

instantdissidence

presents

One Last Dance – An Chéad Damhsa

A perambulating dance between Guildford (the location I lived in when I first arrived in the UK as an Erasmus student in 1994) and Cloughjordan (the rural Irish village that I am moving to post-Brexit).

Following the Brexit vote I am leaving, and *One Last Dance – An Chéad Damhsa* is my final love letter to the UK.

As I dance my way through the UK I meet (and stay with) other EU citizens who walk/dance part of the way with me. Each EU citizen choreographs a section of *One Last Dance*, and all choreographic sections are linked to one another. As I dance I encounter arts organisations which have been part of my work in the UK over the past 24 years. At each of these encounters I perform *One Last Dance* to the accumulative stage that it will be at. As I enter the island of Ireland, the work shifts into its next stage: An Chéad Damhsa, which in English means My First Dance. Eventually I reach my final destination (Cloughjordan), where I perform the entire accumulated choreography. The 2-month long perambulating dance will be documented on film.

I expect... That the walk will be physically exhausting. That saying goodbye to the country which was my home for so many years will be an emotional journey.

I fear... That I won't physically be able to do it.

I doubt... That I won't physically be able to do it.

I wish... That the work will have contributed to an increased awareness around the Home Office's hostile environment policy towards immigration in general, and more specifically to those EU citizens who will acquire settled status in the UK. That my sadness around Brexit will have transformed into gratitude for the many beautiful years I have had in the country. That by the end, the work will feel like my final love letter to the UK.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE			FILM SCREENING SCHEDULE		
3 rd September 2018	Guildford	You can find more information on each of these performance dates here .	30 th October 2018	London	You can find more information on each of these film screening dates here .
14 th September 2018	London				
19 th September 2018	Leicester				
20 th September 2018	Loughborough				
21 st September 2018	Nottingham				
1 st October 2018	Hull				
3 rd October 2018	York				
5 th October 2018	Leeds				
8 th October 2018	Bradford				
10 th October 2018	Salford				
12 th October 2018	Liverpool				
26 th October 2018	Cloughjordan				

Further information on the project

[About the work](#)
[Background information](#)
[The project team](#)
[Project collaborators](#)

.....

Instant Dissidence is a UK/Ireland-based company directed by me, Rita Marcalo. It is my way of bringing different artists together, in different combinations, to realise different ideas: through Instant Dissidence I invent ways of offering other people art experiences. My practice began in dance/choreography but eventually I was more interested in communicating concepts than in sticking to a particular art form. I began collaborating with others to create work in different media, and today I bring in people from different areas to solve creative problems. Instant Dissidence's is also a socially-engaged practice where the company foregrounds the role that dance/choreography can play as a social engine: we are 'artists' who believe in the power of connecting art and social consciousness. More information can be found [here](#).

.....

Press reviews of previous work

With tears in my eyes I end this dance. With tears in her eyes Rita thanks me for dancing with a stranger.
(Lisa Stertz, Incident Magazine)

A series of powerful duets performed with people on the streets, each one an act of hope.
(Steve Wright, Bristol 24/7)

The perseverance and singular purpose of Rita and her team shines through, despite facing considerable adversity and resistance both socio-political and cultural barriers to her dance workshops, she wins the community around.
(Michelle Dee, Transgressions: Breaking the Rules)

.....

One Last Dance – An Chéad Damhsa is supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England. Additional project funders and presenting organisations can be found [here](#), project partners [here](#), and individual donors [here](#). An Instant Dissidence production.



.....

For press related enquiries and images contact Kristina Lomas at kristina.instantdissidence@gmail.com.
www.instantdissidence.co.uk