Galway 2020 Gaillimh

Performance Delivery Agreement Quarterly Status Report Q2 -2021

The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (TCAGMS)

European Capital of Culture

Quarterly Status Report

Performance Delivery Agreement

Between

The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (TCAGMS)

and

Galway Cultural Development and Activity Company Limited by Guarantee T/A Galway 2020

Introduction

Galway Cultural Development and Activity CLG has undertaken to hold a quarterly reporting meeting with all public funders and a separate bi-lateral meeting with the Department (TCAGMS) on progress against milestones under the Performance Delivery Agreement signed on 6 November 2018.

This report includes progress on meeting agreed milestones under the key performance indicators outlined in the Agreement and includes the following sections:

- Overview of progress on delivery of the cultural programme;
- Updates on governance arrangements, risk management and staffing;
- Progress on the corporate partnership programme; and
- Progress on the monitoring and evaluation, and legacy programmes.

This report is accompanied by an Independent Accountant's report confirming that best financial practice has been applied in respect of the expenditure for public funds being drawn down under this agreement.

Cultural Programme Update

Following a formal submission by Galway 2020 in May 2020 a re-imagined cultural programme was approved by Minister Catherine Martin in July 2020, providing an extension in time, through to March 30, 2021 for 27 cultural organisation and artists operating under Galway 2020 cultural programme. On December 23, 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. Following this a further extension was approved by Minister Martin, allowing Galway 2020 to continue through to April 30, 2021.

Cultural Programme Events Q2 2021, April 01 to June30.

Galway 2020 continues to work closely with all key stakeholders on the delivery of our programme of events within the safe parameters of the public health guidelines and government restrictions.

The following events took place between April 01 and June 30, 2021.

1. Livefeed

Since January 2019, Livefeed has worked with young people in Gort, Kinvara, Headford, Tuam, Loughrea and Galway city to co-produce live music events in safe, alcohol-free environments.

Since October 2020 Livefeed has developed a very successful digital programme enabling the project to continue to engage with Galway's up and coming young musicians and provide regular performance opportunities. April saw Livefeed's 2-year journey with Galway 2020 culminate with a number of online gigs and also a special series of pre-recorded performances which were premiered across the month of April, see Livefeed.

2. Music for Galway- Abendmusik

    a. Abendmusik: The Way of Sorrow

Arvo Pärt, Passio. Pärt's setting of the St. John Passion is perhaps one of the best-known choral works of the late twentieth-century. The gospel narrative speaks with direct intimacy, through a small piquantly-voiced instrumental and vocal ensemble and rigorous patterning of simple ideas. Despite the economical means, the work has a breath-taking nobility equal to its subject matter, and offers us a chance to follow the via dolorosa in a new and powerfully immediate way. April 02 to 05 2021.

3. Stinging Fly-Galway 2020 Edition

The Stinging Fly in partnership with Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture commissioned a special issue that explores, among other things, Galway's identity as an Irish and European city. With a line-up of contributors that includes Galway natives tackling notions of home, and writers from further afield inspired by the pull of city and

county, the issue reflects on the mundane and the mystical, the self and society, what connects 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 to be published on The Stinging Fly website between November 2020 and February 2021.The Stinging Fly will also host a series of online talks and readings during that time to coincide with the publication of the issue.

On sale in bookshops around Ireland including Dubray, Kenny's and Charlie Byrne's in Galway. It will also be for sale on The Stinging Fly website www.stingingfly.org

4. To the Island

In partnership with the Mobile Library Service, To the Island will be gifted to every child starting school in Galway throughout the year.

Galway 2020 commissioned artist Anna Mullarkey to create music to accompany the book and both Anna and Patricia Forde, author of the book, will tour to a number of schools via the library service for readings and performances.

5. TULCA-Unselfing Programme, TULCA Festival of Visual Arts

On December 1 the exhibition Nothing to Look Forward to But the Past curated by Gregory McCartney launched online. The online exhibition and print publication consider the journey of humanity as a species and explores an imagined evolutionary path that mixes the animal and human to produce something potentially unknown and new. Available online from Dec 1 – April 30

In April 2021, TULCA Festival of Visual Arts presented a weekend programme of visual arts events to celebrate the UnSelfing programme. UnSelfing is a programme of exhibitions, performances and encounters with visual art devised and delivered by TULCA as part of the Visual Arts programme for Galway 2020. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, TULCA have reimagined the programme to reflect the extraordinary events of the last year.

The UnSelfing weekend presented three specially created major new projects to audiences. They include: film commission A Visit, A Ceremony, A Gift. new book XVIII – Stories of TULCA and a broadcast-radio play and podcast Weather Gods.
The World Premiere of A Visit, A Ceremony, A Gift airs online on Friday 16th of April at 9pm. The film, created by artist and philosopher Elisabeth von Samsonow and curator Kate Strain, involves commissioned pieces by artists from Ireland and France, with the support of the French Embassy in Ireland. Gathering contributions from each artist, through film, sculpture, music, sound and design, the film uses collaged footage to investigate our access to nature through poetry. Available online until April 30th.

On April 17, TULCA launched a new publication, XVIII – Stories of TULCA exploring 18 years of the festival and its UnSelfing programme for Galway 2020. TULCA invited past curators of the Festival to explore curating as caring in relation to their work with the festival, and chairs of the board to talk about the challenges of keeping TULCA going and growing. These new texts and conversations reveal an organisation committed to upholding the vision of curators and artists, while meaningfully connecting with the city and county of Galway through its board members, teams and many volunteers. Publication available to purchase.

On April 18, TULCA launch of a new podcast radio play Weather Gods by Isadora Epstein. This specially commissioned work reimagines an event originally cancelled due to a red weather warning in April 2020. Weather Gods was first conceived as a live performance taking place for audiences on the Galway to Gort train. It is inspired by Iris Murdoch's concept of UnSelfing, that demands we journey away from ourselves to be attentive to the world, to be curious about the people, places and ideas that surround us. Available online until April 30th.

6. Create Dangerously- TULCA Education Programme

Create Dangerously is 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 initial pilot between February 01 and June 30, 2021.

TULCA Festival of Visual Arts UnSelfing; is a programme of exhibitions, performances and encounters with visual art taking place in Galway and across Ireland throughout 2020 and into 2021. The programme takes as its theme Irish-born writer and philosopher Iris Murdoch's concept of 'UnSelfing'; the idea that in order to find truth, it is necessary to seek outside of one's self; to be attentive to the world, to be curious about the people, places and ideas that surround us.

7. HOPE IT RAINS | SOINEANN NÓ DOINEANN

a. Drowned Galway – Outdoor Photo Montages

18 September 2020 – 30 April 2021
Stuck in city traffic? Turn your head and you may find yourself immersed in a near-future Galway. City walls become backdrops for photomontages by Joe Lee, visualising life in an inundated city, when yet another abnormal has become commonplace.
Set against familiar Galway views utterly changed by sea-level rising and floods, works include Irish and Palestinian artists: Sohail Salem, Emily Ní Bhroin, Deirdre Kennedy, Jeni Roddy and Arran Murphy with participants from Gliondar, Athenry Community Arts Group, Artists imagine how we might cope with this enormous and imminent change. How close does the future have to come before we care enough to act?

b. Weather Modulator

Weather Modulator is a renewable energy-powered kinetic public art sculpture by Belfast artist Paddy Bloomer. Sited on the Goal River opposite Galway Cathedral, the sculpture is a weather modification station built on two crannógs perched above the water-line. Weather Modulator was made available to the public on 12 Dec 2020 and will be on site until April 30 2021.

c. Weather Play Society

Become an intrepid explorer, creative inventor, and imaginative game-maker while learning a little about the weather and art with the Weather Play Society kit by Michelle Browne and Rhona Byrne. Learn how to make an iceberg, a weather-map of your neighbourhood, experiment and make weather observations, create your own weather card game...and much more. Be inspired by artworks from around the world to make your own weather-related art. Michelle and Rhona worked with children across Galway city and county during 2019 and 2020 to develop the ideas and activities in this kit. It is a commission for Hope it Rains | Soineann nó Doineann's WeatherPlay project, which harnesses the wind and rain to make outdoor play fun in all weathers. The Weather Play Society has made an edition of 500 kits which Hope it Rains | Soineann nó Doineann and Galway 2020 are gifting to Galway. There are Irish language and English kits available and you'll be able to borrow them from Galway City and County Libraries once restrictions lift. Weather Play Society is available online from February 19 – April 30.

d. BÉAL NA GAOITHE – Artists Ed Devane & Ríonach Ní Néill

The weather creates so many sources for making sound and music. On a typical West of Ireland winter's day, we hear the wind turn telephone wires into string instruments and make flutes out of gate-posts, while rain makes a drum of the roof. Inspired by this natural symphony, Hope it Rains artistic director Ríonach Ní Néill and sound artist/musical instrument designer Ed Devane collaborated on a suite of hand-held musical instruments that are played by the weather. Each instrument is played by two musicians – human and meteorological. The weather – wind and rain – is the lead musician, plucking and bowing strings, striking chimes, beating drums, while the human musician responds to and channels the weather's dynamic force. Standing into the wind (i mbéal na gaoithe), we become the wind's mouth and let it sing through us. The Béal na Gaoithe instruments can be viewed on Hope it Rains website. 17 February – 30 April 2021

e. Turas Ghaeltacht Chonamara

Turas Chonamara is a digital and audio map documenting the rich Irish language music, oral and literary culture of the Conamara Gaeltacht, and its unique sense of place. Created through a large-scale community mapping project, with contributors from Carna to Cois Fharraige. You are invited to download the map – listen to local

voices sharing hidden treasures, and discover places through the stories, songs and music. The map is in Irish, the language of the Gaeltacht community, with French and English translations. Turas Chonamara is available online from September 2020 – 30 April 2021. The self-directed element of the project will commence in line with Covid restrictions.

f. FAOI RÚN – PORTRÁIDÍ CRIATHRAIGH FILM, ARTIST Seán Ó Flaithearta

Faoi Rún is a series of site-specific artworks set on the Ros Muc peninsula tracing the interplay between landscape, climate and culture, curated by Ríonach Ní Néill. The film follows the making of Portráidí Criathraigh by visual artist Seán Ó Flaithearta during 2019 and 2020. The project worked with the local community to chose the two people, the sean-nós dancer Cóilín Sheáin Dharach Seoige and Bridget Aylward, Queen of Alaska, honoured in the installation. The artwork was commissioned by Ríonach Ní Néill as part of a series of site-specific installations that trace the interplay between Gaeltacht culture, weather and landscape for Turas Chonamara, a project for Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture.

Cóilín Sheáin Dharach Seoige didn't take up dancing until his 50s, and it was in his 60s and 70s that he gained recognition as one of the finest exponents of the Conamara style of sean-nós dancing. The art-form was dying out in the 1980s, but Cóilín is credited for inspiring a new generation of dancers to emulate him and sean-nós is now danced across the globe.

The portraits were created in the Spring of 2020 and will remain until they finally grow back into the bog. When it is safe again, it will be possible for the public to visit them. In the meantime, Ríonach Ní Néill and Joe Lee, who previously collaborated on an award-winning film, have made a short film about the making of the bog portraits. 1 March – 30 April 2021.

Coming up as part of the exhibition is Ephemera, three large-scale outdoor photographic works by digital media artist Paul Kinsella. Set in secluded locations around Ros Muc that were once thoroughfares, these semi-transparent images depict virtual landscapes through which the physical landscapes can be seen. Inspired by unrealised plans to build a railway to the peninsula, the works explore simultaneous alternatives of Ros Muc's past, present and future, and question the permanence we take for granted in a place.

8. Gilgamesh by Macnas

Master storytellers Macnas brought a dramatic new interpretation of the world's oldest story to Galway – the legend of Gilgamesh. The extraordinary adventures of Gilgamesh will unfold across city, county and online and sees Macnas elevate its signature style and challenge the boundaries and possibilities of traditional theatre and storytelling, outdoors and indoors and at Macnas.com.

9. Monument, Galway City Museum - Online

Monument is a multidisciplinary exhibition representing archaeology, architecture, craft and design, cultural landscapes, tangible and intangible heritage, construction, sustainability and the social history associated with the monuments on the islands. The exhibition features never-before-seen material from the 1990s archaeological excavations at Dún Aonghasa as well as specially commissioned craft pieces by some of Ireland's most respected makers. The Exhibition opened in August and will run until April 2021.

10. Sea Tamagotchi: Foclóir Farraige

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

Irish writer and television programme maker Manchán Magan roams 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 and finally dispersed among the public online and in print.

In the tradition of the tamagotchi (a handheld digital pet), you are invited to keep these words alive, nurturing them in the routine of their daily lives.

11. The Deepest Shade of Green

a. A Deeper Shade of Green – Exhibition at Galway University Hospital.

In Notes on Healing, Florence Nightingale wrote that the greatest challenge for the fevered patient was not being able to see out of a window. Closing The Deepest Shade of Green programme, an exhibition at University Hospital Galway explores the interface between the natural world and the clinical setting – from virtual skylights in Radiology suites, to glazed forests within foyers, to rooftop farms, and artworks projecting nature onto walls. At the heart of the show is a poignant letter from a patient describing the impact of the hospital environment at different stages of her cancer journey and the significance of a view from her bed on the top floor of University Hospital Galway. Presenting patient and staff testimonies alongside global exemplars of biophilic architecture, commissioned artwork, and hospital gardens used for therapies and patients' meals, the exhibition takes its title from a publication of writing by patients of Merlin Park University Hospital. Built for the open-air treatment of tuberculosis, as the isolated units of this former sanatorium were once again repurposed in preparation for Coronavirus, and as its leafy grounds await a new elective hospital, A Deeper Shade of Green highlights how nature, design, and clinical standards can coexist to enhance the hospital experience for everyone. Whilst ongoing visiting restrictions preclude public access, the exhibition will serve as a research document to garner support for the integration of green spaces in future builds ensuring that, in the wake of a pandemic, our

hospitals of the future need not be the stark, sterile environments of the past. 29 March 30 April 2021.

b. A Bird at My Window and Other Stories, Saolta Paediatric Units.

Transforming the bedsides of young patients into miniature theatre spaces, Sarah Fuller and Manuela Corbari share an enchanting collection of stories where the natural and human worlds are intertwined. A bird at my window and other stories is a magical and thought-provoking response to an Italian children's book, where nature provides a backdrop of wonder for tales about love for the weakest and smallest creatures, love for diversity, and about the deep significance of caring for those in need. Here plants and humans become friends, animals can talk, and flowers think like philosophers – exploring our connection to each other and the world around us.
Created as a limited edition for young patients across the Saolta Group, their shadow box theatre is accompanied by a suite of downloadable stories and soundscapes. Along with an instruction video, these have been developed to enable creative, family-led play in paediatric wards without the artists being present. They can also be used to inspire children at home to make their own shadow box theatre and a set of characters from the stories is available as a printable template to help them start. Click on the stories and templates below to begin your adventures in shadow play. 8 – 30 April 2021

12. Baboró

a. The Streets Are Ours

The Streets Are Ours' was a collaborative project to create a promenade performance by Galway children combining parkour, contemporary dance and circus skills. Baboró worked with Arch 8 (The Netherlands), Galway Community Circus and Galway Dance Project to create and deliver this project.
The artists and children developed the project online from their homes in Galway and The Netherlands throughout March 2021. Together they built an improvisational dance performance that was recorded in a socially distanced manner.
The Streets Are Home
Throughout March and April, the artists were developed their performances through zoom workshops.

b. The Streets of Woodquay

On April 2nd, the young performers from Galway City, performed their dances with Isabela Mello and Fionnuala Doyle-Wade. Each performance was captured and presented in a live watch party at the end of April. Performers include, Annie Hughes, Lucia Hughes, Albert Moses Daiden Carew, Donnacha Carew, Rachel Feeny, Mila Hynes, Elena Revollo,Jack Lally, Paidi Halloran and Michael Barceló. 1 March – 30 April 2021

c. Baboró – In Conversation with Junk Ensemble & kabinet k

In lieu of a planned professional masterclass in Galway by renowned Belgian dance company, kabinet k, Baboró hosted an informal conversation between kabinet k and Irish dance company Junk Ensemble, creators of 'The Veiled Ones'. The Co-Artistic Directors of both companies chatted about what inspires them to make work with and for children, the challenges and opportunities of creating dance in a global pandemic, and their plans for the future. 23 April 2021

13. Galway Moves - Galway Dance Project

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.
Inspired by research emerging from the pandemic, a new question emerged: 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.
Produced by Galway Dance Project, and devised by Dansnest, Galway Moves was adapted and reimagined in line with public health guidelines. 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 hidden inspiration.
They reflected the dynamism of dance and connected audiences, dance artists and communities. 22 - 27 April 2021

14. EYE on the Edge

EYE on the Edge was an exciting new festival created by young people that took place from 23 to 25 April 2021. Originally planned as a 2-day festival to take place on NUIG campus, due to COVID-19 restrictions EYE on the Edge was presented as a 3-day online festival, see https://galway2020.ie/en/event/eote.
A partnership between Galway 2020, the European Parliament and youth organisations the project brought together young people (age range 16 to 30) and fused politics, arts and culture to create dialogue, share ideas and respond to contemporary European and global challenges. It did this through an engaging and interactive programme of discussions, workshops, artistic performances, exhibitions and other activities.

15. The Mighty Ocean

The Mighty Ocean commissioned by Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture, produced by Galway Music Residency for TG4 as part of Galway 2020's Capital of Culture Programme had its World Premiere on Sunday 25 April at 9:30pm. Composed by 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.

The Mighty Ocean opened a musical dialogue between mankind and the environment, touching on the entrancing power of the sea, while questioning the destructive influence of humankind on our endangered oceans. The piece was scored and arranged for 12 musicians including Irish traditional music legends Máirtín O'Connor, Garry Ó Briain, Cathal Hayden, Seamie O'Dowd and Jimmy Higgins, and Galway Music Residency's ensemble in residence, ConTempo Quartet.

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. 25 - 30 April

16. Blue Teapot Theatre Company

a. FROM A BLANK PAGE... INTO THE DARK WOODS

Blue Teapot have worked towards an ambition to stage a theatre production written by an artist from within Blue Teapot. In 2017, a pilot project 'The Blank Page' was initiated to meet this creative desire facilitated by playwright & dramaturg Eileen Gibbons.
From 2018, this driving objective was established with Charlene Kelly being the artist displaying a definite aptitude.

In 2019, 'Into the Dark Woods' began to emerge followed by script explorations in workshops with Artistic Director Petal Pilley and the theatre ensemble. The Abbey Theatre came on board as co-producers of the play.
Through the familiar archetypes of fairy-tale, Charlene Kelly's debut play called us into rare territory, using the living realm of the woods as an invitation to experience a world through the eyes of intellectual disability.
A new voice in Irish playwriting, 'Into the Dark Woods' speaks with intimacy and rage.

b. "YOUR DARKNESS WILL DESTROY YOU BUT IT WON'T HURT ME"

Blue Teapot was afforded the opportunity to continue the development of Charlene's show which they managed to continue between lockdowns. The production was due to be presented March 21 which was sadly no longer a possibility. The Blue Teapot team are determined to bring the production in a physical format once restrictions are lifted.
27 - 30 April 2021

c. Crossing The Line

The Festival that never was, the celebration that is. The digital mini-series highlighted a nine-year span of work for the theatre company. That encapsulates the many highlights of Crossing the Line, a network of leading European arts organisations for intellectually

disabled artists and their Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture journey from inception of the bid book to present day.

Along with six partner organisations from Sweden, Poland, Netherlands, England, Wales & France, Blue Teapot worked towards their most ambitious project yet – Crossing The Line Festival with over 100 Irish and European artists, and theatre makers due to participate in a first for a European Capital of Culture. Programmed for May 2020, the festival was cancelled as a result of the pandemic and Blue Teapot's flagship theatre show 'Into the Dark Woods' by Charlene Kelly was reimagined. They are continuing to develop the production and are looking forward to bringing audiences live performances once theatres re-open. April 2021

17. Galway Stories: Virtual Production Series Through a 2020 Lens

Galway Film Centre produced and curated a series of online seminars on the subject of Virtual Production. Virtual Production continues to gain traction and attention by the day. Galway Film Centre was an early adopter of virtual production technology and we have first-hand experience of breaking down the barriers to the world of virtual production and how daunting that can be when starting out. They wanted to capture their knowledge and experience over the last two years with their Screen Talent Europe partners and share this with the Irish and European industry to help make virtual production more accessible. As part of the Northern Peripheries Galway 2020 Project they produced a series of online seminars that informed the audience on everything from starting your first project with Unreal Engine, working with virtual trackers to multiuser editing. May 2021

18. European Capital of Culture, Galway 2020 Official Handover

Galway 2020's title as European Capital of Culture 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.

"In the delivery of the cultural programme that won Galway the title of Ireland's 2020 European Capital of Culture, Galway 2020 has realised its vision to create new partnerships and new ways of working. That it did so in the midst of the sudden onset of a global pandemic is testament to the creativity and commitment of the Galway 2020 team and the cultural partners working side by side to deliver for audiences. We have experienced the joy of wonderful live performances, exhibitions and online events across the entire spectrum of cultural activity. I thank all involved for their dedication and work. As we hand over to the 2022 European Capitals of Culture, I wish Novi Sad, Esch and Kaunas a truly successful and memorable year." Catherine Martin, Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

Following a particularly challenging year, Galway 2020 continued to deliver its Capital of Culture programme throughout 2020, ending on 30 April 2021. This 12-minute programme celebrates just some of the theatre, music, dance, circus and visual arts highlights which happened online and offline. Featuring the work of 600 artists and organisations who participated in the programme since 2020 began. "Having the opportunity to help to bring these projects and performances to life despite the pandemic and the set-backs that presented was an honour for Galway 2020. It truly reflected the breadth of creativity and resilience in our creative community. We're delighted to present some of these events in this TG4 film and would like to thank all of those who helped to make it happen – our cultural partners, creatives, Mayor, Caithaoirleach and of course, TG4," said Patricia Philbin, CEO, Galway 2020.
TG4's Director General Alan Esslemont said "TG4 believed in the Galway 2020 programme from the outset. We were proud to be onboard as a partner to showcase the culture of Galway and the west coast of Ireland to a European and international audience. Despite setbacks and a global pandemic that resulted in a scaled back programme of events, I would like to congratulate Galway 2020 in what has been achieved in these extraordinary times. Highlights for me personally include John Gerard's Mirror Pavilion on the Claddagh Quay in Galway, the bog portraits in Ros Muc and the beautiful suite of music 'The Mighty Ocean', composed by Máirtin O'Connor which through our partnership with Galway 2020 aired recently on TG4."

The stunning scenery of the west coast of Ireland and the Wild Atlantic Way features alongside the medieval streets of Galway city. Expect a breath-taking illumination of the Connemara landscape, colourful performers, fire tours, acrobatics, high wire walking and clips of powerful events specially commissioned by Galway 2020"
It included a short 30 second address by EU Commissioner Mariya Gabriel and Catherine Martin, Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. There was a symbolic acceptance of the title by the 3 new host cities and a specially commissioned music composition by composer Anna Mullarkey that ran alongside the visuals throughout.

19. The Aistriú Project: Ar Ais Arís

A moment of departure. A moment of return. A moment of reckoning. Ar Ais Arís is a new piece by Brú Theatre, commissioned as part of the Aistriú project. Irish language literature and visual poetry are combined in virtual reality to make this work, inspired by texts from Máirtín Ó Cadhain, Pádraic Ó Conaire and Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill around the theme of migration.

Brú's team of performers, creators, designers and composers have come together to create three unique 180° films, immersing audiences in a fusion of movement, text, music and Connemara landscape through the use of VR headsets. Lose yourself in this evocative, contemporary take on some of the finest writing in the Irish language. 10 – 20 June 2021

20.Studio Drop

An architecture and design project commissioned by Drop Everything for Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture. Designed by Jordan Ralph and built by Harrison Gardner. Inspired by both the aesthetic and construction methods found along Ireland's West coast landscape – from ancient stone walls and Beehive Huts to Martello Towers and Lighthouses.

Designer Jordan Ralph also took inspiration from construction methods used by local boat builders in Galway. After an inspired visit with boat builders restoring the 'Loveen' Galway Hooker, Jordan reworked his design to use the traditional techniques seen in Hooker builds. The Studio will be a curved structure, designed as a space to think, read, write, and develop ideas. Interior design features include a hammock style daybed created using the same techniques as woven lobster pots. This project explores off-grid, deployable and temporary modular spaces; which can relocate if necessary. 18 – 30 June

21. Bádóirí an Chladaigh

'Tribes on the Tide' is a celebration of Galway's maritime heritage, traditions and culture and will showcase 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 will engage with primary schools from Galway city and county. Onboard their unique outdoor classroom, children will learn the history and boating tradition of the Claddagh and the Galway Hookers, maritime folklore and essential water safety skills".

When restrictions allow we will mark the 'Welcome Home of Maircín Joe', the second vessel of its' class built in Galway since 1922 and lovingly restored by Bádóirí an Chladaigh. This 32ft Laithbháid will be launched along the Long Walk where the original vessel was launched and fitted for her sails – a fitting tribute to this majestic vessel. The public will also have the opportunity to meet with the Bádóirí builders & sailors. April – May 2021

22. Regional Programme

a. Cootehall Barracks - John McGahern Early Years - Roscommon

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

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

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 daybook, 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.

b. Coming Full Circle - Clare

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.The film was published online on the 26 April.

c. Murals for Communities Galway 2020 Edition - Waterford

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. May 24 – June 14 2021

23. Small Towns Big Ideas

April saw the Small Towns Big Ideas programme conclude with a range of online events. The first Open Call for Small Towns Big Ideas commenced in 2018 meaning the programme has been a full 3 years in operation and seeing close to 70 different projects delivered by local community groups and organisations across Galway.

The Small Towns Big Ideas projects completed in April included:

a. Circuit Arts Festival – 126 Artist Run Gallery presented a series of events April as part of their Circuit Arts Festival. These included poetry and spoken word events and a programme of prerecorded live music from the gallery space. See Circuit Arts Festival.

b. Creating With Nature – Friends of Merlin Woods completed their Small Towns Big Ideas project in April with Creating With Nature. The project created a range of temporary, non-intrusive pieces of woodland art in Merlin Woods and documented these through video and photography in order to share with the local community and provide an educational resource for the ongoing work of Friends of Merlin Woods.

c. Circle of Wells – celebrates our spiritual and cultural relationship with ancient and Holy wells and sense of place. Building on the work done around the Abbey Trinity Well in Tuam in recent years, the project explores the history, heritage, folklore, and rituals associated with this local well. The project re-positions 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. The project produced a series of video interviews with local historians, photographs and a special series of drawings by local artist Jennifer Cunningham. See Circle of Wells.

d. Amhráin - in March members of the Citóg Records music collective created new versions of their favourite songs by local artists, past and present. The result is Amhráin, a series of intimate performances filmed in iconic locations in Galway city. See Amhráin.

e. Galway Sound Harvest - Galway Sound Harvest showcases original hip-hop tracks, written, recorded and produced in a series of innovative music workshops with young people in Galway city and county since late 2019. Performed by talented young poets, rappers, singers and musicians, the projects final film was presented at EYE on the Edge. See Galway Sound Harvest.

f. Super8 Shots – Super8 Shots saw a collaboration between Galway 2020 and Kaunas 2022 through the creation and exchange of Super8 footage

from the two regions. The project culminated with a special online screening event showcasing the work. See Super8 Shots.

g. Our Words, One Voice - working with spoken word artist Kelvin Akpaloo and film maker Mia Mullarkey this project provides a platform for local young people to express their opinions and aspirations on issues such as climate change, discrimination, isolation and mental wellbeing. Our Words, Once Voice was presented at the EYE on the Edge festival.

h. Bee Loud – the Bee Loud project by Kiltiernan National School seeks to build awareness within the school community, and beyond, of the importance of conserving and protecting bees for biodiversity. The project has brought together an interdisciplinary creative team of artists, environmentalists and local community activists and the work of the project has been brought together in an online exhibition. See Bee Loud.

i. Echoes of Calling - Japanese contemporary dancer and choreographer, Akiko Kitamura, was the driving force behind this exciting new intercultural collaboration between Aras Eanna, Galway Dance Project one of the most acclaimed contemporary dance choreographers in Japan. Inspired by the rugged landscape and traditions of the West of Ireland, Echoes of Calling took a fresh look at ancient spiritual practices and rituals, exploring the relationship between prayer, shamanism, animism, and dance from a contemporary perspective. The online premiere of Echoes of Calling will took place on 23 April, see Echoes of Calling.

j. The Well Gathering - 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, celebrated the local history of the well whilst delivering a strong message around water security and climate change.

The Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture, cultural programme has now come to a natural close as of April 30, 2021.

Four projects under the programme have received special approval from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to deliver their work either later in the summer of 2021 (Macnas and Galway International Arts Festival) or in the first quarter of 2022 (Music for Galway & Songs on an Open Road).

End of Project Evaluations

The company is in the process of completing final project evaluations with all cultural partners and finalising Project Evaluation Reports. These are in-depth reviews of the

projects and include statics on all aspects of the project. Copies of the completed evaluations are available on request.

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, including British Council, Embassy of France in Ireland, Institut Francais, Event Scotland, The Finnish Institute and the Goethe-Institut to explore future co-programming and collaborations opportunities in light of restricted artist mobility and other challenges brought about due to COVID-19.

We are particularly keen to ensure progression pathways for our artists and cultural partners post COVID 19 and have started conversations with other bidding cities and future European Capitals of Culture.

1. European Capital of Culture Family
   - ECoC 2026 Candidate Hlohovec
     Relationship with STBI programme
   - Kaunas 2022
     Together with TULCA Galway 2020 is delighted to announce a residency partnership with Kaunas 2022.

2. EU-Japan Fest
   The next call for funding is now available and has been disseminated to partners. EU Japan fest will continue to fund Galway 2020 projects throughout 2021. We are currently working with partners to encourage applications for 2021

3. The French Embassy
   Work commenced with the Institute Francais to host the Night of Ideas in February 2021 at Palas. This will be an online event Together with TULCA Galway 2020 are programming 3 French Artists next year as part of the Galway 2020 Unselfing /TULCA programme. This is being funded by the Institue Francais

Wave Makers Volunteer Programme

Currently 355 Wavemakers from 45 nationalities are actively engaged and continue to undertake volunteering opportunities with Galway 2020, with a further 57 keen to reengage once restrictions allow. Wave Makers continue to support the community and cultural partners throughout the pandemic while operating within public health guidelines and government restrictions. During to Level 5 restrictions in-person volunteer activities have been limited, however, the Wave Makers have developed and

delivered the following projects to maintain engagement and build morale across the community.

Wave Makers Programme – April to June 2021.

1. **Cooking Around the World with the Wave Makers:** 13 Wave Makers shared a dish with a full recipe across 13 weeks and the recipe and their pictures was shared though all Galway 2020 social media channels for the public. This project celebrated the diversity of our volunteer programme and skills sharing.



2. **Galway Community Circus Community Art Day:** As part of Wires Crossed, Galway Community Circus launched the Irish centre for Funambulism on 25th April. Members of GCC and Wave Makers were invited to submit art designs to be painted on large cement blocks which are the base of the tight rope and are now installed in the outdoor space at GCC. Wave Makers submitted their art and got to paint on the day and another group were on hand to assist with registering participants and making sure the public observed Covid safety measures.



3. **Cellissimo:** Wave Makers assisted as tech volunteers at Cellissimo events for Music for Galway



4. **European Capital of Culture Handover Ceremony:** Wave Makers were at hand to help with the filming of the handover ceremony and manning tea station in the hub.



5. **Virtual Wave Maker Recognition Event:** A thank you event to acknowledge the Wave Makers' contribution to Galway 2020 was held on Zoom on Saturday 8th May. Elena hosted the event with special guests including Mayor Mike Cubbard, Hope It Rains artistic director Ríonach Ni Neill, Friends of Merlin Woods founder Caroline Stanley, CEO of Galway 2020 Patricia Philbin and musicians Donal McConnon and Jack lee. Special Recognition Awards were also presented.

6. **Saturday Market:** Wave Makers continue to assist St. Nicholas Saturday market every Saturday, making sure the public follow the one-way system and maintain social distancing in busy areas of the market.



7. **National Volunteering Week:** As part of national Volunteering Week, 2 beach clean-ups were carried out with the involvement of Wave Makers at Claddagh beach and Ballyloughane beach.



8. **Monument:** Volunteering in Galway City Museum has resumed, and 10 Wave Makers do weekly shifts.



9. My 5K Perspectives Exhibition: A lockdown project, 'My 5K Perspectives; is a photo exhibition now up and running in the Cornstore. Featured are 30 pictures taken by 30 Wave Makers during the January and February 5km restrictions assisted by Galway-based photographer Avi Ratnayake. Within the restricted space, all participants took pictures from their own unique perspective.



Audience Development

Audience development continues to be an ongoing process since 2019. Galway 2020 continue to support cultural partners to expand and grow their audience numbers both nationally and internationally.

As a result of the global pandemic, cultural partners have been required to pivot, and in the most part adapting their planned work and performances for online distribution. Therefore, as a result of this revised content distribution strategy, audience growth for cultural partners has predominately been seen online, within content distribution or streaming platforms and social channels.

To address this adjustment in content distribution The Audience Agency have adapted their data collection approach and data collection tools to take into account this growth.

Governance and Risk

The company is up to date with annual returns, registration of directors, other filings and returns in accordance with the Companies Regulations Office and Companies Act 2014. There is full compliance with the requirements of the Revenue Commissioners in relation to all relevant tax heads and a valid tax clearance certificate is in place for the Company.

Risk Register

The Company continues to maintain an up to date risk register. It is presented to the Board on a regular basis. For each risk identified, mitigation is in place and the Board actively monitor all significant risks. The risks have been categorised into High, Medium, or Low with an action plan and a risk owner. All risks are ranked based on the likelihood of occurrence and the impact should the risk occur.

Galway 2020 are actively engaged with cultural partners on an ongoing basis to assess the risk COVID-19 poses to programme delivery in light of the Government's public health guidelines and current restrictions. Due to the fluid nature of the public health situation, cultural partners are continually evolving and refining their project delivery plans, to respond and comply with government guidance.

COVID-19 continues to be the organisations number one strategic risk, impacting on every aspect of the organisation's operation. Therefore, a new risk-based reporting system has been introduced with cultural partners, whereby individual cultural partners are asked to report their progress and project status, including identified risks on a monthly basis. These Project Status Reports forms the basis of the organisations bi-weekly Progress Status Meetings with the Department.

It is important to note, as the Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture cultural programme has now come to a natural close as of April 30, 2021, the risk profile for the organisations has reduced in line with the volume of activity.

The organisation continues to be in regular communication with the Department and will continue to be guided by the Governments public health advice and corresponding regulations.

Board and Audit Committee Meetings

The Board met on the following dates during the quarter:

1. April 02, 2021
2. April 23, 2021
3. May 14, 2021
4. June 25, 2021 (Board meeting & Annual General Meeting)

On June 25, the Company present the 2020 Financial Statements to the Board of Director's for consideration and acceptation. The Board recommended the 2020 Financial Statement be put forward to the Member's for adoption at the Annual General Meeting, which was also held on June 25, 2021. The 2020 Financial Statements will now be filled with the CRO and be made available on the Company website.

The Audit Committee met on the following date in the quarter:

1. June 15, 2021.

The purpose of the Audit Committee is to monitor the integrity of the financial statements of the Company, reviewing significant financial reporting issues and judgements before submission to the Board. They assess the effectiveness of the Company's financial reporting procedures and review the adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's internal controls and risk management systems. The Audit Committee are obliged to meet at least three times per year. Outside of the formal meetings, the Audit Committee Chairperson maintains a dialogue with key individuals involved in the Company's governance.

On June 15, the Company presented the 2020 Financial Statements to the Audit Committee for consideration. It was recommended by the Committee the 2020 Financial Statements be presented to the Board of Directors on June 25, 2021 for consideration and acceptance.

Dissolution

It has been agreed by the principle funders and the Member's, that Galway Cultural Development and Activity CLG will continue to operate and undertake a stakeholder consultation and strategic legacy planning process between July & December 2021.

A small team will remain in place during this period to undertake this scope of work, which will include a broad stakeholder engagement and consultations process to identifying the key legacy priorities emerging for the European Capital of Culture, informing a strategic legacy planning process, setting out the strategic direction for the future of the Company.

It is proposed the Performance Delivery Agreement (PDA) with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media is extended to facilitate this process.

The Company currently awaits formal sanction from DPER (Department of Public Expenditure and Reform) approving the Company to proceed with the disposal of assets which have at this point in time exceeded their useful life to the Company and its operations. The Company has provided DPER with all requested information and documentation via the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, along with confirmation of the company's compliance of Circular 30/03 on May 25, 2021.

Knowledge Transfer and Archive

In March 2021, the company transferred 52 x boxes of physical archive material to Galway City Council, this transfer of knowledge and archived material will be stored for safe keeping in their Sandy Road Archive in posterity.

Following the consultation and strategic legacy planning process in December 2021, the Company will transfer any outstanding physical and digital assets to archive with Galway City Council.

Partnership Programme

The table below reflects the closing position of the corporate sponsorship and partnership programme as of April 30, 2021, marking the end of the European Capital of Culture designation. The Company continues to hold these cash sponsorship or partnership contributions sperate separate from operations. These funds (€401,141) will be appropriated towards legacy initiatives, the detail of which will emerge from the stakeholder consultation and strategic legacy planning process undertaken between July and December 2021. It is the intention of the Company to enable sponsors and partners to further realise the value of their contributions towards the project in legacy.

	Cash (€)	In-Kind (€)	Total (€)
Committed	968,511	1,309,601	2,278,112
Realised	401,141	520,958	922,099
Outstanding	566,618	788,642	1,355,260

As part of the stockholder consultations process the Company plans to engage with a number of corporate sponsors, partners and Business Club members, allowing for their input towards the ongoing legacy plans. However, in light of the ongoing health and economic crisis, and the available resources within the organisation since the restructure in June 2020, additional fundraising is very unlikely.

Monitoring and Evaluation Programme

The Audience Agency (TAA) continue to work with Galway 2020 and our cultural partners providing workshops and training in order to build capacity and develop a competency locally which will support these cultural organisations post the European Capital of Culture to understand and expand their audience base and secure funding through the provision of quantifiable data.

The monitoring and evaluation framework, developed in consultation with stakeholders, including my Department, provides for review of Galway 2020 project in terms of how it developed Galway's cultural capacity, delivered the programme rooted in people and place; and the social and economic benefit accruing. The final monitoring and evaluation report, scheduled for delivery in quarter 4 of 2021, will include results on the number of cultural organisations supported, the jobs created to deliver the programme, new projects commissioned, events held, audience numbers and a breakdown of the total income and expenditure.

Upon completion of the evaluation phase of the program (July 2021), The Audience Agency will have completed;

27 # of projects surveyed, and audience data collected
38 # of population surveys developed and distributed, surveying 2,842 people
10 # of focus groups conducted, interviewing 260 people
7 # of skills development and capacity building workshops completed with the cultural sector 2 # of skills development and training sessions with Wavemakers
30 # of Wavemaker trained in data collection methodology
29 # of one-to-one consultation/mentoring meetings with 26 cultural operators
42 # of evaluation interviews with cultural operators, artists, funders and stakeholder 11 # of evaluation interviews with Galway 2020 team members

Legacy Programme

Legacy is an important aspect of everything that we do for the European Capital of Culture project and remains as an agenda item for the Galway 2020 Board of Director's.

It has been agreed by the principle funders and the Member's, Galway Cultural Development and Activity CLG will continue to operate, undertaking the responsibility to coordinate and manage a stakeholder consultation process across a broad spectrum of Galway 2020, European Capital of Culture stakeholder and partners, including cultural, governmental and commercial. The consultation will seek stakeholder views on the legacy priorities of Galway 2020. The outcome of the consultation will assist the shaping of the strategic legacy planning process to be undertaken by Galway Cultural Development & Activity CLG between July 01 and December 30, 2021.

A small legacy team in Galway 2020 staff will remain in place to manage this consultation and legacy development work from July 1st to December 31, 2021.

The Galway 2020 Board has met several times in the quarter to discuss plans for legacy, and it remains a strategic priority for the organisation.

Internal Controls

There are internal and financial control systems in place which have been reviewed and tested as part of the Independent Accountant's Quarterly Review which accompanies this report.

Projected Cash Flows

The projected spend of funding received from the Department under the PDA Agreement is set out below.

Project Cash Flow	**Post June 2021**
Income	
Cash Balance - G2020 (31.06.2021)	935,558
Cash Balance - GCC (31.06.2021)	287,497
DCHG Funding - Legacy	1,000,000
Other Income	-
	2,223,055
Expenditure	
Programme Spend - July-Dec	496,256
Programme Spend - Post 2021	484,522
Trade Creditors	65,903
Overheads & Operation	340,304
Monitoring & Evaluations	32,802
	1,419,787
Surplus / (Deficit)	**803,268**
Additional Income Opportunities	
Collected cash sponsorship	401,135
Adj. Surplus / (Deficit)	**1,204,403**

Staffing

The Galway 2020 team as of June 30, 2021 comprises of a headcount of 10 The team outlined below consists of full and part-time positions, equating to the equivalent of 6.7 full time employees.

Department	Headcount
Operations & Finance	4
Cultural Programming	3
Communications	1
CEO	1
Volunteering	1
Total	10

Finance and Audit

Financial Statements

Income & Expenditure Account				
Date	**30/06/2021**			**Y.T.D.**
				Total
Income				
	Programme Income: Deferred Income			**1,231,954**
	Capital Grants Amortisation			**13,971**
	Local Authority Funding			**36,305**
	Other Income			**36,818**
	Total Income			**1,319,048**
Expenditure				
	Staff Costs	Salaries		**272,083**
		Redundancy		**11,538**
		Staff Expenses		**882**
		Travel & Subscriptions		**5,515**
	Office Costs	Depreciation		**13,936**
		Dissolution Costs		**13,489**
		Profit / Loss on Asset Disp		**498**
		IT Costs		**17,138**
		Office Expenses		**12,143**
		Rent & Rates		**38,479**
	Marketing & Comms			**154,760**
	Finance Costs			**529**
	Professional Fees			**16,161**
	Project Costs	Artists Fees		**712,690**
		Technical Prod		**40,762**
		Storage		**8,446**
	Total Expenditure			**1,319,048**
	Surplus / (Deficit)			**0**