

# Owen McAuley



## Some facts at first...

- When and where were you born?

7<sup>st</sup> of April in Glasgow, Scotland.

- Your height?

5 ft 10

- What is your favourite food?

Chinese.

- Your favourite music?

U2 and Oasis

- Your favourite movie?

„Oceans 11“

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

Las Vegas, China and Cape Town (South Africa)

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

No.



About your family...

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

My mother is a school teacher and my father is a dancing teacher.

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

I have a brother, Denis, who is also in Troupe 1.

- 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?

We get home every few months, so its not to bad.

- What do your family thinks 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?

Yeah, they are proud. They have seen me a few times in the show.



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

Yes, Bernie Flynn, but don't tell Damien O'Kane (Joke!!!)

### About your beginnings...

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

I started dancing when I was about 4. I started because my family dance.

- How old have you been at your first competition?

About 6 or 7.

- Did you attend many championships as a competition dancer?

Yeah, I travelled the world dancing in competitions.

- What was it like to do competitions?

It was good. You got to meet loads of people.

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

Show Dancing.



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

*You get to travel the world with show dancing.*

- Did you learn other kinds of dance?

*No.*

*Becoming a Show Dancer...*



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

*I was in a Show “To Dance On the Moon” for about 6 months.*

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

*Yeah, I seen it, cause my brother was in it before I joined.*

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

Excited and nervous.



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

I did them in Dublin. I had to wait about a month.

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

I joined in November 2002.

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

No, I came to Troupe 1 right away.

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

Yeah, I knew a few threw my brother.



- Please describe the first day with your new troupe?

*It was in Munich in November 2002.*

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

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

*I really like the travelling part of it.*

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

*Lord of the Dance*

- What is your favourite dance in LotD?

*Hells Kitchen.*



- Are you nervous before going on stage?

Yeah, I am sometimes.

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

I was in Troupe 1, then I went to Troupe 3 in Vegas for a year and a half.

Costumes & other equipment...

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

It takes about 30 minutes to get ready and stretch.

- What are your favourite shoes to dance with?

I prefer the taps to dance in.



- Your shoe size?

8

How often do you need new shoes?

Every 5 months.

nowadays & in the future...

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

Geoff Hayes. He is a great dancer.

- What do you do, when you get a long tour-break?

I usually stay at home and rest.

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

As long as my legs will last!

