



Press release

This May *step up* at The Ark.

The Ark, A Cultural Centre for Children and Dublin Dance Festival present

Children's Season 2010

at The Ark, Temple Bar.

For children and their families

Interactive family dance workshops with Colin Dunne

(May 18th & 20th)

& a very special show from France which will delight with mirrors, movement and music

(May 13th – 15th – 3 days only)

This May a treat awaits for children, their families and friends - a fascinating dance show from France presented by La BaZooKa - *MonStreS*. This unique show was co-programmed by The Ark and Dublin Dance Festival and will be presented at The Ark for 3 days only (public and schools performances) from May 13th – 15th.

Inspired by mirrors, kaleidoscopes and labyrinths, *MonStreS* is a fascinating dance show for children, families and schools. Set in a circle of mirrors, and with playful human creatures, *MonStreS*, is a dance experience which has been created especially for children by French company, La BaZooKa. The show draws on 1950s fantasy films and includes music from *Six Pianos* by Steve Reich.

This is a one-off experience for ages 4-7 and their families, a riveting exploration of dance, reflection and lights.

For the past few years The Ark has worked with the Dublin Dance Festival to co-programme exciting and innovative dance experiences for children and families. This year they are adding a very special workshop opportunity to the programme.

On the 18th & 20th May renowned dancer Colin Dunne will run interactive workshops in Irish step dance at The Ark. These workshops are suitable for children and families who want to gain an appreciation of how to move to Irish music in a relaxed and fun way. Participants will learn some basic steps and will be encouraged to make some of their own.

Colin Dunne is a leading figure in the world of traditional Irish dance, contemporary dance and theatre. Since performing internationally as the principal dancer in *Riverdance*, he has created a highly individual style of performance and teaching. He has been nominated twice for a UK Critics Circle National Dance Award: in 2007 (Best Male: Modern Dance) for performances in Fabulous Beast's production of *The Bull*, and in 2009 (Best Male Dancer) for performances of his solo show *Out of Time*. *Out of Time* has also been nominated in the outstanding achievement in dance category for this year's Laurence Olivier Awards, Britain's most prestigious stage honours.

MonStreS performance details.

Dates & Times: Thursday 13 May: 10.15am & 12.15pm (schools)

Friday 14 May: 10.15am (schools)

Friday 14 May: 6pm (public)

Saturday 15 May: 2pm & 4pm (public)

Duration: 45 minutes

Age range: 4 – 7 years

Class range: Senior Infants – 2nd Class

Price: €10 / €8* (public)

€6.50 / €4.50** (schools)

Dance Workshops with Colin Dunne

Dates & Times: Tuesday 18 & Thursday 20 May: 6pm

Duration: 1 ½ hours

Age Range: 8+ and their families

Price: €10 / €8*

* Price for students, senior citizens, the unwaged, those parenting alone and their accompanying children.

** Price for Schools Serving Disadvantaged Areas and schools travelling from outside County Dublin.

Now booking at The Ark, A Cultural Centre for Children 01 6707788 / www.ark.ie

Dublin Dance Festival | (from March 10) | www.dublindancefestival.ie

Press information: Sinead O'Doherty / Gerry Lundberg Tel: 01 679 8476 / 086 259 1070 glundpr@iol.ie