

In Profile – meet our alumni ↓



Name: Sadhbh Mowlds

Current Career: Currently studying for MFA at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Graduation Year: 2014

Discipline: Glass

Location: Carbondale, Illinois, USA

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

Besides the usual, romanticised, kid ideas about being a vet or an explorer, the notion of being an artist was always forefront in my mind. Though, I'm sure I never really understood what "being an artist" meant, nor do I think I'm any closer to a conclusion as an adult. I think we're all artists, really.

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

I was aware that NCAD was the only stand-alone art college in Ireland, and I had visited the campus multiple times to check it out. I was completely enthralled by the colours, the creative atmosphere and the sense of freedom in the air. NCAD's campus is something quite special and I had not witnessed anything similar in other universities I had visited.

How did you develop your career towards your current practice?

After I graduated from NCAD, I went to Germany to pursue an internship in a budding glass studio under the Erasmus+ program. I ended up staying in Berlin for the following five years, freelancing as a glassblowing assistant out of the same studio. Despite learning a lot, I put my own work on the backburner while I was there, and my creativity suffered greatly. In 2019, I decided to get the ball rolling again and apply to do my MFA, stateside. And here I am, currently in my second year of a Masters in Fine Art programme, within the glass department of Southern Illinois University.

What is the one experience during your time at NCAD that has informed you most

in your career date?

It's difficult to pinpoint any specific experiences, although I can say that my entire time at NCAD was a major eye opener. I discovered glass as a creative material, something that never crossed my mind before going to NCAD. That discovery has shaped and influenced nearly all the big life decisions I have made ever since, and it will most likely continue to do so.

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

Anything can and will happen. Your trajectory may change, and you may find yourself on a path that, not in a million years, you would have expected to find yourself on. Go with it.

Take advantage of all the facilities available to you, take advantage of the experience of your professors and take advantage of the creative energy of your peers. Absorb it all and make the most of it; it will be over before you know it.

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

This is certainly a time of reflection - of stepping back and reassessing the immense importance that the arts and creative industries have on our day-to-day lives. People are looking more to support local and to appreciate creatives. During the ongoing insanity this year has witnessed, it is the role of the artist to remark, question, confront, to see the world differently, and to provide alternative perceptions. Now, with the usage of online activities and social medias soaring due to the current global climate, the world is waiting to hear our voices.

Portfolio Links:

www.Sadhbhmowlds.com

<https://www.instagram.com/sadhbh.mowlds/>

NCAD Gallery ↓

Our LUCIDA Collective's **Infinite Becomings**, 13 April - 11 May 2021, NCAD Gallery exhibition programme continues with interactive augmented reality (AR) images on site, Podcasts, Zine and audience Postal Project, and Web Archive.

The LUCIDA Collective comprise NCAD Fine Art Media graduates, Lydia Hickey, Silvia Koistinen, Eileen Mantel, Michaela Nash, Jane Tonra, Katie Whyte, and are the winners of the NCAD Gallery 2020 Graduate Open Call 2021. [Find out all programme information on how you can engage here.](#)

Infinite Becomings is a hybrid. It takes shape as a site-specific installation that extends beyond physical geographic limits as a zine and web archive. Augmented Reality filters which can be used with all forms of the work, bridge the gap between digital and physical space.

Infinite Becomings exists as a multiplicity, shifting between physical, digital and relational forms. Each exists in tandem with the other, to form a collective whole.

Image credit: © 'Infinite Becomings' exterior night view, NCAD Gallery, 2021.



We continue the **NCAD | The Digital Hub Digital Cultures 2021 Webinar Series** with our fifth webinar event, *What Does the Algorithm See?* on Thursday 13 May 2021, 7PM (GMT). Panellists, artists' Rosa Menkman and Joanna Zylińska join Dr. Rachel O'Dwyer, NCAD.

Broadcast live on YouTube, **The NCAD | The Digital Hub Digital Cultures 2021 Webinar Series** focuses on the transformative nature of emerging technologies, attending to artistic practice, academic research and industry. [Please view the full programme details here.](#)

Image credit: © artist Rosa Menkman, 2021.



Opportunities ↓

Postgraduate Open 2021-22

The [Postgraduate Open Events series](#) ran over two weeks in April, with presentations and live chat for courses across Design, Fine Art, Visual Culture and Education.

The online events offered applicants the opportunity to engage directly with course leaders, and to find out more about study options at postgraduate level at NCAD in 2021-22.

Applications are now open for all postgraduate courses at NCAD. We welcome applicants from a broad range of disciplines, and some courses are suitable for those planning to change direction in their career.

[The Postgraduate Open site will remain available to applicants through the rest of the year and can be found here.](#)



The **RDS Visual Art Awards** is the most important platform for visual art graduates in Ireland. It provides a significant prize fund of over €30,000, as well as vital exposure for emerging visual artists as they move into early professional practice.

This year applications are open to ALL final year graduating visual artists from BA and MA courses on the island of Ireland through an open competition.

The annual RDS Visual Art Awards exhibition will be curated by artist Vera Klute and will go ahead as planned in the RDS Concert Hall in October 2021 (subject to Covid-19 restrictions).

Graduates wishing to apply, should email arts@rds.ie stating their name, college and course and a request that the link to the application form to be emailed to them.

The deadline for receipt of fully completed applications is 15 June 2021.

More information: www.rds.ie/visualart



Of Interest ↓

RE/MAINS OF THE DAZE: an exhibition in three courses

A three-part exhibition at the Goethe-Institut Ireland's Return Gallery curated by Art in the Contemporary World (ACW), continues online until 8 May.

RE/MAINS OF THE DAZE: an exhibition in three courses is the culmination of research into three historical exhibitions: Lucy Lippard's 'Numbers' shows (1969-1974), Jean- François Lyotard and Thierry Chaput's *Les Immatériaux* (1985) and Okwui Enwezor's *The Short Century: Independence and Liberation Movements in Africa, 1945–1994* (2001-2002). Each exhibition occupies a moment in the history of art as a disruption to the modernist construct of 'the exhibition.'

[More information can be found here.](#)



Two third year student, **Grainne Mulligan** and **John Anthony Murphy**, have won travel bursaries this month in the Thomas Dammann awards.

Grainne Mulligan, who has written her thesis on the influence of *Bacon on Freud* - has received a bursary to visit and research several exhibitions and museums in London next year.

John Anthony Murphy, who is an ex-professor of experimental physics in Maynooth, applied for some funding for a trip to the European Space Agency in the Netherlands to do some research that will benefit his artwork at the interface of art and physics.

We are delighted to be partnering with **Design and Crafts Council of Ireland** to present a series of virtual *Meet the Makers* talks this April/May highlighting some of the super work in the upcoming **What Colour is Metal?** exhibition.

The exhibition will launch in October in the State Apartments, Dublin Castle, coinciding with the General Assembly of World Crafts Council Europe. [More info here.](#)

Shortlist ↓

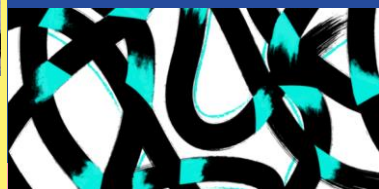
The RSA Student Design Awards shortlist has been announced this week. Congrats to the 10 students shortlisted in the School of Design! 7 projects were shortlisted in all, giving NCAD the largest number of shortlists of any institution for the RSA awards this year.

The shortlisted students are:

- Redistributing Health - Andrew McArdle - Product Design
- The Right to Breath - Aaron Conneely & Enya Carroll - Product Design
- Material World - Monique Wiesner & Lorcan Looney - Product Design
- For the long time - Liana O'Cleirigh & Renata Dima - Interaction Design
- For the long time - Sarah Heffernan - MA Service Design
- Moving Pictures - Lauren O'Brien - Moving Image Design
- Moving Pictures - Zoe McCarthy - Moving Image Design

[Huge congratulations.](#)

[More information can be found here.](#)



AfterEffects ↓

Aftereffects and Untold Histories. Politics and Spaces of Performance since the 1990s began in April. This is a research project and five-week public online events programme running from 15 April - 15 May commissioned by NCAD in partnership with IMMA and NIVAL.

The programme is part of NCAD's contribution to an EU funded L'Internationale project *Our Many Europes*. L'Internationale is a network of major museums and education partners.

The Aftereffects and Untold Histories programme includes discussions, conversations, archival material, interviews and live performances that will examine the intersections of politics and performance in Europe in the 1990s as well as their legacies today, and features over 30 artists, curators, writers and academics from Ireland and abroad. Events are free to attend and open to all, but as some events have limited attendance - early booking is advised. [The full schedule of events / booking links can be found here.](#)