



Creative Research Practices and Alternative Sites of Learning: Artists, Researchers, Educators

A symposium hosted by

**UCD College of Social Sciences and Law
In association with UCD Parity Studios – Artist in Residence Programme
Tuesday 3 May, 9.30-1.30, Fitzgerald Debating Chamber**

Recent University initiatives exploring the intersections between art, research and education have drawn attention to the exciting possibilities of collaborative, socially engaged practices emerging internationally. These include innovations that extend the societal relevance of our scholarship through the development of arts and practice-based forms of inquiry, transdisciplinary and cross-sector partnerships, and new communicative strategies. Such practices are, in turn, intrinsic to innovations that are at the forefront of cutting edge developments in the field of teaching and learning.

This workshop has been inspired by the work of UCD Parity Studios, the College of Social Science and Law Artist in Residence Programme and the NCAD+UCD project *Uncomfortable Encounters, Disruptive Pedagogies: Critical Explorations at the Intersections of Collaborative Arts, Research and Education Practices*. It brings together people involved in a wide range of creative, socially engaged research and teaching practices, across sites of knowledge production from the classroom and localised social contexts to those of public and policy engagements. Drawing on examples from their work, presenters will explore and initiate discussion of the range, applications and issues arising in this work.

Everyone who is already engaged or is interested in developing this kind of work is welcome

Please register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/creative-research-practices-and-alternative-sites-of-learning-tickets-24563325568>

Programme

(9.30-9.40) Welcome – Sara O’Sullivan, Dean of Social Sciences

(9.40-10) Introduction –Emer O’Boyle (Director, Parity Studios Artist in Residence Programme) & Alice Feldman (UCD School of Sociology)

(10-11) Keynote – *Evental Education and the hedgeschoolproject.*

Glenn Loughran, (Artist, Educator, Lecturer DIT Fine Art, Coordinator Sherkin Island BA Visual Art); Imelda Maher (School of Law), Chair

Coffee 11-11.15

(11.15-12.15) Aesthetic Education, Critical Inquiries & Student-Led Learning

Emer O’Boyle (Artist, Director UCD Parity Studios) *Tunnelling Art and Science*

Alice Feldman (UCD School of Sociology) *Cultivating the Reflexive Imagination: Using Arts-Based Research Methods to Teach Qualitative Research Methods*

(12.15 – 1.15) Art Practices, Social Analysis & Public Pedagogies

Michael McLoughlin (Artist, Visiting Lecturer Limerick School of Art & Design; 2015 UCD College of Social Science & Law Artist in Residence) *Practice-Led Research/Research-Led Practice: Cultivating Sociologically-Informed Arts Inquiry*

Fiona Whelan (Artist, Lecturer, NCAD MA Socially Engaged Arts) *Policing Dialogues: A Durational, Practice-Based Model of Identifying Learning*

(1.05 – 1.30) Closing

Plenary Speaker

Glenn Loughran is an Artist and a Lecturer in Fine Art at the Dublin Institute of Creative Arts and Media (DIT). He is also programme leader of the BA in Visual Art (BAVA) on Sherkin Island. Originally from Belfast, N.Ireland, Loughran has studied Art and Design at The Ulster University (1991), Dun Laoghaire College of Art Design Technology (Diploma / 2002), Fine Art Painting at the National College of Art and Design (BA / 2003), Sculpture at NCAD (MA / 2005), and a doctorate at the NCAD/Graduate School Of Creative Arts and Media (GradCAM) (2013). Throughout this educational trajectory Loughran has worked across two disciplinary fields; Informal Education and Participatory Art. Exhibiting nationally and internationally, his recent work has developed hybrid forms of both disciplines through artistic practices such as thehedgeschoolproject. <http://www.gradcam.ie/people/glen-loughran-2/>; <http://eventaleducation.tumblr.com/>

Chair: Imelda Maher MRIA, is the Sutherland Professor of European Law in UCD where her key research interest is in EU Law and governance. She is a member of the University Artist in Residence Working Group. As Academic Director for the Sutherland School of Law building (opened in 2013), she worked very closely with the architects and designers to realise the vision and principles underlying the project. She is currently engaged in the process around the commissioning of a major artwork by McCann FitzGerald to be presented to the Law School on the theme of Legal History and has spearheaded the 'Law into Art' student essay competition associated with it. As Humanities and Social Science Secretary of the Royal Irish Academy, she also is on the executive of the Irish Humanities Alliance. A member of the UCD Governing Authority, she will assume the Presidency of Society of Legal Scholars of the UK and Ireland later this year.

Presenters

Alice Feldman uses arts-informed, participatory and decolonial methods, to explore the intersecting marginalities underpinning otherness, necropolitics and collective mobilisation in the spaces of the nation and everyday life, and to situate analyses of contemporary migration within the wider global histories of colonialism. Other, closely related projects focus on the politics of research-creation – the inter-relationships between epistemology, aesthetics and pedagogy in the contexts and confluences of socially engaged art and research practices, with a particular focus on debates around reflexivity, participation and ethics. These critical empirical and methodological explorations, in turn, directly inform her teaching practices. She has worked in a variety of research, advisory and volunteer capacities with many Irish civic, community and other organisations involved in anti-racism, interculturalism and integration work.

Michael McLoughlin was UCD College of Social Science & Law Artist in Residence in 2015 and currently developing a doctoral study plans, largely located in the social sciences, via MLitt, School of Sociology, involving a critical social and institutional analysis of ethics, art-making and knowledge production in the contexts of participatory arts practice. A recurring consideration in McLoughlin's work over the last 20 years has been a focus on what brings groups of people together, what is the connection that drives them, where does the balance between personal relationships, friendships, ideas, ideals or common goals lie? What is the actual common bond? He has simultaneously explored the counterpoint to this, the recurring displacements, the marginalisation, the otherness experienced within Irish society in particular. His major new sound works, *Cumann: An audio map of Drogheda* will be exhibited in Droichead Arts Centre from April 27th 2016 and *Cumann: Limerick* in Limerick City Gallery of Art from September 8th 2016.

Emer O'Boyle is Director of UCD Parity Studios Artists in Residence programme which she co-founded with Professor of Astronomy Lorraine Hanlon. A visual artist and educator she developed and delivers the practice based module Tunnelling Art and Science at UCD. Her socially engaged projects have addressed the representation of individual stories within collective contexts and the creation of conditions for exchange between different interest groups. Her work has been funded by the EU Partnership for Peace Programme, Amnesty International and CREATE, GLORIA - Global Robotic Telescope Intelligent Array and most recently UCD College of Science. www.ucdartinscience.com

Fiona Whelan is a Dublin based artist committed to exploring power relations through durational engagements with people and place and joint Coordinator of the MA Socially Engaged Art in the School of Education, NCAD. Positioned in Rialto for over 12 years working with personal testimonies to explore broader societal issues, her practice is concerned with simultaneously growing power with others while developing creative approaches to speaking to power. A major project focusing on young people's relationship to power and policing manifested in a series of works which brought young people and police together in untypical engagements where power was explored and tested (*The Day in Question*, IMMA, 2009 & *Policing Dialogues*, The LAB, 2010) and her 2014 critical memoir, [*TEN: Territory, Encounter & Negotiation*](#). A new performance, *Natural History of Hope*, is the culmination of a 5-year intergenerational collaboration exploring contemporary equality issues for women and opens at Project Arts Centre 12-14 May 2016.