

A RADICAL IMAGINATION - A COMMUNITY BASED RESIDENCY AWARD 2022 -2023

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

A Radical Imagination is a new community based residency awarded by Common Ground building on The Just City Counter Narrative Neighbourhood award 2020 – 2022.*

In 2022 **A Radical Imagination** offers two collaborative or socially engaged artists / arts collective / community partners an opportunity to be based in Dublin 8 over a two year period in two workspace settings with multiple supports. The timing of the award also marks when Dublin 8, the area in which Common Ground works and is located continues to experience multiple changes to its urban and social fabric as we navigate our way through a pandemic.

Since 2020 the impact of the pandemic has compounded spatial justice and equality issues across Dublin 8. This includes how over the last few years the urban and social fabric of inner city Dublin continues to encounter forms of spatial injustice through the acquisition, development and management of neighbourhood housing, private rented accommodation and public space.

Much of Dublin 8 contends with the erosion of public housing in current regeneration initiatives, a loss of green space in contrast with proposed public city-wide greening initiatives and an intensive drive towards tourism, business and cultural development in recent and proposed planning development. This includes the changing demographics of the area (please see appendix 2.1 small area population statistics below). These combined with repeated delays in social housing, increased homelessness and high rent pressure zones can be read alongside the construction of the new children's hospital (one of the largest in Europe), the pandemic, the growth in student housing, airbnb rentals with the gentrification of the area causing displacement and undermining the stability of existing community life.

*In March 2020 as Ireland entered into its first Covid 19 lockdown, Common Ground awarded the Just City Counter Narrative Neighbourhood Award to artist and activist Kate O'Shea. The Just City ran from 2020 – 2022.

A RADICAL IMAGINATION – A COMMUNITY BASED AWARD - TIMELINE, FEE & SUPPORTS

A Radical Imagination offers two community based residency awards, which includes two separate in kind workspaces, artist's fees and project development budget.

During the lifetime of the award, Common Ground will offer a range of supports to the successful artist / arts collective/ groups alongside two separate artist fees of €7,500 each and a research /materials / production budget of €1,500 each. Each recipient(s) will be offered the following spaces in kind:

1) **The Lodge** - a combined workspace located in the Lodge at Goldenbridge Cemetery in Inchicore. Please be aware that The Lodge is shared with Common Ground and other artists. (Valued in kind over 8 months at €14,400)

2) **studio 468** – a large 24 hour accessible workspace / studio located in St Andrew’s Community Centre Rialto Dublin 8. (Valued in kind over 8 months at €3,600)

A Radical Imagination is offered in two phases. These are:

- **Phase One - Research – April / May to December 2022.**

This is primarily a research phase, that will locate the two selected artists/ arts collective in either studio 468 or the Lodge. With support from Common Ground and access to a wide network, this initial phase and research period will independently and collectively build a cross fertilisation of ideas drawn from this culturally rich and complex neighbourhood.

Timeline and Fee: April /May 2022 – December 2022 - €7,500 each artist.

- **Phase Two - Development – January to December 2023**

This phase is subject to 2023 Arts Council funding. It is projected that a similar artist fee will be offered to the selected two artists alongside continued support from Common Ground. It is planned to be an in depth development phase that supports and allows the two selected awardees the opportunity to expand and locate their practice with local neighbourhood and spatial justice issues continuing to build a cross fertilisation of ideas drawn from this culturally rich and complicated neighbourhood.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

We welcome proposals from a cross section of socially engaged / collaborative artist(s) and / or art collectives / community groups who are new, or not so new, to this field of practice and are interested in engaging in, expanding or collaborating across art forms and disciplines.

AVAILABLE SUPPORTS

Common Ground will support the selected collaborative artist / arts collective to embed their practice in this distinct, historically and culturally rich part of the city. **A Radical Imagination** also offers the selected artist / arts collective a mentoring process if desired.

Running alongside the residency is a shared reflective process that captures the learning from the residency with Common Ground. Common Ground has worked with a number of research partners over the years including most recently UCD Geography with artist Seoidín O’Sullivan and Maynooth University with artist / activist Kate O’Shea. We are committed to continuing to seek additional supports for the selected awardees and to share learning across the arts, community and other sectors. We plan to host a public event in 2023 with invited international and national artists and guest speakers as a rich reflection on arts and community in situated practice sites.

A RADICAL IMAGINATION PROPOSALS AND SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Please submit a proposal limited to **no more than four A4 pages** and include separate relevant CV's or biographies of all involved in the proposal. Your proposal should outline and cover:

1. How you would respond to **A Radical Imagination** award in testing, developing, and/or questioning pandemic related and spatial justice issues through socially engaged, artistic and interdisciplinary practices.
2. Demonstrate a clear commitment to artistic research / inter-disciplinary outcomes in any art form
3. How you will individually or collectively locate/develop the practice(s) in the Dublin 8 area and how the location will in turn inform your proposed idea /research.
4. Ideas/ methods of collaborative art making that could include, but are not limited to: inter disciplinary practices, project research, workshops, discussions, invited/public events, critical reflection.
5. Include a budget breakdown of the proposal including artist fees.
6. Please provide online audio visual documentation of your relevant practice. Please provide up to five examples of your work/ practice please via weblinks.
7. Please bear in mind the offer of the award is at the discretion of the selection panel, depending on quality, number and range of proposals shortlisted. Please note the panel's decision is final.

Common Ground is an equal opportunities arts organisation, while studio 468 is wheelchair accessible, The Lodge due to its conservation status is not.

TIMELINE FOR APPLICATION / EVENT/ INFORMATION PROCESS

1. **BRIEFING EVENT – FRIDAY 14th JANUARY:** 10 am – 12.30pm. To attend please register via email to: info@commonground.ie
2. **DEADLINE APPLICATIONS / PROPOSALS:** February 11th 5pm via email.
3. **SELECTION:** Panel meets week of 28th February 2022
4. **OFFERS MADE:** week of March 7th 2022

Start dates proposed April 2022

A Radical Imagination – a community based residency award proposals accepted via email to: info@commonground.ie phone: 01 7078766 www.commonground.ie

A Radical Imagination is an initiative of Common Ground and funded via its annual Arts Grant funding from the Arts Council of Ireland and Dublin City Council Arts Office.



APPENDIX 1

Common Ground is an arts organisation based in Inchicore, in Dublin's southwest inner city. Since 1999, we work to progress a diverse cultural model that embraces the challenging social and economic realities of our neighbourhood locations in Dublin 8. We maximise our local networks and partnerships and seek to embed the role of the arts as a cultural right. We continue to challenge and change how access to the arts should not depend on where you're born, your wealth or identity.

The Lodge – Common Ground's base

Common Ground became the new cultural tenant of The Lodge on St Vincent Street West, Inchicore, Dublin 8 in September 2019. Currently Common Ground's office is based in the ground floor of the Lodge and operates Mon – Fri 9.30 -5.30pm. Due to Covid 19 public access to the Lodge is currently restricted. Common Ground hopes that by mid-2022 we can return to hosting public meetings with artists, community groups and with the public, opening up the building for multiple purposes. Notice of this will be given well in advance.

The Lodge has been refurbished to a high conservation standard. The two upstairs rooms are designated as two artist studios / workspaces. There is a second artist studio located downstairs with access to bathroom and shower facilities, a kitchen and meeting room. The studios are rent free and can be accessed 24 hours 7 days a week. Heating, lighting and internet access are included.

The Lodge House is a conserved building which was originally the Sexton's House at Goldenbridge Inchicore. It was built between 1840 and 1880 and is located on the north east boundary wall of the cemetery and was a home to the graveyard's caretaker and their family. Goldenbridge Cemetery is a 19th century 'garden' cemetery with a substantial planting scheme and mature tree canopy.

A Radical Imagination workspaces

Two artist workspaces are offered as a part of **A Radical Imagination**, 1) at [the Lodge Inchicore](#) and 2) at [studio 468 in St Andrew's Community Centre Rialto](#).

Both studio 468 and the Lodge have 24 hour access 7 days a week. Heating, lighting and internet access are free of charge and have access to a digital camera and DV camera. They both have kitchen access also. In the Lodge there is communal access to bathroom with electric shower and communal access to the kitchen which houses a shared fridge, dishwasher, oven and hob.

The rental value of both sets of workspaces / studios in monetary terms is approximately €400 per month. All **A Radical Imagination** awardees are required to hold their own public liability insurance for the duration of the residency.

The Lodge - the dimensions of the Artist studios, Artist workspace are as follows:

Artist workspace upstairs: 4.0 X 2.7M

Artist studio space downstairs: 3.7 X 2.2M

Artist studio space upstairs: 3.3 X 2.5M

studio 468 is located to the front of the St Andrews Community Centre Rialto. It has its own front door entrance and is a spacious high quality, pleasant, well-lit space of approximately 40msq and is equipped with internet access, a kitchen area, a separate lobby and a disabled access toilet/ shower room. The floor is cement and so may have limited use for artists, groups or projects involved in dance or physical theatre.

Common Ground weblinks

<http://issuu.com/rialto8/docs/studio468>

[CITIZEN ARTIST](#)

<http://www.commonground.ie/Studio 468>

<https://soundcloud.com/studio468/tracks>

<https://vimeo.com/commongrounddublin/about>

Social media links

<https://www.facebook.com/CommonGroundDublin/>

<https://www.facebook.com/studio468>

<https://twitter.com/CommonGroundDub>

<https://www.instagram.com/commongrounddub/?hl=en>

APPENDIX 2

2.1 STATISTICS

<https://www.cso.ie/en/census/>

Small Area Population statistics breakdown of population by year

ELECTORAL AREA	2006	2011	2016
Inchicore A	1711	2196	2392
Inchicore B	1378	1992	2218
Kilmainham B	1458	2233	2414
Kilmainham C	3419	4358	5186

Ushers D	1302	2075	2188
Ushers E note 1	1442	1830	1790
Ushers F	2864	3381	3484
Ushers C	2388	3730	

Note 1: Depopulation tracks the split of the electoral area that divides former social housing Fatima Mansions (Herberton) in half between Ushers E & C <http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2006/> the depopulation of Dolphin House flats complex for its regeneration programme & in 2013 the introduction of Housing (Standards for Rented Housing) Regulations 2008 and 2009 means a lot of bedsits (one room flats) were removed from the area.

2.1 LINKS TO LOCAL GROUPS AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Community Organisations

Family Resource Centre, Inchicore [INSERT LINK](#)

St Michael's Estate Inchicore <http://joelee.ie/portfolio/dreams-in-the-dark/>

Core Youth Service Inchicore <http://www.core-ys.com/meet-the-team>

Fatima Groups United <https://fgu.ie/>

Rialto Youth Project <http://rialtoyouthproject.net/>

Rialto Community Drug Team [FACEBOOK](#)

Dolphin House Community Development Association <https://www.dolphinhouse.ie/dhcda/>

Cultural organisations

Richmond Barracks <http://www.richmondbarracks.ie>

Glasnevin Trust <https://www.glasnevintrust.ie/>

IMMA <https://imma.ie/>

Kilmainham Gaol <http://kilmainhamgaolmuseum.ie/>

Newspaper articles

<https://www.irishtimes.com/life-and-style/homes-and-property/dublin-8-revival-liberties-area-set-for-docklands-style-makeover-1.3998910>

<https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2018/nov/29/empty-dublin-housing-crisis-airbnb-homelessness-landlords>

<https://www.thejournal.ie/student-planning-permission-4595849-Apr2019/>

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/social-affairs/more-than-30-low-income-households-to-be-evicted-from-dublin-homes-1.3884169>

<https://www.theguardian.com/music/2019/apr/05/irish-punks-fontaines-dc-you-can-feel-the-growing-anglophobia>

IMAGES OF THE LODGE AND STUDIO / WORKSPACES





BELOW IMAGES OF STUDIO 468 IN ST ANDREWS COMMUNITY CENTRE

