

Exit 15: A Creative Placemaking Project



PHOTO Rachel Burke

Working in the field of local arts is a long-term practice that involves the commitment and reflexive engagement of many stakeholders. Please join us in exploring the legacies, possibilities and challenges of supporting the development of community-engaged and responsive local arts provision to mark the launch of our booklet, Exit 15, a creative placemaking project.

Exit 15 responded to the artistic aspirations of local people and organisations living and working in the Ballyogan area of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council (dlr). At the heart of the project was a desire to be open to learning, open to our failure, and to share our experiences with others.

Project researchers, Dr. Victoria Durrer (UCD) and Meadhbh McIlgorm will join dlr Assistant Arts Officer Máire Davey in reflecting with Dr. Anthony Schrag (QMU) and Dr. Leila Jancovich (University of Leeds) on the possibilities and the questions Exit 15 raised regarding place-specific work, perceptions of cultural participation, the

voice of the artist, and the challenges and potential of participatory decision-making in local arts provision.

This talk will be chaired by Damien McGlynn, Ireland Director, Creative Lives.

To view the booklet Exit 15 go to <https://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/arts-community/exit-15>

Exit 15 was funded under The Arts Council Ireland's Invitation to Collaboration Scheme and dlr's Arts Office and Community Development Section in partnership with Creative Lives (formerly Voluntary Arts Ireland).

**Tuesday 2 November,
12.30–1.30pm**

Free event but booking required.
To book this talk go to
<https://exit-15.eventbrite.co.uk>



Dr. Victoria Durrer is Ad Astra Research Fellow in Cultural Policy in the School of Art History and Cultural Policy at University College Dublin. Her work, primarily in stakeholder-engaged social research methods, focuses on representation in cultural policy-making.

Meadhbh McIlgorm is an Irish artist and creative producer. Originally from Dublin she studied Craft Design (glass) in NCAD as her BA before completing an MA in Arts Management in Queen's University Belfast.

Máire Davey is Assistant Arts Officer Participation and Learning with **dlr Arts Office**. An arts administrator with a background working as an artist in community education and in various community contexts in Ireland and further afield. Interested in participatory arts practice that is grounded in practice and learning..

Dr. Anthony Schrag is a practising artist and researcher, and Senior Lecturer at Queen Margaret's University (Edinburgh). The central focus of his work examines the role of art in participatory and public contexts, with a specific focus on social conflict, agonism and ethics. He leads on both the MA Arts, Festivals and Cultural Management and the MA Applied Arts and Social Practice and is a member of the **Centre for Communication, Cultural and Media Studies Research Centre**, leading the Practice Research Cluster: Finding and Using Creative Knowledge.

Damien McGlynn has worked in the cultural sector across Ireland, the UK and Europe for 15 years. Damien joined **Creative Lives** (then Voluntary Arts) in 2015 and became Ireland Director in 2021 and works on a number of European partnership projects. Damien was born in Dublin and studied Fine Art at the National College of Art & Design. He has previously worked with organisations such as Visual Artists Ireland, National Galleries of Scotland and Tate. He is a trustee of Engage and Sydenham Arts, and a member of the Advisory Group for Dublin City Council Culture Company.

Dr. Leila Jancovich is Associate Professor in Cultural Policy and Participation at the University of Leeds. She has significant experience working in the cultural sector as a producer, researcher, consultant and policy maker. Her research has focused on cultural policy, participation, power and decision making, related to which she has sat on a number of national policy advisory boards. These include having been a council member for Arts Council England, and on the steering committee for Creative People and Places and Creative Civic Change. She also runs an international **knowledge exchange** network to discuss issues around **cultural participation** and a **cultural policy research centre**, both of which bring together academics, policy makers and cultural practitioners