

Mâm

A hybrid, emotional and sensual experience



“Mâm” is a dance show by the Irish choreographer Michael Keegan-Dolan. The show is a fusion of contemporary dance and Irish cultural traditions, based on several elements: dance, music and a unique atmosphere that contribute to its charm. “Mâm” takes its name from the Irish word for “hill” or “valley”, and refers to a mythological and spiritual place in the mountains of Connemara in Ireland. We had the pleasure of attending the show at the S nart theatre on Tuesday 17 December in 2024.

A daring show combining dance and distinctive music, with an Irish twist and a unique atmosphere.

After seeing the show, we had the opportunity to interview one of the artists who answered our questions. The show presents an extremely physical and expressive dance. The movements are both fluid and intense, often carried by a raw energy, yet rooted in Irish tradition and culture.

The show incorporates elements of traditional live music, with instruments such as the violin, cello and accordion.

The music plays an essential role in the atmosphere and emotion of the performance.

The lighting, costumes and the setting help to create an atmosphere that is both mystical and intimate.

The global expansion and strengthening of Irish culture

Michael Keegan-Dolan's show 'Mám' plays an important role in the expansion of Irish culture worldwide and its participation in globalisation in a number of ways:

'Mám' combines traditional Irish dance with contemporary dance, reinterpreting Ireland's cultural in innovative ways. This approach makes Irish culture accessible to an international audience, while extending its reach beyond national borders.

The Irish music is central to 'Mám', as it serves as a powerful cultural vector, bringing its emblematic sounds to a global public. It blends with modern dance to bring Irish culture to international audiences.

Through a modern interpretation of mythological landscapes and traditional Irish stories, 'Mám' establishes a link between the local and the universal. It offers a new vision of Ireland while integrating its culture into a global artistic exchange.

By presenting 'Mám' on international stages around the world, Michael Keegan-Dolan is raising the visibility of Irish culture and promoting intercultural exchange, contributing to the integration of this culture in a global context and in the globalisation.

A cultural diversity resulting from a multicultural dance company

The multiculturalism of the dancers in 'Mám' plays an essential role in the cultural diversity, enriching the show with diverse cultural artistic influences and reinforcing its universality. By bringing together dancers from different origins, Michael Keegan-Dolan introduces a variety of styles and dance techniques that cross cultures, while preserving the roots of Irish dance style.

This mix of cultures enhances the interpretation of the Irish traditional gatherings and music, giving a more global dimension to the performance while remaining true to Irish identity. In this way, it illustrates that dance can be a

universal language, transcending national and cultural boundaries, while highlighting diversity and inclusivity. In this sense, the multiculturalism is thus not only contributing to the authenticity of the work, but also to its ability to reach a global audience. We can consider that this show is in a way the result of globalisation.