



Irish Ballet Forum

*in association with
Ballet Ireland
and Cork City Ballet
presents*

A MASTERCLASS WITH ALAN FOLEY

(Artistic Director CCB)

AND ANNE MAHER

(Director BI)

**with dancers from Irelands' two
professional ballet companies**

*for talented ballet students 14 years of age and older
- intermediate standard or above*

@ 1 PM TO 4 PM

MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER

at

The Dance House, Foley Street

Please note the Masterclass is free, but ticketed.
To book your place phone 046 9557585
or email us at balletireland@eircom.net



Teachers are invited to observe



Alan Foley

Founder and Artistic Director of Cork City Ballet, began his training with the renowned Joan Denise Moriarty School of Dance and the Cork Ballet Company. Further training included the Harrison College of Dance and Drama in London, the Vaganova (Kirov) Ballet Summer School in Russia in 1989, the

Broadway Dance Centre in New York, and classes with many distinguished teachers and dancers in Pineapple Dance Studios in London.

He has choreographed and produced all of Cork City Ballet's productions since 1992, including the hugely successful Ballet Spectacular seasons, which have toured to all the major venues in Ireland. During that time, he has worked alongside some of the most illustrious dancers of our generation including Veronika Ivanova and Nikita Scheglov of the Kirov Ballet, Elena Koulagina the prima ballerina of the Perm State Ballet of Russia, and Marie Lindqvist - prima ballerina of the Royal Swedish Ballet.

As a dancer, his energy and stage presence were consistently noted by the critics in many major classical ballets such as Swan Lake, The Nutcracker, Don Quixote, The Sleeping Beauty, Le Corsaire and La Bayadere among others. His versatility was also evident in the many contemporary and jazz-ballets in which he performed, including Patricia Crosbie's "Bodyguard", and in his own ballet "Gira Con Me". As a guest artist he has performed with the Irish National Youth Ballet in Dublin, the Smirnoff Fashion Awards at the Point Theatre (choreography Bunty Matthias), the IORC and the New Works Series at ICD Firkin Crane, Cork.

Television work includes "The Late Late Show", "The Arts Show", the RTE/BBC joint production of "Go For It", "Opening Nights" the BBC mini-series "The Aristocrats", RTE's "Ballet Chancers", and the operas "Aida" and "La Traviata" at the Point Theatre in Dublin.

He is the Director of the VEC Diploma in Dance course at Colaiste Stiofain Naofa, which is based at the Firkin Crane in Cork. In 1998, he was the first person in Ireland to be awarded (with distinction) the prestigious Fellowship Diploma in Classical Ballet, of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing in London.

In January 2005, Alan was invited to join the Board of Directors of the Irish National Youth Ballet Company, (Artistic Director: Katherine Lewis) and in November 2005, he produced and starred in the DVD "The Magic of Ballet With Alan and Monica". He was also recently elected onto the Board of the Irish Russian Youth Ballet.

November 2006 saw the launch of his book "Ballet Through The Lens - Foley and Loughman: A Portrait" with Monica Loughman.

Alan retired from the professional stage in May 2007, but continues his work as Artistic Director of Cork City Ballet; as Course Director of the VEC Diploma in Dance course at Colaiste Stiofain Naofa; and as Principal of the Alan Foley Academy of Dance.

Alan's new book "Cork City Ballet - the story so far" was launched at the Millennium Hall in Cork's City Hall on 16th September 2008 in the presence of the Deputy Lord Mayor of Cork, Councillor Patricia Gosch; the Executive Director of the Cork Opera House, Mr Gerry Barnes; and 250 invited guests.

Anne Maher

Dublin born Anne Maher first started ballet at the age of 5 with Myrtle Lambkin in Dublin under whose guidance she studied until she was 16. She then moved to Cork to continue her training with the Irish Ballet Company.

There she spent a year training, dancing and also teaching for Joan Denise Moriarty at her school. The offer of a contract with the Dublin City Ballet under the directorship of Janet Lewis, brought her back to Dublin. Here she danced in a variety of productions and also

had the opportunity of working with the late Anton Dolin and John Gilpin in their acclaimed production of Giselle.



Another highlight of her time with Dublin City was her appearance in the 1980 Irish production of the Eurovision Song Contest. During this time, she received a scholarship from the late Princess Grace of Monaco to study at L'Academie de Danse Classique in Monte Carlo under Marika Besobrasova.

After completion of her training in Monte Carlo, she moved to London to accept a contract with British Ballet Theatre. She remained in London for 3 years during which time she also appeared in pantomime, videos and films. In 1986 she was invited to join Wiener Ballet Theatre and moved to Munich. Within a year she was promoted to soloist and in 1988 to Principal Ballerina. She has danced in Opera Houses and Theatres all over Europe.

Her roles include Odette/Odile (Swan Lake), Sugar Plum Fairy (Nutcracker), Juliet (Romeo and Juliet), Queen of the Willis (Giselle), and a range of various modern works. In 1997 Anne returned to Ireland to establish Ballet Ireland. The company's inaugural performances were in the Gaiety Theatre in October 1998. The company has been Arts Council funded since 1999 and last year celebrated ten years with a sell out season at the Gaiety. Anne was elected by the dance community onto the Board of Dance Ireland in 2008.