

# NCAD Graduate Network



## NCAD Gallery

The NCAD Gallery will open in February 2009 and is intended as a public venue for contemporary ideas in art and design which will also involve the exhibition of historical work and material from time to time.

The programme of exhibitions/ installations and events will be based on proposals made specifically for the Gallery in the context of the College, the City and immediate community environment as well as the wider visual arts sector.

NCAD Gallery will connect what goes on within the College to the world beyond in the visual arts, urban and community settings with the programme interrogating as well as celebrating ideas, art forms and new methods and contexts for art and design practice.

An important dimension of the Gallery will be to facilitate practitioners from Ireland and elsewhere to engage with the students and staff around whose presence residencies, talks and lectures, seminars and conferences will also be developed which will simultaneously engage a variety of publics.

NCAD Gallery represents an exciting new extension of the College's identity and its work for the future. The development of this new facility was made possible by Dublin City Council, the Higher Education Authority and the Department of Education and Science.

## NEW DIRECTOR FOR NCAD

Declan McGonagle formally took up office as Director of the National College of Art and Design on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November. He was previously Director of Interface Research in Art, Technologies and Design at the School of Art and Design, University of Ulster. He worked and exhibited as an artist for a period after graduating from Belfast College of Art before being appointed the first Organiser of the Orchard Gallery in Derry in 1978.

He was the first Director of IMMA, Dublin and directed the City Arts Centre's Civil Arts Inquiry. He is a Board member of Engage U.K., the Liverpool Biennial and ProjectBase Biennial in Rural Context in Cornwall.

He was short-listed for the Turner Prize and has also served on the Turner Prize and other national and international award juries and has been external examiner in a number of UK third level Institutions.

## HARRY CLARKE HOUSE OPENS

The Minister for Education and Science, Mr Batt O'Keeffe, T.D., officially opened the former Fire Station, now known as Harry Clarke House on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November. This building has been something of an eyesore in the Thomas Street area for many years and has been completely refurbished with funds from the Department of Education and Science and Dublin City Council.

In addition to housing the Faculty of Visual Culture, it also houses three lecture theatres of varying sizes and, importantly for NCAD, the NCAD Gallery which will commence a programme of exhibitions from late February 2009 onwards.

The Minister was welcomed to the College by the Chairman of An Bord, Dr Joe Mulholland, the Deputy Chairman, Ms Mairin Quill and the new Director of the National College of Art and Design, Professor Declan McGonagle who took up office formally on 24<sup>th</sup> November.

In his welcoming address Dr Mulholland thanked the Minister and his Department for the assistance the College had received in completing the almost €6m refurbishment of the Fire Station and he outlined the enormous

impact that this building will have not just for the College but for the greater community in Thomas Street and the City of Dublin.

He went on to point out that the College was still very short of space and would be making representations to the Minister to develop the remaining small tranche of land the College owns on the Thomas Street campus.

In his address, the Minister welcomed the new Director, Professor Declan McGonagle and said that he hoped to meet with the Chairman and the Director in the near future to discuss future plans of the College.

The Minister accompanied the Chairman and Director on a tour of the building and an overview of the campus before meeting with a small delegation of student representatives and a private meeting of An Bord of the National College of Art and Design.

**IMPORTANT DATE:  
POSTGRADUATE OPEN EVENING,  
THURSDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY, 2009  
4 PM TO 7 PM.**



## 24 HOUR DESIGN CHALLENGE SEMINAR

On 12/13<sup>th</sup> February 2009 the Gallery will host the Design Faculty 24 Hour Design Challenge Seminar.

This event is organised by the recently formed Design Ethics Group within the NCAD. As the culmination of the autumn evening lecture series the event will pinpoint specific ethical design issues and investigate the role of design and design education in addressing specific problems.

This multidisciplinary design team challenge will create innovative but realistic design concepts suitable for research and development funding. It will foster new research networks and specific research clusters and set out to link Irish academic to Irish industry and also to local social entrepreneurs working in the community. Working together will create innovative solutions to environmental and social problems. The audience will be a diverse group of postgraduate students, academic staff, industry professionals, community groups and government officials from around Ireland

The project will host approximately 60 participants, 6 high profile international guest speakers and 3 event facilitators. Each of the six presentations will provide an overview of many of the significant issues relating to their research topic. Each topic then becomes a research domain or design challenge theme.

Design challenge themes include:  
Environmental management systems.  
Waste management.  
Design for all – universal design/multi-model design.  
Sustainable living.  
Developing educational platforms to address ethical design issues.  
Community regeneration through design.

The audience will become creative research participants making up a small number of multidisciplinary design teams. Each research theme will be investigated to identify potential design solutions to many of the issues highlighted. Each design team will present their best design. The new NCAD Gallery space provides a shop window to promote the innovative and meaningful nature of this event.

Guest Speakers: Ursula Trischner, Director of Econcept, Germany;  
Alexandre Tonneau, product designer, France;  
Carmen Hijosa, Weave Designer, Spain;  
Dr Frank O'Connor, Director Eco Design Centre, Wales;  
Simon Rafferty, Researcher, Eco Design Centre Wales;  
Cearbhall O'Meadhra, Associate Researcher, NCAD;  
Crister Lidzelius, Director Kaospilots, Denmark

## FUNDRAISING FOR LED SCREEN ON HARRY CLARKE HOUSE

The College has received planning permission to erect an LED screen on the front of Harry Clarke House. This will enable the College to play student and other work on the screen which fronts on to Thomas Street.

The cost of the screen is approximately €350,000 and we are asking graduates to help us raise the finance to acquire and install the screen. This would add to NCAD's profile in the city and to its capacity to present work by students, staff and exhibitions to the public.

For more information contact Marion at (01) 6364261 or [lynchm@ncad.ie](mailto:lynchm@ncad.ie).

### GRADUATE SCHOOL OF CREATIVE ARTS AND MEDIA

The Graduate School of Creative Arts and Media (GradCAM) is Ireland's leading centre for doctoral research across design, visual and performing arts, media practice and their associated critical, historical and theoretical discourses. The School provides structured doctoral studies and research development for the creative arts and media sector. It is a collaboration initiated between the Dublin Institute of Technology ([DIT](http://www.dit.ie)), the National College of Art & Design ([NCAD](http://www.ncad.ie)), the University of Ulster ([Ulster](http://www.ulster.ac.uk)), and the Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Dún Laoghaire ([IADT](http://www.iadt.ie)).

The School is funded through the Programme for Research in Third-Level Institutions (PRTLII). Find out more about the specific mission and institutional remit of the School at [www.gradcam.ie](http://www.gradcam.ie). See also our five questions answered sheet which provides a succinct introduction to the work of the School. For additional information on the collaborating institutions consult [www.dit.ie](http://www.dit.ie), [www.ncad.ie](http://www.ncad.ie), [www.iadt.ie](http://www.iadt.ie) and [www.ulster.ac.uk](http://www.ulster.ac.uk).

For more information contact:  
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Graduate School of Creative Arts and Media  
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### Contact Information

Please ensure you keep us up-to-date with your contact details, particularly e-mail which we mainly use to keep in contact with our Graduates.

If you wish to make contact with a graduate, fill out the Catch-up-with-Colleagues page on the NCAD website.

### Organise a Reunion

Contact Marion at [lynchm@ncad.ie](mailto:lynchm@ncad.ie) or on (01) 6364261 and she will help you get in touch with colleagues from your year or course.