



**The Rex Levitates Dance Company Papers**

**N15**

**The National Dance Archive of Ireland  
Glucksman Library  
University of Limerick**

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**Reference Code:** IE 2135 N15  
**Title:** The Rex Levitates Dance Company Papers  
**Dates of Creation:** 1999-2011  
**Level of Description:** Fonds  
**Extent and Medium:** 89 items (60 files)

## **CONTEXT**

**Name of Creator(s):** Rex Levitates Dance Company.

**Administrative History:** Rex Levitates Dance Company was co-founded in 1999 by choreographer Liz Roche (b. 1975) and dancer Jenny Roche (b. 1972) to further the contemporary dance art form, forge new performance modes, and encourage and promote dance awareness. The company is known for its entertaining, innovative, and thought-provoking dance works and its distinctive contemporary non-narrative style which draws influence from visual art. Rex Levitates has performed throughout Ireland and abroad in China, France, Cyprus, and the UK, and was the winner of the Dublin Dance Festival's Jayne Snow Award in 2002. In March 2012, Rex Levitates Dance Company changed its name to Liz Roche Company.

**Immediate Source of Acquisition:** Donated by Rex Levitates Dance Company to the National Dance Archive of Ireland on 16 May 2011.

## **CONTENT AND STRUCTURE**

**Scope and Content:** Posters, flyers, programmes, press cuttings, photographs, and recordings of dance works created and performed by Rex Levitates Dance Company.

**Appraisal, Destruction and Scheduling Information:** All records have been retained, except for three items unrelated to Rex Levitates Dance Company which have been returned to the donor.

**Accruals:** Further accruals are unlikely.

**System of Arrangement:** The material has been arranged into two series. Series 1 contains general background notes to the dance company and has been arranged chronologically by date. Series 2 contains documents relating to dance works created by the company. They have been grouped by choreography and arranged chronologically by date of creation.

## **CONDITIONS OF ACCESS AND USE**

**Conditions Governing Access:** Unrestricted access to all items.

**Conditions Governing Reproduction:** Standard copyright regulations apply to all items. For photocopying or reproducing material, please consult with the staff.

**Language/ Scripts of Material:** English, except for 2/11/3, which is in French.

**Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:** Paper documents, DVDs, and CDs in good condition. Items 2/3/1, 2/3/2, 2/5/1, 2/6/4, 2/10/4, 2/12/3, 2/14/2, 2/15/2, 2/16/2-3, 2/17/3, and 2/19/2-3 require a DVD player. Item 1/3 requires a laptop or PC with Mac or Windows operating system and QuickTime software. Items 1/3, 1/4, 2/5/2, 2/7/3, and 2/9/4 require a laptop or PC with Windows operating system and QuickTime software.

**Finding Aids:** A hard copy of the descriptive catalogue is available at the Special Collections and Archives Department, Glucksman Library, University of Limerick.

## **DESCRIPTION CONTROL**

**Archivist's Note:** Papers arranged and described by Anna-Maria Hajba.

**Rules or Conventions:** This description follows guidelines based on *ISAD(G)* 2nd edition, 2000, *Irish Guidelines for Archival Description*, 2009, *National Council on Archives: Rules for the Construction of Personal, Place and Corporate Names*, 1997, and *EAP Guidance on Data Protection for Archive Services*, 2018.

**Date of Description:** June 2011. Revised April 2020.

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The Rex Levitates Dance Company Papers

1 COMPANY PROFILE (2005-2006)

Also see 2/5/2, 2/7/3, and 2/9/4

- 1/1            2005  
Compilation of photocopies of mainly press cuttings relating to the activities of Rex Levitates in 2004. The compilation formed part of the dance company's revenue application to the Arts Council for 2005.  
19 pp.
- 1/2            July 2005  
Issue no. 87 (July 2005) of *Dance Europe*, containing two advertisements for research workshops hosted by Rex Levitates in August 2005.  
68 pp.
- 1/3            [2006]  
CD containing a company profile, history, and contact details, short biographies of Liz and Jenny Roche, extracts from press reviews, and background notes to and recordings of performances of *Sweet Apollo*, *Six Frames – Memories of Two Women*, *Cross Purposes*, *Resuscitate*, *Bread and Circus* (excerpt), and *Their Thoughts Are Thinking Them*.  
1 item
- 1/4            [2006]  
DVD containing a company profile, history, and contact details, short biographies of Liz and Jenny Roche, extracts from press reviews and background notes to and recordings of performances of *Sweet Apollo*, *Six Frames – Memories of Two Women*, *Cross Purposes*, *Resuscitate*, *Bread and Circus* (excerpt), and *Their Thoughts Are Thinking Them*.  
1 item

## 2 CHOREOGRAPHIES (1999-2011)

### 2.1 Peeling Venus, 1999

Also see 2/2/1 and 2/2/2

2/1/1 July 1999  
Fold-out brochure promoting the 1999 Diversions Festival, providing information on performance dates and venues. Rex Levitates made their debut at the festival with *Peeling Venus*, choreographed by Liz Roche.  
1 item

2/1/2 July 1999  
Programme of performances of *Peeling Venus* at Ark Stage, Meeting House, Temple Bar, Dublin on 22-30 July 1999 as part of the Diversions Festival.  
1 item

### 2.2 The Salt Cycle, 2000

2/2/1 July 2000  
Fold-out flyer promoting performances of Liz Roche's choreographies *The Salt Cycle* and *Peeling Venus* by Rex Levitates at Temple Bar, Dublin in July 2000 as part of the Diversions Festival.  
1 item

2/2/2 July 2000  
Programme of outdoor performances between May and September 2000 at Temple Bar as part of the Diversions Festival. Included in the programme are performances of *The Salt Cycle* and *Peeling Venus* by Rex Levitates in July.  
16 pp.

### 2.3 Blush, 2000

2/3/1 [September?] 2000  
DVD containing a recording of a live performance of Liz Roche's choreography *Blush* by Rex Levitates, with an angled view of the stage. Duration 00:51:10.  
1 item

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**2/3/2** [September?] 2000  
DVD containing a recording of a live performance of *Blush* by Rex Levitates, with a head-on view of the stage. Duration 00:52:35.  
1 item

**2.4 Senses, 2002**

**2/4/1** February-March [2002]  
Postcard promoting performances of *Senses* by Rex Levitates in Armagh, Downpatrick, Belfast, Dublin, Roscrea, and Cookstown between 28 February and 13 March 2002. The dance work was a co-production with Maiden Voyage Dance Company, Northern Ireland.  
2 items

**2/4/2** 10 March 2002  
*The Sunday Times Culture Supplement* containing an article 'One Small Step' relating to Rex Levitates and their latest choreography *Senses*.  
88 pp.

**2.5 Their Thoughts Are Thinking Them, 2002**

Also see **1/3** and **1/4**

**2/5/1** March 2004  
DVD containing a recording of a live performance of *Their Thoughts Are Thinking Them* by Grant McLay, Lisa McLoughlin, Jenny Roche, Katherine O'Malley, and Liz Roche of Rex Levitates at SS Michael and John's Church, Dublin. Duration 00:24:20. The dance work was originally choreographed by Liz Roche for the 2002 ESB Dublin Fringe Festival.  
1 item

**2/5/2** [2004]  
CD containing a company profile, background notes to *Their Thoughts Are Thinking Them*, extracts from related press reviews, technical specifications and recordings of a filmed version of the choreography created in March 2004 and of a live performance given by Rex Levitates in Beijing in May 2004.  
1 item

**2/5/3** 2004  
Colour photograph of members of Rex Levitates during a performance of *Their Thoughts Are Thinking Them* at the Irish Festival of Arts in China.  
1 item

## 2.6 Bread and Circus, 2003

Also see 1/3 and 1/4

- 2/6/1 June 2003  
Flyer promoting performances of *Bread and Circus* at Project Arts Centre, Dublin on 24-28 June 2003. The dance work was commissioned by the Project Theatre, Dublin and choreographed by Liz Roche in 2003.  
2 items
- 2/6/2 [June 2003]  
Colour photocopy of a review from *The Irish Times* of a performance of *Bread and Circus* by Rex Levitates at Project Arts Centre, Dublin.  
1 p.
- 2/6/3 22 June 2003  
*The Sunday Times Culture Supplement* containing an untitled article relating to dancer and choreographer Morleigh Steinberg and her collaboration as lighting designer with Rex Levitates in the production of *Bread and Circus*.  
88 pp.
- 2/6/4 2003  
DVD containing a 6-minute promotional recording of *Bread and Circus*. The recording consists of short clips shot during rehearsals and live performances of the choreography, performed by Jenny Roche, Grant McLay, Katherine O'Malley, Lisa McLoughlin, Robert Jackson, Justine Doswell, and James Hosty of Rex Levitates. The promo is followed by a recording of a live performance of *Bread and Circus*. Total duration 01:02:30.  
1 item

## 2.7 Resuscitate, 2004

Also see 1/3 and 1/4

- 2/7/1 May 2004  
Programme of the International Dance Festival Ireland held on 4-23 May 2004, providing brief introductions to performers and choreographies as well as performance dates and venues. Performances included *Resuscitate* by Rex Levitates at the Samuel Beckett Theatre, Dublin on 11 May. The work was commissioned by International Dance Festival Ireland and choreographed by Liz Roche under the mentorship of Rosemary Butcher.  
1 item



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**2/7/2** 13 May 2004  
Photocopy of a review from *The Irish Times* of a performance of *Resuscitate* by Rex Levitates at the Samuel Beckett Theatre, Dublin [on 11 May 2004].  
1 p.

**2/7/3** [May 2004]  
CD containing a company profile, choreographer's note to *Resuscitate*, a gallery of related images, review from *The Irish Times*, a PDF-file of the lighting plan, and a recording of a live performance of the dance work by Robert Jackson, Grant McLay, Lisa McLoughlin, Katherine O'Malley, Jenny Roche, and Liz Roche of Rex Levitates.  
1 item

## **2.8 Cross Purposes, 2004**

Also see **1/3**, **1/4**, and **2/12/1-3**

**2/8/1** November [2004]  
Postcard promoting performances of *Cross Purposes* by Rex Levitates at the Mermaid Arts Centre, [Bray] on 12-13 November [2004]. The work was commissioned by the Mermaid Arts Centre and choreographed by Liz Roche.  
2 items

## **2.9 Six Frames – Memories of Two Women, 2005**

Also see **1/3** and **1/4**

**2/9/1** August 2005  
Poster promoting performances of *Six Frames – Memories of Two Women* by Rex Levitates at Project Arts Centre, Dublin on 16-20 August 2005. The work was commissioned by Rex Levitates and choreographed by Rosemary Butcher. Outsize.  
2 items

**2/9/2** August 2005  
Flyer promoting performances of *Six Frames – Memories of Two Women*, performed by Jenny Roche and Liz Roche of Rex Levitates at Project Arts Centre, Dublin on 16-20 August 2005.  
2 items

**N15/**

**2/9/3** August-September 2005  
Issue no. 88 of *Dance Europe*, containing on p. 71 an advertisement for performances of *Six Frames – Memories of Two Women* at Project Arts Centre, Dublin on 16-20 August 2005.  
76 pp.

**2/9/4** [2005]  
CD containing a company profile, history, and contact details, short biographies of Liz and Jenny Roche, background notes to *Six Frames – Memories of Two Women* and the choreography's mentor, Rosemary Butcher; a gallery of related images; extracts from related press reviews, technical specifications (including a PDF-file of the lighting plan), and a recording of a filmed version of the choreography. The CD also contains a recording of a live performance of the dance work, but this file is corrupted.  
1 item

## **2.10 Sweet Apollo, 2006**

**2/10/1** January-February [2006]  
Poster promoting performances of Liz Roche's choreography *Sweet Apollo* by Rex Levitates at Dublin, Drogheda, Longford, Portlaoise, Tipperary, Dublin, Bray, Ballyvourney, and Tralee between 19 January and 11 February [2006]. Outsize.  
2 items

**2/10/2** January-February [2006]  
Poster promoting performances of *Sweet Apollo*, as **2/10/1**, but with a different design and lacking an entry for performances in Dublin. The reverse of the poster contains brief biographies of company members. Outsize.  
2 items

**2/10/3** January-February [2006]  
Flyer promoting performances of *Sweet Apollo* at Dublin, Drogheda, Longford, Portlaoise, Tipperary, Dublin, Bray, Ballyvourney, and Tralee between 19 January and 11 February 2006.  
2 items

**2/10/4** 2006  
DVD containing a recording of a live performance of *Sweet Apollo* by Rex Levitates. Duration 00:56:50.  
1 item

**2.11 The All Weather Project, 2006**

- 2/11/1** June-July 2006  
Fold-out brochure promoting Dublin Docklands Festival on 27 June-1 July 2006 under the title *We Are Here*. Among the performances was a premiere of *The All Weather Project*, choreographed by Liz Roche and comprising five solos for women set in a specially designed garden created by Jim Bloxam.  
2 items
- 2/11/2** June-August 2006  
Flyer promoting Rex Levitates's summer programme of events between 27 June and 12 August 2006, including *The All Weather Project* and a series of dance-related classes and choreographic sessions.  
3 items
- 2/11/3** May-August 2007  
Centre Culturel Irlandais programme of events for May-August, including a performance of a re-creation of *The All Weather Project* on 16 June 2007. In French.  
2 items

**2.12 The Same Jane, 2006**

- 2/12/1** August-October 2006  
Project Arts Centre programme of events for August-October 2006. The programme incorporates an entry for a double bill of *Cross Purposes* and *The Same Jane* on 12-16 September during Dublin Fringe Festival.  
2 items
- 2/12/2** September 2006  
Postcard promoting performances of *Cross Purposes* and *The Same Jane* as part of the Dublin Fringe Festival at Project Arts Centre on 12-16 September 2006.  
3 items
- 2/12/3** 2006  
DVD containing a recording of a live performance of *The Same Jane* by Jenny Roche and Katherine O'Malley and of *Cross Purposes* by Jenny Roche, Katherine O'Malley, Philip Connaughton, Lisa McLoughlin, Jazmin Chiodi, Abhilash Ningappa, John Hurley, and Clíodhna [Hoey] of Rex Levitates. Duration 00:23:35 and 00:35:40, respectively.  
1 item

**2.13 I Can't Make It Alone, 2007**

- 2/13/1 December 2007  
Flyer promoting performances of Liz Roche's choreography *I Can't Make It Alone* by Rex Levitates at Project Arts Centre on 5-15 December 2007.  
2 items
- 2/13/2 February 2008  
Poster promoting performances of *I Can't Make It Alone* at Tralee, Roscommon, Longford, Limerick, Bray, and Thurles between 26 January and 16 February 2008. Outsize.  
2 items
- 2/13/3 [2008]  
Flyer bearing the Culture Ireland website address and promoting *I Can't Make It Alone*. No details of dates or venues.  
2 items

**2.14 Suedehead, 2008**

- 2/14/1 February-March 2008  
Flyer promoting the premiere of *Suedehead* by Rex Levitates at the Irish Museum of Modern Art between 29 February and 2 March 2008. The work was choreographed by Jodi Melnick.  
2 items
- 2/14/2 2008  
DVD containing a recording of a performance of *Suedehead* by Justine Doswell, Grant McLay, Jenny Roche, and Liz Roche of Rex Levitates. Duration 00:47:00.  
1 item

**2.15 Unsung, 2008**

- 2/15/1 June 2008  
Flyer promoting performances of Liz Roche's choreography *Unsung* by Rex Levitates at the Town-hall Theatre, Haymarket, Carlow on 14-15 June 2008.  
2 items

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- 2/15/2** 16 August 2009  
DVD containing a recording of a live performance of *Unsung* by Rex Levitates at the Great Hall of Ormond Castle, Kilkenny during Kilkenny Arts Festival. The musicians and dancers included Mícheal Ó Súilleabháin, Iarla O'Lionaird, Kate Ellis, Kenneth Edge, Mathew Morris, Grant McLay, Katherine O'Malley, and Liz Roche. Duration 00:51:50.  
1 item

**2.16 Shared Material on Dying, 2008**

- 2/16/1** September 2008  
Fold-out brochure promoting DancEUnion, a festival of European dance in London on 19-21 September 2008. Among the participants was Rex Levitates, who performed Liz Roche's choreography *Shared Material on Dying* in the South Bank Centre on the first day of the festival.  
3 items

- 2/16/2** 2008  
DVD containing a recording of a live performance of *Shared Material on Dying* by Jenny Roche, Liz Roche, and Katherine O'Malley of Rex Levitates. Duration 00:19:00.  
1 item

- 2/16/3** 2008  
DVD containing a recording of a studio performance of *Shared Material on Dying* by Katherine O'Malley and Liz Roche of Rex Levitates. Duration 00:14:40.  
1 item

- 2/16/4** November 2008-March 2009  
Flyer promoting the activities of Rex Levitates in winter 2008/2009, including their research series, international residency in New York, professional teaching classes, and a performance of *Shared Material on Dying* at Holyoke, Massachusetts on 21 March 2009.  
2 items

- 2/16/5** January 2009  
Ring-bound programme of a Culture Ireland event held in New York in January 2009 for APAP to promote Irish music, dance, and theatre. The participants included Rex Levitates who performed *Shared Material on Dying* and an extract of a work-in-progress, *Change One Thing* as part of a triple bill dance showcase with American choreographers John Jasperse and Jonah Bokaer at the Center for Performance Research on 12 January 2009.  
1 item

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- 2/16/6** January 2009  
Flyer promoting the APAP 2009 showcase at the Center for Performance Research on 12 January 2009. In this event, Rex Levitates as one of three presenters performed *Shared Material on Dying* and an extract of a work-in-progress, *Change One Thing*.  
2 items

**2.17 Getting Lost, 2009**

- 2/17/1** May 2009  
Postcard promoting Dublin Dance Festival 2009. One of the participants was Rex Levitates, who performed a work-in-progress, *Getting Lost*.  
2 items

- 2/17/2** May 2009  
Fold-out programme of Re-Presenting Ireland Mixed Bills, a showcase platform of Irish choreographers' work at Dance House, Dublin on 15-23 May 2009. One of the performances during this event was *Getting Lost*, a work-in-progress by Rex Levitates.  
2 items

- 2/17/3** 23 May 2009  
DVD containing a recording of a live performance of *Getting Lost* by Ashley Chen and Katherine O'Malley of Rex Levitates during Dublin Dance Festival as part of Re-Presenting Ireland Platform. Duration 00:13:00.  
1 item

**2.18 12 Minute Dances, 2009**

- 2/18/1** September 2009  
Flyer promoting performances of Liz Roche's choreography *12 Minute Dances* by Rex Levitates during the Absolut Fringe Festival at Absolut Fringe Factory, Smock Alley, Temple Bar, Dublin on 5-12 September 2009.  
2 items

- 2/18/2** 2010  
Flyer promoting the activities of Rex Levitates during autumn 2010, particularly the touring of *12 Minute Dances* in Paris, Limerick, Sligo, and Liverpool on 7-19 October 2009.  
2 items

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- 2/18/3** January 2010  
Ring-bound programme of a Culture Ireland event held in New York in January 2010 for APAP to promote Irish music, dance, and theatre. The participants included Rex Levitates who performed *Quintet* from *12 Minute Dances* at the Baryshnikov Arts Center on 9-10 January.
- 1 item

### **2.19 Secondary Sources, 2010**

- 2/19/1** May 2010  
Flyer promoting performances of Liz Roche's choreography *Secondary Sources* by a combined cast of Irish and American dancers and musicians, including members of Rex Levitates, during Dublin Dance Festival at the Smock Alley Theatre, Dublin on 15-16 May 2010. The choreography was commissioned by Dublin Dance Festival.
- 2 items

- 2/19/2** 2010  
DVD containing a recording of a live performance of *Secondary Sources* by Arnau Castro, Philip Connaughton, Justine Cooper, Liv O'Donoghue, Taryn Griggs, Clíodhna Hoey, Jodi Melnick, Matthew Morris, Katherine O'Malley, and Liz Roche. Duration 00:52:15.
- 1 item

- 2/19/3** 2011  
DVD containing a recording of a live performance of *Secondary Sources* by Philip Connaughton, Taryn Griggs, Grant McLay, Jodi Melnick, Matthew Morris, Liv O'Donoghue, Katherine O'Malley, Liz Roche, Jenny Roche, and Chris Yon. Duration 00:47:25.
- 1 item

### **2.20 Fast Portraits, 2011**

- 2/20/1** June 2011  
Programme of performances of *Fast Portraits* by Rex Levitates at Project Arts Centre, Dublin on 21-25 June 2011.
- 1 item