

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **WITHOUT**

**A seven-screen film projection with sound, capturing a panoramic view of the City of Derry & its inhabitants. Directed by Rosemary Lee with sound by Graeme Miller. Commissioned and made in collaboration with Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company**

**30 August – 6 October**

**Free Admission**

Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company will soon be presenting *Without*, a unique seven screen film installation capturing nearly 500 local people dancing and moving through the city's streets. The films will be shown in Echo Echo's beautiful new studios based on the city walls in Magazine Street from the 30<sup>th</sup> August for five weeks.

*Without* was filmed in April 2013 and was directed by the acclaimed London-based artist and film-maker, Rosemary Lee, in collaboration with Echo Echo as part of their special programme of events for the 2013 City of Culture. Filmed from seven different view points from St Columb's Cathedral tower and from the City Walls, *Without* captures local people moving and gliding throughout the city's historic landscape in various creative ways including cyclists, skateboarders, rollerbladers and tea-dancers.

Rosemary has been choreographing, performing and directing films for over twenty years. She has made some beautiful and highly acclaimed large-scale works involving professional dancers and members from local communities within different city locations both in the UK and abroad.

Rosemary says:

*"When I first visited Londonderry/Derry I walked the city walls to get a sense of the location and was amazed and moved by the topography of the city. It seemed I could look into and out of the city in equal measure, see its history in the layout of streets as well as in the very stone work, witness its domestic family life and its commercial one in the same view, and all the while see a continuous horizon of distant hills and sky. Having been asked to make a new work for and with Echo Echo for 2013 I felt I wanted to honour that first impression and try to include the whole city in some way, creating a gentle and permanent panoramic work that encompassed the living city and its people."*

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Anyone who comes to view *Without* will gain a unique perspective on the city. As they walk into the exhibition they will be surrounded by seven large screens which will give them the sense of looking out across a spectacular panoramic view of Derry-Londonderry. The projections will be accompanied by a specially commissioned sound score by Graeme Miller.

Echo Echo's Artistic Director Steve Batts comments:

*"The synchronised films last about twenty minutes but you'll probably never see everything. However many times you watch new details will emerge. Drawing the watcher towards the depth and beauty of the people, as well as the place, the experience will be touching, dreamlike, nostalgic and hopeful."*

The project is supported by Culture Company 2013, Arts Council of Northern Ireland and Arts Council England. Produced by Artsadmin.

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**PRESS ENQUIRIES**

For further information, images and interviews please contact

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## LISTINGS INFORMATION

Public Viewing 30th August - 6th October

Opening Times 10am-5.30pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday

10am-8pm Thursday, Friday

2pm-5.30pm Sunday

Runs continually, each full cycle lasts 22 minutes.

Artist's Talk Saturday 31st August 2pm

Free Entry

Echo Echo Dance Theatre, Waterloo House, Magazine Street, Derr BT48 6HH

## NOTES TO EDITORS

### **Echo Echo History** [www.echoechodance.com](http://www.echoechodance.com)

Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company is recognised as Northern Ireland's leading Dance Company. It was created by Ursula Laeubli and Steve Batts in Amsterdam in 1991 and after six years of project work in Europe it relocated to Derry, Northern Ireland where it has since become a key influence in the development of dance theatre in Ireland.

Echo Echo regularly produces and tours internationally with original new performance work for an ensemble of local and international dancers. The company also has a strong commitment to developing dance as an accessible art form maintaining a busy dance education and outreach programme for people of all ages and abilities.

It is the company's movement style and ethos that sets it apart from the crowd with influences ranging from the quirky and playful to gentle and poetic, sourcing its movement material from a very wide range of contemporary dance forms and movement practices.

Echo Echo's team of staff, artists and volunteers has flourished in recent years, generating a diverse and exciting programme of education and performance work.

### **Rosemary Lee** [artsadmin.co.uk/rosemarylee](http://artsadmin.co.uk/rosemarylee) / [rescen.net/Rosemary\\_Lee](http://rescen.net/Rosemary_Lee)

Rosemary is a choreographer, performer and director. Over the past twenty-five years, she has created works that are resonant with humanity whether it be her live performances which are often site specific and involve a cross-section of the community (both professional and non professional dancers) to her short dance films.

Many of her previous work explores our relationship with our environment, fusing rural contexts, backdrops and soundscapes in her films (**boy, Infanta, greenman**), installations (**Remote Dancing**) and her theatre and large-scale live performances (**Haughmond Dances, Pensthorpe Performance Trail, Beached** and **Passage**). More recently Rosemary has begun to reflect on a more urban context, looking at cities in a new way; just as **Common Dance** (Dance Umbrella 2009) was a tribute to the now lost public 'common' land where people were free to gather, **Square Dances** (Dance Umbrella, 2011) used what 'common' green spaces we have left in London to gather in a different and innovative way. Rosemary recently curated a symposium *On Taking Care* at Queen Mary's University of London, in which she invited guests from different disciplines to share their responses to and understanding of the notion of care within their specific contexts. She has also led residencies and labs for dance artists to explore this relationship through informal walks and talks with naturalists, astronomers and geologists.

Rosemary is an Artsadmin Artist, a Research Associate at ResGen, a Work Place Artist & a South East Dance Fellow.

**Artsadmin** is a unique producing and presenting organisation for contemporary artists working in theatre, dance, live art, visual arts and mixed media. At its Toynbee Studios home Artsadmin has established a centre for the creation, development and presentation of new work and a space for artists and audiences to experiment. The organisation offers a range of artist development services, including a free advisory service and mentoring schemes, as well as the bursary scheme. Artsadmin is supported using public funding by Arts Council England. [artsadmin.co.uk](http://artsadmin.co.uk)

#### **Project funders**

<http://www.artscouncil-ni.org>

<http://www.cityofculture2013.com/>

<http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/>