

## SCULPTURE DUBLIN

Update Report for **North Central Area Committee** Meeting  
July 2021

### 1. ABOUT SCULPTURE DUBLIN

Sculpture Dublin aims to raise awareness of Dublin's sculptural heritage and to commission new sculptures in parks and public spaces city-wide. It is a Dublin City Council initiative, developed by Parks and Landscape Services and the City Arts Office, and supported by the Hugh Lane Gallery and Visual Artists Ireland.

Sculpture Dublin is offering six commissioning opportunities: a permanent sculpture in each of the five Dublin City Council administrative areas, and a temporary sculpture commission for the O'Connell Plinth outside City Hall.

The commission for the North Central Area will be developed as a land artwork in St. Anne's Park. Given the specialist nature of the artform, this is a limited competition. The other five commissions are open competitions.

All the commissions will be embedded in public engagement programmes which encourage people to rediscover their city through sculpture – imagining new possibilities for art in the public realm and engaging in shared processes of learning and making.

### 2. ST. ANNE'S PARK COMMISSION

The Selection Panel for the St. Anne's Park land art commission met on 16 June and reviewed proposals by 5 nominated, invited artists: Alicja Kwade, Anne Hardy, Dorothy Cross, Iván Argote and The Otolith Group.

The Selection Panel agreed to award the commission to Iván Argote for his proposal entitled, 'Elevation'. With reference to Megalithic structures and rituals in Ireland and around the world, Argote is proposing to use salvaged earth and local stone to create an elevated path structure, which starts at the centre of the site and moves out towards the sea (in the direction of sunrise on the winter solstice). As the site is sloped, the path will end with a set of steps, that return the visitor from an elevated point, overlooking the bay, to the ground level of the park.

The Selection Panel included:

- Cllr Donna Cooney (North Central Area public representative)
- Cllr Deirdre Heney (North Central Area public representative)
- Deirdre Nichol (Clontarf local community representative)
- Clare O'Sullivan (Raheny local community representative)
- Leslie Moore (representative of DCC Parks and Landscape Services)
- Ruairí Ó Cuív (representative of the City Arts Office)
- Barbara Dawson (representative of Sculpture Dublin Steering Group)

- Claire Feeley (external art expert)
- Ben Tufnell (external art expert)

Sculpture Dublin Programme Director, Karen Downey was the non-voting chair.

The public representatives were nominated by the North Central Local Area Committee. The community representatives were nominated by the North Central Local Area Office.

The commission will be completed by early summer 2022.

### **3. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

All of the new commissions will benefit from local engagement programmes designed to raise awareness, provoke conversations about sculpture and involve people in discussing how public art can enhance their neighbourhood. Local engagement will take the form of online surveys, public meetings, artists' cafes and culture clubs, as well as opportunities to participate in the creation of some of the new commissions and get involved in local art projects through schools and community organisations. <https://www.sculpturedublin.ie/sculpture-in-your-area/>

Sculpture Dublin is working with the city's cultural institutions to draw attention to sculpture in their collections and temporary exhibition programmes. Through a city-wide programme of talks and workshops, online presentations and publications, and a number of exciting new initiatives, including International Sculpture Day and the Experiment! Sculpture Award (developed in partnership with The LAB Gallery and Fire Station Artists' Studios), Sculpture Dublin will encourage people to rediscover their city through sculpture – imagining new possibilities for art in the public realm and engaging in shared processes of learning and making. <https://www.sculpturedublin.ie/sculpture-in-the-city/>

For all information about Sculpture Dublin: <https://www.sculpturedublin.ie/>