

PRESS RELEASE 25 OCTOBER 2006

CRASH ENSEMBLE PREMIER IRISH AND AMERICAN CONTEMPORARY COMPOSITIONS

O'Reilly Theatre | November 9 & 10, 2006

www.crashensemble.com

Crash Ensemble will perform the world premiers of two Irish contemporary composers alongside the ravishing experimental music of American composer **James Tenney** in back to back concerts next month.

Over two nights at the O'Reilly Theatre, Crash Ensemble, who specialise in multi-media contemporary music, will perform **BACK TO BACK** – a programme of inventive and artistically dynamic music featuring both Irish and American maverick composers.

(IR)RATIONAL on November 9th will see Crash Ensemble tackle the music of three important American composers - the late **James Tenney**, **Tom Johnson** and **Erik Lund**. The second night **FREE STATE** is dedicated to Irish world premieres and other creative compositions by emerging young Irish artists.

The world premieres of **Stephen Gardner's** *What Passing Bells* and **Linda Buckley's** *Stratus* will take centre stage during **FREE STATE**. This is an exciting evening for new and fresh contemporary music from budding composers in Ireland today. Songstress and composer **Julie Feeney** will also feature as part of **FREE STATE** performing work especially written for her appearance with Crash Ensemble. Winner of the inaugural Choice Music Prize, Feeney's debut CD was reviewed by the New York Times as a 'charming, urbane, dreamy record'.

LISTINGS INFORMATION

(IR)RATIONAL

Thursday 9 November | O'Reilly Theatre, Belvedere College | 8pm | €15

James Tenney | *Glissades, Critical Band, Having Never Written a Note for Percussion*

Tom Johnson | *Naryana's Cows*

Erik Lund | *Missing Intelligence*

This enlightening performance will mostly be devoted to the late great American composer and influential musical theorist James Tenney. Tenney's work deals simply and artfully with perception, just intonation, stochastic elements and swell all of which **Crash Ensemble** lift from the page and present masterfully. Tenney's compositions ***Glissade*** and ***Critical Band*** will be performed for the first time in Ireland as well as his viscerally powerful ***Having Never Written A Note For Percussion***. As part of **(IR)RATIONAL** Crash Ensemble will also perform **Tom**

Johnson's riotous **Naryana's Cows** and a highlight of the presentation will be the world premiere of **Missing Intelligence** by **Erik Lund**.

FREE STATE

Friday 10 November | O'Reilly Theatre, Belvedere College | 8pm | €15

Ed Bennett | *Broken machines*
Linda Buckley | *Stratus*
Simon O'Connor | *The Paradise*
Stephen Gardner | *What Passing Bells*
Rob Canning | *Costruzione Illegittime*
Ian McDonnell | *Electronics Set*
Julie Feeney | *New Piece (Untitled)*

Free State offers a snapshot of some of the most exciting new music composed by emerging Irish artists today. The performance will include a world premiere of new music by Belfast born **Stephen Gardner** who was elected to Aosdána in 2003; a world premiere of music composed by **Linda Buckley** prizewinner at last year's International Young Composers Meeting at Apeldoorn in the Netherlands; compositions by **Simon O'Connor, Ed Bennett, Ian McDonnell** and **Rob Canning** as well as the quirky avant-garde singer composer **Julie Feeney** who will perform her latest work, especially written for Crash Ensemble.

BACKGROUND ON CRASH ENSEMBLE

Crash Ensemble was founded in 1997 by composer Donnacha Dennehy; conductor and pianist Andrew Synott; and clarinettist Michael Seaver. Their repertoire features the works of major composers of the 20th and 21st century, including Reich, Stockhausen, Andriessen, Glass, and Cage among many others. They have worked directly with composers such as Steve Reich, Louis Andriessen, Gavin Bryars, Michael Gordon, Kevin Volans and Arnold Dreyblatt in preparing important premieres and performances. Apart from their regular concerts in Ireland, they have also performed in the UK, Netherlands, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Estonia, Canada and the USA, and have featured in radio broadcasts in all of those countries. The BBC broadcast their recent December 2005 London debut in full. Crash has made an indelible mark on the Irish music scene and beyond. They believe in a joyous yet absolutely rigorous engagement with the most adventurous music today and the (extremely) recent past. Crash will feature in recordings by labels such as NMC (London) and Cantaloupe (New York) to be released in the coming year.

Crash Ensemble is supported by the Arts Council. **For more details visit www.crashensemble.com**

/ends

**FOR MEDIA INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT ZOETROPE
Nik Quaife | 01 675 0839 | 087 799 7989 | nik@zoetrope.ie**