



**Arts Office  
Kilkenny County Council**

## **Kilkenny County Council Arts Office**

### **Emerging Curator in Residence programme**

Kilkenny County Council Arts Office invites applications from Emerging Curators for their 2021 emerging curators programme. The programme will enable curators to gain direct experience in the field of curating projects in Kilkenny. This wonderful opportunity will also support the successful candidate in many ways beyond the financial value of the project.

#### **Kilkenny County Council Arts Office is offering the successful applicant the opportunity to**

- gain experience and professional development in curating and managing three projects in 2021
- develop and expand their artistic and creative networks
- develop and expand their relationships in the culture sector and
- participate in the artistic programming within the city and county of Kilkenny enhancing the cultural offer in Kilkenny to local and national audiences alike
- Be supported by Kilkenny Arts Office
- Be mentored by Eamonn Maxwell (see biog. below\*)

#### **They will receive**

- A €5,000 curatorial fee
- A project budget
- Regular mentoring throughout the duration of their residency
- Technical and installation advice and support
- Curatorial support
- A public dialogue event specific to the exhibition.

All of the above will support the development and enhancement of their career. The successful candidate will work with the Arts Office and mentor to realise these projects.

The successful candidate will also benefit from working alongside a long-established Arts Department within Kilkenny County Council. They will benefit from the years of experience and expertise of the Arts Officer and her staff

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CURATOR**

- Curate and deliver three projects in and for Kilkenny (see draft timeline below).
- Research and engage the artists to be a part of the three projects and organise the logistics for each.
- Work with the artists to write the texts to accompany each project
- Collate and compile all marketing and communication texts (for social media and printed press) for all projects in a timely manner.

- Manage the Arts Office Instagram account for the duration of their residency
- Regular blog updates
- The resident curator will utilise the Arts Office existing networks and contacts to support the realisation of the projects and any associated events, they will also endeavour to forge new relationships.
- Work closely with the Arts Office to manage all aspects of the projects
- The projects must impact and benefit artists and /or communities in Kilkenny
  - This can include communities of place, historical /environmental/social aspects of Kilkenny or a specific demographic.
  - Projects may also include an international context and / or feature new ways of working reflecting the current global pandemic.
  - All projects can feature a solo practitioner and
  - One project must feature an emerging Kilkenny artist at its core
  - The curator must be cognisant of working inclusively when organising such initiatives, taking local groups, new communities, young people and diversity into consideration.
- Meet all project deadlines provided by the Arts Office and any media outlets

**\*NB** for 2021 the projects will not be delivered or presented in a traditional gallery space as per our previous ECIR programme, but instead will be curated for alternative places and spaces, including virtual and physical.

<b>Description</b>	Emerging curator
<b>Overall period</b>	Mid May – December 2021
<b>Residency period</b>	Mid May – December 2021
<b>Project timeline</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. June/ July – August this period will span the Annual Kilkenny Arts Festival pending restrictions in 2021</li> <li>2. September / October</li> <li>3. November / December</li> </ol> <p>Projects do not have to run continuously for the two-month periods but they must have a concerted / concentrated presence across each period</p>
<b>Brief project details</b>	<p>*All three projects must impact and benefit artists and /or communities in Kilkenny</p> <p>*This can include communities of place, historical /environmental/social aspects of Kilkenny or a specific demographic.</p> <p>*Projects may also include an international context and / or feature new ways of working reflecting the current global pandemic.</p> <p>*All projects can feature a solo practitioner and</p> <p>*One project must feature an emerging Kilkenny artist at its core</p> <p>*The curator must be cognisant of working inclusively when organising such initiatives, taking local groups, new communities, young people and diversity into consideration.</p>

<b>Working hours and administration location</b>	<p>Contracted duration – mid May – December 2021</p> <p>The successful applicant must commit to working remotely. A minimum of one - two days per week will be expected to be spent on project development and delivery.</p> <p>The successful candidate can expect the time spent on the projects to increase as they materialise. This will be discussed further and approved with the successful candidate</p> <p>The first phase will entail (virtual) networking, research and meeting with relevant personnel to enable and enhance the curator’s successful integration with the arts, culture and creative communities in Kilkenny</p>
<b>Key relationships</b>	<p>Kilkenny County Council Arts Officer: Mary Butler</p> <p>Mentor: Eamonn Maxwell</p>
<b>Curator fee</b>	<p>Curators fee incl. €5,000</p> <p>There is a separate budget for the projects. Full breakdown will be provided to the successful candidate</p> <p>The curator in residence will work on a freelance basis and will invoice Kilkenny County Council in three stages, dates tbc</p>
<b>Other</b>	<p>The applicant must outline how their programming will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• benefit Kilkenny artists</li> <li>• benefit Kilkenny and its creative sector and wider community</li> <li>• engage with and build audiences, locally, nationally and potentially internationally</li> <li>• stimulate and challenge audiences</li> <li>• include an international context and / or</li> <li>• feature new ways of working reflecting the current global pandemic.</li> <li>• How the opportunity would benefit their own career</li> </ul>

**Who we are looking for / Personal specification - For 2021 this opportunity is opened to emerging curators, artists and project managers**

The successful applicant should have:

- a degree in fine art or an associated field
- Knowledge and experience of contemporary visual arts in Ireland and beyond
- Existing artist’s networks OR knowledge of emerging visual artists across the county, the island of Ireland and beyond
- An understanding of the issues facing visual artists in developing their practice
- demonstrable curatorial experience (albeit limited experience)

- have proven project management skills (albeit limited experience)
- Proven ability to build relationships with artists, communities and existing and new audiences
- Knowledge of the artistic vitality of Kilkenny

#### **How to apply:**

- Maximum 500-word statement / letter of interest outlining your curatorial rationale / approach and how your programming will
  - benefit Kilkenny artists
  - benefit Kilkenny and its creative sector and wider community
  - engage with and build audiences
- 250 words statement outlining
  - how the opportunity would benefit their own career path as an emerging curator
- Up to date CV Max two pages, please include details / images of previously curated project and / or exhibitions
- Two professional referees
- **Applications will be accepted by email in PDF format only**
- **The file must not exceed 10MB**
- **Please send completed application to: [deirdre.southey@kilkennycoco.ie](mailto:deirdre.southey@kilkennycoco.ie)**
- **You will receive an acknowledgement of receipt for your application. If you do not receive this e mail within 24 hours of the deadline, please contact the Arts Office on 056 779 4547**

**Taxation** - The successful applicant will be responsible for all taxes, which arise from payment of the agreed fee, including and without prejudice to the generality of this provision all income tax and all VAT.

#### **NOTES ON COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS**

- It is recommended that you base your proposal on the best public health advice and guidance available at the time you are making your application. You should ensure that what you are proposing to do is feasible or adaptable should social distancing and/or other public health measures impact on all or part of the period to which this residency applies.
- Applicants are requested to address COVID 19. Specifically, you are required to submit both Plan A and Plan B options. Plan A is based on delivering a project under restricted lockdown conditions, and Plan B should be based on our ability to hold face to face gatherings.
- In doing this you will show awareness of the challenges of Covid19 to your proposal and show preparedness to adapt whilst adhering to all Public Health Guidelines.
- Kilkenny County Council recognises now more than ever communities and artists need support and we appreciate that plans may change – however please do ensure you can provide as much information in your contingency plan in case what you propose changes due to unforeseen circumstances this year.

- Further information on Public Health Guidance is available on HSE & Government websites and is updated frequently. <https://www.gov.ie/en/https://www.hse.ie/eng/>

## **APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 19<sup>th</sup> 2021 @ 4pm**

### **Eamonn Maxwell Biography:**

Eamonn Maxwell is a Curator and Cultural Consultant. Since graduating from Camberwell College of Arts, (UK) Maxwell has been involved in over 60 exhibitions in UK, Ireland and Europe, including curating the Irish Pavilion at 2011 Venice Biennale.

Whilst Curator at University of the Arts, London Eamonn founded the Emerging Artists Programme which helped to give many artists important exposure and he continues to mentor emerging artists in Ireland and internationally.

From 2009 – 2016 he was Director of Lismore Castle Arts, Waterford, one of the most important contemporary art organisations in Ireland, where he curated, exhibited and commissioned work by more than 150 artists. Aside from working with international artists, he has also advised some of the leading contemporary art collectors and has expertise as a board member for not-for-profit organisations.



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***'The Emerging Curator in Residence Programme was a valuable opportunity which gave me the freedom to explore and develop my own curatorial identity. Throughout the residency I was given a platform to realise my ideas in a supportive environment with the help of the Arts Office team. The varied role allowed me to gain experience in all areas of curation and exhibition management and the skills I learned continue to benefit my practice'***

### **Leah Corbett 2019 Emerging Curator in Residence**

***The Emerging Curator in Residence Programme was an important experience for me to develop my curatorial practice; it is rare for such an opportunity to give the freedom, support, mentorship and trust in realising exhibitions. Although it was a challenging year, it was a pleasure to work with all the artists, the Kilkenny Arts Office team and Eamonn Maxwell.***

### **Rachel Botha 2020 Emerging Curator in Residence**