Galway 2020 Gaillimh

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe
Galway City Council

An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

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Contents

1. Chairpersons Address 2
2. Introduction 3
3. Galway 2020 Programme Delivery 5
4. Small Towns Big Ideas Programme. 52
5. Regional Programme. 79
6. Schools Programme 88
7. Media and Communications 92
8. Wave Makers Volunteer Programme. 94
9. Monitoring and Evaluation. 96
10. Financial Report 97

1. Chairperson's Address

Chairperson's Introduction to Galway 2020 Report and Accounts for Year ended 31 December 2020

This report and accounts relate to the year ended 31 December 2020. They represent the activities of the Company in the year of presentation of the programme for the European Capital of Culture 2020. Given the programme was officially extended until April 2021 due to the global pandemic, the projects delivered in that period are all outlined in this report. As a Registered Charity (CRA No. 20204768), Galway Cultural Development and Activity Company CLG, trading as Galway 2020, carries out the creation, organisation, promotion and sustainable development of artistic and cultural activities as a cultural programme of activity for the European Capital of Culture 2020 in Galway City, Galway County and the wider community.

In my introduction to the 2019 Report and Accounts of the Company, I alluded to the challenges with which we were faced by the emergence of the COVID 19 pandemic. The impact of this disastrous worldwide event was as challenging for the international cultural sector as it was for the business and commercial sectors of society everywhere. The scale of the negative impact for Galway 2020 was magnified hugely by its uniqueness and the fact that 2020 was the culmination of years of preparation.

Following the necessary cancellation of our opening event due to health and safety concerns arising from storm 'Ciara' in February 2020, we were, within a matter of weeks, faced with the full consequences of the COVID 19 pandemic. Immediately, our international programme had to be cancelled due to the inability of overseas artists to travel to Ireland. Events and performances in front of live audiences had to be cancelled and re-scheduled where feasible. With our wonderful Cultural Partners, we undertook a re-imagining of our programme that would see as much of the programme as possible migrate online. The speed and efficiency with which this was undertaken is a tribute to the creative community in Galway as well as our own staff.

The priority of the Company, faced with these unprecedented challenges, was to try to ring-fence the programme funding and so ensure that artists and cultural workers were supported financially and vocationally. A process of negotiation with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, as well as with the Galway Local Authorities, was swiftly undertaken, and assurances were achieved that the funding that had been allocated for our programme would remain available for that purpose. The responses of these agencies is deeply appreciated.

We also initiated requests to have the year of culture extended to facilitate the presentation of as much of our programme as possible. Happily, the European Parliament and the Council of the EU, on a proposal of the European Commission, decided to officially extend the title year to 30 April 2021.

Because our international programme was significantly curtailed, and a good part of the original Bid Book programme by local Cultural Partners was now positioned to be delivered online, we had to undertake a radical review of our own team. Unfortunately we had no alternative but to initiate a redundancy programme for many of our staff who had given their all to Galway 2020 and without whom we would not have had the depth of programme, and strength of organisation, that we were so proud of.

A reading of the attached report of activities throughout 2020 and into early 2021 will attest to the remarkable achievement of our re-imagined programme.

A short window opened up in the Summer which allowed some exhibitions and performances to be presented to small audiences. At time of writing, there is an easing of restrictions which allows for our concluding programmes to be presented to live audiences.

Many in Ireland have paid tribute to the output of our Cultural Partners throughout the year. Perhaps the most striking sense of our achievement in 2020 has come from Europe where lavish praise has been bestowed on Galway 2020 for the scope and scale of what was achieved in such difficult circumstances. It is also noteworthy, that unwittingly, Galway 2020 has generated a considerable body of work available for online consumption into the future.

Most importantly the lives and livelihoods of many artists and cultural workers in Galway have been sustained through 2020 because of the activities of Galway 2020.

The financial information contained in this report covers the period January to December 2020, which shows expenditure of €6.8m. The breakdown of that consists of: Cultural Programming Costs of €4.3m; Program Management €964k; Staff Support Costs €680k; Office Costs at €422k; Marketing & Promotion €364k and Professional Fees €70k. The majority of our funding comes from Central Government Grants and Local Authority Grants. During the year we received €1.5m from the European Commission in relation to the Melina Mercouri Prize. As Galway Cultural Development & Activity CLG is a non-profit organisation, income in the accounts will match its expenditure in the year and any excess funding is treated as a Deferred Income in the Balance Sheet.

I wrote in my introduction to last year's Annual Report –

"Perhaps the most abiding impact of Galway 2020 will be the legacy that it can engender through:

- Its investment in local artists and cultural organisations
- Its building of confidence and expertise within the cultural sector
- Its embedding of the value of culture in the community at large
- Its recognition and celebration of the increasing diversity of the population of Galway and the region
- Its creation of a large volunteering programme – the Wavemakers (which at the time comprised 700 volunteers from 55 countries and who spoke 77 languages)
- Its long-term impact on the international reputation of Galway and of Ireland as world class centres of creative endeavour and achievement
- Its encouragement of the need for significant investment in the physical infrastructure for culture in Galway
- Its resultant contribution to the economic development of Galway and the region"

Although there have been huge disappointments in terms of what we were unable to do due to the pandemic, I genuinely believe that all of the above impacts will be delivered. Much of the legacy of Galway 2020 is rooted in the years of preparation for the event, going back to 2015. In 2021 the Company will focus on a detailed analysis of the activities in 2020 and will develop a strategic pathway by which the legacy of Galway 2020 will be secured and applied long into the future.

If COVID 19 has left us as a society with anything positive, it is perhaps the universally articulated respect and regard which the public have for the cultural sector. The absence of cultural opportunities has highlighted the important place culture occupies in the lives of the public. An opportunity for enlightened future policies on the support of culture has emerged.

Arthur Lappin
Chairman

2. Introduction

This Annual Report for Galway 2020 covers the period January 2020 to April 2021. The document presents a broad overview of the company's activities during this period and in particular provides detailed information on the projects and events that were delivered as part of the Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture Programme during this period.

The period that this annual report covers coincided with the COVID-19 global pandemic that brought the world to a standstill in early 2020. Galway's title year as European Capital of Culture had started well with a number of fantastic cultural events being successfully hosted but then we also had the deep disappointment of the official Opening Ceremony event in early February being cancelled due to a national weather warning.

This was quickly followed by the onset of the global pandemic and in Irelands case this saw the country remain in a high level of 'lockdown' for long periods from March 2020 through to May 2021. This scenario meant that the planned Galway 2020 Programme as launched in September 2019 had to be severely curtailed and following consultations with local and national government; the extensive scaling back of Galway 2020 operations; and a consultation process with local cultural partners, the reimagined Galway 2020 programme commenced delivery from August 2020 onwards.

Collectively, the projects presented in this report represent an extraordinary achievement by the artists, organisations and groups that worked so hard to create and share these projects. All of these projects had to contend with several rounds of postponing and reshaping events and activities as we navigated our way through the pandemic in line with public health restrictions. In staying the course and creating such an amazing cultural programme they demonstrated incredible resilience for which they deserve immense credit.

In this document **Section 2. Galway 2020 Programme Delivery** presents the core cultural programme delivered between January 2020 and April 2021. Taken together with **Section 3. Small Towns Big Ideas** and **Section 4. Regional Programme** this covers all of the projects delivered in this period.

Section 5. Schools Programme highlights the strong schools engagement dimension that many projects managed to achieve despite the challenges faced.

Section 6. International Engagement provides an overview of the strong European and international relationships that Galway 2020 maintained in this period.

Section 7. Media and Communications outlines the media and communications impact of the Galway 2020 programme including print, broadcast, social and other media.

Sections 8. Wave Makers Volunteer Programme highlights the work and activities of the hugely popular and successful Galway 2020 Wave Makers Volunteer Programme.

Section 9. Monitoring and Evaluation discusses the monitoring and evaluation process that is underway for the Galway 2020 programme and will be completed later this year.

Finally **Section 10. Financial Report** presents the financial report for the activities of the company during this period.

3. Galway 2020 Programme Overview

This section presents the full range of projects that took place as part of the Galway 2020 programme from January 2020 to April 2021. A short description and weblinks are provided for each project. A quick reference guide or index for the projects is provided at the beginning and each project is presented in a chronological order of sorts.

Many projects were several years in the making with the year 2020 marking their culmination and public moment. Many of these are large projects that formed mini programmes in themselves, spanning several months and including numerous different events, all of which can be gleaned from the weblinks provided for each project.

The large majority of the artists, organisations and groups (the Cultural Partners) who produced these projects are Galway based and the origins of their projects can be traced back to the Galway 2020 Bid Book, *Making Waves*.

The programme covered all artforms and cultural activities and included a diverse range of live in-person events where permissible, outdoor installations, publications, online events, exhibitions, film screenings, broadcasts, seminars, panel discussions, workshops and more.

Due to the levels of COVID-19 restrictions that were in place at various times a significant number of events had to be presented online and digitally. While presenting projects solely online would not have been the original vision for these projects it was often the only option available due to COVID-19 restrictions. As such it is important to acknowledge that despite the challenges of lockdowns an extensive digital programme was developed that was enjoyed by large online audiences and also created a significant body of digital cultural resources that can continue to be shared into the future.



Quick Reference Guide for Galway 2020 Projects

	PAGE
Midwinter Festival 2020	7
Alone In The Crowd, First Fortnight	8
Galway 2020 Fire Tour and Opening Ceremony	9
Symphonic Waves at National Concert Hall	11
Imagining Ireland	12
The Deepest Shade of Green	13
Livefeed	14
Hope It Rains | Soineann nó Doineann	15
Rijeka International Carnival	16
UnSelfing	17
Sruth na Teanga	18
Royal Visit to Galway	19
Wild Atlantic Women	20
Savage Beauty	21
MONUMENT	22
Wires Crossed	23
Gilgamesh	24
To The Island	25
Mirror Pavilion	26
Virtually Here	27
Ariel/Sparks	28
DruidGregory	29
Óró	30
Festival In A Van	31
Ceiliúradh Eilís Dillon: Language, Legacy & Landscape	32
Symphonic Waves – Meet The Strings	33
Abdenmusik	34
Project BAA BAA	35
Sea Tamagotchi	36
The Stinging Fly – Galway 2020 Issue	37
InterAction 2.0	38
Why The Moon Travels Discussion & Exhibition	39
IETM Satellite Meeting	40
The Green Night of Ideas	41
Baboró – RISE	42
Scéalaíocht...Storia....Contes	43
International Day Against Racism 2021	44
CELLISSIMO	45
Bádóirí an Chladaigh Outdoor Classroom	46

	PAGE
Crossing The Line	47
Galway Moves	48
EYE on the Edge	49
The Mighty Ocean	50
Galway 2020 Handover Ceremony	51
Small Towns Big Ideas	52
Home Truths	53
Pier to Peer	54
Set In Stone	55
Reimagine Loughrea	56
Merlin Through Time	57
Make A Joyful Noise	58
The Space Between	59
Cultural Horizons	60
Circuit Arts Festival	61
Zones of Transit	62
Giant Steps	63
Shot By The Sea	64
Clay Journeys	65
Galway Sessions	66
The Land is on Drugs	67
Faoin Spéir	68
Circle of Wells	69
Amhráin	70
Stories of the Galway Market	71
Echoes of Calling	72
The Well Gathering	73
Our Words, One Voice	74
Galway Sound Harvest	75
Super8 Shots	76
Bee Loud	77
Ballinfoile Community Arts	78
Unfolding Maps	80
Cahoots: The Space Between	81
The Shoes of Edenderry	82
Cootehall Barracks - John McGahern Early Years	83
Coming Full Circle	84
Murals For Communities	85
Wires Crossed – Tipperary	86
Samhain: Limericks Halloween Festival	87

Midwinter Festival 2020

Produced by Music for Galway

Dates 17- 19 January 2020

Location Town Hall Theatre, Galway

Web Music for Galway Midwinter Festival 2020



Celebrating the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth, Music for Galway's **Midwinter Festival 2020** continued it's long-standing tradition of presenting a three-day weekend of themed concerts with musicians from Galway, Ireland and beyond. The festival focused primarily on Beethoven's early solo piano and chamber music compositions, featuring violin sonatas, string quartets, the quintet for piano and winds and the ever-popular septet. For 2020 the festival programme featured the internationally-celebrated duo team of Russian violinist Alina Ibragimova and French pianist Cédric Tiberghien.

Alone in the Crowd

Produced By Art In Mind

Dates 17 January 2020

Location NUI Galway

Web Alone In The Crowd

As part of the annual First Fortnight festival exploring arts and mental health Galway organisation Art In Mind hosted the panel discussion **Alone In The Crowd** featuring Glenn Gibson (Art in Mind), Prof. Lokesh Joshi (Mindful Way), David Keegan (First Fortnight) Cllr. Clodagh Higgins (Psychologist) and Helen Marriage (Galway 2020).

The panel discussion explored the vital role that the arts play in supporting positive mental health and fostering interconnectedness in a society that is increasingly isolating. The audience heard the views of each of the panelists including examples of projects that demonstrate how beneficial participation in the arts is to individuals and communities.





Image Credit - Declan Colohan

Galway 2020 Fire Tour

Produced by	Galway 2020 and Wonderworks
Dates	2 - 7 February 2020
Locations	Clifden, An Spidéal, Tuam, Ballinasloe, Portumna, Athenry
Web	Galway 2020 Fire Tour

The **Galway 2020 Fire Tour** formed a week-long series of events to mark the official opening of Galway's year as European Capital of Culture. Coinciding with the start of Imbolc at the beginning of February, the Fire Tour saw large community events hosted in 6 towns across Galway. Each event was centred around the lighting of a fire in the heart of each town reflecting the ancient Imbolc tradition of marking the emergence from the darkness of Winter and the coming of Spring.

The Fire Tour events involved a community cast of drummers, singers and fire carriers recruited from local communities and who spent several weeks rehearsing these special performances. Each event also included a performance from young musicians involved in the Galway 2020 Livefeed project, a poetry reading from a local writer/poet, and culminating in a spectacular fireworks display.

To commemorate this festival of fire Galway 2020 commissioned a series of unique steel sculptures (fire spheres) for each of the towns. As cultural assets these spheres are beautiful public artworks, each reflecting the local culture, landscape and creativity and embedded within each sphere are symbols and poetry written by a poet native to each town.

Approximately 20,000 members of the public attended the Fire Tour over six nights.

Galway 2020 Opening Ceremony

Produced By Galway 2020 and Wonderworks

Dates 8 February 2020

Location Galway City

Web Galway 2020 Opening Ceremony

It was planned that the Fire Tour programme of events which had been running throughout the county from 2 February would culminate in a large free public event in South Park, Galway City on Saturday February 08. This **Opening Ceremony** event would include participation from the several hundred members of the community cast from across Galway, several live music performances, a huge fireworks display and an address and official opening performed by Uachtarán na hÉireann / President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins.

Unfortunately, a national weather emergency and a red weather warning put in place due to Storm Ciara led to the unavoidable cancellation of the Opening Ceremony event in South Park.

Official European Capital of Culture Handover Ceremony

A fundamental obligation under our commitment as a designated European Capital of Culture, the official **Handover Ceremony** did take place as planned at the Galmont Hotel, Galway on 8 February. The event was attended by 800 guests, including national and international dignitaries, press, media, and business, cultural and community partners. The designation was officially handed over by EU Commissioner Phil Hogan and followed by performances and presentations from Máirtín O'Connor, Roisín Elsafty, Bríd ní Neachtain, Caitlin Ní Chualáin, Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh and traditional "Croatian Bellringers" from our sister city Rijeka 2020.



Image Credit - Declan Colohan



Symphonic Waves at National Concert Hall

Produced by Music Generation Galway County

Dates 8 February 2020

Location Dublin

Web Symphonic Waves Youth Orchestra

Established in 2017, Symphonic Waves is a west of Ireland youth orchestra managed by Music Generation Galway County and Galway Roscommon Education and Training Board (GRETB). Inspired by the bid book process for the European Capital of Culture 2020 for Galway, the idea for the ensemble grew from an identified need to provide high level progression pathways and ensemble performance opportunities for advanced young musicians along the western seaboard.

2019 saw the addition of Woodwind, Brass and Percussion sections to the orchestra. With R.I.A.M. Professor James Cavanagh at the helm, the orchestra embarked on an ambitious programme of repertoire to be performed at a series of major concerts in 2019 and 2020 including this performance at the National Concert Hall in Dublin as part of the Irish Association of Youth Orchestras 2020 Festival.



Image Credit - Julia Dunin

Imagining Ireland

Produced by	National Concert Hall for Galway 2020
Dates	9 February 2020
Location	Black Box Theatre, Galway
Web	Imagining Ireland 2020

Described by The Guardian in 2018 as *"a glorious, cliche-free musical melting pot"*, Imagining Ireland is an annual specially produced concert elucidating current themes and key artists in Irish culture.

Imagining Ireland at Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture was produced by NCH and supported by British Council Ireland, Culture Ireland and the British Embassy in Dublin.

Reflecting the groundswell of women's voices in Irish literature, music and poetry in recent years the Imagining Ireland 2020 programme brought together an eclectic and diverse mix of contemporary female voices for this very special event including SOAK, Radie Peat, Lisa O'Neill, Sorcha Richardson, Sinead Gleeson, Sarah Moss, Denise Chalia, Sara Baume, Elaine Feeney and more.

The Deepest Shade of Green

Produced by Saolta Arts

Dates February 2020 to April 2021

Locations Galway Hospitals and Online

Web The Deepest Shade of Green

Inspired by a 2006 publication by patients of Merlin Park University Hospital, in which older people shared their knowledge of the Irish landscape and its customs, **The Deepest Shade of Green** explores the importance of connecting our hospitals with the natural world outside and of listening to and learning from those who use them. Nature and familiar landscapes of the West are brought into the wards, corridors, and waiting rooms of Saolta's hospitals, helping people to imaginatively escape the clinical context, or to reconnect with the places and things that matter to them.

The Deepest Shade of Green formed a 14-month long programme of in-person and online exhibitions, performances, films, audio recordings and readings that engaged directly with patients and staff in a number of Galway's hospitals. These artistic interventions were presented in the 5 core projects of West of Summer; Viriditas; POST_; A Bird At My Window; and A Deeper Shade of Green, all of which can be accessed via the project website.



Image Credit - Julia Monard

Livefeed

Produced By	David Boland, Tracy Bruen, Eoin Dolan
Dates	February 2020 to April 2021
Location	Galway City and County and Online
Web	Livefeed

Livefeed is a dedicated youth music project developed as part of the Galway 2020 programme. The project empowers young people to pursue interests in songwriting, performance, audio production, sound engineering and music photography through workshops, mentorship and hands-on experience at events.

The project provides new opportunities for young people to perform and enjoy live music in safe, alcohol-free environments through a special programme of live music events and workshops across Galway city and county.

Under Galway 2020 the Livefeed programme comprised both digital and live events engaging directly with young musicians, producers and audiences from early 2019 right through to April 2021. The online iteration of Livefeed commenced in the later half of 2020 and developed a large and popular programme of weekly livestreamed performances and special prerecorded concerts.





Hope it Rains

Soineann nó Doineannand Turas Chonamara

Produced by	Ciotog / Ríonach Ní Néill
Dates	February 2020 to April 2021
Locations	Galway City and County and Online
Web	Hope It Rains

Hope it Rains | Soineann nó Doineann explored the creative and artistic potential of wet weather to effect a cultural change in our relationship with our weather in the West of Ireland and make Galway's people and places more weather and climate resilient. From 2016 to 2021 more than 20 artists were commissioned to create new outdoor works that interact and engage with the weather and offer the public positive ways to engage with Galway's rainy, stormy, unpredictable climate.

Hope it Rains | Soineann nó Doineann and Turas Chonamara formed an extensive programme of events, projects and activities that were developed and presented under 4 distinct clusters:

Weatherplay – harnessing the wind and rain to make outdoor play fun in all weathers through new play resources, new games and community events.

Weatherproof Me! - transforming the interface between people and the weather through fashion, design and public art.

Weatherbots - exploring the artistic possibilities of renewable energy generation through inventor camps and functional artworks.

TURAS CHONAMARA – an innovative digital and audio map documenting Connemara's unique language, music, oral and literary culture and its unique sense of place.

Rijeka International Carnival

Produced By Galway 2020 and Macnas

Dates 20 - 23 February 2020

Location Rijeka, Croatia

Representing Galway 2020, 13 performers from Macnas joined representatives from other European Capitals of Culture to celebrate Rijeka 2020 at the 37th **Rijeka International Carnival Parade**. This special performance was co-presented with Culture Ireland.

The famous Rijeka Carnival, now in its 39th year opened with the Rijeka Carnival Queen pageant and the handing over of the city key when carnival-goers "officially" take over the city.

The programme is made up masked madness, parties, concerts, balls, and fun for all ages culminating with the International Carnival Parade which draws people from all around Europe and has been a February tradition in the city since 1982, with more than 150,000 visitors in 2019.





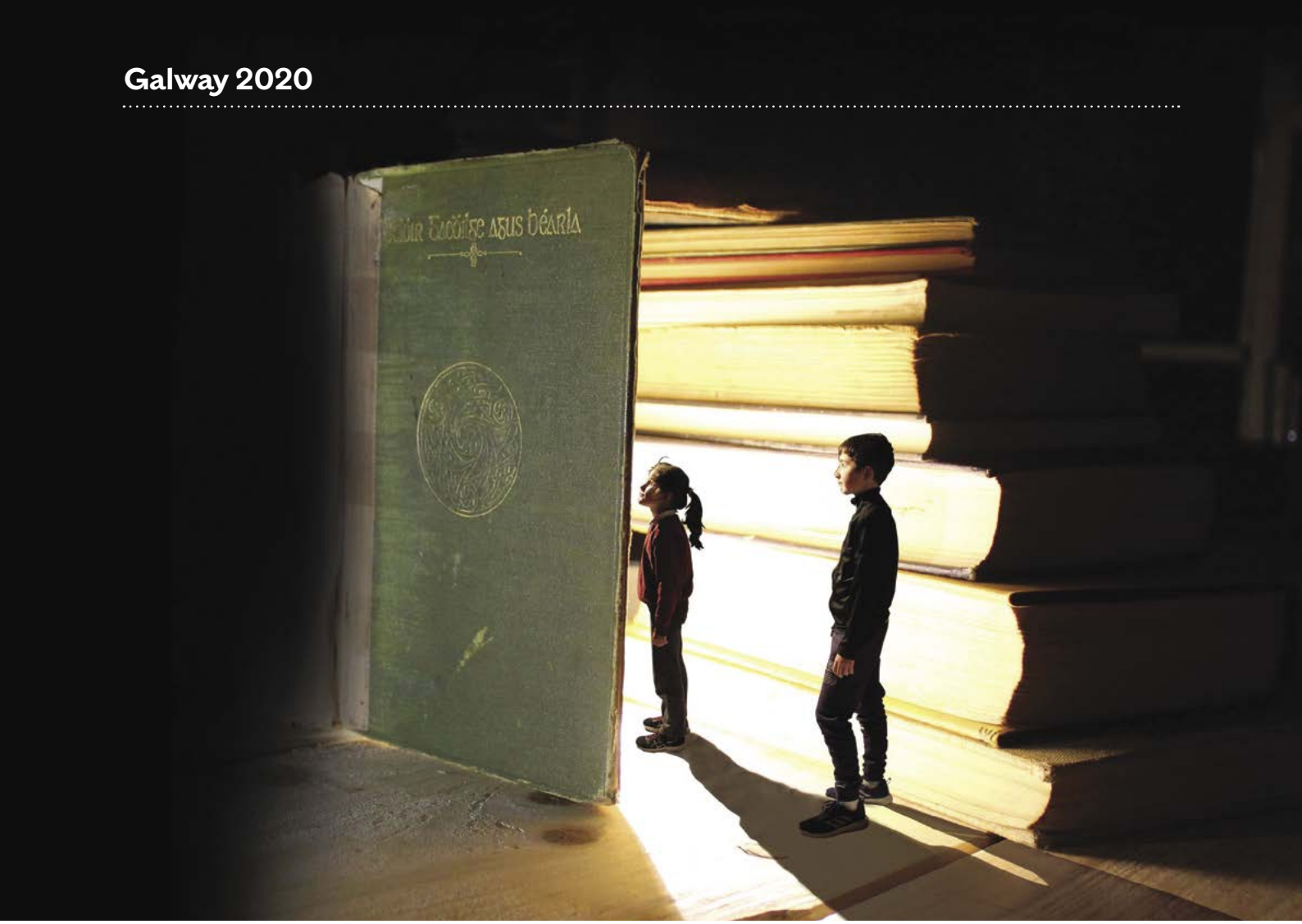
UnSelfing

Produced By	TULCA Festival of Visual Arts
Dates	February 2020 to April 2021
Locations	Galway City and County and Online
Web	Unselfing

UnSelfing was a special programme of in-person and online visual art exhibitions, performances and schools engagement work commissioned by TULCA Festival of Visual Arts for the Galway 2020 programme. The programme took as its theme Iris Murdoch's concept of 'UnSelfing'; the idea that in order to find truth, it is necessary to seek outside of ones self; to be attentive to the world, to be curious about the people, places and ideas that surround us.

The UnSelfing programme comprised of 8 different exhibitions, events and projects presented between February 2020 and April 2021 and included Arrivals; Deep States; Threads, Nothing to Look Forward to But the Past; A Visit, A Ceremony, A Gift; Weather Gods – Reprised; XVIII – Stories of TULCA; Create Dangerously.





Sruth na Teanga

Produced by Branar Téatar do Pháistí

Dates 2 to 12 March 2020

Location Galway Airport, Carnmore, Galway

Web Sruth na Teanga

Through **Sruth na Teanga** Branar created a unique experience that brings young audiences on the epic journey of our native language. Presented in Galway Airport buildings, Sruth na Teanga was an immersive, bilingual theatre event that imaginatively realised for young people the evolution and life of the Irish language.

This project represented one of the largest ever children's projects created for a European Capital of Culture programme and during it run in March 2020 it engaged with over 40 local schools and delivered over 100 performances to over 1,000 people.

Having commenced in early March 2020 to huge popularity, unfortunately Sruth na Teanga's run coincided with the arrival of COVID-19 in Ireland and the first lockdown and therefore the show had to close halfway through it's month-long run in mid-March.

The project was remounted in September 2021 as part of Galway International Arts Festival.

Galway 2020
Showcase for Royal Visit

Produced By Galway 2020

Dates 6 March 2020

Location Tribeton, Galway City

Web Royal Visit

Galway 2020 hosted The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge while in Galway as part of their official visit to Ireland in March 2020. The special event took place in Tribeton in Galway city centre and comprised of a showcase of projects developed for the Galway 2020 programme.

As part of the showcase the Duke and Duchess were treated to presentations and performances from Manchán Magan on the Sea Tamagotchi project; Galway Community Circus and the Wires Crossed project; NØÖV from the Livefeed *youth* music project; young basketball players from the Hoops project; and a special drumming performance from members of the Galway 2020 Community Cast. The Royal guests were also presented with an early copy of the Galway 2020 commissioned children's book 'To the Island', written by local writer Patricia Forde and illustrated by Nicola Bernadelli.

Image Credit - Paul Faith, Getty



Wild Atlantic Women

Produced By	Galway 2020
Dates	7 - 8 March 2020
Locations	Galway City, Kinvara, Salthill
Web	Wild Atlantic Women

Wild Atlantic Women was a special programme of events curated to mark International Women's Day 2020. Taking the #EachforEqual theme the series of events aimed to recognise the achievements of women on a local, national and international level, shifting perceptions towards a more equal future.

Over the weekend of 7 - 8 March 2020 a total of 10 different events including exhibitions, performances, panel discussions and more provided a platform for a weekend of art and debate featuring a truly fantastic array of female artists.

Artists and organisations featured in the Wild Atlantic Women programme included Margaret Atwood, Siobhán McSweeney, Jan Carson, Elaine Feeney, Caroline Bergvall, Susan McKay, Ruth Fitzmaurice, Evelyn Glynn, Áine Phillips, Blaise Drummond, Ruby Wallis, Alison Lowry, Engage Art Studios, Domestic Violence Response and Kinvara Community Council.





Image Credit - Christopher Lund

Savage Beauty

Produced By	Galway 2020 and Kari Kola
Dates	March 2020
Location	Loch na Fuaiche, Galway and Online
Web	Savage Beauty

Described as "a savage beauty" by Oscar Wilde, Connemara is rural Ireland at its most dramatic and served as the inspiration for the internationally-acclaimed Finnish light artist Kari Kola. Kola's installation of 1,000 lights spread over a distance of 5 kilometres, transformed the Ceann Garbh mountainside overlooking Loch na Fuaiche situated in north Connemara. In this remote location, Kari Kola and his team created his largest site-specific artwork to date – a light installation that lit up the wild landscape in spectacular fashion.

Savage Beauty represented a continuation of Kola's exploration and interest in highlighting some of the world's most ancient and monumental sites – from the sacred Saana Mountain Finland, Stonehenge UNESCO World Heritage Site. Initially planned as a public event from 14-17 March, the commencement of COVID-19 restrictions meant it could not go ahead as an in-person event. However, the Savage Beauty installation was made available as a special digital edition which captures the magic of this artwork and landscape.

Monument

Produced By Galway City Museum

Dates July 2020 - Ongoing

Location Galway City Museum and Online

Web MONUMENT

Curated by Eithne Verling Director of the Galway City Museum and Sybil Curley, **MONUMENT** has been inspired by the three themes of the Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture programme - Landscape, Language and Migration.

MONUMENT is a multidisciplinary exhibition platform at Galway City Museum and online. It represents a collaborative process bringing together the archaeology, architecture, craft and design, cultural landscapes, tangible and intangible heritage and the social history associated with the Aran Islands and other islands.

Assisted by the National Museum of Ireland, the exhibition features previously unseen material from the 1990s archaeological excavations at Dún Aonghasa. MONUMENT, now a permanent exhibition at Galway City Museum, also features specially commissioned craft pieces by some of Ireland's most respected makers.





Wires Crossed

Produced By	Galway Community Circus
Dates	August 2020 - Ongoing
Location	Galway City and County
Web	Wires Crossed

Galway Community Circus, in partnership with nine European youth and social circus schools, trained thousands of people from 2016-2020 to walk the tightwire and experience funambulism's empowering, transformative effect.

This ambitious and inclusive project is building towards a major funambulism event where 400 people from all around Europe will cross the River Corrib and the Claddagh Basin together. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the crossing was not able to take place in 2020. The Wires Crossed team is planning a scaled down version of the original crossing for July 2022.

The site of the crossing was chosen in acknowledgement of the loss of life in the river in recent years through suicide. Wires Crossed aims to unite communities in a public display of solidarity, courage and hope, to highlight the importance of looking after our mental health through support, encouragement and courage.



Image Credit - Julia Dunin

Gilgamesh

Produced By	Macnas
Dates	September 2020 – September 2021
Locations	Galway City and County and Online
Web	Gilgamesh

Macnas, the masters of storytelling and spectacle, presented a dramatic new interpretation of **Gilgamesh**, the first ever hero's journey and world's oldest story written over 3,000 years ago.

This ancient tale explored contemporary themes of human relationships, love, power and death. It centered on Gilgamesh, a tyrannical young king who ruled the city of Uruk. Two thirds god, one third man, Gilgamesh was bored, beautiful and obsessed with fame. A cruel and unjust king, he wanted to find the secret to immortality, become a God and live forever. The citizens of Uruk cried out to the Gods for help. The Gods listened and created Enkidu, a wild young warrior sent down from the heavens to rival Gilgamesh and challenged his quest to live forever.

The project was originally conceived as a creative programme of large-scale public performances in celebration of Galway European Capital of Culture 2020. However, Covid-19 saw Macnas deliver a remarkable reimagined vision for the project, firmly rooted in Galway, with a series of stunning short films; a digital storybook, the Gilgamesh Experience online.

To the Island

Produced By Patricia Forde

Dates September 2020 - Ongoing

Locations Galway City and County and Online

Web To the Island

Fia longs to see the mythical island of Hy Brasil. One night a moonbeam leads her across the bay to the island, where the air is thick with secrets.

To the Island is a lyrical picturebook created by leading Galway children's writer Patricia Forde, with gorgeous illustrations from Italian artist Nicola Bernardelli and published in Irish and English by Little Island Publishing. The book was gifted to every child who started school in Galway in 2020 and was distributed in partnership with the Galway County Library Service through the Mobile Libraries.

In December 2020 Galway singer songwriter Anna Mullarkey released her single "To the Island" which accompanies the book.



Mirror Pavilion

Produced By	Galway International Arts Festival
Dates	03 to 26 September 2020, 28 August to 18 September 2021
Location	The Claddagh, Galway and Derrigimlagh Bog, Connemara
Web	Mirror Pavilion

Mirror Pavilion by John Gerrard is a response to the escalating climate crisis and pushes the boundaries of digital art using simulation. Gerrard has taken digital technology to create virtual worlds that simulate extremely detailed and authentic landscapes. The Pavilion is a beautiful and striking structure, with three sides and the roof clad in a highly reflective mirror and the fourth wall a high–resolution LED wall.

Mirror Pavilion - Corn Work was located by the River Corrib at Claddagh Quay for 3 weeks in September 2020 during Galway International Arts Festival 2020. Corn Work recalled histories of grain milling in Galway and the strong flow of water which provided a sustainable clean energy source for the city's now dismantled flour mills. Four folk figures, the Straw Boys, remade virtually, performed a symbolic wheel of production on the LED wall in the work. Changing with the seasons, they commemorated attitudes toward agriculture and the landscape that existed prior to the petroleum derived methods widely implemented today.

Mirror Pavilion – Corn Work was also featured as part of the 2021 Gwangju Biennale in South Korea, one of Asia's leading visual arts Biennale.

The second iteration, *Mirror Pavilion – Leaf Work*, was presented in the spectacular Derrigimlagh Bog in Connemara in September 2021 as part of Galway International Arts Festival 2021.



Image Credit - Colm Hogan



Virtually Here

Produced By	Jojo Hynes and Jennifer Cunningham
Dates	September 2020 to April 2021
Locations	Galway City and County
Web	Virtually Here

Following an initial open call in 2019, 5 schools from around Galway were selected to take part in the **Virtually Here** collaborative project which explored how virtual reality and augmented reality can be used to support and enhance curricular learning and foster creativity in the classroom. The 5 participating schools were Carrabane National School Athenry, Claregalway Educate Together National School Claregalway, Scoil Iósaif Naofa Oranmore, Scoil Mhuire Clifden and Windfield National School Ballinasloe.

The project consisted of weekly virtual sessions with JoJo and Jennifer where students learned to creatively study their local environment and then use VR software to build virtual worlds, thereby learning more about their local environments whilst developing new digital skills.

In addition to the work programme with students the project also consisted of a number of teacher training elements in AR and VR enabling teachers to integrate and embed these creative technologies into local classrooms.



Image Credit - Louise Manifold

Aerial/Sparks

Produced By	Louise Manifold
Dates	9 – 27 September 2020
Location	Inis Oírr and Online
Web	Ariel/Sparks

Aerial/Sparks invited audiences to connect with one of the last unknown spaces on earth; the ocean wilderness. Seven artists, writers and composers from across Europe produced a series of compelling standalone artworks for exhibition and radio broadcast, inspired by their experiences of joining research expeditions on board the Marine Institute Ireland's RV Celtic Explorer.

Created by Irish artist Louise Manifold Ariel/Sparks was presented as a unique art trail on the island of Inis Oírr over 3 weeks in September 2020. Visitors traversed the island by foot and bike to discover sound works housed in various venues across the island including a handball alley, a lighthouse, Aras Eanna Arts Centre and a Church.

Ariel/Sparks also included a dedicated virtual programme of events for ARS Electronica 2020, the world-renowned festival of art and technology.

DruidGregory

Produced By Druid Theatre

Dates 15 September – 17 October 2020

Location Galway City and County

Web DruidGregory

Druid returned to live theatre in the magic fields, woods and gardens of Coole Park in a tribute to the life and works of Galway's Augusta Lady Gregory. Launched in the historic setting of her Coole Park home, **DruidGregory** included five of Lady Gregory's one-act plays, performed by a company of 12 actors and musicians, and directed by Garry Hynes.

This was followed by a barnstorming 15 venue, four-week tour of Gregory's beloved county Galway, from Portumna to Glenamaddy, Ballinasloe to Clifden, and many communities in between. The tour included unique one-off outdoor performances at some of Galway's world-famous, historic sites such as Kylemore Abbey, Teach an Phiarsaigh and Ballyglunin Station. The plays included The Rising of the Moon, Hyacinth Halvey, The Gaol Gate, McDonough's Wife and the revolutionary Cathleen ní Houlihan.

Additionally, as part of the Education and Community strand of the tour, DruidGregory included a series of one-off, outdoor performances of Galway writer Tom Murphy's first play, On the Outside.



Image Credit - Matthew Thompson



Óró..

Produced By	Ealaín na Gaeltacht
Dates	September 21 – 26 2020
Location	An Cheathrú Rua Industrial Estate, Connemara, Galway
Web	Óró..

Óró.. presented a live theatrical experience, fusing contemporary dance, theatre, music, poetry and visual art to tell a story about language, identity and survival. The project and performance examined how we must re-imagine our society post Covid-19 to ensure our continued existence and not just physically and economically, but also culturally.

The project facilitated a large and diverse artistic collaboration and incorporated six different minority languages demonstrating the importance of diversity and cooperation in all spheres of life.

Óró.. performed for a limited run in a large factory space in An Cheathrú Rua, Connemara culminating on the European Day of Languages, 26 September 2020.

Festival in a Van

Produced By Festival In A Van

Date 1 October 2020

Location Galway City and County

Web Festival In A Van

To mark International Day of Older Persons on 1st October 2020 **Festival In A Van** and Galway 2020 brought a number of pop-up music performances to older peoples residential settings across Galway city and county.

A creative response to the pandemic, Festival In A Van is a mobile live outdoor venue that brings the magic of live performances to community settings in a safe, covid-proof manner.

The special programme for International Day of the Older Person in Galway saw all 3 Vans bring performances from The Whileaways, The Barceló Brothers and Órla Mc Govern & Niceol Blue to the doorsteps of older peoples residential settings in Carraroe, Clifden, Tuam, Loughrea, Ballinasloe and Galway City.

Image Credit - Emilija Jefremova





Ceiliúradh Eilís Dillon: Language, Legacy & Landscape

Produced By	Cúirt International Festival of Literature and Galway Libraries
Date	1 October 2020
Location	Online
Web	Ceiliúradh Eilís Dillon: Language, Legacy & Landscape

Eilís Dillon was born in Galway in 1920. Her career as a writer spanned more than five decades during which she wrote prolifically and was widely published in both English and the Irish language. Her stories for children have been widely acclaimed and her writing for adults includes literary, historical and crime fiction, as well as autobiography.

To celebrate her life and work Galway 2020, in association with Cúirt International Festival of Literature and Galway Libraries hosted this special online event. This launched a month-long series of events exploring Dillon's life and work as part of Galway's Great Read.

The event saw celebrated poet, Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin, and author and translator, Cormac Ó Cuilleanáin (Eilís Dillon's children) read from some of Dillon's most famous books. Léan Ní Chuilleanáin (Eilís granddaughter) joined in a musical tribute by musicians Roisin Mannion and Emily Greaney, while a panel discussion between Eiléan, Cormac and Tom Kennedy was facilitated by Des Kenny of Kenny's Bookshop.

Symphonic Waves Youth Orchestra

- Meet The Strings

Produced By Music Generation Galway County

Date 18 October 2020

Location Online

Web Meet The Strings

Meet the Strings was an online series of video resources, introducing children and young people to the string instruments of the orchestra. Included in these videos was a short ensemble and solo performances from members of the Symphonic Waves youth Orchestra string section.

Conductor James Cavanagh introduced the different string instruments in a fun and engaging way, enabling children and young people to enjoy learning about the string instruments played in orchestra. James and the musicians explored the differences between the sounds each instrument makes and the musicians demonstrated the various ways that rhythm and tone can be produced as they play. Participation was encouraged with viewers being invited to play along to a tango rhythm in one of the pieces, by clapping or by using anything they can find to make a percussion sound!





Abendmusik

Produced By	Music for Galway
Dates	October 2020 – April 2021
Locations	Online
Web	Abdenmusik

The new concert series for Galway took its name (meaning "evening music") from the famous concerts that took place on Sunday afternoons in St Mary's Church, Lübeck, in northern Germany. Begun in the seventeenth century, these concerts were notable for various reasons, not least that they offered the Lübeck townspeople the opportunity to hear vocal music on religious themes but in a non-liturgical context.

The new series takes more than its name from seventeenth century Germany. This was an extraordinary period in music history, in which musical migration and looking beyond borders was the key to what is now considered a golden age in music. Galway's new **Abendmusik** celebrated the first truly European musical epoch through a series of very special livestreamed concerts between October 2020 and April 2021. The line-up of performers included Galway's most well-known players alongside some of the brightest young Irish singers emerging on the European scene.



Image Credit - Colm Hogan

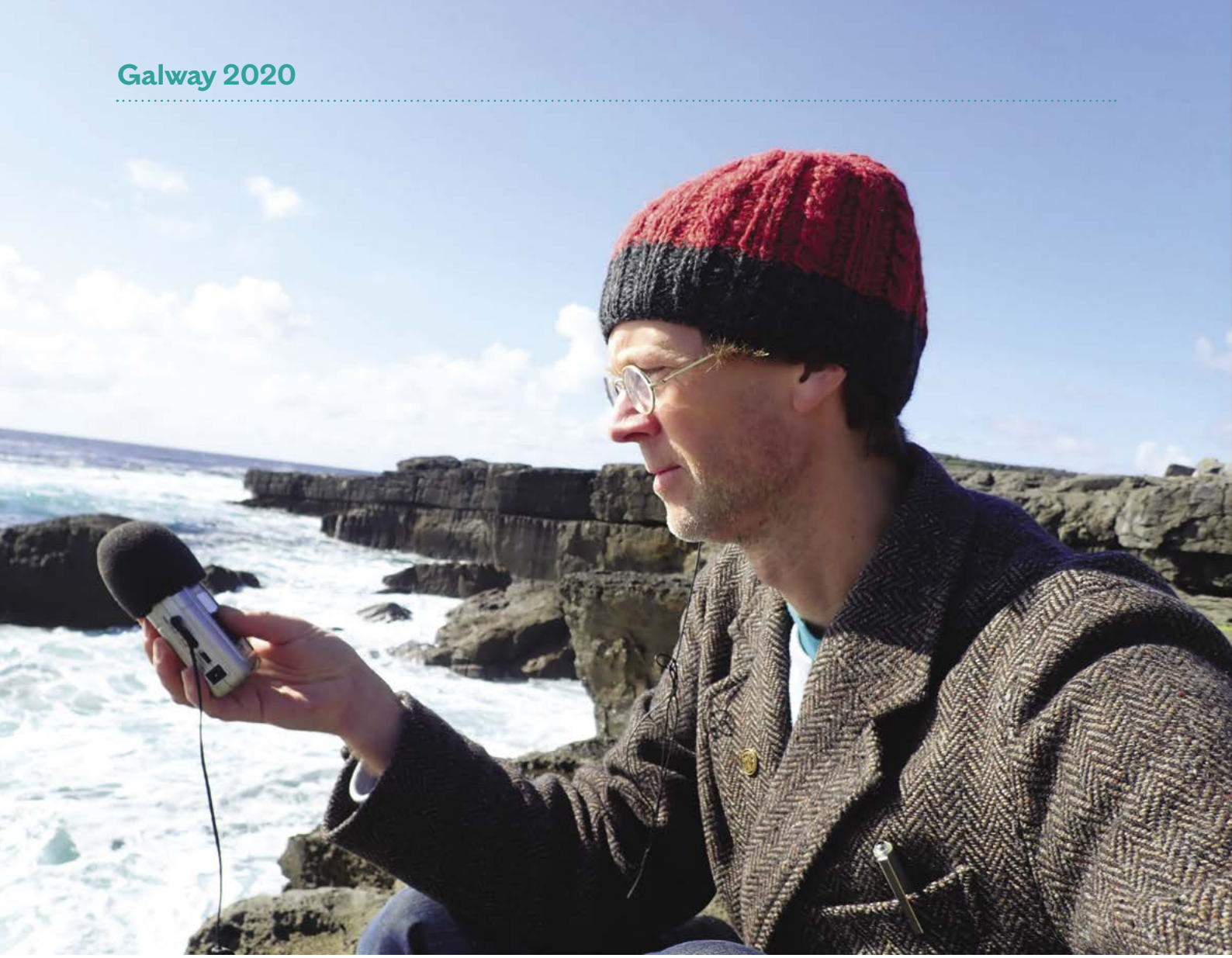
Project BAA BAA

Produced By	Deborah Evers
Dates	30 October – 20 November 2020
Location	Galway City and County
Web	Project BAA BAA

Project BAA BAA was a programme of events, exhibitions and conferences celebrating the cultural, economic and environmental contribution of sheep in Ireland and Europe.

Originally planned as a series of events and exhibitions happening around a large international conference bringing together sheep farmers, researchers and innovators, artists and designers, craft and food producers, the Project BAA BAA programme adjusted to lockdown conditions to present an extensive digital programme featuring the work of leading Irish and international designers and artists.

Project BAA BAA projects included the International Contemporary Tapestry Exhibition; European Congress; Wool Showcase; Primary School SHEEP Project; Kathy Ross Wool Portraits; and Recrafting Ireland.



Sea Tamagotchi

Produced By Manchán Magan

Dates November 2020 to April 2021

Locations West Coast of Ireland and Online

Web Sea Tamagotchi

Sea Tamagotchi: Foclóir Farraige is a linguistic art project celebrating endangered maritime words and place names in the coastal regions of Galway, Mayo, Sligo and Donegal.

Irish writer and television programme maker Manchán Magan roamed the sea-roads and coastal trails of the Atlantic coast in the company of local folklorists, fishermen and linguists, seeking and collecting forgotten place names and words, gathered into individual sound files.

In the tradition of the tamagotchi (a handheld digital pet), the public are invited to keep these words alive, nurturing them in the routine of their daily lives. The project shared these special words in a variety of media, including via a hugely popular social media campaign, a series of podcasts, the project website and the beautiful Sea Tamagotchi book.

The Stinging Fly – Galway 2020 Issue

Produced By	The Stinging Fly
Date	01 November 2020
Location	Online
Web	The Stinging Fly – Galway 2020 Issue

The Stinging Fly, Irelands premier publisher new writers, celebrated Galway's designation as European Capital of Culture with a special issue that explored Galway's identity as an Irish and European city. With a line-up of contributors that included Galway natives tackling notions of home, and writers from further afield inspired by the pull of city and county, the issue reflected on the mundane and the mystical, the self and society, what connected us, and what flings us apart: all human life, as one will happily find streets of Galway on any given day.

The issue was published in November 2020, with additional stories published on The Stinging Fly website between November 2020 and February 2021.The Stinging Fly also hosted a series of online talks and readings during that time to coincide with the publication of the issue.





InterAction 2.0

Produced By	Galway Theatre Festival
Dates	16 – 29 November 2020
Location	Online
Web	InterAction

InterAction 2.0, a digital theatre project by Galway Theatre Festival, provided a laboratory for artistic research and development for theatre makers and audiences.

The programme focused on participatory immersive theatre, interactive technologies and non-linear gamed narratives. Over 2020, six artists researched, shared and created work with Irish, European and international peers. In May 2020, InterAction had its first digital showcase and the adapted programme featured live events, panel discussions, works-in-progress, workshops and app launches by local and international artists.

Following this InterAction 2.0 hosted an exciting digital programme from in November 2020. All events were available digitally through the InterAction website and included experimental theatre pieces, exhibitions, workshops and talks on creative technologies.

Why The Moon Travels
Discussion & Exhibition

Produced By	Skein Press
Date	21 November 2020
Location	Online
Web	Why The Moon Travels

Galway 2020 in association with Skein Press presented this online event as part of the Misleór festival celebrating Irish Traveller and other nomadic cultures.

Collected by Oein DeBhairduin throughout his childhood, retold in his lyrical style, and beautifully illustrated by Leanne McDonagh, **Why The Moon Travels** Why is a haunting collection of 20 tales rooted in the oral tradition of the Irish Traveller community that has received rave reviews since its release in 2020.

In addition to launching a digital exhibition of Leanne's illustrations with audio recordings from the book, this event also hosted a panel discussion that saw Oein and Leanne in conversation with writer and filmmaker Damian La Bas about the importance of the storytelling tradition in Traveller culture.



Image Credit - Leanne McDonagh

IETM Satellite Meeting

Produced By IETM, Theatre Forum, NUI Galway and Galway 2020

Dates 02 – 03 December 2020

Location Online

Web IETM Satellite Galway 2020

IETM is an international network of over 450 performing arts organisations and individual members working in the contemporary performing arts worldwide from theatre, dance, circus and performance, to interdisciplinary live art forms and new media.

Nineteen years after the network hosted a Plenary Meeting in Galway, IETM returned as part of the Galway 2020 programme. This Satellite Galway 2020 Meeting tackled one of the most urgent topics of our time - Climate Action and through a digital programme of speeches, working groups, and conversations with artists explored the role that the arts can play in instigating climate action.

The 2-day conference also included an artistic programme showcasing several projects from the Galway 2020 programme.



The Green Night of Ideas

Produced By	The French Embassy in Ireland
Dates	28 January 2021
Locations	Online
Web	The Green Night of Ideas

The Green Night of Ideas was a global initiative by Institut Français which took place worldwide on Thursday 28 January 2021 with a focus on the theme: "Closer". Guests from diverse backgrounds gathered to discuss the theme all across the five continents.

Galway 2020 partnered with The French Embassy in Ireland for the event and presented a programme entirely dedicated to climate change which featured a series of online screenings and debates and including for the first time a schools engagement programme.

All events were presented by the French Embassy in Ireland in association with the Alliance Française Network, Institut Français and Irish cultural partners.





Baboró – RISE

Produced By	Baboró
Dates	February to April 2021
Locations	Galway City and Online
Web	RISE

RISE was a series of projects created by Baboró that place the voice of the child at the heart of the performance and encourages international artist collaboration. Originally envisioned as an exciting opportunity for children to participate in the arts became an essential outlet for expression and play during a global pandemic.

Teams of adult and child artists remotely co-created and participated in projects from their homes in Galway, across Europe and as far away as Melbourne, Australia.

The RISE programme consisted of 4 different projects, each of which was presented free online and included St. Pats Lockdown Olympics; The Streets are Ours; The Veiled Ones; and In Conversation with kabinet k and Junk Ensemble.



Scéalaíocht... Storia....Contes

Produced By Galway Public Libraries, Storytellers of Ireland and Galway 2020

Dates 20 March 2021

Locations Online

Web Scéalaíocht...Storia....Contes

Scéalaíocht....Storia....Contes marked World Storytelling Day 2020 by bringing together storytellers and musicians from across Europe and Ireland to celebrate the universal language of storytelling. Galway based storytellers Máirín Mhic Lochlainn and Órla Mc Govern were joined by Raccontamiunastori, Paola Bardi and Davide Balbi from Rome and Monique Burg from Langue d'Oc in France.

The programme consisted of a series of exuberant and exciting family friendly stories and performances to appeal to children and young people of all ages, followed by an evening session or 'Oiche Airneáin', bringing all five storytellers together in conversation to discuss diversity and universality in storytelling.

The storytelling programme was also complimented by a number of memorable musical performances by Galway musicians Emily Greaney, Róisin and Tomás Mannion.



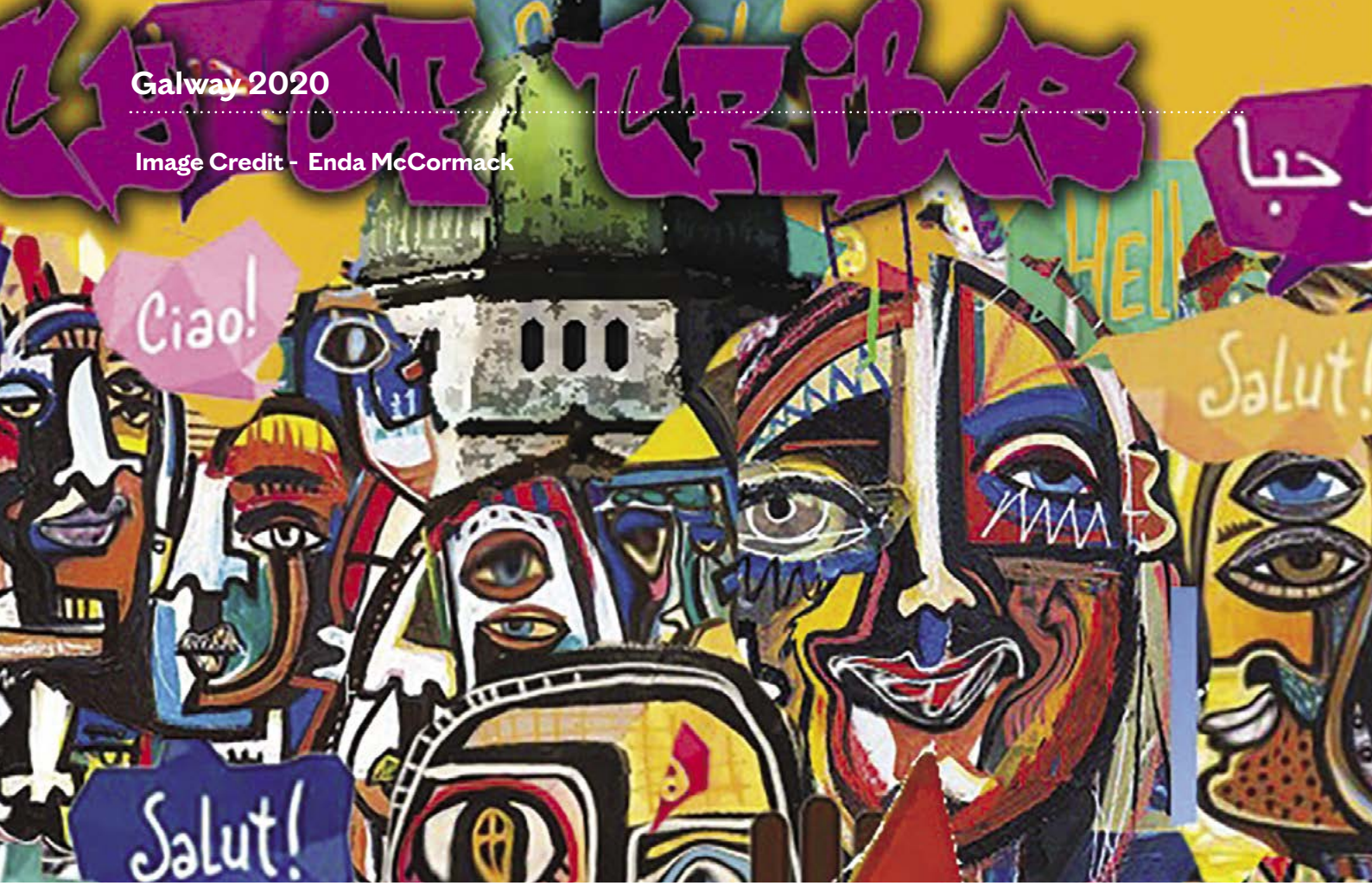


Image Credit - Enda McCormack

International Day Against Racism 2021

Produced By	Galway 2020 and Partners
Dates	20 – 22 March 2021
Locations	Online
Web	International Day Against Racism

Galway 2020 marked **International Day Against Racism 2021** through a series of collaborations with local and national organisations. These projects, all online and digital, saw Galway making a strong and unequivocal statement against racism through art, dialogue and education.

The programme of events commenced on 20 March with a Panel Discussion hosted by Off The Ball, Ireland's premier sports radio show. 21 March International Day Against Racism saw the launch of the #TogetherAgainstRacism exhibition and video created by Galway 2020 Wave Makers; the launch of 3 short films Stand In My Shoes by local groups The Melting Potluck and Visionation; and the launch of the virtual platform Music, Memory and The Night celebrating Afro-Irish culture.

Events concluded on Monday 22 March with the launch of the Onside Schools Programme. Developed in partnership with the FAI the Onside programme which included a number of specially designed classroom and schoolyard modules that educate young people about racism and facilitate language learning and cultural exchange through football.

Cellissimo

Produced By Music for Galway

Dates 25 – 31 March 2021

Locations Online

Web CELLISSIMO

True to its original vision a new international cello festival for Galway, **CELLISSIMO** celebrated the cello, one of the world's most beloved and versatile instruments. Despite the challenges presented by the global pandemic Music for Galway re-imagined the festival in order to deliver breathtaking music and the sensations of the West of Ireland to people's homes.

Presented from 25 – 31 March CELLISSIMO comprised of a vast and unique a programme containing over 20 different events. Featuring some of the best cellists from Ireland and internationally the programme included livestreamed concerts, masterclasses, talks and a very special multi-media exhibition documenting the creation of the Galway Cello; a cello created especially in Galway as part of the CELLISSIMO project.



Bádóirí an Chladaigh Outdoor Classroom

Produced By Bádóirí an Chladaigh

Dates April and May 2021

Location The Claddagh, Galway City

Web Bádóirí an Chladaigh Outdoor Classroom



'Tribes on the Tide' is a celebration of Galway's maritime heritage, traditions and culture showcasing the traditional Galway Hookers in their finest glory sailing on Galway Bay and moored in the Claddagh Basin. Bringing to view the boats' history, design, craft and seamanship together with music, song and storytelling, linking Galway's past and looking to a new and exciting future.

During April and May 2021, Bádóirí an Chladaigh engaged with local primary schools, bringing this unique outdoor classroom to school children to learn the history and boating tradition of the Claddagh and the Galway Hookers, maritime folklore and essential water safety skills.

Crossing The Line

Produced By Blue Teapot Theatre Company

Dates April and May 2021

Location Galway City and Online

Web Crossing The Line

Originally planned for May 2020 the **Crossing The Line** festival by Blue Teapot Theatre Company and its international partners was reimagined and reconfigured as a digital mini-series themed 'The Festival that never was, the celebration that is'.

The digital mini-series highlighted a nine-year span of work, reflecting the origins and evolution of the Crossing The Line project and the development of Blue Teapot's international connections with several leading European arts and disability organisations.

Along with six partner organisations from Sweden, Poland, Netherlands, England, Wales & France, Blue Teapot worked towards their most ambitious project yet – the Crossing The Line festival with over 100 Irish and European artists, and theatre makers. This digital mini-series captures their journey from project inception, through project development, navigating the challenges of the pandemic and arriving at a reimagined vision for the festival reflecting the changed world we now live in.



Galway Moves

Produced By Galway Dance Project and Dansnest

Dates 22 - 27 April 2021

Location Galway City and Online

Web Galway Moves

Galway Moves was a series of site-specific dance performances and films, choreographed by Dansnest, an award-winning dance company based in the Netherlands, in collaboration with five Galway based dance artists - Genevieve Ryan, Kristyn Fontanella, Mia Bradley Evans, Marta Almeida and Patricia Glynn.

Taking the challenges posed by the pandemic and themes emerging through research Galway Moves explored the core question of 'How can we connect in times of social distancing?' Inspired by conversations with dancers about the design of their homes and personal objects within, these conversations from person to person were transformed into a choreography in which the resident and the dancer move inspired by each other in a living room or environment.

Galway Moves celebrated community and connection, celebrating the natural resilience of dance. The inclusive and diverse dance performances consisted of original pieces of choreography, with each performance a dynamic search for connection.





Image Credit - Cormac McMahon

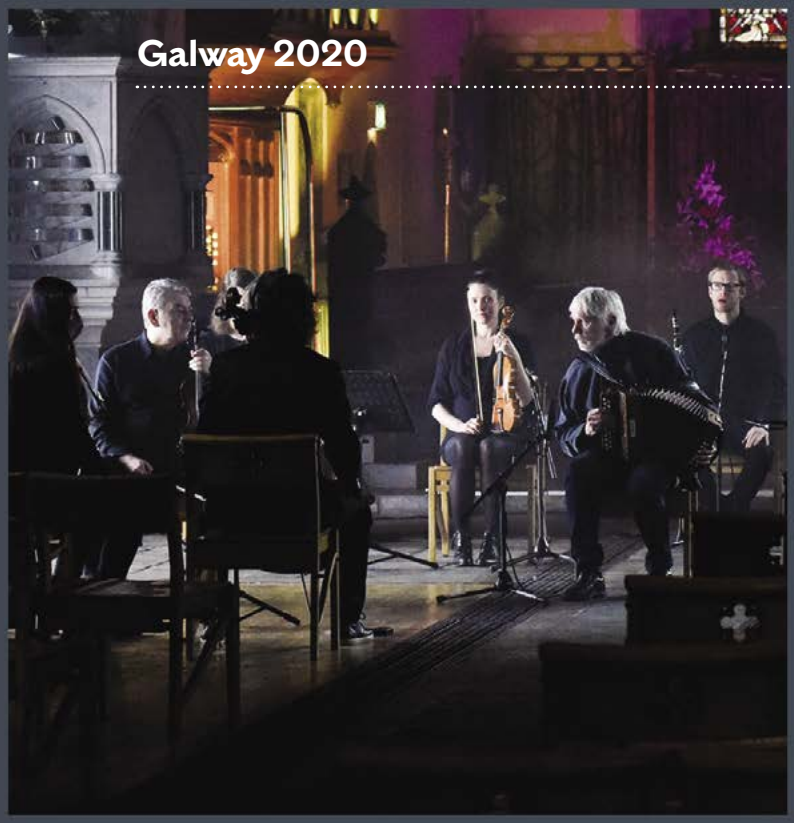
EYE on the Edge

Produced By	Galway 2020 and the European Parliament
Dates	23 – 25 April 2021
Location	Galway City and Online
Web	EYE on the Edge

EYE on the Edge was new festival created and curated by young people that fused politics, art and culture. Originally planned as 2 day festival due to take place on NUI Galway campus in September 2020, the project was reconfigured and presented as a 3 day online festival in April 2021.

The project was a partnership between Galway 2020 and the European Parliament and represented the first every local version of the EYE (European Youth Event), a biennial event in Strasbourg which brings together thousands of young people from all over the European Union and beyond to share and shape their ideas on the future of Europe.

The core theme of the EYE on the Edge was 'Diverse Voices' and the weekend programme consisted of a series of panel discussions, workshops, presentations, performances and exhibitions that reflected this theme of diversity.





The Mighty Ocean

Produced By	Galway 2020 and Galway Music Residency
Dates	25 - 30 April 2021
Location	Online and TG4
Web	The Mighty Ocean

The Mighty Ocean was commissioned by Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture and produced by Galway Music Residency for TG4 as part of Galway 2020's Capital of Culture Programme. Composed by traditional Irish music legend Máirtín O'Connor, the premiere of this musical suite reflecting on climate change and the environment coincided with the final week of Galway 2020's programme.

As well as exploring the themes of climate change, environment and landscape, the half-hour film marked a decades-long musical dialogue between Galway Music Residency, its permanent ensemble in residence ConTempo Quartet, Máirtín O'Connor, Garry Ó Briain and Cathal Hayden. For more than 15 years, these partners have pushed the boundaries of musical and cultural fusion to present unique listening experiences to the people of Galway and beyond. The Mighty Ocean saw the culmination of this creative friendship in a spectacular celebration of music and the sea.



Galway 2020 Handover Ceremony

Produced By	Galway 2020
Date	7 May 2021
Location	Online and TG4
Web	Galway 2020 Handover Ceremony

Galway 2020's title as European Capital of Culture officially drew to a close on April 30. It passed the title to the three cities who will next hold the title with a televised version of the handover on TG4 and TG4.ie on Friday 7 of May at 7.30pm. The symbolic handover saw the title pass from Galway and Rijeka in Croatia, to Esch in Luxembourg, Kaunas in Lithuania and Novi Sad in Serbia.

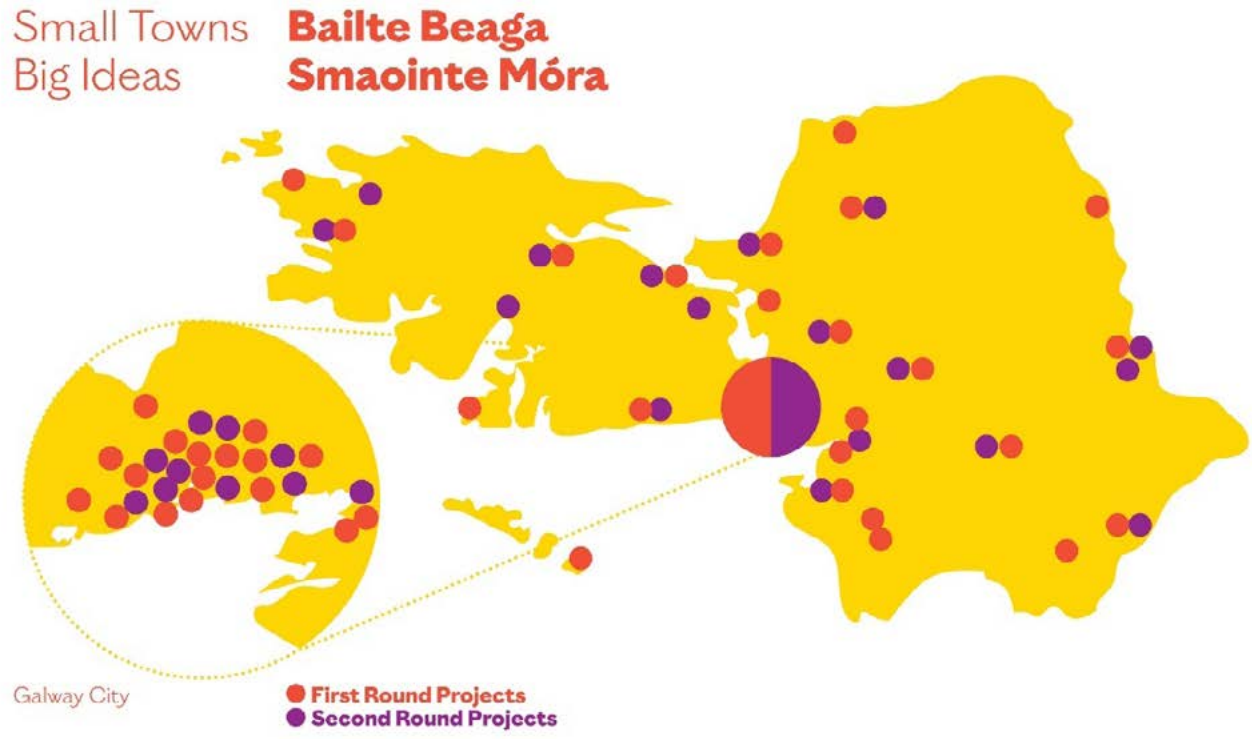
The 12-minute programme celebrated the enormous array of cultural events and projects that happened in-person and online and the incredible work and resilience of the hundreds of artists, organisations and communities that made these project possible.

The short film, which featured an original score from Galway composer Anna Mullarkey, captured the sights, sounds and spirit of these brilliant projects and also included a special address from Catherine Martin, Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

4. Small Towns Big Ideas Programme

Small Towns Big Ideas was a specific community focused programme within the Galway 2020 programme. It was designed to recognise and celebrate the diversity of Galway - its places, its communities and its rich culture - in both urban and rural settings.

The model for Small Towns Big Ideas projects was piloted during the Galway 2020 bid phase with groups in Athenry, Ballygar and Headford. The programme was then developed and rolled out through two open calls for proposals in 2018 and 2019. From the two open calls over 70 new cultural projects were selected to be developed with local communities across Galway city and county.



2018 and 2019 saw 38 Small Towns Big Ideas projects delivered through an eclectic mix of free, family-friendly events attended by thousands of people with people of all ages and backgrounds enjoying concerts, exhibitions, theatre performances, film screenings, workshops, walk, talks and much.

Despite the onset of the pandemic and the challenges and restrictions that it posed for everyone a further 26 Small Towns Big Ideas projects were delivered in the January 2020 to April 2021 period. These projects, delivered in online and in-person formats and outlined on the following pages, are testament to the resilience and brilliance of the groups and artists involved.

Home Truths

Produced By Domestic Violence Response and Engage Art Studios

Date 7 – 11 March 2020 and 25 November to 11 December 2020

Location Salthill, Galway City and Online

Web Home Truths

Home Truths examined women's experience of and engagement with the Irish courts and legal system in dealing with domestic violence and abuse. Artist Evelyn Glynn gathered women's testimonies of their court experiences and artists Blaise Drummond, Alison Lowry, Áine Philips and Ruby Wallis were commissioned to respond to these testimonies. The project produced a mixed media exhibition, social media campaign and panel discussion.

The exhibition was originally opened in Engage Art Studios in March 2020 but had to close after a few days due to the first COVID-19 lockdown. It was then further developed and remounted in The Cornstore in December 2020 along with a specific social media campaign and panel discussion event to coincide with the annual 16 Days of Action Against Domestic Violence campaign.



Pier to Peer

Produced By Kinvara Community Council

Date 7 - 8 March 2020

Location Kinvara

Web Pier to Peer

Pier to Peer formed brought together artists and the community activists for a series of events exploring the coastal landscape and culture of Kinvara and the surrounding area in south Galway.

While the full original vision for the project was disrupted by the onset of lockdown the project did manage to host several events as part of the Wild Atlantic Women weekend programme which took place in early March 2020.

As part of this programme Pier to Peer events included a series of walks, talks and swims with a focus on sea swimming and its benefits for our physical, mental and spiritual health.



Image Credit - Emilija Jefremova



Image Credit - Philippa Maguire

Set In Stone

Produced By	Oughterard Courthouse Arts Programme
Date	26 June - 31 August 2020
Location	Oughterard and Online
Web	Set In Stone

Originally planned as a series of events exploring and celebrating the ancient landscape of the Oughterard area to take place across the summer of 2020, the **Set In Stone** project was reconfigured and presented as a series of online visual art exhibitions.

The project featured 3 separate exhibitions that included works from over 20 different locally based artists.

See below to view each exhibition.

- RIANTA – Traces of Our Past
- CUIMHNÍ - Memories
- AIMSITHE - Discovered



Image Credit - BothAnd Group

Reimagine Loughrea

Produced By	Irish Architecture Foundation and BothAnd Group
Date	18 September - 10 October 2020
Location	Loughrea and Online
Web	Reimagine Loughrea

Under the **Reimagine Loughrea** project 'The Walks' in the heart of Loughrea became the location of a unique site-specific installation entitled *Through Thinning Landscapes*. Walking through a tunnel of green, at the end you would arrive at your grass-framed reflection in a looming mirror. Hemmed in between sloping banks of intense green lawn, the reflection trimmed out the overhanging trees, cutting you off from the diversity of surrounding nature, providing a space for contemplation. As Pádraic Fogarty describes it in his book Whittled Away, Irish wildlife has "been squeezed into . . . thin ribbons of treelines and hedgerows".

This project aimed to create an awareness-shifting experience for the individual: to provide a mandate for empathy with all stakeholders, including plants and animals, with whom we share our environment. Through experiencing the installation, the project drew attention to the loss of the richness of life in the Irish landscape, and to inspire people to take action to resolve urgent biospherical issues.

In addition to the installation itself the project also hosted a number of public talks and a podcast panel discussion to raise awareness of the project and its core messages.

Merlin Through Time

Produced By	Friends of Merlin Woods
Date	September 2020 to April 2021
Location	Merlin Woods, Galway City and Online
Web	Friends of Merlin Woods

Merlin Through Time comprised of a series of events and projects celebrating Merlin Woods as a vital green space and nature reserve in Galway City and raising awareness about biodiversity, loss of habitat and how we need to better protect and manage our woodlands.

Am I Nature was a theatre piece performed on Culture Night in September 2020 for a small audience in Merlin Woods Community Garden and also presented online. The performance explored what impact the first COVID-19 lockdown had on our green spaces and how society had developed a renewed appreciation of nature during this period.

The Hearth of Winter is an annual event that celebrates the woods, remembers all that has passed in the preceding year and looks forward to the year ahead with hope and renewal in mind. For 2020 Friends of Merlin Woods created a very special event given the pain and poignancy that the year 2020 brought. This included engagement activities with local schools in the lead up to the event and then a livestreamed performance from the woods by the Corrib String Quartet followed by the lighting of the woods very own Christmas Tree.

Creating With Nature was the final iteration of the project and was presented in April 2021. Creating With Nature featured the creation of a range of temporary, non-intrusive pieces of woodland art which were documented through video and photography creating an educational resource for local schools, community and cultural groups.



Image Credit - C Stanley



Image Credit - Darach Photography

Make A Joyful Noise

Produced By	Gliondar Athenry Community Arts
Date	03 October 2020 and 20 December 2020
Location	Athenry
Web	Make A Joyful Noise

Make A Joyful Noise brought together an eclectic mix of people of all ages, cultures and backgrounds to create a unique piece of street theatre that provided a short sharp burst of joy for the local community in Athenry in early October 2020.

After months of challenging rehearsals and just before Ireland entered its 2nd lockdown Gliondar brought its Make A Joyful Noise performance to 3 housing estates in Athenry where the local community could enjoy this very special performance in a safe and fun environment.

The project proved so popular that it got another, reworked outing entitled 'Follow That Star' on 20 December bringing some Christmas cheer to the streets of Athenry.

The Space Between

Produced By	Headford Lace Project
Date	10 to 18 October 2020
Location	Headford
Web	The Space Between

Lacemaking is a traditional practice embedded in the social and economic history of countries worldwide for generations. Curated by international lace artist, Fiona Harrington, **The Space Between** was an international exhibition of lace, comprising of artwork selected from 34 artists, from 11 countries across 4 different continents, all unified by one common interest, Lace.



Running from 10-18 October 2020, this show provided a platform for those working with this medium to share their work with the people of Headford and further afield. Taking the form of an art trail, the windows of local businesses and buildings were transformed into a series of tiny galleries.

The title of the exhibition references the way in which lace is defined by the 'space' between the threads, as well as highlighting how lace exists in an 'in-between' space, completely open to interpretation, adaptation and innovation.

Cultural Horizons

Produced By Clifden 2012 Committee and Mexican Community of Galway

Date 10 - 18 October 2020 and 4 - 20 December 2020

Location Clifden

Web Cultural Horizons

Cultural Horizons celebrated the unique cultural connections between Mexico and Ireland and in particular Clifden which was officially twinned in 2012 with the historic neighbourhood of Coyoacan in Mexico City.

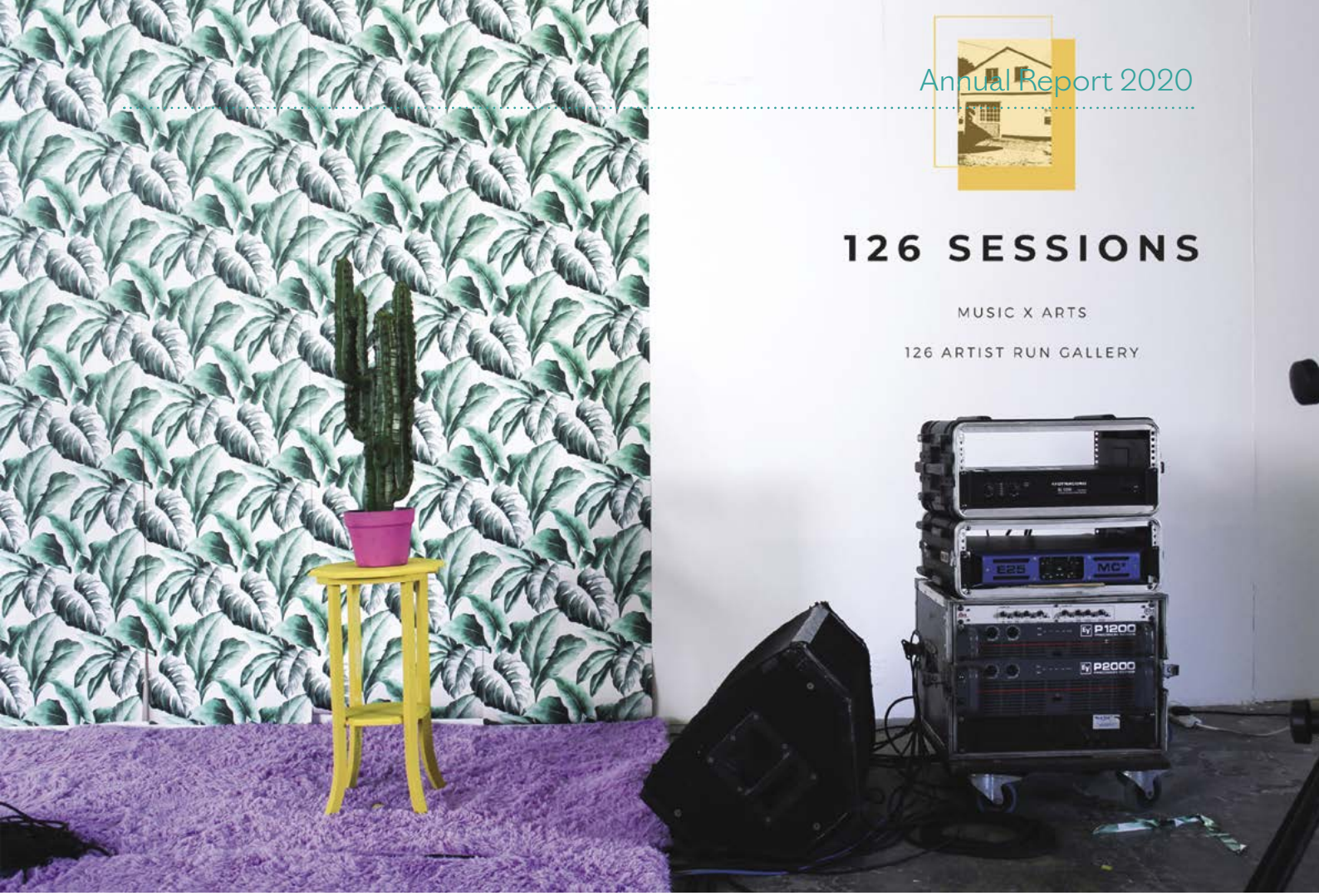
Originally planned as an expression of the shared ancient traditions of Samhain and Día De Los Muertos, the festival programme had to be reconfigured due to COVID-19 restrictions and as such was presented in two iterations.

October saw the installation of a traditional Dia De Los Muertos altar or ofrenda in the town centre and the broadcast of a number of radio shows discussing the cultural connections and shared histories.

The project was then concluded in December with a very special photographic exhibition charting the lives of Mexico's most famous couple, Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera plus a candle lit vigil in the cemetery in the heart of the town to mark the Winter Solstice.



Image Credit - Kathrina Rupit



Circuit Arts Festival

Produced By	126 Artist Run Gallery
Date	December 2020, March and April 2021
Location	Galway City
Web	Circuit Arts Festival

Originally planned as a new ten-day transdisciplinary art festival, inviting you to rediscover Galway City in new and unexpected ways, **Circuit Arts Festival** was presented as a series of online and in-person events from late 2020 through to April 2021 providing a platform for some of the most exciting young artists in Galway and Ireland.

In December Circuit One saw the project create a pop-up gallery in Galway city centre to present a visual arts exhibition featuring works from 10 emerging and established artists.

In March 2021 Circuit Speaks and Circuit Poetry Slam hosted live online events showcasing a diverse range of spoken word artists and poets.

Finally April saw the release of a series of live music performances prerecorded at 126 Artist Run Gallery.

Zones of Transit

Produced By Francis Heery and Ciarán Óg Arnold

Date 15 January 2021

Location Online

Web Zones of Transit

Zones of Transit was an audio-visual composition, a mixed media essay, using sound and image to create an abstract psycho-geography of the town of Ballinasloe and its surrounding landscapes.

The title references the river crossing at Ballinasloe, which has been a major route between East and West for centuries. It also references the trains that criss-cross the cutaway bogs around Ballinasloe. Finally it echoes the sense of layered memory and currents of deep time that seem to flow through the midlands of Ireland.

Irish composer Francis Heery's and photographer Ciaran Óg Arnold's short film is a meditation on myth, voice, the passing of time, and the rich cultural heritage of the midlands, evoking the hidden moods and resonances of the area.



Image Credit - Ciarán Óg Arnold

Giant Steps

Produced By Des Kilbane and Scoil Bhríde Shantalla

Date 19 February 2021

Location Online

Web Giant Steps

Giant Steps tells the story of 9 pupils from Scoil Bhríde Primary School. In September 2019 film maker Des Kilbane commenced filming with the 6th class students of Scoil Bhríde Shantalla as they plotted their journey of finishing primary school and graduating to "big school". The film set out to capture the highs and lows of this group of young people in their final year in primary school; and what a strange and challenging year it turned out to be.

The film gives us an insight into the most extraordinary year for generations that 2020 turned out to be and the impact that it had on young peoples lives with lockdown, social distancing, home schooling and the giant step to secondary school all being navigated by these resilient young people.



Image Credit - Des Kilbane

Shot By The Sea

Produced By Teresa Lavina, Liza Bolton and The Village Salthill

Date 25 February 2021

Location Online

Web Shot By The Sea

Shot By The Sea is a new short film festival originally developed under the Small Towns Big Ideas programme in 2019 when it hosted a hugely successful gala screening and awards event in Salthill. The project celebrates coastal culture, identity and landscape and engages with established and amateur film makers across Galway, Ireland and the world. Coastal stories, coastal communities. Shot by the coast, screened by the coast.

The second edition of the festival was originally due to be held in April 2020 but had to be postponed and reconfigured and was presented as an online film festival in February 2021. The event featured a selection of short film screenings, discussions with well known film makers and the presentation of Shot By The Sea awards to the winners.



Clay Journeys

Produced By	Clay Galway
Date	13 March 2021
Location	Online
Web	Clay Journeys

Clay Journeys drew together the explorations of nine community projects facilitated in Galway city and county by Clay Galway artists. Through the creation of clay boats, each community explored the Galway 2020 themes of Landscape, Language and Migration.

The clay boats honour stories of migration both present day and historic. Each community has its own identity and stories in relation to the symbolism involved in the form of the boats that they created and the methodologies used.

The boat is a symbol, a container of stories. The clay boats celebrate the all-encompassing presence of water in the Galway landscape and in the language of clay making.

The original vision and plan for the project involved a physical exhibition and a collaboration with our sister city Rijeka 2020. While this was not possible the project did create a fantastic online exhibition where the work of the Clay Journeys artists and the communities they worked with can be viewed through an impressive array of photographs, video and text.

Galway Sessions

Produced By Galway Sessions

Date 17, 23 and 31 March 2021

Location Online

Web Galway Sessions

Originally scheduled to take place in June 2020 as a special edition of the famous traditional Irish music festival, **Galway Sessions** presented 3 special online concerts recorded at Druid Theatre in March 2021.

The sessions kicked off on 17 March St. Patrick's Day featuring piper Páidín Breathnach, fiddler Liz Coleman and Galway folk legend Greg Cotter with special guest appearances by whistlers Mick Crehan and Sean Ryan, concertina players Aine McHugh and Liam O'Brien and the great Mairtin O'Connor and friends.

The second session, broadcast on 23 March, featured Mick Crehan and concertina player Liam O'Brien, TG4 Gradam Ceoil Ceoltóir Óg na Bliana in 2017, playing and discussing the music and compositions of Martin Junior Crehan - a fiddler, composer and folklore bearer of note and was a founder member and president of Scoil Samhraidh Willie Clancy in Miltown Malbay, Co. Clare.

The final session, broadcast on 31 March, featured whistle maestro Sean Ryan who is recognised as one of the foremost exponents of tin whistle playing in Ireland today. He is best known for his distinctive staccato style of playing and for his extensive repertoire and knowledge of traditional music.



The Land is on Drugs

Produced By Breda Larkin and Talamh Beo

Date 18 March 2021

Location Online

Web The Land is on Drugs

The Land is on Drugs was a webinar focused on our relationship with the land and the future of farming, Originally planned as a fair day with a difference; a day of dialogue, discussion and exhibitions due to take place in Ballinasloe in October 2020, the project had to move online and took the form of a webinar in March 2021.

The Land is on Drugs brought together a diverse panel of artists, activists and farmers to take a light-hearted look at some very serious and uncomfortable issues such as who are the next generation of farmers; what is the future of small farms; and what will rural Ireland look like in 10 years time.

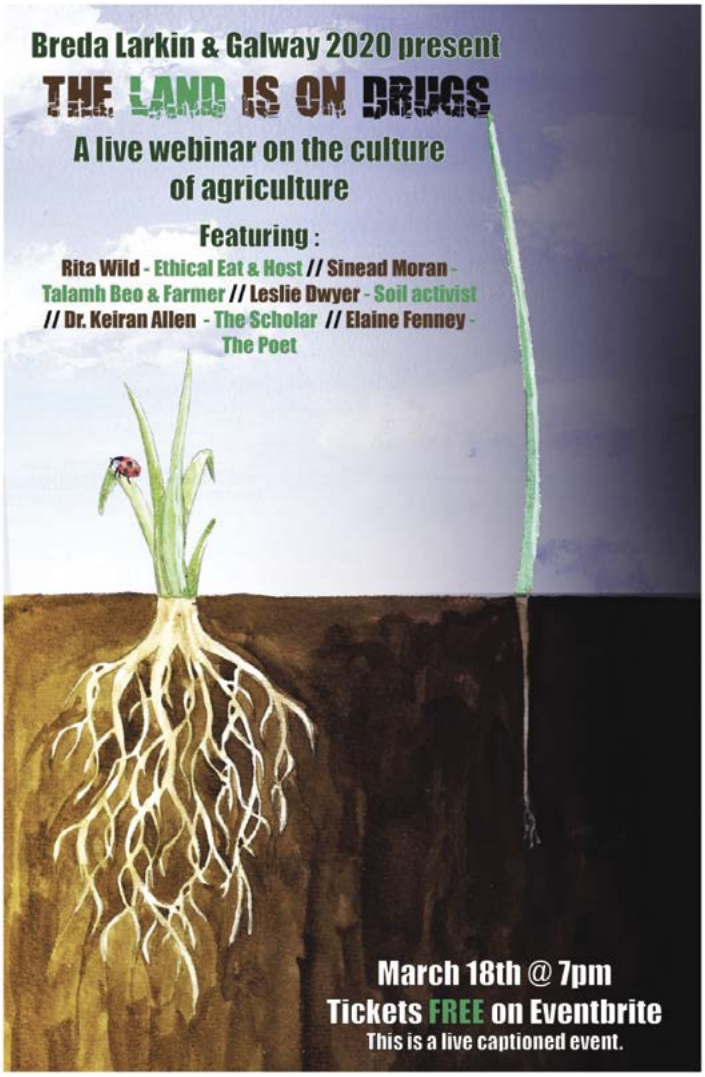




Image Credit - Peter Cutler

Faoin Spéir

Produced By	Oranmore Tidy Towns
Date	25 March 2021
Location	Online
Web	Faoin Spéir

Faoin Spéir focused on our relationship with migratory birds - those in Galway Bay and the bigger global picture around migratory patterns and how these are changing.

Long before humans arrived in Ireland, migratory birds have filled our skies and populated our lands and seas. In Summer they came to escape the heat of Africa and rear their offspring. In Winter they escaped from the frozen Arctic to feed on our shores and in our fields. Climate change and modern farming techniques mean that there are now pressing concerns about the changes we are witnessing to these millennial old migratory patterns. Faoin Spéir presented this story through folklore, film and contemporary ecological study.

Unable to realise its original plan of a film screening and panel discussion in Oranmore Cinema, the project hosted an online version of this event. The panel included the Faoin Spéir team of folklorist Dr Críostóir Mac Cárthaigh, marine ecologist Andrew Power and filmmaker Peter Cutler with well-known broadcaster and ecologist Anja Murray chairing the discussion. In addition to the presentations and discussions by the panelists the event also included the screening of a short version of the stunning documentary film 'Rockabill'.

Circle of Wells

Produced By Jennifer Cunningham, Midie Corcoran, Tuam Tidy Towns

Date 16 April 2021

Location Online

Web Circle of Wells

Circle of Wells celebrated our deep spiritual and cultural relationship with ancient and Holy wells and sense of place. Building on the work and activities done around the Abbey Trinity Well in Tuam in recent years, this project explored the history, heritage, folklore, and rituals associated with this and other wells in the wider locality. The project re-positioned ancient wells at the centre of the community as a source of physical and spiritual wellbeing and poses important and challenging questions about our current relationship with water and the environment.

Circle of Wells involved a series of video interviews with local historians discussing the social and cultural history and stories of these wells. These videos are complimented by a series of specially created drawings from local artists Jennifer Cunningham exploring the unique place that wells hold in our society.



Image Credit - Jennifer Cunningham

Amhráin

Produced By Citóg Records and The Black Gate

Date 17 April 2021

Location Online

Web Amhráin

In March 2021, members of the Citóg Records music collective created new versions of their favourite songs by local artists, past and present. The result was **Amhráin**, a series of intimate performances filmed in beautiful and iconic locations in Galway city such as The Cornstore, Bell, Book & Candle and the Galway Arts Centre.

A showcase and celebration of Galway's vibrant music scene Amhráin featured an impressive list of songwriters and musicians including Field Trip, Dylan Murphy, Katie O'Connor, Eoin Dolan, Steven Sharpe, Tracy Bruen, Jack Lee, Emma Lohan and The Curly Organ, Amhráin was released online on 17 April on the Black Gate Youtube Channel.



Stories of the Galway Market

Produced By St. Nicholas Market Traders and Wild Island Pictures

Date 21 April 2021

Location Online

Web Stories of the Galway Market

Stories of The Galway Market – Art, Artisans, Agriculture was a short documentary film celebrating Galway's bustling street market in the heart of the city. The iconic Galway Market has been taking place in the city for centuries in the shadow of St. Nicholas Church. It continues to flourish today providing a livelihood for 100 traders selling an eclectic mix of fresh produce, food and crafts. It is a hub of social interaction and a meeting place for people of all races, culture, social background and ages. The market is a vibrant community contributing to the sustainability and regeneration of the city centre and providing it with a distinct character, identity and culture.

Filmed by Dawid Piotr Szlaga of Wild Island Pictures the film documented the history of the market reflecting Galway's connection to Europe and the wider world. Featuring new and old footage and interviews with the market traders this special film provided previously unseen insights into the amazing diversity that the market sustains, the warm and colourful personalities of its traders, and also the philosophy that underpins their trading.



Image Credit - David Szlaga

Echoes of Calling

Produced By Áras Éanna, Galway Dance Project and Office ALB Japan

Date 21 April 2021

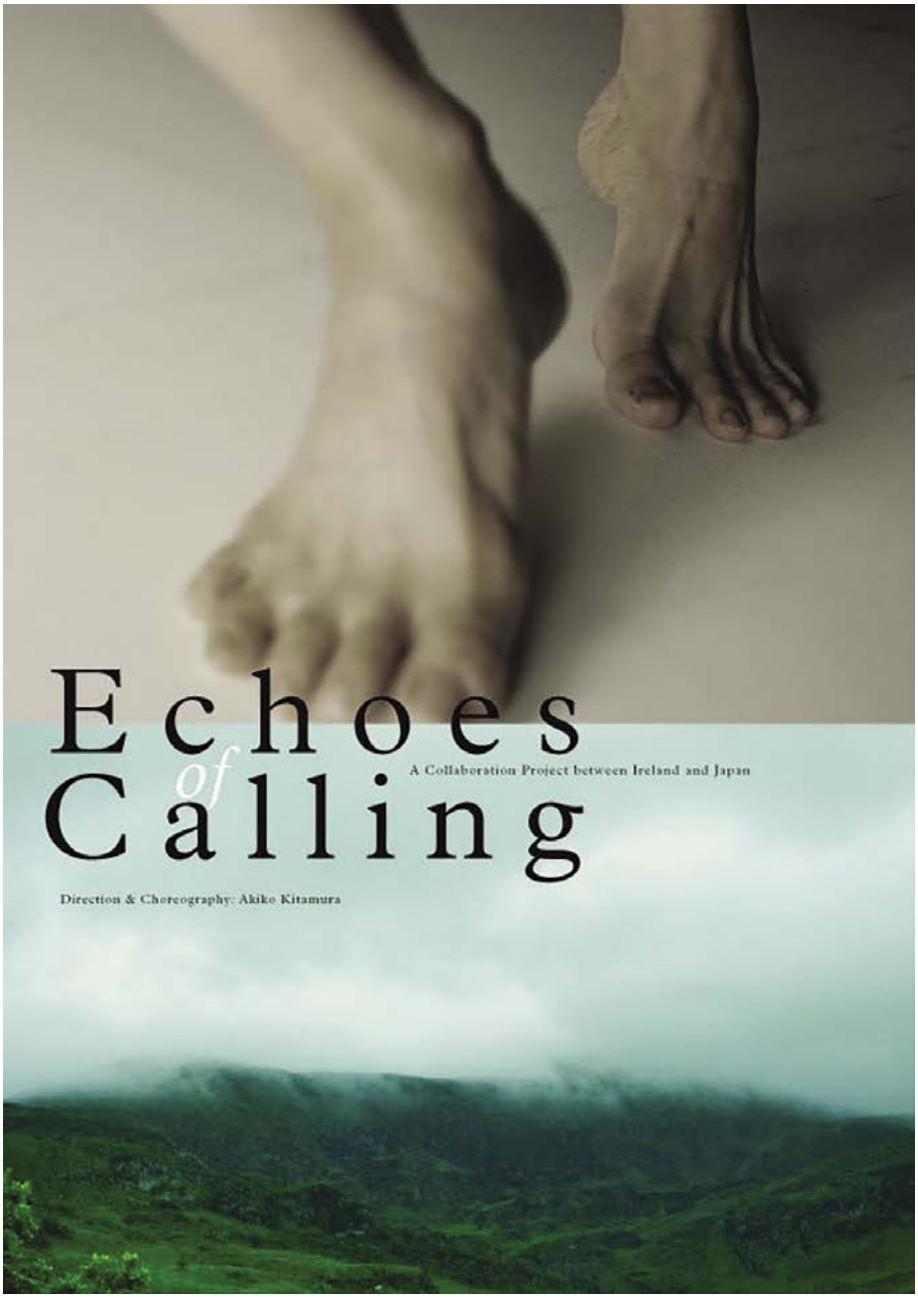
Location Online

Web Echoes of Calling

Echoes of Calling represented a unique partnership between one of the largest cities in the world, Tokyo and the smallest of the Aran Islands, Inis Oirr.

Acclaimed Japanese dance choreographer Akiko Kitamura used online workshops and rehearsals to collaborate with three West of Ireland dancers on a piece inspired by her visit to Galway in 2019.

Filming took place in South Connemara and the resulting short film includes Japanese and Irish contemporary dance, Irish sean-nós singing, and connects the performance in a Tokyo theatre in January with the wild and barren landscape of Connemara and Inis Oírr.



The Well Gathering

Produced By Annaghdown Cultural Community Group

Date 22 April 2021

Location Annaghdown, Co. Galway

Woodpark Well, Annaghdown, is a piece of architectural heritage. For hundreds of years it provided water to every household in the area, and was a focus point for celebration and social gathering in the community. **The Well Gathering**, a short film, was a reimagined online version of the ancient tradition of celebrations held at the village well.

The film reenacted this tradition through original music performed at the well by local musicians, Noelie Mc Donnell (The Whileaways) and William Merrigan. This performance set the scene for the unveiling of a series of landscape paintings by locally renowned artist, William Duggan.

The project and the film aimed to create a renewed awareness of the importance of a local well as a source of clean untreated water, which is becoming a rare commodity due to climate change.



Our Words, One Voice

Produced By ARD Family Resource Centre

Date 24 April 2021

Location Online

Web Our Words, One Voice

Working with spoken word artist Kelvin Akpaloo and film maker Mia Mullarkey, ARD Family Resource Centre brought together a group of local young people to explore a creative outlet for issues they feel passionate about. The results were Our Words, One Voice.

Our Words, One Voice provided a platform for these young voices to express their opinions and aspirations on issues such as climate change, discrimination, isolation, self-acceptance and mental wellbeing of young people.

Our Words, One Voice premiered a short film created for the project at the EYE on the Edge festival in April 2021.



Galway Sound Harvest

Produced By ATMOS Collective

Date 25 April 2021

Location Online

Web Galway Sound Harvest

Galway Sound Harvest showcased original hip-hop tracks, written, recorded and produced in a series of innovative music workshops with young people in Galway city and county. Produced by local creative group ATMOS Collective the music in this project is performed by talented young poets, rappers, singers and musicians, these tracks radiate with creativity and diversity, featuring many different languages and musical styles. Galway Sound Harvest culminated in the launch of its short film at the EYE on the Edge festival documenting the project and its original music.



Image Credit - Avi Ratnayake



Image Credit - Julien Dorgere

Super8 Shots

Produced By Super8 Ireland

Date 29 April 2021

Location Online

Web Super8 Shots

This unique project facilitated a collaboration between two European Capitals of Culture – Galway 2020 and Kaunas 2022. **Super8 Shots** presented a very special online film screening event featuring unseen footage gathered from Galway's past and Kaunas, Lithuania's present.

A truly European collaboration, the project involved online Super8 Film workshops with Kaunas based artists and aspiring filmmakers. The subsequent films gave a glimpse into this charming, soon-to-be European Capital of Culture and also rare, never seen before 8mm and 16mm digitally remastered amateur footage from Galway and Ireland dating back to the 1950s, 60s and 70s, with an original piano soundtrack composed by Galway based composer Julien Dorgere.

Bee Loud

Produced By Kiltiernan National School and Veronika Straberger

Date 30 April 2021

Location Online

Web Bee Loud

Kiltiernan National School in partnership with artist Veronika Straberger commenced the **Bee Loud** project in September 2019 to develop an appreciation of the amazing life of bees, their steady worrying decline and the ways in which we could help to preserve and expand biodiverse habitats. The title of the project was inspired by a poem by WB Yeats who is associated with nearby Coole and Thoor Ballylee.

The project sought to build awareness within the school community, and beyond, of the importance of conserving and protecting bees. Ultimately the staff and children plan to use the knowledge gained to 'bee loud' environmental ambassadors and to advocate for the conservation of hedgerows and wildflowers in our local community and to positively impact on local environmental policies and projects.

The Bee Loud project brought together a strong interdisciplinary creative of artists, environmentalists and local community activists and the work of the project including short film, photographs, poetry and artwork will all be presented in the Bee Loud Virtual Exhibition.



Image Credit - Cormac McMahon

Ballinfoile Community Arts

Produced By Ballinfoile Castlegar Neighbourhood Centre

Date April 2021

Location Ballinfoile, Castlegar, Terryland, Galway City

This project was originally planned a new community festival for the Ballinfoile area; a festival that would bring together and showcase the best of the area through art, culture, heritage, sports and community activity.

Unfortunately, due to lockdowns it was not possible to host the festival in its original vision and instead the project was reimagined as a community arts programme with local groups and schools that developed a number of public arts pieces located throughout the area including Tirellan and Castlegar National Schools, Foróige groups and Terryland Forest Park.



5. Regional Programme

In addition to the Bid Book projects, the continued support of Irish Public Bodies Insurances for the Galway 2020 Participation Grant scheme, gave local authorities the opportunity to be affiliated with our programme through the engagement of local artists in the development of new events in their areas.

Many of the regional projects were partnered with artists or projects from the Galway 2020 programme. The regional programme was facilitated through Galway City Council in partnership with Galway 2020 and led to a who range of wonderful collaboration between the local authorities' arts services and wider teams.

The following local authorities participated in the regional programme and the projects are listed on the following pages:

- Clare County Council
- Roscommon County Council
- Cork County Council
- Offaly County Council
- Tipperary County Council
- Waterford County Council
- Dublin City Council
- Limerick City Council



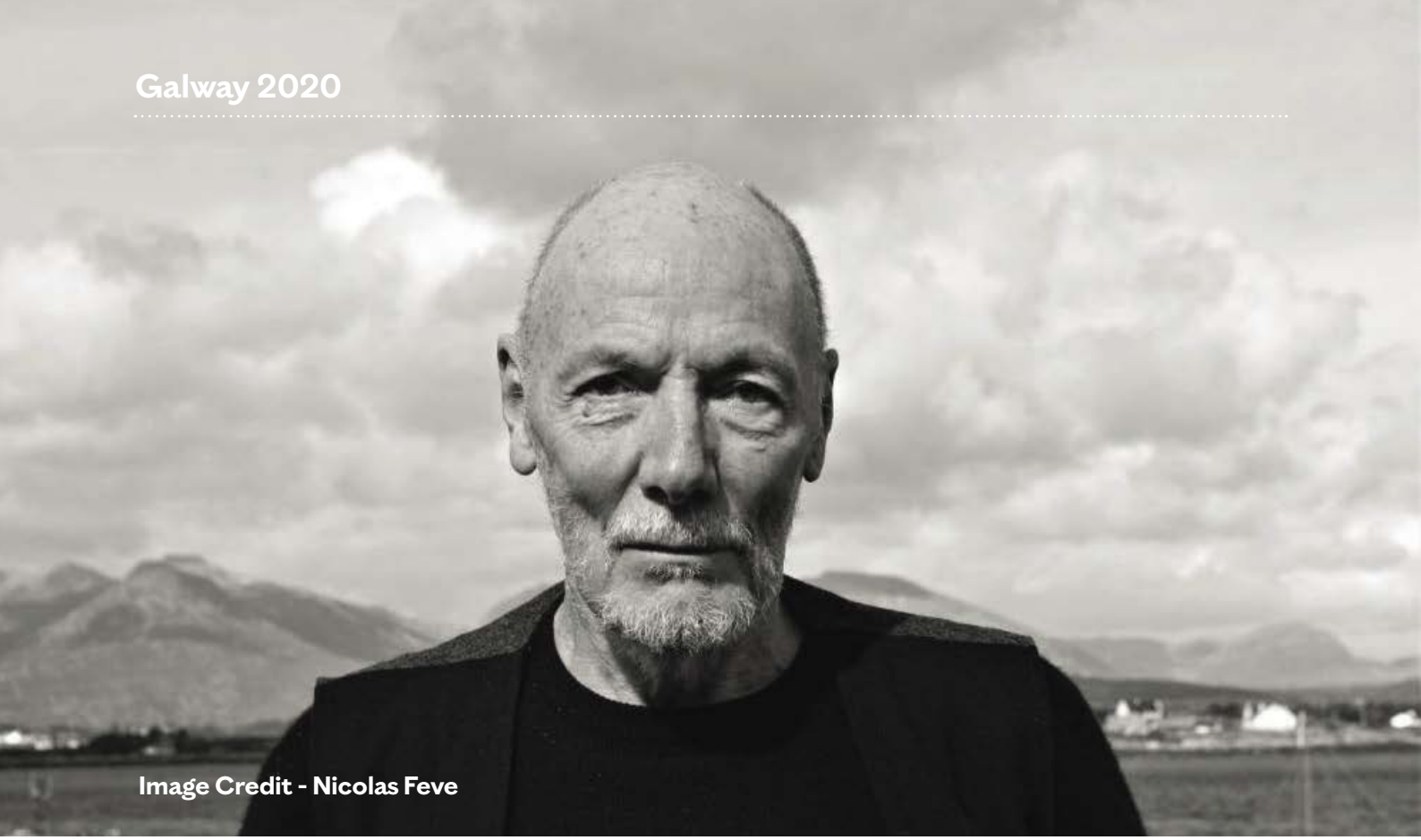


Image Credit - Nicolas Feve

Unfolding Maps: A Celebration of Tim Robinson - Dublin

Produced By	International Literature Festival Dublin
Dates	23 – 28 October 2020
Location	Online
Web	Unfolding Maps

Unfolding Maps was a special celebration of the life and work of Tim Robinson, the English writer, cartographer, mathematician, artist and illustrator who spent more than 40 years chronicling the west of Ireland. Best known for his two-volume Stones of Aran and the Connemara trilogy: *Listening to the Wind, The Last Pool of Darkness,* and *A Little Gaelic Kingdom,* his many awards included the Irish Book Awards literature medal and the Rooney prize special award for literature. His intricately detailed maps of Connemara lay at the heart of his artistic practice, and have inspired a generation of cartographers in expressing the Irish landscape.

Unfolding Maps presented a programme of events including a film screening, walks, talks and a panel discussion hosted by Fintan O'Toole and featuring some of Tim Robinson's friends and collaborators; poet Moya Cannon, photographer Nicolas Fève, and Robert Macfarlane, to discuss his influence on their own work, whether written or visual, and their meetings and collaborations with him across the Irish landscape.

Cahoots: The Space Between - Cork

Produced By	**Sample-Studio**
Dates	18 December 2020 to 28 February 2021
Locations	Online
Web	Cahoots: The Space Between

Cahoots: The Space Between was a digital exhibition created from a collaboration between artists from Galway, Dublin and Cork. Building on Sample-Studios' previous exchanges with Engage Art Studios and A4 Sounds, artists from all three studios came together, through a series of online artist-led workshops and group exchanges to develop works responding to the project themes of Language and Landscape.

The exhibition included artworks which explore the histories embedded within objects and spaces; to explorations of aphasia, anxiety and loss; to artworks examining the markers of place and time, language barriers, and otherness. The mediums included hologram, sculpture, morse code, soil, photography, installation, embroidery and an interactive sound/art walk.



Image Credit - Sinéad Barrett

The Shoes of Edenderry - Offaly

Produced By Creative Edenderry and Offaly County Council

Dates 19 – 21 March 2021

Location Edenderry and Online

Web The Shoes of Edenderry



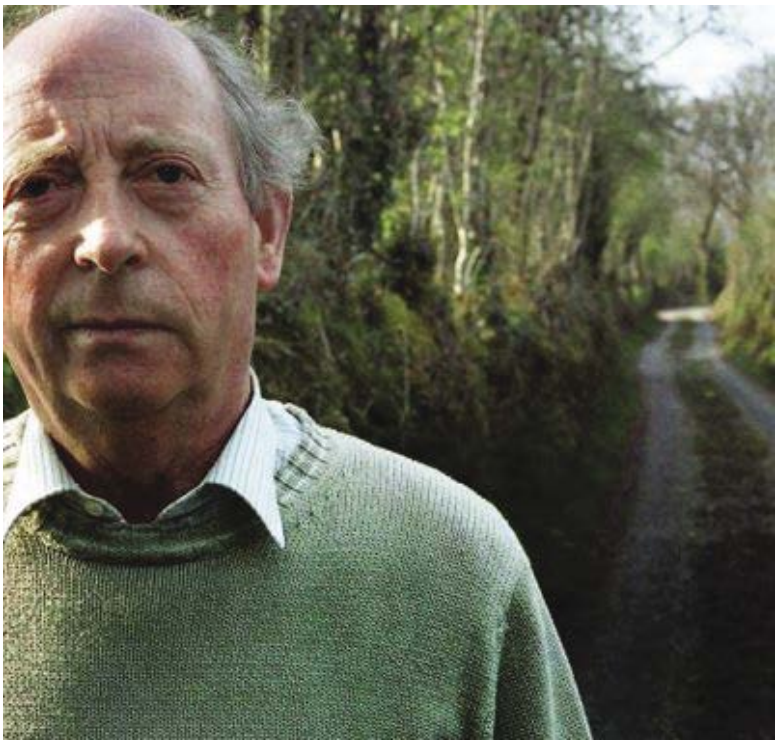
Creative Edenderry is a grassroots arts community organisation with the aim of promoting creative activity in Edenderry. **Shoes of Edenderry** was a series of projects developed by the group paying homage to the fondly remembered former Edenderry Shoe Factory which closed in 1991 after 50 years. It has brought young and old together and acts as a reminder that "you can't judge someone until you've walked a mile in their shoes".

The project included the creation of a book, a special glass commission and a photographic exhibition.

Cootehall Barracks - John McGahern Early Years - Roscommon

Produced By	Cootehall Community Development Group & Roscommon County Council
Dates	9 – 30 April 2021
Location	Online
Web	John McGahern Barracks

'Everything interesting begins with one person and one place.' – John McGahern



Launched on 9 April with a day of celebrations with the local community for the new permanent McGahern Interpretive Experience.

You could visit the Day Room in the Barracks, immortalised in his work, view items from his writings such as an old fishing rod, an old oar from the tar boat, a sacred heart lamp, framed photos and much more. Selected books alongside large format visuals and audio extracts from each book were available.

You could also visit the Barracks Room, a room dedicated to the barracks itself and those who served there including Sgt McGahern. There, you saw a map showing the area covered by the Garda on duty, a day book, telephone and other items mentioned in John McGahern's novels.

The day was introduced by Mary Mc Aleese, former President of Ireland who discussed the exhibition and viewers could listen to a few short passages from Mc Gaherns work, whilst being able to see some of the displays and memorabilia that they can expect to see when restrictions are lifted.

Coming Full Circle - Clare

Produced By Clare Arts Office and Burren College of Art

Dates 26 – 30 April 2021

Location Online

Web Coming Full Circle

Produced by Áine Phillips and the Burren College of Art. Supported by Creative Ireland. Filmed on location at Doolin Point, The Cliffs of Moher, Co. Clare, Ireland

In 1975, world-renowned sculptor Richard Long created "A Circle in Ireland" on Doolin Point, at The Cliffs of Moher, Co. Clare. Over the years the stone circle has fallen into disrepair.

The Burren College of Art students and staff in collaboration with Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture, Clare Arts Office and Creative Ireland restored the circle during a performative event filmed on location in February 2021.



Image Credit - Peter Laban

Murals for Communities

Galway 2020 Edition - Waterford

Produced by	Waterford City and County Council in partnership with The Walls Project
Dates	24 May – 14 June 2021
Location	Inisbofin & Oranmore
Web	Murals for Communities Galway 2020 Edition

Waterford City and County Council partnered with The Walls Project to explore and capture the potential of mural arts as a tool for community engagement.

For Galway 2020, the initiative saw the co-creation of two original large outdoor mural artworks in Co. Galway, with three local community groups working with Magdalena Karol, an Irish-based Polish Street Artist and illustrator. Community groups include Brampton Care Home in Oranmore and the Community Services Programme in Inisbofin.

This was done through the facilitation of thematic workshops with the community, based on local language, landscape and migration. Wonderful ideas were elicited throughout the workshops: lovely insights on the Irish Dance Halls very popular in the '60s, and mythological pearls on the Inisbofin island.

Murals for Communities is a Creative Europe initiative, co-funded by the Arts Council of Ireland.



Image Credit - Karl Kachmarsky

Wires Crossed - Tipperary

Produced by Cloughjordan Circus Club and Tipperary County Council

Dates 26 September – 31 March 2021

Location Cloughjordan, Co. Tipperary

Web Wires Crossed - Tipperary

Wires Crossed Tipperary offered the amazing opportunity for individuals and groups to experience the positive impacts of taking part in an exciting Funambulism / Wire Walking community programme.

The community circus programme invited participants to try out funambulism during a two-day public event on September 26 & 27 2020. Cloughjordan Circus Club introduced an outdoor wire walking workshops on The Village Green, St Kierans Hall. Participants got the opportunity to walk wires using a 4m pole for balance - and great for social distancing!



The phase two autumn/spring programme of Funambulism took place from October 2020 – March 2021 by Cloughjordan Circus Club in collaboration with Galway Community Circus.

Cloughjordan Circus Club is a youth arts organisation based in Cloughjordan, Co. Tipperary, which provides high-quality circus training, workshops and performance opportunities for young people aged 8-25 years.



Samhain: Limericks Halloween Festival 2020

Produced By: Limerick City and County Council & Lumen Street Theatre

Dates 29 – 30 October 2020

Location Online

Web Samhain

Limerick City and County Council in association with award winning Lumen Street Theatre presented **Samhain**, Limerick's Halloween Festival online. This boutique festival of story and folklore celebrated local cultural heritage and Samhain traditions through a family friendly free programme of talks, fireside readings, workshops and a parade with Lumen Street Theatre. All events will took place online.

6. Schools Programme

Galway 2020 continued to develop its schools engagement work during 2020 and 2021. This involved working in partnership with the PDST (Professional Development Service for Teachers), GRETB (Galway and Roscommon Education and Training Board) and other education partners.

A core element of the overall vision for Galway 2020 was that we would create new and exciting opportunities for school children to be both audience and participants in the cultural programme. Despite the school closures and restrictions experienced throughout 2020 and into 2021 a considerable number of projects in the programme still managed to engage directly with local schools in the creation and delivery of their projects. Examples of this work included:

Create Dangerously - TULCA Education Programme - a new arts education programme designed for school groups and teachers. TULCA has commissioned three Irish artists to create new artworks for the project. Editions of these works will become permanent parts of the Create Dangerously programme which opens to schools nationally after its pilot in Spring 2021.

DruidGregory - as part of the DruidGregory Education and Community Programme, primary and secondary school students and teachers across Ireland can now avail of free resources that explore and highlight two extraordinary Galway writers, Lady Gregory and Tom Murphy**.** The programme also included a number of special school performances of the Tom Murphy play *On The Outside*.

Sruth na Teanga - Branar created a unique experience that brings young audiences on the epic journey of our native language. Sruth na Teanga was an immersive, bilingual theatre event that engaged with over 40 schools during its run in March 2020.

Virtually Here - a new classroom and teacher training programme in the field of AR and VR, delivered online and in partnership with CISCO and PDST.

To The Island - written by Galway children's writer Patricia Forde and published in Irish and English, copies of To The Island were gifted to thousands of children starting school in Galway in September 2020.

Bádóirí an Chladaigh Outdoor Classroom - moored in The Claddagh Basin Bádóirí an Chladaigh brought this unique outdoor classroom to local school children to learn the history and boating tradition of the Claddagh and the Galway Hookers, maritime folklore and essential water safety skills.

Small Towns Big Ideas - several Small Towns Big Ideas projects engaged directly with local schools in the creation of their projects through workshops and creative activities including Giant Steps short film, Clay Journeys online exhibition, Bee Loud school activities and online exhibition, Galway Sound Harvest music workshops and Merlin Through Time woodland walks.

7. International Relations

International Relations International Relations continue to be important and there is a strong European dimension embedded in many projects across the programme and across the wider project.

Throughout the lockdown period Galway 2020 has continued to engage and work closely with the international embassies and cultural institution based in Ireland to explore future co-programming and collaborations opportunities in light of restricted artist mobility and other challenges brought about due to COVID-19.

EU-Japan Fest

Galway 2020 continues to work closely with EU Japan Fest. During the period Galway 2020 announced 2 funding calls on behalf of EU Japan Fest which supports artist mobility, exchange and support and programming opportunities with Japanese Artists. A number of EU Japan Fest projects continued including the wonderful Woodford Furnace Festival and also Echoes of Calling, both online.

The Irish Embassy in Japan is a key partner in the development and support of the EU Japan Fest/ G2020 programme.

European Capitals of Culture (ECoC) Network

Galway 2020 has continued to work closely with other ECoCs and bidding cities. We participated in the weekly meetings of the ECoC Network during this time to seek ways to support our artists and retain strong EU connections in light of COVID-19

In February 2020, Galway 2020 hosted EU Media and EU Guests from the Capital of Culture Network for the Opening Series of Events.

The European Capitals of Culture Network was extremely active during COVID with many meetings, seminars and calls in relation to learning and exchanges during this difficult time for our sector.

British Royal Visit

We were delighted to host The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on 5 March while in Galway as part of their official visit to Ireland. The Royal couple added Galway to their itinerary as it is the European Capital of Culture 2020. During their visit the Royal visitors attended a special showcase by some of the projects for Galway 2020 – Livefeed, Galway Community Circus, Hoops and Manchán Magan presented Sea Tamagotchi. The showcase concluded with a group of fourteen drummers from the Galway 2020 Community Cast. The Royal Couple were presented with a signed first copy of Patricia Forde's book "To the Island" specially commissioned by Galway 2020.

The visit was a great success and attracted international media coverage for Galway and Galway 2020. There were over 200 international media accredited for the visit.

Rijeka Carnival

Macnas attended the 37th Carnival in Rijeka as part of an exchange between Galway 2020 and Rijeka 2020 European Capitals of Culture. Members of the Macnas Youth Ensemble travelled to perform in Croatia's largest Carnival in February 2020.

European Week of Regions

Galway 2020 along with Matera 2019 and Rijeka 2020 were selected to participate in the European Week of Regions in October 2020.

IETM Satellite Galway 2020 Meeting

Nineteen years after the International network for contemporary performing arts (IETM) hosted a Plenary Meeting in Galway, the network returned during Galway's 2020 European Capital of Culture term. This Satellite Galway 2020 Meeting tackled one of the most urgent topics of our time: Climate Action, with an artistic programme delivered by Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture artists.

IETM is a network of over 450 performing arts organisations and individual members working in the contemporary performing arts worldwide from theatre, dance, circus and performance, to interdisciplinary live art forms and new media. In response to the concerns of members, this meeting explores relationships between artists, the arts ecosystem and the planet. Through a digital programme of speeches, working groups, and conversations with artists, including world-renowned artistic directors Marc Mac Lochlainn and Garry Hynes, the role of mitigation, adaptation and artistic influence was explored, and actions identified for the performing arts ecosystem to be sustainable. It took place online in many homes, work and arts spaces in Galway, Europe and around the world on 2-3 December 2020.

The French Embassy in Ireland

Galway 2020 collaborated with the I**nstitut français** to host the Night of Ideas in February 2021 at Pálás. This was an online event.

Together with TULCA, Galway 2020 programmed French artists as part of the Galway 2020 Unselfing / TULCA programme with support from the French Embassy in Ireland.

Bidding European Capital of Culture Cities

Galway 2020 provided assistance and advice to several other cities that are bidding for the upcoming ECoC titles in their respective countries.

European Early Music Network / Réseau Européen de Musique Ancienne (REMA) In May 2021

Chateau de Versailles, A major venue, one of the most visited places in France and Galway 2020 ECOC jointly presented at REMA on delivering projects in a pandemic.

Chicago Sisters Cities

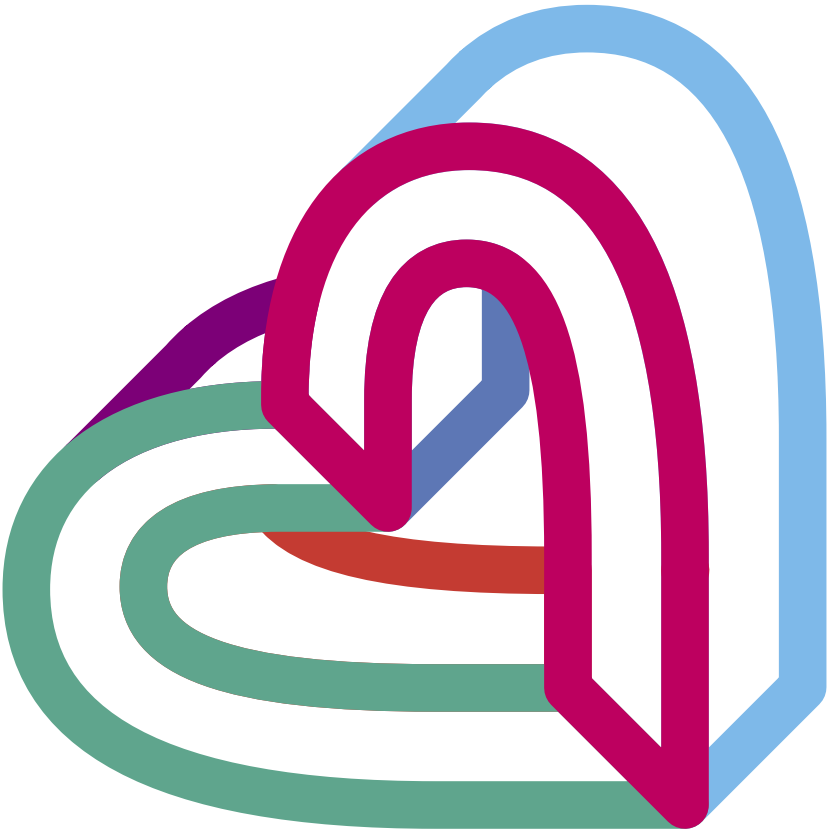
Galway 2020 presented to an overview of the programme to the Chicago Sister Cities Committee in May 2021. The event was attended online by Irish communities in Chicago.

Portuguese Ministry of Culture

At the invitation of the Portuguese Ministry of Culture Galway 2020 presented our experience along with other ECoCs on bidding and delivering an ECoC to Portuguese bidding cities.

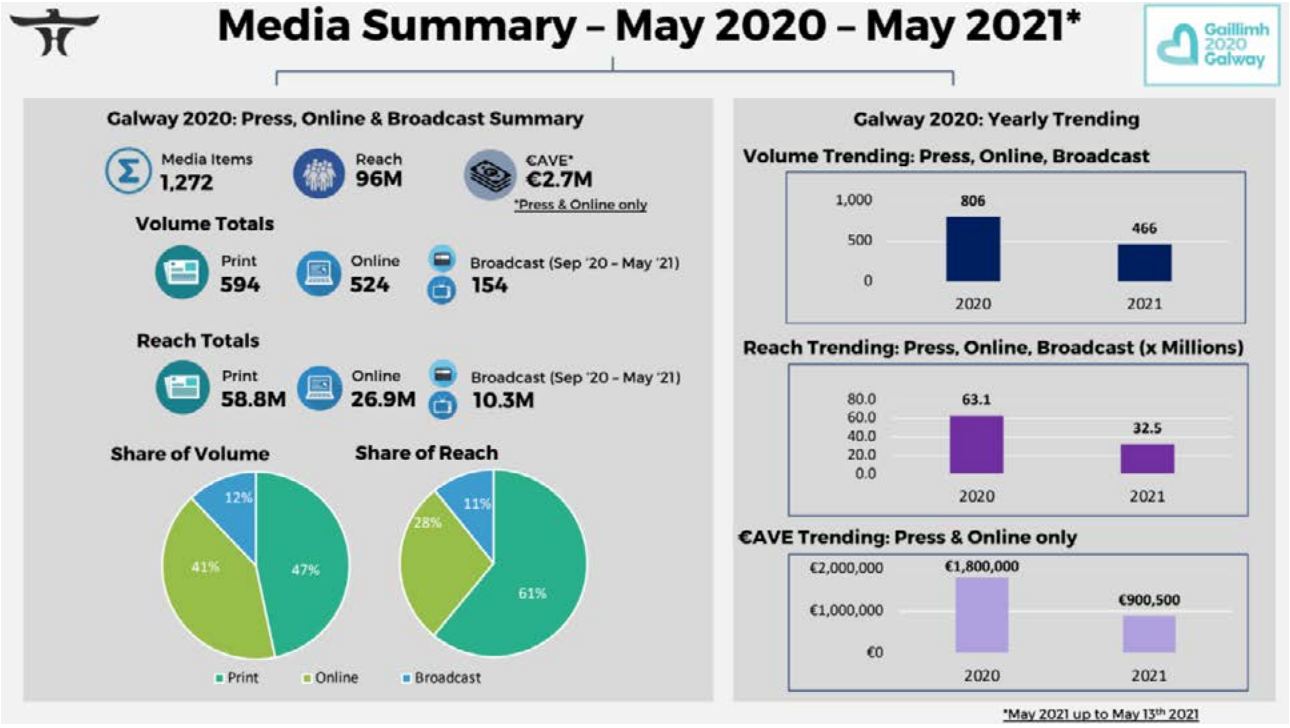
BRIGHT Denmark

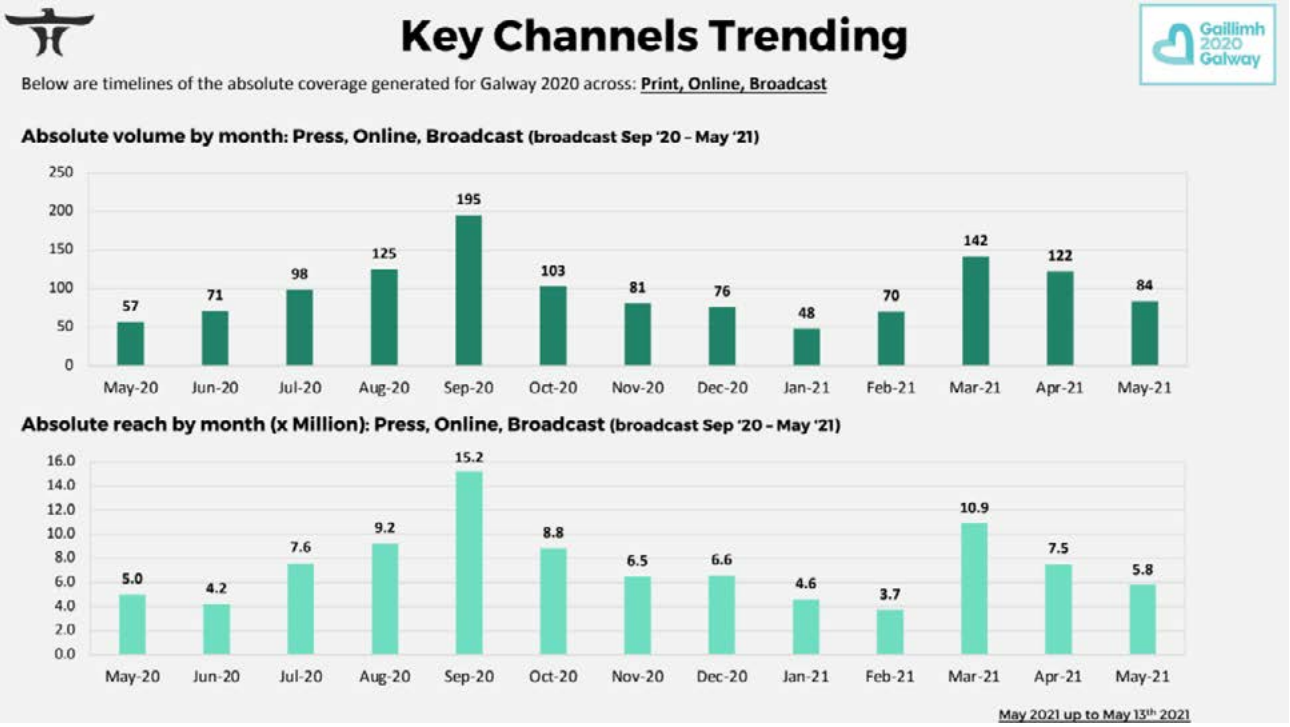
BRIGHT Denmark was a three-day virtual conference by Creative Business Network on 28 – 30 June 2021 that discussed entrepreneurship and creativity. It focused on the cultural and creative sectors and their positive impact on society, the economy, and sustainable development. Galway 2020 along with Aarhus 207 and Matera 2019 discussed the The Impact of European Capitals of Culture.



7. Media and Communications

During 2020 and 2021 Galway 2020 continued to have a large and international media reach. Overall reach across all campaigns was 96 million, with over 100,000 followers across its social media channels. There was sustained engagement across press, online and broadcast media as illustrated in the infographics presented below.





Report Summary: Press, Online, Broadcast

Gaillimh 2020 Galway

Overall Totals

Volume: 1,272

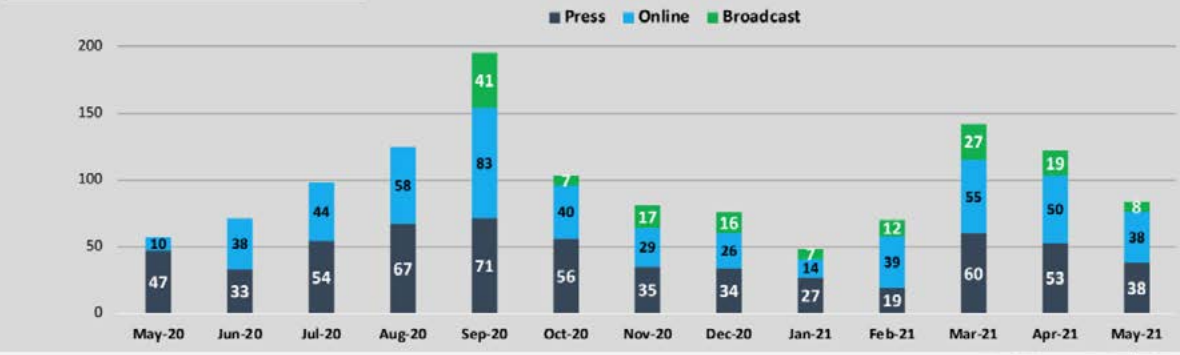
Potential Reach: 96M

Volume by Month

May* '20	Jun '20	Jul '20	Aug '20	Sep '20	Oct '20	Nov '20	Dec '20	Jan '21	Feb '21	Mar '21	Apr '21	May* 'M21
57	71	98	125	195	103	81	76	48	70	142	122	84

Volume by Channel — Print 594 — Online 524 — Broadcast (Sep '20 – May '21) 154

Volume by Month by Channel



May 2021 up to May 13th 2021

8. Wave Makers Volunteer Programme

As with all other aspects of the Galway 2020 programme work on the Wave Makers Volunteer Programme commenced well in advance of the title year 2020. The volunteer programmes of European Capitals of Culture and also UK Capitals of Culture have demonstrated their importance in mobilising large numbers of people and facilitating the direct participation of local people in capital of culture programmes. They have become highly visible, vibrant, diverse and inclusive expressions of active citizenship in their respective cities and regions.

The development of the Galway 2020 Wave Makers programme formally commenced in 2018 through research and consultations into best practice from other Capital of Culture volunteer programmes. The Wave Makers programme was formally launched in February 2019 with Medtronic being announced as the official partner of the Wave Makers programme in July 2019. By January 2020 the programme had recruited and trained over 800 people, creating a large and skilled team of people ready to support the delivery of the Galway 2020 programme and act as ambassadors for Galway during its special year.

One of the most defining characteristics of the Wave Maker programme from its very start has been the cultural diversity within the group. This is something that observers locally, nationally, and indeed internationally have consistently identified as a strong feature of the programme and something that is to be celebrated and learned from. With over 40 nationalities and 51 languages in the group, the Wave Makers programme is a true reflection of Galway's diversity.

As part of the vision for a large, active and participatory volunteer programme, the Galway 2020 Wave Makers Hub was refurbished and opened in the Cornstore in January 2020. A lively, open, accessible, and welcoming space in the city centre, the Wave Makers hub provided a physical space for the deployment of volunteers, training, workshops and small events, as well a public information point for the Galway 2020 programme.



Diversity has been a central feature of the Galway 2020 Wave Makers Programme

The onset of the global pandemic naturally had a big impact on the activities of the Wave Makers programme. This is particularly true of the first few months of lockdown when public activities and interaction were completely prohibited. However, as the Galway 2020 programme was reimagined and reconfigured the Wave Makers programme responded accordingly and from July 2020 onwards the programme was reactivated with over 300 Wave Makers supporting a wide range of events and activities across Galway city and county. Events and projects supported by Wave Makers in this period included:

- **Galway 2020 Projects** – Wave Makers supported the delivery of the majority of projects in the Galway 2020 programme, as outlined in Sections 2, 3 and 4 of this document.
- **Beach Clean-Ups** – organised in partnership with Clean Coasts.
- **City Clean-Ups** – organised in partnership with Serve the City Galway.
- **St. Nicholas Saturday Market** - Wave Makers have assisted with the running of the weekly Saturday market since it reopened under COVID-19 regulations.
- **Nursing Homes** – Wave Makers developed a letter writing initiative with residents of nursing homes during lockdowns.
- **Lockdown Projects** – a number of online projects designed to keep people connected during lockdowns including quizzes, language and cultural exchange classes and recipe sharing.

So despite the unprecedented challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic presented the Wave Makers programme remained a strong, active, resilient initiative that generated significant community benefits during this period. In addition to the large number of events and activities supported the programme has also developed and maintained strong strategic partnerships with a broad range of local, national and European agencies - including Galway Volunteer Centre, Alive NUIG, Fáilte Ireland, Volunteer Ireland, Serve the City Galway, Clean Coasts, Galway Tour Guides Association and several other European Capitals of Culture.



Wave Makers have supported a huge range of events and projects across Galway city and county

9. Monitoring & Evaluation

The Audience Agency are the official monitoring and evaluation partner for the Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture programme evaluation. The company have been working on the evaluation of the Galway 2020 programme since 2019 and will publish a full independent evaluation report of the Galway 2020 programme in December 2021. As with other evaluations of European Capital of Culture programmes this will be an extensive report presenting quantitative and qualitative data and analysis of the development and delivery of the Galway 2020 programme.

The types of data, figures and other relevant information that the evaluation report will present will include:

- Total number of new projects delivered
- Total number of events hosted
- Estimated audience numbers
- Number of jobs created
- Number of national and international partnerships developed
- Number of volunteers engaged
- Number of community organisations engaged

Data on the above will be gathered through the different research and consultation methodologies that The Audience Agency has undertaken over the past 2 years including:

- Surveys with residents, audiences and project participants
- Focus groups with cultural partners, volunteers and audience members
- End of project evaluation reports with cultural partners and artists
- End of project evaluation interviews with cultural partners and artists
- Stakeholder consultations

Galway 2020 Evaluation Timeline

- Commissioned Aug 2019
- Evaluation framework delivered Dec 2019
- COVID-19 Lockdown March 2020 (pause)
- Restart/rescope framework Aug 2020
- Interim report Feb/Mar 2021
- April 2021 – programme delivery finished
- Final Galway 2020 Evaluation Report – December 2021

10. Financial Report

Galway Cultural Development & Activity CLG
Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

OMB Accountants Ltd
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors
Steamship House
Dock Street
Galway
Ireland

Contents

Reference and Administrative Information . 99
Directors' Annual Report 100
Directors' Responsibilities Statement. 102
Independent Auditor's Report. 103
Statement of Financial Activities 107
Balance Sheet 108
Statement of Cash Flows. 109
Notes to the Financial Statements. 110

Galway Cultural Development & Activity CLG

Reference and Administrative Information

Directors	Arthur Lappin (Chairperson) Claire McColgan Catherine Cullen Lisa Clancy (Resigned 25 September 2020) Leon Butler (Resigned 25 September 2020) Enda Newton (Resigned 21 August 2020) Christopher Greene Caroline Loughnane Brendan McGrath Finbarr Bradley (Resigned 31 August 2020) Iwona Kwiek Moling Ryan Michael Cubbard James Charity (Appointed 17 June 2020) Jim Cullen (Appointed 23 April 2021) Kevin Kelly (Resigned 23 April 2021) James McClearn (Resigned 17 June 2020)
Company Secretary	Brendan McGrath
Charity Number	CHY22448
Company Number	576394
Registered Office	Unit 15, The Cornstore, Middle Street Galway
Auditors	OMB Accountants Ltd Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors Steamship House Dock Street Galway Ireland
Bankers	AIB, Lynch's Castle Galway
Solicitors	Ronan Daly Jermyn, Aengus House Dock Street Galway

Directors' Annual Report

Directors and Secretary

The directors who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

Arthur Lappin (Chairperson)
Claire McColgan
Catherine Cullen
Lisa Clancy (Resigned 25 September 2020)
Leon Butler (Resigned 25 September 2020)
Enda Newton (Resigned 21 August 2020)
Christopher Greene
Caroline Loughnane
Brendan McGrath
Finbarr Bradley (Resigned 31 August 2020)
Iwona Kwiek
Moling Ryan
Michael Cubbard
James Charity (Appointed 17 June 2020)
Jim Cullen (Appointed 23 April 2021)
Kevin Kelly (Resigned 23 April 2021)
James McClearn (Resigned 17 June 2020)

In accordance with the Constitution, the directors retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The secretary who served throughout the financial year was Brendan McGrath.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The charity engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Galway Cultural Development & Activity CLG subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2014
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Taxation Status

The company has been granted Charitable Status under section 207 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, Charity No. CHY 22448 and is registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority.

Post Balance Sheet Events

From March 2020 the global economy started to feel the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Company has taken measures to ensure that they are minimally impacted by such effects.

Auditors

The auditors, OMB Accountants Ltd have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

Accounting Records

To ensure that adequate accounting records are kept in accordance with Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014, the directors have employed appropriately qualified accounting personnel and have maintained appropriate computerised accounting systems. The accounting records are located at the company's office at Unit 15, The Cornstore, Middle Street, Galway, Galway.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 25 June 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Arthur Lappin (Chairperson)
Director

Brendan McGrath
Director

Directors' Responsibilities Statement

The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard, issued by the Financial Reporting Council. Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the charity as at the financial year end date and of the net income or expenditure of the charity for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2015);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the charity keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the charity, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and net income or expenditure of the charity to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and the Directors' Annual Report comply with Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the directors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the charity's auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report) of which the charity's auditor is unaware, and
- the directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 25 June 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Arthur Lappin (Chairperson)
Director

Brendan McGrath
Director

Independent Auditor's Report

to the Members of Galway Cultural Development & Activity CLG

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the charity financial statements of Galway Cultural Development & Activity CLG for the financial year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the charity as at 31 December 2020 and of its surplus for the financial year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", as applied in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2014 and having regard to the Charities SORP; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are described below in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and the Provisions Available for Audits of Small Entities, in the circumstances set out in note 3 to the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Matter of Attention

In forming our opinion we have considered the adequacy of the disclosures made in the financial statements concerning the economic downturn caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, details of which are set out in note 19. Our opinion is not qualified in this respect.

Other Information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independent Auditor's Report

to the Members of Galway Cultural Development & Activity CLG

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

In our opinion, based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- the information given in the Directors' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
  We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit.
  In our opinion the accounting records of the charity were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited. In our opinion the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Annual Report.
The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions required by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not complied with by the company. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Respective responsibilities

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework that give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, if applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditor's Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditor's Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

Our report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume any responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

John O'Beirn F.C.A.
for and on behalf of OMB ACCOUNTANTS LTD
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors
Steamship House
Dock Street
Galway
Ireland
25 June 2021

Statement of Financial Activities

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020 GENERAL INFORMATION

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2020 €	Total 2020 €	Unrestricted Funds 2019 €	Restricted Funds 2019 €	Total 2019 €
Income						
Other trading activities	**4.1**	**14,976**	**14,976**	21,204	-	21,204
Other income	**4.2**	**6,832,336**	**6,832,336**	7,331,807	36,334	7,368,141
Total income		**6,847,312**	**6,847,312**	7,353,011	36,334	7,389,345
Expenditure						
Raising funds	**5.1**	**79,310**	**79,310**	477,729	-	477,729
Charitable activities	**5.2**	**6,425,557**	**6,425,557**	6,619,835	36,334	6,656,169
Other expenditure	**5.3**	**342,445**	**342,445**	255,447	-	255,447
Total Expenditure		**6,847,312**	**6,847,312**	7,353,011	36,334	7,389,345
Net income/(expenditure)		**-**	**-**	-	-	-
Transfers between funds		**-**	**-**	-	-	-
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2020		**-**	**-**	-	-	-

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the financial year.
All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 25 June 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Arthur Lappin (Chairperson)
Director

Brendan McGrath
Director

Balance Sheet

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 €	2019 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	10	**88,348**	112,695
Current Assets			
Debtors	11	**54,918**	221,786
Cash at bank and in hand		**2,568,111**	1,194,462
		2,623,029	1,416,248
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	**(2,623,029)**	(1,416,248)
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		**88,348**	112,695
Grants receivable	13	**(88,348)**	(112,695)
Net Liabilities		**-**	-
Funds			
Total funds		**-**	-

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 25 June 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Arthur Lappin (Chairperson)
Director

Brendan McGrath
Director

Statement of Cash Flows

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 €	2019 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		**27,836**	22,830
Amortisation of capital grants received		**(27,836)**	(22,830)
		-	-
Movements in working capital:			
Movement in debtors		**166,868**	(162,748)
Movement in creditors		**1,206,781**	806,557
Cash generated from operations		**1,373,649**	643,809
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments to acquire tangible assets		**(3,489)**	(41,508)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Grants receivable		**3,489**	41,508
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		**1,373,649**	643,809
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2020		**1,194,462**	550,653
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2020	**16**	**2,568,111**	1,194,462

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. General Information

Galway Cultural Development & Activity CLG is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the Republic of Ireland. The registered office of the company is Unit 15,, The Cornstore,, Middle Street, Galway, Galway which is also the principal place of business of the company The financial statements have been presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the company.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)".

The charity has applied the Charities SORP on a voluntary basis as its application is not a requirement of the current regulations for charities registered in the Republic of Ireland. These are the first set of financial statements prepared by the Charity in accordance with the SORP, and there has been no changes to comparative figures as a result of the adoption of the SORP.

As permitted by the Companies Act 2014, the the charity has varied the standard formats in that act for the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet. Departures from the standard formats, as outlined in the Companies Act 2014, are to comply with the requirements of the Charities SORP and are in compliance with section 4.7, 10.6 and 15.2 of that SORP.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)" and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard.

Fund accounting

The following are the categorises of funds maintained:

Restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income received which can only be used for particular purposes, as specified by the donors. Such purposes are within the overall objectives of the charity.

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds consist of General and Designated funds.

- General funds represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of the board, in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.
- Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that the board has, at its discretion, set aside for particular purposes. These designations have an administrative purpose only, and do not legally restrict the board's discretion to apply the fund.

Income

Income is recognised by inclusion in the Statement of Financial Activities only when the charity is legally entitled to the income, performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, the amounts involved can be measured with sufficient reliability and it is probable that the income will be received by the charity.

Income from charitable activities

Income from charitable activities include income earned from the supply of services under contractual arrangements and from performance related grants which have conditions that specify the provision of particular services to be provided by the charity. Income from government and other co-funders is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to the income because it is fulfilling the conditions contained in the related funding agreements. Where a grant is received in advance, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, it is accrued in debtors.

Grants from governments and other co-funders typically include one of the following types of conditions:

- Performance based conditions: whereby the charity is contractually entitled to funding only to the extent that the core objectives of the grant agreement are achieved. Where the charity is meeting the core objectives of a grant agreement, it recognises the related expenditure, to the extent that it is reimbursable by the donor, as income.
- Time based conditions: whereby the charity is contractually entitled to funding on the condition that it is utilised in a particular period. In these cases the charity recognises the income to the extent it is utilised within the period specified in the agreement.

In the absence of such conditions, assuming that receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured, grant income is recognised once the charity is notified of entitlement.

Grants received towards capital expenditure are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable, whichever is earlier.

Expenditure

Expenditure is analysed between costs of charitable activities and raising funds. The costs of each activity are separately accumulated and disclosed, and analysed according to their major components. Expenditure is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, a transfer of economic benefits is required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be reliably measured. Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but cannot be attributed to one activity. Such costs are allocated to activities in proportion to staff time spent or other suitable measure for each activity.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	12.5% Straight line
Office equipment	-	20% Straight line

Leasing

Rentals payable under operating leases are dealt with in the income and expenditure account as incurred over the period of the rental agreement.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Income recognised by the charity from government agencies and other co-funders, but not yet received at year end, is included in debtors.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand comprises cash on deposit at banks requiring less than three months notice of withdrawal.

Taxation and deferred taxation

No current or deferred taxation arises as the charity has been granted charitable exemption. Irrecoverable valued added tax is expensed as incurred.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events have occurred at that date that will result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future, or a right to pay less tax in the future. Timing differences are temporary differences between the company's taxable income and its results as stated in the financial statements.

Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis at the tax rates that are anticipated to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

3. Provisions Available For Audits Of Small Entities

In common with many other charitable companies of our size and nature, we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

4. Income

4.1 OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	2020 €	2019 €
Box Office Income	**14,976**	**-**	**14,976**	21,204

4.2 OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	2020 €	2019 €
Other income	**348,411**	**-**	**348,411**	11,915
Government Grants	**4,839,729**	**-**	**4,839,729**	5,121,185
Local Authority Grants	**1,191,464**	**-**	**1,191,464**	1,764,397
Sponsorship	**425,150**	**-**	**425,150**	447,814
Amortisation of capital grants	**27,582**	**-**	**27,582**	22,830
	6,832,336	**-**	**6,832,336**	7,368,141

5. Expenditure

5.1 RAISING FUNDS

	Direct Costs €	Other Costs €	Support Costs €	2020 €	2019 €
Raising funds	**69,294**	**-**	**10,016**	**79,310**	477,729

5.2 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Direct Costs €	Other Costs €	Support Costs €	2020 €	2019 €
Expenditure on charitable activites	**4,302,347**	**-**	**2,034,951**	**6,337,298**	6,486,919
Governance Costs (Note 5.4)	**-**	**-**	**88,259**	**88,259**	169,250
	4,302,347	**-**	**2,123,210**	**6,425,557**	6,656,169

5.3 OTHER EXPENDITURE

	Direct Costs €	Other Costs €	Support Costs €	2020 €	2019 €
Other expenditure	**-**	**170,756**	**171,689**	**342,445**	255,447

5.4 GOVERNANCE COSTS	Direct Costs €	Other Costs €	Support Costs €	2020 €	2019 €
Charitable activities - governance costs	-	-	**88,259**	**88,259**	169,250

5.5 SUPPORT COSTS	Cost of Raising Funds €	Charitable Activities €	Other Expenditure €	Governance Costs €	2020 €	2019 €
Accounting Support	-	-	-	**1,182**	**1,182**	17,605
Auditors remuneration	-	-	-	**8,441**	**8,441**	8,189
Legal fees	-	-	-	**14,861**	**14,861**	64,938
Consultancy	-	**30,605**	-	**21,144**	**51,749**	42,205
Monitoring & evaluation	-	76,989	-	-	**76,989**	49,703
IT Professional fees	-	**8,032**	-	-	**8,032**	8,203
Bank charges	-	-	-	**2,930**	**2,930**	2,301
Foreign exchange variance	-	-	-	-	-	(1,188)
Recruitment costs	-	-	-	-	-	19,732
Promotional activities	-	684,711	-	-	**684,711**	755,672
Depreciation	-	-	**27,836**	-	**27,836**	22,830
Travel	-	**143,126**	-	-	**143,126**	171,491
Wages	-	**1,015,212**	-	**16,730**	**1,031,942**	1,562,146
Board expenses	-	-	-	**14,868**	**14,868**	21,398
Establishment cost	-	12,345	143,853	**8,103**	**164,301**	141,339
Partnerships	**10,016**	-	-	-	**10,016**	9,414
Comms	-	**62,571**	-	-	**62,571**	343,737
International Relations	-	**1,360**	-	-	**1,360**	15,232
	10,016	**2,034,951**	**171,689**	**88,259**	**2,304,915**	3,254,947

6. Analysis of Support Costs

	Basis of Apportionment	2020 €	2019 €
Accounting Support	Accounting support	**1,182**	17,605
Auditors remuneration	Auditor's remuneration	**8,441**	8,189
Legal fees	Legal fees	**14,861**	64,938
Consultancy	Consultancy & External Advisors	**51,749**	42,205
Monitoring & evaluation	Monitoring & evaluation	**76,989**	49,703
IT Professional fees	IT Professional fees & Website	**8,032**	8,203
Bank charges	Bank, credit & currency charges	**2,930**	2,301
Foreign exchange variance	Foreign exchange variance	**-**	(1,188)
Recruitment costs	Recruitment costs	**-**	19,732
Promotional activities	PR Support & Advertising	**684,711**	755,672
Depreciation	Depreciation	**27,836**	22,830
Travel	Hotels, travelling & entertainment etc	**143,126**	171,491
Wages	Wages & PRSI contributions	**1,031,942**	1,562,146
Board expenses	Board expenses	**14,868**	21,398
Establishment cost	Rent, rates & utilities	**164,301**	141,339
Partnerships	Partnerships	**10,016**	9,414
Comms	Comms	**62,571**	343,737
International Relations	International relations	**1,360**	15,232
		2,304,915	3,254,947

7. Net Income

	2020 €	2019 €
Net Income is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of tangible assets	**27,836**	22,830
(Surplus) on foreign currencies	**-**	(1,188)
Operating lease rentals		
- Land and buildings	**86,593**	79,101
Grants receivable received	**(6,030,939)**	(6,885,582)
Amortisation of grants receivable	**(27,836)**	(22,830)

8. Employees And Remuneration

Number of employees

The average number of persons employed (including executive directors) during the financial year was as follows:

	2020 Number	2019 Number
Creative	**4**	5
Volunteering	**1**	2
Box Office	**1**	1
Partnerships	**2**	2
International Relations	**1**	1
Administration	**5**	7
Comms	**5**	7
Production	**1**	1
	20	26

The staff costs comprise:	2020 €	2019 €
Wages and salaries	**950,871**	1,436,236
Social security costs	**81,071**	125,910
	1,031,942	1,562,146

9.

The number of employees whose total employee benefits for the reporting period fell within the bands below were:

	Number of Employees	Number of Employees
€60,000 - €70,000	**2**	2
€70,001 - €80,000	**-**	1
€90,001 - €100,000	**-**	1

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Office equipment	Total
	€	€	€
Cost			
At 1 January 2020	44,953	108,179	153,132
Additions	280	3,209	3,489
At 31 December 2020	45,233	111,388	156,621
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2020	11,578	28,859	40,437
Charge for the financial year	5,647	22,189	27,836
At 31 December 2020	17,225	51,048	68,273
Net book value			
At 31 December 2020	**28,008**	**60,340**	**88,348**
At 31 December 2019	33,375	79,320	112,695

11. Debtors

	2020	2019
	€	€
Trade debtors	**25,868**	184,139
Prepayments	**29,050**	37,647
	54,918	221,786

12. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year	2020	2019
	€	€
Trade creditors	**328,244**	680,463
Taxation and social security costs	**9,354**	137,137
Other creditors	**2,015**	10,661
Accruals	**349,191**	322,222
Deferred Income	**1,934,225**	265,765
	2,623,029	1,416,248

13. Grants Receivable

	2020	2019
	€	€
Capital grants received and receivable		
At 1 January 2020	**153,132**	111,624
Increase in financial year	**3,489**	41,508
At 31 December 2020	**156,621**	153,132
Amortisation		
At 1 January 2020	**(40,437)**	(17,607)
Amortised in financial year	**(27,836)**	(22,830)
At 31 December 2020	**(68,273)**	(40,437)
Net book value		
At 31 December 2020	**88,348**	112,695
At 1 January 2020	**112,695**	94,017

14. Status

The charity is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

On 23 December 2020 the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union (Decision No. 445/2014/EU) formally approved a prolongation to the designation for European Capitals of Cultures for the year 2020 to 2033 in the context of a response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This prolongation provided the Company with an opportunity to extend its delivery of cultural programming activities through to 30 April 2021. In order to maximise the investment made by the Company in cultural programming, and in consultation with stakeholders it was agreed that the delivery of the Galway 2020 cultural programming would continue through to 30 April 2021.

As a response to this adjustment in scheduling the Company therefore extended the business operations and management functions required to support the delivery of the cultural programme through to 30 June 2021.
The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be members, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding € 50.

15. Contingent Liabilities

During 2020 a claim was made for approximately €8,000. The company disputes this and the claim is ongoing.

16. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2020 €	2019 €
Cash and bank balances	**2,568,111**	1,194,462

17. Director's Renumeration

No director received any renumeration during the year (2019 :€nill).

Expenses reimbursed to directors relate to travel expenses necessary to carry out their duties as directors.

	2020 €	2019 €

18. Basis of Accounting

The Directors are satisfied that the measures taken by the Company to deal with the effects of the economic downturn caused by the Covid-19 pandemic will allow the Company to continue to operate through the crisis and to recover in due course and accordingly have prepared the accounts on a going concern basis.

19. Public Funding

In line with the conditions laid out in the DPER circular 13/2014 the following sets out how public funds were used by the company during the year.

	2020 €	2019 €
Opening deferred income	**265,765**	305,526
Received from: Department of Culture Heritage and the Gaeltacht	**5,158,085**	5,110,185
Received from: Galway City Council	**744,600**	625,000
Received from: Galway County Council	**300,000**	1,122,467
Paid to: Charitable Activity	**(4,188,291)**	(6,600,458)
Paid to: Other Expenditure	**(342,445)**	(255,447)
Transfer to Capital Grant	**(3,489)**	(41,508)
	1,934,225	265,765

The total figure represents the closing deferred income in the accounts.

20. Approval of Financial Statements

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 25 June 2021.

EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe
Galway City Council

An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media