

Presented by Dublin Dance Festival and Pavilion Theatre
in association with Backstage Theatre

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CATHERINE YOUNG DANCE

Ciseach: An Embodied Manifesto

Pavilion Theatre
Thu 07 May 2026, 8pm



ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

We are in shambles.

Ciseach is a pulsating contemporary incantation weaving dance, rhythm, live music and voice that seeks to rekindle our broken relationship with the land.

This stirring new work for six dancers and five musicians is an embodied manifesto – urging us to remember, to reconnect with our past, with nature and with each other. Gathering fragments of native wisdom, myths and kinships, *Ciseach* looks to the body, and the collective, to weave together a new path toward solid ground.

Following works including *Floating on a Dead Sea*, *A Call to You* and *State of Exception*, Young once again takes on the urgent stories of our time, offering an experience that echoes long after the curtain falls.

ciseach (n.) shambles, mess; also a wattled walkway laid over a bog or soft ground to cross it.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

Catherine Young Dance is an Ireland-based contemporary dance company led by choreographer and dancer Catherine Young. The company is renowned for producing bold and musically rich performances that resonate with audiences across Ireland and internationally. Its ethos holds a deep commitment to building community, to social justice and to working through dance to communicate vital stories and ideas, especially from those on the margins.

ABOUT THE CREATOR

Catherine Young is choreographer, dancer and passionate advocate of human rights and equality. She has been at the forefront of dance in Ireland since returning home from America where she carried with her the extraordinary influences of her dance teachers who were mostly African-American. Her time in San Francisco gave her insight into working in a multi-cultural world and an appreciation of the beauty and power of each culture.

She is a Dance Ireland Associate Artist, Artist-in-Residence at Backstage Theatre and Dancer-in-Residence with Kerry County Council. She also co-curates Dance Limerick's What Next Dance Festival and is the Artistic Director of The Welcoming Project, an initiative fostering cultural integration and social inclusion for Ireland's new communities through dance.

CREDITS

Director & Choreographer	Catherine Young in collaboration with:
Dramaturg	Hanna Slättne
Music Director	Martin Schärer
Dance Collaborators	Vanessa Guevara, Diarmuid Armstrong Mayock, Valentin Lemaitre, Emily Nicolaou, Simone O'Toole, Carmen Palacios Sáenz, (swing: Rocio Dominguez, 2024 performance: Nana-YAA Appiah)
Original Music created in collaboration	Martin Schärer, Jess Kavanagh, Mícheál O'Dubhghaill, Fionn O'Neill, Jon Sanders (2026 tour: Seanan Brennan)
Set Design	Sabine Dargent
Lighting Design	Sarah Jane Shiels
Costume Design	Cherie White
Sound & Sound Design	Alan Kelly
Production Manager	Jay Kavanagh
Chief LX	Susan Collins, June Gonzalez
Stage Manager	Eloise Hickey
Set Build	Philip Dawson
Photographer/Videographer	Pato Cassinoni
Graphic Design	Clare Lynch Design
PR	Kate Bowe Communications
Marketing	Emer Casey
Producer	Kristyn Fontanella
Executive Producer	Mona Considine, Backstage Theatre

Funded by The Arts Council of Ireland's Arts Touring Award with support from Backstage Theatre & Kerry County Council.

Total running time is 60 mins (no interval).

THANKS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Catherine Young Dance: We dedicate this tour to the memory of Manchán Magan, whose work formed part of the research and inspiration for *Ciseach*. | Ar dhéis Dé go raibh a anam, ní bheidh a léithéad arís ann.

Dublin Dance Festival would like to thank The Arts Council of Ireland, Dublin City Council, Culture Ireland, Pavilion Theatre and Backstage Theatre for their support in presenting *Ciseach* as part of our 2026 Edition. We would also like to thank all our funders, sponsors, partners, DDF Friends and Volunteers who are listed on our [website](#).

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