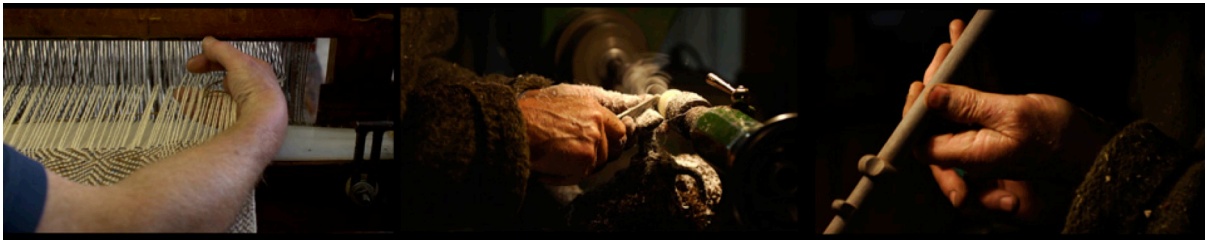


Exhibition details:

The Dance of Making – 2012

Time... and Again – 2009

by **Mary Wycherley**



Mary Wycherley – Director, Cinematography, Editing

Jürgen Simpson – Sound Design, Producer, Cinematography



The Dance of Making and *Time... and Again* are two conceptually linked works developed by filmmaker/choreographer Mary Wycherley and sound artist/composer Jürgen Simpson between 2009 and 2012. Whilst both works have been exhibited individually, they reinforce and contrast each other when presented together due to their common origins, material and history.

The Dance Of Making

2012 - Three-screen HD Video Installation – 15' 00"

Director, Cinematography, Editing: Mary Wycherley

Music: Jürgen Simpson

Producers: Jürgen Simpson & Mary Wycherley

Additional Cinematography: Maurice Gunning

Craftspeople: Eugene Lambe, John Heena, Sean Carr, Ray Munnely, Cónal Aiden Gildea, Studio Donegal, O'Connor's Liscannor Flagstone Quarry, Dry Stone Wall Association of Ireland.

Funded by: The Arts Council of Ireland, West Cork Arts Centre, North Tipperary County Council

The rate of global homogenisation and standardisation, caused in part by perceived notions of progress and competitive pressures, has had a profound impact on cultural distinction. Our attempts at sustaining cultural memory invariably find the locations of activity in museums and interpretive centres through the preservation of material fragments and artefacts. Display and exhibition freeze ethnic achievement in physical form for the approval of future generations. This emphasis on artefact negates cultures life-force, placing value on product without emphasising knowledge and experience. Culture is relegated to its manifestations, its material fragments, without acknowledging the tangible experience of making. An alternative stance, in which culture is embodied through aural traditions, motor skills and physical experience, places it in a more volatile position in which knowledge is living yet fragile.

The Dance of Making explores the human processes which lie at the heart of living culture. Informed by contemporary dance's deep awareness of the body, movement and embodiment, the work focuses on the act of creation in traditional handcrafts and activities such as uilleann pipemaking, hand weaving and dry stonewalling. This film focuses on physicality and embodied knowledge as a key component of our culture. These fragile moments of creation are framed not as documentary evidence but rather as unfolding choreographic sequences.

Time ... and Again

2009 – SD Video, Single Screen – 8' 40"

Director, Cinematography, Editing: Mary Wycherley

Sound Design: Jürgen Simpson

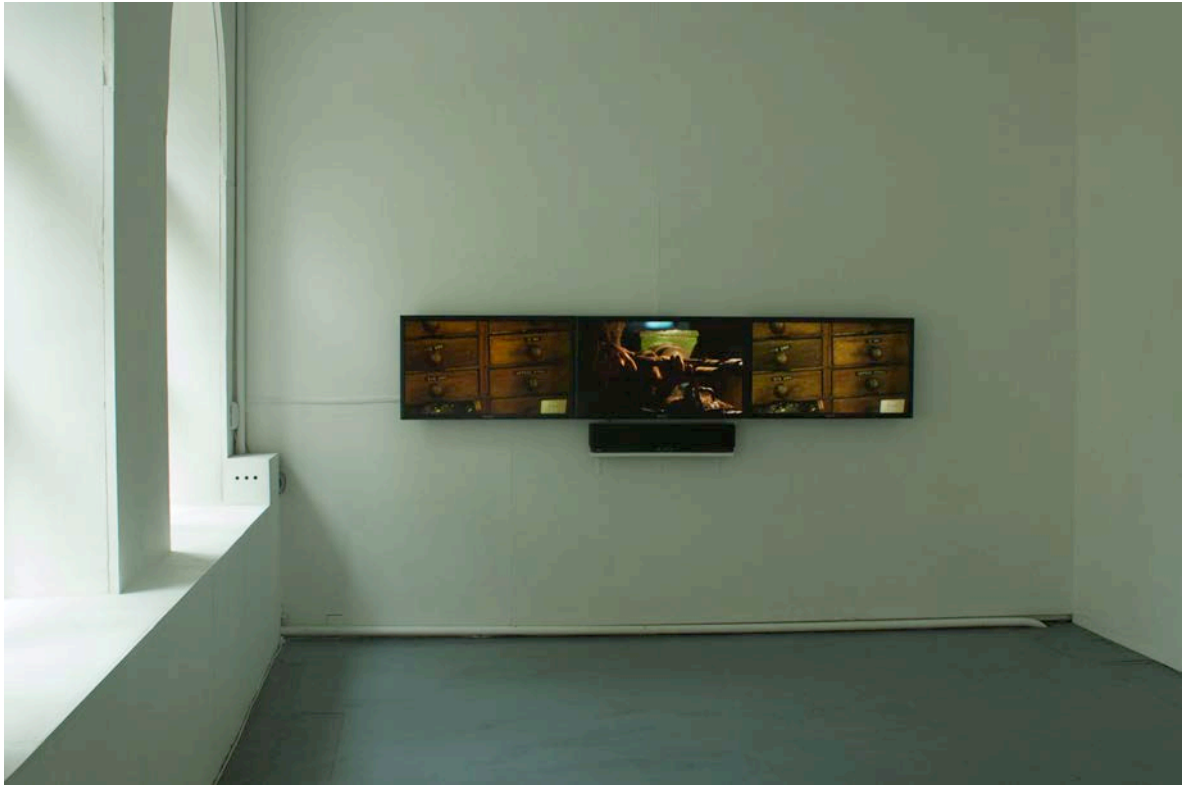
Performer: Kitty Wycherley

Funded by: Dance Ireland

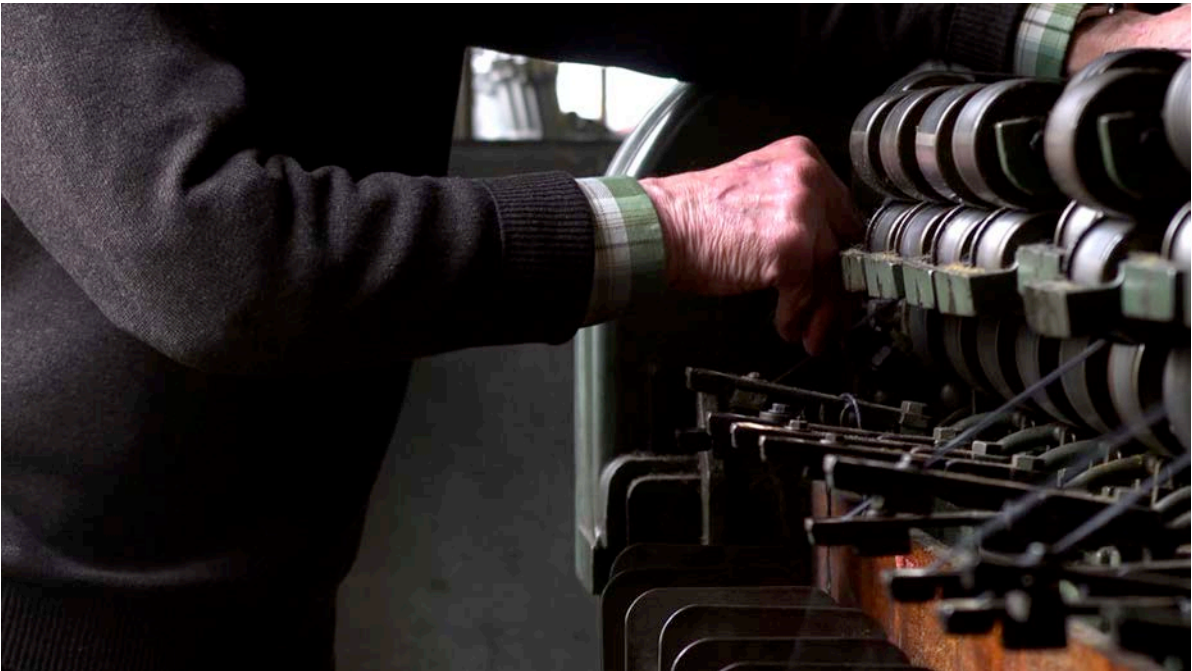
Time ... and Again is a precursor and conceptually linked work to *The Dance of Making*, shot in 2009 on a farm near Skibbereen, Ireland. The use of slow motion cinematography, obscure angles and the deliberate indeterminate time period of the footage, alter our sense of time and place. The film highlights things past, present and draws attention to changing futures.



The Dance of Making
Gallery images – West Cork Arts Centre – 2012



The Dance of Making / Time... and Again
Gallery images – West Cork Arts Centre – 2012



The Dance of Making
Film Stills – 2012



The Dance of Making
Film Stills – 2012



Time... and Again
Film Stills – 2009

The Dance of Making – Technical Description

The Dance of Making is a three screen audiovisual work presented on High Definition 1080p flat-screen displays arranged side by side. The work is looped with a 15 minute duration. The overall spatial requirement is 112" x 23" for these screens. The screens are generally wall mounted via supplied wall brackets which are hidden from view and secure. It is also possible to envisage hanging the screens from a secure girder in the centre of a gallery space. A separate sound unit – Yamaha YSP 900 – is used for audio playback.

All three screens receive individual HD signals which are sent as an individual 5760 x 1080p image from a purpose built computer and split into three separate signals via a Matrox TripleHead2Go. The computer dimensions are 12" x 8" x 8" and this device should be installed within 2 meters of the exhibition. As the computer is very small it can be easily hidden within a small housing (see below). All cabling, power connectors and the DVI split box are hidden behind the screens themselves.

Exhibition logistics are minimal. The computer is on a loop and is designed to playback throughout the exhibition period. If required, the three screens can be switched on and off together via a single remote control.



Time... and Again – Technical Description

Time... and Again is a single screen Standard Definition video loop, duration 8' 40". It is presented on a traditional CRT type display (17" JVC studio monitor) mounted on a plinth. Audio is presented via headphones. The playback device is a DVD player in Loop mode, mounted along with all necessary cabling (bar the power connection) within this plinth.

Exhibition logistics are minimal with a screen mounted power button allowing the work to be switched off and on if required.

Please note that all technical equipment is available from the artists if work is presented in Ireland. For OVERSEAS exhibition of *The Dance of Making*, screens and audio units should be provided by the gallery for use with the custom computer playback device.

Biographies:

Mary Wycherley is a dance and visual artist whose practice spans live performance, choreography and film. Much of her work examines movement and performance through video & film and is explored with a range of human participants including professional dancers, performers, craft makers as well as urban and rural inhabitants.

Her engagement with the medium of screendance has received particular recognition and her films are regularly featured at international dance and film festivals as well as gallery exhibitions. She is the recipient of a range of recent awards including the 2011/12 European *Modul-Dance carte-blanche* programme and numerous Arts Council of Ireland awards. Currently Mary is Associate Artist with the European *E-Motional Bodies & Cities* Programme for whom she has created *Frames & Fragments*, a film commission to be premiered as part of the Dance House 21st Anniversary in 2013. Her film installation *The Dance of Making* was funded by the Arts Council of Ireland and was first shown at The West Cork Arts Centre Gallery in 2012. She has an MA in Contemporary Dance Performance from the University of Limerick and has lectured there at both masters and undergraduate level since 2008. Her teaching specialisms include Inter-Disciplinary Practice, Choreography for Camera, Documenting Practice and Dance Performance History.

Jürgen Simpson's work spans multiple mediums including electronic music works, music for film, dance, sound installations and opera. His second opera *Thwaite* with librettist Simon Doyle received the Genesis Opera Prize's top award and was performed at Aldeburgh, London (as part of the Almeida Opera Festival) and at the Dublin Fringe Festival. He has collaborated with numerous composers including Michael Nyman, Ian Wilson, Kevin Volans, Raymond Deane and Judith Ring. His long standing association with film maker Clare Langan has produced six films with 2007's *Metamorphosis* winning the Oberhausen International Film Festival and their work has been shown at MOMA New York, the Liverpool Tate Gallery, Houldsworth Gallery, London and Galerie Nichido Contemporary, Tokyo. He has composed the music for numerous choreographers including Shobana Jeyasingh and John Scott and has composed and co-produced numerous screendance films with artist/choreographer Mary Wycherley. He performed extensively with rock band The Jimmy Cake and produced their 2008 album *Spectre and Crown*. Since 2005 he has created installation works for the art gallery and in 2008 he created two such works; *Hanging Gardens*, a sound installation co-located in the Ormeau Baths Gallery Belfast and the University of Limerick, and *Within You, Without You*, a sound, light and architectural collaboration with artist Nicholas Ward and architects O'Donnell & Tuomey for the Venice Architecture Biennale. He is currently writing an opera with playwright Michael West for the Cork Midsummer Festival. He is director of DMARC (Digital Media and Arts Research Centre) at the University of Limerick.