

RE-ROOTING TALLAGHT

PERFORMANCE ART FESTIVAL 2024

25—28 SEPTEMBER 2024

VENUS PATEL

WIOLETTA RATAJCZAK

TUQA AL SARRAJ

PREEMA NAZIA ANDALEEB

FERGUS BYRNE

ÁINE PHILLIPS

ALASTAIR MACLENNAN

DEEJ FABYC

CURATED BY

LAUREN KELLY

PAUL REGAN

Comhairle Contae
Átha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council

an arts council ealaíon
cistiú na healaíona

RE-
ROOTING
TALLAGHT

CURATORS' NOTE

Tallaght Performance Art Festival

'Re-rooting' invites us to reimagine and approach something in a new way, whether through different techniques or in a different setting. As Tallaght continues to evolve, we, as curators, alongside our community of invited artists, find deep inspiration in both its history and its dynamic present. Re-rooting Tallaght engages with this place, its community, and rich history, while thoughtfully responding to its contemporary realities. This year's program showcases the work of artists such as Áine Phillips, Venus Patel, Fergus Byrne, Tuqa Sarraj, Wioletta Ratajczak, Preema Nazia Andaleeb, Deej Fabyc, and Alastair MacLennan. These artists, ranging from established to emerging, bring a range of personal responses and individual artistic action to the festival.

In preparation for the festival, we collaborated with local historian Tomas Maher to gain an understanding of Tallaght's historical development, from the very early references to Taimleach Muintire Parthalon, the burial ground of Parthalon's followers, to the power dynamics of religious influence evident in sites like St. Maelruain's and St. Mary's Priory.

We also explored Tallaght's rapid industrial growth on a walking tour with artist and researcher Michael Dignam. This tour highlighted the impact of the closure of two major industries, the Jacobs Factory in 2009 and the Urney Chocolate factory, that operated from 1924 to 1980. The loss of these manufacturing works dealt a heavy blow, both financially and socially, to the community. Today, the former Jacobs site is occupied by a monumental, grey box data centre, consuming vast amounts of energy to power its servers.

Tallaght has long been a site of migration, and the selected artists have engaged with the diverse, multifaceted communities that have made Tallaght their home. Their work centres on stories of belonging and displacement, enriched by the experiences of refugees who have recently joined this community. The diverse perspectives and cultural backgrounds add new layers of complexity and depth to Tallaght's evolving cultural identity, making it a more vibrant and dynamic place. The artists' responses celebrate Tallaght's ongoing transformation, ensuring that these new narratives are woven into the fabric of its cultural legacy.

It is with great excitement that we present Re-rooting Tallaght, a festival where art and community come together, offering a space for contemplation, reflection, innovation, and shared experience. This convergence of past, present, and future marks the enduring spirit of Tallaght and its people.

Lauren Kelly and Paul Regan
Co-curators, Re–rooting Tallaght


Keogh's
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€3.49

VENUS PATEL

THE BISCUIT WITHOUT A HOME
11am – 12pm, Wednesday, 25 September
Amazon AWS to St.Johns House
Duration: 60 minutes

After 15 years in hibernation, a biscuit named Creamia awakes to find the world she once knew to be over. With the closure of the Jacob's Biscuit Factory and its over haul by an Amazon Data Centre, she has lost the life and the community she once had. Her procession through Tallaght evokes a ritualistic method of finding a way to exist within a space that has pushed her out and how to rebuild a world without the hierarchy of capitalism and hate. The performance follows her as she tries to understand the concepts of community, who deserves to exist within it, and who gets to decide that.

About Venus Patel

Venus Patel is a transfemme artist of colour working in performance and film. Born in Los Angeles, she graduated from TU Dublin in 2022 with a BA in Fine Arts. She is concerned with the politics of representation and makes projects based on her lived experience as an 'other'. Her practice utilises a unique blend of humour, absurdity, and abjection to create multi–faceted work that speaks on difficult subject matter such as hate crimes, religious guilt, and Queer/POC bodily suppression.

She has won the RDS Taylor Art Award, Arts Council Bursary Award, and Romilly Walton Masters Award. Her work has been shown in the Crawford Art Gallery, Butler Gallery, the Complex, and Pallas Projects, and her films have been shown in film festivals across Ireland, the UK, the US, and Germany.

Image: Snail Shop at Tesco, Venus Patel. Photo by Murky Anyango



WIOLETTA RATAJCZAK

WHERE ARE YOU NOW, OISÍN?
1pm – 2pm, Wednesday, 25 September
Rua Red Performance Space
Duration: 60 minutes

Where are you now, Oisín? is inspired by a Celtic myth telling the story of the tragic character Oisín and his return to Ireland from the Land of Youth after three hundred years. According to the Fenian cycle, the place where Oisín fell from his magic horse was located at the Glenasmole Valley. Wioletta's performance is based on research on the phenomena of 'culture shock' when moving abroad and 're-entry culture shock' experienced by many immigrants returning home after living in the other country. She intends to re-tell the story of Oisín's from the perspective of a person experiencing a subtle exclusion in both Polish and Irish cultures, in which she has been living for many years.

About Wioletta Ratajczak

Wioletta Ratajczak is an interdisciplinary artist and a member of Bbeyond. Based in Dublin, her artistic practice focuses on creating small scale performative devices and sculptures called 'moment catchers'. They are inspired by paradoxical phenomena observed in everyday life. She also has designed sculptural costumes influenced by her childhood experiences, traumas and her family's secrets. Those costumes are then used in her performative interactions with the audience. Since 2022, Wioletta has regularly taken part in creative workshops designed to generate items of work to be shown as examples of NCAD's ethos of 'bold & curious'. Her innovative devices, small scale sculptures and costumes have subsequently featured in NCAD'S previous and current prospectuses. She conducted research, constructed big-scale, body oriented, interactive sculptures and has lead art workshops in the fields of dementia at St. James's Hospital (2019) and at Tolka River Project, Dublin (2022-2023).

Image: Family's Secrets Project. Part 1. My Brother's Secret. Wioletta Ratajczak, March 2024, Co. Mayo. Photo by Mariusz Gospodarczyk.

TUQA AL SARRAJ

FINDING ARABIC IN IRELAND SERIES
4pm – 6pm, Wednesday, 25 September
Rua Red Performance Space
Duration: 120 minutes

Finding Arabic in Ireland Series is part of The Linguistic Tapestry of Ireland series, using performance art to explore the narrative of the Arabic language and its presence in the community. This series highlights Arabic's historical and cultural contributions to Ireland, from mediaeval scholarly exchanges to the stories of modern immigrants.

The project defines the critical role of research when it comes to illustrating language cultural narratives. It reflects the shared heritage of learning and intellectual curiosity. Research for this project will be provided by the rich resources of the Tallaght Library archives and combined with interviews of local residents.

About Tuqa Al Assarj

Tuqa Al Sarraj is a contemporary visual artist and filmmaker based at Flux Studios in Dublin. She studied Fine Art media at the National College of Art and Design (2021). Al Sarraj has also previously studied contemporary art at the International Academy of Art Palestine (IAAP), Ramallah (2017). Tuqa has exhibited as part of group exhibitions in various international cities, including Oslo, London, Ramallah, Creil, Dublin, Limerick, and Sligo.

Her practice includes mixed-media, found objects, collage, photography, video, performance and installation. Al Sarraj navigates themes of memory, loss, and exile through social dialogues and personal conversations. She is a member of PalArt collective in London, and Angelica Network in Ireland.

Image: Peat Show Performance 2022 Memory | Loss exhibition at Mart gallery. Photograph by Eileen Mantel



PREEMA NAZIA ANDALEEB

LUNCHEON IN THE GRAVEYARD
11am – 12pm, Thursday, 26 September
St Maelruain's Churchyard Cemetry
Duration: 60 minutes

The performance explores the complex nature of human actions and the evolving identity as one, using body as a metaphor. The gesture depicts the juxtaposition of two different cultures that are influenced by many narratives over the years. The amalgamation of religious discourses and historical narratives has an interesting impact on both of the cultures as a paradox. Though the graveyard is a holy and sacred place, death is constant regardless of culture, religion, and cast. We might have a concept of after death, but death is illusive, and thus, it is a concept that stands alone in isolation.

About Preema Nazia Andaleeb

Preema Nazia Andaleeb is an unpredictable, visionary, and provocative Bangladesh born visual artist. Her tactile imagery, contrasting approach creates visual tension which is an weapon to challenge stereo typical mindset. She represented Bangladesh national pavilion at the 58th Biennale in 2019. Her works includes painting, drawing, text, singing, dancing, installation and performance. Along with 23 solo expositions, she has shown her works at 11th & 12th Florence Biennale, Overlapping Kassel Documenta 15, Asian Art Biennale, Istanbul Biennale, Tuyup Art Fair/Istanbul, Art Dubai, Art Basel, Art Asia Miami, Venice International Art Expo, Bangladesh National Museum, Heritage Museum, Uzbekistan, Asian Museum/Poland, Fukuoka Museum, Japan including many more. Preema created performances at Sanskrit Artist Residency, India, Geoge Keyt Residency, Sri Lanka, International Performance Art Residency, Venice, Collective Signatures performance marathon, Spain, Royal Overseas League,UK, including many other spaces in Bangladesh, USA, Greece, Italy, Poland, Batislava, Prague, Germany. Preema is the Chairperson of Preema Arte Foundation, Founder of Performance Art Bangladesh.

Image: Third Eye, Athens, Preema Nazia Andaleeb. Photo by Christina Fylaktopoulou



FERGUS BYRNE

WALL.DIN WALL.DOUBT
2pm – 4pm, Thursday, 26 September
St. Mary's Priory Garden
Duration: 120 minutes

The performance is responding to the site of St. Mary's Priory and the Walled garden within. The Bullaun stone and the Mill stone situated within Friar's walk will be given particular attention. These had instant appeal when I first saw them. I will combine improvised actions while reciting a text in a repetitive way like a mantra. The text is a collage of notes from encounters and observations in Tallaght and quotes from books. This use of the text as a mantra allows the physical actions to be improvised within the structure of the spoken words which will be the soundtrack to my action. There is no singular meaning to the words but as I edit and write I am extracting elements that touch upon giving and receiving. I hope through the repetition of the text to be able to release myself into an altered state of consciousness and behaviour which will create an interesting experience for those who attend.

About Fergus Byrne

Fergus Byrne is a multidisciplinary artist. He studied fine Art in NCAD in the 90s. In 2003 he completed an MA in Contemporary Performance practices at Hull University. He has taught life drawing for many years, whic has consquently informed his performance practice. Since 2017 he has been a tour guide in the National Gallery of Ireland. He has previously curated events that convened varied art forms and audiences such as the Transversal series (2010-2012), with Deirdre Murphy, Generation at The Dock (2013). In 2015 he collaborated with Ambra Bergamasco the Moving Bodies Butoh Film Festival at The New Theatre, Dublin. He has been very involved with Contact Improvisation dance in Dublin. In addition to this his other significant training has been martial arts and Body Weather Training. His writing practice brings with it a particular viewpoint on performance work, exemplified in 'Fragments on the Performance Collective', in Performance Art in Ireland: A History.

Image: Coming out for Air, Fergus Byrne. Photo by Rainer Pagel



ÁINE PHILLIPS

BAG LADY
11am – 1pm, Friday, 27 September
Rua Red to The Square Shopping Centre
Duration: 120 minutes

In San Francisco some years ago I witnessed many thousands of homeless people in the parks trundling their personal collections of monumental receptacles. I was in awe of their sculptural and transformative presence and their unconventional kinetic ways of living. It was also devastating to see the evidence that so many have no basic shelter in this wealthy world; this is also the case in Ireland now.

Bag Lady is an acknowledgement of displaced people everywhere, saluting the endurance, perseverance and courage in adversity it takes to live on the streets. This performance presents homelessness in a new light, as diviners proposing alternative ways of being in this world, liberated from capitalism and the behavioral codes of society.

About Áine Phillips

Áine Phillips has been creating performance art, installation and art films since the late 80's. She has presented her work widely in Ireland and internationally for multiple contexts: public space, social events, galleries, theatres, museums, biennales, performance and film festivals. She has shown her work at TATE Britain, Les Halles Brussels, City of Women Ljubljana, Kyoto Art Centre, Tanzquartier Vienna, Moving Image Gallery New York, National Review of Live Art Glasgow, among many others. Selected Irish exhibitions include The Lab, Irish Film Centre, Project, Golden Thread Gallery Belfast, EV+A Limerick and Galway Arts Centre. In 2015 she published "Performance Art in Ireland: A History" (Live Art Development Agency, co-published with Intellect Books UK), the first survey to chart the development of live art and performance in Ireland since the 1970s. Her work is supported and collected by the Arts Council of Ireland and the National Museum of Ireland.

Image: Bag Ladies, Ennis 2017, Áine Phillips. Photo by Marie Connole.

ALASTAIR MACLENNAN

TEN TO PEN
2pm – 3.30pm, Friday, 27 September
Tallaght Cross (Intersection)
Duration: 90 minutes

My inspiration comes from Zen practice...
A crossroads indicates opposite and differing directions. In Zen practice there is no separation between a subject and an object. Zen engages holistic mind / body inter-links, beyond the splits of binary, oppositional thinking. 'How' to go, to 'get' there, to BE there? One way is by meditative walking, focussing awareness on one's inbreath and outbreath, ongoingly... along the way... interfusing mind / body interlinks through focussed breathing BEYOND separatist, binary mental and physical distractions.
A physical crossroads can be used in art as a metaphorical paradox beyond the literal ... revealing sameness in difference and difference in sameness. In Zen practice (and at the crossroads) each step along the way can be an arrival in its own right.

About Alastair MacLennan

In 1997, Alastair MacLennan represented Ireland at the 47th Venice Biennale, commemorating names of those who lost their lives as a result of the Political Troubles in N.Ireland. Over years he's made some long durational performances of up to 144 hours each, some 'non-stop', involving no eating or sleeping throughout. Subject matter dealt with political, social and cultural malfunction. He was a founding member of Belfast's Art and Research Exchange and is a founding member of Belfast's Bbeyond Performance Art organization. He ran the first Master of Arts (MA) fine art course in Ulster Polytechnic and is now Emeritus Professor of fine art from Ulster University. Zen practice has influenced his art-making throughout the last five decades, during which time he's traveled to Eastern and Western Europe, Asia, America and Canada, presenting Actuations (performance/installations). Since 1989 he's been a member of the European performance art entity, Black Market International.

Image: SIBILANT MISCIBLE, McManus Dundee, October 2022. Photo by Jamie Donald.



DEEJ FABYC

DIGGING UP NOTHING IN KILTALOWN
4.30pm – 5.30pm, Friday, 27 September
Rua Red Main Entrance
Duration: 60 minutes

They looked in the mirror and did not recognise the being looking back. They could see the eyes looked dead and full of pain. At this moment they knew the life they were living was untenable, the choices were stark, death from an overdose or accident, mental hospital incarceration or even jail if they continued on their current path. They found others on the journey to recovery and slowly became able to live life clean, able to handle the tides of existence without self medication with alcohol or drugs... (apart from coffee).

About Deej Fabyc

Fabyc has a highly collaborative practice and has been a founding member of several collaborative projects including underground collective JILLPOSTERS in Melbourne in the 1980s, and Elastic ARI Sydney 2000-2001 Elastic Residence, a London ARI 2004-11 of KISSS, an international curatorium of artists working with issues of surveillance. Since 2018 Deej has been Chair of FBI, a feminist network of artists. In 2020 Fabyc moved to Ireland to set up the artist run, Artist in residency project Live Art Ireland. Deej Fabyc works with performance, installation, photography and video. Their work has for many years addressed the psychological dimensions of the personal and political experience of trauma. Current performance work is engaged with wicked embodied mapping of narratives of awkwardness, neurodiversity, loss, ageing, mental health and chronic illness. Fabyc has performed in museums, night clubs, and the street internationally for forty years. Fabyc has taught performance and fine art in the HE sector, the prison system and community settings for the past 30 years.

Image: Revisions to Spite, Deej Fabyc, Here & Now Festival Ennistymon 2024 Photo by Aleksandra Skibniewska.



PANEL TALK + ART JAM

PANEL TALK + ART JAM

12pm - 4pm, Saturday 28 September

Rua Red Performance Space

To mark the final day of the programme join us for a panel discussion with Re-rooting Tallaght curators Paul Regan and Lauren Kelly, who will be discussing the week of performances and the wider context of performance in Ireland.

Following the talk there will be a performance jam in the Rua Red Performance Space starting from 2pm, with the artists that took part in Re-rooting Tallaght. The aim of this performance jam is to create dialogs between artists without rehearsals and focus purely on the live action. You are invited to come along and watch to mark the ending of this years Tallaght Performance Art Festival.

Image: Performance Art Jam, Uprooting Tallght, Performance Art Festival 2023. Photo by Juliette Rowland.



	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
10AM				
11AM	**VENUS PATEL** AWS Centre to St.John's House	**PREEMA NAZIA ANDALEEB** St.Maelruins	**ÁINE PHILLIPS** The Square Shopping Centre	
12PM				**PANEL TALK** Rua Red
1PM	**WIOLETTA RATAJCZAK** Rua Red			
2PM		**FERGUS BYRNE** St.Mary's Priory	**ALASTAIR MACLENNAN** Tallaght Cross	**ART JAM** Rua Red
3PM				
4PM	**TUQA AL SARRAJ** Rua Red		**DEEJ FABYC** Rua Red	
5PM				
6PM				
7PM				
8PM				

SITE ACCESS

RUA RED

The most convientient way to reach Rua Red is by taking the **Luas Red Line** towards Tallaght. Rua Red is a short 3 minute walk from the Tallaght luas stop.

Several Bus routes serve the Tallaght area and stop near Rua Red. These include:
Route 27: From Clare Hall, city centre to Jobstown, passing through Tallaght.
Route 49: From Pearse Street, city centre to Tallght.
Route 54a: From Pearse Street, city centre to Kiltipper, passing through Tallaght.
Route 56a: From Ringsend Road towards Tallaght (The Square)
Route 65b: From Poolbeg Street towards Citywest, passing through Tallaght.
Route 77a: From Ringsend Road towards Citywest, passing through Tallaght.

The nearest car park to Rua Red is **The Square Shopping Centre, Level 2, Car Park** which is located beside the Arts Centre. The car park offers ample parking, including accessible bays. €1 for up to 3 hours. €2 per hour after your third hour of parking. €30 maximum daily rate for 24 hours.

Rua Red is fully wheelchair accssible. Accessible toilets are available on site. Guide dogs are welcome in the centre and staff are trained to assist visitors with additional needs. Please contact the centre in advance if you have any specific requirements or queries - **01 451 5860.**

RUA RED TO THE SQUARE SHOPPING CENTRE

The route from Rua Red to the Square Shopping Centre is straightforward, located just to the right of side of Rua Red as you exit the building from the main entrance.

The route is well maintained with level ground for people using wheelchairs, mobility skooters, prams, or walking sticks. There are no steep inclines or steps along this path, and pedestrian crossings are designed to be safe and accessible.

AMAZON AWS CENTRE TO ST.JOHNS HOUSE

The distance between the Amazon AWS Centre, Belgard Rd., and St. John's House on the High Street in Tallaght Village is approximately 1.5 kilometers.

The route involves mainly paved foothpath along the Belgard road. The route may be noisy due to high traffic and requires extra caution. The terrain is generally flat, but there may be some slight inclines. The footpath for this journey is in good condition, and wide enough to accomodate wheelchairs or mobility scooters.

There are pedestrian crossings at major intersections along the route, many of which have traffic lights. These crossings have dropped curbs and tactile paving. Ensure you have any necessary mobility aids with you.

ST. MAELRUAIN'S CHURCHYARD CEMETREY

St.Maelruain's Church of Ireland is located on the Old Blessington Road, off the Main Street, Tallaght Village. There is limited parking available near the church.

The churchyard pathways may be uneven, with gravel, grass, or cobblestones, which can be difficult for wheelchair users or those with limited mobility. The availability of accessible restrooms may be limited.

For visitors with specific accessibility need or inquieries, please contact the church directly. St.Maelruain's will be able to provide detailed information - **01 462 6006**

TALLAGHT CROSS (INTERSECTION)

Tallaght Cross, a major intersection in Tallaght, near the Square Shopping Centre, Tallaght Hospital, the Tallaght Luas stop and a 3 minute walk from Rua Red. It is a key junction for both pedestrians and vehicles.

Along with the Luas stop, the area around Tallaght Cross is served by the previously listed bus routes. Check with Dublin Bus for specific details on bus accessibility and schedule. Car parking is available in the Square Shopping Centre, Level 2.

The footpaths around Tallaght Cross are wide and level, allowing for easy movement for wheelchair users and those with other mobility aids. However, during peak hours, these areas can become crowded, which may require extra caution.

The intersection is equipped with multiple pedestrian crosswalks, that have tactile paving. The crosswalks are signalised with pedestrian lights with audible signals.

Accessible restrooms are available in nearby at Rua Red.

ST. MARY'S PRIORY

St. Mary's Priory is located on Main Street, Tallaght Village. There is limited parking available near the church.

The Priory gardens and courtyards, can be difficult for wheelchair users or those with limited mobility. The availability of accessible restrooms may be limited.

For visitors with specific accessibility needs or inquiries, please contact the Priory directly. The Priory will be able to provide detailed information - **01 404 8100**



ruared.ie