

# EXCHANGE FORUM

Interpreting the goals of Art for Reconciliation

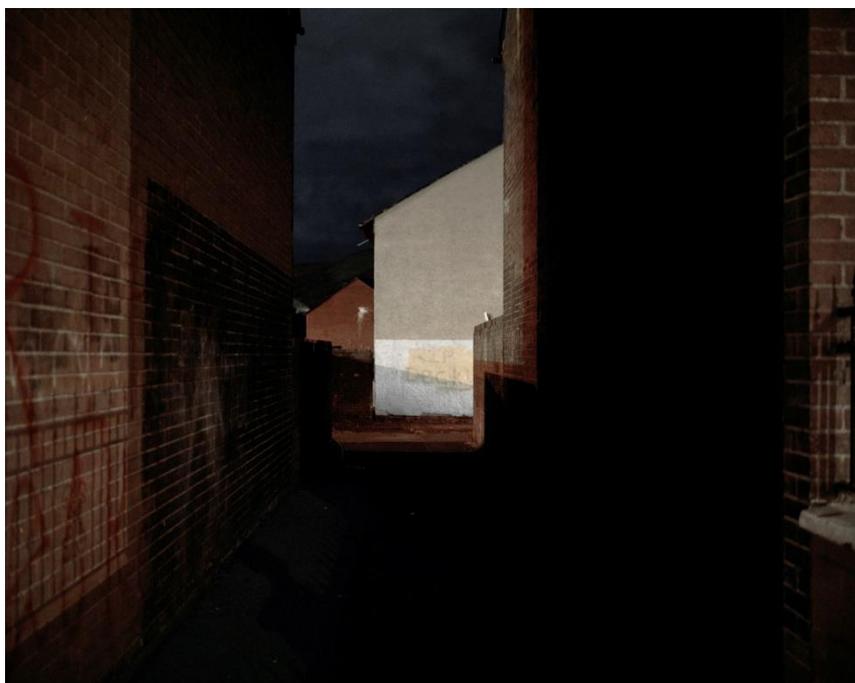


Photo credit: Chad Alexander [www.chadalexander.info](http://www.chadalexander.info)

**An afternoon of discussion and an evening showcase of theatre, music and screen**

Saturday 8 June 2019

1.30 – 7.30 pm

The Brian Friel Theatre in the Queen's Film Theatre

University Road, Belfast BT7 1NN

This is the first of three public Exchange Forums examining how - and if - theatre, visual art, dance, music can reflect, represent, or respond to experiences of political conflict and deliver reconciliatory outcomes. Join funders, artists, arts managers, community support professionals, academic researchers and the public to explore the role and potential of Art for Reconciliation. The discussion will be followed by an hour-long showcase exploring innovative ways in which the arts are contributing to peacebuilding in Northern Ireland.



UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL



Arts & Humanities  
Research Council

## Art for Reconciliation Research Project

Art for Reconciliation (AfR) - it is claimed - produces work that reflects, represents, or responds to multiple forms of political conflict in ways that encourage conflict transformation. The University of Liverpool, Ulster University and Queen's University Belfast have received a research grant from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) to test the validity of this claim over three-years. We are just completing the first phase of our research. We are hosting the first of our Exchange Forums, which open up critical space for the arts community, including arts producers, artists and audiences, to respond to our research, ask pertinent questions and share insights.

Visit the Art for Reconciliation website at <http://www.artforreconciliation.org/>, on Twitter at [@ArtforReconcil1](https://twitter.com/ArtforReconcil1)

### Exchange Forum

Our research is driven by co-production and engagement. We wish to hear all voices related to Arts for Reconciliation (AfR). Together we will:

- Learn more about the intentions of our research
- Hear findings from our first phase of research, which focuses on what we learnt about the funding of AfR work in NI
- Hear about the way the project has located and researched funding data and how we have conceptualised AfR
- Respond to those findings, help co-produce future research and bring relevant voices to the conversation and debates that concern AfR
- Help develop networks to support future practice
- Hear and feed into our plans for the next phase of the research
- Hear about our interactive website and the plans for it
- Observe and engage with an arts showcase

### Arts and Humanities Research Council

The Arts and Humanities investigate the values and beliefs, which underpin both who we are as individuals and how we undertake our responsibilities to our society and to humanity globally. The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) funds world-class, independent researchers in a wide range of subjects: history, archaeology, digital content, philosophy, languages, design, heritage, area studies, the creative and performing arts, and much more. This financial year the AHRC will spend approximately £98 million to fund research and postgraduate training, in collaboration with a number of partners. The quality and range of research supported by this investment of public funds not only provides social and cultural benefits and contributes to the economic success of the UK but also to the culture and welfare of societies around the globe.

Visit the AHRC website at [ahrc.ukri.org](http://ahrc.ukri.org), on Twitter at [@ahrcpress](https://twitter.com/ahrcpress), and on Facebook search for the **Arts and Humanities Research Council**, or Instagram at [@ahrcpress](https://www.instagram.com/ahrcpress).

## Schedule of Activities

1.30	Registration	Tea and Coffee
2pm	What are our intentions of researching Art for Reconciliation?	Pete Shirlow, Principal Investigator, Arts for Reconciliation research team and Director at the University of Liverpool's Institute of Irish Studies
2:15	Data, Practitioners Perspectives and Concepts	Peter Campbell and Sarah Jankowitz, co-Investigators, Arts for Reconciliation research team
3.15	Co-producing Research: A roundtable discussion led by Tori Durrer and members of the AfR Research Advisory Committee	Tori Durrer (co-Investigator Arts for Reconciliation research team) with Eamonn Baker, Maggie Cronin, Sarah Feinstein, Ali Fitzgibbon, Jennifer Goddard, Paula McFetridge and Hugh Odling-Smee
4.30	The AfR Project website	Pauline Hadaway (AfR Administrator) and Simon Hagan (AfR website designer) <a href="http://pixeldub.net/">http://pixeldub.net/</a>
5pm	Buffet	Café Krem <a href="https://cafekrem.squarespace.com/">https://cafekrem.squarespace.com/</a>
6pm	Showcase	<p>Paula Carson, James Doran, Vincent Higgins and Simon Sweeney performing extracts from <i>Green and Blue</i> by Laurence McKeown and <i>A Queer Ceili at the Marty Forsythe</i> by Dominic Montague. Produced by Kabosh Theatre, directed by Paula McFetridge.</p> <p>Film examples from work created by The Playhouse Theatre and Peacebuilding Academy. Film extracts from <i>Don't Shoot my Wanes</i>, <i>Shoot me</i>, Shantallow Community Arts and <i>Unlocking</i> by Raymond Watson.</p> <p>Music from Beyond Skin.</p>
7pm	Wine reception	

# Showcase

## Theatre and Peacebuilding Academy

The Derry Playhouse in partnership with Holywell Trust, Thomas D'Arcy McGee Foundation and Queens University Belfast received significant funding from the EU Peace IV to deliver the Theatre and Peacebuilding Academy starting January 2018 - June 2020. The 2.5-year project is being delivered in locations throughout Northern Ireland and the Border Counties. The Theatre Peace Building Academy draws from this previous work and will programme national / international theatre artists with significant experience of using arts activity in areas of conflict & post conflict to promote healing and reconciliation. Today's information exchange will include extracts from two of the projects supported by the Academy:

**Forgive Me Not** - A short film directed by Conan McIvor and written by Michael J Daly.

In contemporary Northern Ireland, many of those personally affected by the Troubles are reaching old age. At the heart of "Forgive Me Not" lies a series of profound propositions: can a post-conflict society truly heal without atonement; can those who repent find forgiveness when victims' memories are failing; is it imperative that victims forgive in order to heal; and, is truth mandatory? "Forgive Me Not" explores these questions.

### TURF

*Old Ground*

*Buried Stories*

*Deep Roots*

*The earth beneath our feet takes no sides.*

"Turf" was an evocative dance theatre production which explored our troubled past through a fusion of music by Keith Acheson and original poetry by Maria McManus performed by a professional and community cast.

Visit the Theatre and Peacebuilding Academy website at

<https://www.derryplayhouse.co.uk/content/theatre-peace-building-academy/82>, on Twitter at [@PlayhouseDerry](#) and on Facebook search for [PlayhouseDerry](#)

## Kabosh

Founded in 1994, Kabosh is committed to challenging the notion of what theatre is and where it takes place. The company aims to reinvent the ways in which stories are told, commissioning new writing and devising work for site-specific environments and installation. This evening's performances feature extracts from two of their current productions performed by Paula Carson, James Doran, Vincent Higgins and Simon Sweeney and directed by Paula McFetridge: *Green and Blue* by Laurence McKeown and *A Queer Cèilí at the Marty Forsythe* by Dominic Montague.

Visit the Kabosh website at <http://www.kabosh.net/>, on Twitter at [@KaboshTheatre](#)

## Raymond Watson

Born in 1958, Raymond is an artist with direct experience of political conflict. He has produced a substantial body of work that is influenced by culture, conflict and human rights issues. This art is influenced heavily by the recent political conflict in the north of Ireland and around the globe. Today he will speak about *Unlocked*, a sound installation originally created for the Liverpool University Irish Studies Institute commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement.

Visit Raymond Watson's website at <http://irishartworld.com/index.htm>

## Studio 2/ Greater Shantallow Community

Studio 2 is one of Ireland's best loved Arts centres bringing the Arts to the Greater Shantallow area and beyond. Studio 2's artistic policy places the Arts at the heart of our Social, Economic and creative life. Core values:

- Community – 'Art Reaching Communities' – 'Sense of Belonging'
- Create – 'Bring to Being'
- Connect – 'Inclusive, supporting and nurturing environment'
- Inspire – 'Invigorate and enhance'
- Educate – 'Learning Creative and Cultural Expression'

## Beyond Skin

Beyond Skin was founded in 2004 by musician and community/development aid worker Darren Ferguson. Northern Ireland has suffered from a negative stereotype regarding the sectarian conflict for many years. A damaging blow came in 2004 when Belfast hit the headlines on an international scale as the 'Race-Hate capital of Europe'. During this time Darren was working for Concern Worldwide with friends who shared his interest in music from around the world and Global Education. It was then he recognised that if the Arts enabled access to Global Education it could assist greatly in addressing local issues of sectarianism and racism.

Visit the Beyond Skin website at <http://www.beyondskin.net/>, on Twitter at [@BeyondSkin](https://twitter.com/BeyondSkin) and on Facebook search for [BeyondSkinMedia](https://www.facebook.com/BeyondSkinMedia)



# Art for Reconciliation research team

**Professor Peter Shirlow** (FaCSS) is Director at the University of Liverpool's Institute of Irish Studies. He was formerly the Deputy Director of the Institute for Conflict Transformation and Social Justice, QUB. He is the Independent Chair of the OFMDFM Employers' Guidance on Recruiting People with Conflict-Related Convictions Working Group and a board member of the mental health charity Threshold. He is a Visiting Research Professor at the Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice. He sits on the editorial boards of Irish Political Studies and International Planning Studies. Professor Shirlow has undertaken conflict transformation work in Northern Ireland and has used that knowledge in exchanges with governments, former combatants and NGOs in the former Yugoslavia, Moldova, Bahrain and Iraq, He has also presented talks to members of the US Senate and House of Representatives and is a regular media contributor.

**Dr Peter Campbell** is a senior lecturer in Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Liverpool, leading the department's provision of quantitative research methods training. His wider teaching and research is focussed specifically on the use of methods in the field of cultural policy, and this is the focus of a range of publications including his 2019 monograph *'Persistent Creativity: Making the case for art, culture and the creative industries'*, published by Palgrave. His research in this field has involved projects considering the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad, Sistema England, and the European Capital of Culture programme.

**Dr Victoria Durrer** is a Senior Lecturer in Arts Management and Cultural Policy at Queen's University Belfast. Her research traverses the areas of arts management and cultural policy practice and stresses their interconnection. She investigates what and how particular individuals, groups and cultural forms are included and / or excluded in the practices and policies of international, national and local cultural institutions, government and quasi-state bodies. Developing research projects with stakeholders is key to her approach. She is co-founder of the [Cultural Policy Observatory Ireland](#) and an editor of the *Irish Journal of Arts Management and Cultural Policy*. Contributor and co-editor of the *Routledge Handbook of Global Cultural Policy*, her most recent publication, *Managing Culture: Reflecting on Exchange in Global Times*, is due out in the [Palgrave Sociology of the Arts](#).

**David Grant** is a Senior Lecturer in Drama in the School of Creative Arts at Queen's University, Belfast, where he has worked since 2000. A former Managing Editor of Theatre Ireland magazine, Programme Director of the Dublin Theatre Festival, and Artistic Director of the Lyric Theatre, Belfast, he continues work as a theatre director alongside his academic work, having recently directed revivals of Owen McCafferty's *Mojo Mickybo* for Bedlam Theatre Company, Patrick McCabe's *Frank Pig Says Hello!* for An Grianan Theatre, and *Oscar Wilde at Home*, a site-specific event in Florence Court House in Enniskillen for the Wilde Weekend. He has a long association with youth and community-based arts, most recently devising *Days in the Bay* with the Tiger's Bay Men's Group in Belfast. Publications include *Playing the Wild Card* for the Community Relations Council, and *The Stagecraft of Brian Friel* for Greenwich Exchange Books. He was director of the 1st Brian Friel Summer School, which took place in August 2015 in Redcastle, Donegal.

**Pauline Hadaway** is a Research Administrator, Arts for Reconciliation research team. Pauline has worked in arts and education since 1990 and was director of Belfast Exposed Photography between 2000 and 2013. In her doctoral research at the University of Manchester, Pauline is currently exploring different uses of arts, heritage and culture as tools for peace building and economic and social reconstruction in Northern Ireland. Publications include, '*Re-imagining Titanic, re-imagining Belfast*' in *Relaunching Titanic: memory and marketing in the 'post -conflict city'*, Routledge, 2013 and '*Escaping the Panopticon*' in *Photography Reframed: visions in photographic culture*, I.B. Tauris, 2018.

**Dr Sarah Jankowitz** is a Research Associate at the University of Liverpool's Institute of Irish Studies, and joins Queen's University Belfast as a Lecturer in Criminology in summer 2019. Her interests revolve around how societies respond to and resolve complex legacies of violent conflict, which she has explored both through academic research and as a practitioner working for the grassroots peacebuilding organisation Healing Through Remembering. Her research is presented in a new book *The Order of Victimhood: Violence, Hierarchy and Building Peace in Northern Ireland* (2018 Palgrave, Compromise After Conflict Series).

**Dr Matt Jennings** is Lecturer in Drama at Ulster University. Originally from Sydney, Matt has worked as a performer, writer, director and facilitator in Australia, Ireland, UK, Italy, Morocco and France. He has been based in Northern Ireland since 2001, where his experience of working in applied drama and conflict transformation has informed his research, practice and teaching. In 2010, Matt completed a PhD on the impact of community drama in Northern Ireland since 1998. He has also provided professional development for community and health workers and is conducting research in the fields of Arts in Health and Arts Management.

**Dr Des O'Rawe** is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Arts, English and Languages at Queens University Belfast. He chiefly lectures on comparative and interdisciplinary approaches to the study of film. His recent publications include *Regarding the Real: Cinema, Documentary, and the Visual Arts*; and *Post-Conflict Performance, Film, and Visual Arts: Cities of Memory* (with Mark Phelan). He has published in journals such as *Film Quarterly*, *Studies in Documentary Film*, *Screen*, *Quarterly Review of Film and Video*, *Kinema*, *Literature/Film Quarterly*, and *Screening the Past*. He is currently co-editing the *Cinema Aesthetics* series, and continues to publish on aspects of Irish film, visual culture, and contemporary literature.

## Co-facilitators

**Eamonn Baker** was born 1951 and reared in Creggan Estate (Derry) an area once frequently referred to as a Nationalist/Republican ghetto of Northern Ireland and now tragically back in the news. He is manager with peace building organization, *Towards Understanding and Healing* in his native city encouraging "deep listening" to the diverse stories arising from the conflict here in these islands. He is the editor of a number of publications including *Remembering - Our Shared Legacy from the First World War* (2009) and *To tell you the truth...* (2015), twenty-two diverse stories emerging from conflict here.

**Maggie Cronin** is an actor, writer and director. Her career has spanned many genres with numerous TV, film, stage, radio and voice over credits. Highlights include appearing in the Academy Award winning short film *The Shore* and she has appeared on London's West End and on Broadway. Maggie's full performance CV can be seen at: <https://www.spotlight.com/interactive/cv/1710-1209-1357>. She has written a number of plays and screenplays, including her one-woman play, *A Most Notorious Woman*, which won the Stewart Parker Trust/BBC Radio Drama Award and toured extensively across the UK, Ireland and the USA. (Published by Lagan Press). With Carol Moore, she co-wrote *Shrieking Sisters*: a history of Ireland's suffragettes. The show tours arts centres, theatres and community groups. Maggie is a PhD candidate in her first year, researching "The lived experiences and unique challenges for women working in the theatre sector in Northern Ireland" (Supervisors: Dr. Aoife McGrath and Dr. Victoria Durrer).

**Dr Sarah Feinstein** holds an MA in Creative and Critical Analysis from Goldsmiths University London and received her PhD in Arts Management and Cultural Policy from the University of Manchester. Her research practice is concerned with culture as a site of power and social justice. She has worked in the cultural sector for over twenty years, including as a museum specialist in the Repatriation Office at the Smithsonian, a collections assistant at the Women's Art Library in London and a researcher at the Prisons Memory Archive in Belfast. Sarah is currently working as a lecturer in museology at the University of Manchester.

**Ali FitzGibbon** is a lecturer in Creative and Cultural Industries Management at Queen's University Belfast (where she has been a teaching associate on the MA in Arts Management and Cultural Policy since 2012). She has successfully combined research in arts management with independent producing, programming and consultancy in the arts and cultural sector in Ireland and the UK, blending her 25+ years of experience as a programmer and producer, principally in theatre, international festivals, outdoor and youth arts, and work as an advisor in the voluntary and policy sectors. She completed her doctoral thesis in December 2018 and her research focuses on themes of cultural leadership and creative labour (particularly the role of artists), and the application of non-profit management practices, strategic planning and decision-making in the cultural sector. Ali is on the editorial board of the Irish Journal of Arts Management and Cultural Policy.

**Dr Jennifer Goddard** is a Lecturer in Drama at Ulster University. Her practice-based research and consultancy work consider the place of marginalised and previously unvoiced narratives within the arts. Her particular research focus is on learning disability and performance, and on the development of multi-sensory arts based approaches to working with babies and very young children. She was a 2017-18 recipient of an Artist's Career Enhancement Award from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland in which she developed a co-created performance piece with a learning disabled actor and since 2019 serves on the board of Stage Beyond Theatre Company, Londonderry. Jen is currently engaged in developing co-created performance work between students at Ulster University and actors at Stage Beyond. She has over fifteen years experience as a drama facilitator working with a diverse range of community groups to explore themes of voice, identity, and social justice.

**Paula McFetridge** has been Artistic Director of Kabosh since 2006, a Belfast-based theatre company committed to challenging the idea of what theatre is, who it is for and where it is staged. She is a fellow of Salzburg Global Seminar Session 532 'Peacebuilding Through the Arts' and was made Belfast Ambassador in recognition of utilising the arts to tackle difficult issues. [www.kabosh.net](http://www.kabosh.net)

**Hugh Odling Smee** is currently Project Manager for Film Hub NI, part of the BFI Film Audience Network, and based at the Queen's Film Theatre, Hugh Odling-Smee has over 20 years' experience working in Belfast's arts and heritage sectors for organisations as diverse as the Linen Hall Library, Kabosh Theatre Company, Belfast Book Festival and Belfast Festival at Queen's.