



Further information is available from:

**draíocht**

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Blanchardstown, Dublin 15  
Tel: +353 (0) 888 0010  
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mailto:info@draiocht.ie / www.draiocht.ie

**ARTS OFFICE**

Community, Recreation & Amenities Department  
Fingal County Council, Fingal County Hall, Swords, Co. Dublin  
Tel: +353 (0) 890 0090  
mailto:community@fingal.ie  
www.fingal.ie



FINGAL'S INTERNATIONAL  
ARTS FESTIVAL  
FOR CHILDREN

**Spreacha**

12-17 JUNE 2006



**draíocht**

A six day festival of magical theatre performances,  
puppetry, storytelling and visual art exhibitions for children  
aged between 3 and 12 years

A Chara,

On behalf of Fingal County Council, I am delighted to welcome you to Draíocht Arts Centre, here in Dublin 15, for our International Arts Festival for Children 'Spréacha'. This is the third consecutive year of this unique and important cultural event, celebrating as it does the very best in children's theatre from around the World.



Fingal County Council can proudly boast of its commitment to arts development over the last decade. Through the work of our arts staff, our Arts Centres and our Libraries, we are committed to the ideal of excellence and access for all, regardless of social standing or geographical location. Spréacha 2006, which is aimed at children between 3 and 12 years of age, seeks to 'spark' children's imagination through exposure to the very best theatre companies worldwide.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Emer McGowan, Director of Draíocht, Rory O'Byrne, County Arts Officer and Paul Harris, County Librarian for their commitment in programming and organising this special event. It is my hope that Spréacha will continue to build on its success and become the premier Children's Arts Festival in the Country.

**John Tierney**  
Manager  
Fingal County Council

Draíocht in partnership with Fingal County Council presents



We'd like to say thanks... to Spréacha's funders and sponsors,  
without whom this Festival could not take place

Funded by:



With additional support from:



Glanbia  
Pierse Contracting  
Vodafone

Accommodation Sponsor:

**THE TWELFTH LOCK**





DRAÍOCHT  
MAIN SPACE

VÉLO THÉÂTRE ★ FRANCE

# Envelopes & Packages

A postman carries a whole world on his bicycle – all wrapped up in parcels. When curiosity gets the better of him he opens the parcels to reveal a world of dreams, holidays, jungles, and volcanoes. This show takes its audience on a magical journey full of fantasy and adventure.

This show has no dialogue



AGE  
5-9 years

DURATION  
60 minutes

DAYS/TIMES  
Monday 12th June  
10am & 12.30pm

Tuesday 13th June  
10am & 12.30pm

TICKETS  
€5



DRAÍOCHT  
STUDIO SPACE

ULTIMA THULE ★ BELGIUM

# 1900

This beautiful adaptation of the Italian novella, Novecento, tells the story of a unique man who never sets foot on dry land. On January 1 1900, a small baby boy was found abandoned on The Virginian, a transatlantic ship. 1900, named after the year he was born, is a true orphan who knows nothing about his parents or past. At a young age, he becomes a piano prodigy and helps to create the new era of jazz. This gentle, funny, touching and profound play uses a small cast, puppets and a minimal set to convey the remarkable life of a man who experiences the outside world from his ever moving sanctuary.

*“A timeless ageless story of friendship, dignity and above all hope, that cannot fail to inspire”*

Edinburgh Guide



AGE

10+

DURATION

60 minutes

DAYS/TIMES

Monday 12th June

12 noon & 7pm

Tuesday 13th June

10.15am & 12.15pm

TICKETS

€5



DRAÍOCHT  
STUDIO SPACE

Crying Out Loud presents

TPO ★ ITALY

# The Ugly Duckling

Using live music, text and dance, the much loved tale of *The Ugly Duckling* is re-created for us. Through virtual scenery created with computerized images projected on to the floor we go on *The Ugly Duckling*'s journey with him, meeting all the characters that make him question his place in the world until that startling and beautiful moment comes when *The Ugly Duckling*'s true self is revealed.

AGE

5-8 years

DURATION

60 minutes

DAYS/TIMES

Wednesday 14th June

10.15am & 12.15pm

Thursday 15th June

10.15am & 12.15pm

TICKETS

€5



IRISH  
PREMIERE

THE  
MUSIC  
MUSEUM

DRAÍOCHT  
MAIN SPACE

LAJOYE PRODUCTIONS ★ USA

# Snowflake

Without a single word, Gale LaJoye's *Snowflake* shows a child how to turn sorrow into joy. Using the magic of illusion, Gale floats in mid-air, breathes life into toys, creates imaginative music and dances *The Nutcracker* on skis. In *Snowflake*, a funny and poignant play, Gale LaJoye lives up to his international reputation as a unique and inspiring entertainer.

*"No words are uttered in snowflake... but the sounds of joy are immense"* Richmond Times, USA

*"Snowflake can hold the attention of everyone from toddlers to grandparents. It is theatre at its purest"* The Herald, Scotland

This show has no dialogue

AGE  
4+  
Family Groups

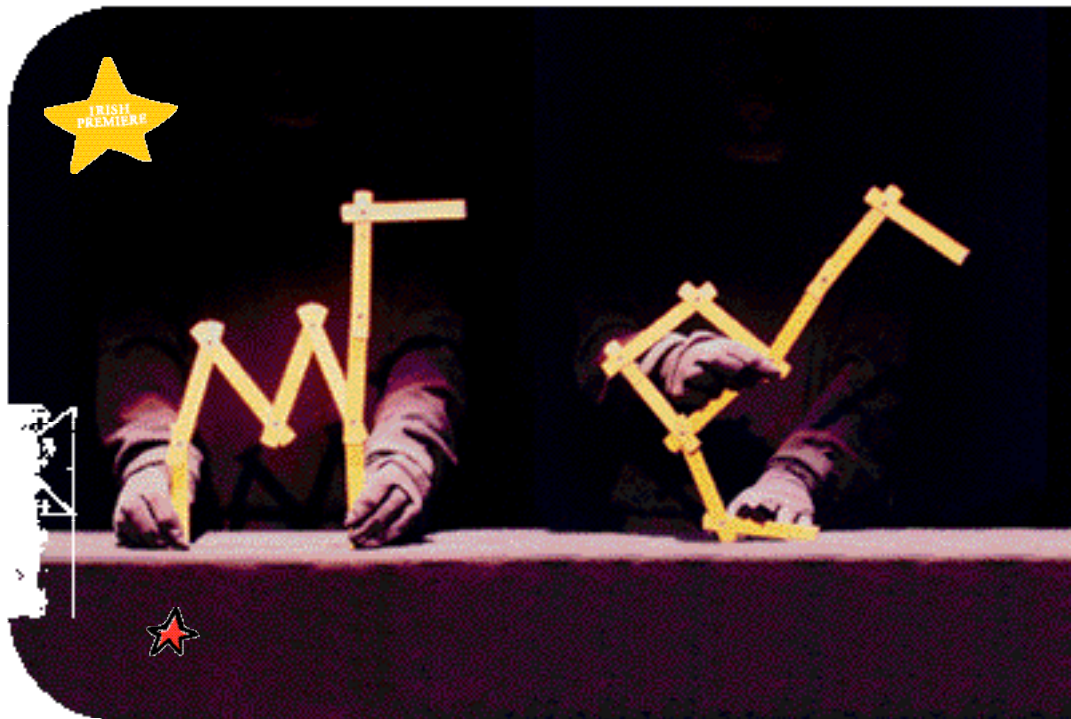
DURATION  
60 minutes

DAYS/TIMES  
Thursday 15th June  
11.30am

Friday 16th June  
11.30am

Saturday 17th June  
12 noon & 3pm

TICKETS  
€5



DRAÍOCHT  
STUDIO SPACE

EL RETABLO PUPPET THEATRE ★ SPAIN

# Animals

Using a diverse range of objects and materials, award winning El Retablo Puppet Theatre create an extraordinary parade of animals right in front of our eyes. This show explores the animal world in poetic, playful and humorous ways. The forms, colours, sounds and rhythms created, captivate and amaze both children and adults. This is puppetry at its very best.

AGE

3-6 years

DURATION

45 minutes

DAYS/TIMES

Friday 16th June

10.15am, 12.15pm & 5pm

Saturday 17th June

2pm & 4.30pm

TICKETS

€5

This show has no dialogue

PAINTING, SCULPTURE AND INSTALLATION

# A Long Time Ago

Andrew Bracey, Cian Donnelly, Brendan Jamison, Nevan Lahart, Mark McGreevy.

*A Long Time Ago* brings together five artists whose work recalls the visual world of children's play. Remembering a world that is saturated with colour in every facet, toys, cartoons, food, packaging, TV, in a uniquely personal way each artist reflects this environment playfully through memory and experience. With nostalgia or a desire to recreate innocence and wonder, these artists create an exhibition which will appeal to both children and adults.

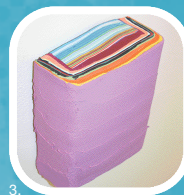
Mark McGreevy recalls the graphic world of children's cartoons and science fiction using high colour and luminescent paint. Cian Donnelly's sculptural pieces build up layers of confectionery colour to make solid blocks of sandwiched pigment which have a tempting edible quality. A red woollen tree and blue woollen bridge feature in the fantastical environments of Brendan Jamison. Andrew Bracey's painted nail-heads are reminiscent of the doll's house/dinky car world of miniature toys,



1.



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5.

while Nevan Lahart's painted static TVs draw us directly into a primitive childlike view of the world.

*A Long time Ago* is a project initiated by artists, Cian Donnelly, Brendan Jamison and Mark McGreevy.



1. Brendan Jamison,  
*Red Wool Tree*, 2005

2. Andrew Bracey,  
*Clout*, 2003-4, acrylic  
paint on nails

3. Cian Donnelly,  
*Slice Painting in Lilac*,  
oil paint, 2005,  
25 x 35 x 10cm

4. Nevan Lahart,  
*Ch.26: Sub-commandant  
Marco, the Friendly  
Terrorist (after R.  
Hamilton)*, 2002,  
oil on MDF, 40 x 58 cm.

5. Mark McGreevy,  
*Return to Choco Island*,  
oil on canvas,  
180 x 210 cm, 2004



COMPANY	AGE	SHOW	VENUE	MON 12	TUE 13	WED 14	THURS 15	FRI 16	SAT 17
Vélo Théâtre	5-9 years	Envelopes & Packages	Main Space <i>Draíocht</i>	10am 12.30pm	10am 12.30pm				
Ultima Thule	10+	1900	Studio Space <i>Draíocht</i>	12 noon 7pm	10.15am 12.15pm				
TPO	5-8 years	The Ugly Duckling	Studio Space <i>Draíocht</i>			10.15am 12.15pm	10.15am 12.15pm		
LaJoye Productions	4+ Family	Snowflake	Main Space <i>Draíocht</i>				11.30am	11.30am	12 noon 3pm
El Retablo Puppet Theatre	3-6 years	Animals	Studio Space <i>Draíocht</i>					10.15am 12.15pm 5pm	2pm 4.30pm
Visual Arts	3+ Family	A Long Time Ago	Main Gallery <i>Draíocht</i>	10am – 6pm	10am – 6pm	10am – 6pm	10am – 6pm	10am – 6pm	10am – 6pm



## SCHOOL INFORMATION

### Tickets

#### *Free Tickets for Teachers*

Two teachers will receive complimentary tickets per class group. Should your group include children with special needs please let us know on booking and additional complimentary seats will be provided for special needs assistants/carers.

#### *Booking/Payment*

A non-refundable deposit of 25% will be required within 10 days to secure the reservation. The balance can be paid on the day. Please note that the booking details i.e. numbers attending can be changed up to 7 days before the performance date. After this, all seats booked must be paid for.

### Lunch Room

Please note that a space is available for class groups to eat their lunch before or after their attendance at a Spréacha performance. However, this room must be booked with Anne O'Gorman, Draíocht's Children/Youth Arts Officer. Anne's number is 01 8098029 and e-mail address is [anne@draiocht.ie](mailto:anne@draiocht.ie). As there is limited space available this booking must be confirmed in writing.

Food and drink are not allowed into the theatres at any time.

### Additional Information

Should you have any queries on the performances please contact:  
Emer McGowan, Director on 01 8098027 or at [emer@draiocht.ie](mailto:emer@draiocht.ie)

## HOW TO BOOK...

### PERFORMANCES AT DRAÍOCHT

#### *Box Office*

*Opening Hours:* Monday to Saturday  
10am – 6pm

*Phone:* 01 885 2622

*Email:* [aidan@draiocht.ie](mailto:aidan@draiocht.ie)

*In Person:* Call in to us at Draíocht.  
We are located opposite  
the Blue Entrance of the  
Blanchardstown  
Shopping Centre

*You can pay by:* Cash, Cheque, Laser or  
Credit card. Gift Vouchers  
are also available

### LIBRARY EVENTS

*All school bookings will be done through  
the Blanchardstown Library.*

*Contact: Lynda Beasley, Children's Librarian  
01 890 5583*

*For after school events, please contact:*

*Blanchardstown Library:* 01 890 5583

*Baldoye Library:* 01 890 6796

*Howth Library:* 01 832 2273

*Swords Library:* 01 840 4179

*Skerries Library:* 01 849 5142

All Library events are free

*Special Needs:* We kindly ask that where possible any special needs or seating requirements are made known to us at time of booking.

*Public Performances:* For the safety and enjoyment of all, children under 12 must be accompanied to performances by a guardian.

*Age Recommendations:* We ask you to respect the age recommendation listed for performances. This will ensure the best possible experience for your child and others attending.

**[www.draiocht.ie](http://www.draiocht.ie)**

*Spréacha reserves the right to alter any advertised programme if necessary.*

## Toby Kinsella



Toby Kinsella is a multi-instrumentalist with over 25 years experience as a performer. He plays instruments from around the world, tells stories, sings songs, and delights children with his show Musical Stories. Toby has a special rapport with younger children, and with them he explores the music and rhythms of many lands. Using Storytelling and Puppets he covers many diverse musical styles. His young audience gets actively involved in making music, and they absorb a wealth of information about the essence of music, sound, culture, rhythms, instruments and performance.



Age	Dates	Times	Venues
5-7 years	Mon 12th June	3.30pm	Blanchardstown Library
	Tue 13th June	3.30pm 5.30pm	Swords Library Baldoyle Library

## Valerie Coyne



Valerie trained at L'ecole Phillippe Gaulier in London. She has worked with a variety of theatre companies; Corc a d o rca, Rou gh Magic, and The Wild Turkeys. She toured nationwide in the clown show Strange Glove and regularly facilitates clown and comedy workshops.

### Earn your red nose workshop

Find out about your theatrical clown through costume, games (circus ring, the flop) and improvisations. Do the *Make Me Laugh Exercise* to see if you can earn a red nose!

Age	Dates	Times	Venues
7-10 years	Mon 12th June	3.30pm 5.30pm	Swords Library Baldoyle Library
	Wed 14th June	3.30pm	Blanchardstown Library



## John Carpenter



*Magical World of Narnia Art Workshop* with John Carpenter. Over 50 years ago, C.S. Lewis created a land of wonder and enchantment called Narnia, and since then over 60 million readers have discovered the wondrous world that exists beyond the back of the wardrobe. As part of our Spréacha celebrations we invite children to delve into this magical world of Narnia with these art workshops. John is a favourite with schools and libraries throughout Dublin. His acrylic art and mural workshops are hugely popular as is his relaxed and friendly approach.



Age	Dates	Times	Venues
8-12 years	Tue 13th June	3.30pm	Blanchardstown Library
	Wed 14th June	3.30pm 5.30pm	Baldoyle Library Howth Library
	Thu 15th June	3.30pm 5.30pm	Swords Library Skerries Library

## Liz Weir



Liz Weir is a professional storyteller who works with all age groups promoting the traditional art for which Ireland is world famous. A children's librarian by training, she now travels the world telling stories to adults and children, organising workshops on storytelling, and speaking at courses for parents, teachers and librarians. Her wealth of stories is drawn from both the oral and written traditions. Liz is also the author of *Boom Chicka Boom* and *Here, There and Everywhere*.

Age	Dates	Times	Venue
8-9 years	Tues 13th June	10.30am	Blanchardstown Library
		11.45am 1pm	





## Oisín McGann

Oisín McGann works as a freelance illustrator and author. He is the author of *The Gods and Their Machines*, the first in a trilogy, which was the winner of a Bisto Merit Award in 2004/2005. Since then Oisín has written many books including *The Harvest Tide Project* and its sequel, *Under Fragile Stone*. Oisín is also the author of the *Mad Grandad* series of books published for the O'Brien Flyer Series.

Age	Dates	Times	Venues
7-10 years	Thurs 15th June	10am 12.30pm	Blanchardstown Library Baldoyle Library



## Marita Conlon-McKenna

After its publication, *Under the Hawthorn Tree* remained in the Irish bestseller list for over two years. It has been translated into French, Dutch, Danish, German, Swedish, Italian, Japanese and Irish, as well as being filmed for RTE and Channel 4. Marita has written many other hugely popular children's books and is a recipient of several awards including the International Reading Association Award, the Osterreichischer Kinder und Jugendbuchpreis, the Reading Association of Ireland Award and the Bisto Book of the Year.

Age	Dates	Times	Venues
10-12 years	Fri 16th June	10am 12.30pm	Blanchardstown Library Baldoyle Library

## FESTIVAL STAFF

### DRAÍOCHT

<i>Director</i>	<b>Emer McGowan</b>
<i>General Manager</i>	<b>Jackie Ryan</b>
<i>Visual Arts Officer</i>	<b>Carissa Farrell</b>
<i>Children's/Youth Arts Officer</i>	<b>Anne O'Gorman</b>
<i>Marketing Manager</i>	<b>Nicola Murphy</b>
<i>Marketing Assistant</i>	<b>Sarah Martin</b>
<i>Production Manager</i>	<b>Eamon Fox</b>
<i>Technical Stage Manager</i>	<b>Jack Cawley</b>
<i>Front of House Manager</i>	<b>Cliona McNamara</b>
<i>Box Office Assistant</i>	<b>Aidan Gately</b>
<i>Accounts</i>	<b>Eileen Shields</b>
<i>Cleaner</i>	<b>Antanina Skendeleine</b>

### FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

<i>Arts Officer</i>	<b>Rory O'Byrne</b>
<i>Asst. Arts Officer</i>	<b>Sarah O'Neill</b>
<i>Youth &amp; Community</i>	
<i>Arts Officer</i>	<b>Julie Clarke</b>
<i>Childrens Librarian</i>	<b>Lynda Beasley (Blanchardstown Library)</b>
<i>Development Librarian</i>	<b>Assumpta Hickey</b>
<i>Asst. Development Librarian</i>	<b>Marion Caulfield</b>

### GRAPHIC DESIGN

encoredesign



## Projects in Draíocht's 05/06 Children's/Youth Arts Programme included:



### Family Days...

Drop-in art activities based in Draíocht's art gallery, where all necessary art materials are supplied and artists are standing by to help children and parents explore various areas of visual arts together – drawing with charcoal, pastels, pencil... paper crafts and bookmaking... Halloween masks and Valentine cards to name a few.



### Classically Jazz...

20 musicians including 4 saxophones, 4 trombones, some trumpets, a double bass and a grand piano live in Draíocht especially for the children of Dublin 15. The concerts were accompanied by a musician-led workshop programme so that everyone in the audience was an expert on the make up of an orchestra, on improvisation and jazz and on Rhapsody in Blue!



### Youth Dance Company...

Part of our recently established dance residency is the creation of a Youth Dance Company, auditioned from the local community (both experienced dancers and those with no training but a great spark!). Now working every Tuesday with Kevin Murphy, Draíocht's Dance Practitioner in Residence, and devising their debut performance for May 06. Earlier in the year, Kevin facilitated mother and toddler playdance sessions.

### Drama in Secondary Schools...

Draíocht is working with the Educational Opportunities Programme to bring drama workshops to students of Blakestown Community School.



### Filíocht Ó Draíocht...

9 local schools worked with 6 children's writers intensively for 5 weeks, creating collective poems which were illustrated by some of the best children's illustrators working in Ireland and produced as original artworks to permanently adorn the walls of the Arts Centre, a celebration of the creativity of our schoolchildren neighbours. Accompanied by "Something Beginning With P..." Exhibition, in association with The O'Brien Press.



1.



2.

1. Olwyn Whelan,  
*The Wizard's Choice*,  
2005

2. Alan Clarke,  
*Timmy's Little Fall*,  
2005

For further information contact:

Anne O'Gorman  
Children's/Youth Arts Officer  
Draíocht, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15

Tel: 01 8098029  
anne@draiocht.ie

