

Maria Svensson is a professional contemporary choreographer, dancer, performer & teacher who has worked for over 10 years in collaboration with other artists and organisations/companies such as Dans i Värmland, Daghdha Dance Company, Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company, Teater Martin Mutter, Cathy Walsh, Mark Mc Loughlin, FC/DC (Firkin Crane's Dance Club) & BEAG - BEAG is an initiative of the Local Authority Arts Offices of Cork City and County Councils and the Health Services Executive Southern Region (HSE South) Arts and Health programme, with organising partner Graffiti Theatre Company.

Moreover, Maria is artistic director of the solo dance festival 'Going Solo Together' which takes place yearly in her hometown Örebro (SE). Since 2014 Maria has been working in schools and various groups in County Kerry and was dance artist in residence at An Lab, Dingle 2016-2018 funded by the Arts Council & Kerry County Council.

Maria Svensson

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Nationality: Swedish

Languages: Swedish & English

Driving license (B)

EDUCATION

2010 Traces of Dance, Khosro Adibi and Jenny Davidsson, University of Karlstad (SE)

2009 Communicating with Clarity, Rivca Ruben (IE)

2004-2007 TrinityLaban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, London, BA (Hons) Dance Theatre (UK)

2004 Balettakademien, 1 year part-time, Stockholm (SE)

1993-2003 Örebro Waldorfschool (Steiner School) (SE)

PROFESSIONAL RESIDENCES & EMPLOYMENT

2014-2018 Artistic Director 'Going Solo Together' (SE & IE)

2016-2018 Dancer in Residence An Lab, Dingle (IE)

2017 - Current Early Years Artist, BEAG - Graffiti Theatre Company (IE)

2016-2018 Teacher FC/DC (Firkin Crane Dance Club, for boys aged 8-12) (IE)

2016-2019 Facilitator during summer course 'Exploring Artist/Teacher Partnership', Tralee Education Centre & Limerick Education Centre (IE)

2016 Teacher/Artist Partnership residence at Ardfert N.S.

2015 Teacher/Artist Partnership (1916 commemoration) Tralee Education Centre & Kerry County Council (IE)

2014-2016 Dance Artist in Residence, Kerry County Council (IE)

2015 Residence Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company (UK)

2014 - Current Self-employed at Rooted Being (SE)

2010-2011 Dance Artist at Dans i Värmland, Karlstad (SE)

2009-2010 Daghdha Mentoring Programme, mentors: Michael Klien and Bush Hartstone, Limerick (IE)

BURSARIES / SCHOLARSHIPS

2019 The Arts Council Travel & Training Award (IE)

2019 Kerry County Council Artist in School Bursary (IE)

2018 Ealaín na Gaeltachta Oíche Chulthúir (IE)

2017 The Arts Council Residency Scheme (IE)

2016 Kerry County Council Arts Act Grant (IE)

2016 The Arts Council Residency Scheme (IE)

2016 The Arts Council Travel & Training Award (IE)

2016 Kerry County Council Bursary Award (IE)

2015 Artist Support Ealaín na Gaeltachta (IE)

2015 Production Grant, Örebro Kommun (SE)

2015 Production Bursary, Örebro Läns Landsting (SE)

2014 Production Bursary, Örebro Kommun (SE)

2014 Production Bursary, Örebro Läns Landsting (SE)

2013 Production Bursary, Örebro Kommun (SE)

2013 Production Bursary, Örebro Läns Landsting (SE)

2012 Culture Scholarship, Örebro Läns Landsting (SE)

RECENT ARTISTIC COLLABORATIONS & PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES

2019 SHINING STARS is the working title of a piece that invites us to open our skies and ask ourselves what colour is our dream? Inspired by the gentle, magic poetry that make up our everyday lives. Performed by a trio of dancers accompanied by vocalist and musician Claire O'Brien as part of ButterNights#2 Firkin Crane and Cork Midsummer Festival. Directed by Maria Svensson, the piece was created together with Hugh Scannell, Luca Squillacciotti & Claire O'Brien.

THE CROSSOVER a multi-disciplinary performance art project initiated in 2018 in Cork City featuring collaborations between Cork performance poets, rappers, musicians, dancers and visual artists. Performance by Maria Svensson in collaboration with musician Eileen Healy. As part of First Fortnight Festival, The Kino Cork (IE)

2018 MO SPIORAD EILIFINTE / MY ELEPHANT SPIRIT A short dance film directed by Maria Svensson and Mark Mc Loughlin. Made together with a group of dancers in West Kerry based on the performance 'An Moladh / The Proposal'. The film premiered at Phoenix Cinema as part of Culture Night (IE).

THE POWER OF FRAU A participatory performance ritual with and by Maria Svensson & Cathy Walsh. Performed as part of Féile na Bealtaine and Cork Midsummer Festival (IE).

2017 AN MOLADH / THE PROPOSAL

A poetic movement piece created with 10 courageous West Kerry souls. Performed in An Lab as part of Féile na Bealtaine & Culture Night (IE).

THE COVE Choreography: Steve Batts and Echo Echo ensemble, director: Steve Batts. Set design/creation/installation: Dan Shippiesides, original score: Christopher Norby, costume: Helen Quigley, performance: Esther Alleyne, Ayesha Mailey, Kelly Quigley, Zoe Ramsey, Antonina Sheina and Maria Svensson. Echo Echo Studios, Derry (UK), The Black Box, Galway (IE), Lyric Theatre, Belfast (UK), The Source Arts Centre, Thurles (IE), Lime Tree Theatre, Limerick (IE) & Project Arts Centre, Dublin (IE)

THE IMPORTANCE OF SHEPHERDS Gently humorous, biographical solo. Choreographed and performed by Maria Svensson, assistant director Antonina Sheina. Performed in various festivals such Quarter Block Party, Firkin Crane and the International dance festival Tocht, Siamsa Tíre -The National Folk Theatre of Ireland. Performed in 2016 as part of Movement of Three / Gluaiseacht Triúir in theatres around Kerry: St John's Theatre & Arts Centre Listowel & Tech Amergin Waterville. The piece premiered as part of Echo Echo Festival of Dance and Movement 2015, Derry.

WORK EXPERIENCE & OTHER SKILLS

- 2018 Mighty Craic** - Artist led event, Firkin Crane Cork. Organiser and facilitator together with Cathy Walsh (IE)
- 2018 Creative Exchanges** Age & Opportunity. Movement Facilitator, Killorglin (IE)
- 2017 Aonarach Le Chéile / Going Solo Together** Collaborating Artistic Director together with Nick Bryson from Legitimate Bodies Dance Company, Dingle (IE)
- 2014, 2015, 2016 & 2018 Going Solo Together - Solo Dance Festival** Artistic Director & Project Manager, Örebro (SE)

WORKSHOPS WITH INDEPENDENT ARTISTS

- 2019** One week Improvisation Performance Intensive with Rosalind Crisp & Andrew Morrish Poznan (PL)
- 2018** One day workshop with Rosalind Crisp, Dance Limerick (IE) & Teater Martin Mutter (SE)
- 2017** One week research investigation into Poetic Movement Echo Echo Studios, Derry (NI)
- 2016** One week mentoring by Steve Batts looking at poetic movement, An Lab (IE)
- 2016** Bonnie Bainbridge Cohen and Simone Forti, The Body Mind Centering Conference Montreal (CA)
- 2016** Workshop with Nacera Belaza, Corp/Real Galway (IE)
- 2012** Solo-adaptation with Deborah Hay and 19 other dance artists, Findhorn, Scotland (UK)
- 2011** Figure Space, Steve Paxton and Lisa Nelson, Earthdance, MA (US)
- 2011** Approaches to Improvisation with Kirstie Simson and Darrel Jones, Arlequi (ES)
- 2010** Performance and Improvisation workshop with Andrew Morrish and Kirstie Simson, Alta-Hala, Prague (CZ)