



MUFUTAU YUSUF | LUAIL Ireland's National
Dance Company

The Fifth Sun

Samuel Beckett Theatre
Thu 14–Sat 16 May 7:30pm

World Premiere

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

Inspired by the tradition of Irish keening, *The Fifth Sun* unfolds as both a eulogy and a renewal. It reflects on humanity's past, confronts our turbulent present, and leans cautiously towards an uncertain future.

Following sold-out performances with *Impasse* at DDF2024, Mufutau Yusuf presents the world premiere of a new collaboration with Luail in which he responds to the grief and dismay stirred by our planetary crisis.

The performers merge dance with lament, expressing our collective grief: moving to mourn, to honour, to listen and perhaps, to heal. They draw on the ancient understanding of dance as an archive – a vessel for memory, culture, and spirit.

The Fifth Sun offers no easy answers, only a space to witness, share and reshape loss, inviting the audience to contemplate with urgency and tenderness: what kind of ancestors do we choose to become?

ABOUT THE CREATOR

Mufutau Yusuf is a Nigerian-Irish performer, choreographer, and teacher, currently based between Ireland and Belgium. He has worked with renowned companies and choreographers, including Wim Vandekeybus/Ultima Vez, Liz Roche Company, Irish Modern Dance Theatre, Emma Martin/United Fall, Pan Pan Theatre, and more. Mufutau's choreographic work explores, among other themes, identity, ancestry, memory, and the politics of representation, often drawing from personal and collective archives. His most recent work, *Impasse* (2024), a duet created with artist Lukah Katangila, premiered at Dublin Dance Festival, and continues to tour internationally to critical acclaim. He is currently a resident choreographer with Luail — Ireland's national dance company, where he created *Invocation*, which premiered at Dublin Dance Festival 2025 at the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre before embarking on a national tour.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

Luail is Ireland's national, all-island dance company, established in 2024 to embody, embed and empower dance across the island of Ireland, and to lead into a future that transforms how we make, know and experience dance. With a full-time ensemble of eight dancers, a collective of resident creative artists, and a managerial and administrative team of nine, Luail embraces the values of fearlessness, inventiveness, joy, and attentiveness to the needs of our community and audiences.

Supported by the Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon, we produce exceptional dance works of all scales and for all audiences, led by choreographers from across the island and internationally. Through our dynamic programme of new creations, revivals, national and international touring, and long-term artist development, Luail expands the visibility and impact of dance across Ireland and beyond.

With our partners at the Irish World Academy, UL, and Maiden Voyage Dance in Belfast, we build meaningful island-wide partnerships and networks, and create new possibilities and pathways for artists, audiences, and communities to thrive.

CREDITS

CREATIVE TEAM

Choreographer	Mufutau Yusuf
Performers	Robyn Byrne, Jou-Hsin Chu, Clara Kerr, Sean Lammer, Tom O'Gorman, Hamza Pirimo, Rosie Stebbing, Meghan Stevens
Composer & Sound Designer	Tom Lane
Lighting Designer	Lee Curran
Costume Designer	Alison Brown
Set Consultant	Niall McKeever
Rehearsal Director	Glòria Ros Abellana

Irish keening vocal improvisation recording performed by Ruth McGill, viola performed by Tom Lane.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer
Production Manager
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Programme Administrator
Chief LX / Programmer
Head Lighting Technician
Audio Technician
Costume Supervisor
Wardrobe Maintenance
Set Construction & Fabrication
Transport
Transport

University of Limerick MA
Placement student

PRODUCTION TEAM

Miranda Driscoll
Seán Dennehy
Lisa Krugel
Alison O'Shea
Michelle Cahill
Eoin Lennon
Ross McSherry
John Norton
Gillian Lennox
Megan Culleton
TPS
Trevor Price
Owen Sherwin

Presented by Luail – Ireland's National Dance Company

Total running time is 50 mins (no interval).

THANKS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dublin Dance Festival would like to thank The Arts Council of Ireland, Dublin City Council and Culture Ireland for their support in presenting *The Fifth Sun* 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](#).

Join the Movement!

Now is the perfect time to be a part of it all and become a DDF Friend! You'll join a community of dance lovers and be invited to Friends Events during the festival and throughout the year. Plus, as a DDF Friend, you will help create opportunities for dance and dance artists, support the creation of new work, and help us to bring more incredible dance to more people in more ways. Join the Movement today from just €10 a month and we'll see you soon!

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