

History of art practice

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Employment

Current Visual Artist

Societies and Organisations

Member Visual Artists Ireland

Education

1989 - 93 Master of Philosophy University of Ulster

1986 - 89 BA Honours University of Ulster

Statement

I am an artist who creates public artwork, gallery based art, installations and art in the community projects. I work with any material required to manifest the theme I want to explore.

I have exhibited widely in Ireland and in a number of international venues - New York, France, Spain, India, England, South of Ireland, Holland, Israel/Palestine and the Basque Country. I have produced a number of site specific installation pieces in Ireland, Spain, India and the Basque Country and have produced a number of pieces of public art locally; most of which have been made in close contact with local communities and schools. My practice is diverse and hybrid – site specific installations, site specific material, and personal materials, sound and photography. I have worked with mud, bamboo and rice straw in India, Ice and steel in Belfast, oranges in Valencia and with sound and audio visuals. Although much of my work revolves around topics of dislocation, human rights and visions for a better world, I also like to create beautiful things and to visualise poetry and mythical stories.

Some recent and significant international and local arts activities are:

2018/19: Residency project, Um Al Fahm, Israel/Palestine

2018: The Hands of History +20, major solo exhibition, Victoria and Albert Museum, Liverpool

2017: Joint international exhibition, Nothing But Longing, Void Derry

2017: Ireland Versus Israel, arts' book publication – Penkilm Burn Books.

2015/16: Israeli Ireland residency project and exhibition.

2014: Workshops at ArTifarti Festival, Western Sahara, Africa

Summer 2013: Kids Gernika International Art Project, for display at Derry City of Culture celebrations. Venue of exhibition – Gas Yard Centre and Cushendall Youth Centre.

In 2015 the Kids Gernika project was displayed at Hosishima commemoration and other important sites in Japan.

2013 autumn: Published art book re art and conflict. Title: The Cell Was My Canvas. This was also translated to German and released in Germany, 2015/16.

2013: Bridging Cultural Divides Programme. Expressionist Art sessions for team building and self expression. Newry & Mourne Enterprise Agency, Armagh Business Centre Ltd. Banbridge District Enterprises and the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership - European Union's PEACE 111 Southern Partnership.

- **2013: Work 4 You Plus,** Providing cross community art workshops to mature groups, and providing 'Champion Leadership' program to teenagers on the WIN Youth Development Program.

Dec 2012: The ICD Annual Conference on Cultural Diplomacy in Berlin. Presented paper - The Power of Arts & Culture to Promote Democracy & Global Peace.

Oct 2012: Art and Social Justice Conference. Presented and conducted workshops at 3rd Art and Social Justice gathering, Gernika, Basque Region, Spain.

Aug. 2011: Belfast Flags of Hope. Belfast. Created 10,000 individual artworks with community groups to present the largest art display ever seen in Belfast.

2010: Residency at Cacis, Contemporary Arts Centre, Catalonia, Spain.

Nov 2008: Conducted a teaching residency at Santiniketan, The Tagore International University of Art, in West Bengal, India, instructing post grads and undergrads in sculpture techniques.

Aug. 2008: Participated in 13Isolations, a prison based arts project and exhibition in Hoorn, Holland.

Autumn 2008 I exhibited in Fis 2008, part of the Liverpool European City of Culture celebrations.

Sept /Oct 2008 Exhibited in the Independent Liverpool Biennial.

Sept. 2007 I represented Northern Ireland at the 3rd International Gathering of Artists for Peace, in Gernika, the Basque Country.

Jan – Apr 2007, Conducted a four month residency in Calcutta, India; during which I produced a large temporary installation, The Helix of Hope.

Mar. 2007, I presented and discussed my work with a large audience of academics and students at Santiniketan, The International University of Peace, founded by Rabindranath Tagore, in West Bengal, India.

Ongoing: My artwork is included in the International Humanist Art Archive, Melbourne Australia

December 2005 I was commissioned to produce an outdoor installation for the 1V Encuentro Internacional Artistas para la Paz (4th International meeting of Artist for Peace), in La Vall d'Uixo, Spain. A painted element of the installation is on permanent exhibition in the Municipal Library in Vall d'Uixo.

Sept. 2005 I had work exhibited with the RUA in the Ulster Museum Belfast.

Aug. 2005 I organised a Humanist Arts event and International Humanist Art Archive Exhibition in Conway Mill, Belfast.

June 2005 I presented and discussed my work at the Foc Art Festival, Moncofa, Spain.

March 2005 I was an Arts Delegate at the Crossing Borders, Crossing Waters International arts project, Cork, Ireland.

2004 I presented and discussed my work at the Peace Pedagogy Conference, Gernika, the Basque Country.

2003 I represented Ireland at the 1st International Gathering of Artists for Peace in Gernika, 2003. At this same Gathering' I travelled with an International group of artists to schools and community centres to conduct workshops with hundreds of local people.

Exhibitions and events:

Jun. 2019	Solo Exhibition	ArtisAnn Gallery. Seamus Heaney exhibit.
2018-19	Album launches.	Local and international launches of the Unlocking album
Dec. 2018	Album release	Unlocking. 40mins. Soundscape. Composed with Crumlin prison keys.
Apr. 2018	Solo Exhibition	The Victoria Museum and Gallery, Liverpool.
Apr. 2018	Joint Exhibition	Peace and Beyond, Brit. Council, Belfast
Feb. 2017	Joint Exhibition	Void Gallery, Derry. Nothing but Longing.
Aug 2016	Solo Exhibition	Brighter Syndrom, Duncairn Arts Centre
Aug 2014	Solo Exhibition	Mystery of Broighter, Sean Hollywood Arts Centre, Newry
Spring 2014	Solo Exhibition	Brighter Boat, Ards Borough Arts Centre
Winter 2013	Solo exhibition	Towards Broighter, Roe Valley Arts Centre
2013:	Exhibition	Kids Gernika International painting project.
Aug 2012	Solo Exhibition	Cushendall, Co. Antrim. 'pop-up gallery'
Aug 2012	Solo Exhibition	St Mary's College, West Belfast Festival
Nov. 2011	Solo Exhibition	Ballyeamon Barn Gallery, Co. Antrim
2010/11	Community exhibition	Belfast Flags of Hope, Belfast/International
Aug.2009	Solo Exhibition	Feile an Phobal, Belfast
Jan 2009	Solo Exhibition	Waterfront Hall, Belfast. With Martin Lynch play on Long Kesh
Aug. 2008	Residency	13Isolations, Hoorn, Holland
July 2008	Fis 2008	Novas CUC, Liverpool
May 2008	Solo Exhibition	The Shot Lock, John Hewitt, Belfast
Sept. 2007	Joint exhibition	International Gathering of Artists for Peace Gernika, Basque Country
Aug. 2007	Solo exhibition	An Culturlann Gallery, Belfast
Aug. 2006	Solo Exhibition	Sirius Arts Centre, Cobh
May 2006	Installation Exhibition	Lagan Tunnel, Belfast Cathedral Quarter Festival
Feb. 2006	Solo exhibition	James Joyce House, Dublin
Sept 2005	Exhibited	RUA, Ulster Museum, Belfast
Aug 2005	Joint Exhibition	International Humanist Art Archive
May 2005	Solo Exhibition	Gernika, Spain
Jan. 2005	Solo exhibition	Lyric Theatre, Belfast
Nov. 2004	Solo exhibition	Belfast Festival at Queens.
Aug. 2004	Solo Exhibition	An Culturlann, Belfast
Aug. 2004	Installation exhibition 'Cultural Barriers'	File An Phobal, Belfast
2004	Joint exhibition	Kenny Gallery, Galway
April 2004	Joint exhibition	Culture House, Gernika, Spain
Sept 2003	Solo exhibition	Belfast Festival @ Queens
May 2003	Joint exhibition	Space Gallery, Conway Mill, Belfast
Mar. 2003	Solo exhibition	An Culturlann, Belfast
Aug. 2002	Joint exhibition	Upper Springfield Dev. Trust, Belfast

July 2002	Joint exhibition	John Hewitts, Belfast
June 2002	Joint exhibition	The Space Gallery, Conway Mill, Belfast
Nov. 2001	Solo exhibition	Irish Arts Center, New York, USA
July 2001	Solo exhibition	Bank of Ireland Arts Centre, Dublin
June 2001	Joint exhibition	Space Gallery, Conway Mill, Belfast
May 2001	Solo exhibition	Cathedral Quarter Festival, Belfast
July 2000	Solo exhibition	Irish Arts Center, New York, USA
March 2000	Solo exhibition	An Culturlan MacAdam O’Fiaich, Belfast
Oct. 1999	Solo exhibition	Space Gallery, Conway Mill, Belfast
Autumn 1999	Joint exhibition	Canal Gallery, Newry, Co Down
Autumn 1999	Joint exhibition	Ilaine Somers Gallery, Co. Down
Autumn 1996	Solo exhibition	An Trian Centre, Armagh, Co. Armagh
Spring 1996	Solo exhibition	The Flowerfield Arts Centre, Portstewart

Community projects

Most of the projects described below as ‘outdoor commissions’ were completed through working directly with schools and community organizations.

2018/2019	Um Al Fahm Gallery, Kids Guernca, Israel
2016/2017	Workshops. Jerusalem School of Arts, Israel
2015	Conducted sculpture workshops for Men’s Shed projects and Moyle District Council comm. group.
2014	Kids Guernica, International painting project, Cushendall and Broughshane youth clubs.
2014	Wall mural project, WIN Enterprise, Newry
Summer 2012	International Cow Parade project.
2011 Aug.	Belfast Flags 10,000 art flags, largest community art/painting project in Ireland.
2010	Belfast Flags of Hope, NI, schools project.
Summer 2009	‘Come Join Us’ bronze relief sculpture, Newhill Community Centre
2009, An Croi	Stone/bronze sculpture. With Suicide Awareness Group
Harpurs Hill, Coleraine	Wall mural project, community project
Jan/Apr 2007	Helix of Hope, Calcutta, India
Spring 2006	Healing through Remembering and An Coiste community project.
2006	The Dream Catcher community public sculpture
Autumn 2005	The Kicks, workshops and outdoor bronze sculpture – Poleglass.
Summer 2005	Workshops and sculpture, Tullymore,

Summer 2004	Andersonstown Series of workshops and outdoor sculpture with special needs adults – with USDT.
Summer 2003	Series of workshops and outdoor bronze plaques for Tir Na hOg Park, Springhill. USDT
Autumn 2002	Conducted arts project with special needs pupils St. Gererd's Education Centre
Autumn 2002	Conducted community arts project, USDT
Summer 2002	Conducted Arts Open Week, Conway Mill
Summer 2001 – Groundworks NI	Sculpted number of pieces for Mount Vernon Community Centre
Summer 2001 – Groundworks NI	Sandy Row Community Centre. Created sculpture, and workshops with local children
Spring 2001 – Conway Mill	Conducted an Arts Open Week
Summer 2000 – NIVT	Conducted a series of sculpture workshops at Benedy Community Centre, Co. Derry
Autumn 2000 – NIVT	Set up community exhibition in Arts Centre, Cookstown, Co. Derry
Autumn 2000 – Groundworks NI	Conducted series of sculpture workshops at Rostulla Special Needs School, Belfast.

Outdoor Commissions

Summer 2009	'Come Join Us' bronze relief sculpture, Newhill Community Centre
2009, An Croi	Stone and bronze sculpture.
2008	Harpurs Hill, Coleraine, Wall mural project
Autumn 2007, Swatragh Wall	Extensive mural project, Swatragh
2007 Helix of Hope	Bamboo, rice straw, clay; Calcutta, India
2006/7 The Dreamcatcher	Steel and Aluminium, Photography, Ballycastle
Dec. 2005, The Kicks	Bronze sculpture, Poleglass, Belfast
Nov. 2005, Finn and the Causeway	Bronze sculpture, Lenadoon, Belfast
Aug.2005, 'Hands On'	Wall sculpture and mural, Glenbawn
Aug. 2005 Salmon of Knowledge	2 Sculptures, Tullymore Comm.Centre
May 2005, Hands of Rang	Bun Scoil, Slieve Dubh, Belfast
2004, Seat of Tara,	Tree sculpture, Teach na Ban, Belfast
2003, Tir na hOg	Bronze plaques located in Tir na hOg Park
Sept. 2002, Poetree	Tree sculpture, Upper Springfield Development Trust
Nov. 2002, The Gatepost	Portaferry Promenade, Ards Borough Council
Mar. 2002, The Spirits	Carnaget Comm. Group, Daisy Hill Park,
Newry	

Jan. 2002, St. Column's	Derry City Council, St. Column's Park, Derry
Nov. 2001, Dilworth Cross	Unique bog oak Celtic Cross, Royal School, Dungannon
Aug 2001 – Groundworks NI	Outdoor sculpture, Lancaster ST. Park
May 2001, Dulra	Outdoor sculpture, Drumlamph Wood, Co. Derry. Comm. By The Woodland Trust
May 2001, The Jockey	Outdoor sculpture, Sandy Row Community Centre. Comm. by Groundworks NI
Sep. 2000, Charabanc	Outdoor sculpture, Star of the Sea School, Belfast. Comm. By Groundworks NI
June 2000, The Nymph	Corrog Wood, Co. Down, by Woodland Trust

Corporate Commissions and Collections

Novas Scarmen, CUC Liverpool	1. Installation: Cold Floor 2. Painting: The Cold Floors
Mooney Hotel Group 2008	'The Yard and the Flower' From the Shot Lock series.
May 2006-Antrim Borough Council	'The Dug Out' sculpture.
Nov. 2005-Antrim Borough Council	'Final Furlong', award for Tony McCoy
2005 Gernika Gogoratus International Peace Research Centre	'The Legend', photo etched print
2005 Kultur-Etxea, Gernika	'The Legend', photo etched print
May 2005-World Highland Games	Winners Awards, variety
Jan. 2004 – Australia	International Archive of Humanist Art
Feb. 2003-17 – Celtic Media Festival	Bronze Torc awards, annual awards
Aug. 2002- Women's Group	Women's Monument, Belfast
June 2002- World Highland Games	Strongman's Award
July 2001 – World Highland Games	Strongman Award
June 2001 – Parity Training Ltd.	18 original bronze awards for corporate clients
March 2001 – MDS Pharma-	Large indoor sculpture on mythology Services
Nov. 2000 – Cinemagic-International Film Festival	Bronze Jury Awards and bronze Best Film Awards
Oct. 2000 – Andersonstown News	Sculpture Award for Irish President Mary McAleese
July 2000 – Country Bank, USA	Two large indoor sculptures
July 2000 – Gabriel Byrne, actor, USA	Indoor sculpture
Spring 2000 – Double Joint Theatre Group	Sculpture Award for guest

May 2000 – Goodfellas Restaurant Indoor sculpture

Dec.1999 – NI Home and Interiors Arts Award
Nov. 1999 – Roscoffs Restaurant table sculptures

Conferences and Residencies

2019	Art and Prisons	Onati University, Basque region, Spain
2018/19	Um Al Fahm Gallery	Month long residency, Israel
2017.	Tower Residency Project	Ongoing international residency.
Oct 2012	ASJ 2012	International conference, Art and Social Justice, Gernika.
Apr. 2010	Artist Residency	CACIS, Contemporary Arts Centre, Catalonia, Spain
Aug 2008	13isolations, Holland	Production of site specific art.
Jan. 2007	Installation	Seagull Foundation, Calcutta, India
Dec. 2005	Produced site specific Installation and discussion.	1V Encuentro Internacional Artistas Para la Paz
Aug. 2005	Hosted panel discussion And exhibition	International Humanist Art Archive in Conway Mill, Belfast
June. 2005	Presented work and hosted discussion on art and peace.	Foc Art, Moncofa, Valencia, Spain
Mar. 2005	Arts participant/Delegate	Crossing Borders, Crossing Waters International project, Cork, Ireland
May 2004	Presented work and discussion	Peace Pedagogy Conference, International Peace Museum, Gernika
Dec 2003	Represented Ireland	Gernika Art and Peace Conference

As an artist I have been acknowledged with the following awards:

- 1) Awarded the Aisling Award 2000 for Arts and Culture.
- 2) Previewed as Artist of the Month in Artslink, Jan. 2001, the monthly bulletin of the Northern Ireland Arts Council.

Awards and Bursaries

2018 – **General Arts Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council
2017 – **Travel Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council
2015 – **General Arts Award** –Northern Ireland Arts Council
2014 – **Travel Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council
2013 – **General Arts Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council
Nov 2008 – **Travel Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council
Jan. 2007 – **Travel Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council
Dec. 2006 – **Travel Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council
Mar. 2004 - **Travel Award**- Northern Ireland Arts Council

Nov. 2003 – **Bursary Award** from the Community Relations Council.
Sept. 2003 – **General Arts Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council
February 2002 – **General Arts Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council
October 2001 – **Travel Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council
November 2000 – **Aisling Award 2000**, for Arts and Culture
September 2000 – **Arts Flight** – Northern Ireland Arts Council
Summer 1999 – **Irelands Homes and Interiors** - Artist of the Month