

Brendan McCarron



Some fact's at first...

- When and where were you born?

Coventry, England, 03/09/1982

- Your height?

5 ft 11

- What is your favourite food?

Indian or Italian.

- Your favourite City / Place in the world, you have visited so far?

My favourite city is Rome.

My favourite country is Taiwan.

- Do you have any hidden talents, we don't know about?

I play guitar and drums.

About your family...

- Please tell us something about your parents - what do they do for their living? Do they dance as well?

My mum is a college tutor. Neither parent danced.

- Do you have any brothers or sisters? How old are they? Do they dance, too? What are their jobs?

I have two brothers and one sister. They have all danced. My older brother Don is in Troupe 2.

- Is it hard for you, to be apart from your family for such a long time while touring? How often are you able to travel back home again?

Sometimes hard to leave home and friends but we generally get to go back every few months.

- What do your family think of your job as a Show Dancer? Are they proud of you? How often do they visit you on tour and watch you dancing the Show?

Yes, my family and friends think what I do is good. My family have seen me dance several times.

- There are a few relationships within the troupe – do you have a girlfriend?



Yes. Myself and Ciara Scott have been together for over three years and I love her soooooo much, I don't know what I would do without her. She is my inspiration, my soul mate.

About your beginnings...

- Why did you start Irish Dancing and when? Who taught you during all the time?

I started dancing at 6 or 7. My teacher was Danny Doherty.

- How old have you been at your first competition?

Probably around 8 years old.

- Did you attend many championships as a competition dancer? Have you won?

I attended a lot of competitions. I won a few and also won several Team Championship.

- What was it like to do competitions?

It was fun. You get to know a lot of people from all over the world, some who are in the show with me.

- What do you like more – Show Dancing or doing competitions? Why?

I prefer show dancing. It is not restricted like competition.

- What is – in your opinion – the most important difference between Show dancing and competitions?

The use of arms/hands and costumes.

- Did you have any major injuries because of Irish Dancing?

Thankfully no! Sprained an ankle two years ago and that's it.

- Did you learn other kinds of dance?

No, apart from Break Dancing and Ballet.

Becoming a Show Dancer...

- Have you been with another Irish Dance Show, before you joined LotD?

Did some shows with the Riverdance Flying Squad while I was studying before joining Lord of the Dance.

- Why did you choose LotD?



Because my brother was already touring with Lord of the Dance and I knew some people here already. Also I think Lord of the Dance is a lot more entertaining with a central storyline and characters.

- Have you seen the Show before you applied for auditions for LotD?

Yes, I saw the first Hyde Park "Feet of Flames" Show.

- Do you remember what you have thought or felt during your auditions?

I didn't audition, I was called to do a TV Show. It was very similar to the Riverdance Shows. You fly out for 2 -3 days then home, but I had to learn new steps quickly which was different.

- When did you join LotD? How old have you been?

I joined Lord of the Dance in 2001. I was 19.

- Have you been called directly to T1 or did you have some training before?

No, I came straight to Troupe 1.

- Did you know some of the other troupe members before you joined?



Yeah. I knew quite a few which made it easier to join.

- Please describe the feeling, to join an already existing troupe. Were you nervous or afraid not to meet the requirements?

Yeah, I was nervous. I wasn't sure if I would be kept or let go. It was exciting to join though.

- What was the hardest part to learn?

Learning how to get up on my toes was quite hard.

- How much time did you get to learn your routines, until you first danced on stage with LotD? What was the first part you were allowed to dance? When was it?

I learned two dances and then performed the following day, at the second Hyde Park Show.

Through the years with LotD / FoF...

- Please describe your course of day while touring!

Wake up – breakfast – bus – check into new hotel – have shower – go to venue – rehearse on stage – eat dinner – relax for an hour – get ready for show – dance the show – go back to hotel

- Do you like travelling to all those places around the world or is it hard work?

It can be hard and tiring but well worth it. I love travelling and seeing different places. I have been to 37 countries.

- How much do you have to practice while touring?

We practice every day.

- What is your memorable moment with LotD / FoF?

Performing my first show at Hyde Park and performing Don Dorchia for the first time.

- What Show do you personally like more – LotD or FoF? Why?

Spirit of the Dance was amazing.

- What is your favourite dance in LotD and in FoF (in Hard-/Softshoes) as a Lead Dancer and as a chorus dancer?

I like Dangerous Games when doing Lead. It always allows you to interact with the audience and with the spirit.

As a chorus dancer I like the encore steps because they are so different.

- How do you prepare for a show?

By stretching my muscles and doing some warm up exercises.

- Are you nervous before going on stage?

Sometimes especially when doing lead I think nerves are good though.

Getting the Leading Part...



- Did you have to do auditions for your leading part, or did it just happen?

I was told to learn and prepare a routine for an audition. Then I had to learn the whole part in order to perform.

- Was it your idea of doing the lead or have you been suggested by somebody?

By our choreographer.

- When did you start practising the leading part and who taught you to dance the bad guy? How long did it take, to learn the leading part?

Steven Brunning taught me the Warriors-Solo first. I then had loads of help from Tom and Ciaran.

- What was the hardest part to learn as a lead dancer?

When first doing Lead I concentrated so much on the dancing and arm movements that sometimes my facial expressions weren't very good. As a Lead you have to look the part as well as act the part, so I think the hardest part for me was the acting.

- When and where did you first stepped on stage as the Dark Lord?

About 3 years ago in Lisbon, Portugal.

- Do you remember your feelings while doing the lead the very first time? Have you been nervous?

Yeah, it was very nerve-wracking. I performed the matinee-show, but it was still packed. The crowd were great.

- Who were your partners for this special show?

Des Bailey, LeighAnn McKenna and Bernie Flynn.

- Have you ever thought of doing the Good Guy in the Show?

Yeah, but I think I would keep pulling mean faces like Dark Lord. It would be very different!!!

Costumes & other equipment...

- Is it hard to handle the different sizes of stage in different cities?

No, we line up the Show every day.

- How long does it take to get ready before the show?

30 min.

- What are your favourite shoes to dance with?

My taps.

- Your shoe size?

- How often do you need new shoes (heavies and lights)? Do you have a special trick to break in new Heavies?

2/3 times a year.

nowadays & in the future...

- Who do you most admire in the world of Irish Dancing and why?

Geoff Hayes. The man. The legend.

- How long do you plan to stay with LotD? Hopefully a long time!

For the foreseeable future.

- What are your (dancing and non-dancing) plans for your future?

Hopefully study and earn a degree.

- Is there something you want to tell your fans, who are visiting www.lordofthedance.at and <http://biography.lordofthedance.at>?

Thanks for coming to all our shows and look forward to seeing you in the future!

