

# GRANGEGORMAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

## *Arts Strategy*

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1st Phase Response



## **Function of the Arts Strategy**

The strategy will articulate a vision for GDA in relation to Arts but particularly focuses on public arts commissioning in connection to the campus's capital developments.

It works within the existing values of the Grangegorman Masterplan.

It is a document which shares the values of key stakeholders. It articulates an outline artistic direction and suggests processes which will support timely and comprehensive access to the Per Cent for Art Scheme or similar structures.

It communicates an organisational seriousness of purpose. Providing a solid framework against which applications and support for co-funding can be made.

It may support systems for pooling finance, governance structures and an outline programmatic direction for managing art processes and work.

# Art Processes

- Public realm interventions which can be physical and social
- Publications, performances or compositions
- Collaborations; testing and making new relationships
- Temporary actions.
- Residencies – Acts of hospitality and connections
- Process-based, participatory activities.
- Digital and virtual projects.



The image features two speech bubbles. The top bubble is light pink and contains the text 'Cultures of Establishing:'. The bottom bubble is light orange and contains the text 'Culture of Change:'. Both bubbles have a tail pointing towards the bottom left.

### **Cultures of Establishing:**

Newness, ownerships, care, meeting, familiarity  
unfamiliarity, openness, playing, reading, learning,  
hope, anticipation, exchanging, challenging,  
celebrating, movement, circulation, demarking,  
tension, neighbourliness, knowing, movement,  
growth, structure, pathways, travel, settlement,  
comfort, relating, community, difference and  
togetherness, synergies, resources, potentials,  
freshness, welcomes, future thinking.

### **Culture of Change:**

Past usages, new usages, digital cultures, building,  
making and materials, interruption, saving,  
supporting re-using, closing, opening, dismantling,  
packing, storing, ending and starting, tentativeness,  
newness, intervention, moving, memory, past and  
future thinking, heritages and establishing identity  
making, fluid and rigidity, excitement, anticipation.

Starting out; exchanging and talking

The following are examples of public art works that engage with, exchange or create a dialogue with different communities of interest.

Examples from artists;

Rhona Byrne

Brian Irvine

Michael Fortune

Glenn Loughran

Jackie Nickerson

Terri O Farrell

The IGVFest

**(please note:** These images are shown for illustrative purpose only, full details and further information about the artists practices are provided by links to their or the commissioners websites where possible, all images are the copyright of the commissioners and artists)

Rhona Byrne was the joint winner of the Fire Station Artist in the community Studio Award 2005/6, and completed The Umbrella Project as part of her residency. The umbrella project is an event based participatory art project by artist Rhona Byrne exploring the urban environment, the people, architecture and wildlife that shape the north east inner city area of Dublin.

The event took place on Saturday the 11th March 2006 inviting people to take part in one of six educational and cultural walking tours. Artist Rhona Byrne invited a number of specialists to lead walking tours that engaged with a number of the diverse characteristics that make up this area of Dublin city that is undergoing profound change both architecturally and sociologically.

The tours included an Urban Wildlife Tour, Historical Tour, Architectural Tour, Docklands Area Tour, Multicultural Shopping Tour, New Architecture and Urban Planning Tour. Participants were asked to carry specially designed umbrellas; comprising a visible and informative 'art project' that moved through the streets of the north inner city. 120 people took part on the tours that ran simultaneously around the city. On route the tours were entertained by The 'young Dramateers NEICA' performing 'singing in the rain'.

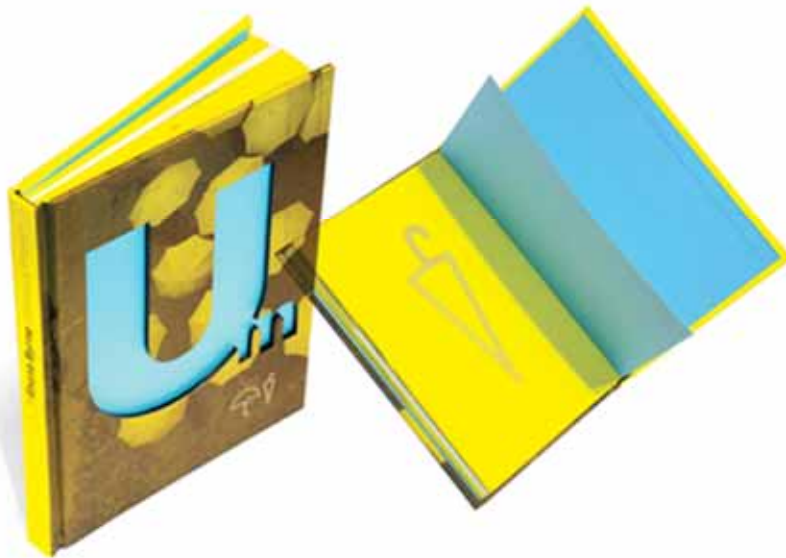
The Umbrella Project: Artist Rhona Byrne – Commissioner The Fire station Dublin

1. <http://www.rhonabyrne.com/35060/works-and-projects>
2. <http://www.firestation.ie/projects/project/the-umbrella-project/>
3. <http://www.create-ireland.ie/evaluations-and-case-studies/case-study-home-process-and-partnership-by-rhona-byrne.html>









## **The Balcony Project: Artist Rhona Byrne – Commissioner Dublin City Council**

<http://www.balconyproject.com/BalconyProject48pp.pdf>

Balcony Project [www.balconyproject.com](http://www.balconyproject.com)

Balcony Project is an art project commissioned for Bernard Curtis Court, senior citizens housing unit for independent living in Bluebell Estate, Inchicore, Dublin. The outcome of this project is an 'Audio Box', a limited edition artwork. The box contains audio works by artists, composers, musicians, ecologists and writers made in response to conversations with residents that were recorded on their common balcony over a period of fifty-two weeks. There are six chapters; Death, Love, Happiness, Being, Place and Nature.

The contributors include Barbara Ellison, John Foley, Nathan Hall, Síofra O'Donovan, Sean Carpio and Ian McDonnell, Aebhín Cawley and Paul Scott. The design of the audio box was in collaboration with Brian Solon and Philip Whyte.

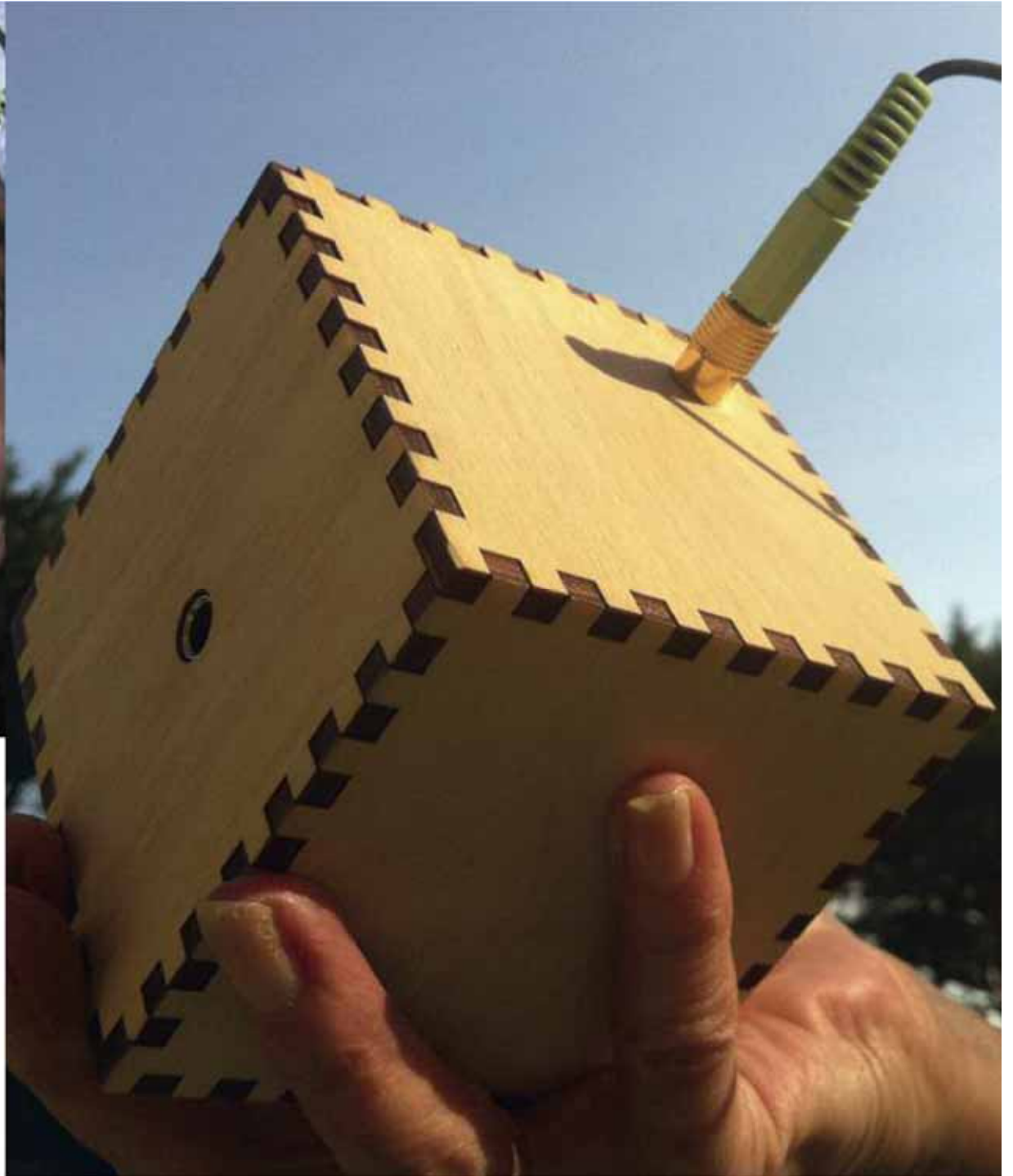
Generously supported by residents of Bernard Curtis Court and commissioned by Dublin City Council under the Per Cent for Art Scheme with funding from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government - the Balcony Project limited edition artwork is available to borrow from local stops of the Dublin City Mobile Library and Inchicore library, Dublin.











## Opera for Carlow - Commissioners Carlow County Council

<http://www.carlow.ie/arts/Pages/opera-for-carlow.aspx>

- The first ever largescale singing project in Ireland written for community involvement targeted at singers of all ages with and without previous experience. Written specially for Carlow by composer Brian Irvine, this opera will portray a day in the life of County Carlow, reflecting the experiences of people in many contexts.
- Weekly rehearsals began in September 2010 with performances in the GB Shaw Theatre in May 2011.
- Up to 100 singers are sought from all walks of life and all backgrounds.
- Special training courses were held.
- Workshops, voice production, musical training opportunities for community participants.
- Performances involved the National Symphony Orchestra.
- First venture of its kind in Ireland. It will be featured on KCLR and RTE Lyric FM.
- Auditions, Information sessions were held in the GB Shaw Theatre on 26th June 2010 and in Tullow and Bagenalstown on the 27th June 2010. Participants took part in a 2-hour session involving background information, group singing, vocal exercises, drama workshops etc. Those who wished had the opportunity to sing a solo song, but this is not compulsory. Any song is possible; traditional, popular, classical, folk etc.

A Field Guide to Love in an Irish Town New Opera by Brian Irvine and John McIllduff  
written for Carlow Local Authorities

County Carlow stages Ireland's first Community Opera

A large-scale community endeavour which brought together a performance company of 100 singers from all walks of life, the young voices of Aspiro Choir and the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra. Writer John McIllduff has taken stories, themes and concepts from people throughout Carlow and brought many of the characters that he has met to life in the libretto of this opera.

Composer Brian Irvine relishes the idea of working with an enormous bandwidth of different types of people from throughout Carlow. His background as director of his own eclectic ensemble and as Associate Composer with the Ulster Orchestra has frequently involved projects with large numbers of participants new to performance. "I'm fascinated with the process of providing a major musical challenge for singers who come to this project with an open mind and with enthusiasm, even if they have never previously sung in anything like this. There's a richness and character in everybody's voice and our job is to harness this and give it the right environment to allow it flourish.





## Artist Michael Fortune commissioner Wexford County Council

Departures and Arrivals was a body of work produced by Michael in collaboration with people from the Rosslare Harbour community in 2007. The project was commissioned by Wexford County Council and funded by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government under the Percent for Art Scheme. In response to the brief which required the artist to work as an 'animateur' within the community.

[http://www.michaelfortune.ie/Departures and Arrivals.html](http://www.michaelfortune.ie/Departures_and_Arrivals.html)





<http://youtu.be/ZBhe0Mz6ah0>





## Artist Jackie Nickerson. Book title, Faith

<http://www.jackienickerson.com/work.php?pid=2&mode=4>

Jackie Nickerson is a photography based visual artist. She was born in Boston, USA and has an international reputation for photographing people and their environments.

In 2008 she was the winner of the AIB prize and has been short listed for the Deutscher Fotobuchpreis award (2008) and nominated for several prestigious prizes such as the Becks Futures Award (2003) and the Prix Pictet (2010). Her work has been exhibited at many venues including the Irish Museum of Modern Art in Dublin, the Museum der Moderne in Salzburg and the National Portrait Gallery in London. Her work is represented in important public and private collections including the Museum of Modern Art, New York, the Irish Museum of Modern Art and the Santa Barbara Museum.

In September 2002, Jonathan Cape published 'FARM', a book of portraits of farm workers taken all over southern Africa. This was followed by a German edition entitled 'Leden Mit Der Erde' published by Frederking and Thaler (2002) and a French edition, 'Une Autre Afrique' published by Flammarion (2002). In 2007 Steidl/MACK published 'Faith' which captures Catholic religious communities in Ireland. This was also published by Steidl in France under the title 'Fides'.

She is represented by the Jack Shainman Gallery in New York, and Brancolini Grimaldi Arte Contemporanea in London. She currently lives and works in New York and Ireland.









<http://www.igvfest.com/> commissioner Dublin City Council, Open Spaces Project.

The International Guerrilla Film Festival projection at The Parnell Monument Dublin  
Projecting the work of artist Sean Taylor <http://www.publicart.ie/main/public-art-directory/directory/view/100-paces/902657fb81/>



## **Artist Glenn Loughran, Commissioner Carlow County Council**

A temporary public art project in Leighlinbridge (County Carlow) by Dublin-based artist Glenn Loughran. Working with the local community, the project commenced by collectively building a school-house using straw-bale eco-building techniques. This space then became the site of an education exchange between the artist and a group of local young people - touching on issues of identity, community, class, race and post-colonialism, delivered to the young people through the metaphor of "The Neighbour". The project concludes on the 7th of October with a public exhibition. Facilitated by artist and educator Glenn Loughran, Hedge School 06 has been running since the 24th of August; starting with a collaborative building event - the construction of a temporary school building from straw bales, built by the artist alongside a group of young people and members of the local community.

This temporary construction is currently facilitating a six week education exchange between Loughran and the participating group of young people, utilising discursive and art processes to investigate a series of issues informed by the context of the Hedge School. In its historical context hedge schools were particularly Irish in name and nature, they were fluid make-shift schools that emerged at the time of the Penal Laws in Ireland when English speaking schools restricted the teaching of Irish language and culture. Loughran internationalises this context by drawing a contemporary parallel with the "Itinerant Schools" of the MST (Movimento Sem Terra) Landless Workers in Brazil. As such the education exchange touches on issues of identity, community, class, race and post-colonialism, delivered to the young people through the metaphor of "The Neighbour".

[http://www.gradcam.ie/people/glenn\\_loughran.php](http://www.gradcam.ie/people/glenn_loughran.php)

















The *City Loops* was concerned with everyday movement in the city, focusing on repeated journeys that are made over a long period of time (to work, to school, to shop or walk the dog). However complex our movements are, we will always make a loop that begins and ends at home, and each journey will be a variation of a pattern that is etched into our memory by countless repetition. We all have our own 'city loop', our own fingerprint on the city, and no two are quite the same. Focusing on a simple everyday activity that everyone can identify with allowed the artists to touch upon the real poetry of living in the city.

Anne Cleary & Denis Connolly created *City Loops* by talking to people about their daily experience of moving through the city. They filmed those experiences or asked people to film it themselves, working with a large cross-section of the urban community, meeting people of all ages and backgrounds to construct a major artwork that is both personal and universal. *City Loops* explores this part of the everyday that belongs both to the public realm and to the intimate life of each and every Dubliner. The place started to reveal itself through the words and steps of the people.

<http://www.southdublin.ie/artsworks/viewwork.aspx?id=27>

Commissioner: In Context 3, Public Art Programme South Dublin County Council











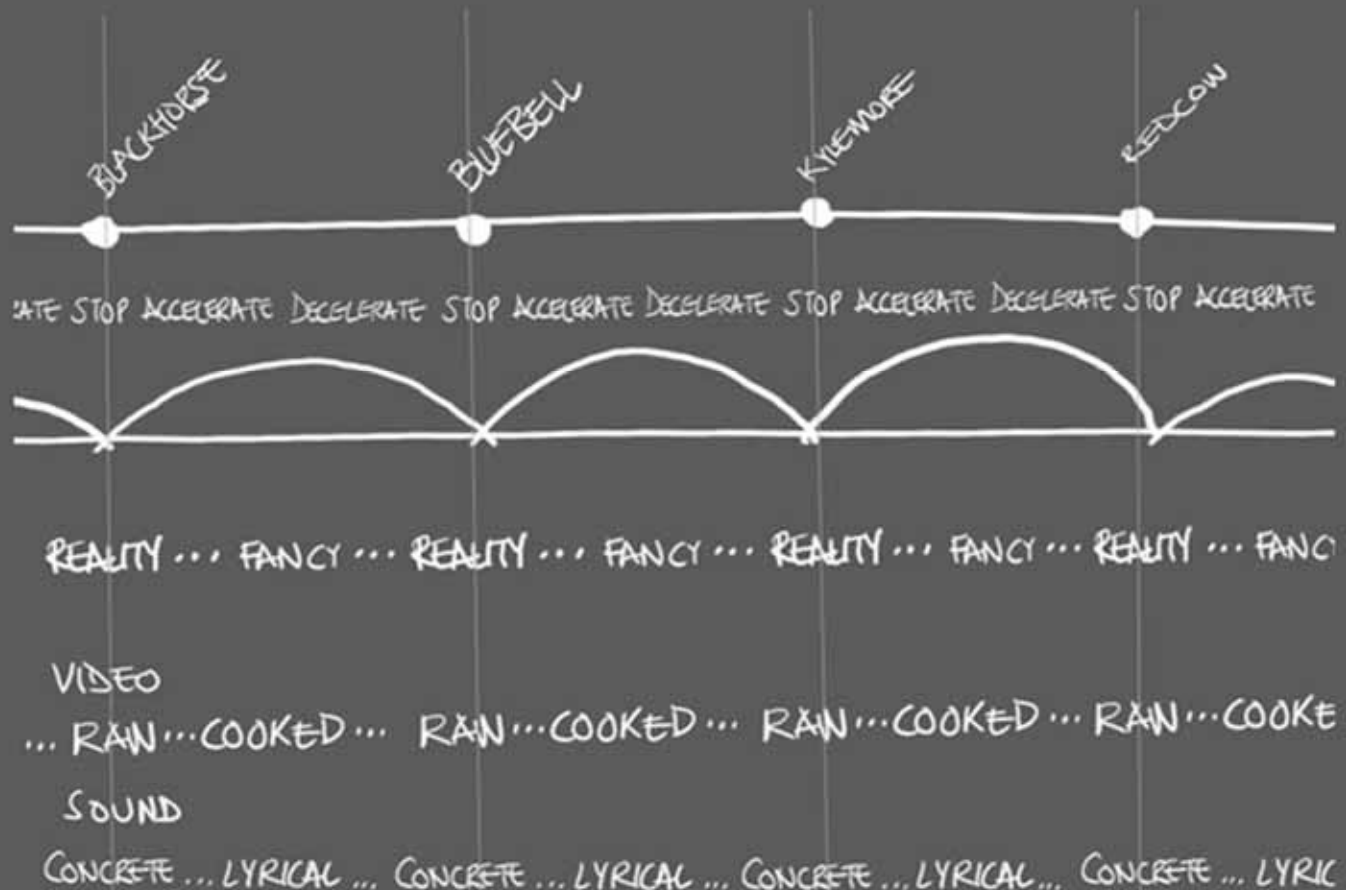
# City Loops

South  
Dublin  
County

In Context 3  
South Dublin  
County Council's  
Per Cent For Art  
Programme

Anne Cleary  
Denis Connolly  
2007-2008

Luas  
Carol



We use the Luas Red Line to shoot a series of dolly shots which are transformed into a play of *travelling* images sliding over and into each other, from day to night, from winter to summer, from Connolly to Tallaght. *Luas* means speed, and here the accelerations and decelerations of the streetcar give the key to the treatment of the image and of the sound.







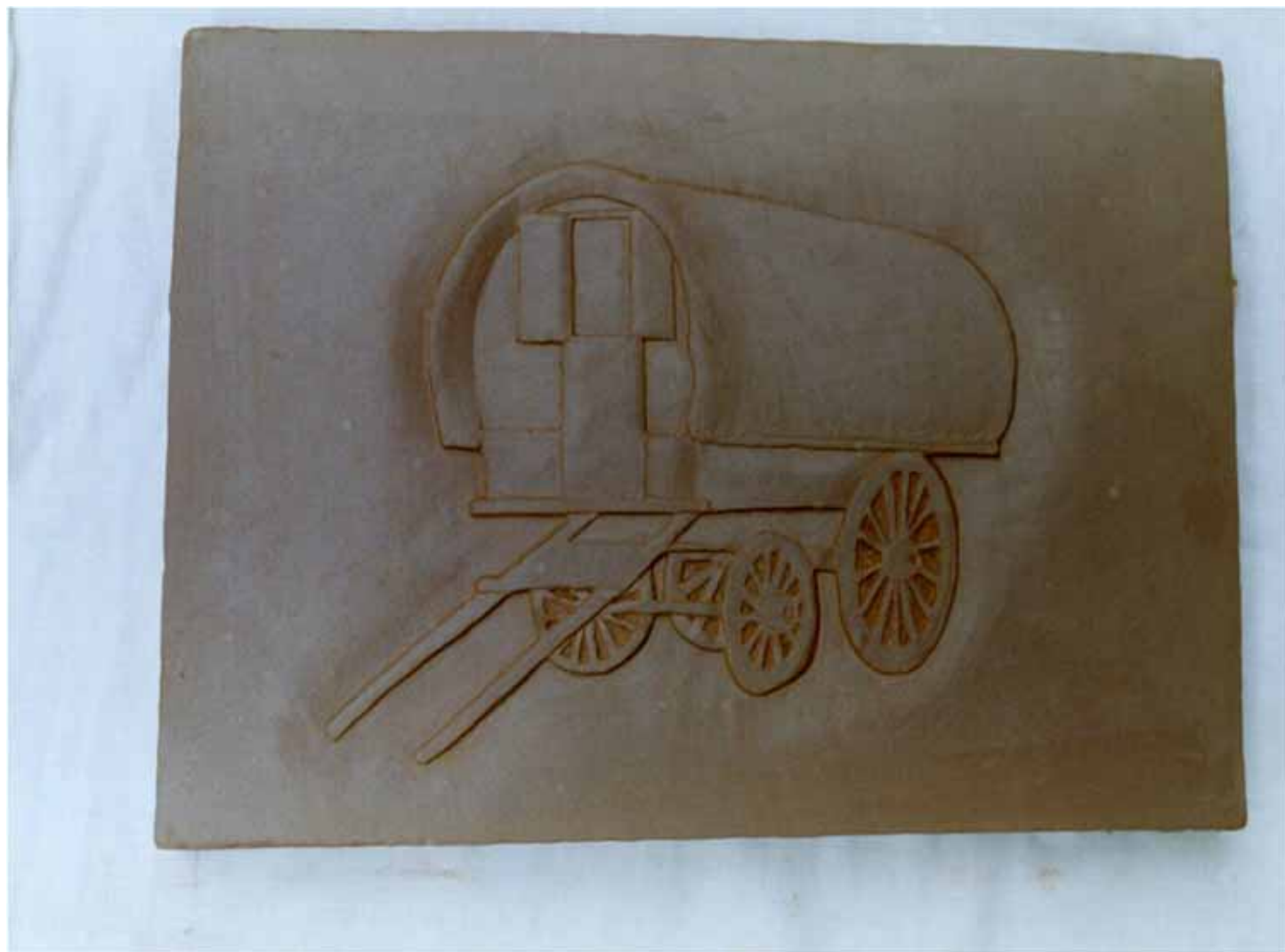




Artist: Terry O Farrell, with the new community of Old Connaught Road Bray Co Dublin  
Commissioner Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council

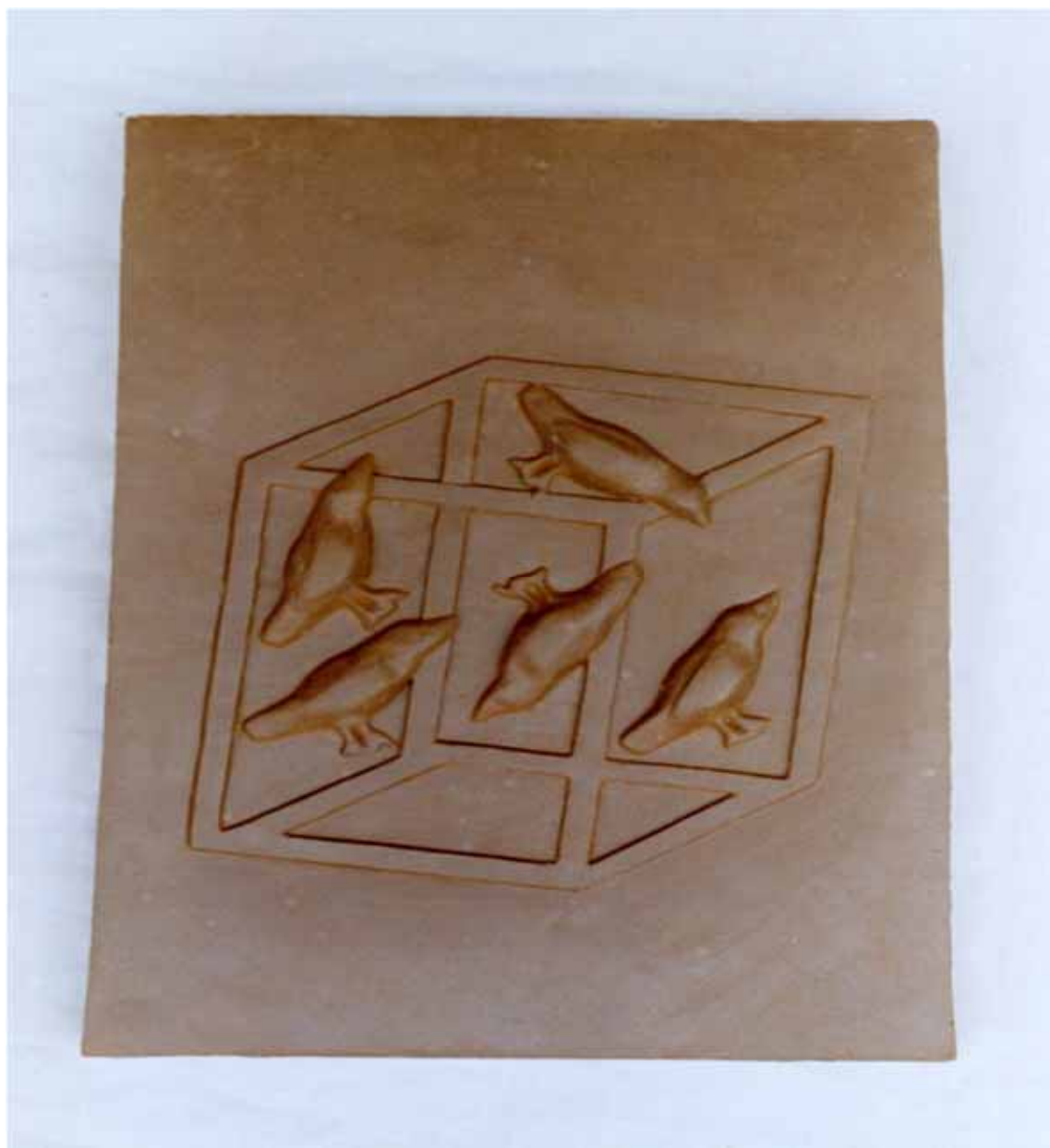








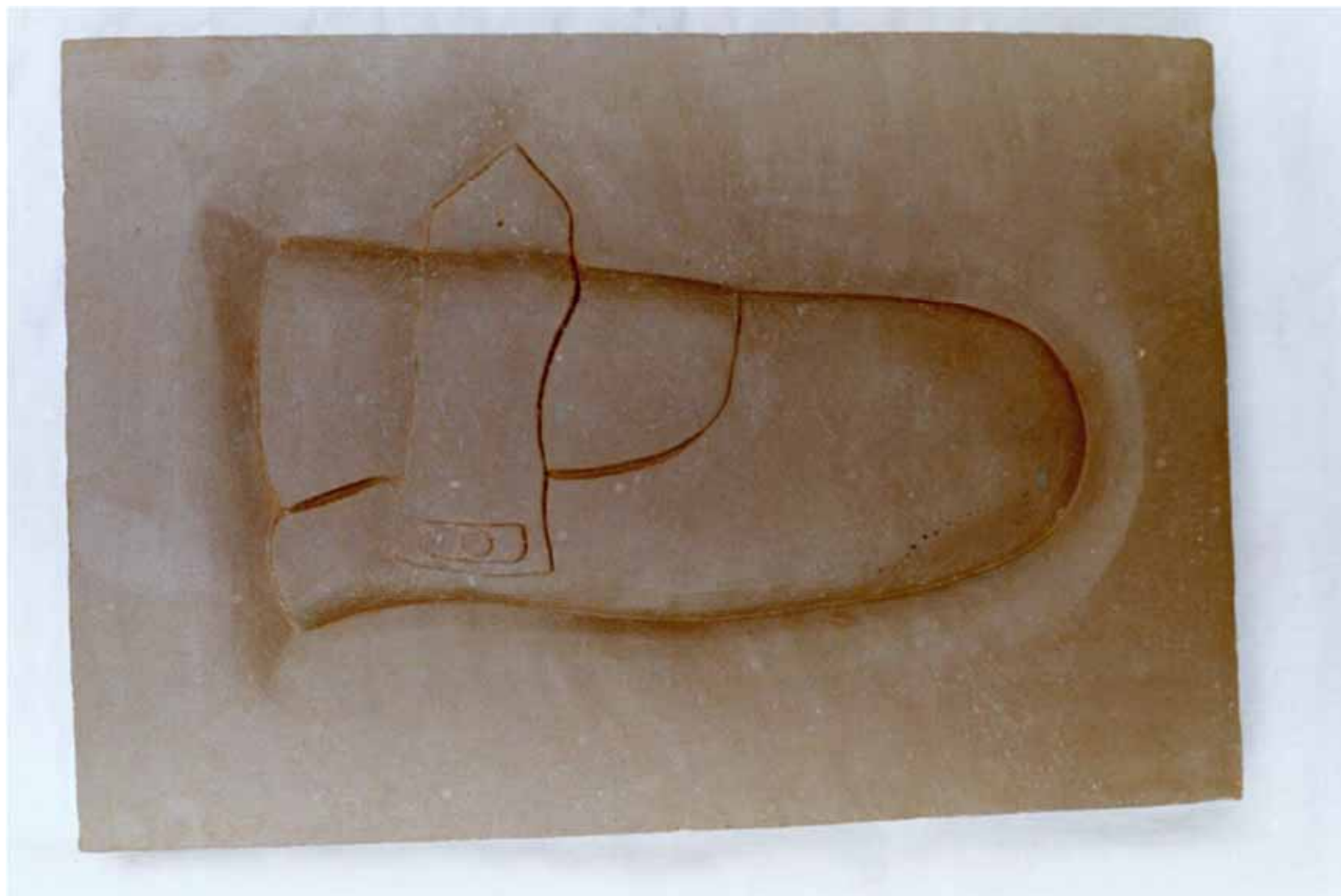












## **For discussion:**

- What values should underpin the strategy; for example supporting the development of new artistic enquiries, physical or social works, research, collaboration etc...
- If funding for arts commissions is sporadic how can the GDA work best with neighbourhoods and emerging cultures?
- The nature of per cent for art funding is that it is commission based; there are finite budgets and with clear start and end to the commissioning process. How can we compliment practices and arts cultures already happening in the neighbourhood and the wider city? What would be valuable?
- What should not happen? What should the aspirations be?

**Thank you**