Ear (Samuel Beckett Theatre 2015 - 2017), and Mercury (New Theatre 2016).

She was the Assistant Stage Manager for Translations (Lyric Theatre Belfast/Abbey Theatre 2022), The Jennifer Johnston Monologues (Peacock Theatre 2022), It was easy (in the end) (Abbey Theatre 2019), Vaults: Live (2018) and Remember to Breathe (Dublin Fringe 2015).

Jennifer holds an MA with Distinction in Stage Management from Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh and a BA Drama & Theatre Studies from Trinity College Dublin. She is a Dublin Youth Theatre alumnus and has written, directed and performed work as co-founder of OXBO Theatre.

Adam Nolan is a Freelance Production Manager in the arts and events industry. A graduate of the BIMM Institute, he has many years of experience in all areas of music and arts production and event management and has worked with KnockanStockan Music & Arts Festival, TU Dublin Conservatoire, BIMM, Improvised Music Company, Body & Soul, Castlepalooza, Festival Republic, The Complex, Theatre Forum, ICAD, Irish National Opera, Dead Center, Ballet Ireland, Junk Ensemble, Dublin Fringe Festival and Dublin Theatre Festival amongst others.

Baz O'Donovan is a professional stage and production manager. Companies he enjoys working with are Junk Ensemble, Brokentalkers, and Moonfish Theatre amongst others. Some productions he has worked on include; The Examination, winner best production Irish Theatre Awards 2020, The Misunderstanding of Myrrha, The Veiled Ones, Dolores, Soldier Still and Redemption Falls. He is a trained drama facilitator and enjoys writing and directing when he gets a chance.

Liusaidh Hopper is the assistant stage manager for Junk ensemble's 'The Cold Sings'. Liusaidh started working as an ASM during the pandemic. Her passion for theater began as a teenager when she joined acting class and she has continued to be a part of theater from a young age in any way she could. She enjoys working backstage as well as performing on stage. Liusaidh is a recent graduate from The University Of Wolverhampton in which she received her Honor Bachelor of Arts degree in Drama. Liusaidh wishes to continue working in theater in her future.



Michelle is a freelance producer and arts professional originally from Galway and now based in Dublin. Her work is driven by a strong interest in supporting and nurturing creative and physical expression. She is passionate about creative collaborations across all disciplines to realise artistic ideas and produce ambitious new work for audiences to experience. With a background in dance and movement, she found her way into producing after a 20-year career as a performer in the UK, Spain and in Ireland. Her solo show Thirteen Steps to the Attic, a collaboration with Rowan Tolley premiered in 2018 and toured widely. She lectured in performance studies at third level and designed, curated, led, and facilitated many mid to large scale community dance projects for all ages in partnership with local and national organisations and funding bodies all over Ireland.



Gwen Van Spÿk has a 30year career of working as a Producer, Consultant, Trainer and Mentor across the full breadth of the live performance sector. Long based in the UK Gwen relocated her home and her practice to Ireland in 2018. From her UK base Gwen produced shows that toured across the globe with artists including, Russell Maliphant, Carol Brown, Rosemary Butcher, Nigel Charnock, New Art Club, Hetain Patel and Lone Twin – with whom she produced The Boat Project, a highlight of the 2012 Cultural Olympiad in London. Since moving to Ireland Gwen has been producing the work of a portfolio of artists and companies that includes Pan Pan, Junk Ensemble and Luke Murphy’s Attic Projects. Gwen has also produced one-off large scale projects, including a dance programme for the Rugby League World Cup 2013 centered around a performance by a cast of 500 for the Opening Ceremony at Millennium Stadium, Cardiff; and The Alchemy Project – a pioneering Dance and Mental Health intervention. Gwen is currently fulfilling a third year as Producer in Residence of Dance Ireland, leading a programme of professional development for independent artists and younger producers.

