

# Liam Costello



## Some facts at first...

- When and where were you born?

9<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1985 in Galway, Ireland.

- Your height?

5.7

What is your favourite food?

Steak and chips

- Your favourite music?

I like all types of music but RnB would be my favourite and also different kinds of irish musik.

- Your favourite movie?

„Casino“, a cool gangster film.

- Your favourite city / place in the world, you have visited so far?

Favourite city is Cape Town, and country would be South Africa, Singapore and Mexico. They are all very different but great.

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

Used to play gaelic football for London before I started doing show dancing.

### About your family...

- 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?

Yes, it is quite hard but you get used to it after touring so long. You don't normally go home during a tour, just wait till the tour is over.



- 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?

They love the idea and are very proud. My mother comes to see the show when she can - she loves it.

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

No, not at the minute.

### About your beginnings...



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

My mother brought me to a class when I was 4 and have been doing it ever since. I was taught in London by Pauline Shaw. The school was called the "Claddagh School".

- How old have you been at your first competition?

6, and I don't remember it.

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

I went to hundreds over the years and won a few times.

- What was it like to do competitions?

Very different to show dancing but still enjoyable.

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

Showdancing, because you get paid and you travel the world.



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

Not really, had a few small ones but nothing that serious.

- Did you learn other kinds of dance?

No, but always wanted to do streetdancing or HipHop dancing.

### Becoming a Show Dancer...

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

Yes, I was in two others before this, Gaelforce and Rhythm of the Dance.

- Why did you change?

There not as good as this show and there was a lot more work with Lord of the Dance.

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

Yes.

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

I was very nervous. There was a lot of other lads there so it was quite hard because they were all very good.



- When did you do your auditions and do you have to wait a long time until they called you to join the Show?

Can't remember the date, but had to wait a few months for Troupe 4 to start.

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

January 2004, I was 18.

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

No, I was in Troupe 4 since that started last year.

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

Yes, quite a few of them.





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

No, I was with them before for 3 weeks in South Africa and knew quite a lot of them, so I knew what had to be done.

- What was the hardest part to learn?

Dangerous Games, it took a while to get my head around and remember it.



- 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?

We had 3 weeks rehearsals before doing our first show for Troupe 4. Our first show was in Italy, was a bit nervous but Kelly and Des Bailey taught us well and it went really well.

## Through the years with LotD / FoF...

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

Yes, its good to see different parts of the world, but it's hard if you're travelling every day.

- How much do you have to practice while touring?

Around 2 hour a day.

- How do you prepare for a show?

Just do your warm up and stretches for about 30 mins.

- Are you nervous before going on stage?

No, not anymore. I was for the first few weeks in Lord of the Dance.

- Have you ever been with another Troupe? If so – when was it?

Just Troupe 4 and Troupe 1. I moved from Troupe 4, because there was not much work with Troupe 4.



- Have you ever thought of doing one of the leading parts?

I've done Bad Guy in Singapore and Taiwan with Troupe 4.

Is there a special diet, you have to follow?

No, but I try to eat a lot of pasta for energy the next day.

- How do you get so much energy for a show?

Just make sure your eating properly.

### Costumes & other equipment...

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

Sometimes you have to change some of the dances, because the stage would be small, but it's not that hard.

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

To get changed doesn't take long, but the warm up and take about 30 minutes.

- What is your favourite costume (in LotD / FoF - past and present)?

The Warlords costume, because its easy to dance in.





- Your shoe size?

8

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

I would need new heavies every 6 – 8 months, they split very easy.

nowadays & in the future...

- What do the dancers do, when they get a long tour-break? Staying at home or doing another job - maybe dancing in one of the other shows or joining another LotD-Troupe in the meanwhile?

When I finished a tour, I normally go home and work until another tour comes up.

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

I'm not sure at the minute.

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

I hope to do an apprenticeship in carpentry when I finish dancing.

