

The Symposium is **FREE** of charge, however, places are limited to 60 delegates at each venue. Pre-registration is essential.

#### BELFAST

Email: [info@creativeexchange.org.uk](mailto:info@creativeexchange.org.uk) with your name, address, and phone number, or register by phone: Dave on: +44 (0)7900 008625

#### NEWCASTLE

Email: [charlotte-fleming@live.co.uk](mailto:charlotte-fleming@live.co.uk) with your name, address, and phone number, or register by phone: Charley +44 (0)7938 379449

#### DUBLIN

Email: [artistmorourke@gmail.com](mailto:artistmorourke@gmail.com) with your name, address, and phone number, or register by phone: Maura +353 (0)87 2368634

**Dublin Fire Brigade** Training School,  
O'Brien Institute, Marino, Malahide Road, Dublin 3

**The Star And Shadow Cinema** CIC,  
Stepney Bank, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 2NP

**University of Ulster**, School of Art & Design,  
Belfast Campus, Belfast, BT15 1ED

We would like to express thanks to Liam (Lochinvar1) for being able to use the images of the Northern Ireland Troubles and the railway tracks at Auschwitz Birkenau in this programme leaflet, licensed under Creative Commons.

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# xChangeVisions

Symposium | Workshop | Belfast | Newcastle | Dublin |  
Simultaneous video-link event

Mon 2011  
**4<sup>th</sup> APRIL**

9.00am - 5.00pm

Using the **Arts** and the experiences of these islands to promote well-being & to make a positive contribution towards conflict transformation and the reduction of hate crime



  
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The **xChangeVisions** Symposiums have been organised to encourage debate about how the **Arts** can contribute positively to well-being within society. The discussion will centre on ways of achieving the xChangeVisions aim: **to promote the personal well-being of EVERY individual.**



Can artists work with people who face challenges to their well-being every day, and with the essential/emergency services who **'pick up the pieces'** when things go wrong - to creatively change attitudes about the importance of nurturing well-being?

Can we creatively use the experiences from these islands to tell our stories, and then by actively listening to others, can we create new understanding and heal old hurts?

Keynote speakers in each of the locations will present their perspective on one of the six project aims/themes, followed by an opportunity for the audience at each location to discuss.....



**xChangeVisions** is a project which:

- + benefits the well being of individuals
- + uses creative processes to inspire change
- + develops awareness that the things we have in common are of greater value than the issues which divide us
- + creates a shared space that acknowledges difference
- + demonstrates visible benefits of personal exchanges
- + promotes involvement in community care-taking



# xChangeVisions Symposiums and Workshops

Using the Arts and the experiences of these islands to promote well-being & to make a positive contribution towards conflict transformation and the reduction of hate crime

8.45-9.10 am	Coffee/registration	
9.15 - 9.25 am	Welcome and Introductions	Newcastle, Belfast & Dublin
9.25 - 9.30 am	<b>Conor Shields:</b> Poetry Reading from the Poetry In Motion Project	Belfast

Each keynote speaker will talk for about 10mins giving their point of view on one of the six themes - setting the scene for the audience across each location to discuss the topic for about 15mins via video link. The discussions will be recorded and published afterwards.

The topics covered will explore why **xChangeVisions** is a project which:

9.30 - 10.00 am	<b>benefits the well being of individuals</b>	<b>Seònaid Dunne &amp; Feargal Kinsella</b>
10.00 - 10.30 am	<b>uses creative processes to inspire change</b>	<b>Conor Shields</b>
10.30 - 10.45 am	xChangeVisions Project Overview	Newcastle, Belfast & Dublin
10.45 - 11.00 am	Break	
11.00 - 11.30 am	<b>develops awareness that the things we have in common are of greater value than the issues which divide us</b>	<b>Colin Parry</b>
11.30 - 11.45 am	xChangeVisions 2011-12 programme	Newcastle, Belfast & Dublin
11.45 - 11.55 am	<b>Michelle O'Rourke:</b> Solo - John Cage: Experiences No.2	Dublin
11.55 - 12.15 pm	Roundup of morning session	
12.15 - 1.15 pm	Lunch	
1.15 - 1.30 pm	Introduction to afternoon session	Newcastle, Belfast & Dublin
1.30 - 2.00 pm	<b>creates a shared space that acknowledges difference</b>	<b>Breandán Clarke</b>
2.00 - 2.30 pm	<b>demonstrates visible benefits of personal exchanges</b>	<b>Alex Finnegan</b>
2.30 - 2.45 pm	Break	
2.45 - 3.15 pm	<b>promotes involvement in community care-taking</b>	<b>Neil McCabe</b>
3.15 - 3.45 pm	Panel Discussion (Keynote Speakers)	Newcastle, Belfast & Dublin
3.45 - 3.55 pm	<b>Michelle O'Rourke:</b> Solo	Dublin
	Extract from Viderunt Omnes (medieval organum dating from 12th century Paris)	
	Taimse im' chodladh (traditional Irish - text dating from 18th century)	
3.55 - 4.30 pm	Partnership/Network Development Workshop	Newcastle, Belfast & Dublin
4.30 - 5.00 pm	Roundup of Symposium/Workshops	Newcastle, Belfast & Dublin

Alongside developing the xChangeVisions Network and establishing Project Partnerships the Symposium aims to recruit artists for the artist exchange intervention taking place in July 2011 and also for the woodworking/carving master classes.

**BELFAST VENUE**  
**University of Ulster**  
School of Art & Design  
Belfast Campus, Belfast  
BT15 1ED

**NEWCASTLE VENUE**  
**The Star And Shadow**  
**Cinema CIC**  
Stepney Bank  
Newcastle Upon Tyne  
NE1 2NP

**DUBLIN VENUE**  
**Dublin Fire Brigade**  
Training School, Marino,  
Malahide Road, Dublin 3

**Creative Exchange & CommonInterests**  
would like to express heartfelt thanks to all the individuals, partners, funders and supporters who have made the **xChangeVisions Symposium** possible

# xChangeVisions Symposiums/Workshops

Keynote Speakers | Facilitators | Chairpersons | Performers

**BELFAST | NEWCASTLE | DUBLIN**

The xChangeVisions Symposiums is the 1st step in developing 12 'HUB' partnerships between arts, community and essential/emergency service organisations across Ireland and Britain. Each of the Partnerships will then develop 12 satellite projects within their region, that can help communities to counteract:

- reduced well-being as a legacy of conflict
- rise in hate crimes against groups and individuals
- conflicts that happen because other people's rights are ignored



**Conor Shields** is a multi-instrumentalist and has been a performing musician for over twenty years. He has co-founded theatre companies, worked in broadcast media, development education and the arts and has facilitated workshops through a range of disciplines in theatres, community settings and prisons. Conor sits on various

boards in the arts and educational sectors in N Ireland including the Workers' Educational Association, the Community Arts Forum, Culture Night Belfast, The Cathedral Quarter Steering Group and the Geoff Harden Archive Trust. He is passionate about the role the arts play in society and is the Programme Director of New Belfast Community Arts Initiative, a multi-discipline arts organisation undergoing significant expansion at this moment.



**Breandán Clarke** a Belfast based artist currently working with the North Belfast Interface Network & Coordinator for the Draw Down the Walls project. The project which is partnership of NBIN, Lower Shankill Community Association, Golden Thread Gallery, Ardoyne Women's Group and Tar Isteach, utilises art to engage hard

to reach young people affected by segregated living & interface violence. Essentially a community relations project, art has been the key to unlocking the thought process and facilitating subsequent dialogue with young people on how living with Belfast's so called peace walls impacts on their lives.



**Colin Parry** O.B.E JP. is Chairman and Co-founder of the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace. Tim and Johnathan were tragically killed as a direct result of the IRA's 1993 bombing of Warrington. Colin is a tireless campaigner for Peace and has become a prominent authority and speaker in the years following the death

of his son - his efforts have contributed to the Peace Process in Northern Ireland.

Colin and his wife Wendy founded the Foundation for Peace and created their unique Peace Centre in Warrington, which is dedicated to providing conflict resolution programmes and activities that benefit children, young people, adults, schools and communities everywhere. The Foundation is secular and takes no side in armed conflict. Instead, we help people of all races, faiths and nations to understand the causes, management and non-violent resolution of conflict. The Foundation's sole purpose is to help inspire people to lead more peaceful lives by resolving their conflicts non-violently.



**Alex Finnegan**, is a 39 year old boat-builder, designer and social entrepreneur, based in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England, where he lives with his wife, Puppeteer Alison McGowan and their two children.

In 2005 Alex and Alison co-founded PuppetShip CIC as the first Community Interest Company in Newcastle, with the aim of creating a floating home for creativity in the north east. Many practical and logistical barriers were encountered during the first three years and as the credit crunch struck, plans changed away from buying a ship, towards solely delivering high quality creative experiences into schools.

Alex now runs a successful boat building project, making 15ft sailing dinghies with teenagers who are underachieving academically.

## Belfast Symposium Chair



**Marie-Louise Muir**  
BBC Radio Ulster (Arts Extra presenter)

Marie-Louise Muir is one of BBC Radio Ulster's voices as presenter of the station's main arts and entertainment programme Arts Extra and the flagship classical music programme Sounds Classical.

Marie-Louise, who hails from Derry, started her broadcasting career in 1992 at BBC Radio Foyle, presenting short pieces for the programmes Frankly, Anne-Marie and The Good Arts Guide. From there, she went on to present her own programmes on BBC Radio Foyle, including the daily show 3 To 5 Live and Look West and, for BBC Radio Ulster, the Sunday morning programme This New Day.

## Newcastle Symposium Chair



**Ian Fleming** Associate Lecturer in Interactive Design at the University of Ulster, Belfast with extensive experience in the fields of communication design; print; television; animation; multimedia and web. Ian is also involved in practice-based research, design practice, fine art practice, arts development, project management and art based project/training/workshop activities. Ian exhibits locally, nationally & internationally and is represented within public, private and corporate collections worldwide.

Ian is a founder member of Creative Exchange Artist Studios, Four Fields of Reference, xChangeVisions Project and CommonInterests Trust; he undertakes arts development work, which encourages expansion of these 'collaborative' and 'exchange' programmes.



**Feargal Kinsella** is a Senior Tax Manager with BDO (Ireland) who is currently aged 40-something, and has been a wheelchair user since 1996 as a result of an RTA. Prior to the accident he used to race sailboats and afterwards raced smaller sailboats in several events, including the Paralympics in 2004.

Feargal had his '15 minutes of fame' on The Late Late Show, and he describes himself as incredibly handsome, not a crusader, candid, high IQ, apparently funny, cynical, smoker. Feargal's interests are: sailing tall ships, walking the dog, his wife and children (*interesting placement of the comma there, don't you think?*)



**Seònaid Dunne** is the founder of Amputee Disability Federation Ireland and has been involved in promoting the rights of people with disabilities for over a decade. Seònaid presented the RTE 1 television programme Three60 and most recently presented Outside the Box on RTE radio 1, both highlighting the abilities of people with disabilities.

She has given lectures to Trinity College Dublin students, counselled fellow amputees to rebuild their lives and highlighted the difficulties Irish amputees face to politicians, both nationally and at a European level. She is currently working with Educate Together who operate schools based on the delivery of 'equality of access and esteem to children irrespective of their social, cultural or religious backgrounds'. [www.amputee.ie](http://www.amputee.ie)



**Neil McCabe** is a Fire Fighter with Dublin Fire Brigade and has written and developed The Green Plan, which has been incorporated into the DFB's Corporate Plan. He also co-authored Dublin City Council's Sustainability Report 2010. The Plan sets out how actions relating to the 7 themes of energy, water, waste, society,

transport, biodiversity, and procurement can be taken to ensure sustainability and to enable organisations to minimise their carbon footprint.

Implementation of the plan has led to the development of the World's 1st Carbon Neutral Fire Station at DFB's Flagship Kilbarrack Fire Station. Under the theme of Society DFB now interacts with the local community, running Biodiversity Action Days with local National Schools, Recycling Programmes and Respite days for terminally ill Patients in DFB's newly built Commemorative Garden.

#### Dublin Symposium Chair



**Neil Sholdice** was elected to the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland as a Fellow (ret) in 1994. After graduating in Architecture in 1971, Neil practiced with Michael Scott and Partners, Dublin; then work with Prof Cathal O'Neill in 1973. In 1975 he worked with Saskatchewan Housing Corp to design Saskatchewan's first experimental solar house.

From 1979 he designed aircraft interiors for a Consortium in Florida; returning to Ireland in 1983 to set up in private practice. Neil completed a Master's in Urban and Building Conservation in UCD on proportioning systems on buildings throughout history in 1991. A past member of Saskatchewan Association of Architects, Royal Architectural Institute of Canada and Institute of Designers of Ireland, Neil is currently writing books on social issues and pursuing a life-long love of painting.

#### Belfast Symposium Event Manager



**Deirdre Robb** from Belfast studied at the University of Ulster where she gained her Masters and BA Honours. She is an award winning artist whose multi disciplinary approach includes installation, painting, textile and sculpture. In addition to her own practice Robb has 20 years experience of working in the community arts field. She develops visual arts projects through the management of the programme as well as direct facilitation with participants. These projects include temporary interventions as well as permanent public art works. The most recent in 2010 was the large-scale Shankill Peace Wall 'Hewit in the Frame' project which worked with artists and community groups to create a 100ft long artwork.

#### Dublin Symposium Event Manager



**Maura O'Rourke** is a self-taught painter based in Co. Dublin, Ireland. She graduated from the Grafton Academy in Fashion Design & Art. Maura has 15yrs experience working for Dublin Corporation in underprivileged areas of inner City Dublin, with both adults and children. Maura has been building her fine art painting practice since 1995. In 1997 she mounted her first international show in France, and has continued to exhibit internationally with the 'Changing Surfaces & Trading Places (2000)' and 'The Irish Famine' (2001) collections both exhibited in the Irish Arts Centre, New York. Maura has worked collaboratively with artists from home and abroad on 'The Green Grass, Blue Grass, New Grass Project' and the 'Irish Art Exchange Project'. Maura is also currently artist in residence at Ardgillan Castle, Co. Dublin.

#### Newcastle Symposium Event Manager



**Charley Fleming** is principal Director of EventFly Associates, which organises high calibre events by co-ordinating teams of specialists to deliver bespoke solutions. Charley is currently completing a top-up Degree with Leeds Metropolitan University having achieved distinctions in her Foundation Degree in Event Management.

Charley's experience includes working on: Fairtrade Fortnight, Newcastle City Council; In any Event, Belfast Europa; NIYCE Youth Culture Exhibition, Pumphouse, Belfast; At Waters Edge, Fundraiser for RNLI; Science Festival events Centre for Life & Discovery Museum, Newcastle; Sunderland Christmas Parade; and JUICE, Newcastle & Gateshead Initiative.

Charley also works as a freelance photographer with clients in: Contemporary Dance; Sports; Entertainment and Music industries. Charley has competed in Equestrian Mounted Games at international level for UK & Ireland, Northern Ireland teams in South Africa, USA, France, and New Zealand.

#### Dublin Symposium Soloist:



**Michelle O'Rourke** is an Irish vocalist currently based in Dublin. Her natural, direct sound and unaffected expressivity, combined with a background in historical performance practice research, make for a performer of rare dynamism. O'Rourke has particular interests in Baroque vocal repertoire and contemporary vocal music.

Current projects include collaborations with acclaimed Irish composers Judith Ring and Linda Buckley and Tryst, an ongoing performance/arrangement partnership with NYC-based vocalist Nora Ryan. [www.michelleorourke.ie](http://www.michelleorourke.ie)