

# **ARTS EDUCATION SEMINAR**

## **28-30 MARCH 2019, BEAT CARNIVAL, BELFAST**

### **IMAGINE, CREATE AND CRITIQUE**

SEMINAR THEME: critical reflection on our arts education and participation practice.

For example: how do we know our arts programmes result in significant benefits, giving children & young people a great start in life and enabling people of all ages to thrive? Participants will share arts access and engagement methodologies and examine the ways that we measure success and use evaluation to improve our practice.

Beat Carnival is a member of Trans Europe Halles network of independent cultural centres across Europe and is on the steering group of the TEH Arts Education Platform. Beat Carnival is organising the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual TEH Arts Education Seminar in Belfast at the end of March 2019.

The core sessions of the Platform's Seminar programme on 28th & 29th March are open for local arts and cultural practitioners to attend along with the TEH network participants – and we are publicising these in association with the Imagine! Belfast Festival of Ideas & Politics. The workshops are free of charge, but must be booked as places are limited. Local participants should book through Imagine! when Festival booking opens [see website address below]. Programme venues are in the neighbourhood where Beat Carnival is based: starting at Beat Carnival Centre (located at the intersection of City Centre, North and West Belfast) other workshop sessions are then at the nearby Spectrum Centre. An extended programme including a Wednesday youth session and Saturday tour/visit options, runs from 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>.

Beat Carnival Centre

11-47 Boyd Street

Belfast BT132GU

[www.beatcarnival.com/contact](http://www.beatcarnival.com/contact) – to see map

Trans Europe Halles Arts Education Platform

<http://teh.net/arts-education-platform>

Spectrum Centre venue

331-333 Shankill Road

Belfast BT13 3AA

[www.spectrumcentre.com](http://www.spectrumcentre.com)

Oh Yeah, music event venue

Oh Yeah, 15-21 Gordon Street

Belfast BT1 2LG

[www.ohyeahbelfast.com](http://www.ohyeahbelfast.com)

B.2 is a former church building that Beat Carnival uses as a second venue.

It is at BT13 2PH. B2, the Shankill Library (exhibition venue) and the Spectrum Centre are all in the same Mid Shankill area.

Imagine! Belfast Festival of Ideas & Politics

<https://imaginebelfast.com>

Sunflower bar, Wednesday evening meeting place

[www.sunflowerbar.com](http://www.sunflowerbar.com)

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### PROGRAMME

#### Wednesday 27 March

Venue: Beat Carnival or B.2 (tbc) Time to be confirmed

**IMAGINE & CREATE – YOUTH SESSION**, with Cesar Fulgencio, Subtopia's DIT youth project manager. D.I.T. 'Do It Together' is Subtopia's creative programme for young people. Subtopia is a big 'suburban paradise' in Sweden, filled with urban art, film studios, circus, dance and more. Further details of this session and other youth programme to be announced later.  
[www.subtopia.se/delvelop/youth-culture-d-i-t](http://www.subtopia.se/delvelop/youth-culture-d-i-t)

Venue: Sunflower  
19:00

**HELLO!** European participants arrive in Belfast.  
7pm onwards: informal meeting at Sunflower Public House (near Beat Carnival Centre) where there will be Irish music.

#### Thursday 28 March

Venue: Beat Carnival

9:00 - 10:00

Participant introductions.

10:00 - 11:00

**1) IMAGINE ... THE LOCAL CONTEXT:** Belfast and Beat Carnival.

11:20 - 11:30

Introductions to Seminar facilitators and the process.

11:30 - 12:45

**2) IMAGINE... THE THE ARTS EDUCATION PLATFORM PROJECT:** progress since last Seminar; our questions now; and what we want to achieve at this Seminar.

Venue: Spectrum

13:10 - 14:00

Lunch

14:15 - 17:30

**3) IMAGINE, CREATE AND CRITIQUE - 1** [*Open Session*]  
What are our models of participation and learning? How and why do we have these models of participation in our arts programmes? Speaker presentations will be followed by discussion through open space process. Facilitated by Gerri Moriarty & Jo Egan with Katerina Flora from Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde, Paris.

\* This is an open session that other arts practitioners may attend.

18:00 - 19:00

Exhibition options. 1) Connections: the street names connecting Shankill to Europe and beyond. 2) Prison Art from the Troubles. The exhibitions will be open throughout the programme.

18:00 - 19:30

Evening Meal

19:30 - 21:30

**4) ART IN TROUBLE** [*Open Session*]  
Social troubles, creative initiatives, community ambitions. What has been done in the decades gone, what will we see tomorrow and 20 years on? Discussion on the Shankill's story; and community arts, past, present & future. Panel including Jackie Redpath, Kim Jackson and Tom Magill, Chaired by David Boyd.

\* This is an open session.

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### Friday 29 March

Venue: Spectrum

10:00 - 13:00

#### **5) IMAGINE, CREATE AND CRITIQUE – 2** [*Open Session*]

Continuing from yesterday's critical reflection on our work, starting with the question: 'Why do we do this and continue doing it?' Looking at how we measure arts practice and how we use tools of evaluation to improve and produce new actions.

Facilitated by Jo Egan & Gerri Moriarty.

\* This is an open session that other practitioners may attend.

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch

14:30 - 18:00

#### **6) OPEN SPACE: NEXT STEPS AND CLOSING THOUGHTS**

18:00 - 20:00

Evening Meal

Venue: Oh Yeah Music Centre, central Belfast.

20:30 - 24:00

#### **7) BREXIT SING-SONG!**

A social, song and music event, a Brexit Sing-Song for all, where people from different countries and diverse cultures share songs from their places and traditions.

Brexit is due to happen at 23:00 on 29th. That the Belfast Seminar takes place over the date scheduled for Brexit, gives added significance to the European make-up of the programme participation. This Sing-Song is a communal event to mark the occasion of Brexit happening. A treaty against divisiveness. Not the usual Beat Carnival celebration... except to celebrate our connections and agree together that whatever Brexit brings, we remain a welcoming place and a welcoming people. The session will have performances from The Beat Brexit Band led by Joby Fox, the Seminar's artist in residence. Look out for information updates online.

### Saturday 30 March

**Options for people staying on in Belfast.** This Saturday timetable is to be confirmed.

Venue: Belfast City Hall

9:00 - 10:00

Breakfast at City Hall

10:00 - 11:00

#### **8) DISCUSSION: NEW COLLABORATIONS**

A smaller group discussion on developing new collaborations through next 4 years. In 2017, Belfast was involved in bidding to become European Capital of Culture in 2023. Although it is now clear that the UK is no longer eligible to host the competition, Belfast is continuing to build on work started during the bidding process and interested in continuing to develop European partnerships. These partnerships could be developmental in nature including opportunities for artistic exchanges and learning, as well as longer-term programmes that could work towards the delivery of large-scale creative projects in 2023. This

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session will explore potential areas of collaboration with local and European partners.

11:00 - 12:00

**9) TOUR OF BELFAST CITY HALL.** How City Hall is used a civic space.

Venue: out in Belfast

12:00 - 16:00

**10) BUS TOUR** of Shankill, Falls and city-centre; peace walls, murals, arts projects, including stop at a Cultural Centre for lunch.

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### Beat Carnival

Established in 1993, Beat Carnival is Northern Ireland's Carnival arts company, encouraging people to celebrate creative community life in ways that are ambitious and welcoming. Thousands of children, young people and adults engage in over 600 carnival workshops annually. Beat creates free events with large-scale community participation in public places. Beat Carnival Centre is located close to Belfast City Centre, at the intersection of City Centre and some of the most deprived areas of Belfast and Northern Ireland, which are still suffering long-term legacy of the Troubles conflict, urban 'development' and on-going community tensions.  
[www.beatcarnival.com](http://www.beatcarnival.com)

### Trans Europe Halles (TEH)

is a Europe-based network of cultural centres initiated by citizens and artists. TEH has been at the forefront of re-purposing Europe's industrial buildings for arts, culture and activism since 1983. As of 2018, TEH has brought together 109 multidisciplinary cultural centres from across Europe. TEH facilitates international cooperation to promote the practice, impact and value of arts and culture – as inspirational, transformative experiences that have the capacity to change people, perceptions and societies. The Arts Education Platform is one of the components of a Trans Europe Halles 'Factories of Imagination' project. The Platform is to facilitate exchange and knowledge transfer between art educators through professional meetings, study visits and training workshops on the topic of participation in the arts.

### Speakers & Facilitators

#### David Boyd

Founder-Director of Beat Carnival and the annual Belfast Carnivals. Believing that creative arts participation opens opportunities in education, job creation, self esteem, skills training and cross community & inter cultural communication, David was active in developing social and arts projects through the civil turmoil and trouble of the 80s and 90s in Belfast, where the carnival work has proven to be a significant force for positive change in the City and civil society. David established the Beat Carnival Centre (first as the East Belfast Arts Centre in 1993, then moving to the current location in 2008) and continues working to create shared celebration for all through carnival arts that leave a lasting legacy of skills and achievement with communities.

#### Jo Egan Main seminar speaker and facilitator

Jo is a playwright and theatre-maker working in Belfast and London. She is fuelled by a search for narratives that are absent from traditional theatre and story-telling. She is inspired by writers that create game-changing structures upon which they hang their stories and thematic explorations. A freelance producer on community and professional theatre projects, much of her work is influenced by one to one interviews she gathers from the

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previously unheard and unseen. Jo was instrumental in creating a significant community theatre production on the Shankill Road, 'Crimea Square'.

[www.jo-egan-playwright.com](http://www.jo-egan-playwright.com)

### **Joby Fox** Seminar Artist In Residence

Joby is a songwriter and performer, known as an authentic voice of post-conflict Belfast. He has a long history in music from the Punk era and UK chart-topping with his Celtic rock band Energy Orchard, to his solo career today. His often hard-hitting words have challenged identities and ideologies and paved the way for difficult conversations. He has been involved in international and local initiatives as an advocate for peace. His *End of the War* music and film show opened the inaugural UN Peace Festival in Hong Kong in 2014. The show challenged labels of identity and helped create dialogue between old and young and people of diverse backgrounds in Northern Ireland. In 2016 he was musical director of the Orchestre des Refugies et Amis fusing his contemporary Irish songwriting with roots music from across the world. As a humanitarian activist, Joby has immersed himself in the refugee crisis in Greece. He is co-founder of Refugee Rescue, an NGO providing life-saving sea rescue at the refugee crossing on the island of Lesbos. In 2017 he received the Aisling Award in Belfast for his work in music and as a humanitarian.

[www.jobyfox.com](http://www.jobyfox.com)

### **Katerina Flora** Seminar speaker and facilitator

Katerina is Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde's manager of vocational training since 2007. She worked as a circus performer and a trainer; writes, teaches and organises training on contemporary and social circus; and was one of the writers of "Circus Transformation" (2014) the first European programme for trainers in social circus. Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde (PPCM) is a cultural centre located in the southern suburbs of Paris. While PPCM is in the heart of a disadvantaged area, the organisation works at a regional level and is nationally recognised as leading in the field of arts and culture for societal inclusion. PPCM is a founder member of CARAVAN Circus Network. The centre additionally supports young emerging street artists from all around the world (hip-hop dances, free-running, parkour, etc). Activities include an international festival, outreach and artistic education, residencies for young artists (circus, dance, urban cultures, music...), cooperation with international groups working on the field of culture for inclusion (Madagascar, Mozambique, Chile, Peru, Caribbean and 12 European countries), community projects.

[www.lepluspetitcirquedumonde.fr](http://www.lepluspetitcirquedumonde.fr)

### **Cesar Fulgencio** facilitating the Wednesday Youth Programme session

Cesar is Operations Manager of Subtopia's D.I.T. 'Do It Together' youth culture programme. Subtopia is a 'suburban paradise' on the outskirts of Stokholm, Sweden, with a focus on circus, street performance and film, through collaborations between culture, education, business, and social engagement.

[www.subtopia.se/delvelop/youth-culture-d-i-t/](http://www.subtopia.se/delvelop/youth-culture-d-i-t/)

### **Kim Jackson** Thursday panel

Kim takes a leading role in Heel and Ankle Community Theatre Company. A number of years ago she became interested in and joined a new community theatre production 'Crimea Square' happening in the Shankill area. Following from the success of Crimea Square, some of the local amateur actors that were involved decided to form a company. The Heel and Ankle Community Theatre Company was born, aiming to be a voice for the working class Protestant community and to provide theatre that explores core themes of the Greater Shankill area.

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### **Tom Magill** Thursday panel

Tom is an award-winning Filmmaker, drama facilitator, actor, writer, director and producer. He specialises in Theatre of the Oppressed and Shakespeare using theatre methods for transformation in community and prison settings. Tom was Augusto Boal's representative in N.Ireland. After training with Michael Bogdanov, Tom became his representative in Northern Ireland and set up ESC. Tom is currently part-time Artistic Director with the Educational Shakespeare Company Ltd (ESC) that he co-founded in 1999.  
<https://vimeo.com/72192928>

### **Gerri Moriarty** Main seminar speaker and facilitator

Gerri is an independent arts consultant with a long-standing commitment to exploring the contribution that arts and culture can make to nurturing social change. She was one of the artists who marched on the Arts Council demanding more funding and support for community arts in the 1960s. From Northern Ireland and based in Manchester, England, Gerri has continued to work in community arts as well as being an arts consultant, trainer and writer in the UK, Ireland and beyond. Gerri writes, researches and evaluates. She trained as a theatre practitioner and has written and directed community theatre and performance. She enjoys working collaboratively, across art forms and across disciplines to address issues of social justice and inequality. She has recently co-edited 'Culture, Democracy and the Right to Make Art' with Dr. Alison Jeffers.  
[www.gerrimoriarty.com](http://www.gerrimoriarty.com).

### **Jackie Redpath** Thursday panel

Jackie grew up on the Shankill Road and in the early '70s was working for Shankill Community Council. He became involved in the *Save the Shankill* campaign, fighting planners and the NI Housing Executive in an effort to save his community's way of life. Since then, Jackie has committed himself to community development work in the area, where he serves as Chief Executive of the Greater Shankill Partnership. Community development work has stretched far beyond the Shankill, into cross community, cross border and international work for peace and understanding. He played an important role in the early stages of the Northern Ireland peace process, particularly in relation to the role played by the United States. In 1995 he was awarded the American Ireland Fund Leadership Award and in 1997 he received an MBE for services to the community. Jackie is currently working closely with Queen's Centre for Evidence and Social Innovation. Through the Great Shankill Children and Young People Zone, the Centre is supporting community-led initiatives to improve the lives and futures of children and young people in the area.  
[www.greatershankillpartnership.org](http://www.greatershankillpartnership.org)

### Contact

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[www.beatcarnival.com](http://www.beatcarnival.com) [Facebook.com/BeatCarnival](https://www.facebook.com/BeatCarnival) [Twitter.com/BeatCarnival](https://twitter.com/BeatCarnival)

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