



‘There are so many lovely songs to sing’

(from ‘the Street’, by John.B.Keane)

Kerry County Council Arts Office 1999-2007:

Kerry County Council was one of two local authorities to appoint an Arts Officer in 1985. 1989 saw the first full time appointment, followed by another Arts Officer in 1990, 1993, 1995 and 1997. The present Arts Officer was appointed in August 1999. This book documents a number of projects of the Arts Office from 1999 to 2007, it does not cover general work of the Arts Office as that would take more than one publication!

The role of the Arts Officer was broadly seen to be to ‘promote the arts in Kerry’, with regard to national legislation (Arts Act 1973, 2003). The Arts Act 2003 provides;
‘An act to promote the development of and participation in the arts’
‘A Local Authority shall...prepare and implement plans for the development of the arts in its functional area...’
‘Stimulating public interest in the arts, promoting knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts’ and ‘improving standards on the arts’.

The Arts Officer works to deliver on Local Authority corporate objectives, guided by National Legislation. In addition the Arts Office provides policy development, advocacy at local and national level, information services, advice, mentoring and direct arts programming. Whilst the Arts Office compliments the work of established arts organisations in the County, it retains a central role in leading and supporting sustainable development of the arts throughout Kerry.

Oifig Ealaíon Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí 1999-2007:

Bhí Comhairle Contae Chiarraí ar cheann den dá údarás áitiúil is túisce a cheap Oifigeach Ealaíon i 1985. I 1989 a deineadh an chéad cheapachán lánaimseartha, agus ceapadh Oifigeach Ealaíon arís i 1990, i 1993, i 1995 agus 1997. I Lúnasa 1999 a ceapadh an tOifigeach Ealaíon atá ann faoi láthair. Deintear cur síos sa leabhar seo ar roinnt tionscnamh de chuid na hOifige Ealaíon ó 1999 go dtí 2007; ní chuimsítear obair ghinearálta na hOifige, mar ba ghá níos mó ná foilseachán amháin chuige sin!

I gcoitinne, tuigeadh gurb é ról an Oifigh Ealaíon ná ‘na healaíona a chur chun cinn i gCiarraí’, ag féachaint do reachtaíocht náisiúnta (Acht Ealaíon 1973, 2003). Maidir le hAcht Ealaíon 2003, foráiltear a leithéid seo:-
‘Acht chun forbairt na n-ealaíon agus páirteachas sna healaíona a chur chun cinn’
‘Ullmhóidh agus cuirfidh an tÚdarás Áitiúil pleananna chun feidhme d’fhonn na healaíona a fhorbairt ina limistéar feidhme....’
‘Suim an phobail sna healaíona a spreagadh, eolas, dea-mheas agus cleachtadh ar na healaíona a chur chun cinn, agus caighdeán maidir leis na healaíona a fheabhsú’.

Feidhmíonn an tOifigeach Ealaíon chun cuspóirí corparáideacha an Údaráis Áitiúil a sheachadadh, faoi threoir na reachtaíochta náisiúnta. Chomh maith leis sin, forbraíonn an Oifig Ealaíon polasaithe, agus soláthraíonn tacaíocht go háitiúil agus go náisiúnta, mar aon le seirbhísí eolais, comhairle, meantóireacht agus cláir sna healaíona féin. Comhlánaíonn an Oifig Ealaíon obair na n-eagraíochtaí seanbhunaithe ealaíon sa Chontae, ar ndóigh, ach tá ról lárnach ceannaireachta agus tacaíochta ag an Oifig i gcónaí i leith fhorbairt inbhuanaithe na n-ealaíon ar fud Chiarraí.

A brief snapshot of the Arts Officer’s daily work, is as follows:

- **Advice and information** - The Arts Office provides information and contacts for artists and the wider community. This varies broadly from information regarding commissions, exhibitions, performances, opportunities to grants and projects.
- **Support and guidance** – to both the arts community and the wider community to assist with arts development.
- **Financial assistance** - Arts Act Grants are administered and assessed by the Arts Office. Revenue Funding,

Individual Artist Bursaries and Awards as well as an ‘Artists in Schools’ Scheme are allocated.

- **Promotion** - the Arts Office assists with promotion of events and activities, via circulation of mail shots (for all arts events and activity in the County), a published booklet that carries information on forthcoming arts activity. There are also arts and culture web pages www.kerrycoco.ie ‘arts and culture’ and a website to promote Kerry as a location for film www.kerryfilm.ie.
- **Project development and delivery** – e.g. arts workshops, residencies, exhibitions, recitals, events etc. - identifying and responding to gaps in provision.
- **Access to temporary arts space** - the Arts Office facilitates individuals / groups to access space where possible – libraries for arts activity, workshops, talks, exhibitions etc.
- **Capital projects** – the Local Authority has donated sites (for Siamsa Tíre Theatre & Art Centre, Tralee; Tinteán Theatre, Ballybunion; Kenmare Arts Centre; Caherciveen Arts Centre) for the development of Kerry’s arts infrastructure. Recent ‘one stop shop’ developments have, where appropriate included an arts space and will continue to do so.
- **Policy formulation** – ongoing consultation with the Strategic Policy Committee, the Arts Advisory Group, the Arts Council, the Arts Festivals Working Group, the Traditional Arts Group and other stakeholders to inform development that responds to real needs.
- **Percent for Art** – Kerry County Council has been a leader in this field, the Percent for Art commissions include sculptural work, paintings, films, plays, dance and music. The Arts Office administers the Percent for Art commissions within the Local Authority, and works with consultants’ contracted to administer certain schemes. This is done in partnership with the commissioning sections. Commissioning good quality artwork, across art forms is the focus of this process.
- **Advocacy** - the Arts Office works to raise the collective awareness of the value and impact of the arts throughout the organisation and in the wider community, locally, nationally and internationally.

The arts service is based on the understanding that the right to access the arts is as inherent as is the right to roads, housing, water services etc. Access to arts is important for creative, social and cultural development of both people and the County. (Kerry Arts Plan 2007-2012).

Tá an tseirbhís bunaithe ar an tuiscint go bhfuil ceart ar na healaíona lán chomh bunúsach leis an gceart ar bhóithre, ar thithíocht, ar sheirbhísí uisce etc. Tá fáil ar na healaíona tábhachtach, ar mhaithe le forbairt chruthaitheach, shóisialta agus chultúrtha an phobail agus an Chontae. (Plean Ealaíon Chiarraí 2007-2012).

It can be difficult to quantify much of the Arts Service delivery. The assistance given, the advice to help realise ideas, the support and guidance that can enhance arts events, the inspiration for new directions and opportunities cannot be measured in real terms. This book does not try to cover all the aspects of the Arts Service. It seeks to provide a snapshot of the main projects initiated by the present Arts Officer since 1999. Whilst much of the Arts Officers time is given to supporting the arts through advice, assistance, officiating and attending official launches, openings etc. the main Arts Office work initiates art activity in a way that is planned to influence arts development in a strategic manner. The focus is often on audience development, encouraging quality access and participation across art forms to foster engagement with the arts, sustainable arts practice and creativity.

In all its work the Arts Office reflects the overall values of Kerry Local Authorities;

‘There are core values that guide how we do our work; leadership, social inclusion and partnership, fairness and equity are central to all services provided’.
(Corporate Plan 2005-2009).

‘It is my belief that each and every person in Kerry should be able to access the arts as they wish – be that as audience or as participants’, states Kate Kennelly, Kerry Arts Officer, *‘I do not believe that the arts should be in any way elitist, each individual is entitled to engage with the arts. The arts by their creative nature can enhance people’s lives and experiences in Kerry.’ ‘I also believe that artists should be able to make their living in Kerry, with as much support as possible from*

all agencies'. 'The Local Authority Arts Office is in a position to operate throughout the County where possible; working to promote the importance of the arts in our lives, working to offer engagement with the arts directly or indirectly through other organisations, working to raise the arts on all agendas'. Kate recognises the need to ensure the arts are seen as being important in their own right, as well as being of social and cultural value which is part of the Local Authority remit, 'The value of the arts experience, as well as the role the arts have in social and cultural development will I believe become more central to all future development'. 'Participation in the arts, exploring our creativity can be invaluable.'

The Arts Office could not function effectively without the support of the Clerical Officers. Both Nora Marie Murphy and Fiona Fitzgerald (who are shared between arts, heritage and archaeology) have been central to the delivery of the service to date. The Arts Officer's ability to expand programming, to work strategically with partners and to respond to initiatives is enabled by strong Clerical Officer support. The Clerical Officers look after the day to day running of the office, the compilation and delivery of the 'Arts & Culture Kerry' booklet and ensure payments and advertisements are timely.

Kerry is a County with a wealth of culture; it has a rich and diverse arts sector. Kerry is renowned internationally for its literary tradition, its wealth of music, traditional arts and visual arts. The unsurpassable scenery and living traditions in art have inspired the artistic nature of the people for many generations. The cultural heritage and vibrant residential artists add to the creative atmosphere that exists in Kerry – here the arts form an integral part of everyday life.

The Arts Office of Kerry County Council often acts as a catalyst in the promotion of the arts in Kerry. This entails promoting access to the arts, participation in the arts as well as promoting the profile of the arts. The service often links with dynamic partners; there are a number of events and organisations that platform and develop the arts in Kerry – such as Siamsa Tíre - The National Folk Theatre of Ireland, Samhlaíocht, The Kerry School of Music, Féile na Bealtaine, Listowel Writer's Week, St. John's Theatre & Arts Centre, Caherciveen Celtic Music Festival, the Kerry Film Festival, South Kerry Development Partnership, Kerry Education Services, South West Tourism, to name but a few.

This publication provides an insight into much of the Arts Office initiated work, as stated previously; it does not detail the range of work that exists in addition to initiated work. The Arts Office initiated work is often financially supported by the Arts Council.

Arts Office activities August 1999-present

Gníomhaíochtaí na hOifige Ealaíon, ó Lúnasa 1999 i leith:

The main goal of the Arts Officer, on commencement of her work in 1999 was to develop the arts in Kerry. There was a need to work to develop greater awareness for the people of Kerry, of the arts in their area, and to offer opportunities for all to engage with the arts. A starting point was to compile information on the arts sector in Kerry, thus having factual evidence of what was happening, where the gaps were and also who was available to work with the Arts Officer to assist to promote the arts in Kerry.

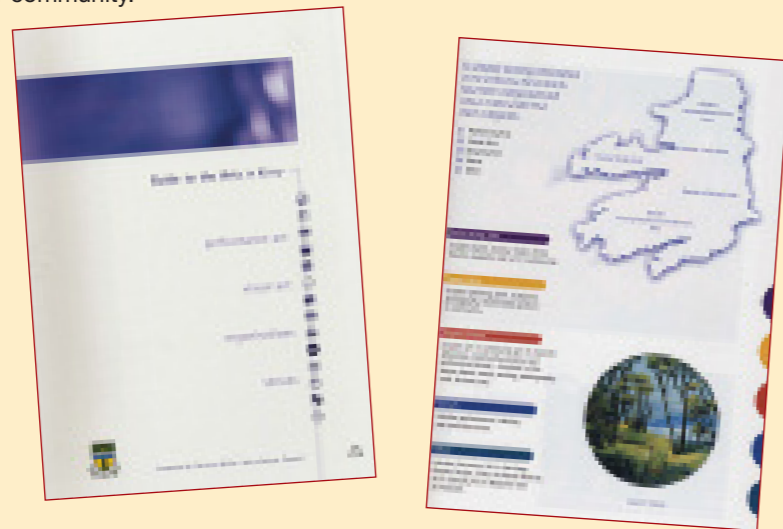
Ba é príomh sprioc an Oifigigh Ealaíon, nuair a thosaigh sí ar a cuid oibre i 1999, ná na healaíona a fhorbairt i gCiarraí: a chinntiú go raibh muintir Chiarraí eolach faoi na healaíona ina gceantair féin agus deis a chur ar fáil do chách a bheith rannpháirteach sna healaíona. Mar chéad chéim, ba ghá eolas a bhailiú ar earnáil na n-ealaíon i gCiarraí, na fíricí cruinne faoina raibh ag tarlú agus na bearnaí san eolas a aimsiú, agus a chinntiú cé a bhí ar fáil, chomh maith, chun cabhrú leis an Oifigeach Ealaíon ar mhaithe leis na healaíona a chur chun cinn sa Chontae.

Prior to the present Arts Officers appointment (August 1999) the County Manager had set up an 'Arts Steering Group', (this group became the Arts Advisory Group following the set up of the Strategic Policy Committees in Local Authorities). The Arts Officer consulted with the group and with their experience and suggestions, began to compile



One of the first tasks was to develop a County arts database. This entailed circulating over 2,500 questionnaires through the Arts Steering Group and media advertisements. The resulting database is available on www.kerrycoco.ie/artsweb.

The need for greater awareness of what was happening in the arts in Kerry, among both the arts sector and the wider sector was evident. The Arts Office, being a central contact point for local, national and international information, directs an amount of energy towards the circulation of information regarding the arts and arts opportunities to the arts sector and the wider community.



The basis for these networks is to encourage a sharing of skills and knowledge, as well as supporting the development of audiences, access to the arts and standards of arts practice.

(1999) Arts Awareness in Schools

Feasacht ar na hEalaíona sna Scoileanna:

The students focused on Irish life, how they viewed themselves, cultural aspects of Irish life, from Irish fashion down through the last Millennium, to the dramatisation of Irish historic events.



(2000) Millennium Murals

Múrmhaisithe na Mílaoise:

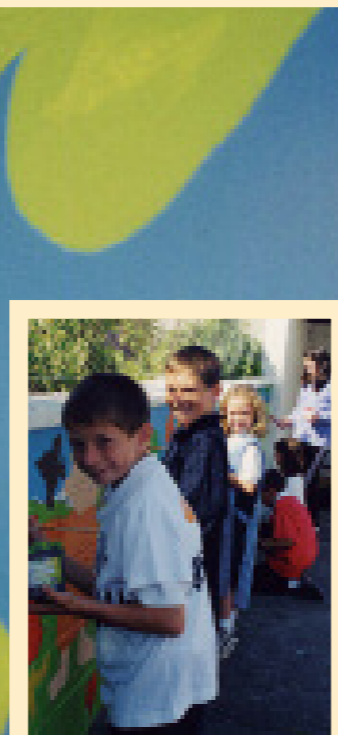
An aidhm a bhí leis an tionscnamh seo ná deis a thabhairt do pháistí scoile taithí a fháil ar a bheith ag obair le healaíontóir proifisiúnta. Próifíl na n-ealaíon a ardú sna scoileanna a bhí i gceist, tríd an teagmháil agus an rannpháirtíocht, agus trí dheis rochtana ar na healaíona. D’foc Comhairle Contae Chiarraí as soláthar na n-ábhar i gcás na scoileanna a raibh suim acu tabhairt faoin obair chruthaitheach seo, agus d’oibrigh daltaí agus ealaíontóir le chéile chun múrmhaisiú a dhéanamh ar mhórszála. D’foc na scoileanna as an ealaíontóir. Bhí béim sa tionscnamh ar nuálaíocht agus éagsúlacht i gcás úsáid na n-ábhar agus léirmhíniú na dtéamaí. D’oibrigh na healaíontóirí leis na daltaí chun téama an mhúrmhaisithe a fhorbairt, idir dhearadh ina iomlán agus na céimeanna oibre ba ghá chun an saothar a thabhairt i gcrích.

This project sought to offer school children the opportunity to experience working with a professional artist. It also sought to raise the profile of the arts in schools through exposure, participation and access. Kerry County Council funded the supply of materials to participating schools. The schools funded the artists. Students and the artist worked together on a large scale mural. The project emphasised innovation, various use of materials and interpretation of themes. The artists worked with the children to develop the theme of the mural, the overall design, and final completion of the mural.

The project proved most worthwhile at many levels:

- A number of artists gained employment opportunities, as well as raising their work profile.
- The students had the opportunity to work with artists, learning new techniques and gaining new inspiration.
- The participating schools have a work of art on display to encourage and inspire more creative art activity.

Feedback was extremely positive, the children thoroughly enjoyed working with a professional artist. Importantly, the arts activity created a new profile for visual art in the participating schools. The project afforded greater understanding and appreciation of artists work and the process involved in creating a work of art. Artists that participated; Linda Graham, Rebecca Carroll, Seán Ó Laoghaire, Kate Buckley, Michelle McGrath, Kate Moyna, Pauline Bewick, Helen O’Sullivan, Marie Brennan, Kathleen Featherstone-Hurley, Linda Lock, Karen Sugrue, Eileen Kennedy, Máire Bn. Uí Chróinín, Mary Kirby and Fidelma Noonan.



(2000) Millennium Pageants

Glóir-réimeanna Mílaoise:

Chun deis a thabhairt do phobail agus a bhfuil tábhachtach dóibh a cheiliúradh agus a chur in iúl trí mheán na n-ealaíon a cruthaíodh an tionscnamh seo. Bhí sé tráthúil sinn féin a cheiliúradh i mbliain an dá mhíle. D’oibrigh an tOifigeach Ealaíon i bpáirt leis an Oifigeach Oidhreacht agus leis an Oifigeach Gaeilge chun imeachtaí ceiliúrtha a eagrú ar fud an chontae don Mhílaois. Pobail a spreagadh chun casadh an chéid a cheiliúradh a bhí i gceist. Téamaí Contae mar: Ciarraí Cruthaitheach, Muir & Tír, Spórt, Inné agus Inniu etc, a bhí mar bhonn inspioráide le chuid mhaith den mhachnamh orainn féin, ar ár gcultúr, ár gcuid staire, cad as dúinn, agus fiú cá bhfuilimid ag dul. B’éagsúil mar a léiríodh na téamaí ó áit go háit, i dtreo go raibh glóir-réim shainiúil ar leith i ngach ceantar. Spreag cur chuige na glóir-réime ceiliúrth pobail ar bhealach a thug deis do dhaoine teacht le chéile. Dháil an tÚdarás Áitiúil maoiniú i leith glóir-réimeanna i mbailte ar fud Chiarraí: Cathair Saidhbhín, Oileán Ciarraí, An Daingean, Lios Tuathail, Trá Lí, Cill Airne, An Neidín, Cill Orglan (roghnaíodh Baile an Bhuinneánaigh ach níor tharla glóir-réim ann).

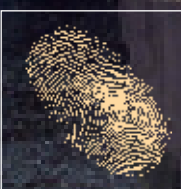
The year 2000 brought with it events to celebrate who we are. The Arts Officer worked in partnership with the Heritage Officer and Irish Officer to organise countywide pageants to celebrate the Millennium. The concept was to encourage communities to celebrate together. Themes from the County, such as creative Kerry, the land and sea, sport, past and present, etc. inspired much reflection on who we are, our culture, our past, where we came from and indeed where we are going. The interpretations of the themes varied from place to place making the pageants unique in each area. The pageant format encouraged community celebration. The Local Authority allocated funding towards pageants held in towns throughout Kerry; Caherciveen, Castleisland, An Daingean, Listowel, Tralee, Killarney, Kenmare, Killorglin (Ballybunion was selected but did not take place).

The Officers met with community leaders and committees to ensure that as many people as possible were included at local level. There was strong interest and support in each area. The Local Authority funds helped develop costumes and props as well as a prize fund to acknowledge best efforts on the day. Plenty preparation took place in the months leading up to the pageants. The pageants were a good success with participants across all ages, displaying a wide variety of talent in the performances.





Millennium Pageants





Smaointe Projects 2000-2002

(Co-organised with the Heritage Officer, supported by the Arts Council)

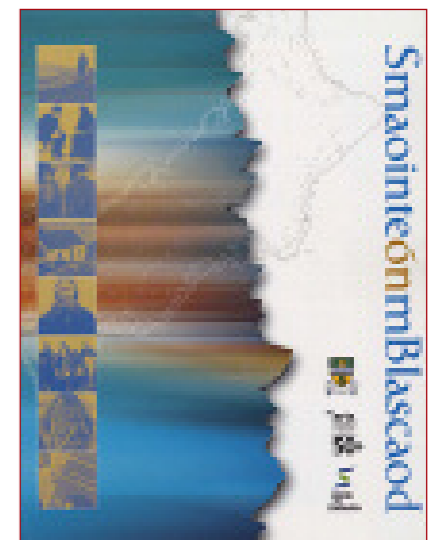
Tionscadail Smaointe 2000-2002

(Comheagraithe leis an Oifigeach Oidhreachta, le tacaíocht on Comhairle Ealaíon):

Eagraíodh an tionscnamh seo chun tacú le healaíontóirí a chónaíonn i gCiarraí. An coincheap a bhí ann mar 'Smaointe' ná ealaíontóirí a bhain le healaíona éagsúla a thabhairt le chéile, am a chaitheamh in áit a raibh tábhacht oidhreachta náisiúnta léi, agus inspioráid nua a ghiniúint dá saothair dá réir.

This project was organised to support artists living in Kerry. The concept behind the project 'Smaointe' or 'thoughts on' was to bring a number of artists together, of various disciplines and offer them the opportunity to spend time together, in a place of significant national heritage; offering them the opportunity to explore their work through new sources of inspiration.

Many artists work in isolation. This project enabled the participating artists to work in the presence of their peers. The idea being that all artists would share the experience, visit the place, and respond to the place. This in turn would lead to the creation of individual work inspired by their time at the place. Kerry has no shortage of inspirational surrounds. Sceilg Mhichíl, a world heritage site, is one of the most majestic landscapes of Ireland. In the year of the Millennium, the Sceilg was a natural subject matter for artists to explore. The project was a joint initiative between the Arts and Heritage Officers; the initial subject matter was proposed by Writer, Paddy Bushe.



For 'Smaointe na Sceilg' the Local Authority organised a two day visit of the Sceilg, offering the opportunity to explore the built and natural heritage to a group of artists. Following the boat trip, day one saw the artists explore the Island on their own taking photos, sketches etc. Day two, they were escorted by a Park Ranger who gave them detailed information on the Island, its habitats and history. The collective energy of the artists, the range of art forms represented gave a positive experience and inspiration to all involved. Apart from a blustery boat crossing, all thoroughly enjoyed the tour.

An important part of the project was that the artists' were given the opportunity to exhibit together, displaying their ideas and individual creativity. The Local Authority arranged for two artists of different disciplines to visit schools where the exhibition was touring. The artists talked to the children about being an artist, what inspires them and how they each work. This element of the project gave important profile to a younger generation of the work of an artist.

Participants in the first year included Paddy Bushe, Pádraig Mac Fhearghusa, Marion Moynihan, Neil Bedford, John W. Sexton, Dave McCormack, Alan Ryan Hall, Kathleen C. O'Shea, Regine Bartsch, Eddie Mac Cormaic, Pauline Bewick, Amy Brosnan, Catriona O'Connor, Pat and Des Lavelle.



The project was so successful that the following year it was agreed to run the same format with new inspiration - 'Smaointe na mBlascaod'. An Blascaod Mór is a very special place. The journey across the Bealach an Bhlascaoid / the Blasket Sound gave the participating artists a true feel for the experiences of the Islanders. A number of artists stayed overnight or longer on the Island and the general consensus has been that the Blascaod is a gem of artistic inspiration, far removed from the fast paced world we live in today. An Blascaod Mór is famous worldwide for its literary traditions.

Many years ago linguistic scholars visited the Island to learn the language of its people. The Island itself contains a complex mix of mutually dependent ecological systems and biodiversity, which coupled with its human story, creates a unique landscape and national treasure. There were fourteen participants; writers, painters, weavers, photographers and sculptors. The artists spent two full days on the Island. A guided tour of ‘Ionad an Bhlascaoid’, as well as the Island itself took place, kindly facilitated by staff of the Ionad, and Pat Foley, Wildlife Ranger. The exhibition, which resulted from the trip opened in Ionad an Bhlascaoid and toured libraries in Kerry. **Bhí an tionscnamh seo urraithe ag an Roinn Ealaíon, Cultúir agus Oidhreacht, An Comhairle Ealaíon agus Údarás na Gaeltachta.**

Those who participated were; Paddy Bushe, Maria Simmons Gooding, Lee Michael Tiller, Pádraig Mac Fhearghusa, Tomás Ó Cíobháin, Áine Ní Chíobháin, Mazz O Flaherty, Tony Fazio, Marc Feirtéar, Kieran MacShane, Rosemary Canavan, Su Su, Sue Redicon, Kate Buckley, Nicholas McLoughlin and Claire O’Halloran.

D’éirigh chomh maith sin leis an tionscnamh gur beartaíodh an coincheap céanna a úsáid an bhliain dar gcionn, ach le hinspioráid úr i – *Smaointe na mBlascaod*. Áit ar leith is ea an Blascaod Mór. Thug an turas thar Bhealach an Oileáin fíor-bhlas do na healaíontóirí rannpháirteacha ar thaithí na nOileánach. D’fhan cuid de na healaíontóirí thar oíche, nó níos faide, ar an Oileán, agus is é an tuairim choiteann go bhfuil an Blascaod ina sheoid inspioráide don ealaíontóir, seoid atá scoite amach ón bhfuirseadh saoil inniu. Tá cáil ar fud an Domhain ar thraidisiún liteartha an Bhlascaoid Mhóir. Blianta fada ó shin thriail teangeolaithe ar an Oileán chun teanga na ndaoine a fhoghlaim. Ar an Oileán féin tá córais chasta éiceolaíochta agus bithéagsúlachta atá ag braith ar a chéile; cuir leis seo stair dhaonna an Oileáin agus tá againn tírdhreach agus seoid náisiúnta ar leithligh. Bhí ceathrar déag rannpháirtithe sa tionscnamh: scríbhneoirí, péintéirí, fíodóirí, grianghrafadóirí agus dealbhadóirí. Chaith na healaíontóirí seo dhá lá iomlána ar an Oileán. Bhí turas treoraithe ar Ionad an Bhlascaoid chomh maith leis an Oileán féin acu, éascaithe ag foireann an Ionaid agus ag Pat Foley, maoirseoir fiadhúlra. Osclaíodh an taispeántas, a bhí mar thoradh ar an turas, ag Ionad an Bhlascaoid, agus seoladh thart ar leabharlanna Chiarraí é. Bhí an tionscnamh seo urraithe ag an Roinn Ealaíon, Cultúir agus Oidhreacht, An Comhairle Ealaíon agus Údarás na Gaeltachta.

Seo leanas na rannpháirtithe: Paddy Bushe, Maria Simmons Gooding, Lee Michael Tiller, Pádraig Mac Fhearghusa, Tomás Ó Cíobháin, Áine Ní Chíobháin, Mazz O Flaherty, Tony Fazio, Marc Feirtéar, Kieran MacShane, Rosemary Canavan, Su Su, Sue Redicon, Kate Buckley, Nicholas McLoughlin agus Claire O’Halloran.

Gné thábhachtach den thionscnamh *Smaointe* ab ea é na foirmeacha éagsúla ealaíne, gréasán de bhuanna éagsúla, a thabhairt le chéile. Bhí spriocdháta ann chun go gcuirfí saothair ar taispeántas agus d’éirigh go maith leis sin. Bhí na saothair an-suimiúil; roghnaigh na healaíontóirí foinsí inspioráide a bhí an-éagsúil, cé go raibh turas tugtha acu ar fad ar an gceantar céanna.

The third year of the project focused on ‘*Smaointe as Cill Airne*’. Over a two-day period the artists visited a number of places around Killarney including Innisfallen Island. Many centuries ago Innisfallen Island was a seat of learning, indeed the Annals of Innisfallen predate the Book of Kells. The guide of the day was art expert, and local outdoor enthusiast Frank Lewis. O’Sullivan’s Cascade, Tomies Mountain, Lough Leane and Dinis were sources of inspiration on the first day. On day two of the project there were guided walks of Muckross’ Yew Woods, Muckross Abbey and the Kenmare Road. These walks were facilitated by OPW Park Ranger, Brendan O’Shea. An exhibition of work toured County Libraries, and artists visited local schools. Children were hugely inspired, one teacher remarked that her class wanted to spend their break time ‘*illustrating their poems*’ rather than outside in the playground! Participants included: Paddy Bushe, Áine Ní Chíobháin, Tomás Ó Cíobháin, S.D. Clifford, Ger Cronin, Annalisa Hoek, Pádraig Mac Fhearghusa, Dermot McCarthy, Gail McCarthy, Ronnie Moore, Eoghan O’Donoghue, Tighe O’Donoghue, Mary O’Reilly, Brendan O’Shea, Margaret O’Shea, Seodín O’Sullivan, Jane Savage and Eileen Sheehan.

An important element of the Smaointe project was bringing together various art forms, a network of talent. The inclusion of a deadline for work to exhibit worked well for all involved. The work created proved to be of great interest, all the artists chose very different inspiration points although all visited the same area.

(2000 and 2002) Touring Theatre Initiative Tionscnamh Amharclannaíocht Taistil:

Contae mór sléibhtiúil ar a bhfuil cósta bearnach mantach is ea Chiarraí, agus tá tionchar aige seo ar fhorbairt áitiúil na n-ealaíon, ó thaobh a bheith in ann teacht ar oirfidigh, ar chuireanna agus ar cheadail etc ón taobh lasmuigh? An minic a bhíonn soláthar le fáil go háitiúil de na foirmeacha éagsúla ealaíne. Toisc gur contae fairsing é Chiarraí, is féidir lena mhéid a bheith ina bhac ar ghníomhaíochtaí áirithe ealaíne. Ní beag é líon na gceantar tuaithe ach is annamh a thrialann na comhlachtaí proifisiúnta amharclannaíochta orthu.

The large, peninsular, mountainous nature of the County has an impact on local arts development in terms of access to incoming acts / tours / recitals etc. How regular is localized arts provision across art forms? Kerry’s geographical spread can be an inhibiting factor in relation to certain arts activity. The rural areas, of which there are many, are rarely on the tour trail of professional theatre companies.

In 2000 the Arts Office, supported by the Arts Council, co-funded a number of performances in rural areas by St. John’s Mill Theatre and Beehive Theatre Company. The performances took place in Ardfer, Tuosist, Waterville, Scartaglin and Annascaul. In terms of audience development and access to the arts this project proved worthwhile. Importantly the project provided opportunities for the theatre companies to perform; however there were evident gaps in terms of critical assessment and media coverage. Budget constraints in 2001 forestalled the project taking place again. The Arts Office advertised a Touring Theatre Grant to encourage a high standard of theatre performances countywide in 2002. The Theatre Tour 2002 included performances in Kenmare, Scartaglin and Listowel by the Beehive Theatre Company.

In following years the Arts Office supported the fine work of South Kerry Development Partnership, a Leader Agency that secured funding for a person who worked to initiate projects on the ground, in the South Kerry area, and later in the Mid Kerry area. There was a person ‘on the ground’ to assist with booking touring acts, assisting with promotion, sales and venue details as well as payments. More recently, the Arts Office assisted the Arts Administrator, Conor O’Leary working with Ceol Uíbh Ráthaigh, co-funded by the Arts Council to bring two recitals to South Kerry. Bringing quality arts performances to rural areas that do not always have easy access to such performances is an area that the Arts Office would hope to develop in future in partnership. This is important to encourage more theatre, events and recitals at local level to develop audiences and to offer opportunity for greater participation in the arts.

Visual Arts Lecture Series Sraith Leachtanna ar na hAmharcealaíona – Killarney Library 2000:

Eagraíodh na tráthnónta seo de dheasca éilimh ó eanáil na n-ealaíon. Bhí go leor amharcealaíontóirí ag lorg deis bualadh le healaíontóirí rathúla proifisiúnta, ar mhaithe lena gcleachtais oibre, éiteas agus dul chun cinn sa ghairm go dáta a phlé. Bhí an t-aiseolas dearfach. Ba iad **Pauline Bewick**, amharc-ealaíontóir agus **Tighe O’Donoghue**, amharc-ealaíontóir, na héascaitheoirí.

These evenings arose from demand, many visual artists requested the opportunity to meet with successful, professional artists to discuss their work practice, ethos and career progress to date. Feedback was positive; facilitated by **Pauline Bewick**, Visual Artist and **Tighe O’Donoghue** Visual Artist.

Dance for the Elderly

Rince do Dhaoine Aosta:

Cuireadh tús leis an tionscnamh seo ar mhaithe le taithí ar rince chruthaitheach a chur ar fáil do dhaoine scothaosta, a bhféadfadh na gnéithe cruthaitheacha agus sóisialta den ghníomhaíocht dul chun tairbhe dóibh. **Danielle Dreyer** a d'éascaigh na ceardlanna. Chuir Danielle ceardlanna ar siúl i gCeann Trá, Caisleán na Mainge agus Caisleán Ghriaire.

This project was initiated to provide a creative dance experience for older people who might benefit from both the creative and social aspect of such activity. The workshops were facilitated by **Danielle Dreyer**. Danielle carried out the workshops in Ceann Trá, Castlemaine and Castlegregory.



Rinceoir Cónaithe sa Daingean

(idir Comhairle Contae Chiarraí, Údaras na Gaeltachta agus an Comhairle Ealaíon):

Fuair Comhairle Contae Chiarraí deontas ó Ealaíon na Gaeltachta chun rinceoir cónaithe le Gaeilge a fháil. Tá forbairt na healaíne lárnach d'obair an Oifige Ealaíon. Gan dabht, tá suim ag a lán daoine sa rince agus mar sin tá sé praiticiúil an suim seo a mhéadú. Chuireamar an deontas seo ar fáil chun rince a fhorbairt i measc grúpa óg gurbh í an Ghaeilge a dteanga, sé sin AnnÓg. Bhí an suim ag an grúpa sin, agus ag a múinteoir Áine Moynihan, an bua sin a fhorbairt le cabhair ón rinceoir. B'é **Fearghus Ó Conchúir** an rinceoir a bhí acu do thréimhse an togra seo.

Bhain an grúpa, AnnÓg, an-thairbhe as an tréimhse a chaith Fearghus leo. Bhí Áine Moynihan agus na rinceoirí eile an-sásta leis an feabhas atá tagtha ar a gcuid rince, de toradh a gcuid ama le Fearghus. Thugadar fé réimsí éagsúla ó obair thaighde, modhanna oibre agus gluaiseacht. D'fhéachadar ar théamaí trí rince chomhaimseartha, turais, dúshlán phearsanta, agus sin tumtha i miotaseolaíocht Naomh Gobnait.

Cainteoir líofa Gaeilge is ea Fearghus, agus is grúpa Gaeltachta iad AnnÓg, iad go léir líofa sa Ghaeilge. Bhí béim ar an nGaeilge agus an rince sa togra seo.

The workshops were facilitated by Fearghus Ó Conchúir with AnnÓg (Amharclann na nÓg, Corca Dhuibhne). They were both a continuation of the training work of this enterprising young theatre group and a breaking of new ground. The Artistic Director Áine Moynihan, who is herself a professional actor and writer, has always placed great emphasis on the importance of movement and dance in the formation of an actor.

Chabhraigh sé linn chun cothromaíocht ar gcoirp a fháil agus bhraitheas sábháilte nuair a bhíos ag aimsiú an chothromaíocht seo. D'éirigh linn, tríd a chuid feitheoireachta, muinín a bheith againn as a chéile agus as Fhearghus. Mhúin sé dúinn faoi tábhacht chodarsnacht sna gluaiseachtaí éagsúla - mar shampla, gluaiseacht mór a dhéanamh tar éis gluaiseacht beag. Bíonn éifeacht mhór ag an codarsnacht ar an gluaiseacht go hiomlán. Go bunúsach, d'fhoghlaimíos faoi cheird an rince i slí pléisiúrtha. Bhí craic agus gairí againn, chomh maith l'obair cruaidh. Ana-thaithí ab ea é. (Sinéad Ní hUallacháin).

2001 - Visual Arts in Schools

Amharcealaíona sna Scoileanna:

Sa tionscnamh seo bhí an fócas ar dheis a thabhairt d'ealaíontóirí oibriú ar bhealach cruthaitheach le páistí ar thionscnamh ar leith. Thairg an tionscnamh ard chleachtas sna n-ealaíon, leathnú ar rannpháirtíocht sna healaíona agus rochtain orthu, agus nasc a chruthú idir an ealaíontóir agus an pobal i gcoitinne. Dhein an Chomhairle Ealaíon chomh-mhaoiniú ar an tionscnamh seo.

The focus of this project was to offer artists the opportunity to work in a creative fashion with children on a specific project. The project offered high standards of arts practice, broadened participation in and access to the arts as well as linking the artist with the wider community. It was co-funded by the Arts Council.

Schools participated from Fíries, Tralee, Lauragh and Scartaglin. The artists were Diana Lavery, Rebecca O'Carroll, Kate Buckley, Claudio Viscardi and Kathleen Featherstone-Hurley. The success of this project led to the initiation of the 'Artist in Schools Scheme'.



Individual Artist Awards

– introduced as part of the Arts Plan 2001-2006

Dámhachtainí Ealaíontóra Aonair

– Tugtha isteach mar chuid den Phlean Ealaíon 2001-2006:

Tá cuid mhaith d'aisfhreagra na hOifige Ealaíon le feiceáil sa Phlean Ealaíon, agus forbraíodh roinnt 'Dámhachtainí Ealaíontóra Aonair' dá bharr seo – mar an Dámhachtain um Breisoideachas Ealaíne, Dámhachtain Ábhar agus Fearais,



Sparánacht chun freastal ar Dhíseart d'Ealaíontóirí in Éirinn, Dámhachtain d'Fhorbairt Saothair Chruthaithigh, agus Dámhachtain do Thionscnamh Speisialta. Tá na dámhachtainí seo dírithe ar ealaíontóirí proifisiúnta agus ealaíontóirí atá i mbéal forbartha, agus tá forbairt gairme mar aidhm acu. Bronntar Sparántacht i leith Ealaíontóra sna Scoileanna chomh maith.

An important part of the Arts Office response to demand is seen through the Arts Plan which has led to the development of a number of 'Individual Artists Awards' such as a Further Arts Education Award, a Materials and Equipment Award, a Bursary to attend Artists Retreat in Ireland, a Creative Work Development Award, and a Special Projects Award. These awards target professional and emerging artists and aim to assist with their career development. Artist in Schools Bursaries are also awarded. The awards were initially co funded by the Arts Council.



Artist in the Community Scheme

- *introduced as part of the Arts Plan 2001-2006*

An Scéim d'Ealaíontóir sa Phobal

- *Tugtha isteach mar chuid den Phlean Ealaíon 2001-2006:*

An aidhm atá leis an Scéim d'Ealaíontóir sa Phobal ná dlúth chomhoibriú a chothú idir ghrúpaí pobail agus ealaíontóirí. Is gá tionscnamh, ar a mbíonn baill den ghrúpa pobail agus na healaíontóirí ag obair le chéile ar mhaithe le sprioc nó imeacht ealaíne a thabhairt i gcrích, a bheith mar fhócas don chomhoibriú. Is gá an scéim seo a chur i gcrích i gcomh-pháirtíocht le Seirbhísí Oideachais Chiarraí.

The aim of the 'Artist in the Community Scheme' is to encourage collaboration between community groups and artists. The focus of the collaboration must be a project in which the members of the community group and the artists work together in order to realise an artistic outcome or an event. This scheme has been carried out in partnership with Kerry Education Services.

To introduce the scheme the Arts Office invited Áine Jacobs of *CREATE* to make a presentation on the artist working with communities.





Storytelling Project Scéalaíocht:

'A Celebration of Words'

The act of storytelling stimulates our imagination, enhances our communication, and promotes expression. The project sought to encourage the art of storytelling in schools, among the younger generations. Storytelling itself draws heavily on drama as well as influencing plays and creativity. It has played a strong role in the indigenous culture of Kerry. The Storytelling / Scéalaíocht, was a bi-lingual project administered by the Arts Office, with support from the Irish Office of Kerry County Council. At various times it was also kindly supported by the Arts Council and by Kerry Group PLC. The importance of our language, both Irish and English, our ability to communicate in a creative manner, thus preserving our culture whilst fostering a climate for creative expression were pivotal to this project.

The storytellers who visited the schools gave background information to the children regarding the tradition of storytelling and its importance in our culture. The storytellers gave examples of stories, encouraging the children to speak openly and explore words, the magic of words, and the delivery of words. Following the storytellers' visits to schools, the teachers encouraged students to actively engage older members of the community to explore local stories and traditions.

The highlight of the project was the Storytelling evenings / oíche Scéalaíocht in Siamsa Tíre Theatre & Art Centre. The first evening saw two students from each electoral area given the chance to perform on stage, with a number of well known Kerry Maestros, including the late Eamonn Kelly, the late John Moriarty, Gabriel Fitzmaurice, Batt Burns and Paddy Kennelly. This was a tremendous opportunity for the young to become more involved in the arts whilst developing a finer appreciation for communication skills. Radio Kerry recorded and broadcasted the top ten finalists. As the project progressed, the Arts Office altered the project as advised by the schools to a project where more students were given the opportunity to perform on stage and to partake in an evening that emphasised participation rather than competition.

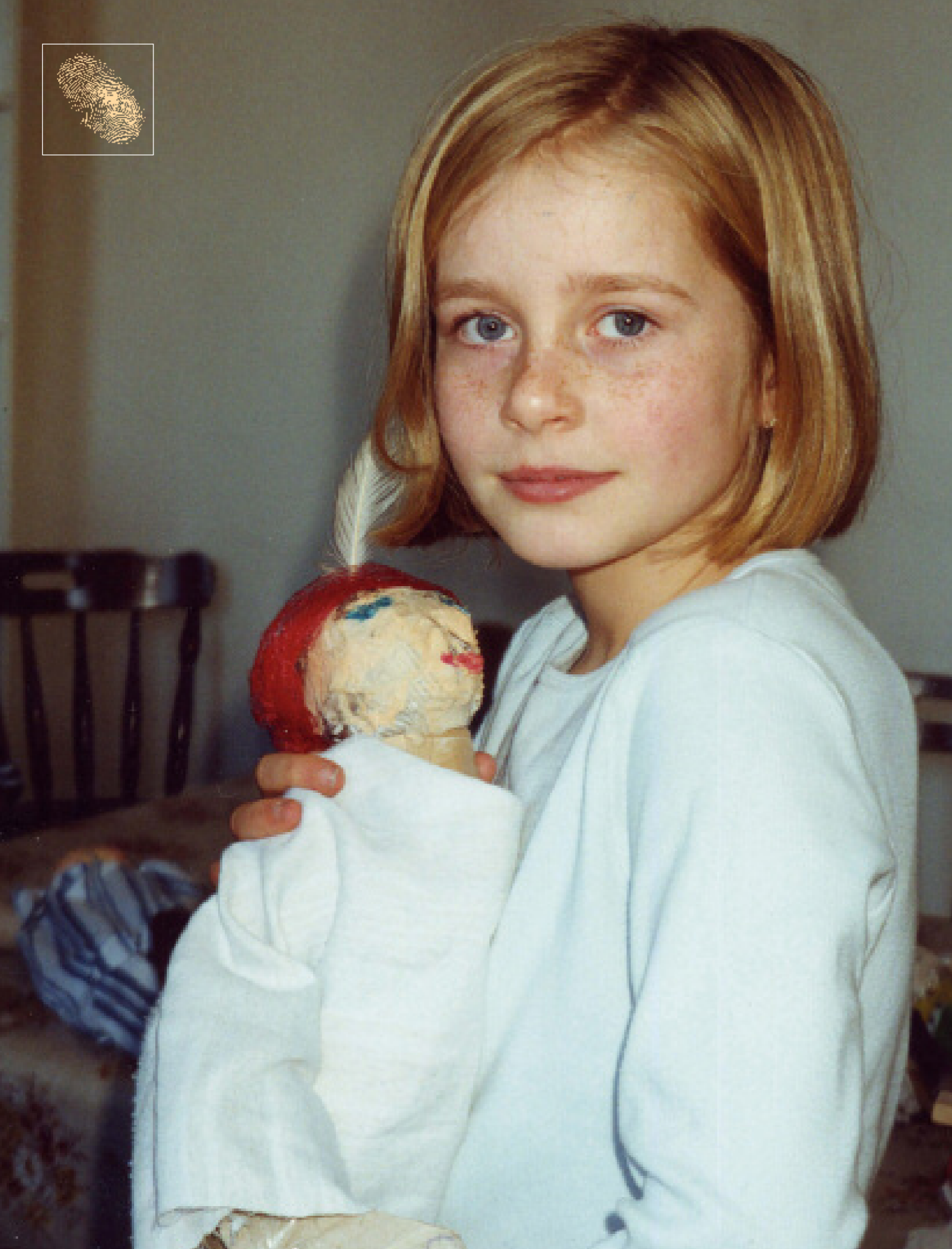
'Ceiliúradh na mBriathar Labhartha'

Spreagann an scéalaíocht an tsamhlaíocht, feabhsaítear an cumas cumarsáide agus cothaítear léiriú na mothúchán. An aidhm a bhí leis an tionscnamh ná ealaíon na scéalaíochta a spreagadh sna scoileanna i measc an aosa óig. Tá gaol gairid ag an scéalaíocht féin leis an drámaíocht, agus gabhann sí i bhfeidhm ar dhrámaí agus ar an gcruthaitheacht. Tá ról nach beag aici i gcultúr dúchais Chiarraí. Tionscnamh dátheangach ab ea *Storytelling/ Scéalaíocht*, a chuir an Oifig Ealaíon chun tosaigh le cúnamh ó Oifig Gaeilge Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí. Ag amanna éagsúla thacaigh An Chomhairle Ealaíon agus *Kerry Group PLC* leis. Tábhacht na Gaeilge agus an Bhéarla, an cumas cumarsáid a dhéanamh ar bhealach cruthaitheach, agus ár gcultúr a chaomhnú dá réir, fad a bhí léiriú cruthaitheach ar na mothúcháin á chothú, bhí lár-thábhacht leo ar fad sa tionscnamh seo.

Sholáthraigh na scéalaithe a thug cuairt ar na scoileanna eolas cúlra do na daltaí ar thraidisiún na scéalaíochta agus a thábhacht dár gcultúr. Chuir na scéalaithe samplaí de scéalta ar fáil chomh maith, agus mhisnigh siad na páistí chun labhairt go hoscailte, agus draíocht agus teilgean na bhfocal a thástáil. Tar éis na gcuairteanna scoile ó na scéalaithe, spreag na múinteoirí na daltaí chun dul i dteagmháil leis na seandaoine sa phobal chun eolas a chur ar scéalta agus ar thraidisiúin áitiúla.

Buaicphointe an tionscadail ná na hOícheanta Scéalaíochta ag Siamsa Tíre, Ionad Amharclainne & Ealaíon. An chéad tráthnóna fuair beirt dhalta ó gach toghcheantar deis a bheith ar stáitse, in éineacht le Máistrí aitheanta Chiarraí, Éamonn Kelly agus John Moriarty nach maireann, agus Gabriel Fitzmaurice, Batt Burns agus Paddy





Kennelly. Deis iontach don óige ab ea é a bheith páirteach sna healaíona agus cur lena ndea-bhreithiúnas ar scoileanna cumarsáide. Thaifeadaigh agus chraol Raidió Chiarraí an deichniúr craobh-iomaitheoirí. De réir mar a chuaigh an tionscnamh chun cinn, d'athraigh Oifig na nEalaíon é ar chomhairle na scoileanna, i dtreo go mbeadh deis ag níos mó daltaí taispeántas stáitse a thabhairt, agus a bheith páirteach i dtráthnóna a raibh an bhéim ar rannpháirtíocht ann seachas ar iomaíocht.

Library Workshops

Ceardlanna Leabharlainne:

An aidhm a bhí leis an tionscnamh seo ná fáil níos éasca a bheith ar na healaíona. Eagraíodh imeachtaí sna leabharlanna áitiúla, mar is ionaid phobail iad atá so-rochtana agus a chuireann iniamh shóisialta agus chultúrtha chun cinn. Bhí sraith de thrí cheardlann chomhleantacha sheachtainiúla ar siúl i dtrí leabharlann rannpháirteacha le linn Deireadh Fómhair agus mhí na Samhna 2000; chomh-mhaoinigh an Chomhairle Ealaíon agus an Oifig Ealaíon iad seo. I dtús báire, iarraidh ar na Leabharlannaithe áitiúla ceistneoir a líonadh, inar liostáil agus inar chuir siad ábhair cheardlainne sna healaíona in ord tosaíochta, i gcomhthéacs éilimh agus áiseanna áitiúla. Bhí sé suimiúil go raibh an saghas éilimh a braitheadh ó cheantar go ceantar an-éagsúil.

Chabhraigh na Leabharlannaithe go mór lena chinntiú go raibh daoine áitiúla ar an eolas faoi na ceardlanna agus go raibh freastal maith orthu. Óstáileann roinnt mhaith Leabharlannaithe imeachtaí agus gníomhaíochtaí éagsúla ealaíon anois.

These projects sought to make the arts more accessible. Events were organised in the local libraries, as community venues that are easy to access and that promote social and cultural inclusion. A series of three consecutive weekly workshops took place in three participating libraries during October and November 2000, co-funded by the Arts Council and the Arts Office. Initially the local Librarians were asked to fill in a questionnaire where they prioritised their preferred arts workshop area in the context of local demand and facilities. An interesting find was the perceived demand varied in each area.

To commence it was decided to work with Kenmare, Killarney and Killorglin Libraries. The rationale being that at the time, there were no arts centres in South Kerry whereas North Kerry had a number of excellent arts centres providing access to the arts.

Kenmare Library was the first to host the workshops in Drama and Visual Arts, facilitated by Maire Wiltshire. These workshops went extremely well, so much so they took place over the following years due to demand. The workshops targeted younger members of the community ages seven to twelve.

Killorglin Library hosted a number of Creative Writing workshops for adults; these were facilitated by John W. Sexton, and worked so well that a writers group was established from the sessions. The group called themselves 'Knibs' and went on to successfully publish 'Ripples from the Laune'. John W. Sexton remained a mentor to the group for some time.

In Caherciveen the library hosted Drama workshops facilitated by Wendy Rosenberg of the Beehive Theatre Company. Again demand was such that Drama workshops became a more regular feature in Caherciveen Library.

All went extremely well and led to further workshops in the libraries over the years, ranging from workshops in dance, drama, film, literature to puppetry. The Librarians involved have been very helpful in ensuring people locally are aware of the workshops, and that they are well attended. Many Librarians now host a number of arts events and activities.

Area Clinics

Clinicí Ceantair:

In 2000, the Arts and Heritage Officers began bi-annual Area Clinics to be more available to people who wish to meet direct and may not be in a position to travel to Tralee. These are on-going.

Sa bhliain 2000 thosaigh na hOifigigh Ealaíon agus Oidhreacht ar Chlinicí Ceantair débhlíantúla a chur ar siúl i dtreo go mbeadh fáil níos éasca orthu ag daoine ar mhian leo bualadh leo go pearsanta, ach go mb'fhéidir nach raibh ar a gcumas taisteal go Trá Lí. Leantar leo seo ó shin.

Rhythms of Kerry

Rithimí Chiarraí:

D'eagraigh an Oifig Ealaíon an tráthnóna 'Rithimí Chiarraí' chun cuairt an Uachtarán Máire Mhic Giolla Íosa ar Chiarraí a cheiliúradh. Ba dheis a bhí ann cuid den tallann éachtach atá sa chontae a léiriú ar ardán. Deineadh cur i láthair ó na hiomaitheoirí ceannais i gcomórtas Cheoltóir Óg na Bliana (eagraithe ag *Rotary Club* Chill Airne), chomh maith le taispeántas de shaothair le healaíontóirí ón gcontae.

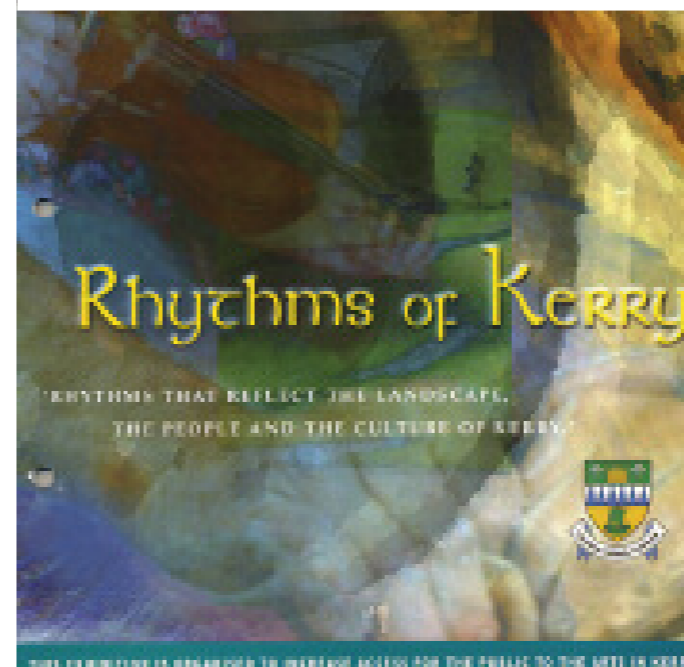
The 'Rhythms of Kerry' exhibition and recital event was organised by the Arts Office to celebrate a visit by President Mary McAleese to Kerry. It was an opportunity to platform some of the wonderful artistic talent in the County. The evening involved performances by the Young Musician of the Year Finalists (organised by Killarney Rotary Club) and an exhibition of work by artists throughout the County.

The exhibition was launched by President Mary McAleese on May 2001 in Tralee Library. There were recitals by the Kerry School of Music followed by the young competition winners. The 'Rhythms of Kerry' exhibition theme reflected inspiration taken from the 'rhythm' of the landscape, people and culture. Work selected reflected the title of the exhibition.

The exhibition provided a good opportunity to view the variety of style of many Kerry based artists. Artists included: Anne Kavanagh, Annalisa Hoek, Bernadette Cunningham, Dermot McCarthy, Dolores Johnson, Eoghan O'Donoghue, Helen O'Sullivan, Jane Savage, Kate Buckley, Kathleen Featherstone-Hurley, Lee Michael Tiller, Mary C. Flynn, Mazz O'Flaherty, Tighe O'Donoghue, Bob Ó Cathail, Michelle McGrath and Rebecca Carroll.

Youth Classical Music Performances: Jessie Buckley, Amy Ryan, Martin O'Dwyer, Jonathon Ferris, Kevin Coffey and Val Ní Ghliosaín.

Artists and performers had the opportunity to meet the President and inform her of their work practice. It was a very successful evening.



Culture Club Club Cultúir:

The concept behind this project was to create an informal forum for the wider community to listen and discuss arts and culture, as well as having the opportunity to meet experts. It was also hoped that the third level students would avail of the opportunity to meet artists and other experts in the field of arts and culture. The opportunity was created to debate and explore our living culture.

- Promoting the profile of the arts.
- Audience development.
- Awareness and access.

Kerry County Council partnered with Tralee Institute of Technology and the Library Service on this project. The 'Culture Club' evenings were hosted in Tralee Library. These evenings offered members of the public the opportunity to attend a lecture or talk on an Arts, Heritage or Irish subject matter.

An coincheap a bhí i gceist leis seo ná fóram neamhfhoirmeálta a chruthú don phobal i gcoitinne, mar ionad éisteachta agus plé ar na healaíona agus ar an gcultúr, agus mar dheis bualadh leis na saineolaithe. Bhíothas ag súil, chomh maith, go n-úsáidfadh mic léinn tríú leibhéal an deis chun bualadh le healaíontóirí agus saineolaithe eile ealaíon agus cultúir. Cruthaíodh an deis díospóireacht agus iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar ár gcultúr beo.

- Próifíl na n-ealaíon a chur chun cinn.
- Forbairt lucht éisteachta / féachana.
- Feasacht agus rochtain.

Chuaigh Comhairle Contae Chiarraí i bpáirt le hInstitiúid Teicneolaíochta Thrá Lí agus leis an tSeirbhís Leabharlainne sa tionscnamh seo. Dhein Leabharlann Thrá Lí óstáil ar thráthnónta an Chlub Chultúir. Leathnaíodh na tráthnónta seo chun go mbeadh deis ag an bpobal freastal ar léacht nó ar chaint ar na hEalaíona, ar an Oidhreacht nó ar ábhar Éireannach.

In Kerry there is a wealth of arts expertise that can inspire an audience. The evenings were facilitated by a number of experts including artists such as Philip King - Musician and Film Maker, Gabriel Fitzmaurice – Poet and the late John Moriarty - Philosopher.

Community Music Recitals Ceadail Ceoil an Phobail:

Thar na blianta, dhein Comhairle Contae Chiarraí i gcomhar le Ceolscoil Chiarraí, agus le tacaíocht go mion minic ón gComhairle Ealaíon, óstáil ar líon áirithe ceadail ceoil i Leabharlanna Thrá Lí, Chill Airne agus Chathair Saidhbhín. Díreann na himeachtaí seo ar lucht éisteachta óg i gcás na gceadal le linn an lá scoile, agus ar an bpobal i gcoitinne i gcás na gceadal um thráthnóna, tráth gur féidir le gach éinne freastal.

These events are organised by the Arts Office in partnership with the Kerry School of Music, hosted by the Library Service and often supported by the Arts Council. The emphasis is on creating widespread access to music for all ages. Over the years there have been a number of music recitals in Tralee, Killarney and Caherciveen Libraries. The recitals feature the Kerry County Piano – (from the Arts Council's Joint Purchase Scheme) – and offers the public an opportunity to engage in both classical and traditional music at its finest.



Daytime performances target schools, the time allows teachers to bring children to the library to enjoy hearing and learning about music and musicians. Comments have been extremely positive in relation to developing access to classical and traditional music. The library is an ideal location as a community amenity its accessibility makes it an ideal venue to develop audiences for the arts.

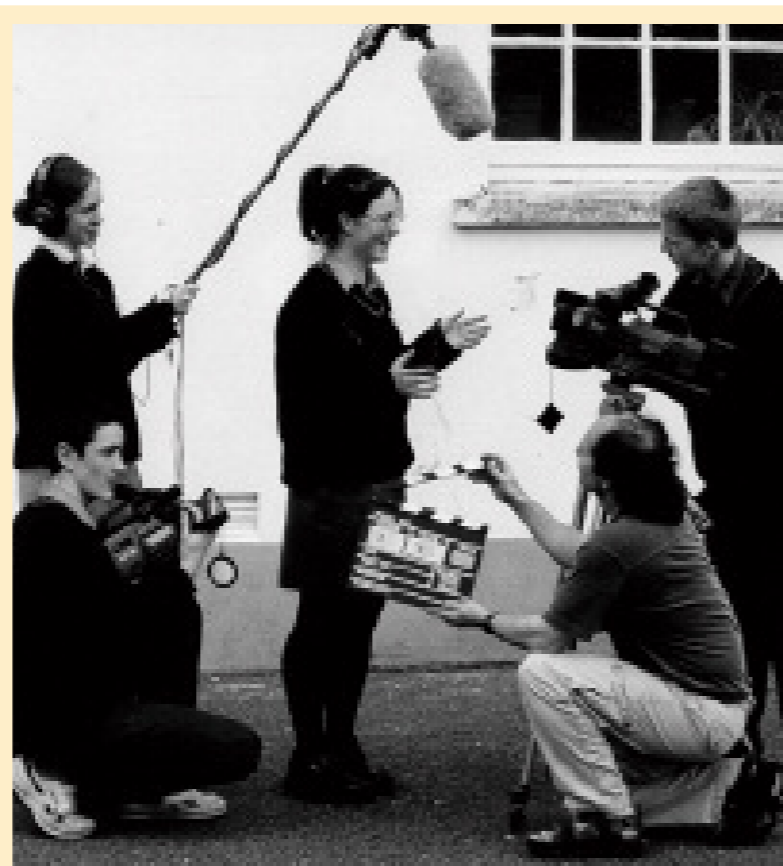
Kerry Film Festival Féile Scannáin Chiarraí:

Kerry County Council, in association with Samhlaíocht and The Rose of Tralee Festival began the Kerry Film Festival in 2000. The Film Festival sought to promote Film Making, to celebrate and platform film and to encourage participation in film. The Kerry Film Festival Mission Statement was; to celebrate the art of Film, embracing a participative audience and providing a vehicle to platform short film, and to promote Kerry as a cultural destination.

Objectives:

- Celebrate the art of Film by inviting artists to participate in the festival through invitation and open submission.
- Continue the development of film audience in Kerry by creating opportunities for access and participation – through showcasing film, an innovative schools programme and experimental workshops.
- Provide a vehicle to platform short film by securing venues, fostering collaborations and sourcing funding to ensure a quality festival.
- Promote Kerry through the art of film as a cultural destination to filmmakers, film locators and tourists.

Ceiliúradh a dhéanamh ar an Scannánaíocht, lucht féachana rannpháirteach a thabhairt linn agus ardán a chur ar fáil do scannáin ghairide agus do Chiarraí mar cheann scríbe cultúir.



Cuspóirí:

- Ceiliúradh a dhéanamh ar ealaíon na scannánaíochta trí chuireadh a thabhairt d'ealaíontóirí a bheith rannpháirteach san fhéile trí chuireadh agus trí aighneachtaí oscailte.
- Leanúint ar aghaidh le forbairt lucht féachana scannán i gCiarraí trí dheiseanna a chruthú do rochtain agus do rannpháirtíocht – trí scannáin a thaispeáint, clár nuálach do scoileanna agus do cheardlanna trialacha.
- Ardán a chur ar fáil do scannáin ghairide trí ionaid a fháil, trí comhpháirtíocht a chothú agus trí mhaoiniú a fháil chun féile ar ardchaighdeán a chinntiú.
- Ciarraí a chur chun cinn tríd an scannánaíocht mar cheann scríbe cultúir do dhéantóirí scannán, do lonnaitheoirí scannán agus do thurasóirí.

Since 2001 Samhlaíocht organises and administers the Kerry Film Festival; the education programme is funded by Kerry County Council and supported by the Irish Film Institute. The Festival now takes place in An Daingean, Tralee, Killarney, Listowel as well as sometimes screening in Waterville, Ballyheigue, Ballylongford and Knocknagree. Samhlaíocht continues to expand the programme so that more and more people have the opportunity to engage in film. The festival is internationally recognised as being an important platform for emerging film makers.

2001 - Film workshops in Schools with Frameworks Ceardlanna Scannánaíochta i Scoileanna le Frameworks:

Breis rochtana ar scannánaíocht do lucht féachana agus rannpháirtithe, i gcomhpháirt le féile Scannán Chiarraí chun breis suime a mhúscailt i measc n-óg. Socraíodh Ceardlanna Déanta Scannán a thabhairt isteach i scoileanna Chiarraí.

This project focused on developing access to film for both audiences and participants, partnering the Kerry Film Festival. In order to attract greater interest from the younger audience it was decided to bring Film Making workshops into the schools of Kerry.

Four schools participated in workshops; St. Brigid's Presentation Convent, Killarney; Presentation Secondary School, Tralee; Gaelcholáiste Chiarraí, Moyderwell, Tralee; and Presentation Secondary School, Listowel. 'Frameworks', a Cork based company facilitated the workshops. The students learned the process behind making a short film including producing documentary and promotional films with professional equipment and editing facilities. The focus was on the process as well as the product. The training provided work on production, script development, camera operation, lighting, sound and editing, as well as media analysis.

Bealtaine screenings, for the elderly Ar Scáileán um Bealtaine do dhaoine aosta:

Cuireadh tús leis an tionscnamh seo chun deacrachtaí freastail dhaoine aosta ar scannáin a sháru, chomh maith le deis díospóireachta agus comhlúadair a thabhairt dóibh ag na scannáin. Chabhraigh an Oifig Ealaíon chun scannáin a thaispeáint le linn na Bealtaine, trí theagmháil le roinnt leabharlanna sa chontae a léirigh suim ina leithéid. Tairgítear na taispeántais scannán le haghaidh daoine aosta sa cheantar áitiúil, saor in aisce. Cuireann na Leabharlannaithe tae agus caife ar fáil mar thacaíocht leis na taispeántais scannán. Eagraítear na scannáin trí Access Cinema.

This project was initiated to address issues of access to film for the elderly, as well as offering the opportunity for debate and socialising around film. The Arts Office has assisted with film screenings for the elderly during May by liaising with a number of interested libraries throughout the County. The screenings are offered for older people in the local area, free of charge. The Librarians offer teas and coffees to support the screenings. The film screenings are organised through Access Cinema.

Community Music Project

Tionscnamh Ceoil don Phobal:

Thug Comhairle Contae Chiarraí i gcomhar le *Ciarraí, Contae Ceoil 2000* cuireadh do ghrúpaí pobail ar fud an Chontae cur isteach ar cheadal ardpheiríle ceoil ina gceantair. Ba chuid den iarratas go mbeadh ceadal iar-nóin i dteach scoir nó in ionad cúram lae i measc an phobail sa cheantar.

Kerry County Council in association with Kerry Music County 2000 invited community groups throughout the County to apply for a high profile music performance in their area. Part of this application included an afternoon performance in a retirement home or a day care centre in the community for the elderly.

The groups were asked to select either traditional or classical music. Interestingly five out of six groups selected traditional. Each of the six performances took place in areas that would not usually have access to high profile performances. The elderly in particular were delighted to have music brought directly to them. The performances were facilitated by well known Traditional Irish Band, Sliabh Notes.

(2003) Get In IRMA Music Trust

Get In Iontaobhas Ceoil IRMA:

Dhein Jessica Fuller ó Iontaobhas Ceoil IRMA teagmháil le Comhairle Contae Chiarraí maidir le spás maoirsithe inrochtana a aimsiú, áit a bhféadfadh bannaí óga ceoil an deis a thapú úsáid a bhaint as an trealamh ceoil is nua-aimseartha. Thairg Seirbhís Óige Chill Airne (Seirbhís Óige Dheoise Chiarraí) spás a chur ar fáil, mar aon le maoirseoireacht ar an trealamh. Ó shin i leith, tá roinnt bannaí tagtha le chéile, agus tá an trealamh in áirithe formhór an ama. Tá tábhacht le tacaíocht a thabhairt do cheoltóirí óga i gCiarraí.

Kerry County Council was approached by Jessica Fuller of IRMA Music Trust to source a supervised, accessible space to provide state of the art music equipment for young bands to practice music. The Killarney Youth Service, KDYS, kindly offered both space and supervision of the equipment. Since then, a number of bands have got together and the equipment is fully booked most of the time. It is an important support to young musicians in Kerry.

Limerick Printmakers Exhibition

Taispeántas Dhéantóirí Priontaí Luimnigh:

An Oifig Ealaíon agus Déantóirí Priontaí Luimnigh a d’eagraigh é seo in 2002; ba í Leabharlann Chathair Saidhbhín an t-óstach. Ba é seo an chéad uair go raibh taispeántas ag Déantóirí Priontaí Luimnigh lasmuigh de Luimneach, agus ba thaispeántas speisialta é dá réir.

Organised by the Arts Office and Limerick Printmakers, hosted by Caherciveen Library in 2002, this was the first time that Limerick Printmakers exhibited outside of Limerick making the exhibition particularly special.

The exhibition toured three libraries. It was officially opened by TD John O’ Donoghue, Minister for Arts, Sports and Tourism in Caherciveen Library. As printmaking is not an especially well-known art form in Kerry, it was important to provide as many people as possible with an opportunity to experience this exhibition. The exhibition consisted of approximately twenty five artists all based in the Limerick region. They varied from recent art graduates to nationally

renowned artists such as Gavin Hogg, Des Mac Mahon, Suzannah O’Reilly and Clare Gilmour. The work on display varied in style and content, due to the group nature of the show. It provided an overview of printmaking practices in the south west region.

(2003) Kerry Regional Hospital Art Exhibition

Taispeántas Ealaíon Ospidéal Réigiúnach Chiarraí:

Freastalaíonn Ospidéal Réigiúnach Chiarraí ar an daonra áitiúil. Chuaigh an Oifig Ealaíon i dteagmháil le bainistíocht an Ospidéil maidir le healaíon san ospidéal, ar mhaithe le taithí ar an ealaíon san ospidéal a chur chun cinn. Bhí an bainisteoir, Margie Lynch, sásta glacadh le saothair a bhronnadh ealaíontóirí. Sheol an Oifig Ealaíon cuireadh ar fud an chontae agus bhí go leor ealaíontóirí sásta freagairt dó. Tá a gcuid saothar ar taispeáint ar fud an ospidéil, agus níl amhras ná go bhfuil dreach inmheánach an ospidéil feabhsaithe.

Kerry Regional Hospital serves the local population. The Arts Office approached management of the Hospital regarding the possibility of hosting art in the hospital to somehow enhance the experience of those in hospital. Manager, Margie Lynch kindly agreed to accept works donated by artists. The Arts Office extended an invite countywide and many artists kindly responded. Their work is located throughout the hospital and certainly has improved the visual landscape of the hospital.

The artists who contributed are: Claire Aylett, Regine Bartsch, Pauline Bewick, Colleen Burke, Judy Costello, Mary Cotter, June Hewitt Cournane, Mary Daly, the late Julie Fitzgerald, Tricia Healy, Kathleen Featherstone Hurley, Brigitte Jausley, Eileen Kavanagh, Angela Kerins, Fiona E. Ladden, Mary Leen, Lily Lenihan, Dermot McCarthy, Pat McKenna, Margaret Moriarty, Alice Murphy, Philomena McSweeney, Antoinette O’Regan, Olivia O’Carra, Josephine Palette, Betty Rohan, Bob Scott, Jane Savage, John Quaterola, Michelle O’Donnell, Rita Thompson, Syra Larkin, Tommy Williams, and Wendy Sharpe.

Writer in Residence

Scríbhneoir Cónaithe:

Tacú leis an tsuim sa litríocht i gCiarraí, is air sin a bhí an tionscnamh seo dírithe, agus an scríbhneoireacht chruthaitheach a spreagadh. Cuireann an clár cónaithe deis oibre ar fáil do scríbhneoirí proifisiúnta, chomh maith, a bhfuil teacht acu ar inspioráid úr agus ar am chun a gcuid saothar féin a fhorbairt le cúnamh na cónaitheachta. Tá traidisiún leathan láidir scríbhneoireachta i gCiarraí. Thug an Oifig Ealaíon, le cúnamh na Seirbhíse Leabharlainne agus na Comhairle Ealaíon, conradh do Scríbhneoir Cónaithe, file agus údar foilsithe, in 2001.

The focus of this project was to support the interest in Literature in Kerry and to encourage work development in creative writing. The residency programme also affords a work opportunity for professional writers who get new inspiration through the residency as well as time to develop their own work. There is a strong literary tradition across Kerry. The Arts Office, supported by the Library Service and the Arts Council contracted a Writer in Residence, published poet and author, in 2001.

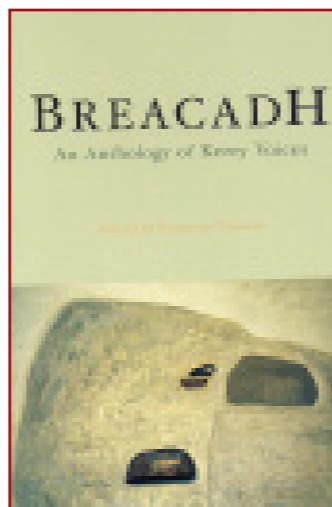
Rosemary Canavan



During her residency, Rosemary worked with professional writers, amateur writers and those who write for pleasure. Her visits around Kerry brought her in contact with aspiring writers of all ages, as she said, *'it is most up lifting to witness the intense love of literature here in Kerry'*.



From the outset Rosemary wanted to help people to discover their creative side, to facilitate their investigations and explorations of writing. Having a special interest in working with local communities, multimedia, web development and illustration, Rosemary stimulated interest in literature across the board. Workshops facilitated by Rosemary included topics in poetry, creative writing, children's writing and internet projects. Rosemary produced the anthology *'Breacadh'*, which features many Kerry Writers as well as work by people never previously published. She also started the Kerry Writers Web, www.kerrycoco.ie/writersweb. She worked with people of all ages, with varying degrees of experience but equal levels of enthusiasm!



Patrick Galvin



Cork born poet and dramatist, Patrick Galvin's residency was for a shorter term. His residency had a good impact due in no small part to his own wealth of literary experience and expertise. He focused his residency on supporting the writers in Kerry and those who wished to develop their writing skills. He also gave a number of library and school creative writing sessions. His experience contributed greatly to the literary sector in particular in terms of consultancy sessions, assisting, guiding, giving advice and support, as well as workshops.

Emma Cooke

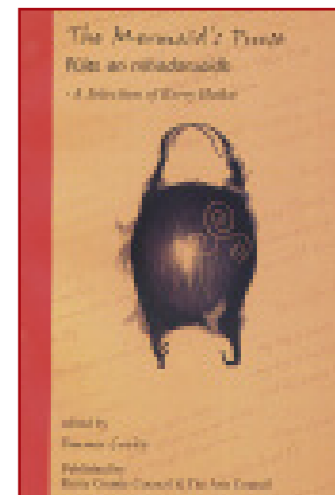
Emma's residency provided another new focus to creative writing and writers in Kerry. Emma decided to focus an amount of her time on working with writers and schools on the Japanese art form 'Haiku'; a haiku is a three-line poem, traditionally of seventeen syllables. It is written in the present tense and deals with life, especially nature. Emma was very successful in stimulating new levels of creative writing in Kerry, and indeed in inspiring Kerry Writers to explore this form of poetry.



Emma undertook a series of visits to interested primary schools. Schools, libraries, community groups, writer groups and writers availed of her expertise. The outcome of the residency included a published anthology of Kerry Haiku entitled *'The Mermaids Purse'*. The material was gathered during the six months of the residency. Young and old alike submitted work for this collection.

The Arts Office and Library Service then decided to alter the focus of creative writing, sourcing expertise in the area of writing for theatre, film and TV. The rationale being to encourage more writers to look at writing for stage and film, in particular in the context of the new arts centres being built nationally needing good quality product. Kerry County Council was very lucky with the standard of applicant. Work has continued in this area from 2004 – 2008, with interludes facilitated by professional poets and novelists.

Bheartaigh an Oifig Ealaíon agus an tSeirbhís Leabharlainne, ansan, an fócas maidir le scríbhneoireacht chruthaitheach a athrú, agus saíneolas ar an scríbhneoireacht don amharclann, don scannánaíocht agus don teilifís a lorg. Deireadh seo chun níos mó scríbhneoirí a spreagadh i dtreo scríobh don stáitse agus don scannánaíocht, go háirithe toisc ábhar ar ardchaighdeán a bheith ag teastáil ó na hionaid nua ealaíon a bhí á dtógáil go náisiúnta. Bhí an t-ádh le Comhairle Contae Chiarraí ó thaobh chaighdeán an iarratasóra. Tá an ghné seo á saothrú ago leanúnach, 2004 – 2008, agus tréimhsí éascaitheoireachta curtha isteach ag filí agus úrscéalaíthe proifisiúnta.



Bryan Delaney

September 2004, Playwright in Residence



Bryan has been Playwright-in-Residence on three different occasions. As the main project of his first residency, he organised the first ever Kerry County Council *One-Act Play Competition*. Writers were invited to submit a one-act play on a theme of their choice. After receiving a large number of entries from Ireland and abroad, Bryan selected four winning plays, each of which received a professional staged reading at Siamsa Tíre Theatre, Tralee on Friday 25th March 2005.

A staged reading is a key step in the development of new writing for the theatre. Professional actors rehearsed the plays under the guidance of director, Thomas Conway of Druid Theatre Company, with the playwrights in attendance. The actors then read the plays in character, to a live theatre audience. Each of the winning plays was a unique and striking piece of theatre and marked the arrival of strong and original new playwriting talent. The reading of the plays was followed by an open discussion where members of the audience had an opportunity to discuss the plays and the rehearsal process with the writers. This was the first time ever that an event of this kind took place in Kerry.

The evening was an outstanding success. The audience was exposed to the first professional reading of four new works by emerging playwrights, three of whom were from or had connections to the County. As well as enjoying a great evening of theatre, the audience got a rare glimpse of the process by which new work is developed for the stage. For the playwrights, the experience was invaluable. They were able to workshop their plays with a professional director and professional actors and then see their work come alive in front of a live theatre audience and they found the experience both exhilarating and immensely instructive.



For his second residency, Bryan developed the competition further; it was included as one of the competitions in Listowel Writers' Week. There were over a hundred entries and two winning plays received staged readings at St. John's Theatre & Art Centre in Listowel as part of the Writer's Week activities.

For his third residency, Bryan decided to focus on a core group of emerging writers and conducted a series of weekly playwriting workshops to this group. The function of these workshops was to provide the writers with a basic grounding in the rudiments of playwriting and to nurture them through the writing of the one-act play. With one or two exceptions, none of these writers had ever written a play prior to the residency. Bryan also held several individual meetings with the writers at every stage of the process to provide encouragement and feedback about their works-in-progress and to advise them about the business side of the writer's life such as how to find a literary agent, how to submit plays to theatres etc. At the end of the workshop series each of the drafts was read by the group and feedback and reaction given to each playwright.

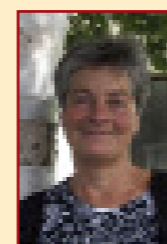
'Overall I am very happy with how the residency has worked out', says Bryan. 'Kate and I structured this residency to try to replicate the very best playwriting programmes that exist in the professional theatre in the UK, America and Ireland. The response from the writers has been extremely positive and I am particularly happy that so many of them have actually produced written work, especially given the time pressures of jobs, family etc. Writing a play of any length is a difficult thing to do and the fact that the residency has enabled so many writers to write their first play is for me the most pleasing aspect of my time here. I'm very proud of them all'.



As well as these key projects, Bryan also gave countless talks and workshops throughout each residency with schools, writers groups, drama groups, active retired associations, women's groups etc. and worked with numerous writers around the County, reading their work in progress and meeting them to give advice and feedback. He was a judge for the Beehive Theatre Company's Short Play Competition and twice co-adjudicated the award for best short screenplay at the Kerry Film Festival. He gave talks in every library around the County on writing for the stage and was generally available to meet with any group or individual with an interest in writing or the theatre. Alongside this, he continued to work on his own projects and found that his work during his residencies fed into this:

'The residency has also sharpened my own practice as a playwright. By engaging so closely with the writers' process every week in the workshops and helping them solve the challenges they face in the writing of their plays, I was constantly reminded of what constitutes good practice in writing for the stage. These were lessons that I brought to bear on my own work'.

Frances Kay



Frances succeeded Bryan Delaney as Playwright in Residence. Frances brought another new focus to the residency. Much of her residency targeted working with primary and secondary schools. Significantly, she began a 'Write Your Own Play' for school children, and a create your own 'Bugs' play hosted in the libraries for pre-school children. These 'BUGS' workshops, for three and four year olds formed part of Frances's own research for a commissioned play for this age group which was due to premiere in Belfast. Throughout, the focus was on being creative; getting children thinking around developing plots, characters etc. Mid way through her residency, Frances stated, *'I am really enjoying it, and I say this with a recent experience of another residency behind me, where I did not feel that my status as an artist was given the trust and enthusiasm I have found here in Kerry'.* *'Two writers' groups have formed since I started here, and are having regular meetings at Tralee and Killarney Libraries'.*

Frances also worked with the Samhlaíocht Kerry Film Festival, facilitating a 'Screenwriting for Beginners' workshop and participated in the panel discussion on 'What is a film script?' which brought in an enthusiastic audience of writers who had plenty of questions. She also ran a comedy scriptwriting workshop in co-operation with the Samhlaíocht Easter Arts Festival. Her work with adults included sessions at Tralee and Killarney Libraries, VTOS Tralee, I.T. Tralee, An Díseart, Kerry Media Network, The Seanchaí – Listowel Literary & Cultural Centre Writers Group, Waterville Writers'



Group and Blennerville Active Retired Group. *'Writing alone can be an isolating experience, and I want people to feel the excitement of writing in a group, and see the progress that can be made, even in one session'.*

'I am very lucky to be able to choose to work both with adults and children and young people, in and out of school, as this is where my professional inspiration comes from'.

Frances advised individual writers; she read many scripts, poems, short stories and even chapters of novels. *'I am aware that this job has a vital community arts component, and I see my role as to encourage and celebrate anyone's desire to write, whatever their level of experience and ability'.* *'The pleasure of this job is that I also meet professionals; published poets and working playwrights, theatre practitioners and film makers, and in the three months I have been here I have made valuable connections with all of them. It is the enormous variety of the work that appeals to me'.*

Following the successful Playwright in Residence projects, Kerry County Council, supported by the Arts Council and the Library Service contracted two Writers in Residence with expertise in poetry and novel writing over a two month period.

Tommy Frank O'Connor



Tommy Frank O'Connor worked to advise writers, writer groups, schools and interested communities on creative writing. Tommy Frank O'Connor is a noted poet, novelist and story writer, based in Tralee. His published works include a novel *The Poacher's Apprentice* (Marino Books, 1997); a novel for children *Kee Kee, Cup & Tok* (Wynkin de Worde, 2004); a collection of stories *Loose Head* (Doghouse, 2004), his award winning poetry collection *Attic Warpipes* (Bradshaw Poets 2005) and his philosophical work *Pulse* (Doghouse, 2006). *'My work often involves creative writing sessions with others, schools, writer groups etc. I enjoyed this opportunity and was delighted to be Kerry's Writer in Residence'* stated Tommy Frank O'Connor. Tommy Frank proved extremely popular during his short residency. He mentored a number of writers as well as groups in the libraries and schools.

John W. Sexton



John W. Sexton's residency was divided between adult and national school workshops and the schedule for the entire residency term was completely full within three days from the start of the month. Because the notice from the Arts Office had been sent to schools throughout the County John found that he was quickly inundated, particularly with national school requests from over a very wide area. He decided to fit in as many as possible, covering Tralee, Listowel, Lenamore, Drumclough, Fenit, Ardfert, Caherciveen, Kenmare, Lauragh, Tuosist, Bonane, Loughitane, Raheen, Fossa, Listellick, Ballymacelligott, and Aughcashla. He also facilitated libraries for workshops. The greatest response, by far, was from small country schools where travel into the towns is impractical. Furthermore, all of these schools were enthusiastic for an opportunity that they felt was rarely offered to them due to their distance from urban centres. John managed to fit fifteen national schools within his short term, having turned down many more.

'It is always my intention when visiting schools to offer a solid educative dimension to the workshops,' so in all classes from 2nd class up *'I conducted lessons on plotting and story construction. In all cases the teachers took notes and universally expressed that they'd be using the techniques from then on. This is usually the case in my school sessions, and I normally concentrate on a plotting device known as the Story Square'.*

Outside of the school visits John endeavoured to offer as much workshop time as possible to adults, always conducted in the public libraries. *'I came across participants who covered the full spectrum of the writing disciplines from short fiction to poetry to playwriting to autobiography to comedy to general non-fiction'.*

'We have in our County a significant population of people interested in the writing disciplines, people both young and old, and it is a very good thing for the County Council to continue to address that area of interest'.

Dancer in Residence Rinceoir Cónaithe:

Kerry County Council appointed its first ever Contemporary Dancer in Residence in September 2004, Maggie Harvey. This project was co-financed by Kerry County Council and The Arts Council, supported by Siamsa Tíre, the National Folk Theatre of Ireland and by the Association of Professional Dancers of Ireland. The residency was provided to promote awareness of and participation in contemporary dance in Kerry. Essentially we wished to provide access to a professional contemporary dancer in the hope of getting more people dancing and giving new inspiration to those already dancing! Dance as an art form, should be a viable career in a periphery County such as Kerry. We hoped that by developing both audiences and participants that dance opportunities will develop in Kerry.

The residency was charged with three areas of focus, to:

- Give inspiration to professional dance in Kerry through the exiting dance network,
- Develop their own work inspired by their time and contact with Kerry,
- Work with identified areas of the wider community on developing interest in dance.

Cheap Comhairle Contae Chiarraí a céad Rinceoir Comhaimseartha Cónaithe riamh i Meán Fómhair 2004, Maggie Harvey. Dhein Comhairle Contae Chiarraí agus an Chomhairle Ealaíon chomh-mhaoiniú ar an tionscnamh seo, le tacaíocht ó Siamsa Tíre – Ionad Amharclainne agus Ealaíon agus Cumann Damhsóirí Proifisiúnta na hÉireann. Cuireadh an chónaitheacht ar siúl chun feachtas ar an rince comhaimseartha agus rannpháirtíocht ann a mhéadú i gCiarraí. Theastaigh uainn go mbeadh daoine in ann dul i dteagmháil le damhsóir comhaimseartha proifisiúnta, agus súil againn go dtabharfadh níos mó daoine faoin rince, agus go gcuirfí inspioráid úr ar fáil do dhaoine atá ag rince cheana féin! Mar fhoirm ealaíne, ba chóir go mbeadh an rince ina ghairm inmharthana i gcontae imeallach mar Chiarraí. Trí lucht féachana agus rannpháirtíochta a mhéadú, tá súil againn go bhforbrófar deiseanna don rince i gCiarraí.

Bhí trí réimse fócais i gceist sa chónaitheacht:

- Inspioráid a sholáthar don rince phroifisiúnta i gCiarraí tríd an ngréasán spreagúil rince.
- Go bhforbrófaí obair an damhsóra féin faoi thionchar inspioráide an ama i gCiarraí agus na teagmhála leis an áit seo.
- Go saothrófaí i gcomhar le réimsí réamhaitheanta den phobal mór chun suim sa rince a fhorbairt.

Maggie Harvey



Maggie worked diligently on all the above and her time was fully booked quite quickly towards creating a dance impact on many levels. Her twelve week residency yielded great enthusiasm for contemporary dance. Her success has inspired a second residency; we aimed to build on her highpoints and to address the issues that arose during the inaugural dance residency.

'I am a Contemporary Dancer and Dance Facilitator based usually in Cork. I perform on my own and with 'Rebus Dance Company'. We experiment with Dance Improvisation; integrating it particularly with music, visual art, and voice'. Maggie had a strong vision for the residency;

'I hope to continue my research into what I have termed the 'inner song'; a silent internal rhythm, tone and dynamic



that accompanies my movement – leading, containing and harmonising with it; developing scores (loose instructions) that contain and inspire new movement possibilities in practise and performance’.

Maggie taught Contemporary Technique; including phrases of movement and creative exercises, and improvisational tools to groups that are interested. During the three months, she visited different areas in Kerry with the intention of ‘demystifying Contemporary Dance’ and ‘encouraging people to try it, and experience its many benefits’. As well as teaching workshops

Maggie hosted some performances where the public could witness the process and to ask questions. Maggie was interested in working with any groups that were interested in dancing; ‘in developing a movement vocabulary; exploring their own unique way of moving and creating dance; and enjoying the freedom that dance can offer’. ‘Particularly I am interested in working with musicians; comparing musical structures including improvisational scores’.

Maggie worked with a total of twelve groups, two of them for more than eight sessions. Two groups were professional dancers, the rest were community groups. Maggie also followed her own work research. There were two public performances organised during the residency (*Rebus – Milltown Community Centre 2004*). Maggie worked most effectively throughout the County during her short residency; indeed the process and end product had a much greater impact than envisaged of a three month residency.

Maggie’s personal practise included researching rhythm in dance / movement with Siamsa Tíre Core Dancers and ‘dancing on windswept beaches of Kerry!’ She also worked with percussionist Karolien Verheyen in Caherciveen. Maggie was interested in researching effects of environment on rhythm, how dancing in different environments affects the rhythm that manifests in movement.

The end presentation of work (*Just One Step – Siamsa Tíre on 17th January 2005*) exceeded all expectations for so comparatively short a residency. Maggie’s work and indeed her enthusiasm, professional and inherent joy of dance shone through all the participants on the night. The inner rhythm was explored and revealed in an evening that truly celebrated the joy of listening to and exploring the body’s own rhythm.

Catherine Young

Catherine Young succeeded Maggie as Dancer in Residence in Kerry; the residency work continues to evolve. Catherine is a dynamic and committed artist, she worked diligently to develop new audiences and raise participation levels in Dance. The awareness of contemporary dance in Kerry has received a whole new profile through access and participation. To date Catherine’s performances and choreographed events have attracted full audiences, this is certainly unprecedented for contemporary dance in Kerry.



This residency has been supported in kind by both Siamsa Tíre and the Kerry School of Music. As often dancers need to work with other dancers, the Arts Office and Dance Ireland have supported master classes for Catherine to take classes with peers exploring and developing dance skills. Catherine continues to raise standards in dance practice stimulating exploration of dance. For the remainder of her residency, Catherine decided to work more intensively with a set number of groups to develop their skills in dance and in creating dance.



To date feedback has been extremely positive, when asked if the groups would have liked to have had more contact with Catherine over 92% of groups said yes, and have requested more time with her; *'Catherine bought a lot of different styles with her'. 'Her view was suitable to the age group in our club'. 'Chuir na daltaí ana-shuim sa rince 'hip-hop'. 'She was enthusiastic, interested, capable and absolutely fantastic'. 'Her enthusiasm / ability and capacity to involve those who would not normally engage in dance is noteworthy'. 'It gave the students a chance to learn dance moves – which they loved!'*

Some suggestions from the public included: *'Go mbeadh múinteoir rince ar fáil níos minic do na scoileanna'. 'Longer time, more contact – perhaps another dancer also'. 'Have more Dancers in Residence'. 'Contemporary Dance has reached far and wide and the peoples own individuality was cherished'. 'Make the residency at least a one year contract'.*

'If funding allowed perhaps another artist might accompany the Dancer to promote interdisciplinary work'. 'Bring shows and classes to all areas'. 'More community based workshops'. 'Try to get more young people involved in the programmes'. 'Give more workshops and lectures on dance'. 'Catherine is an excellent professional. Her work was outstanding and her commitment to dance as an art form was refreshing'.

The biggest issue so far is that the demand on Catherine's time far exceeds her contracted time. This is positive as it highlights the real demand for Contemporary Dance in Kerry. Catherine spent one third of her residency time working with Siamsa Tíre - The National Folk Theatre of Ireland to help to develop and up skill the permanent dance company. Catherine's other work entailed actively promoting various dance styles and creative dance to the wider community. The first residency culminated in an evening of dance performance held in Siamsa Tíre Theatre & Art Centre. The work was choreographed by Catherine entitled *'Rootless Belonging'*. The evening was tremendously successful and Catherine was asked to deliver a second term as Kerry County Council's Dancer in Residence.



Film Maker in Residence Scannánóir Cónaithe:



Chun deis a thabhairt don óige fán dtuath tabhairt fén scannánaíocht a tháinig an chéad chónaitheacht. Faoi láthair bíonn deacrachtaí uaireanta ag daoine óga fán dtuath teacht ar shaineolas scannánaíochta, ar threalamh teicniúil, seomraí eagarthóireachta etc. An sprioc leis an gcónaitheacht seo ná deis a thabhairt don óige oibriú le healaíontóir ar teicníc agus chruthaitheacht na scannánaíochta, rud a fuair go leor grúpaí. Arís eile, ba mhó an t-éileamh ná an t-am a bhí ar fáil i gcás an tionscnamh seo.

The initial residency arose from the need to provide access to young people in rural areas to Film Making. At present it can be difficult for young people to access Film Making expertise, technical equipment, editing suites etc. in rural areas. The residency sought to offer the opportunity to work with an artist to explore technique and creativity in Film Making. This has successfully provided opportunities to many groups to engage with Film Making. Again demand has exceeded time available for this project.

This project ran as a pilot initially, partnering Limerick and Cork County Councils, supported by the Arts Council.





Lisa Fingleton

Lisa Fingleton is a dynamic artist. The groups Lisa has worked with are encouraged to think around issues, to reflect and explore prior to developing plots or storylines. Lisa has worked with a number of schools and youth organisations. The residency format involves the Film Maker working intensively with a group to create a short film. Technical and creative aspects of Film Making are central. The work has been of a high standard (one film created by Killorglin Community College was selected as *'audiences favourite'* at the Irish Film Institute screening). Kerry County Council would like to offer a longer residency so that the Film Maker can work more intensively with those interested, fostering new generations of film makers! Lisa has also worked with the Kerry Film Festival on both debate around Film and hosting a master class on Film Making. Lisa's work was initially with young people and she has extended her work to include working with older age groups.

Youth Film Workshops: During this residency Lisa facilitated summer schools in Listowel and Killorglin. Donal O' Reilly, Vice Principal at Killorglin Community College said he *'had never seen so much enthusiasm'* for a project. He added *'It is great to see our students filled with so much enthusiasm and exposed to an art form such as this'*. According to student Sean Foley, the film workshop was a *'once in a lifetime opportunity'*.

Lisa worked with secondary school students in Castlegregory, Causeway, Rathmore, Killarney and Tralee. Students who participated in her whirlwind four day film workshops got the opportunity to make two short films during the workshop. Students got the chance to create their own films from start to finish. They learned how to develop their ideas, film on location and edit their films using professional editing software.

In St. Brendan's Boys School, Killarney, the students created two powerful and imaginative films. *'Last of the gingers'* takes a humorous approach to the plight of ginger haired people. *'While you're being watched'* gives an insightful view into the invasiveness of CCTV. The feedback from all the workshops was extremely positive with students reporting a lot of learning, pride in their work and most importantly a lot of fun.

Granny's on You Tube: This was piloted as part of the Kerry Film Festival, Lisa facilitated a film workshop with people over 65 (or thereabouts!). Participants had the opportunity to use video cameras, devise and film a short piece and get a quick glimpse into the world of professional video editing. The workshop was a great success with strong participation and lots of positive feedback. Lisa hopes to expand this work programme. According to Lisa *"everyone was really enthusiastic and interested in how to use the technology. Some people think they might be too old to have fun with video but this is certainly not the case. In fact the older you are the more stories, skills and experiences you have to bring"*. She added *"You're never too old to make a film!"*





Composer in Residence Cumadóir Cónaithe:

An aidhm a bhí leis an tionscnamh seo ná an chumadóireacht chruthaitheach cheoil a chur chun cinn. Aontaíodh go ndíreofaí ar líon áirithe scoileanna, ar fud an Chontae chun deis taithí ar an gcumadóireacht a chur ar fáil chomh forleathan agus a b'fhéidir. D'oibrigh **Siobhán Cleary** le ceoltóirí óga, ar chónaitheacht deich seachtaine i 2007, chun a gcuid scileanna cumadóireachta a fhorbairt. Réimse is ea an chumadóireacht cheoil gur gá a chothú. Soláthraíonn sé deis chruthaíochta do dhaoine óga nach mbíonn ar fáil i ngníomhaíochtaí eile ceoil, b'fhéidir. Ó Chontae Chorcaí a tháinig an inspioráid, áit a bhfuil beirt chumadóirí chónaitheacha. Tríd an gcónaitheacht seo, d'fhéadfadh go bhforbrófaí smaointe agus gníomhaíochtaí nua i réimse na cumadóireachta.

This project sought to promote creativity in the composition of music targeting a number of schools, also targeting geographical spread in an effort to offer the chance to experience composition as widely as possible in the time allowed. The Composer worked with young musicians to assist to develop their arts practice. The 2007 residency was short, at ten weeks; it was facilitated by Composer **Siobhán Cleary**. Composition of music is an area that needs to be fostered. It offers creativity for young people in a way that other activities in music may not. The idea was inspired by Cork County, which has two Composers in Residence. This residency could develop new ideas and activity in the field of composition.

The Arts Office wrote to all national schools inviting a submission, over thirty schools replied with only five to be selected this time. Siobhan chose to work with schools that didn't have as much exposure to music and composition as others. She asked the schools to consider the theme around the composition. The work could focus on a specific project environment such as indigenous culture, landscape etc. Siobhan's time was spent twofold, to develop the art of composition in selected schools, and to work with practising music students to develop their own skills in composition. This involved working for a time with The Kerry School of Music. Siobhan's work mentored children and musicians. The level of interest was extremely high and this project will hopefully continue in 2008.



Dialogue through Tradition Caidreamh tríd an Traidisiún:

Ba í Comhairle Contae Chiarraí an príomh-chomhpháirtí i dtionscnamh ar 'na healaíona san aosoideachas', a bhí urraithe ag an gClár Sócratéas II, comhpháirtíocht foghlama 'Grundtvig 2', trí Léargas. Thangthas ar an téama agus soláthraíodh an clár tar éis díospóireachta ag seimineár Léargas i gCionn tSáile in 2004, áit ar tháinig roinnt tíortha ar suim leo gnéithe cruthaitheacha agus cultúrtha a bhaineann le foghlaim na n-ealaíon traidisiúnta le chéile. Ba é bunús an tionscadail ná deis a chur ar fáil do dhaoine fásta foghlaim mar gheall ar fhoirmeacha traidisiúnta ealaíon na dtíortha comhpháirteacha. Tharla an foghlaim le linn chuairteanna na n-óstach agus i roinnt ceardlanna idir na cuairteanna.

Kerry County Council was the lead partner in an 'arts in adult education' project sponsored by the Socrates II programme; 'Grundtvig 2' learning partnership, through Léargas. The project theme and delivery came about following discussion at the Léargas seminar in Kinsale in 2004 where a number of countries interested in creative and cultural traditional arts learning came together. The essence of the project was to provide adults the opportunity to learn about the traditional art forms of partner countries. Learning took place during the host visits and during a number of workshops in between visits.



GRUNDTVIG

This project was born from a desire to learn about European Traditional Arts. Each country has a wealth of creative tradition in music, song, dance and folk arts. The focus was to understand these arts forms, learning about where they came from and what they say about people. It was a way to understand cultural differences and similarities, to learn about each other, both people and place. Arts education affords a learning opportunity that transcends language. Barriers are broken down through music, dance, etc. Adults of varying abilities and experience learnt from this experience.

The aims and objectives of the project were:

- Experiencing different cultures.
- Learning the traditional music, dance and folk-art of partner countries.
- Passing on this learning to an identified adult group / groups in the home countries:
e.g. isolated geographical area, socially isolated population, senior citizens etc.

The two-part learning process involved facilitators; dancers and musicians who learnt from other countries creative traditions. These facilitators shared this learning with the wider community in their home country. The adult learning involved learning music, song, dance and folk art of each other countries. The project commenced in September 2005. All partner countries agreed a work schedule. In Ireland, the emphasis was two fold. Two specific areas of traditional arts education were focused on; on the one hand Siamsa Tíre, the National Folk Theatre of Ireland would be involved in the learning process by visiting the partner countries and thus be inspired by other traditional dance, music and singing styles. Secondly, Siamsa Tíre worked with an identified adult learner group learning about traditional arts of partner countries. The project allowed for development opportunities in arts education for adults as both groups came together to forge unprecedented links. In Ireland, the O'Connell Centre, Caherciveen, South Kerry run by the Kerry Education Services as part of its adult education remit worked on the project. The project was exciting as it gave a learning opportunity that transcends language. The adult learners had the opportunity to develop their creative abilities and cultural awareness through this 'Dialogue through Tradition'.

The first international visit was hosted by the Czech Republic in Valašské Klobouky, the second part of the seminar was hosted in Tralee, County Kerry, and the third part of the seminar was held in Spata, Greece. The final seminar was in Hódmezovásárhely in Hungary. It is noteworthy that at each of the seminars, the hospitality greatly enhanced the programme of work. The link between the people of a place and their traditional arts is one which communicates culture very well. There were additional results; greater appreciation and awareness of our own traditional arts, their importance in our lives, what the traditional arts tell us about people, creatively and socially. There is more awareness of the importance of the traditional arts as an integral part of celebration and of commemoration.

The Siamsa Tíre musicians, dancers and singers learnt new material and had new inspiration. There was great interest among the musicians and dancers in learning traditional music, song and dance of other countries and comparing the place of Irish Traditional Art culturally today with that of traditional arts of other countries.

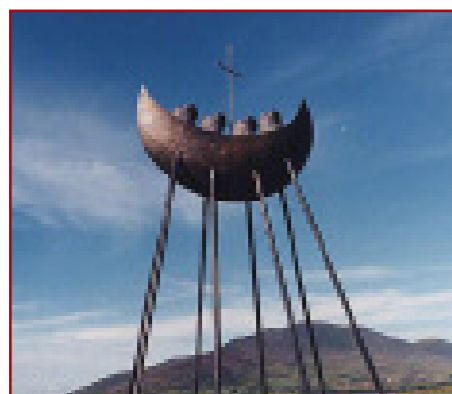
The Arts Officer co-ordinated seminar schedules, arranged workshops, meetings and all host seminar details and travel seminar arrangements. It was a successful project, mainly due to the commitment of all partners involved.



Percent for Art Céatadán don Ealaíon:

Tá fáil ag bainisteoirí ar thionscadail chaipitil mar bhóithre, tithíocht agus seirbhísí uisce etc. ar scéim Céatadán don Ealaíon. Faoin scéim, ceadáítear a haon faoin gcéad de chostas an tionscadail, suas go €64,000 ar a mhéid, a chaitheamh ar shaothar ealaíne a choimisiúnú le haghaidh na scéime. Ar mhaithe le bunsaothair chruthaíochta ealaíne a choimisiúnú atá an scéim ann. Inniu, faoin scéim seo Céatadán don Ealaíon, ceadáítear coimisiúin sna foirmeacha éagsúla ealaíon. Cé go bhfuil an-ghlaoch ar na hamharcealaíona mar dhealbhóireacht, bíonn coimisiúin ar fáil na laethanta seo don ghrianghrafadóireacht, don scannánaíocht agus don saothar scríofa, chomh maith leis na healaíona taibhiúcháin mar cheol agus rince. Uaireanta ní buansaothair iad seo, ach is féidir leo buantionchar a imirt ar an bpobal.

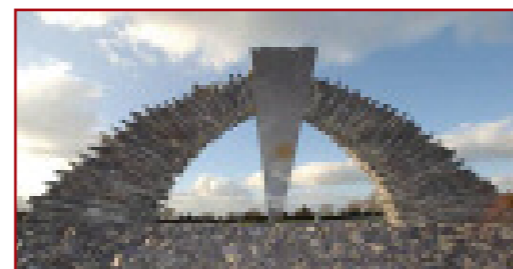
The Percent for Art Scheme may be accessed by project managers for capital developments such as roads, housing and water services etc. The scheme allows one percent of the project cost, to a maximum of €64,000 to be spent on the commission of an art work for the scheme. The scheme commissions original creative art work. Today, the Percent for Art Scheme allows commissions across art forms – whilst visual arts, such as, sculpture remains very popular, many commissions nowadays range from photographic and film to written work, to performance arts such as music and dance, sometimes these works are not permanent but can have a lasting impact on the community.



Kerry County Council has commissioned a number of art works over the past fifteen years. These are to be found throughout the County; from the piece *'To the Sceilg'* in Caherciveen, which depicts the rowing monks in bronze, to *'The Musicians'*, a limestone trio in Kenmare to name but a few. More recently, the Roads and Transport Section commissioned two permanent works on the roads from Tralee to Farranfore (N22) and Castleisland (N21). These works are both contemporary in design. Only a small number of schemes are mentioned here.

The Arts Office works with the commissioning section, be it Roads, Housing or Water Services to contract a Public Arts Consultant who administers the scheme, with support through the Arts Office. Many exciting commissions have taken place over the past number of years led by Arts Consultants Deirdre Johnson, Vincent O'Shea and Ruairí Ó Cuív.

In relation to the Housing Section commissions, guided by Ruairí Ó Cuív, the overall policy devised in Kerry County Council was to undertake commissions in a range of art forms, focusing on giving artists creative freedom while requesting them to engage with the residents in the relevant housing schemes and if possible the wider communities in the locations where the commissions are based.



Some such projects include the recent commission in Milltown, administered by Ruairí Ó Cuív where a music project was commissioned. FMC (First Music Contact) the national arts organisation dedicated to the encouragement of emerging and teenage pop / rock music and musicians advised on the commission. Song School were engaged to act as music facilitators for the commission and Iain Archer (songwriter, musician and Ivor Novella award winner for song writing) was appointed as the artist for the commission. As well as the artist own creation around his time in the area, they worked with twenty seven children from the area to create original lyrics and tunes. The culmination of work included a performance for people in the community hall – which was full to the brim; performers received a standing ovation, also a CD which went to each participant and resident in the Housing Estate. The project was hugely successful.





Ruairí Ó Cuív devised a creative writing commission for the Listowel and Lixnaw scheme. This was identified locally as being important to the area. Recognising the strength of drama in the Listowel area, it was decided to commission a full-length play by Christian O'Reilly (with established national and international reputation) who grew up in Listowel. Storytelling evenings were held with residents of the housing schemes in Listowel and Lixnaw as well as with residents from O'Connell's Avenue, the first ever social housing scheme developed in Listowel. This material was used by the playwright to inform the background of the play. The play was

performed in St John's Theatre & Arts Centre in November 2005 to full houses. The script of the play was published as a book entitled *'The Avenue'*.

For the Castleisland commission, following consultation with Ruairí, Sean McCarthy (Housing Liaison Officer) and the Arts Officer, Residents of 'An Caisleán Nua' in Castleisland requested that the commission focus on working with teenagers. As with previous commissions participation was not confined to residents from the housing scheme and through consultation with local schools, film emerged as the selected art form. Fresh Film, a Limerick based arts organisation which specialises in promoting and producing film for young people were appointed to undertake the commission. Colin Thornton and Alan King (experienced film directors and producers) undertook a series of workshops with the participants who ultimately devised the storyline and performed in the film.

The Water Services Section, over the past number of years, has yielded strong commissions such as Oliver Commerford's *'Vapour Trail'*, commission for the Brosna / Knocknagoshel Water Treatment Plant. The eight oil paintings were on display in local schools and are currently on display in County Buildings. This was administered by Deirdre Johnson, as was the *'Fearann Fuar'* photographic commission by Martin Healy, and the Film piece by Ciara Moore, *'Echoes'*.

Another interesting commission, administered by Vincent O'Shea, was *'Mapping Asdee'* this commission saw Visual Artist Kate Buckley work with the local primary school to share the skill of printmaking, the creative process as well as the technical know how. Kate herself created a number of prints entitled *'Mapping Asdee'* which reflects her time there

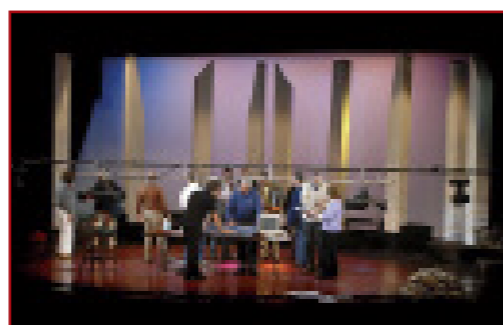


and her journey's around the area. The children were encouraged to 'map' their journey from home to school. Their prints, as well as a set of Kate's remain on display in the school.

The Kerry National Roads Design Office of Kerry County Council have commissioned a number of art works in recent years. The largest commission, (€230,000) 'Kerry's Football Heroes' was supported by Tralee Town Council percent for art funds as well as the Finance Department of Kerry County Council. This permanent, sculpture work depicts the energy and enthusiasm for Kerry Gaelic football. The work shows a classic high fielding moment, and was enthusiast received by the people of Kerry. The artist, Mark Rode, did an excellent job and created a work of art that has received hugely positive feedback.

Drama 'Up Skilling' Sessions Seisiúin 'Bhreisoiliúna' sa Drámaíocht:

D'aontaigh an Oifig Ealaíon agus Seirbhís Oideachais Chiarraí ar roinnt tosaíochtaí maidir le forbairt straitéiseach ar réimsí áirithe ealaíon. Réimse ealaíne díobh san a bhfuil a fhorbairt le spreagadh is ea na hearnálacha amaitéarach agus leath-phroifisiúnta drámaíochta i gCiarraí. Tá suim an-mhór sa drámaíocht i gCiarraí, tá fiche grúpa amaitéarach drámaíochta anseo mar aon le roinnt scoileanna stáitse, agus cumainn cheoil. Aontaíodh roinnt seisiún a chur ar fáil do na rannpháirtithe mar chúnamh dóibh lena gcuid scileanna.



The Arts Office has agreed a number of priorities for strategic arts development areas with the Kerry Education Services. One such area is to encourage the artistic development of the amateur and semi-professional drama sectors in Kerry. There is a huge amount of interest in drama in Kerry, with twenty amateur drama groups and a number of stage schools and musical societies. It was agreed to offer a number of sessions that would help to up skill participants.

These sessions included day long training with a professional sound and lighting person (Jimmy O'Donnell) to display new technology and using what is available to the groups to the maximum. A professional set construction artist (Kevin Courtney) to explain best techniques and use of materials, a professional stage manager (Des Hurley) to offer advice on overall coordination. A session was also facilitated by professional playwright (Niall Williams) to discuss understanding and interpreting the words of the playwright. A professional actor (Dara O'Carolan) to display skills and techniques for delivery and a professional director (Mikel Murfi / Michael Murphy) to explain the requirements for overall professional directing.

Once again, feedback was positive in terms of delivering a useful course. These sessions were directly related to the work and development of the groups involved and by all accounts gave plenty inspiration and advice.

Art for the Young at Heart Ealaíon don Chroí Óg:

Shocraigh an Oifig Ealaíon agus an tSeirbhís Leabharlainne le tacaíocht ó Iompar Pobail Chiarraí roinnt ceardlanna ealaíne le haghaidh daoine aosta sa phobal i dtí cinn de leabharlanna. Bhí an bhéim ar ócáid thaitneamhach chruthaitheach shóisialta a eagrú le haghaidh daoine a dtarlódh nach mbeadh deis ghníomhaíochta dá leithéid acu. Beireann Iompar Pobail Chiarraí daoine isteach chun na mbailte móra ó dhúthaigh fhairsing ar lá áirithe. Cuireadh 'Ealaíon don Chroí Óg' chun cinn go forleathan ar bhusanna pobail agus i measc grúpaí pobail.



The Arts Office and Library Service, supported by Kerry Community Transport arranged a number of art workshops in three libraries for the elderly in the community. The emphasis was to provide an enjoyable creative and social opportunity for those that may not often have the opportunity to avail of such activity. Kerry Community Transport brings in people from a wider rural area to towns on a set day. ‘Art for the Young at Heart’ was promoted widely on the community bus transport and to community groups.

Caherciveen Library hosted painting and drawing classes with Artist, Ruth Summer. The Librarian kindly provided teas / coffees / biscuits. These classes proved so successful that they were extended by a further six weeks due to demand. Ruth’s class focused on painting, a creative time with materials and guidance provided, working with a variety of materials crayons, markers, pencils, paint, felt, clay, fabric, feathers, buttons etc. ‘Our goal is to enjoy the artistic and creative process. ‘With my help and guidance, create art that uses the imagination to full capacity’, Ruth Summer. The libraries provided a comfortable easy going environment; everyone was welcome to participate no matter what level.

Kenmare Library hosted Creative Writing and Reminiscence with Writer Eileen Sheehan, who found the sessions worked well and were supported however not to the same extent as anticipated, possibly due to the day of the week and other activities. The same was true of Listowel Library which hosted enjoyable recitals by Aisling O’Dwyer from the Kerry School of Music. Feedback suggested that those availing of the transport were already very busy!



Artist Information Evenings

Tráthnónta Eolais d’Ealaíontóirí:

Kerry County Council in partnership with Samhlaíocht offered a number of talks for artists to attend free of charge. These talks targeted career work development for artists living in Kerry addressing practical topics such as:

Sustainable Arts Practice: Lisa Fingelton
Promoting Your Work: Gemma Tipton
Managing Your Accounts: Gaby Smyth

Presentation of Proposals for Arts Projects and Commissions: Ruairí Ó Cuív.
These sessions worked well and may well be expanded upon.

I bpáirt le Samhlaíocht, chuir Comhairle Contae Chiarraí roinnt cainteanna ar fáil saor in aisce d’ealaíontóirí, dírithe ar shlite a d’fhéadfadh ealaíontóirí atá ina gcónaí i gCiarraí dul chun cinn ina ngairm. Pléadh ceisteanna praiticiúla mar:

Cleachtas Inbhuanaithe Ealaíne: Lisa Fingelton
Do Shaothair a chur chun cinn: Gemma Tipton
Bainistiú ar do Chuntais: Gaby Smyth
Cur i láthair tograí le haghaidh Tionscadail agus Coimisiúin Ealaíon: Ruairí Ó Cuív
D’éirigh go maith leis na seisiúin seo agus gach seans go gcuirfidh leo.

Arts & Culture Kerry

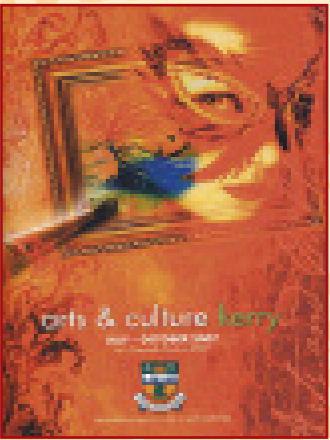
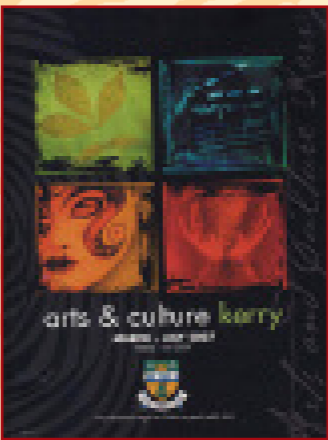
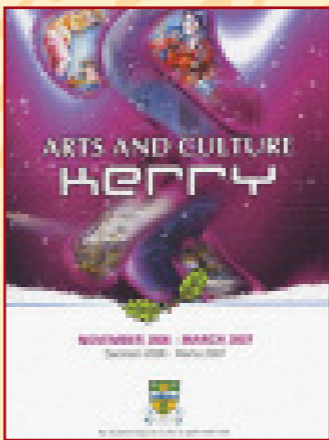
Ealaíona agus Cultúr, Ciarraí:

Guireadh tús leis an leabhrán seo chun an chumarsáid laistigh d’earnáil na n-ealaíon agus i measc an phobail i gcoitinne a fheabhsú. Tá saibhreas eolais le fáil sa leabhrán faoina bhfuil ar siúl i saol na n-ealaíon agus an chultúir. Níl amhras ná gur mhéadaigh ‘Ealaíona agus Cultúr, Ciarraí’ (Arts and Culture Kerry) an leibhéal feasachta faoina bhfuil ar siúl sna healaíona fud fad an Chontae.

This booklet was initiated to improve communication within the arts sector and throughout the wider community. The booklet carries a wealth of information as to ‘what’s on’ in the arts and culture scene.

The Arts and Heritage Clerical Officers; Nora Marie Murphy and Fiona Fitzgerald, co-ordinate the compilation of information and updating the booklet. The standard is high and could not be achieved without the hard work of both Officers. The feedback to this publication has been positive. It has helped to raise levels of awareness as to what is happening in the arts in Kerry and what is on offer for the arts. However, people would also like to see more frequent publications, such as monthly publications but this has not been possible to date. ‘Arts and Culture Kerry’ has undoubtedly helped to increase levels of awareness as to what is going on in the arts in the various parts of the County.

Nora Marie and Fiona sort the postage and the delivery of the booklet; three to four times annually. This booklet is sent to all artists on the Database, Arts Centres, Arts Organisations, Arts Officers, and mailing lists of the Arts and Heritage Offices, Community Groups, Schools, Tourist Offices, Doctor Surgeries, Hotels and other listed interested parties. Access to the arts is a priority of the Arts Office; this booklet is circulated widely throughout the County and has been well received by the arts community and the broader community.



Arts Tourism Information Evening

Tráthnóna Eolais ar Thurasóireacht Ealaíon:

Ag glacadh leis gur acmhainn luachmhar iad na healaíona i gceantar ar bith, agus go bhfuil scileanna margaíochta agus poiblíochta le fáil i dtionscal na turasóireachta, tá tús curtha le díospóireacht ar thurasóireacht na n-ealaíon ag an Oifig Ealaíon agus Turasóireacht an Iar-Deiscirt i bpáirt le hInstitiúid Teicneolaíochta Bhaile Átha Cliath. Is amhlaidh gur féidir leis na healaíona turasóirí a mhealladh chun cuairt a thabhairt ar cheantar, fad a chur lena dturas, agus aithne níos saibhre a chur ar áit, agus ar an taobh eile, is féidir leis an turasóireacht an lucht féachana agus éisteachta do na healaíona a mhéadú agus a fhorbairt.

Working on the basis that the arts are an invaluable resource to the area, and that the tourism industry has skills in marketing and publicity, the Arts Office and South West Tourism in partnership with Dublin Institute of Technology has begun to progress the discussion around arts tourism. This is in the context that the arts can offer tourists a reason to visit an area, to extend their stay and to have an enhanced quality experience of a place, and that tourism can build and develop audiences for the arts.

In April 2007 the Arts Office and the Community and Enterprise Office of Kerry County Council in association with South West Tourism and Mergo hosted an information evening on arts tourism. The evening was addressed by national agencies including speakers Damien O'Brien, Cultural Development Officer, Fáilte Ireland; Fiona Gleeson, Festivals Officer, Fáilte Ireland; Una McCarthy, Arts Festivals Officer of the Arts Council was due to address the evening but was unable to attend. Other speakers included Billy Keane of Listowel Writers Week and Shirley Kingston of Mergo.

The evening was attended by forty eight representatives from both the arts and tourism sectors in Kerry. There was consensus that both sectors can benefit each other to develop audiences / increase business for the betterment of each other. Feedback from the evening led to the design of the content for the first National Seminar on Arts Tourism, day one was held in Dublin and focused on policy discussion; day two was held in Killarney, County Kerry and focused on practical issues for partnership development.

Arts Tourism Seminar



Speakers (L-R): Fiona Gleeson, Fáilte Ireland, Tom Curran, Kerry County Manager, Kate Kennelly, Kerry Arts Officer, Paul Bates, Department of Arts, Sports and Tourism, Shirley Kingston, Mergo, Professor Don Getz, Dr. Bernadette Quinn, DIT.



Speakers; Donal Shiels, St. Patrick's Festival, James McVeigh, Arts Council, England, Philip King, Musician, Film Producer, Arts Council Director, Ireland.

Arts Tourism

Building best practice through partnership: developing arts tourism.

Turasóireacht Ealaíon

Ag chothú dea-chleachtais ar scáth a chéile: forbairt na turasóireachta ealaíon.

D'eagraigh Comhairle Contae Chiarraí i bpáirt le Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Bhaile Átha Cliath an chéad seimineár riamh ar an Turasóireacht Ealaíon. Tá an Turasóireacht Ealaíon ag fás ar fud an domhain, rud atá ina bhuntáiste mór do na healaíona agus don turasóireacht araon, i gcás lucht féachana a mhéadú, leathnú ar shéasúr agus limistéar na n-ealaíon, gníomhaíochtaí uile-aimsire, breis táirgeachta etc.

I mBaile Átha Cliath a bhí an chéad lá den seimineár le cainteoirí náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta agus béim ar fhorbairt beartais. D'fhreastal breis is ochtó ionadaí ar an dara lá den seimineár i gCiarraí, áit a raibh cuid mhór de na cainteoirí céanna ach le béim ar fhorbairt praiticiúil. Foilseoidh Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Bhaile Átha Cliath torthaí an dá lá go luath i 2008.

Kerry County Council in partnership with the Dublin Institute of Technology organised the first ever National seminar on arts tourism. Arts tourism is an international growth area. Growth in this area has huge benefits to both the arts and the tourism sectors; in terms of building audiences, addressing issues of seasonality, and spread of business geographically, all weather activity, higher yield etc.

Day one of the seminar was held in Dublin, the focus was on policy development. It was addressed by both National and International speakers. Over eighty delegates attended the second day of the seminar which was held in Kerry. This was addressed by many of the same speakers but with a focus on practical development. Dublin Institute of Technology is due to publish findings from both days in 2008.



Kerry Film Database

Bunachar Scannán Chiarraí:



Bhunaigh an Oifig Ealaíon, le tacaíocht ó Grianghrafadóirí, Michael Diggin, agus Don MacMonagle, Suíomh Gréasáin Scannánaíochta chun Chiarraí a chur chun cinn mar ionad déantúsaíochta do scannán, chláir teilifíse agus fhógraí. Ar an suíomh www.kerryfilm.ie tá eolas a soláthraíodh don Oifig Ealaíon le fáil maidir le sainscileanna agus grúpaí scannánaíochta i gCiarraí. Tá roinnt íomhánna den Chontae ar an suíomh, chomh maith le heolas ar fhoireann theicniúil, aisteoirí, fearas stáitse, spás stórála etc. Baineann an suíomh seo leis an obair atá ar siúl ag Coimisiún Scáileán Chiarraí (*Kerry Screen Commission*), a sholáthraíonn tacaíocht agus cúnamh ar mhaithe le hionad scannánaíochta a dhéanamh de Chiarraí.

The Arts Office, kindly supported by Michael Diggin, Photographer, and Don MacMonagle, Photographer has established a Film Website to help in the promotion of Kerry as a location for film, TV and adverts. The site www.kerryfilm.ie carries information as received by the Arts Office in relation to film expertise in Kerry. The site contains a number of images of the County as well as information on technical staff, actors, sets, storage space etc. This site is part of the work of the Kerry Screen Commission to support and assist the use of Kerry as a location. Work is on going supported by Mick Harkin and John McCann of IT and Laura Murtagh and Joni Lyne, freelance production managers.

Arts Database and Web Page

Bunachar na n-Ealaíon agus Leathanach Gréasáin:

Tá mír ar 'ealaíona agus cultúr' le fáil ar Shuíomh Gréasáin Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí, agus is acmhainn tábhachtach é seo ag ealaíontóirí agus ag an bpobal i gcoitinne.

The Kerry County Council website carries an 'arts & culture' section which is an important resource for artists and the wider community.

The links page, database and news give international access to the arts in the County. In an effort to ensure all artists and arts interests are in receipt of information the Arts Office continually updates the database. The Arts Office is currently working to compile a Traditional Arts Database to support traditional artists based in Kerry and to assist to promote their work. The Arts Office also produces an annual Arts Festivals and Events brochure which is circulated freely Countywide.

(2006) Circus Commission

An Coimisiún Sorcais:

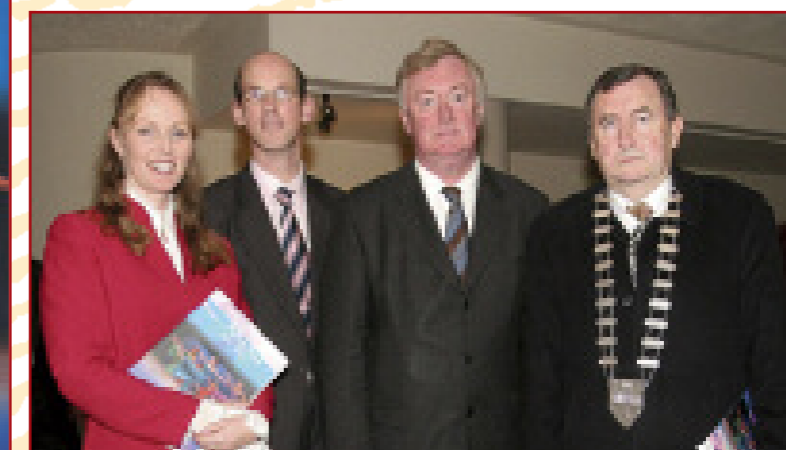
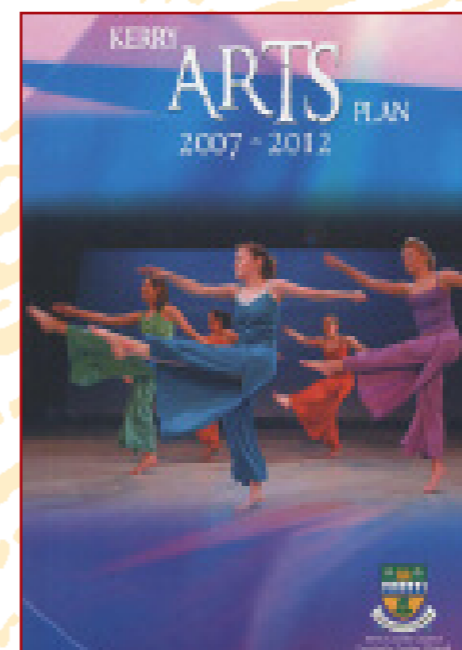
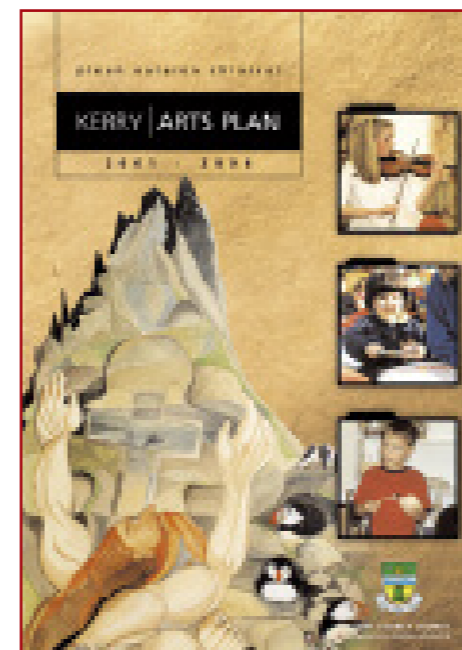
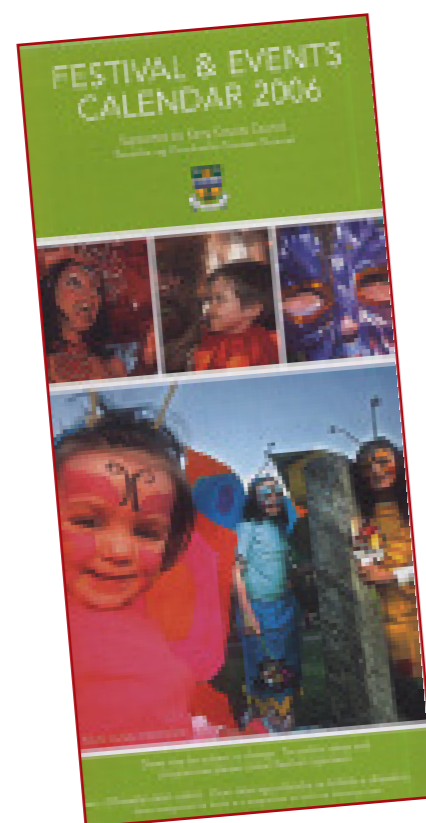
The Arts Office commissioned the 'Fanzini Brothers' to work with five festivals countywide on Circus Arts Development. The project focus enabled the Fanzini Brothers to create new work and also afforded the opportunity to work in a focused manner with the selected arts festivals in Kerry. Importantly the commission created the opportunity to offer enhanced skills as well as learning to the festivals involved. Essentially the Fanzini's created new work and then performed at the five festivals, the second part of this project involved Circus Skills workshops which sought to foster development at local level thus raising the standards of the content of the festivals as well as raising awareness of the art form.

Chomisiúnaigh an Oifig Ealaíon na Deartháireacha Fanzini chun obair ar Fhorbairt na n-Ealaíon Sorcais i gcomhar le cúig fheile sa Chontae. Chuir fócas an tionscadail ar chumas na nDeartháireacha Fanzini taispeántais nua a chruthú, chomh maith le deis a thabhairt dóibh díriú ar obair faoi leith leis na féilte ealaíon cuí i gCiarraí. Ba thábhachtach, chomh maith, gur chruthaigh an coimisiún deis oiliúna agus foghlama do na féilte seo. Go bunúsach, chruthaigh na Fanzini taispeántais nua, rud a léiríodar ag an gcúig fheile. Bhain an dara cuid den tionscnamh le ceardlanna ar scileanna Sorcais, ina raibh an bhéim ar fhorbairt áitiúil, agus dá réir feabhsú ar chaighdeán ábhair na bhféilte, chomh maith leis an bhfeasacht ar an bhfoirm ealaíne.



Arts Festivals Calendar:

To promote awareness of the arts festivals, and festivals with substantial arts content in Kerry. This is compiled by the Clerical Officers, and widely circulated each year.



Ní miste, chomh maith, forbairtí polasaí a raibh baint ag an Oifigeach Ealaíon leo a lua, cosúil le bheith ina ball gníomhach de Mheitheal Chiarraí; forbairt agus tiomsú a dhéanamh ar dhá Phlean Ealaíon do Chiarraí; cuidiú le Forbairt Polasaí Náisiúnta ar na hEalaíona, agus mar an gcéanna maidir leis an bhFóram Náisiúnta Eacnamaíoch agus Sóisialta, agus Plean Forbartha Contae an Údaráis Áitiúil.

It is important to mention the policy developments that the Arts Officer has been involved in: having been an active member of Meitheal Chiarraí and compiled two Kerry Arts Plans. Also, contributing to both National Arts Policy Development and to the National Economic Social Forum Development as well the Local Authority County

At this point I would very much like to express my sincere thanks to all those who have supported me in my work since 1999. In particular to my line managers - Directors of Service, at present John Breen, to the County Managers, at present Tom Curran, and Members of Council, in particular the Strategic Policy Committee who have been supportive to the development of the Arts Service in Kerry. The Office could not deliver the service it does without the excellent work of the Clerical Officers; Nora Maire Murphy and Fiona Fitzgerald.

I would also like to thank those in the Arts Sector in Kerry; Arts Venues, Festivals, Organisations, Groups and the Artists who have worked in partnership with the Arts Office, who have always been interested in developing the arts in Kerry. There are many in the wider community also who have created opportunities for artists and those wishing to engage in the arts, these people are to be thanked and congratulated. I would like to thank the Local Authority, the Arts Council, Léargas, Údarás Na Gaeltachta, Kerry Group, the Heritage Office, the Library Service, the Irish Office and all those who have contributed to sponsor and support the arts in Kerry. A special thank you to photographer Domnick Walsh who supplied many of the photographs.

Ba mhaith liom anois mo bhuíochas ó chroí a chur in iúl dóibh san ar fad a thacaigh liom i mo chuid oibre ó 1999, ach go háirithe mo bhainisteoirí líne – Stiúrthóirí Seirbhíse, na Bainisteoirí Contae agus na Baill den Chomhairle Contae; go mór mhór an Choiste um Beartais Straitéiseacha, thugadar an-tacaíocht chun an tSeirbhís Ealaíon i gCiarraí a fhorbairt ar mhaithe le muintir Chiarraí. Ní fhéadfadh an Oifig an tseirbhís seo a chur ar fáil, ar ndóigh, gan obair éachtach na nOifigeach Cléireachais a chur san áireamh.

Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil le hEarnáil na n-Ealaíon i gCiarraí, chomh maith: na hionaid, na féilte, na heagraíochtaí agus na healaíontóirí iomadúla a d'oibrigh i gcomhar leis an Oifig Ealaíon, agus ar suim leo i gcónaí na healaíona i gCiarraí a fhorbairt. Tá go leor daoine sa phobal mór, chomh maith, a chruthaigh deiseanna d'ealaíontóirí agus dóibh san ar mian leo a bheith páirteach sna healaíona; is cóir buíochas agus comhghairdeas a ghabháil leis na daoine seo. Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil leis an Údarás Áitiúil, leis An Comhairle Ealaíon, Léargas, Údarás Na Gaeltachta, Kerry Group, an Oifig Oidhreachta, an tSeirbhís Leabharlainne, Oifig na Gaeilge agus le hurraithe agus lucht tacaíochta uile na n-ealaíon i gCiarraí. Míle buíochas do Dominic Walsh - is leis a lán de na pictiúr.

Kate Kennelly,
Arts Officer / Oifigeach Ealaíon
Kerry County Council / Comhairle Contae Chiarraí.



