

AIC Scheme Mentoring Award (Pilot 2022)

Mentor bios

Aisling Byrne Aisling (she/her) is a freelance theatre artist and filmmaker based in North Kildare. She has worked extensively in the fields of arts and disability, contemporary theatre & socially engaged theatre practice. Aisling is the founder and Artistic Director of Run of the Mill Theatre — a community-based theatre collective in North Kildare supporting people with intellectual disabilities to access the arts — and award-winning Dublin based theatre collective, Talking Shop Ensemble, alongside writer and filmmaker Shaun Dunne. Recent work includes *Vulnerable* for Dear Ireland 3 (Abbey Theatre, 2020), *Quarantine* (Culture Night commission, 2020) *Singing for Survival* (Run of the Mill Theatre, Draiocht 2019) and *Split Ends* (Dublin Fringe Festival, Fishamble Show in a Bag 2018).

Feidlim Cannon is an award-winning writer and director for Stage and Screen. His Theatre and Film work has been programmed in Europe, America, Canada and Australasia. Feidlim is Co-Artistic Director of internationally renowned Theatre company Brokentaklers. As an artist, practitioner, and founding member of Brokentaklers, Feidlim strives to make original work that speaks directly and honestly to its audience. Work that challenges conventional form while staying accessible. Feidlim teaches staging performance at University College Dublin

Ruairí Ó Donnabháin is a language activist and a choreographer; he is making ritual objects for a tribe which doesn't exist. Ó Donnabháin has been making dances in Ireland since 2008. He is a Masters in Choreography Graduate from DAS Graduate School Amsterdam & holds a joint honors B.A. in Drama & Theatre Studies and English from University College Cork. Ó Donnabháin is from County Cork and his choreographic practice is concerned with 'aesthetic practices of care'. He lives and works on Oileán Chléire, a remote island and Gaeltacht off the south west coast of Co. Cork investigating Gaeilge as a site of queer resistance and new materialist collaboration 'in the wild'.

Is gníomhaí teanga agus choreografadóir é **Ruairí Ó Donnabháin**, tá sé ag thógáil uirlisí deasghnáth de treibh atá chailte. Bíonn sé ag eagrú damhsaí in Éireann ó 2008. Tá Máistreacht aige i Choreografaí ó DAS Graduate School Amstardam agus Céim Onóracha dhá ábhar i Béarla agus Dramaíocht ó Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh. Is as Chontae Chorcaí é Ó Donnabháin agus tá a taidhde faoi 'chleachtais aeistéitic chúraim'. Tá sé ag obair ar agus ag chur Oileán Chléire fuann.

Deirdre O'Mahony was born in Limerick, Ireland. She received a BA Fine Art (1979) from St. Martin's School of Art, London, a MRes (2005) Crawford College, Cork and PhD (2012) from the University of Brighton, UK. O'Mahony's practice is informed by a deep interest in rural sustainability, farming, food security and the political ecology of rural places. Public artworks include *SUSTAINMENT EXPERIMENTS* (2021 – 2024) including *The Plot 1*, *VISUAL Carlow*; *The PLOT 11* for the Gangwon Triannual Korea; *Field Exchange* (2022) for the Creative Ireland Climate Call; *POST_* (2020) for Saolta Arts/Galway 2020; *Forest Culture* Lismore Castle Arts (2020) and X-

PO. Recent awards include Visual Arts Bursary and Agility Award (2021) Arts Council of Ireland; Fire Station Artist Studios' Sculpture Award (2021) and the Earth Science Institute, Parity Studios Residency Award University College Dublin (2021/22). Her work is in public and private collections including the Arts Council of Ireland.

Jijo Sebastian is a migrant, collaborative filmmaker with more than a decade of experience in participatory, collaborative and intercultural filmmaking in a community-based context. He is one of the recipients of the 2015 Artist in the Community Award from Create, and both the 2016 Next Generation Artist Bursary award and a 2020 Arts Participation Bursary from the Arts Council. Jijo has written, directed and completed post production for 8 short films and one feature length tele-film collaborating with groups, families and individuals mainly from the Keralite Indian community in Ireland. Selected films were screened at international film festivals and one won both best film and best director at Fokana film festival, Illinois, USA. Jijo's practice and his films find coherence in their shared immigrant-oriented themes, participatory methodologies and suburban Dublin geographical context.