



For Immediate Release

**MOTHER'S DAY APPROPRIATE**

**DAVID BOLGER'S "SWIMMING WITH MY MOTHER" FROM IRELAND'S COISCÉIM DANCE THEATRE RECEIVES LOCAL PREMIERE AT PEAK PERFORMANCES, MAY 10-11**

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While Michael Phelps may have pocketed 22 Olympic medals, swimming is equally radiant in Irish choreographer/dancer David Bolger's DNA. His passion for moving through water, a kinetic family heirloom of sorts, is celebrated in "Swimming with My Mother," a duet Bolger created for himself and his 80 year-old mother Madge, who taught him to swim when he was two. The dance receives its local premiere at Peak Performances, May 10-11.

Acclaimed when premiered in the US at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis and at many European venues including the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, "Swimming with My Mother" twins the devoted, but not always peaceful relationship between mother and son, with their shared love of water. Flutter kicks, arms stroking forward and backward, suggestions of buoyancy mixed with bits of ballroom, ballet and modern dance moves create the double, at times ethereal, metaphor used to explore their deep emotional and spiritual ties to each other. Voiceovers of mother and son's conversations and the seductive voice of Nat King Cole provide the sound design.

"Deep End Dance," a short film written and choreographed by Bolger and directed by Conor Horgon which stars mother and son, swimming, splashing, supporting, playing with each other beneath the water, serves as coda to the live performance.

**ABOUT THE ARTIST**

David Bolger is the artistic director and co-founder of CoisCéim Dance Theatre, which made its American debut at Jacob's Pillow in 2001. The company first appeared at Peak Performances in 2008 with "Knots." Over the last two decades, Bolger has directed and choreographed over 20 original productions for CoisCéim, including the award-winning "Swimming with My Mother," "Touch Me," "Pageant," "Missing," and, most recently, "Agnes." He has also written

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Nicholas Maw's "Sophie's Choice" (Royal Opera House, London). Bolger has been a member of Aosdána since 2007.

and choreographed extensively for film, most notably the multi-award-winning dance films "Hit and Run" (CoisCéim/Rough Magic Films) and "Deep End Dance" (Wildfire Films). Bolger has received numerous choreographic commissions including Tanztheater Freiburg/Heidelberg, Fidget Feet Aerial Dance Company, Druid Theatre Company, Cameron Mackintosh, the National Theatre (London), the Guthrie Theater (Minneapolis), Abbey Theatre (Dublin), Spoleto Festival, and Riverdream's Heartbeat of Home. He made his opera direction debut in 2004 with Gluck's "Orfeo," which received an Irish Times/ESB Theatre Award and became the first Irish opera to be invited to the State Theatre (Wiesbaden). Other opera work includes "Idomeneo" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (Opera Ireland), "La Traviata" (English National Opera), and

## PERFORMANCE TIMES

Saturday May 10 at 8pm; Sunday May 11 at 3pm

## WHERE TO GO

The Alexander Kasser Theater at Montclair State University is located at 1 Normal Avenue, Montclair, New Jersey 07043. Tickets are \$20, and are available at the box office, [www.peakperfs.org](http://www.peakperfs.org), or by calling [973-655-5112](tel:973-655-5112).

Charter bus service is provided from New York City's Port Authority Bus Terminal – arcade on 41st Street between 8th and 9th Avenues – to the Alexander Kasser Theater (\$10 per person, roundtrip) for all Saturday and Sunday performances. Bus reservations may be made by calling [973-655-5112](tel:973-655-5112) or by visiting [www.peakperfs.org](http://www.peakperfs.org). For train service, available only on weekdays, go online to [www.njtransit.com](http://www.njtransit.com) or call [973-275-5555](tel:973-275-5555).

For restaurants close to the Alexander Kasser Theater, visit [www.destinationmontclair.com](http://www.destinationmontclair.com).