



THE LAST

MOTH

by Jesse Jones and Naomi Moonveld Nkosi

5-15 March 2026

4+

When the moon begins to fade, one
small creature decides to do something

REALLY BIG

They might not be as popular as their colourful cousin, the butterfly, but they're not afraid to fly into the unknown to embark on a journey through nature, to discover their own inner beauty.

Blending sound, movement and song, this show celebrates bravery, nature and our hidden hero, the moth.



Image © Lucy Nuzum

Artist's Note

We are Naomi & Jesse, working together as co-artists since 2023. *The Last Moth* has been inspired by the cycles of nature as a humble caterpillar transforms into a spectacular moth through a journey of growth and change.

Caterpillar, although small, is a resilient and brave creature, defying odds and bringing magic to our misunderstood friends and guardians of the moon: the moths! Taking great inspiration from our moth-catching adventure on Sherkin Island we chose the moth as our lead character to become a champion of the night. Full of curiosity, imagination and bravery Caterpillar overcomes challenges to grow and change in a world of uncertainty on a quest to save the moon.

The story was developed and inspired with feedback from young audiences and The Ark Children's Council. We have loved every minute of the teamwork on this project over the last three years. The Ark has been an incredibly supportive commissioner, and along with our collaborators we have achieved something bigger than either of us could have ever imagined!

We hope the playful spirit of our Caterpillar narrated by movement, sound and song will lead you into a tiny world with a huge adventure! Enjoy!

- Naomi Moonveld Nkosi & Jesse Jones

The Ark Director's Note

In March 2016, we launched The Ark's first Children's Council marking the beginning of a joyful journey towards rights-based child participation in the arts. Since then, more than 300 children, now fondly known as The Alumni, have been members of The Ark Children's Council.

The Ark team have embedded child participation through the formal structure of the Council and across all our programmes reaching over 190,000 children and their grown-ups annually at our home in Temple Bar, in libraries, schools and early learning and care settings and through our digital programme all over Ireland.

Children co-curate programmes and exhibitions, create catalogues, generate design briefs and promotional material, make and script short films, attend shows and workshops and meet artists from home and abroad. As commissioning is at the heart of our practice, children are keenly involved in informing the development of new work for production. Every Ark commission includes child consultation from the outset. Through those consultations we have heard children and young people consistently expressing their desire for a more central role in art-making both on and off-stage.

The Last Moth responds to that desire by commissioning artists Naomi Moonveld Nkosi (then a child) and Jesse Jones, (an adult) on equal terms to make a new work. Working together with a wonderful creative team we are discovering new ways of making art for, by, with and about children.

The Ark purpose is to realise children's right to art and culture with ambition and joy. In that spirit we are proud to present this new show and look forward to sharing it with children and adults alike.

- Aileen Howard



The Last Moth
creative team

Cast and Creative Team

Creative Team

Director/ Writer: Jesse Jones

Director/ Writer: Naomi Moonveld Nkosi

Movement Director: Jade O'Connor

Choreographer: Aoife McAtamney

Dramaturg: Aideen Howard

Set and Costume Designer: Alyson Cummins

Lighting Designer: Suzie Cummins

Composer/Sound Designer: Irene Buckley

Projection Design: Neil O'Driscoll

Producer: Kelly Phelan

Production Manager: Seán Dennehy

Stage Manager: Sara Gannon

Assistant Stage Manager: Alison O'Shea

Sound Engineer: Eoin Murphy

Ark Production Team: Mark Rooney & Franco Bistoni

Set Construction: Stephen Bourke, Re-Staging

Scenic Artists: Claudia Lamantea & Roisin White

Performed by

Niamh McAllister

With thanks to

Creative Places West Cork for their support during a research & development residency on Sherkin Island.

Lepidopterist, Philip Strickland for his wisdom and guidance during research and development.



Jesse Jones



Jesse Jones is a Dublin-based artist, her practice is multi-platform, working in film, performance and sculpture. She studied sculpture in NCAD and IADT and has been making film for gallery installations since 2005.

She has shown nationally and internationally with films made in South Korea, Los Angeles, Ireland, The UK and Australia. She represented Ireland at the Venice Biennale 2017 with the film installation entitled: *Tremble Tremble* whose title is inspired by the 1970s Italian wages for housework movement. Her most recent work, *The White Cave* premiered in October 2025 at the Singapore Biennale.

She is the 2025 recipient of the Authored works artist film award by the arts council of Ireland for which she will make her first feature entitled: *Pinnacle Point*, along with Olwen Fouéré. She teaches on Sherkin Island, West Cork for TU Dublin and is an elected member of Aosdana.

Naomi Moonveld Nkosi



Naomi Moonveld-Nkosi is an emerging multidisciplinary artist and actress based in Dublin.

Currently a first-year undergraduate studying English, Drama and Film at UCD.

Naomi has been actively engaging with The Ark as an alumnus of The Children's Council since 2017.

She previously worked with Shaun Dunne on *What Did I Miss?* (2021) and *Flies* (2025), commissioned by The Ark and *The Tower* (2022) by Jesse Presley Jones, commissioned by Rua Red Galleries.

She was commissioned to collaborate with Jesse Jones by The Ark for *The Last Moth* as child and adult co-artists since 2023.

The Last Moth is Naomi's debut as an artist and theatre maker and she hopes to branch out into film and literature.

THE LAST MOTH



Niamh McAllister

Niamh is an actress and writer from Bangor, County Down based in Dublin. She is a graduate of the BA Acting Course at The Lir. Niamh is a member of Broad Strokes Improv, an award winning all-female and non-binary improv troupe.

Niamh's recent theatre credits include a national tour of *"Gold in the Water"* The Musical followed by a run at Project Arts Centre Dublin. She performed in Dublin Theatre Festival and Kilkenny Arts Festival 2025 as part of Rough Magic's *"What Are You Afraid Of?."* She also performed in Tinderbox's production of *"Yerma"* in The Lyric Theatre Belfast and The Ark's production of *"The Making of Mollie."* Niamh has worked on a number of semi-devised projects including *"Made From Paper"* by Clodagh Mooney Duggan in 2024 and *"Fancy Dan"* by Darren Yorke in 2025.

Niamh wrote, directed and produced her first comedy short film *"Dead on Arrival"* which premiered at the International Galway Film Fleadh.

Niamh is also passionate about teaching drama to children and young people. She teaches in schools and colleges such as Betty Ann Norton Theatre School, and The Lir National Academy. Niamh is represented by Lisa Richards Agency.

ABOUT THE ARK

The Ark was founded on the principle that children are entitled to great art made especially for them. Our purpose is to realise children's right to art and culture with ambition and joy. We do so by commissioning, producing and presenting fun and ambitious art for, by, with and about children from birth to age 12 in our home in Temple Bar, as well as in-person and online, in schools, in libraries and in early years and care settings around Ireland.



The Ark Team

Director: Aideen Howard

General Manager: Al Russell

Producer: Kelly Phelan

Engagement & Participation

Manager: Aisling Clancy

Engagement & Participation Artist:

Shaun Dunne

Engagement & Participation

Coordinator: Estibaliz Errazquin

Production Manager: Mark Rooney

Assistant Production Manager:

Franco Bistoni

Marketing & Visitor Services

Manager: Clodagh Mooney Duggan

Digital & Audience Development

Coordinator: Kate Brady

Philanthropy & Partnerships

Manager: Steven Silke

Learning & Schools Coordinator:

Shannon Callahan

Finance Officer: Mary Reade

Visitor Services Coordinator: Laura

Whelan

Box Office Administrator: Ali Waters

Visitor Services Team: Paul Derham,

Baxter King-Epping, Mika Moret,

Sophie McCormick, Daniella

Hensman, Wren Dennehy, Uainín

Lindesy, Sophia Mitchell, Aoife

Sweeney O Connor, Matthew Tallon,

Ashanti Wheeler

HELP BRING THE MAGIC OF THE ARTS TO EVERY CHILD!

The Ark is where imaginations soar, creativity is celebrated, and lifelong memories are made.

We know children have the right to experience, enjoy, and create art - no matter their background. While we receive vital public funding, it doesn't cover everything.

To keep most of our events free and our doors open to all, we rely on the generosity of supporters like you. Whether you give once, donate monthly, or partner with us as a business, your support sparks creativity, builds confidence, and makes a lasting difference.

Together, we can make the arts accessible for every child.

