

### In Profile – meet our alumni ↓

Sinead Brennan  
Glass



ALUMNI

**Name:** Sinéad Brennan  
**Current Career:** Artist, Educator and Studio Co-Founder Glint Glass Studio  
**Graduation Year:** 2012  
**Discipline:** Glass  
**Location:** Dublin

#### What career path did you want to follow as a child?

I loved drawing and creating from a very young age. It was my favourite subject in school. However, it wasn't until I got to secondary school, with encouragement from my art teachers, that I started to consider it as a career.

#### Why did you decide to study at National College of Art & Design?

I began my portfolio in Transition Year with the hope of getting into NCAD. The college's reputation and the range of exciting projects and disciplines offered in first year made it so appealing. I worked really hard and strived to get in and I am so grateful that I did.

#### How did you develop your career towards your current practice?

After graduating in 2012 with a degree in Art and Design History and Glass, I carried out internships in glass studios in Waterford, Amsterdam and London. I returned to NCAD in 2013 to study for my PDE and have worked as an art educator, as well as being an artist, ever since. In 2016 I set up a glass studio in Dublin with fellow artist Róisín de Buitléar. Glint Glass Studio is an open access studio with its own product line and educational programme.

#### What is the one experience during your time at NCAD that has informed you most in your work to date?

I can't say one experience in particular informed my work to date. It was my time studying under Dr. Caroline Madden that has had a lasting impact on my practice. The glass department offers an engaging programme. There was a strong focus on

glass making skills and I had the opportunity to learn from many exciting guest lecturers, however Dr. Madden always encouraged me to develop my ideas and concepts and design beyond my skill set.

#### If you were chatting with current NCAD students today what is the one piece of advice you would offer?

Don't hold back. Immerse yourself in all your projects. Experimenting with a new technique or following an obscure research path could inspire a whole body of work.

#### Given the global turmoil and change accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, what in your opinion are the opportunities for those in creative industries?

As artists and designers, we're adaptable and equipped with the skills to evolve and problem solve, necessary and advantageous at uncertain times like these.

<https://www.sineadbrennanglass.com/>

### Awards ↓

Six NCAD design graduates have been shortlisted in the **Artstread Global Design Graduate Show Awards**. Congrats to all! To vote, click on the links per project:

- [Illuminating "left" - Typeface Design by Luke Meehan, BA Graphic Design](#)
- [Libera by Liana O'Clérigh, BA Interaction Design](#)
- [Dystopia by Patrick Butterly, BA Illustration](#)
- [\(s/b\)ee, The Alternative by Amy Kerr, BA Textile and Surface Design](#)
- [Chalkos by John McCarthy, BA Product Design](#)
- [27 Degrees by Nicolas Wiinstekars, BA Product Design](#)

Artist-Educator **Grainne McInerney**, who graduated from the PME programme in 2021 within The School of Education in NCAD, is the joint winner of **NUI Scholarship and Prize in Education 2021**.

This is a significant achievement that recognises excellence in the field of education and research for graduating teachers.

Her research project included two discrete elements:

- A Literature Review which investigated Cripistemology; a theory concerning the intersection of queer and disabled

- identities and the effect art education can have on normative attitudes.
- An Arts-Based research project based on her Change Lab project, which was a response to the Sustainable Development Goal 'Sustainable Cities and Communities' and the extent to which it might inform a curriculum intervention and possible approaches to teaching as an Artist/Educator.

Congratulations to the many staff from the **NCAD Department of Communication Design** on their recent success at the **ICAD Awards 2020/21**:

#### GOLD:

Design Print: The Book That Grew (ROTHCO) — Jamie Murphy, Distillers Press

#### SILVER:

Design Print: 1753; Jamie Murphy, Distillers Press

Design Print: International Literature Festival Dublin (RED & GREY); Bob Gray, 1st Year BA Graphic Design

Design Print: So Sick and Tired - Sara Baume (Unthink) — Noelle Cooper, BA Graphic Design

#### BRONZE:

Creatives for Change: The Book That Grew (ROTHCO); Jamie Murphy, Distillers Press  
Creatives for Change: Little Talks; Stephanie Connolly, Graduate Project MA Communication Design 2020

Design Craft: Troy: Myth and Reality Story Wall; Kate Brangan, PL BA Graphic Design  
Design Digital: NCAD Prospectus Website (RED & GREY); Bob Gray, 1st Year Communication Design

Design Identity and Branding: Folk Radio (Or Studio); Kate Brangan, PL BA Graphic Design / Joanna Little, Risograph Technician

Design Identity and Branding: Galway 2020 — European Capital of Culture (Unthink); Noelle Cooper / Bobby Tannam, BA Graphic Design  
Design Packaging: W.D. O'Connell Whiskey Merchants (Together We Create); Rory

Hanrahan, BA Moving Image Design  
Design Print: NCAD Integrated Graphics (RED & GREY); Bob Gray, 1st Year Communication Design

Design Print: The Lives We Live; Grangegorman Public Art (Unthink); Noelle Cooper, BA Graphic Design

Three NCAD students have been selected to exhibit at the **RDS Visual Art Awards** in the RHA from 25 November – 19 December 2021. Congratulations to Vanessa Jones, Orla Kelly and Juliette Morrison.

### In Profile – meet our alumni ↓

**Name:** Mairéad Wall

**Current Career:** Textiles/Jewellery

**Graduation Year:** 2016

**Discipline:** Textile Design

**Location:** London

#### What career path did you want to follow as a child?

I wanted to be an artist from a young age but I didn't think it would be possible, as I wasn't particularly skilled at painting, drawing and other traditional means of art. However, my mam is a very talented dressmaker and I grew up with a strong appreciation for being able to make and create something from scratch. It wasn't until I had a fantastic teacher in secondary school who showed me how I could apply this love of handcrafts to a creative career, that I realised it was a possibility for me.

#### Why did you decide to study at National College of Art & Design?

NCAD has always had a fantastic reputation and it was a dream of mine to study there.

#### How did you develop your career towards your current practice?

After graduating I worked for myself for several years, completing commissions and selling products through some amazing Irish retailers (Om Diva Boutique, Atrium). I relocated to London in 2018 after realising that I wanted to learn from other designers and business people and to gain some experience working as part of a larger team. Here, I have learned to apply the skills that I have developed in textile design - such as high attention to detail and the ability to work with my hands - to other industries. I am currently Head of Production for the London-based jewellery brand Lily & Roo, and I continue working with textiles whenever I can.

#### What is the one experience during your time at NCAD that has informed you most in your work to date?

The fashion show that TAA put on in our final year was a huge learning curve for me. At that time, it was the largest body of work I had completed and, for the first time, I had to take into consideration things like pricing, creating a lookbook and following a critical path. It was a brilliant experience.

#### If you were chatting with current NCAD

students today what is the one piece of advice you would offer?

Take advantage of your time at college to experiment with as many different techniques and materials as possible. Go to all your meetings with your tutors, as you will miss having that guidance when you graduate! Enjoy having time to create for the sake of creating.

#### Portfolio Links:

Instagram: @maireadwall

### Of Interest ↓

The 2022-2023 Fulbright Irish Awards programme application deadline is 29 October.

The Fulbright Awards provide grants for Irish citizens, and E.U. citizens resident in the Republic of Ireland for 3+ years, to research, study, or lecture in the USA.

To receive a guidelines and link to the application form you must register your interest via their website. More information can be found here:

<https://www.fulbright.ie/>

### NCAD In Public ↓

As part of our NCAD In Public programme we are delighted to present in the NCAD Gallery the **ELECTRONIC SHEEP** duo of Brenda Aherne and Helen Delany with their exhibition, **Electro-Fuse** - 3 November 2021 – 14 January 2022. The internationally renowned designers have worked together since 1998 creating illustrative and typographic knitwear/jacquards based on narrative storylines drawing on their personal lives and socio-political histories.

**Electro-Fuse** captures an edit of knitwear from this prolific practice to include the first showing of newly commissioned *The Kilburn Tapestries*, and the premiere of their **Electro-Fuse 2021 Collection**. The exhibition also includes iconic retrospective pieces and ephemera from the **ELECTRIC SHEEP** archive. As part of this project the NCAD Gallery is bringing this work to Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris in 2022, curated by Anne Kelly, NCAD.

For full details see: <https://ncadinpublic.ie/>



Image Credit: EF1-A 'SPACESUSHI' – 4.40PM, SHINJUKU' TRIANGLE SCARF SIZE: 188cm X 60cm YARN: 100% MERINO WOOL © 2021 Electronic Sheep.

### Director's Note ↓



#### Welcome back!

We are absolutely delighted to welcome our NCAD community back to Campus for the start of the year. Following a year in which NCAD was able to support our students to safely being on campus at one of the highest levels of occupancy of any Irish higher education institutions, it is very exciting that we are able to expand this to ensure that all our students can experience life on the NCAD campus - even if things continue to be a little different as we start the new Academic Year.

We are extremely proud of the creativity and resilience demonstrated by our students over the last year and would like to thank you all for working with us to keep the NCAD community connected and safe through some very challenging times.

Those of you who are returning to NCAD will recognise some changes around the Campus. Phase 1 of our capital development project took place over the summer enabling some essential upgrades to our buildings infrastructure, and marking the first point of the exciting journey we are now embarking on to create the Campus we need for our future ambitions and vision. Some of these changes are visible to you - refurbished toilets; new lifts; improvements to the Concourse and NCAD Field, and others such as new wifi and upgraded network points are less visible but equally important to our ongoing work to upgrade and improve our facilities.

All part of the exciting work we are underway with to deliver our strategy, **Futures, Bold and Curious** and we look forward to keeping you updated with new developments over the coming year and I look forward to meeting many of you on campus soon!

Sarah Glennie