

# Activities

## Irish Centre of ITI (Europe)



Image from Stage & Screen  
Design Ireland - Highlights  
2007 – 2014. Costume Design  
(screen) | Lorna Marie Muga  
| Ripper Street

### Activities 2014–2016

#### 2015 Activities

A Celebration of Irish Playwright Máiréad Ní Ghráda  
Irish Theatre Institute and Project Arts Centre, Dublin,  
March 11, 2015 (Partners: Foras na Gaeilge)

To mark the 50th anniversary of the premiere production of the Irish language play ,An Tríail' (22nd September 1964) and its English language version ,On Trial' (19th March 1965), Irish Theatre Institute celebrated the contribution of Irish playwright Máiréad Ní Ghráda to Irish theatre with a bilingual rehearsed reading of On Trial /An Tríail, directed by BAFTA award-winning director Dearbhla Walsh, followed by a panel discussion examining the play and playwright in its theatrical and historical contexts. Irish Theatre Institute also launched a dedicated microsite featuring interesting details on the playwright's life and plays alongside video interviews with number of artists involved in previous productions of Mairéad's work.  
url: Ócáid Chomórtha | A Celebration of Máiréad Ní Ghráda

#### World Theatre Day 2015 Celebration

Irish Theatre Institute, 17 Eustace Street, Temple Bar, Dublin, March 27, 2015

ITI celebrated World Theatre Day on 27 March with our cultural neighbours and affiliated artists. Representatives of the ITI Advisory Panel and the Abbey Theatre, Ireland's National Theatre, also attended. As well as recording the World Theatre Day message by Krzysztof Warlikowski at the event,

Irish Theatre Institute invited colleagues to read the World Theatre Day message in Polish, French, Spanish & Catalan, German and Irish. Dublin-based Polish dramaturg, producer and journalist Joanna Crawley also recorded an introduction to Krzysztof Warlikowski for Irish audiences. Videos can be found on Irish Theatre Institute's website: World Theatre Day 2015

#### PRIME, continuing professional development

Partners: Age & Opportunity / BEALTAINE Festival  
PRIME: Continuing Professional Development (CPD) was a new pilot programme introduced between May and September 2015 and designed to provide career supports and training opportunities for theatre practitioners aged 55 to 80 years.

The focus of the programme was on the following strands:

- Physical and Mental Well-being: comprising daily warm-up and exploration of other physical and mental practices e.g. Introduction to Pilates, yoga, mindfulness, voice workshops, Alexander Technique.
- Entrepreneurial Skills/ Managing Yourself and Sustaining Your Career: including advice and information on social welfare and pensions, financial planning, grant application writing, self-promotion in a technical age and networking.
- Coaching Sessions & Case Studies: designed to support professional theatre artists to discover new ways of working, collaborating and resourcing their practice.

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Pitching Session (Rough Magic) at the 22nd International Theatre eXchange (ITX), 2 October 2015



### Attendance at the Prague Quadrennial (PQ15)

Prague, 18th – 28th June 2015 (Partners: Arts Council Ireland)

Irish Theatre Institute with the Arts Council Ireland Travel & Training Awards programme, supported 14 Irish or Irish-resident stage designers to attend and actively participate in Prague Quadrennial 2015. Programme Co-Ordinator, Ewa Senger, also attended to represent Irish Theatre Institute. An open call with a set of criteria was issued and grants awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. The designers who received support to attend the 13th edition of the Prague Quadrennial in June for professional development purposes were:

- Frank Conway (set, costume)
- Paul O'Mahony (set)
- Jo Conway (costume)
- Deirdre Dwyer (set, costume)
- Lisa Zagone (set, costume)
- Eoin Winning (lighting)
- Liadain Kaminska (set, costume)
- Sabine Dargent (set, costume)
- Conleth White (set, lighting, video)
- Sarah Jane Shiels (set, costume, lighting)
- John Comiskey (set, lighting, video)
- Ilo Tarrant (lighting)
- Muriel Douglas (set, costume)
- Stephen Dodd (lighting, video)

### 10th Annual Information Toolbox

(Partners: Culture Ireland, Tiger Dublin Fringe Festival)

The 10th edition of ITI's networking event for Tiger Dublin Fringe - Information Toolbox – took place on Friday 11th September in the Spiegeltent at Wolf Tone Square, Dublin. In attendance were 55 artists from 36 companies / productions; 44 presenters representing 37 venues and organisations from Ireland as well as 12 international delegates from Canada, Germany, Iceland, Taiwan, UK and USA. Information Toolbox continues to provide an ideal environment for Irish artists to pitch work to venues and festivals and begin a dialogue with key funding agencies and support organisations. 11 attendees registered and an estimated number of 676 meetings took place. url: Irish Theatre Institute's 10th Information Toolbox

### 22nd International Theatre eXchange (ITX) 2015

Dublin city, Dublin Theatre Festival; October 2-3, (Partners: Culture Ireland, Dublin Theatre Festival)

Irish Theatre Institute's programme of pitching, showcasing and networking brings together Irish theatre artists programmed as part of Dublin Theatre Festival and invited international presenters and producers from around the world. In advance of the 2016 commemorative year an emphasis was placed on extending invitation to centres of the Irish diaspora, notably Australia and the USA. Irish Theatre Institute identified organisations that have a genuine interest in Irish theatre and have the capacity and the resources to present Irish work in future. For the first time invitations were extended in partnership with Mid-America Arts Alliance and the New England Foundation for the Arts. url: Irish Theatre Institute's 22nd International Theatre eXchange (ITX)

### Inaugural Phelim Donlon Playwright's Bursary and Residency 2015/2016

Partners: The Tyrone Guthrie Centre, Annaghmakerrig, Co Monaghan

Irish Theatre Institute (ITI) and the Tyrone Guthrie Centre, Annaghmakerrig announced Fiona Doyle as the recipient of the inaugural Phelim Donlon Playwright's Bursary & Residency 2015/16. The award is named in honour of Phelim Donlon, former Drama Officer at the Arts Council and a dedicated member of the first Irish Theatre Institute PLAYOGRAPHYIreland Advisory Panel, in acknowledgement of his valued contribution to Irish theatre. The award was officially announced by Dr. Pat Donlon, former Director of National Library of Ireland and the Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig at a celebratory event attended by Phelim's family, friends and former colleagues on 3 December 2015.

### Stage & Screen Design Ireland

Funders & Partners: Year of Design ID2015, Irish Film Board/Bord Scannán na hÉireann, Culture Ireland  
On Tuesday December 8, Costume Designer and Emmy award-winner Joan Bergin launched the new book and website Stage & Screen Design Ireland

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(Highlights 2007 - 2014). The website and publication are devoted to the celebration of Irish stage and screen design and designers. The launch was accompanied by design installation at 17 Eustace Street including a costume room, photographic prints, costume/set drawings, model boxes and a sound installation both internally and external to the building. url: [www.stageandscreendesignireland.ie](http://www.stageandscreendesignireland.ie)

European Network of Information Centres for the Performing Arts (ENICPA) Round Table Meeting Helsinki, October 21-23 and November 9-10, 2015

Irish Theatre Institute attended the ENICPA annual Round Table Meeting in Helsinki in October and again in early November at the EU Project planning meeting hosted by TINFO Finland on Performance Design on/ at the Edge. Irish Theatre Institute is working towards partnering with other European organisations on an EU project around theatre designers, a project led by TINFO.

### 2016 Activities

#### Australian Performing Arts Market (APAM)

Partners: Culture Ireland

Irish Theatre Institute Co-Director Siobhán Bourke attended APAM 2016 (February 22-26) in Brisbane. Siobhán, together with Kris Nelson, Festival Director of Tiger Dublin Fringe Festival and Jen Coppinger, Producer hosted a Round Table session focusing on Irish Festivals and Programmes at the Australian Performing Arts Market.

#### Irish Playwright Commission

Partners: Dublin City Council, San Jose Stage California

This is a 1916 commemorative commission awarded under the Dublin City Council Public Art scheme. The recipient of this commission is writer, theatre-maker Donal O'Kelly. Irish Theatre Institute is working closely with its partners to support this project throughout 2016.

#### World Theatre Day Celebration

Following the success of the World Theatre Day

celebration 2015, Irish Theatre Institute will once again host an event at the organisation's offices at 17 Eustace Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2, on Thursday 24th March. This will be an opportunity for colleagues from the theatre sector to meet informally and read the World Theatre Day message together. A recording of this reading will be published alongside other videos on Irish Theatre Institute's website following the event. url: [www.irishtheatreinstitute.ie](http://www.irishtheatreinstitute.ie)

#### ITI World Congress

Partners: Arts Council Ireland

Following an open call to performing arts practitioners resident in Ireland (North and South) and with a set of criteria, the following practitioners have received support to attend the Congress for networking and professional development purposes: Eláine Donnelly, General Manager, Irish Theatre Institute and Irish Centre representation; Emma Jordan, Artistic Director, Prime Cut Productions; Owen McCafferty, Playwright; Brian Irvine, Composer/Conductor/Producer; Maisie Lee, Director; Aine Stapleton, Dance Artist; Sophie Motley, Co-Artistic Director, WillFredd Theatre

#### Other Significant Theatre Events 2015/2016

##### #WakingTheFeminists

Abbey Theatre, November 12, 2015

Following the launch in October, by the Abbey Theatre, Ireland National Theatre, of its programme to mark the centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising, there was an outpouring of testimonies from both women and men working in Irish theatre, highlighting the disenfranchisement and chronic under-representation of the work of women artists at the Abbey, and by extension in the Irish arts industry. Representatives of the movement have since begun to engage with all the major state-funded theatre organisations, to make gender equality a reality through their policies and programming. Irish Theatre Institute's response to this was the generation of statistics through its Irish playography database website. Irish Theatre Institute will publish a Findings Report in March 2016 highlighting the number of produced plays

Left and right: Paul Curley, Lian Bell, Aonghus Og McAnally, Noelle Brown and Cian O'Brien read the World Theatre Day 2015 Message.

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Image from Stage & Screen Design Ireland - Highlights 2007 - 2014. Lighting Design | Adam Silverman | The Rite of Spring



by female playwrights and employment statistics on female directors and designers in professional theatre in Ireland across the timeframe 2000 – 2014. A public meeting was held at the Abbey Theatre on November 12, gathering many of those who became associated with the grassroots movement of #WakingTheFeminists.

url: <http://www.irishplayography.com/>

### #WakingTheFeminists event – International Women’s Day 2016

Liberty Hall, Dublin; March 8, 2016

This special event continues the conversation since the public meeting held on 12th November 2015 at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin. The event will feature presentations and speeches from guest speakers, discussion on the issues facing women in the Irish theatre sector and an update on the work being undertaken by #WakingTheFeminists.

url: #WakingTheFeminists

### Irish Centre Advisory Panel

Annabelle Comyn, Director, Hatch Productions

Grace Dyas, Director, THEATREclub)

Mark Galione, Lighting Designer & Production Manager

Aideen Howard, Director, The Ark -Chairperson

Emma Jordan, Artistic Director, Prime Cut

Colm Maher, Lighting Designer

Gina Moxley, Actor, Director, Writer - Deputy Chair

Darach O Tuairisg, Artistic Director, Fíbin

Mark O’Brien, Director, Axis Arts Centre

Ciaran O’Melia, Designer

Jenny Traynor

Director Limerick Dance House

Steve Wilmer

Theatre Academic

### Irish Theatre Institute Board

Chair: Catriona Crowe, Head of Special Projects, National Archives of Ireland / Manager of Irish Census Online

Damian Downes, College Secretary and Registrar, National College of Art & Design

Margaret Kelleher, Professor of Anglo-Irish Literature and Drama, University College Dublin

Bernardine Maloney, Corporate Communications & Public Affairs Manager, ESB

Andrea Martin, Principal, MediaLawyer Solicitors

Cian O’Brien, Artistic Director, Project Arts Centre

Gavin Quinn, Artistic Director, Pan Pan

Irish Theatre Institute’s websites:

[www.irishtheatreinstitute.ie](http://www.irishtheatreinstitute.ie)

[www.irishtheatre.ie](http://www.irishtheatre.ie)

[www.irishplayography.com](http://www.irishplayography.com)

[www.stageandscreendesignireland.ie](http://www.stageandscreendesignireland.ie)

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