



Niall O'Leary

NIALL O'LEARY is a former All-Ireland and World Champion dancer from Dublin, Ireland. His teachers included Kevin Massey, proclaimed by Michael Flatley to be the greatest ever Irish dancer, and Rory O'Connor, the first man to do Irish dancing on radio. The Niall O'Leary School of Irish Dance has been community-building and training champions since 1995, and currently has locations in New York City, Miami, and Mexico. O'Leary choreographed the first-ever multi-national team for the World Irish Dancing Championships (1996), featuring dancers from Germany, Finland, Switzerland, Belgium, Australia, Botswana, USA and Ireland. Based in New York City for over twenty years, O'Leary performs regularly as a solo artist, in duet with Darrah Carr, with Mick Moloney's Green Fields of America, and with his professional company The Niall O'Leary Irish Dance Troupe. He is in constant demand across the USA, as well as Canada, Ireland, and Asia as a performer, choreographer, master instructor and adjudicator in Irish Dance, and most recently also as a performer and instructor in a new genre that he himself has created: Celtic Tap Improv. He is the Artistic Director of the annual New York City Irish Dance Festival. O'Leary was honored to be an adjudicator for the World Irish Dance Championships 2018, in Glasgow, Scotland. Previously he has taught intensive dance classes at Catskills Irish Arts Week, Augusta Irish Week, and Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival. O'Leary is a regular feis adjudicator and musician, playing piano-accordion and keyboards; he also plays spoons, spoon-horn and bodhrán, and teaches Irish mouth music, Irish whistling, Irish singing, sean-nós dancing, Irish language and body percussion at workshops across America. His Irish Dance Music CD *Can You Irish Dance to This???* is available exclusively from his website. O'Leary has been honored by Irish America Magazine as one of the 'Top 100 Irish-Americans of the Year', by the Irish Echo newspaper as a 'Community Champion', and most recently he is a winner of the Irish Echo Arts & Culture Award in 2021.