# TRINITYIRISH DANCECOMPANY

FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MARK HOWARD



Photo by Lois Greenfield

### **ABOUT THE COMPANY**

TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY (TIDC) HAS SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGED THE DIRECTION AND SCOPE OF IRISH DANCE, RE-INTRODUCING THE ART FORM AS THE PHENOMENON IT IS TODAY.

TIDC is constantly in search of an original means of expression while maintaining a high regard for tradition. This cutting-edge nonprofit company was created to celebrate the pioneering work of Founding Artistic Director Mark Howard. Founded in 1990, Howard's uniquely Irish-American company was the birthplace of progressive Irish dance, an innovative movement genre which opened new avenues of artistic freedom that led directly to commercial productions such as "Riverdance."

By using Irish dance as an instrument and a metaphor, TIDC redefines the medium with passion, flair, and precision. Through a unique blend of uncompromising power and grace, TIDC sends a consistent message of female empowerment with a repertory that has elevated the art form for over three decades.

Considered an American treasure by critics and enthusiasts worldwide, TIDC has performed sold-out tours in Europe, Asia, and North America, appearing in distinguished venues, such as New York's The Joyce Theater, Washington D.C.'s Kennedy Center, UCLA's Royce Hall, Ottawa's National Arts Center of Canada, Tokyo's Orchard Hall, and Chicago's Auditorium Theatre, among many others.

TIDC has traveled to entertain dignitaries as varied as Monaco's royal family, Irish and American presidents, Japanese royalty, and Indian meditation masters.

. . .

TIDC holds an important place in the dance world, offering both a highly skilled presentation of traditional Irish step dance and a brilliantly engaging interpretation of contemporary world vision.





GARVIN JELLISON

PRODUCTION MANAGER
CONTACT FOR SCHEDULE, TECHNICAL NEEDS, & LOGISTICS
651-592-4967 | GARVIN.JELLISON+TIDC@GMAIL.COM



# f O v

### **CURRENT REPERTOIRE**



### **SOLES** (2018)

**CHOREOGRAPHY: MARK HOWARD** 

ADDITIONAL MOVEMENT: MICHAEL DONNELAN, MICHAEL GARDINER

11 DANCERS - 6:55 MINUTES

"When the soles of your shoes have worn off, you're back on your feet again."

- Michael Howard, father of Founding Artistic Director Mark Howard



### **A NEW DAWN** (2018)

**CHOREOGRAPHY: MARK HOWARD** 

**ADDITIONAL MOVEMENT: RICHARD GRIFFIN** 

12 DANCERS - 4:28 MIN

Folk dance for the future at breakneck speed



### **BLACK ROSE** (2004)

**CHOREOGRAPHY: MARK HOWARD** 

15 DANCERS - 5:23 MINUTES

From a whisper to a scream











CHELSEA HOY

GARVIN JELLISON

BARBARA FRUM

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR CONTACT FOR MARKETING, PRESS, & OUTREACH 303-257-6412 | CHELSEA.TIDC@GMAIL.COM

PRODUCTION MANAGER CONTACT FOR SCHEDULE, TECHNICAL NEEDS, & LOGISTICS 651-592-4967 | GARVIN.JELLISON+TIDC@GMAIL.COM

### **CURRENT REPERTOIRE**



### **SPARKS** (2022)

**CHOREOGRAPHY: MARK HOWARD AND ALI DOUGHTY** 1 DANCER. 1 MUSICIAN - 4:00 MINUTES

A blend of World Solo Champions Jake James' and Ali Doughty's virtuosic gifts



### **COMMUNION** (2014)

**CHOREOGRAPHY: MARK HOWARD AND SANDY SILVA** 12 DANCERS - 6:15 MINUTES

A synthesis of forms rooted in the profound power of connection



### **JOHNNY** (1991)

**CHOREOGRAPHY: MARK HOWARD COSTUMES: BIRGIT RATTENBORG WISE** 

13 DANCERS - 5:05 MINUTES

Created for and premiered on NBC's The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson at **NBC Studios in Burbank, California on March 15, 1991** 











CHELSEA HOY

GARVIN JELLISON

BARBARA FRUM

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR CONTACT FOR MARKETING, PRESS, & OUTREACH 303-257-6412 | CHELSEA.TIDC@GMAIL.COM

PRODUCTION MANAGER CONTACT FOR SCHEDULE, TECHNICAL NEEDS, & LOGISTICS 651-592-4967 | GARVIN.JELLISON+TIDC@GMAIL.COM

### **CURRENT REPERTOIRE**



### **PUSH** (2014)

**CHOREOGRAPHY: MARK HOWARD** 

**ADDITIONAL MOVEMENT: ANDREW VICKERS** 

6 DANCERS, 6:00 MINUTES

Percussive power on equal footing



### **AMERICAN TRAFFIC (2020)**

CHOREOGRAPHY: MICHELLE DORRANCE AND MELINDA SULLIVAN

A hybrid of Irish step and American tap that plays at the intersection of rhythmic sensibilities and rebellious histories



### **AN SORCAS** (2019)

CHOREOGRAPHY: MARK HOWARD AND CHELSEA HOY

An examination of the battle between substance and spectacle

FOR ACCESS TO ARCHIVAL VIDEO OF CURRENT REPERTOIRE, CLICK HERE.

TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY









CHELSEA HOY

GARVIN JELLISON

BARBARA FRUM

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR CONTACT FOR MARKETING, PRESS, & OUTREACH 303-257-6412 | CHELSEA.TIDC@GMAIL.COM

PRODUCTION MANAGER CONTACT FOR SCHEDULE, TECHNICAL NEEDS, & LOGISTICS 651-592-4967 | GARVIN.JELLISON+TIDC@GMAIL.COM

### **TOURING** TOURING PARTY: 17-19 dancers 4 musicians 2-3 production crew 2 staff LOAD-IN: Program prefers load-in one day prior to performance, but sameday load-in is possible. View our standard technical rider Photo by Lois Greenfield

#### CHELSEA HOY

**TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY** 

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
CONTACT FOR MARKETING, PRESS, & OUTREACH
303-257-6412 | CHELSEA.TIDC@GMAIL.COM

#### GARVIN JELLISON

PRODUCTION MANAGER
CONTACT FOR SCHEDULE, TECHNICAL NEEDS, & LOGISTICS
651-592-4967 | GARVIN.JELLISON+TIDC@GMAIL.COM

#### BARBARA FRUM

### **UPCOMING PERFORMANCES**

Dance for Life, Auditorium Theatre - Chicago, IL **AUGUST 13. 2022** 

White Bird - Portland, OR FEB. 9. 10. & 11. 2023

> Cowan Fine Arts Center - Tyler, TX MARCH 2, 2023

Moody Hall - Dallas, TX MARCH 3. 2023

MARCH 11. 2023 The Music Hall - Detroit, MI

Miller Outdoor Theater - Houston, TX MARCH 17. 2023

MARCH 23. 2023 Majestic Theatre - Gettysburg, PA

MARCH 24, 2023 Weis Center - Lewisburg, PA

**APRIL 14, 2023** Gogue Performing Arts Center - Auburn, AL

**APRIL 22, 2023** Dorrance Dance and TIDC - Auditorium Theatre - Chicago, IL

JUN. 26 - JUL. 18. 2023 Tour of JAPAN, cities and theaters TBA



## NUTABLE

Trinity Irish Dance Company has performed sold-out tours Europe, Asia, and North America, appearing in distinguished venues such as the Kennedy Center, UCLA's Rouce Hall, Ottawa's National Arts Center of Canada. Orchard Hall, Tokuo's Theatre, Chicago's Auditorium among many others. This past Trinity Irish Dance season, Company completed their fourth week-run at The Jouce Theater.

Photo by Lois Greenfield









#### CHELSEA HOY

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR CONTACT FOR MARKETING, PRESS, & OUTREACH 303-257-6412 | CHELSEA.TIDC@GMAIL.COM

#### GARVIN JELLISON

PRODUCTION MANAGER CONTACT FOR SCHEDULE, TECHNICAL NEEDS, & LOGISTICS 651-592-4967 GARVIN.JELLISON+TIDC@GMAIL.COM

#### BARBARA FRUM

### **PRESS**





"A STUNNING PROGRAM OF GROUND-**BREAKING DANCE**"

BROADWAY WORLD, READ MORE

### The New York Times

"FRESH"

THE NEW YORK TIMES, READ MORE





#### CriticalDance

"I DON'T KNOW WHEN TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY WILL NEXT APPEAR IN NEW YORK, BUT ITS RETURN CANNOT COME QUICKLY ENOUGH."

CRITICAL DANCE, READ MORE

#### **TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY**











**GARVIN JELLISON** 

BARBARA FRUM

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR CONTACT FOR MARKETING, PRESS, & OUTREACH 303-257-6412 | CHELSEA.TIDC@GMAIL.COM

PRODUCTION MANAGER CONTACT FOR SCHEDULE, TECHNICAL NEEDS, & LOGISTICS 651-592-4967 | GARVIN.JELLISON+TIDC@GMAIL.COM

### **PRESS**



#### The Boston Globe

"WHERE WOMEN MAKE THE FORM THEIR OWN"

THE BOSTON GLOBE, READ MORE

### Chicago Tribune

"A COOL VIBE...[STRETCHES] THE LIMITS OF WHAT **IRISH DANCE CAN DO AESTHETICALLY AND** RHYTHMICALLY"

CHICAGO TRIBUNE, READ MORE





#### **FOR MORE PRESS**

**CLICK HERE** 











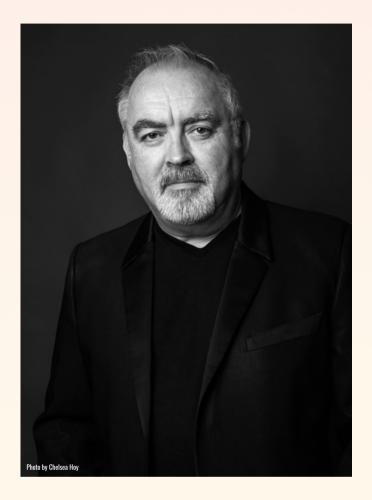
CHELSEA HOY

**GARVIN JELLISON** 

BARBARA FRUM

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR CONTACT FOR MARKETING, PRESS, & OUTREACH 303-257-6412 | CHELSEA.TIDC@GMAIL.COM

PRODUCTION MANAGER CONTACT FOR SCHEDULE, TECHNICAL NEEDS, & LOGISTICS 651-592-4967 | GARVIN.JELLISON+TIDC@GMAIL.COM



MARK FOUNDING ARTISTIC HOWARD DIRECTOR

MARK HOWARD (Founding Artistic Director/Choreographer) For more than three decades, this pioneering choreographer has been striving for and achieving that which is profoundly significant and equally difficult to attain—the transcendence of craft to art and the synthesis of forms to create something that is forward-looking and new. His work maintains integrity while simultaneously going beyond the framework of ethnicity to carve new traditions.

Born in Yorkshire, England, and raised in Chicago, Howard began his dancing career at eight years old at the Dennehy School of Irish Dance. He began teaching when he was only 17 years old, and by 19 he had launched the Trinity Academy of Irish Dance, subsequently leading them to unprecedented World Championship team titles for the United States—the first when he was only 25.

Howard's groundbreaking work in the late 80s led to his unique transition from the competitive stage to the performing arts stage and began his gradual evolution from coach to artistic director. By 1990, these formative years led to the creation of a nonprofit forum, Trinity Irish Dance Company (TIDC), to celebrate and further his work. From its inception, TIDC has been met with great critical acclaim across the world.

Howard was a regular guest on The Tonight Show starring Johnny Carson from 1989 until 1991, and his choreography has accumulated a multitude of national and international television credits including The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, CBS This Morning, The Today Show, Live with Regis, Good Morning America, MARTHA, and CONAN, to name a few. From PBS and ABC specials, to extensive film work for Disney, Touchstone, Universal, and Dream Works, Howard has worked with the likes of Oprah Winfrey, Ron Howard, and Sam Mendez. He was the personal dance coach for actors Tom Hanks and Daniel Craig while working on the film Road to Perdition. Howard's work has led to numerous Choreographer's Fellowships awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts and he has been named three times as one of Irish American Magazine's "Top 100 Irish-Americans."

Howard continues to choreograph new works, as well as expand his independent career to work in theater, television, concert, and film. The feature film screenplay SOLES, which focuses on Howard and Trinity, is currently in the works.













HOY ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

CHELSEA HOY (Associate Artistic Director/Choreographer)

At 26, Denver-born Hou has already become a major player in the performing arts world. Generous, rebellious, creative and complex, her choreographic influence has significantly shaped TIDC's newest works, from Communion, to Soles and Push. Hoy recently cochoreographed her first full-length piece, An Sorcas (The Circus), which saw its preview in Tokyo and will have its New York premiere at the Joyce Theater.

In the dance studio, Hoy finds the creative process to be a rewarding and therapeutic combination of fluid expression and technical configuration. She is a game changer with a big vision, motivated by the ability this art form has to deeply connect strangers and friends alike.

Chelsea grew up dancing competitively for the Wick School of Irish Dance in Denver, Colorado. She joined TIDC in 2014 after she began her studies at Loyola University Chicago. She graduated in 2017 with bachelors degrees in Psychology and Photography. In addition to helping guide the company's future, she is a professional photographer, dance instructor, and visual artist. Hoy's love of empowering children through the arts continues to shape TIDC's outreach programming.

A powerful activist and artist, she has been entrusted with TIDC's ethos and future.













ALI DOUGHTY (Artistic Associate) achieved the rare feat of winning a solo world championship title for the United States in 2014. She grew up in Philadelphia, studying exercise physiology at the University of Dayton while maintaining a rigorous competitive dance career. Upon her graduation, Ali moved to Chicago to join the TIDC movement and begin her evolution to a performing artist while receiving her Doctorate in Physical Therapy at Northwestern University. With a seamless blend of aerial grace and percussive power, Ali connects with audiences on a deep level and is part of a nucleus of company members that are carrying the TIDC legacy to new heights.



MICHAEL FLECK (Artistic Associate) A multidimensional artist, Michael thrives on the intersection of rhythms and spatial arrangement. Throughout a successful competitive career, Michael won Regional and US National championships several times, placing as high as 2nd at the World Championships and winning the All Ireland Championships when he was only 9 years old. After earning his Bachelors of Architecture from Ball State University, Michael moved to Chicago to pursue a career in architecture while further immersing himself in TIDC's mission.



LYDIA FREDRICK (Artistic Associate) TIDC's newest Artistic Associate, Lydia grew up in New Berlin, Wisconsin dancing competitively with the Trinity Academy of Irish Dance. At the age of 12, she became the co-captain of a U.S. team that captured a historic world title at the 2014 World Irish Dance Championships. Lydia is currently pursuing a B.S. in chembio with minors in business management and psychology at Ripon College, with plans to attend medical school while changing the dialogue about what's possible within Irish dance.



SYDNEY NIEWIEDZIAŁ (Artistic Associate) is a rare combination of complexity, power, and poise. She grew up dancing at Chicago's Trinity Academy of Irish Dance where her unique abilities as an athlete and a leader helped her rise to quick competitive success, winning the National Championships, regional titles, and leading her team to win a gold medal at the World Championships as their team co-captain, all by the age of 12. Introduced at that time to Japanese audiences by Howard, she has grown as an artist, a compassionate leader, and is on the frontlines of helping TIDC push the boundaries of our art form while she pursues a B.S. in zoology at Miami University in Ohio.













GARVIN JELLISON

BARBARA FRUM







MICHAEL FLECK



LYDIA FREDRICK



ANNA GORMAN



ABIGAIL GRAHAM-LUKE



CHELSEA HOY



FRAN LEMUS



DANIELLE MASBRUCH



SIERRA MCNALL



CLAUDIA MORRISON



MARGARET NALLEY



SYDNEY NIEWIEDZIAL



COLLEEN MICHAEL O'CONNOR



**KELSEY PARRY** 



CLARE RAHNER

#### **TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY**









CHELSEA HOY

**GARVIN JELLISON** 

PRODUCTION MANAGER CONTACT FOR SCHEDULE, TECHNICAL NEEDS, & LOGISTICS 651-592-4967 | GARVIN.JELLISON+TIDC@GMAIL.COM

BARBARA FRUM

### THE BAND



CHRISTOPHER DEVLIN (Guitar and vocals) is a Chicago-based musician who began playing guitar at 8 years old. He has since grown as a multiinstrumentalist trained in piano, drums, accordion, fiddle and more. Devlin has been a collaborator with varied musical acts across the country and is currently playing with the Chicago band Rookie. Dedicated to community and culture, Devlin is a founding member of the Treehouse Collective, which owns one of the most prestigious recording studios in Chicago. Devlin is working on opening "The Workshop": an accessible studio for Chicago artists in need of a space to create. Devlin took his first trip to Japan with the company in 2016, and is incredibly honored to share his talents with TIDC on international stages.



JAKE JAMES (Fiddle and bodhran) is a two-time All-Ireland fiddle champion, bódhran player, and dancer from NYC. He won the Mid-Atlantic Fleadh Cheoil 7 years in a row on bodhrán and the All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil twice on fiddle. Jake has performed and taught at various venues including the Irish Arts Center, BB King's, Gracie Mansion, and Carnegie Hall. Jake recently moved to Chicago. His debut solo album, Firewood, was released in 2018. Currently a member of the band Runa, Jake received his M.A. in composition from the Aaron Copland School of Music.



BRENDAN O'SHEA (Guitar, vocals and composer) is a singer-songwriter originally from Killarney, Ireland who moved to the United States in the late 90's. Since then, he has become a veteran of New York City's songwriter scene and has released five albums that have garnered praise from critics and press around the world. TIDC's lead singer for over 25 years, with or without a guitar in hand, O'Shea excels at drawing people in. His latest album "Midatlantic Ghost," a beautiful acoustic record with songs of leaving and of love, is available on iTunes. Visit www.brendanosheamusic.com for more info.



STEVEN RUTLEDGE (Percussionist) is a Chicago-based freelance musician and music instructor with a strong passion for playing and teaching music. A proficient drummer and percussionist, he is also well-versed in guitar, bass guitar, and keyboards. Growing up in Portland, OR, Steven studied at the University of Oregon and received a B.A. in Drums Set and Percussion performance from Columbia College Chicago. While there, he spent three years studying privately with Chicago-based musician Tom Hipskind, who is currently one of the most sought-after drummers in Chicago. Rutledge has worked with several premiere Chicago acts including Woo Park, Nasty Snacks, North By North, Hanna Ashbrook, and is currently the Percussionist for Chicago acts such as STREGA, Uma Bloo, and Ari Lindo. He joined the TIDC band in 2018 for his first tour of Japan and is in the midst of his fourth touring season.













GARVIN JELLISON

BARBARA FRUM