



**Arts and Cultural Advisory Group  
Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021, 9.30 a.m.  
Zoom Call**

**Present:** Cllr. Cat O’Driscoll, Cllr. Dearbail Butler, Anthony Flynn, Adekunle Gomez, Ross Kean, Willie White, Ciaran Taylor, Sunil Sharpe, Ray Yeates, Michael Dempsey, Ruairí Ó Cuív.

**Apologies:** Barbara Dawson.

**In Attendance:** Paula Farrell

**Chair:** Cllr Cat O’ Driscoll

**Minutes of previous meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021 were approved.**

**Matters Arising:**

- Cllr Cat O’Driscoll invited Adekunle Gomez to give a presentation on cultural diversity at the upcoming ACAG.

**Hugh Lane Report:**

Michael Dempsey represented the Hugh Lane Gallery at the meeting and reported that:

- Hugh Lane Gallery is open to visitors. There were 5279 visitors to the gallery in July. The Hugh Lane Gallery Art + The Outdoors art event which, launched by Lord Mayor Gilliland on 31st July, took place on the fore court of the Gallery was a great success and had over 2,500 participants.
- The Education Engagement programme has largely continued online: Zoom @Hugh Lane Gallery Phase III engaged **13** schools, **10** of which were DEIS schools.
- The Summer School ran for 3 days in July and was fully booked. This summer the Gallery also gave talks and workshops to groups from Headway and The Dublin Adult Learning Centre. The online programme for people with a visual impairment is continues.
- The Gallery collaborated with street artist Asbestos who created the large mural **Pass Freely**, on O’Connell Street Upper.
- **Future Exhibitions:** Opening on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021, *Do you remember what you are burning?*, will be the first solo exhibition by Iraqi-Kurdish artist Hiwa K in Ireland.
- **Treaty Centenary Exhibitions:** Planning continues for two exhibitions marking the centenary of the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty. The first will take place at the Irish Embassy in London in October. The second, *Studio & State: The Laverys & the Anglo-Irish Treaty*, will take place at Collins Barracks from 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> November.

**The Arts Office Report:**

The City Arts Officer updated the meeting on the following matters:

- **Creative Places Award:** Sphere17 Youth Services, Darndale, in partnership with the Arts Office has been awarded €150k per year by The Arts Council for the Creative Places Scheme. DCC expects to match this award in cash and kind to approx. €100k per year.
- **Creative Climate Action:** DCC received €166k from Creative Ireland to support a climate action partnership with Clean Up Crumlin. This will begin with a climate education and consultation programme.
- **Faoin Speir:** The residents of Rockfield Park in Artane, with the support of the Arts Office, were awarded €80K by the Arts Council to produce a special outdoor Fête in 2021. This represents a strategic priority for the Arts Office to engage with and build capacity in the North Central and North West Areas.
- **Mapping Dalymount:** The publication and limited edition map of Dalymount Stadium was launched in **July 2021**.
- **Diversity in Dublin:** The Diversity in Dublin photography campaign, a collaboration with the DCC Creative Ireland team and the Gallery of Photography, featuring the work of 5 young photographers, was launched across the city for 2 weeks from June 28<sup>th</sup>.
- **Cruinniu na nOg 2021** for Dublin city featured 25 different events both live and online. **Creative Ireland 2021:** 13 Sections of DCC participated in the Creative Ireland Programme with each given €7K to pursue a creative idea in conjunction with another City Section.
- **New Policy/Strategy:** The City Arts Office has worked closely with Consultants assisting the Planning Department on the Culture Chapter for the new City Development Plan and is also currently developing a policy to support Dublin's Asian communities through the celebration of the lunar New Year.
- **Departmental Project: Dublin Live!-** The Local Live Performance Scheme is being funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture the Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. 114 applications were assessed from all genres of performance with 34 applications now being supported for performance in September and October.
- **Street Art - Painting the Town City Recovery Commissions:** In collaboration with the City Recovery Team, the Painting the Town Initiative obtained 5 sites in the city for commissions for 5 emerging and established street artists.
- **The Living Canvas:** IPUT developers have applied for a temporary licence for a digital screen at Wilton Park in Dublin 2. The Arts Office has supported the establishment of a creative committee to curate an arts programme for this major new piece of infrastructure which is expected to launch in October 2021.

**The LAB Gallery** is currently showing a solo exhibition of new work by emerging artist Ann Maria Healy. The Gallery partnered with The Insight SFI Research Centre for Data Analytics to provide a stipend and residency for the artist at DCU. The exhibition will continue until 30<sup>th</sup> September with live performances for Culture Night on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September.

**Culture Night Dublin:** Culture Night Dublin returns on **Friday, 17 September** with more than 200 participating venues and over 260 free in-person and online events planned across the city and county. The National Night Time Economy initiative in each local authority and Dublin will open in 10 venues to open until 11.30pm.

#### **Public Art Report:**

The DCC Public Arts Programme 2021-2026 was announced on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June and aims to establish City Arts Hubs in city communities with a view to establishing 'City Commissioners'. The programme, organised in three strands – PUBLIC – ART – CITY, invites proposals from individual artists, teams, curators or producers. Closing date for proposals is 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Under Strand 3 of the Public Art Programme the City Arts Office is assisting Dublin Docklands Office and Failte Ireland with a public art commission for a light installation to be located on City Quay.

Dublin City Council has also commissioned a portrait of Kathleen Clarke, the first woman Lord Mayor of Dublin. Eight artists were invited to make proposals for the portrait for the Council Chamber, City Hall. The proposal by Gareth Reid was selected. The portrait is due for completion in September 2022 on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kathleen Clarke's death.

As part of the project *The History of the GAA in a 100 Objects*, Curator and researcher Siobhán Doyle has sought permission to use the design and image of the chamber lids commissioned to celebrate the success of Dublin Men's GAA football team in winning 5 All Ireland championships in a row.

**AOB:**

A discussion followed about the City Development Plan. Cllr. Cat O'Driscoll confirmed that she will be attending a working group meeting on matter before the next SPC meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September. These meetings will be taking place monthly for the next 6 months. Ray Yeates confirmed that the input from the ACAG was represented in the Culture Chapter of the Plan and noted the importance of implementing cultural policy and ensuring that the arts are present. A suggestion was made about the possibility of forming a Cultural Forum which included prominent practitioners from the arts that could meet with city management on an annual basis and if such an ad hoc committee could be formed from the ACAG. The need for such a working group to be operational and include a focus on venue availability in the city was emphasised. Ray outlined the need for any such forum to have development meetings between partners first to ensure that a positive engagement with city managers follows.

Cllr. Cat O'Driscoll suggested that the Manchester Model, whereby a group of specialised art practitioners regularly engage with Manchester City Council, in the implementation of their City Plan could be looked at as an example of this type of forum.

Cllr. O' Driscoll concluded the meeting with the suggestion that the ACAG focus on the following 3 areas in the coming months:

1. Diversity
2. The City Development Plan
3. The membership and structure of the ACAG and SPC, particularly with a view to their gender and cultural diversity.

**Date of next Meeting:**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021