

TEAG
DAMSA

MÁM

INSIGHT PACK

UK TOUR 2026

INTRODUCTION & CONTENTS

Dance Consortium is delighted to present *MÁM* by Micheal Keegan Dolan and Teac Dańsa, accompanied by concertina player Cormac Begley and European classical contemporary collective s t a r g a z e.

These introductory notes are designed for everyone: the public, students and teachers to learn more about the Teac Dańsa and *MÁM*. Featuring background information and resources for formal and informal learning, these notes can be read alongside the [free show programme](#).

CONTENTS

- 3 - About *MÁM*
- 4 - *MÁM* trailer
- 5 - Tour dates
- 6 - About Michael Keegan Dolan
- 7 - Behind the scenes interview with Michael Keegan Dolan
- 8 - About Teac Dańsa
- 9 - Dancers interview
- 10 - About Cormac Begley
- 11 - Cormac Begley interview
- 12 - About s t a r g a z e
- 13 - Discussions on *MÁM*
- 14 - Michael Keegan Dolan on the meaning of mám
- 15 - Cast
- 16 - Learning and engagement
- 17 - About Dance Consortium
- 18 - Coming soon

Photo: Ros Kavanagh

DANCE CONSORTIUM presents

Teac Dańsa
Michael Keegan-Dolan

MÁM



Dance Consortium presents:
Teac Daísa / Michael Keegan-Dolan
MÁM



Photo: Ros Kavanagh

MÁM is international dance-theatre at its finest. Described as ‘90 minutes of ritualised ecstasy’ by The Irish Times, this visionary piece playfully and provocatively takes you on an otherworldly journey steeped in the landscape and culture of West Kerry in Ireland.

MÁM sees a group of fearless dancers summon a whirlwind of myth and magic, moved by the collaborative music making of virtuoso Irish traditional concertina player Cormac Begley and European classical contemporary collective *stargaze*, performed live on stage.

Nominated for an Olivier Award, *MÁM* has enjoyed sellout performances at Sadler’s Wells, London and across Festivals world-wide. This rapturous production now embarks on its debut UK tour for Dance Consortium.

Running Time: 80 minutes

Age Guidance: 8+ / 10+ (check with local venue)

Post show Q&A on opening nights (free for ticket holders)

“MÁM is full of engrossing dancing, fantastic music, subtle meanings and real humanity. This is a choreographer on a roll.”
— *The Guardian*

MÁM - TRAILER

<https://youtu.be/acSXpwjhtTk?si=xILSn6pAKmVL9Xxo>



Teac Daírsa / Michael Keegan-Dolan - "MÁM" | UK Tour 2026 Trailer | Dance Consortium



Copy link



DANCE CONSORTIUM presents

Teac Daírsa
Michael Keegan-Dolan

MÁM

Watch on YouTube

MÁM UK TOUR – BOOK NOW

The Lowry, Salford

[BOOK NOW](#)

Tue 3 - Wed 4 Feb 2026 7.30pm

Birmingham Hippodrome

[BOOK NOW](#)

Fri 6 - Sat 7 Feb 2026 7.30pm

Brighton Dome

[BOOK NOW](#)

Tue 10 - Wed 11 Feb 2026 7.30pm

Theatre Royal Norwich

[BOOK NOW](#)

Fri 13 - Sat 14 Feb 2026 7.30pm

Mayflower Southampton

[BOOK NOW](#)

Tue 17 - Wed 18 Feb 2026 7.30pm

Marlowe Theatre Canterbury

[BOOK NOW](#)

Fri 20 - Sat 21 Feb 2026 7.30pm

Eden Court Theatre Inverness

[BOOK NOW](#)

Tue 24 - Wed 25 2026 7:30pm

His Majesty's Theatre Aberdeen

[BOOK NOW](#)

Fri 27 - Sat 28 Feb 2026 7.30pm

Theatre Royal Plymouth

[BOOK NOW](#)

Tue 3 - Wed 4 Mar 2026 7:30pm

ABOUT MICHAEL KEEGAN-DOLAN

Michael Keegan-Dolan was born in Ireland 1969 and studied at the Central School of Ballet, London from 1988-1991. His first job as a dancer was in a new production of *Carousel* by Rogers and Hammerstein at the Royal National Theatre, London, choreographed by Sir Kenneth MacMillan and directed by Nick Hytner.

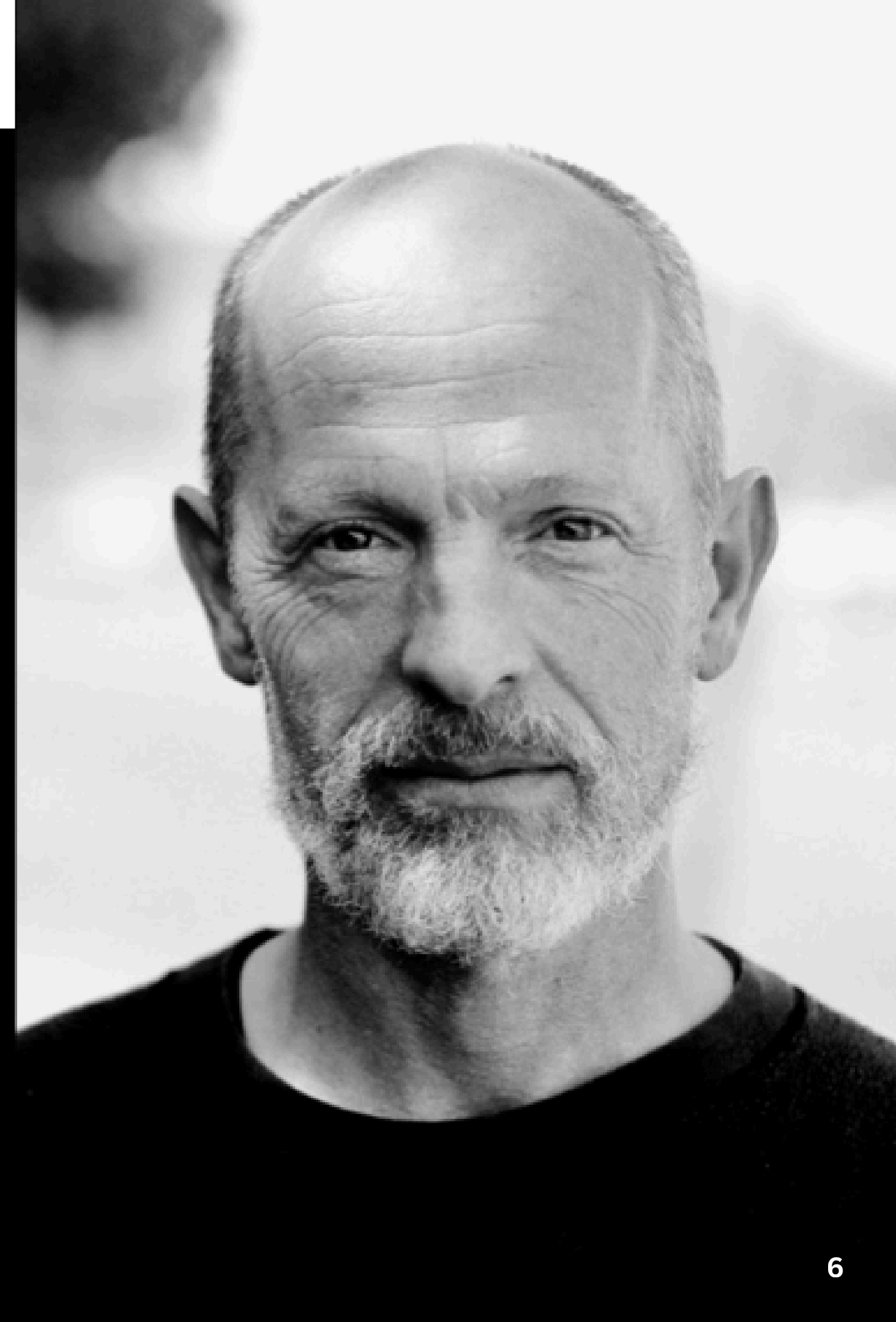
He started choreographing in 1991; his first work noticed by critics were dances he made for David Alden's new production of *Ariodante* by Handel at English National Opera in 1996.

He founded his own company, Fabulous Beast Dance Theatre in 1997 and rose to acclaim as its artistic director creating three Olivier Award-nominated productions: *Giselle* (2003), *The Bull* (2005), and *The Rite of Spring* (2009).

Michael Keegan-Dolan has choreographed many critically acclaimed productions in the opera world, including the 2004 production of *Faust*, directed by Sir David McVicar at the Royal Opera House.

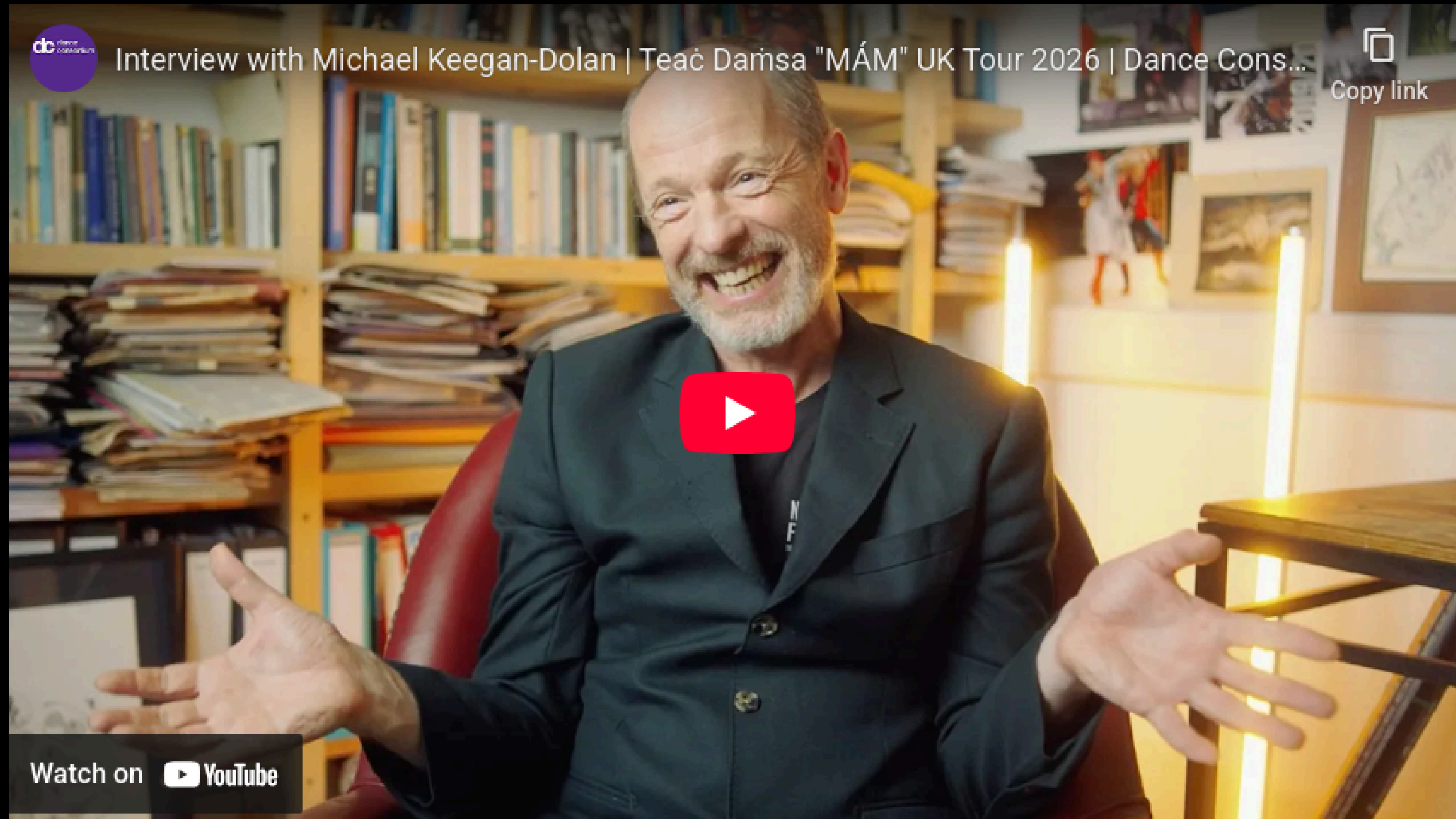
Michael Keegan-Dolan founded his new company *Teač Dańsa* in 2016. Its first production, *Swan Lake / Loch na hEala*, won the Irish Times Theatre Award 2017 for Best New Production and the UK Critics' Circle National Dance Award for Best Production 2018. The production toured to five continents.

A former associate artist at Sadler's Wells and the Barbican Centre in London, Michael also teaches and leads workshops internationally, sharing his experience and creative practice with artists around the world.



INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL KEEGAN-DOLAN

<https://youtu.be/y66XR6tAEPA?si=FihsF2dWDKHWKGzt>



ABOUT TEAC DAINSA

English pronunciation: /chock dawsa/

Teac Dainsa was established by Michael Keegan-Dolan in 2016 when his company, Fabulous Beast Dance Theatre moved from the midlands of Ireland to the West Kerry Gaeltacht on the South West coast.

Teac Dainsa makes dance and theatre work that nurtures deep and meaningful connections with the traditions, language and music of Ireland.

Teac Dainsa creates a place where artists can come together to make dance and theatre work that aspires to transform both artist and audience by the experience of the work.

While grounded in Ireland the company draws upon an international ensemble of performers, artists and collaborators and has created productions that have toured and resonated both nationally and internationally.

Teac Dainsa's first production, Swan Lake / Loch na hEala was ground-breaking and won the Irish Times Theatre Award 2017 for Best New Production and the UK Critics' Circle National Dance Award for Best Production 2018.

MÁM created in 2019, was the first show entirely conceived, rehearsed and produced in the West Kerry Gaeltacht and was nominated for an Olivier Award for Best New Production in 2020 and two UK Critics' Circle National Dance Awards in 2021.

In 2021 Irish filmmaker Pat Collins, premiered his feature length documentary, The Dance, as part of the London International Film Festival, a film which follows the creative process behind the making of MÁM.

“Teac Dainsa creates a place where artists can work together to make dance and theatre work that transforms both artist and audience”

—Michael Keegan Dolan—

<https://teacdamsa.com>

INTERVIEW WITH THE DANCERS

<https://youtu.be/u-iFWePb4xg?si=FktFASUWLOrXzziW>



ABOUT CORMAC BEGLEY

Cormac Begley is a West Kerry concertina player whose career has surged in recent years, marked by sold-out shows at Vicar Street, a headline performance at the National Concert Hall, and multiple major awards including Best Folk Instrumentalist at the RTÉ Folk Awards and Irish Times Album of the Year 2022 for his groundbreaking solo album *B*.

His original composition *To War* has reached over 80 million views across social media. He collaborates widely, appearing on albums by Lankum, Ye Vagabonds, Dermot Kennedy and Lisa O'Neill, and has toured with leading artists including Martin Hayes, Liam O'Connor, Liam Ó Maonlaí and Rushad Eggleston.

CORMAC BEGLEY INTERVIEW

<https://youtu.be/CKD4uk6RiWE?si=OCSa-Xdk1MtvDw4>



Interview with musician Cormac Begley | Teac Daírsa "MÁM" UK Tour 2026 | Dance Co...

Copy link

Watch on  YouTube

The video player shows a man, Cormac Begley, playing a bodhrán. He is wearing a dark t-shirt with the word "OUTWEST" on it. The background is a rustic room with stone walls and a fireplace. A red play button is centered over the video.

ABOUT **s t a r g a z e**



s t a r g a z e is an orchestral collective; an ever-evolving project marrying modern composition with alternative attitudes and sounds.

Following two s t a r g a z e presents festivals at Volksbühne Berlin it was praised for its 'Ausnahmestellung' ('exceptional position') in today's musical landscape, with far-reaching and genre defying performances in prestigious concert halls and pop festivals.

Devising programmes with music by Berio and the Beach Boys for Paris' Philharmonie, s t a r g a z e strives to bring musicians and audiences together that would not have otherwise met.

Driven by the contemporary pop scene, the collective has worked with the likes of Terry Riley, Lisa Hannigan and Deerhoof, and have performed material by Mica Levi, Qasim Naqvi and Boards Of Canada.

Discussions on *MÁM*

Michael Keegan-Dolan |
Choreographer Conversations
[LINK](#)

Michael Keegan Dolan | Quays
Life, 2025
[LINK](#)

Michael Keegan-Dolan on *MÁM*,
Seeing Dance 2026
[LINK](#)

HIGHLIGHT: In Conversation
With the Dancers of Michael
Keegan-Dolan's *MÁM* – Amit
Noy & Bea C. Bidault
[LINK](#)

Sanjoy Roy , The Guardian, 2024
[LINK](#)

THE PROCESS OF MAKING *MÁM*

“The meaning comes by the process. The process is the product and the product is the process.”
“The challenge is not to create anything but to put an order around a sequence of descisions you make”

TRADITIONAL MUSIC IN *MÁM*

“My relationship to the music in *MÁM* is through the lens of Cormac, through the ancestyr and connections Cormac has. The my aspiration was to put around his sound a European classical/contemporary sound. It could be from anytime - the play some Telemann, 17th century German music, in the show also, so there's a European tradition around an Irish tradition in conversation. Through that, we have made a piece that feels direct, immediate, visceral, poetic and imaginative.”

ABOUT CORMAC BEGLEY

“He's so smart and he plays music, he plays that instrument like no one else living. I don't think anyone plays the way he plays it. In football imagery, that's like having Leo Messi on your team”

“All those stories literally come into the room when plays.”

PERFORMING *MÁM*

“I think of *MÁM* as an experiment in how to be most alive. I can only describe *MÁM* from the inside, because that's how I've experienced it. Performing *MÁM* feels like participating in an atmospheric phenomenon—a hurricane, a tsunami, a flood. I compare it to a weather event because *MÁM* feels like something that happens to me as much as I happen to it. The work of the musicians with us (the dancers) activates something—you could call it energy, spirit, ancestry, or just liveness.”

THE IRISH IDENTITY

“The Irish, we're in this constant pushing and pulling with the British empire. That happens a lot with postcolonial cultures because the simple dynamics of victory expresses the idea that what they're bringing is better: their language, their stories, their culture. The classical form is mixed in with this, that sense of: we are a great people, and we will make great buildings and great symphonies and have a great ballet company.”

MICHAEL KEEGAN-DOLAN ON THE MEANING OF MÁM

<https://youtu.be/XR5A3rOOLqA?si=v3gnB3aT3I5c5AVe>



CAST & CREATIVES



Photography: David Gray

MÁM Creative Team

Director & Choreographer: Michael Keegan-Dolan

Lighting Design: Adam Silverman

Costume Design: Hyemi Shin

Set Design: Sabine Dargant

Live Sound Design: Sandra Ní Mathúna

Original Sound Design: Helen Atkinson

Rehearsal Director: Rachel Poirier

Music by

Cormac Begley

stargaze

Production & Technical

Costume Supervisor: Amanda Donovan

Stage Manager: Aoife Malin

Technical Stage Manager: Danny Hones

Sound No 2: Daragh Murphy

Producer: Dawn Prentice

Line Producer: Fiona Morgan

Company Stage Manager: Iain Synnott

Chaperones: Lori & Oliver Neilson

Production Manager: Michael Lonergan

Lighting Manager: Peter Harrison

Head of Sound: Sandra Ní Mhathúna

Performers

Imogen Alvares

Cormac Begley

Bea Bidault

Kim Ceysens

Caimin Gilmore

Nina Harries

Aki Iwamoto

Mayah Kadish

Timon Koomen

Dylan Lynch

Daniel Myers

Delilah Neilson

Amit Noy

Keir Patrick

Ino Riga

David Six

Jimmy Southward

Holly Vallis

Kayva Van Gangelen

Verena Zeiner

LEARN, CONNECT, DANCE – LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT

The UK and Ireland tours offer enriching learning and participation activities for schools, community groups and dance enthusiasts. Access to world-class international performers is at the heart of what we do.

Dance Consortium events are led by performers and artists from touring companies. Fun and inclusive open workshops bring theatre foyers to life and on-stage masterclasses see the next generation of dancers learning from world-class performers.

Workshops - Michael Keegan Dolan and company artists teach **dance workshops** and masterclasses for schools and community groups, giving budding dancers and participants a unique opportunity to learn from world-class performers.

Open Rehearsals - Go behind the scenes to observe the dedication and discipline of performers as they prepare for an evening performance. Guests sit in the auditorium and watch on-stage rehearsals. Open rehearsals take place throughout the tour. Some are open to all, others to evening performance ticket holders.

Post-show Q&As - Put your questions to Michael Keegan Dolan and company members. Hear about the inspirations, challenges and adventures behind presenting the show.



ABOUT DANCE CONSORTIUM

Dance Consortium is a group of 24 large theatres located across the UK and Ireland.

With a shared passion for engaging people with contemporary dance from different parts of the world, the theatres work together to find dance companies and productions that will excite, challenge, inspire and entertain their audiences. Since its formation in 2000, Dance Consortium has presented 56 tours by 30 different companies, whose performances and education activities have been experienced by hundreds of thousands of people across the UK.

Visit the [Dance Consortium Touring page](#) including background and programme information and video clips from previous tours dating back to 2003.

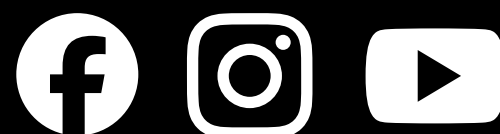
For further information visit:

WWW.DANCECONSORTIUM.COM

Get in touch:

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#MÁMUKTOUR





FINANCIAL TIMES SUNDAY TELEGRAPH TIME OUT

Dance Consortium presents

Les Ballets TROCKADERO de Monte Carlo

50th
Anniversary
UK Tour

THE TELEGRAPH

ON SALE NOW



COMING SOON...
Visit Danceconsortium.com
for more information

dc dance
consortium

DUBLIN Bord Gais Energy Theatre

NEWCASTLE Theatre Royal

BLACKPOOL Grand Theatre

LONDON The Peacock Theatre

BRADFORD Alhambra Theatre

EDINBURGH Festival Theatre

CARDIFF Wales Millennium Centre

MILTON KEYNES Theatre

ABERDEEN His Majesty's Theatre

WOLVERHAMPTON Grand Theatre

NORWICH Theatre Royal

BUXTON Opera House

SOUTHAMPTON Mayflower Theatre

CANTERBURY Marlowe Theatre

dc dance consortium
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND