

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Zoe Dance Company
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OVER 2.5 HOURS OF CUTTING-EDGE DANCE AT A SWANKY CLUB ALL FOR \$20 ***Zoé Dance and expandance Present 3 New Works Comprising 16 Dancers from 2 Continents***

Zoé Dance (Boston) & **expandance** (NYC / IRE) with Irish dance artist Ailish Claffey.
Sun, Jan. 22nd and Mon, Jan. 23rd 2012 at 8pm, CLUB OBERON, Harvard Square, Tickets \$25 (table seats) / \$20 (general admission) / \$18 (students, seniors and BDA members) from www.cluboberon.com.
Information: www.zoedance.org.

With the economy in a rut, it's nice to know you can find art created to make you think, feel and see the beauty again. Boston's Zoé Dance, trans-Atlantic contemporary dance theatre company **expandance** (NYC / Ireland) and Irish dance artist Ailish Claffey come together for a shared evening of ambitious and diverse dance works that will enliven your spirit. This is your chance to experience thought-provoking and physically stunning new contemporary dance - three remarkable pieces, set in OBERON'S exceptional club theatre. Boston, New York, and Irish dance artists come together to treat you to exemplary productions that explore political discord, what happens when rock and roll meets yoga, and unorthodox tales of modern Ireland. You'll be guaranteed an unforgettable evening and an exhilarating experience that will cure your "I hope this downturn will upturn soon blues" (well, at least for the 2.5 hours that you are in the theatre).

Three dance works will touch your mind, body and soul: "LEFT" choreographed by Callie Chapman from Zoé Dance is a journey into the dreams and realities of Chile at the onset of the dictatorship (1973-1989) from the perspective of a North American choreographer. It challenges the black and white views of who is to blame, who and what constitutes "bad" or "good" and when love is present how those hard lines are blurred.

"Rock Om", by Irish award winning choreographer Rachel Wynne (**expandance** / NYC) brings together two things **expandance** loves: rocking out, and being at peace. The piece shows a group of people exploring their own day-time rules, their playfulness, and the most disconnected, isolated facets of their psyches - through a frenzy of fun that tips over into self-destruction, they re-build from the inside out to find the balance between chaos and order.

"Cnoic Chlaonta", choreographed by Alicia Chistofi-Walsh (**expandance** / IRL) and Ailish Claffey and generously supported by Culture Ireland and Dance Ireland: This striking work is inspired by Ireland's rugged beauty, unyielding land, and the harsh realities that face its people. Visually stunning and provocative, the duo use stark imagery and an original sound-score, set and costume design to weave together an unorthodox tale of a modern Ireland.

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And don't miss:

Meet the dancers and choreographers!

Special FREE event prior to these performances:

FRIDAY JAN 20TH 6pm - 7:30pm, location TBA!

Informal meet and greet / press / photo opportunity - meet the people behind the work and chat about their artistic processes and connections. Performance will include wine, cheese and improvised dance by Zoé Dance, **expandance** and Ailish Claffey.

Cnoic Chlaonta, by Alicia Christofi-Walsh (expandance) and Ailish Claffey, has been generously supported by Dance Ireland, Culture Ireland, and Wicklow County Council. 'Rock Om', by Rachel Wynne (A.D. expandance) has been made possible in part through the fiscal sponsorship of The Field www.thefield.org

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Additional Information

Zoé Dance:

Zoé Dance has presented its work since 2002 in various venues and performance opportunities around Boston and internationally such as: World Music/CRASH Arts' "Ten's the Limit" (2005 and 2007), ArtBeat 2004 and 2009, "Virgin", produced by the Dance Renewal Project, Harvard Square's "May Fair" 2004, with the Choreographers Group 2004, Earth Dance's Outdoor Performance Festival 2003, Corporación Cultural de Las Condes (Santiago, Chile) 2007, Boston Center for the Arts' Mills Gallery as a featured artist of the Movement at the Mills residency. Zoé has also presented its work in self produced concerts: at the Dance Complex, Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center and Tower Auditorium at Massachusetts College of Art, the Boston Common, Union Square Plaza, and Green Street Studios. Zoé Dance was awarded a project grant from the Somerville Arts Council (2010) and was a finalist for the Boston Dance Alliance's Rehearsal and Retreat Fellowship (2009).

expandance:

expandance the company was founded at the Irish Choreographer's New Works Platform in Dublin in 2006 by choreographer Rachel Wynne with long-time collaborators Laurie Schneider and Alicia Christofi-Walsh. In Ireland, their work has been performed at DanceHouse, The Courthouse Arts Centre, Dance Theatre of Ireland, The Lab, The Project Arts Centre as part of the first Project Brand New, The Backstage Theatre, Block T, Riverbank Arts Centre and The Back Loft. In New York they've presented work at Webster Hall, The World Financial Centre, Movement Research at Dance Theater Workshop, Brooklyn Arts Exchange, Dance New Amsterdam, Galapagos Arts, and Bushwick Starr among others.

Ailish Claffey:

Graduated with a BA(Hons) in Dance Theatre from Trinity Laban with a keen interest in physical theatre. Studied Theatre Directing at The National University of Ireland, Maynooth and specialising in Choreological Studies, Ailish enjoys finding new ways of communicating with audiences. Ailish has worked with choreographers including *Anneke Hansen (NYC)*, *Joanne Fong (UK)*, *Charlie Morrissey (UK)*, *Irish Modern Dance Theatre (Ire)*, *Sara Rudner (NYC)*, *Via Negativa (Slov)*, *Elan Fucecchio (Italy)* and *Daria Fain (NYC)*. She is the co-founder & co-director of *Folded Productions* with dance artist Laura Murphy and enjoys ongoing dialogue and collaborations with various other artists. Ailish's choreographic work has been performed internationally including New York, Boston, Canada & Sweden in addition to various national venues and her work is kindly supported by Dance Ireland & The Arts Council, Ireland.