

AN OPEN CALL TO THE IRISH IMAGINATION

ART:2016 is the Arts Council's programme as part of Ireland 2016. The Arts Council is placing the artist and the arts at the centre of how it responds to the centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising. The role of artists in the Celtic Revival and in the events leading up to the Rising cannot be underestimated. They challenged and provoked a different narrative that sought to imagine a new, culturally defined Ireland. In the century since the Rising, artists have continued to be the great signifiers of our island. Their work has been the enduring imagination of what Ireland can become.

ART:2016 is a diverse and distinctive public showcase of Irish art which is being presented across Ireland and abroad throughout the year. Key programme strands include the **Open Call** National Project Awards; the **Next Generation** Bursary Awards, and **A Nation's Voice**, a free concert, featuring new choral and orchestral work by Shaun Davey and Paul Muldoon and the voices of a 1,000-strong choir, which took place at the National Museum of Ireland, Collins Barracks on Easter Sunday.

ART:2016 is part of the Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme and is supported by the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, and created with a range of partners; local, national and international. This second edition provides updates and additional information on projects and events happening between May and August 2016. A third edition will be published in August with full details of events happening later in the year.

Below: *Rebel Razor – Close Shave Cream*, 2016
From *The Souvenir Shop* by Rita Duffy
Photo: Stanislav Nikolov



Through an open call, awarded by an independent jury, nine artists and arts organisations have been given the opportunity to engage with the centenary through the creation of ambitious projects across a range of artforms. The Open Call programme acknowledges the part played by artists in the events of 1916, and aims to share a vision of contemporary Ireland from the perspective of its artists.

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www.artscouncil.ie/Art-2016/Open-Call/

Portrait photographs by Enda Rowan.

1916 - VISIONARIES AND THEIR WORDS

Lorcán Mac Mathúna



A cycle of songs inspired by the ideals of the leaders of the Easter Rising, written and performed by Lorcán Mac Mathúna. Drawing from the writings of Pearse, Connolly, Plunkett and others, Lorcán Mac Mathúna explores the vision of the revolutionaries and its contemporary resonance. Featuring new music, as well as traditional songs, *1916 – Visionaries and their Words* is an audiovisual experience of music, song and archive imagery.

PUBLIC EVENTS

Festival Interceltique Lorient
Grand Theatre de Lorient, Brittany, France
11 August 2016

Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann
Dánlann an Chláir, Coláiste Muire,
College Road, Ennis, Co. Clare
16 August 2016

www.1916visionaries.ie

THE CASEMENT PROJECT

Fearghus Ó Conchúir



The Casement Project dances with the queer body of British knight, Irish rebel and international humanitarian Roger Casement, to imagine a national body that welcomes the stranger from beyond the border, as well as the one already inside. This choreography of bodies and ideas by choreographer Fearghus Ó Conchúir takes place across national boundaries and includes a stage performance, a celebratory festival of dance, a short film, an academic symposium and a series of participatory events to address the legacy of 1916.

PUBLIC EVENTS

The Place, London
11 and 12 June 2016
Project Arts Centre, Dublin
October 2016
Belfast
October 2016

FÉILE FÁILTE

Banna Strand, Kerry
23 July 2016

SYMPOSIUM

Hospitable Bodies:
The Casement Symposium
The British Library, London
3 June 2016

www.thecasementproject.ie

www.fearghus.net

Twitter: @followfearghus

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/TheCasementProject

A POET'S RISING

Irish Writers Centre

The Irish Writers Centre has commissioned six poems, one for each day of the Rising from influential contemporary poets. The poems reflect on significant figures and events associated with the Rising, including James Connolly, Patrick Pearse, Dr Kathleen Lynn, Elizabeth O'Farrell and Michael Joseph O'Rahilly. Each poet has been filmed reciting their poem at relevant and resonant locations, including Moore Street, City Hall, the GPO, Liberty Hall and the Garden of Remembrance. An original score for the film has been composed by Colm Mac Con Iomaire.



Theo Dorgan



Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill



Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin



Thomas McCarthy

BROADCAST AND PUBLICATION

Broadcast on RTÉ1, 19 April, 11.10pm

One poem published in *Irish Times* each day from 24–29 April 2016

www.irishwriterscentre.ie

Twitter: @IrishWritersCtr

Facebook: www.facebook.com/irishwritersctr



Paul Muldoon



Jessica Traynor

GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

by Thomas McCarthy

These stones report for duty in story after story,
The garden a cistern of unsweetened water;
Time's patina burnished by an effort to remember,
Such effort renewed at each national anniversary
Where seagulls glide over the field of slaughter
To uncover another trail of poems. Time is a hoarder
That gathers us together behind the box hedge
To remember glory, to define a lost cause
Or a cause renewed at the hour of remembrance.
We remember our prayers and the seagull's rage,
So careful now – now so conscious of the past –
That we may not create more victims. What lasts
In a Republic is the living, and so in this age
I remember the living on this cold, grassy ledge.

Our remembrance is a form of theatre, as each
Remembrance is, in every nation. An eternal flame
Burns elsewhere and cenotaphs hold heroic names;
Remnants of us pepper each Normandy beach
And Poppies grow up out of our bones. But here
I think of the one nation the poets imagined
And think again of the two states we're in,
A state of mystical borders and broken spears
Left by a silent procession of things left unsaid.
It's not that our cowardice has deepened; or not
Cowardice, not that, but an indifference yet
Unchallenged, an indifference to the innocent dead
That creeps along the wall of memory, as moss
Or ivy muffle traffic noise or mask all heroic loss.

A shuffle of wet tiles, history's lovely aquamarine –
All the weapons lie abandoned after battle
Like the leaves of Sessile Oak, Dair Ghaelach,
Which scatter in a sudden burst of wind. We seem
Drawn to history, fatally, the way troubled
Families want to pace across the same old ground
In the hope of comfort from what comes round.
I find an empty bench where history doubled
Back and came to life in a fantasia of warm metal;
Oisín Kelly's mythic swan children now seem
Like children abandoned in refugeecamp or great famine,
Arms hanging loosely in great bronze petals –
After all the Troubles, politics wants to make peace
With art. Our memory is immovable in a stiff breeze.

James Connolly's beautiful life, the high aesthetic
Of Pearse, the gift of three buttons from Con Colbert's
Volunteer uniform, Thomas MacDonagh's verse –
Listen, in this remembering place I pick
Strange names to add to the forgotten dead:
Willie Redmond explaining how at the Ulster line
In front of Ploegstreet the Southerners arrived
And words of love between two Irelands were said
Before slaughter swallowed the young. And Harold
Mooney of the RAMC, his shattered left thigh,
Should remind us of how the unsung are left to die
In a free state of dying slowly. All their untold
Stories haunt me still. Permit me to remember the dead
On the wrong side of revolution, the part they played.

Mothers from another continent come here to rest.
Memory is a kind of cradle. Memory is a giant beech
In a sunlit meadow. I watch a new migrant child reach
Into this restored reflectingpool, his outline traced
In a cruciform pool of disturbed shadows. What can he know,
This child of worldly exile, of the purpose
Of our centenary city park? How can you or I propose
A better Ireland, a safer shelter in the quiet meadow?
Here in this Irish world, in the last place where God
Found us useful, we have a duty to make a firm nest –
Not an illadvised pageant or a national barricade.
When the midday sun breaks through, my eyes rest
On harp and acorn, on trumpet and bronze hands,
On things a family without our history understands.

THE SOUVENIR SHOP Rita Duffy



Rita Duffy

The Souvenir Shop examines the shifting meanings and commoditization of gestures and symbols associated with the revolution, examining how the images, objects and themes of the 1916 Easter Rising and conflict more generally become souvenirs that upend ideologies or neutralize their significance.



Birth Of A Nation Salve, 2016
From *The Souvenir Shop* by Rita Duffy
Photo: Stanislav Nikolov

Referencing the city centre shops once owned by Proclamation signatory Tom Clarke, Duffy will create a shop as an art installation in Dublin city centre filled with goods and the stuff of ordinary life, with images of the rising and its heroes, woven into these everyday things. The artist transforms the

historical and everyday into the magical and absurd, and questions fundamental public attitudes towards violence, commemoration and national identity.

EXHIBITION

13 North Great Georges Street, Dublin 1
25 April – 11 June 2016
Open: Tuesday–Sunday, 12noon–6pm

www.facebook.com/SouvenirShopDublin1

FUTURE HISTORIES

Performance Art Live Foundation



Áine Philips



Niamh Murphy

Curated by **Áine Philips and Niamh Murphy**

Artists: Michelle Browne, Fergus Byrne, Brian Connolly, Pauline Cummins, Francis Fay, Debbie Guinnane, Sandra Johnston, Dr. Laura McAtackney, Danny McCarthy, Ciara McKeon, Alastair McLennan, Katherine Nolan, Sinéad O'Donnell, Méabh Redmond, Dominic Thorpe and Helena Walsh.

Future Histories is a one-day, 12-hour, live performance art and digital media event at Kilmainham Gaol. Sixteen Irish artists and an historical archeologist respond to the site and its iconic, historical associations with the 1916 Easter Rising. Exploring themes of nationality, freedom and gender through time-based performances, the invited artists engage with the centenary commemoration by creating contemporary perspectives on our shared past, conflicts, crises and passions in relation to the Rising and its greatest monument, Kilmainham Gaol.

LIVE PERFORMANCE ART AND DIGITAL MEDIA EVENT

Kilmainham Gaol, Dublin. 21 May 2016, 10am–10pm

The event is free. Register at

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/future-histories-tickets-24532278706>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/FutureHistories2016/

Twitter: @FutureHistories16

THESE ROOMS

CoisCéim / ANU



David Bolger



Owen Boss



Louise Lowe

These Rooms, an important new collaboration between ANU and CoisCéim Dance Theatre, is an intimate and immersive live performance that cross pollinates contemporary dance, theatre and visual art. The work is based on a historical incident which took place on North King Street, Dublin in April 1916. Drawing audiences into the events of one hundred years ago, *These Rooms* explores the 1916 rebellion from the perspective of civilians whose homes and lives were violated by the conflict with devastating consequences. *These Rooms* combines eye witness testimonies from thirty-eight women, with the recently released findings of the government inquiry which followed, and investigates questions of dignity and trauma, belonging and dispossession. It is a fearless and embodied physical performance, which focuses on the effects of conflict on ordinary people's lives and reaffirms the role of art in negotiating history.

These Rooms will premiere in the north inner city as part of Dublin Theatre Festival 2016.

www.coisceim.com/theserooms/
www.theserooms.ie

LOOSE ENDS Willie Doherty



Willie Doherty

New video work examining the legacy of the 1916 Easter Rising. The work will build on Doherty's interest in the relationship between landscape and memory, and will be shot in sites of contested history in Donegal and Dublin.

EXHIBITIONS

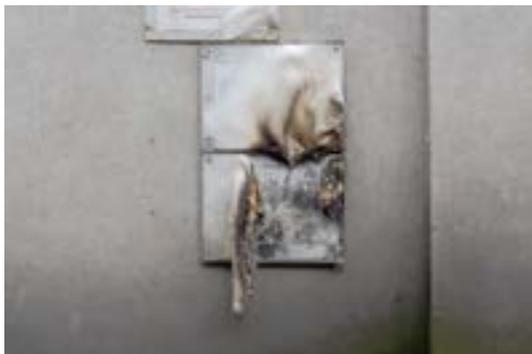
Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny

9 July – 24 September 2016

Kerlin Gallery, Dublin

November 2016

www.regionalculturalcentre.com



Left: From *Loose Ends* by Willie Doherty

IN THE SHADOW OF THE STATE

Sarah Browne and Jesse Jones



Sarah Browne



Jesse Jones

Below:

Of Milk and Marble, 2016

From *In the Shadow of the State*
by Sarah Browne and Jesse Jones

Photo: Miriam O'Connor

In the Shadow of the State is a collaboration between visual artists Sarah Browne and Jesse Jones, exploring statehood from the perspective of the female body, through a process of collective legal drafting and vocalization. Through a series of participatory live events in historically resonant spaces in Ireland, Northern Ireland and Britain, the project includes collaborating experts from medicine, law, material culture and music. The project proposes critical remembering and reflecting on the birth of a nation, and the political imaginary necessary to move from one historical moment to another.

In the Shadow of the State is co-commissioned by Create and Artangel.

PUBLIC EVENTS

Liverpool

29 June 2016

Dublin

23–25 September 2016

London

November 2016

www.intheshadowofthestate.org

www.create-ireland.ie

Twitter: @pparchive



HEED

Garrett Phelan



Garrett Phelan

HEED is a public sound portrait of the lives of young people living in Dublin, Ireland aged 18–25. HEED will focus on, and give voice to the ambitions, aspirations and hopes of these people, in a positive and constructive manner, through the creation of a significant sound project. HEED calls ambitions of the past into the present; namely an Ireland that consistently questions the integrity of its governance, the manifestation of its cultural identity and the ministration of civic society.

PUBLIC BROADCAST

18 October–22 November 2016

The Next Generation bursaries have been awarded to innovative young artists working across visual arts, music, literature, film, dance, theatre and circus. The bursaries are offered in recognition of the role of artists in the events of 1916 and are designed to support contemporary artists' ongoing practice. The artists participated in a one-week collective residency at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre in Annaghmakerrig from 3–10 April 2016.

www.artscouncil.ie/Art-2016/Next-Generation/



President Michael D. Higgins with Next Generation artists at Áras an Uachtaráin for the launch of the Next Generation Bursary Awards, 16 December 2015
Photo: Tony Maxwell



On Easter Sunday, 27 March 2016, 1,000 voices from 31 choirs across Ireland, joined with the full forces of the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra and conductor David Brophy to perform *A Nation's Voice* at the National Museum, Collins Barracks, Dublin. The performance included the world première of *One Hundred Years a Nation*, a major new orchestral and choral work from composer Shaun Davey with text by writer Paul Muldoon.

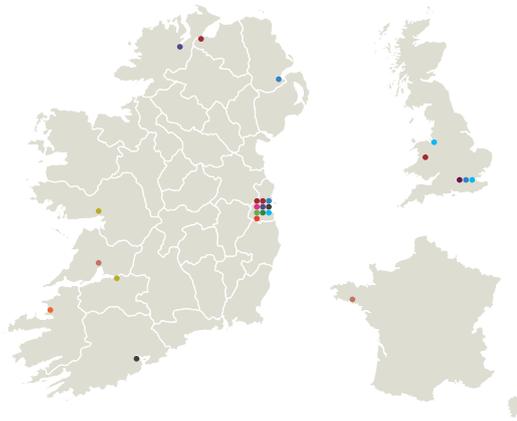
A Nation's Voice was presented by the Arts Council and RTÉ, in association with the National Museum of Ireland, the Association of Irish Choirs and Music Generation, as part of Ireland 2016. The concert was attended by President Michael D. Higgins, Taoiseach Enda Kenny and 2,000 members of the public. It was broadcast live on RTÉ One, on RTÉ Radio 1 and on www.rte.ie/1916.

www.artscouncil.ie/Art-2016/A-Nations-Voice/



A Nation's Voice at the National Museum of Ireland,
Collins Barracks on Easter Sunday, 2016
Photo: Barry Cronin

ART:2016 EVENTS TAKING PLACE ACROSS IRELAND AND INTERNATIONALLY IN THE YEAR AHEAD



EVENT	LOCATION	DATE
• The Souvenir Shop	Dublin	25.04–11.06.16
• The Plough and the Stars	Limerick	10–16.05.16
• The Plough and the Stars	Galway	24–28.05.16
• Future Histories	Dublin	21.05.16
• The Casement Project: Symposium	London	03.06.16
• The Casement Project: Stage	London	11–12.06.16
• The Casement Project: Féile Fáilte	Banna Strand, Co. Kerry	23.07.16
• The Casement Project: Stage	Dublin	10.16
• The Casement Project: Stage	Belfast	10.16
• Remembering in 2016	GPO, Dublin	12.06.16
• Remembering in 2016	Tregynon, Wales	26.06.16
• Remembering in 2016	NCH, Dublin	15.09.16
• Remembering in 2016	Derry	28.10.16
• In the Shadow of the State	Liverpool	29.06.16
• In the Shadow of the State	Dublin	23–25.09.16
• In the Shadow of the State	London	11.16
• Loose Ends	Letterkenny, Co. Donegal	09.07–24.09.16
• Loose Ends	Dublin	11.16
• Making Ireland Modern	Galway	11–24.07.16
• Making Ireland Modern	Cork	08.09–01.10.16
• Making Ireland Modern	Dublin	13.10–12.11.16
• 1916 – Visionaries and their Words	Brittany, France	11.08.16
• 1916 – Visionaries and their Words	Ennis, Co. Clare	16.08.16
• These Rooms	Dublin	09.16
• Heed	Dublin	18.10–22.11.16

MAKING IRELAND MODERN

Curated by Gary A. Boyd and John McLaughlin Architects

Making Ireland Modern explores the relationship between architecture, infrastructure and technology in the building of a new nation. The exhibition presents ten infrastructural episodes – Negation, Electricity, Health, Transportation, Television, Aviation,

Education, Telecommunications, Motorways, Data – spanning a period of one hundred years from 1916–2016. *Making Ireland Modern* describes architecture's role in transforming the physical and cultural identity of the new state through its intercession in the everyday lives of its population.

EXHIBITION TOUR

Galway International Arts Festival Gallery, Galway
11–24 July 2016
St Peter's Church, Cork
8 September – 1 October 2016
Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin
13 October – 12 November 2016



Technician pictured in the headrace before its flooding. Ardnacrusha
Photo courtesy of Siemens-Schuckert archives