

Take a bow!

The arts really matter to us in Ireland; they are a big part of people's lives, the country's single most popular pursuit. Our artists interpret our past, define who we are today, and imagine our future. We can all take pride in the enormous reputation our artists have earned around the world.

The arts play a vital role in our economy, and smart investment of taxpayers' money in the arts is repaid many times over. The dividends come in the form of a high value, creative economy driven by a flexible, educated, innovative work force, and in a cultural tourism industry worth €2.4 billion directly a year.

The Arts Council is the Irish Government agency for funding and developing the arts. Arts Council funding from the taxpayer, through the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism, for 2010 is €69.15 million, that's less than €1 a week for every household.

So, at the end of an enthralling dance performance, don't forget the role you played and take a bow yourself!

Find out what's on at

www.events.artscouncil.ie

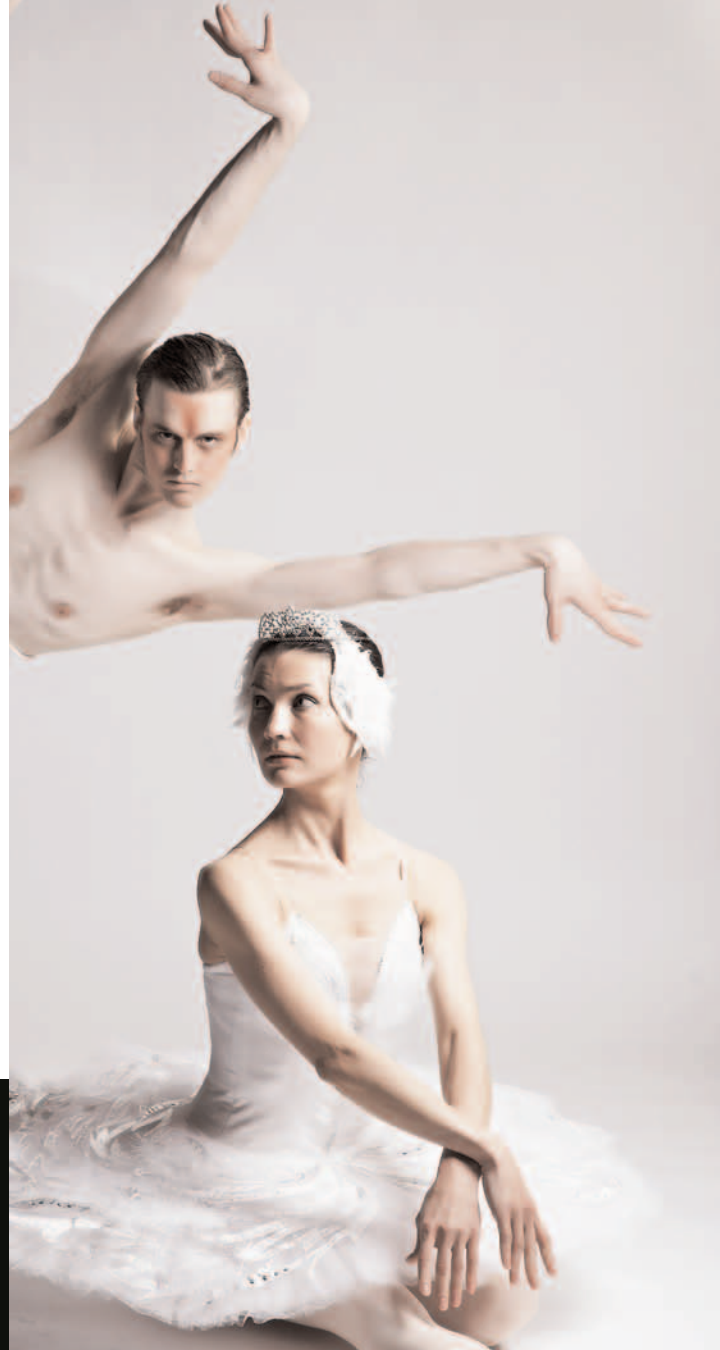
You can find out more about the arts here:

www.artscouncil.ie

Directed by one of Ireland's foremost ballet dancers and Artistic Director of Cork City Ballet Alan Foley, this production is guaranteed to enthrall audiences of all ages with its wonderful sets and costumes all wrapped up in sparkling dancing.

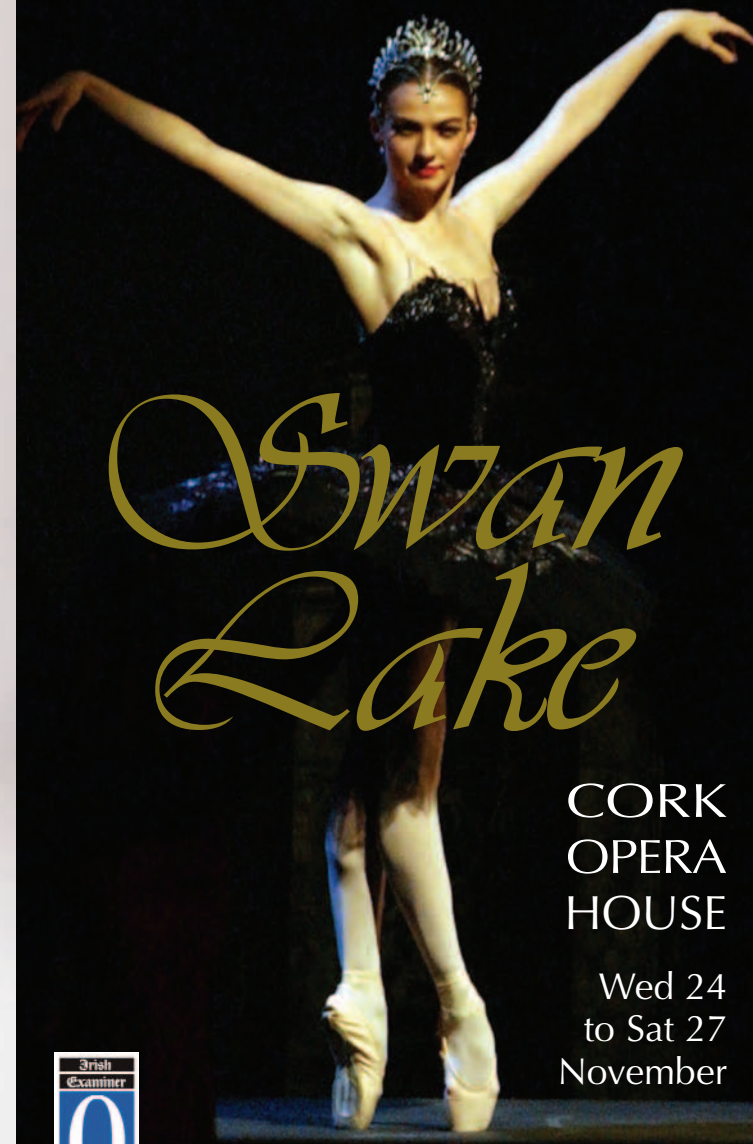


Although he stopped dancing professionally in 2007, Alan's work goes on, and he looks forward to continuing and developing his other roles in the dance world. Now, there are classes to be taught, choreography to be created, and performances to be directed and produced – not least *Swan Lake*!



Cork City Ballet

Artistic Director: Alan Foley
 (in association with Cork Opera House)
 presents



Swan Lake

CORK
 OPERA
 HOUSE

Wed 24
 to Sat 27
 November



Cork Opera House

Wed 24 - Sat 27 November at, 8pm: Saturday matinee, 2.30pm

Wed & Thurs, 8pm: €16 (limited), €26, €31, €38. Family Ticket: €100.

Fri & Sat 8pm €16 (limited), €31, €38, €43. Family Ticket: €120.

Saturday matinee 2.30pm €26, Family Ticket: €80. Booking fee may apply.

Book online: www.corkoperahouse.ie / *021 427 0022

* Internet and telephone bookings are subject to a booking fee of €2.50 per ticket. All tickets include a €3 restoration levy.





Cork City Ballet presents *Swan Lake*
Music: Tchaikovsky
Choreography: Foley/Demakov after Petipa/Ivanov



“*Music, Maestro.....*”

It is fitting that this production of *Swan Lake* is being showcased in Cork Opera House as part of the celebrations which mark the centenary of the birth of the eminent composer, teacher, and musician, Professor Aloys Fleischmann.

Professor Fleischmann, who founded the Cork Symphony Orchestra in 1934, first encountered Joan Denise Moriarty in 1945 when he asked her to play the uilleann pipes in his work “Clare’s Dragoons”. Thus began an artistic partnership between Miss Moriarty and Professor Fleischmann which lasted almost fifty years (working with the Cork Ballet Company, the Irish Theatre Ballet, and the Irish National Ballet).

During this time, “Professor” (as he was reverently known) collaborated with Miss Moriarty when she established the Cork Ballet Company in 1947. Several Fleischmann works were performed by Miss Moriarty’s companies (Macha Ruadh, An Cóitín Dearg, The Golden Bell of Ko, The Planting Stick). Arguably their greatest collaboration was “The Táin”, which received rave reviews in Dublin when performed there by the Irish Ballet Company (subsequently named Irish National Ballet) in 1981.

Many of today’s staff of Ireland’s Arts Council-funded ballet companies are past dancers of Cork Ballet Company and Irish National Ballet. They share many memories of Professor Fleischmann in rehearsal and conducting the Cork Symphony Orchestra which accompanied the dancers in performances.

Today, then – in his hundredth year - is a celebration of Professor Fleischmann’s unique and remarkable contribution to Irish Ballet.

Janet Dillon
Cork City Ballet

Swan Lake



If you have never seen *Swan Lake*, now is the time. Cork City Ballet is back, and the company's first full-length production of the ballet lays claim to a legacy that extends back to its premiere in 1895.

But even if you think you know *Swan Lake*, arguably the world's most beloved ballet, few in Ireland will be familiar with CCB’s new version, which features six male swans in a corps de ballet of eighteen.

And unlike the unalloyed tragedy most people know, this version ends with a fairytale twist. Choreographers Alan Foley and Yuri Demakov have tweaked the original Petipa/Ivanov choreography to let the Prince destroy the evil sorcerer Rothbart and joyfully reunite with the Swan Queen.

Cork City Ballet’s new production promises to be breathtakingly gorgeous, from the opulent costumes to the alluring sets, especially the opening scene’s gold-tinged, tree-framed park in the shadow of the great castle and lake.

Of course all the usual elements are still in place including the white acts with the famous cygnets dance for four girls, the exquisite White Swan pas de deux and the climatic Black Swan pas de deux complete with thirty-two fouettes. But the most surprising thrill is in the corps de ballet where Foley and Demakov have used the male soloists to great effect including a new version of the big swans dance performed by men.

For the most part, they display not only impressive technical facility, but expressive unanimity and stylistic cohesion, and seem to breathe as one, dancing as if the music is in their bones.

Swan Lake opens at Cork Opera House on Wednesday 24 November at 8pm, and runs until Saturday 27 November with a matinee on Saturday at 2.30pm.