

## **Commission for the creation of a multisensory artwork/installation for people with dementia**

dlr Arts Office wish to commission an artist/s or an arts organisation to create a multisensory installation for people with dementia. The commission is also open to a group of artists working collaboratively and dlr Arts Office encourages a multi-artform response to the brief. This opportunity is funded by Creative Ireland.

### **The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Monday 25 April**

From June 16 – August 31 dlr Arts Office will host 'A Collection of Conversations', a dementia inclusive gallery exhibition in the Municipal Gallery, dlr LexIcon. The artworks featured will be selected from the dlr County Collection and the Drogheda Municipal Art Collection.

For this opportunity we have chosen a work by local artist John Coyle (1928-2016) entitled 'Peoples Park' for artists to respond to. This painting has been selected as it has a local resonance (Please refer to Appendix 1 for image of the painting). Using this artwork as the source material, the selected artists will create a multisensory installation for Gallery 2. Gallery 2 is a smaller section of the main Gallery space; please refer to Appendix 2 for more details about the space.

### **Scope of Requirements**

The installation should concentrate on the experience of touch, smell, sound and even taste, rather than solely on the visual aesthetic. The use of colour should also be a key consideration. This commission opportunity has been developed through consultations with local services that support people with dementia. Multisensory experiences for people living with dementia are an established practice in residential care settings. The aim of this multisensory installation is to be as engaging as possible for people with dementia that visit the exhibition.

An integral part of the commission will be time and support for the selected artist(s) to undertake an exploratory phase prior to the final creation of the installation. Conversations and discussions with staff from local care settings will help inform the development of the work. A process of exploration by the artists with people with dementia will be a key element.

### **Key Aims**

- The installation must be suitable for people with dementia to engage with.
- To learn about and explore the role of multisensory arts engagement for people with dementia.

### **Timeline:**

- **Online Briefing Session - Thursday 7 April 2022 at 1pm:**  
An online Dementia Awareness session focusing on signs, symptoms and progression as well as how dementia affects the senses has been organised for interested applicants. The session will be led by The Alzheimer Society of Ireland and there will be time for questions and discussion specific to artists wishing to respond to this opportunity. To book a place email [arts@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:arts@dlrcoco.ie)  
(Advance registration is essential and we strongly encourage interested applicants to attend)
- **Closing date for applications: Monday 25 April 2022 at 12 noon**

- Selected artists informed by: 18 May 2022
- Start date: end May 2022 (*date may be subject to Garda Vetting*)
- June 16 – July 12, 2022: exploratory workshops/events/feedback in Gallery 2, dlr LexIcon.
- End of July 2022: The final multisensory installation by the artists in Gallery 2.

**Budget:**

- The commission fee is €10,000 (inclusive of all fees, materials, insurance and production/display costs and VAT). In addition, dlr Arts Office will provide specialist art technicians to install the work (2 people x 2 days)
- The artist/s involved will be required to give feedback and recommendations on this opportunity for future development to an external researcher. An additional fee will be allocated to the artists for this.

**Background to this Commission Opportunity**

dlr Arts Office has been working with local services, residential care settings and day services to provide person centred cultural programmes for older people since 2008 through the HSE funded Arts and Health Partnership. In 2013 we partnered with Living Well with Dementia to jointly research and fund cultural activities for people living with dementia in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County, setting up dementia inclusive choirs that are still operating today. We are also part of the Azure network, a national programme that delivers dementia inclusive gallery tours across Ireland. We adapted and continued to deliver these tours online during the Covid pandemic.

Multisensory work is widely used in local residential care settings in the County, it is shown to be particularly effective for people with dementia. We successfully applied to Creative Ireland to offer a commission opportunity for artists to explore and develop a multisensory artwork suitable for people with dementia. This commission is building on our experience in working with people with dementia, services that support people living with dementia and our ongoing work in residential care settings for older people.

**Application Process**

This is an open call selection process.

Applicants are required to submit the following:

- Curriculum Vitae for each artist, detailing any artform experience relevant and suitable to this commission. (Criteria 1)
- A one A4 page expression of interest outlining why this multisensory commission is of interest to the applying artist(s). (Criteria 2)
- A proposal outlining a starting point and proposed approach to multisensory based work. This should include how they envisage people with dementia will be engaged in the exploratory phase onsite in Gallery 2 from 16 June to 12 July. (Criteria 3)
- 2 referees for relevant work to date. (Criteria 1)

## **Selection Criteria**

The following criteria will apply and be weighted accordingly:

1. Demonstrated suitability of previous artform experience. (20/100)
2. Evidenced interest in working with multisensory based materials that will engage people with dementia (40/100)
3. Suitability of proposed outline in engaging with people with dementia (40/100)

### **Queries:**

Please contact dlr Arts Office: [mdavey@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:mdavey@dlrcoco.ie)/[cking@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:cking@dlrcoco.ie) or 01 2362759

### **Submission of applications:**

Applications must be emailed to [arts@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:arts@dlrcoco.ie)

Please mark the subject line: Multisensory Commission 2022.

### **Deadline for applications: Monday 25 April at 12 noon.**

### **Insurance**

The selected artist/s agree to keep Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council fully indemnified against all claims howsoever arising and howsoever caused in respect of any damage, loss or injury of any kind or nature, whether arising directly or indirectly from the provision of the residency and to provide evidence of Public Liability insurance which indemnifies Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council with a limit of indemnity of €6.5 million.

It is the responsibility of the selected artist/s to ensure that other person(s) not employed by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council but employed by the artist/s to assist them with the commission have adequate Public Liability (€6.5 million) and Employer's Liability (€13 million) cover which indemnify both Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and the artist.

### **Garda Vetting**

Full Garda Clearance may be a requirement for this commission. It is a legal requirement that all persons working with children, young people and vulnerable people are subject to Garda Vetting. In accordance with national child protection policy, Children First National Guidelines for the Protection and Welfare of Children, awarded recipients working with children must have a child protection policy, proper procedures and a child safeguarding statement in place.

### **Freedom of Information**

The provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1997-2003 apply to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. Applicants should state if any of the information supplied by them is confidential or sensitive and should not be disclosed to a request for information under the Act. Applicants should state why they consider the information to be confidential or commercially sensitive.

### **GDPR**

All information provided for this expression of interest will be held in line with Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Data Protection Policies and will remain in the

sole ownership of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Arts Office. Information supplied in the application will only be used by dlr Arts Office and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Children and local services involved for the purposes of administering and managing this commission opportunity. You may withdraw your consent to the retention of the information relating to your application at any point by sending an email to [arts@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:arts@dlrcoco.ie)

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council reserves the right not to select if none of the applications received are deemed to be suitable. In this instance, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council reserves the right to pursue a different procurement process.

**APPENDIX 1**

**'People's Park' by John Coyle, dlr County Collection**



## APPENDIX 2

### Gallery 2, Municipal Gallery, dlr LexIcon

Gallery 2 is 4.65m x 5.75m (average dimensions as the room is not square) by 3.5m high. The lighting is a mix of wall washers and spotlights. It has a full-length window which may be blocked off by way of a timber screen. Power points are set into the gallery floor.

To get work into the space, 2D works should be no larger than 2200mm high x 2250mm wide. 3D works may not exceed a weight of 730kg per metre squared. Artists should note that artworks may not be hung from the ceiling or screwed to the floor. Due to health and safety considerations, there are certain areas in the Gallery where 3D works may not be placed – this includes the path between the emergency exit in Gallery 2 and opening into Gallery 1.

The Gallery is un-invigilated, so this is something which should be considered during the creation of the installation. We are looking for work which may be interacted with – touched, listened to, sat on; interaction with multisensory materials should be a key consideration in the creation of the work.



View from Gallery 1 into Gallery 2

Artist Denis Kelly; photography Davey Moor





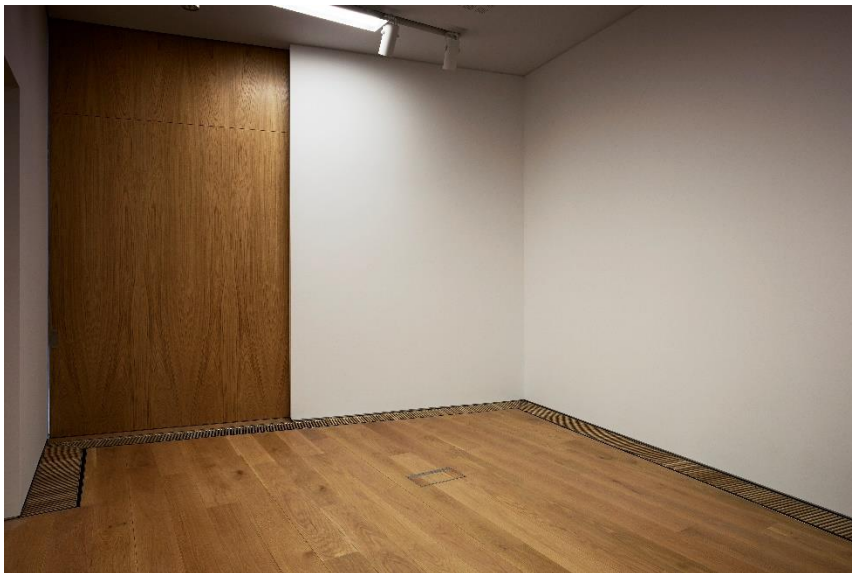
View from Gallery 1 into Gallery 2

Artist Catherine Delaney; photography Ros Kavanagh



Artwork on canvas hung on back wall of Gallery 2

Artist Diana Copperwhite; photography Gillian Buckley



Photos of Gallery 2 empty; photography Ros Kavanagh

1) Gallery 2 with window open & 2) with window closed