

NEW MUS DUB

THE POSSIBILITIES FROM HERE ARE ENDLESS

1st May 2022, 9:30pm | The Studio, National Concert Hall, Dublin

Diamanda La Berge Dramm *Songs from the Brain Book - Reimagined*

Crash Ensemble

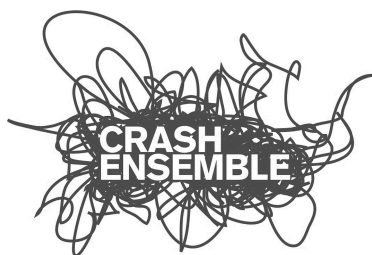
Peter Biloen conductor

Diamanda La Berge Dramm arrangements

Barry O'Halpin arrangements

SJ Fowler text

Laura Sheeran visuals



PROGRAMME NOTES

Diamanda La Berge Dramm *Songs from the Brain Book - Reimagined*

Diamanda's debut full-length album *Chimp* releases this weekend. For tonight's concert, Crash plays the works in a brand new setting. Featured alongside Diamanda's arrangements are reimaginings of the songs by Barry O'Halpin for the full forces of the ensemble. Laura Sheeran creates a parallel visual world to accompany the set. We will traverse waiting rooms, monkeys, and the many voices in between.

born

horse around

voices

jungle

Chimp is Who (reworked by Barry O'Halpin)

Gorilla, CEO (reworked by Barry O'Halpin)

Bonobo's on time

Orangut, the Orangutan

more voices

12 ways (reworked by Barry O'Halpin)

memory (reworked by Barry O'Halpin)

BIOGRAPHIES

Diamanda La Berge Dramm

Diamanda La Berge Dramm (b. 1991) grew up in Amsterdam, the Netherlands playing the violin from the age of four among the leading figures of the Dutch classical, avant-garde and improvisation scene. At the age of thirteen, she premiered Raadsels by Louis Andriessen in the Concertgebouw for the opening of the Holland Festival 2005 and has gone on to perform internationally as a soloist, chamber music player and band member. In April 2018 she won the Dutch Classical Talent Tour & Award, the first ever string soloist to do so. In March 2020 NRC Handelsblad named her one of the 101 talents for the next decade.

She has worked extensively with modern music luminaries such as Christian Wolff, Alvin Lucier, Gunther Schuller, Chaya Czernowin, George Benjamin, and Georg Friedrich Haas.

She completed her Bachelor of Music at the New England Conservatory in Boston and was awarded the John Cage Award for her contribution to new music. She received her Masters of Music from the Royal Conservatory of the Hague where she received the Nicolai Prize for the most exceptional recital.

In 2018 she released the Violin Spaces series together with Garth Knox (published by Schott), a brand new set of concert etudes focusing on extended techniques. Her longtime collaboration with UK poet SJ Fowler resulted in the EP Beastings in 2019. As part of her residency at Muziekgebouw Eindhoven, she initiated a project around Charles Ives' Fifth Violin Sonata. She is a co-founder of [Splendor](#), a collective of musicians, composers, and stage artists who transformed an old bathhouse in the heart of Amsterdam into a local cultural paradise.

She plays on an Andreas Grütter bow (2015), and an Andranik Gaybaryan violin (2014), purchased with the generous support of the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds and the Stichting Eigen Muziekinstrumentenfonds.

Peter Biloen (conductor)

Peter Biloen was the only Dutch conductor ever to reach the finals of London's international Donatella Flick Conducting Competition in 2004, directing the London Symphony Orchestra in concert. He was awarded the Anton Kersjes Foundation's national conducting prize in 2005 and the prestigious Academy Conductor Fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival.

In much demand as a guest conductor, engagements have included appearances with the Orchestre National de Montpellier, the Antwerp Symphony, the Moscow Symphony, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, several contemporary music ensembles and many orchestras in the Netherlands. Numerous concerts were recorded for CD and radio broadcasts.

Biloen has conducted world premieres and collaborated with renowned composers including Louis Andriessen, Philip Glass, David Lang, Witold Lutoslawski, John Cage, and Pierre Boulez in performances of their works in Europe, the United States, Russia and China.

Biloen assisted Music Director Jaap van Zweden at the Radio Philharmonic Orchestra, Hong Kong Philharmonic and most recently at the New York Philharmonic.

Barry O'Halpin (arrangements)

Barry O' Halpin (b. 1987) is a composer & performer based in Dublin, merging approaches and formative influences from contemporary classical, experimental rock, electronic music and jazz contexts. He is an electric guitarist with Crash Ensemble, and a member of Dublin experimental rock trio Alarmist.

In 2018-2020 he was a Composer-in-Residence with Crash Ensemble and the Arts & Humanities Artist-in-Residence at Parity Studios, University College Dublin, during which time *Wingform* was commissioned by Crash and premiered at New Music Dublin 2021. In March 2021 Crash Records released the *Lipids* portrait EP, while his composition *Hox* was released on flautist Lina Andonovska's debut solo album with Diatribe Records. Other commissions and collaborations have included Kirkos, Michelle O'Rourke, Bastard Assignments, Chamber Choir Ireland, Ret Frem Ensemble, Fishamble Sinfonia. His work has been performed at festivals including New Music Dublin, Tokyo Wonder Site, Bang On A Can Summer Music Festival, UCD Text/Sound/Performance and Kilkenny Arts Festival. Recent projects have included ensemble arrangements for songs by Adrian Crowley, and an interdisciplinary collaboration with ceramic artist Elaine Harrington, percussionist Alex Petcu and geoscience centre iCrag, inspired by overground and underground landscapes of Ireland.

He has been a Guitar Fellow with Bang On A Can at Villa Musica, Germany (2016) and the 2017 Summer Music Festival (USA). In 2021 he was guitarist in Irish National Opera's production of Amanda Feery's *A Thing I Cannot Name*, and Caitríona O'Leary's Anakronos ensemble.

SJ Fowler (text)

SJ Fowler is an English experimental poet, performance artist and writer. He has published 10 poetry collections including 'I will show you the life of the mind (on prescription drugs)' (Dostoyevsky Wannabe 2020) and 'The Great Apes' (Broken Sleep Books 2022). stevenjfowler.com

Laura Sheeran (visuals)

Laura Sheeran is a multidisciplinary artist and director from Galway, currently living in Dublin. Laura works mainly with sound, video, theatre and dance. She began working with Crash Ensemble in 2015, since then she has worked extensively with Crash filming performances, creating accompanying visuals for new compositions and live performances, documenting their processes and helping craft a visual identity for the band through performance direction.

Crash Ensemble



Crash Ensemble. Photo: Ros Kavanagh

Susan Doyle flute
Léonie Bluett clarinet
Roderick O'Keeffe trombone
Barry O'Halpin guitar
Alex Petcu percussion
Eliza McCarthy piano

Larissa O'Grady violin
Lisa Dowdall viola
Kate Ellis cello
Edward Tapceanu double bass
Diamanda La Berge Dramm voice & violin

Rob Kearns Production Manager • **Ian Dowdall** Front of House Sound • **Sachit Anan** Monitors • **Adrian Hart** Audio Producer

Siân Cunningham CEO • **Kate Ellis** Artistic Director • Matt Rafter **Producer/Concerts Manager** • Larissa O'Grady **Community Manager** • **Lisa Dowdall** Education Coordinator

Crash Ensemble is Ireland's leading new music ensemble; a group of world-class musicians who play the most adventurous, ground-breaking music of today. Crash is innovative, adventurous and ambitious.

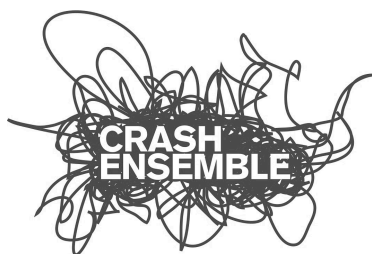
Led by cellist and Artistic Director, Kate Ellis and Principal Conductor, Ryan McAdams, the ensemble commissions, collaborates, explores, investigates and experiments with a broad spectrum of music creators and artistic collaborators: 'We love to innovate, with quality always at the heart of everything we do. We are passionate about the music we play. We create experiences; exploring new ways of presenting music and bringing our audiences on new adventures. Community for us is key - our community inspires us to create and experiment more. We value our audiences and our connection with them.'

Crash performs both in Ireland and Internationally. The ensemble's music is available on their own label, Crash Records and they have recordings on Nonesuch, Cantaloupe, NMC, Ergodos and Bedroom Community labels.

Many well-known artists from diverse musical backgrounds have performed with the ensemble; Terry Reilly, Gavin Friday, Dawn Upshaw, Diamanda Le Berge Dramm, Julie Feeney, Lisa Hannigan, Íarla Ó Lionáird (The Gloaming), Bryce Dessner (The National), Richard Reed Parry (Arcade Fire), Sam Amidon and Beth Orton.

As well as performing throughout Ireland, Crash regularly perform internationally, with appearances in the last few years at the Edinburgh International Festival, The Royal Opera House (London), The Barbican (London), Carnegie Hall (NYC) The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Washington DC), Virginia Tech (Virginia), GAIDA Festival (Lithuania) and residencies at The Huddersfield Contemporary Music festival (UK) and Princeton University (NJ).

Crash Ensemble is strategically funded by the Arts Council of Ireland and is a resident ensemble at the National Concert Hall in Dublin, Ireland.



NEW MUSIC DUBLIN 2022

Welcome one and welcome all to New Music Dublin 2022. It's so good to see you!

I very well remember just after the end of the last live, in-person festival in March 2020, standing at the bus stop on what was the day of the first confirmed Covid case in Ireland, wondering how long it would be before we were all together again: a few months at most, I reckoned. Certainly not later than the 2021 Festival?

And yet ... here we all are, 2 years and one fully-digital 2021 lockdown New Music Dublin later - finally together, Back in the Room. I'm not feeling the need to add to the screeds and reams that have been written and will be written about the pandemic; suffice to say, I suspect very few of us right now are able to say exactly how we feel about what just happened to us for the past 2 years.

Which is probably the perfect state to be in for coming to this smorgasbord of a festival! Here you will find musical expression for a vast array of emotional states: joy, elation, confusion, melancholy, nostalgia, awe, contentment, despair, exasperation, bliss, relief, rapture, dismay, tenderness - and many others we don't really have words for, often all at the same time, and often all piled one on top of the other.

You'll also find an increasing variety and diversity of people writing and performing the music that you hear. This festival we are delighted to include world premieres by young composers for young performers in the Cór na nÓg and Cór Linn programme, thrilling new work from emerging under-represented voices in the NCH Creative Lab project, new work by and for young musicians in BrassFest, new work with sign language in George Higgs' ground-breaking new performance, and the up-and-coming compositional voices represented by the Irish Composers' Collective. Add to this work by a whole raft of Ireland's most garlanded, radical and highly-regarded professional composers and music creators, and - well - there's something by everyone, not just for everyone!

Our hope is that somewhere in amongst the 39 world premieres, 10 Irish premieres, multiple repeat listens and everything else that is going on in the 25 concerts this weekend, there are likely to be expressions for many things you have been feeling recently. Whether it's something massive and orchestral, or something choral, or something played by a solo musician, or something heard via a hidden loudspeaker somewhere, it may catch you unawares, just like that - and remind you, that although we have all been desperately separated from each other these past two years, someone somewhere, maybe quite a lot like you, also felt what you were going through back there. Although we went through it all by ourselves, we also, in no small measure, went through it all together.

And here we all are! Welcome back!!

John Harris

Festival Director, New Music Dublin

NEW MUSIC DUBLIN

Thursday 28 April 2022

MUSIC ALLIANCE IRELAND LAUNCH

TOTEMIC: Nathan Sherman and Alex Petcu
presented by Ergodos

CHORAL SKETCHES: Chamber Choir Ireland

ÉTUDES: Kevin Volans and Jill Richards

PERSONHOOD: Oslo Sinfonietta and Andreas
Borregaard

TONNTA presented by Ergodos

Friday 29 April 2022

AMPLIFY LIVE with Contemporary Music Centre

CORCORAN AT NMD: Hard Rain
SoloistEnsemble

YOU HEARD IT FIRST: Crash Ensemble

ICC ALBUM LAUNCH

IN MEMORIAM / IN CELEBRATION:
National Symphony Orchestra and Ensemble
Interforma

AVENUE AZURE presented by Ergodos

SONGS FROM THE BRAIN BOOK: Diatribe
album launch with Diamanda La Berge Dramm

Saturday 30 April 2022

BRASSFEST in partnership with RIAM

LANDSCAPE SERIES presented by Diatribe

MUSIC FOR 5 SILENT POEMS: George Higgs

PUTTING IT INTO MUSIC: Crash Ensemble

A BRIEF DESCENT INTO DEEP TIME:
Chamber Choir Ireland

DIATRIBE – JAZZ TRIPLE BILL

Sunday 1 May 2022

NARLI RECORD FAIR

THINGS THAT NEVER DIE: Cór na nÓg and
Cór Linn

NCH CREATIVE LAB FINALE

NARLI AGM 2022

ISABELLE O'CONNELL PIANO

DELIVERANCE: RTÉ Concert Orchestra

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ENDLESS:** Crash X Diamanda Dramm

COLM O'HARA 10TET presented by Diatribe

Throughout the festival:

ULYSSES JOURNEY 2022: newly
commissioned music and film works

WINGFORM: an installation of music and
light

REACTIONS film screenings

HAUNTOLOGY

NMDX (hosted by The Contemporary Music
Centre, Ireland and New Music Dublin)

New Music Dublin is a partnership between:

RTÉ

NCH

NATIONAL
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NAISIÚNTA



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