

### In Profile – meet our alumni ↓



ALUMNI

**Mary Doherty**  
Communication Design

**Name:** Mary Doherty

**Current Career:** Branding and Design

**Graduation Year:** 1993

**Discipline:** Graphic Design

**Location:** Dublin

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

I can't remember that far back! I was very 'typical', I suppose, as a young girl and wanted to be a nurse or a teacher. It was only when I met 'art' in secondary school that I felt a strong connection and knew there was something about the visual world that I felt comfortable in and wanted to be a part of.

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

After my foundation year in UU, York Street in Belfast - where I thought I wanted to be a fine art painter but realised I was not good enough - I completed a HND in design (product and graphic) in Magee in Derry. I fell in love with graphic design there and really wanted to continue with it, as I knew I had so much more to learn. I applied to NCAD and Edinburgh but chose Dublin as that was far enough away for me, and more familiar, I guess. Also, it was the best college to go to - I loved the fact that it had its own quirky little campus in the middle of the city. Also, I was new to Dublin at the time and wanted to continue living here, and I had heard great things about NCAD and the experience of studying there.

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

I suppose my career path has been an incredibly simple one - myself and a classmate from NCAD set up Red Dog the day after we graduated in 1993 and there I remain. 27 years later - one job, ever, in my life. My career was contained there but has progressed from graphic designer to creative director to managing director of an agency of 18 people.

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

Work hard and never stop challenging your own thinking. Good is never good enough. I think I should add that NCAD also provided me with a wonderful husband! He was in my class and we are happily married with two sons, 27 years later.

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

Never assume anything, be enthusiastic and show hunger for progression. Love and live your work but don't let it take over entirely - that's a mistake I made. Trying to rectify that now!

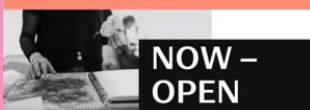
Given the global turmoil and change accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, what in your opinion are the opportunities for those in creative industries?

The opportunities are in 'how we work'. I think generally it's been proven now that we do not need to be in the one space together from 9 to 5 each day. So, the way we work is forever changed and I look forward to seeing how things pan out. Creatives can spend more time at home, less time travelling and have more time to have a life. And of course, it's a given now that our work will be delivered mostly via digital platforms. However, the principle of the 'idea' still being the most important thing will never change.

**Portfolio Links:** [www.reddog.ie](http://www.reddog.ie)

### Of Interest ↓

#### POSTGRADUATE APPLICATIONS



The PRIORITY deadline for applications to postgraduate courses starting in January 2022 is Friday 30 July. Late applications will be accepted after this date.

<https://www.ncad.ie/study-at-ncad/postgraduate-application/>

MA Product Design

MA Communication Design

MA Design for Body & Environment

MFA Fine Art

MA/MFA Art in the Contemporary World

MA Design History & Material Culture

### Awards ↓



In June fashion graduate **Stephanie Finney** was announced as this year's winner of the **Brown Thomas 'Designer to Watch' bursary** who was chosen for their collection *Easing Restrictions*. The prize consists of a €4,000 bursary, an installation of designs in CREATE at Brown Thomas in July 2021 and a mentoring programme with the executive team.



We are delighted to announce that NCAD students have won three **RSA Student Design Awards**, and three projects have been highly commended, making NCAD the most decorated institution globally in this years highly prestigious international competition.

The Royal Society of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA) Student Design Awards is one of the oldest and most-respected international student design competitions, challenging students to apply their skills and creativity to tackle current social and environmental issues. Competitors are challenged to think about the role their design thinking can have in society and asked to think of themselves as the instigators of change.

Past winners of the accolade include former Apple chief design officer Jony Ive, former Nike head of innovation Richard Clarke and co-founder of IDEO and designer of the first laptop Bill Moggridge.

Demonstrating the potential of design to unravel complex problems, explore new possibilities and unlock new ways to meet the needs of people and our planet, we're proud to introduce some of the next generation of changemakers. Congratulations to the students, and to the staff who supported them during their time with us.

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

### Awards ↓



**Aedán Hamrock**, a first-year art and design student, has been named as the overall winner of the **Kingspan 'Reuse, Recycle, Repurpose'** design competition.

A sustainable design challenge, offered NCAD students the opportunity to showcase their talents in designing and creating objects using second life material. The material provided was in powder form, and recycled from reclaimed Kingspan oil tanks and other Kingspan products, showcasing the importance of the circularity of plastic use. As part of the initiative, encouraging the ongoing use of sustainable design, Kingspan donated a laser cutter to the college. The final creations were brought to life by the new technology, creating an array of impressive final pieces, varying from desktop storage stations to customizable jewellery. [www.kingspanwaterandenergy.com](http://www.kingspanwaterandenergy.com)



Students have hit the right note with their design for a new trophy that will be awarded to music artists with a number one single or album on the **IRMA Official Chart**. Irish band *Picture This* will be the first group to receive the new award when they're presented with the new trophy for their album. 27 NCAD students took part in the competition, working in small design teams that were aiming to conceive and develop an innovative new design.

### Of Interest ↓

The **Change Lab** is an [Ubuntu](http://Ubuntu) funded project designed as a model of practice to integrate development education into the Professional Master of Education (PME) programme in NCAD. The **Change Lab** instils in our student teacher a strong commitment and motivation to teach for social justice and sustainability through the lens of their practice as artist, researcher, teacher. Each year the **Change Lab** consists of the student artist-teacher working in groups of three and four in the NCAD gallery space, for a 3-weeks period, to create a body of artwork that critically reflects social injustices and unsustainable practices that define our time.

Due to COVID 19 restrictions this year the **Change Lab** was not open to the public. This necessitated a revision of how to communicate, connect and interact with an audience beyond the parameters of the NCAD gallery walls. In response to this the [Change Lab website](http://Change Lab website) was created to showcase the students 2020 lab experience and the multiple layers that the project involves. The site also acts as a pedagogical repository and a digital archive for past iterations of the Change Lab experience. The site captures the evolution of the students working process, their voice and the pedagogical resources they created to present how they research, respond and articulate the visual art curriculum through a development education lens.

The **Change Lab** is designed and led by School of Education staff members in NCAD. Fiona King, Programme Leader of the Professional Master of Education programme and Tony Murphy Lecturer in Education in collaboration with Anne Kelly, Programme Curator, NCAD Gallery.



### NCAD Graduate Showcase ↓



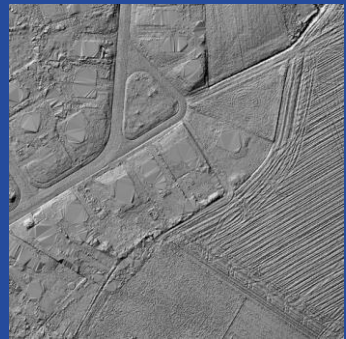
#### NCAD Works 2021 is now live!

The Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on society and issues of Sustainability/the Circular Economy are two of the major themes that NCAD students explore at this year's NCAD graduate showcase.

**NCAD's Works 2021** brings together the work of all of our final-year postgraduate, undergraduate and certificate students on one digital platform with a range of talks and live student events taking place online, on the grounds of IMMA, and at various locations across Dublin from **Thursday 24 June to Saturday 26 June**.

**NCAD Works 2021** features the work of graduates from NCAD's Schools of Fine Art, Design, Education and Visual Culture, together with postgraduates from the MFA in Fine Art and the Professional Master of Education. In September the work of postgraduates from the School of Design will be added to the digital platform.

The full programme of events and activities, as well as further information about this year's showcase is available at [ncad.ie](http://ncad.ie) and on our [digital platform](http://digital platform), where you can also browse the students' work.



### NCAD Gallery ↓

ARTIST TALK: berte & harmey\*  
Nul Punt Wolk  
Wednesday 30 June 2021, 1PM (IST Dublin)  
LINK <https://youtu.be/EadiTB8g70c>

berte & harmey are resident artists in the NCAD Gallery space in June and July 2021 for the research & development of the Dublin version of their Nul Punt Wolk mapping project. During their time at the gallery they are gathering material around locations they find crucial to highlight as part of their Bare Maps. The Bare Maps are generated by using GIS data and are a physical visualisation of an urban space stripped bare, devoid of buildings and vegetation but leaving tracks and traces of human/non-human activity.

<https://www.nulpuntwolk.nu>

Image © berte & harmey (2021).

\* berte & harmey are artists Filip Berte (BE) and Cliona Harmey (IE).