

Commission for Dartmouth Square

Funding was offered by the Upper Leeson Street Area Residents Association (ULSARA) towards the commissioning of a sculpture for Dartmouth Square. Parks and Landscape Services has matched the funding. The South East Area Committee also allocated discretionary funding towards the commission. Lafcadio Hearn (1850-1904) was chosen as source of inspiration for the commission. He lived as a boy nearby on Leeson Street (as well as in Rathmines) and in his later life became renowned for his writing and as the first person to translate Japanese folklore and mythology into English. While not so well known in Ireland his name is known to Japanese people to this day. The selection meeting took place on the 16th of December and the selection panel included Cllr Mannix Flynn, DCC Parks Superintendent, DCC Public Art Officer, representative of ULSARA, external art expert and curator for the process Jennie Guy. The artist who submitted the preferred proposal has met with officials on site to discuss next steps and based on this is undertaking research before submitting a finalised proposal.