



# ROYAL DE LUXE NANTES

LIMERICK / September 2014

## **The Grandmother Giant's speech**

Dear, great and noble inhabitants of Limerick, I salute you.

From the confines of the worlds,  
I come here on a visit to prove the attachment I have for your country.

Ireland is more than an island:

It is a motionless vessel  
Whose wood has, for centuries,  
taken root in the stone  
that juts out of the sea.

Dublin sits starboard  
and pulls the ropes on the mainsail.

Limerick is the watchman,  
and sits on the port side,

scanning the sea  
and the boats that come and go  
on the Shannon.

The rain falls from the sky

it trickles from the city  
taking with it the smell of hope  
to the river

and melts away into far away harbours  
beyond the storms.

I am Nantes' Grandmother  
But also Limerick's by adoption

Now I will go to your streets to raise the memories that are in my safe.

Long live Limerick, Long live Ireland!

© **Jean-Luc Courcoult, author/ director of the street theatre company Royal de Luxe**