



PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

FINGAL AND THE FIGHT FOR IRISH FREEDOM



FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL IS DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE AN EXCITING PUBLIC ART COMMISSION OPPORTUNITY.

We are seeking proposals from artists which will reflect on the themes, activities and characters that feature in the Fingal experience of the 1916 rising. The commissioned artists will have the opportunity to work with the county archive, commemoration committee experts and connect with local knowledge and individuals closely associated with and engaged in current research around the 1916 activity in Fingal.

With its proximity to the city, Fingal's contribution to the Rising was significant. Thomas Ashe, Richard Coleman, Dr. Richard Hayes and Frank Lawless, were key figures in the 1916 events in Fingal and in Irish politics afterwards. The events that unfolded on the days leading up to the rising in Fingal included: organised gatherings at various locations including Rathbeale, Knockesdan Bridge, and Kileek, raids on the RIC barracks at Garristown, Swords, and Donabate; attacks on infrastructure such as railway lines, bridges and telephone wires at Rogerstown, Howth and Blanchardstown; and a major engagement at Ashbourne on Friday 28th April 1916 that is now known as the Battle of Ashbourne. Fingal volunteers were also involved in the fighting in the city in O'Connell Street and at the Mendicity Institute.

Fingal's story reveals a list of local family names of Lawless, Weston, McAlister, Kelly, Taylor, Doyle and many others. Along with the male combatants a network of supportive daughters, sisters, mothers and wives participated by delivering messages cycling to and from the city with great discretion and skill while maintaining households and volunteer spirits.

They also assisted in the covert movement of arms and explosives and tended to the wounded on both sides after the Battle of Ashbourne. Mary (Molly) Adrian, Eileen Lawless, and Monica (Dot) Fleming stand out in particular. Along with all that they did before and during the days of the Rising, these women are listed with the male combatants as taking part in the Battle of Ashbourne as messengers and helping the wounded.

We can envision a Fingal in a time of furtive activity, tension, whispers, and unwavering trust, a place vibrating with youthful energy and idealist fervour. A full history - Fingal and the fight for Irish freedom is available through Fingal's county archivist.

BUDGET €35,000

INVITATION

Fingal County Council has an excellent reputation for the commissioning of high quality contemporary artworks across all artforms, more details on our previous commissions can be found at www.fingalarts.ie/publicart

We are seeking proposals from artists working across all art forms, including, dance, film, literature, music, opera, theatre, and visual art and across all media – drawing, photography, print, writing, film, performance, composition, song, choreography and more. The invitation is for artists to make new work which will respond to the Fingal experiences of the 1916 rising.

A dedicated and expert commemorations committee is currently in place who can provide detailed information on the Fingal history and production support for the awarded artist will be available from the Fingal arts office. An extensive and detailed programme of activities has been announced for Fingal 2016, the artists may wish to tie into some of the resources or targeted audiences associated with this programme. It would be preferable that the work would be realised in time for the Fingal 2016 celebrations in April.

We are especially interested in the proposal(s) which best reflects the national commemorative principles, to Remember, Reflect and Re-imagine the events leading up to the 1916 rising in Fingal.

OBJECTIVES

- That this commission will allow for the creation of a new piece of work
- It is hoped that this commission will be an opportunity to reflect on the unique Fingal Story, Fingal and the fight for Irish Freedom
- It is hoped that the commission will complement the activities which will be taking place in Fingal during the commemoration celebrations
- It is hoped that the commission will provide the local and wider audience the opportunity to connect and reflect on the Fingal story in a meaningful and engaging way

SITE /LOCATION

We are seeking proposals from all art forms, so while the site for presentation of a final work is not fixed, the most appropriate location (if any) will be determined by the context of the work with the assistance of the arts office and the Commemorations Committee.

SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process will take the form of a two stage competition

STAGE 1

Artists/arts practitioners are invited to submit a brief proposal, outline budget, a C.V and samples of previous work or supporting documentation. A selection of artists will be shortlisted to stage 2.

STAGE 2

Shortlisted artists (to a maximum of 5) will be invited to submit a more detailed proposal and budget and paid a €500 fee to develop the idea. Artists may be required to present to the selection panel should more discussion be required.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- The budget is only available for the creation of new work
- That the proposal will reflect on the Fingal Experience of 1916
- Quality and originality of artistic ideas
- Capacity of the artist to develop, manage and deliver the project on time and within budget
- Feasibility of proposal.

SELECTION PANEL STAGE 1-SHORTLISTING

Selection panel will include arts office representation, independent professional artists and arts professionals relating to the range of art forms received and a selection of members from the Commemorations Committee.

STAGE 2-DEVELOPED PROPOSALS

Shortlisted proposals from Stage 1 will be assessed by Arts Professionals/Professional Artists and a selection of members from the Commemorations Committee. The selection panel reserves the right not to commission from this process.

TIMEFRAME

Artists invited to planned public commemoration information sessions on.

Tuesday 5th May,
Castleknock Hotel & Country Club, Dublin 15 ,
7pm – 9pm

Thursday 7th of May
Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords
7pm – 9pm

STAGE 1: DEADLINE FOR RETURN OF OUTLINE PROJECT PROPOSALS JUNE 11TH 2015

Shortlisted artists will be invited to submit a more detailed proposal

DEADLINE FOR RETURN OF SECOND STAGE AUGUST 2015.

SUBMISSION DETAILS

Artists/Arts Practitioners making an application are required to submit, a C.V an outline project proposal /budget and provide supporting documentation relating to previous work.

Any images, supporting documentation must be supplied in hard copy and or contained within a USB/CD/DVD and delivered by hand or post.

SUBMISSIONS BY POST ONLY

PROPOSALS SHOULD INCLUDE

- A detailed curriculum vitae and biography.
- An outline proposal relating to working within the Fingal context
- How the proposal relates to the Fingal experience of 1916
- Outline of how the project could be best achieved/presented
- A budget which will outline broadly artist's fees, development, and production costs.

1st stage proposals will not be returned but can be collected from Fingal County Council following shortlist selection

CLOSING DATE FOR STAGE 1: JUNE 11TH 2015 AT 5PM

All submissions must be marked
Fingal 1916 Public Art Commission
Arts Office
Fingal County Council
Grove Road
Blanchardstown
Dublin 15

Applications arriving later than the closing date will not be accepted

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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