

TITLE

A Chuisle mo Chroí

ARTIST

Erin M McCuskey (she/her)

LOCATION

Testing Grounds, Emporium Basement, 432 Queen Street Melbourne (web: testing-grounds.com.au)

DESCRIPTION

A film shoot and screening installation by Erin M McCuskey to develop a short film, to show support for women around the world who cannot dance, and to protect our freedoms, so we might always dance.

Down the stairs and into the dim dark of the Emporium Basement come and dance with filmmaker Erin McCuskey while she peels apart layers of self-belonging. Revelling in time-based cinematic practices, her work is at the intersection of art and film. Will you dare come and be filmed?

Your dance will be part of the creation of a short poetic film reflecting the capacity of physical movement (dancing) to express self-possession for women of the Irish diaspora who have grown up away from an Irish community. We will be recording (digital video) individual women, those who identify as women or are non-binary, dancing in front of projection screens as symbolic of the impacts of migration and living away from 'home'. You do not need to be Irish nor have Irish heritage to take part. The dancing is everyday style, whatever makes you feel good. You do not need to be a professional.

A chuisle mo chroí is a symbol of deep affection or emotional connection used in Irish poetry, music, and literature. In Gaeilge (Irish) it literally means pulse of my heart. Together we will engage your heart and twirl.

OPPORTUNITIES/EVENTS

OPEN TO PUBLIC Fri 26 | 04- Sun 05 | 05- 10:00AM-4:00PM FREE

Book a time for a one-to-one session with the filmmaker, by email. Times are limited and available most days (10AM, 11AM, 12PM, 1.30PM and 2.30pm). The actual shooting time is less than 30mins, however, it will be so much fun you might like to hang out for a bit, that would be fabulous! You are welcome to drop in and wait for a free time. You will be recorded as you dance in front of a screen showing various landscapes. Wear dark clothes and you will be given wardrobe to wear over the top. If you'd like to bring something to wear, make it lighter coloured and something that makes great shapes! There is no fee nor payment for your involvement, however we will make a fuss of you and make sure you get a cup of tea and a biscuit!

DANCE GATHERING (Opening Event) Sun 28 | 04- 4:00PM FREE

Come and have a boogie with friends who love to dance.

SCREENING (Closing Event) Sun 05 | 05- 4:00PM BY INVITATION

You will receive an invitation to the expanded cinema screening of the artists retrospective and hear about plans for this new film.

If you still have questions, please feel free to contact me directly on 0409 533 176 or email me on erin@yumstudio.com.au

Thank you for your interest.

Erin

LINKS

FAQs over

Online: yumcreative.yumstudio.com.au/projects/chuisle-mo-chroi

Instagram: [@erinmccuskey](https://www.instagram.com/erinmccuskey)

Website: erin.yumstudio.com.au

Email: erin@yumstudio.com.au

Social media tiles and flyers attached for you to share.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT KIND OF DANCING?

Nothing special, just a preparedness to dance in any way you like, in front of a projection screen with a landscape on it. The film is about how dance is an expression of freedom we must protect. Many women in the world don't have the freedom to dance! So, any dancing is great!

WHAT DO I HAVE TO WEAR? CAN I BRING MY OWN OUTFIT?

Wear something comfortable in darker colours. You will be given something in a lighter colour to wear over the top of your everyday clothes. It will be a wraparound piece of material that will move and create shapes as you dance.

If you prefer to bring your own outfit, you are very welcome. Feel free to go 'all out'. Something swirly twirly that makes great shapes when you dance. Lighter colours will work best. There is a dressing room available so bring whatever you'd like to bring!

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

The actual shoot will take less than 30minutes. However, it's a creative space so I'm hoping you stay for a bit so we can take some photos, play around with the screens, and have a great dance together.

WHAT MUSIC WILL I BE DANCING TO?

You will help choose the music you want to dance to. You are welcome to bring your own headphones! If you have a playlist on Spotify, then let's play that!

CAN I BRING A GROUP?

We can do a small group of up to three (3) however you might prefer to bring a group to the dance gathering on Sunday April 28th at 4pm. Up to you!

WHAT IF I CAN'T MAKE IT?

I'd love you to be involved in some way. If you're too far away, too busy or need some support to do it, let's find a way to work it out. Perhaps you would like to record your own version at home or in the local park? Email me and let's work it out.

IS THE VENUE ACCESSIBLE?

Unfortunately, not! The basement is accessed by a three flight staircase. However, that won't stop us. If you are keen to take part, then I'm keen to have you involved. Let's talk and get something arranged.

IS THERE A DRESSING ROOM?

Yes, there is a dressing room, there are toilets and mirrors. There is a place to store your bags and shopping (we're right across from Vic Market so you'd be crazy to not grab some fresh fruit and vegies!)

WILL I GET PAID OR REIMBURSED COSTS?

No. This project is self-funded, and any available funds have gone into making it happen. However, dancing is such a joyful experience your heightened sense of fun will have to be payment enough. And my undying love.

HOW DO I GET AN INVITATION TO THE SCREENING?

Simply by playing along and being interested. I won't make you dance but if you love film then that's all we need. That and your email address. The screening will be an expanded cinema experience on Sunday May 5th at 4pm. It will be a retrospective of my work and a talk about the film being made.

If you still have questions, please feel free to contact me directly on 0409 533 176 or email me.

LINKS

Online: yumcreative.yumstudio.com.au/projects/chuisle-mo-chroi

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Website: erin.yumstudio.com.au

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