

Artist Statement – Selma Daniel

I am a dancer, performing artist, choreographer and dance educator. I create socially engaging dance for screen, stage and the public space. I use the body, visual imagery and props to create thought provoking and visually stimulating dance experiences. My work is dynamic and highly visually driven, often exploring topics of identity, gender, feminism, culture, equality and site-specific public space. Having been trained in contemporary dance as well as a variety of other specific dances and traditional dance forms, I often incorporate different dance styles, building a new and approachable visceral movement language. My work emphasizes liveliness, authenticity and softness and aims to allow the audience to have an experience to feel, rather than to sit and watch. I create dance theater, site-specific performances, dance films and I am interested in create dance to young audience, I am passionate about dance and its ability to empower people, communities and societies. I am passionate about bringing dance into the public, exposing new audiences, interacting and creating community in an immediate and experiential way. I create art because I just have to create. Images of Ireland and everyday life flood my mind. Like every artist, my goal is to make good art. What is good art? For me good art is something tangible in form of a performance, a painting, a piece of writing etc. But it is also something intangible, this intangibility of art is the connection with people, with a community, with a society. It means a working process that investigates, that critically examines our mode of existence. A process which asks questions and sometimes has answers, but through all of that, a process which inspires and builds confidence and trust in people and communities. I am passionate about making art that empowers, that awakens creativity and builds a safe space for people to explore their creative voice and human potential. An honest process that connects

with people through kindness, support and creativity is so integral to my work and of course as a passionate artist I also want to create an artistic excellent product. Through hard work, drive and dedication I have had the honor to create and show my work nationally and engage with communities through classes and workshops. My journey into motherhood, underpinned with my experience as a practitioner and educator in the arts has led me to deepen my personal understanding of early childhood development, education and modes of learning. Dance had freed me from extreme social inequality, so I feel that I have this responsibility to pass it on, I want my work to empower and stimulate young audiences through the medium of dance, music and visual design. My ambition is to carve out a career that engages with young audiences in a creative, positive, artistic way. I am grateful be able to connect with people through my artistic practice and to live a creative life and continue my art each day.