

**N E W  
M U S  
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# TERRARIUM

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28th April 2024, 7pm | The Studio, National Concert Hall, Dublin

**Ann Cleare** *TERRARIUM* (2024) (world premiere)

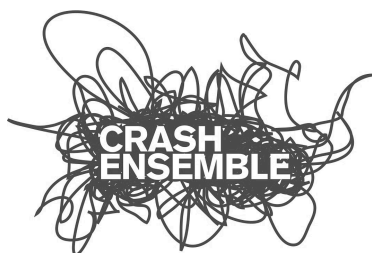
**Crash Ensemble**

**Laura Sheeran** film/photography & movement direction

**Lay of the Land** tapestry

**Adrian Hart** audio producer

**Eoin Lennon** lighting



## PROGRAMME NOTES

### **Ann Cleare** *TERRARIUM* (2024)

*TERRARIUM* aurally and visually transports its audience through the specific yet universal touch stones of the Irish Bog-lands to a vanished Mesolithic Lake in Lough Boora, county Offaly, which, dated to between 6800 and 6500 BC, is thought to be one of the earliest sites of human activity in Ireland. Like many Post-Industrial landscapes in the world today, the geology of the Irish Midlands is vital to the material structures of our wider contemporary existence, as well as to collective ideas of memory and myth.

Created in collaboration with site responsive artists Lay of the Land and videographer and director Laura Sheeran, *TERRARIUM* will be presented in a multi-layered configuration, bringing its audience on an immersive experience of the changing geological terrain at Boora, with the musicians of Crash Ensemble evoking the complex role that water has played, and continues to play, in the history of the Midlands. This dynamic setting will situate the audience in a landscape of time where they can hear, see and feel the strata of this earth transforming.

*TERRARIUM* is a co-commission of Crash Ensemble, November Music and Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival.

## BIOGRAPHIES

### **Ann Cleare**

Ann Cleare is an Irish artist working in the areas of concert music, opera, extended sonic environments and hybrid instrumental design. Described as ‘an altogether different art form that draws from musical traditions, but pushes against and beyond them, articulating something that is at once about sound, but that is equally concerned with energy, motion, space, and the world itself’, her work explores the static and sculptural nature of sound, probing the extremities of timbre, texture, colour and form. Exploring poetics of communication, transformation and perception, she creates highly psychological and corporeal sonic spaces that encourage a listener to contemplate the complexity of the lives we exist within and ‘to hear the world differently’.

[annclearecomposer.com](http://annclearecomposer.com)

### **Laura Sheeran**

Laura Sheeran is a multi-disciplinary artist and director who has been the resident filmmaker with Crash Ensemble since 2017. She draws on her background in music to inform her innovative practice with visuals and filmmaking. Known for her work in experimental and non-narrative film, her visionary approach allows her to build audiovisual experiences that weave worlds together and push the boundaries of different art forms. With a deep understanding of the crossover between aural and visual aesthetics, her visuals serve as captivating accompaniments to Crash Ensemble's cutting-edge repertoire.

## Lay of the Land

Lay of the Land is a site-responsive project directed by Kari Cahill and Hazel McCague that create sculptural works specific to wild landscapes. They collaborate as a duo, or with groups of artists, to produce immersive large-scale exhibitions and short-term residencies. LOTL is not only respond to the atmosphere and aesthetic of specific landscapes, but use methods of production that result in the artworks themselves being created in, and by, the land. Their current practice employs earth-led processes, focussing on sustainable colour, elemental energy and geologic time spans. They believe that exploring the interconnection of art, nature and people can be transformative and artistically aim to drive artists and the experience of art outwards into the natural landscape. Since 2016, LOTL has produced five outdoor exhibitions, eight site-responsive residencies and ten community engaged workshops, and has supported 30 Irish and International artists to produce 65 works of art. [layoftheland.ie](http://layoftheland.ie)

## Crash Ensemble



Photo: Ros Kavanagh

**Susan Doyle** flutes  
**Leonie Bluett** clarinets  
**Roddy O'Keeffe** trombone  
**Barry O'Halpin** electric guitar  
**Alex Petcu** percussion  
**Eliza McCarthy** piano / synthesiser

**Larissa O'Grady** violin  
**Joanna Mattrey** viola  
**Kate Ellis** cello  
**Malachy Robinson** double bass /  
musical director

**Rob Kearns** Production Manager • **Adrian Hart** Audio Producer • **John Phillips** Monitors Engineer • **Nell Buckley** Production Intern

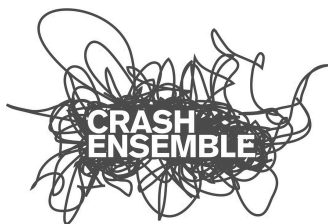
**Siân Cunningham** CEO • **Kate Ellis** Artistic Director • **Matt Rafter** Ensemble Manager • **Louise Barker** Marketing Lead

Crash Ensemble is Ireland's leading new music ensemble; a group of world-class musicians who play the most adventurous, groundbreaking music of today. Led by cellist and Artistic Director, Kate Ellis and Principal Conductor, Ryan McAdams, the ensemble commissions, explores, investigates and experiments with a broad spectrum of music creators and artistic collaborators. It also puts community at the centre of its mission, and enjoys creating experiences—exploring new ways of presenting music and taking audiences on new adventures. Many well-known artists from diverse musical backgrounds have performed with the ensemble, including Terry Riley, Gavin Friday, Dawn Upshaw, Diamanda La Berge Dramm, Laurie Anderson, Lisa Hannigan, Iarla Ó Lionáird, Bryce Dessner, Richard Reed Parry, Sam Amidon and Beth Orton.

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

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. [crashensemble.com](http://crashensemble.com)

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



# NEW MUSIC DUBLIN 2024

Welcome back to New Music Dublin 2024!

In four days this April, NMD 2024 travels through more than 23 events: from the main-stage ambient music mastery of A Winged Victory for the Sullen all the way to Mariam Rezaei's virtuoso turntablism; from Aoife Ní Bhriain and Liam Byrne's ancient music reborn in *The Harmonic Labyrinth* to *ADVERT*, Laura Bowler's right-up-to-date exploration of the contemporary self; from the youthful voices of Cór Linn and Cór na nÓg in *Everyday Wonders* to Ann Cleare's exploration of deep time with Crash Ensemble in *TERRARIUM*; and it stops off at many many places in-between.

NMD 2024 is – as always – jam-packed.  
It is also – as ever – wildly eclectic.

My long-suffering team here at New Music Dublin wonder where both my preference for putting together an insanely hectic programme and my general delight in eclecticism come from, and I guess they both come from the same place. The only criterion I have when I ask artists to make new works for NMD is that I shouldn't be able to imagine in advance what they're going to make, because for me, surprise and enchantment in the new is the very essence of creativity – the delight in making something that has not been thought of before. And because the number of people making genuinely creative new work here in Ireland is far, far more than can be fitted in to one festival, the festival schedule is crazy-packed with as many new things as possible (I have already apologised to the team!)

You'll also notice that I also like to throw in the occasional reminder of good things that we may have missed the first time around, to provide a bit of context and extra depth. However – fundamentally – we are here for the new adventures, the experiences we don't know of, the ideas that we've not come across before and the challenges that we didn't know we might want to accept.

Here, there is something new for everyone, and everyone is very welcome at New Music Dublin 2024!

**John Harris**

Festival Director, New Music Dublin

# NEW MUSIC DUBLIN

*Thursday 25 April 2024*

**THERE WILL BE NO SILENCE:**

David Downes, Diatribe Stage

**THE HARMONIC LABYRINTH:**

Aoife Ní Bhriain & Liam Byrne, Diatribe Stage

**THE MONOCHROME PROJECT**

**DEANE, GRIBBIN & SAARIAHO:**

RTÉ Concert Orchestra

**ADVERT:** Laura Bowler & Decoder Ensemble

**IN FORMATION:** Stone Drawn Circles

*Friday 26 April 2024*

**GERALD BARRY IN FOCUS:**

Darragh Morgan & Mary Dullea

**YOU HEARD IT FIRST:** Crash Ensemble

**FESTIVAL RECEPTION / MONOCHROME PROJECT FANFARE**

**HAIGH, BUCKLEY & DENNEHY:**

National Symphony Orchestra

**THE ARCHETYPES PROJECT:**

Nathan Sherman & Alex Petcu, Diatribe Stage

**AWAY:** Anne La Berge & Diamanda La Berge  
Dramm, Diatribe Stage

*Saturday 27 April 2024*

**TRUMPETS:** Monochrome Project

**A 15 MINUTE WALK:**

The Totally Made Up Orchestra

**THE DANCERS INHERIT THE PARTY:**

Chamber Choir Ireland

**AROUND HERE, THE BIRDS PLANT THE**

**TREES:** Natalia Beylis

**AMBIENT / SYMPHONY:** A Winged Victory

for the Sullen & National Symphony Orchestra

**CHANGING STATES:** Crash Ensemble

*Sunday 28 April 2024*

**EARTHRISE:** Musici Ireland

**EVERYDAY WONDERS:**

Cór Linn & Cór na nÓg

**BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO SLOW TRAVEL:**

Kirkos

**TALAMH:** Evlana Sinfonietta

**TERRARIUM:** Crash Ensemble

**IL RITORNO DEL ANGELO & MARIAM**

**REZAEI:** Diatribe Stage

*Throughout the festival:*

**THANKS – AN INSTALLATION:**

Diamanda La Berge Dramm

**INVISIBLE THREADS** installation:

Scott McLaughlin

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

New Music Dublin is a partnership between:

**RTÉ**

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**NATIONAL  
CONCERT  
HALL / AN  
CEOLÁRAS  
NAISIÚNTA**



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