

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release



ANNOUNCING: DEMO RECIPROCAL RESIDENTS 2024

CCA Derry~Londonderry are delighted to announce the participants in the third iteration of the DeMo reciprocal residency programme, a partnership between [CCA](#), [Lithuanian Culture Institute](#) and [Kaunas Artists' House](#): Roisín McGuigan (NI) and Ieva Kotryna Ski (LT).

During the residency, artist Roisín McGuigan will spend time in residence at Kaunas Artists' House. Roisín will build on threads of dialogue, negotiation and dissent that run through her practice to expand on auto-ethnographic reflections on place, phenomena and the reverberations of growing up near the Northern Irish border. Through explorations into the memorialisation of

Ireland's pre-partition history and conversations surrounding borderless exchange, Roisín will consider new commemorative objects.



Ieva Kotryna Ski will use the residency as a space to develop an ongoing project that reflects on seaside holiday fantasies in the context of the Curonian Spit, a local treasure hunt in the region and the selective observations by holidaymakers vacationing there. In addition, Ieva will spend her time in Derry~Londonderry and surrounding coastline of the North West exploring and enriching her practice through research into fractured landscapes and the term *Síreacht*, which broadly translates to longing in the context of Lithuania and Ireland.

Both based in their respective second cities, CCA, KAH and LCI have been collaborating since the residency's inception in 2019. CCA is the leading arts organisation dedicated to supporting emerging artists in the north of Ireland through exhibitions, public and digital programmes as well as continual professional development Supports programme. KAH works with diverse cultural phenomena, presenting emerging artists, new ideas and cultural experiments and LCI, which is a state institution presenting Lithuanian culture and professional art abroad, enhancing the opportunities and international scene for Lithuanian cultural professionals and artists.

Catherine Hemelryk, Director of CCA Derry~Londonderry said "I am thrilled that we are able to continue to provide an opportunity for artists from Northern Ireland and Lithuania to participate in this exchange spanning Europe. We are looking forward to welcoming Ieva to our context and supporting her to develop new work."

Agnė Bagdžiūnaitė, Manager of Cultural Activities at Kaunas Artists' House said "It has always been a pleasure to collaborate with Catherine and the CCA in Derry~Londonderry. We had great artists from Northern Ireland who we believe successfully continue their careers while remembering great time in Kaunas."

Dr Suzanne Lyle, Head of Visual Arts, Arts Council of NI said, "I am so delighted that CCA Derry~Londonderry is encouraging and supporting this important creation of an international exchange between Northern Ireland and Lithuania, and it is terrific to see that the Arts Council's National Lottery Funding has contributed to the DeMo reciprocal residency programme this year. The work of our visual artists, and CCA is helping put Northern Ireland on the international map for all the right reasons."

Following participation in the residencies, both artists will work towards solo exhibitions at CCA Derry~Londonderry launching on Saturday 30 March 2024, 7–9pm.

The previous Reciprocal Residency artists were:

2020

Niamh Seana Meehan (NI)

Gintė Regina (LT)

2022

Mark Buckeridge (NI)

Ona Juciūtė (LT)

Supported by Arts Council of Northern Ireland, Derry City & Strabane District Council, Lithuanian Culture Institute and Kaunas Artists' House.

ENDS

Centre for Contemporary Art Derry~Londonderry

10–12 Artillery Street, Derry~Londonderry, BT48 6RG, Northern Ireland

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Opening times: Tuesday–Saturday noon–6pm. Free admission

About CCA Derry~Londonderry:

The Centre for Contemporary Art (CCA) is a publicly funded space within the historic city walls of Derry~Londonderry. CCA creates opportunities for audiences to experience ambitious, experimental and engaging art and for emerging artists to develop successful careers. CCA fosters a wide range of artistic, curatorial and critical practices through five programme streams: research and production, exhibition-making, public programmes, publishing and residencies.

CCA was a Finalist in Art Fund Museum of the Year 2021, the largest museum prize in the world. CCA was recognised for its resilience and adaptability throughout the pandemic, and their continued effort to support audiences and artists including creating paid opportunities for artists and freelancers when they needed it most.

CCA is a member of Plus Tate: Plus Tate is a network, which comprises 35 cultural institutions – including the Tate galleries – that have strong artistic vision, a focus on contemporary art, outstanding public programming and a commitment to local community engagement through art. Plus Tate aims to support the development of the visual arts across the UK.

About Kaunas Artists' House:

Kaunas Artists' House (KAH) works with diverse cultural phenomena, presenting emerging artists, new ideas and cultural experiments. Next to residency programmes, KAH offers a diverse repertoire through several long-term programs and thematic projects. Ongoing educational programmes offer activities, based on contemporary culture practices: workshops, camps and events for children and young adults, emphasising inclusion of marginalised youth groups, participants' voice and democratic communication. KAH Infocentre functions as a coordinator of the local cultural network, connecting artists, institutions and guests. The Infocentre also collects and spreads cultural online and printed information. KAH also carries out film and video art programmes, experimental and industrial music projects and hosts several city-scale cultural festivals. As an active part of the local cultural scene, KAH also participates in partners' projects and/or hosts events initiated by partner organizations.

Kaunas Artists' House has a wide network of local, national and international partners, which it nurtures through a steady and sustainable long term cooperation. As culture hub KAH brings together national art and culture organizations and NGOs that wish to present contemporary cultural content in Kaunas. As experts of culture KAH also works with art institutions, museums and art education programs in Universities in the city to offer them alternative scenarios and contemporary content.

kmn.lt

About Lithuanian Culture Institute:

The Lithuanian Culture Institute is a Lithuanian state institution which presents Lithuanian culture and professional art abroad and enhances the opportunities on the international scene for Lithuanian cultural professionals and artists, as well as for specialists and organisations working in these fields. In the UK it largely carries out those missions through the Lithuanian Cultural Attaché in the UK and their partner organisations in Lithuania and the UK.

lithuanianculture.lt

About the residency:

This residency was established in 2020 and takes place every two years. The programme aims to create opportunities for emerging artists to participate in residencies, to stimulate mutual dialogue and exchange. Northern Ireland and Lithuania are located at opposing edges of the EU, with histories of contested borders, migration, rich cultural heritage and world-class artists. The programme selects participants through open call, and was established in 2020. This is the second iteration of the residency was part of Kaunas European Capital of Culture 2022 and third edition is taking place in 2024.

Initiated by Director Catherine Hemelryk and former Lithuanian Cultural Attaché in the UK Justė Kostikovaitė, Director of Kaunas Artists' House Rūta Stepanovaitė. With thanks to Agnė Bagdžiūnaitė, Residency Coordinator of Kaunas Artists' House and Ūla Tornau, current Lithuanian Cultural Attaché in the UK.

Image list:

1. Roisín McGuigan, *Re-wilding The Mill*, performance/intervention, 22 November 2021.
Photo courtesy of the artist.
2. Ieva Kotryna Ski, *Sinkhole*, exhibition view of JCDecaux Award 2021: *Spaces* at Composers' Union House, CAC Vilnius, 2021, curated by Vytenis Burokas, Milda Dainovskytė. Documentation: Laurynas Skeisgiela.

For media enquiries:

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CCA Derry~Londonderry is supported by:



Art Fund

