

## Creative Policies for Creative Cities

*'How may artist-led policies and practices engage a culturally diverse public in the regeneration of our civic space?'*

We are a network of musicians, artists, cultural operators, educators and directors of local government proposing to re-examine the established thinking and practice in how musicians and artists work in regeneration and in public culture. While others speak of an instrumental use of art, we start from within the working lives, knowledge and experience of artists and performers to set the agenda for thinking how public culture can work to create shared civic space and how we may animate our civic and creative culture with meaningful and dynamic inter-cultural exchange?

We adopt and test an artist-led approach in generating new policy and new models of practice; we believe that artist-led policies - that are actively and practically creative, not just abstract talk about creativity - can yield new opportunities for our shared public space. Our work engages a wide range of local agencies in developing artistic responses and solutions to issues affecting our environment and quality of life.

### Coordinating Team

Paul Collard, Director of Creativity, Culture and Education; Oscar Watson, Director of Intercultural Arts; David Faulkner, Deputy Director of Newcastle City Council; Angeles Diaz Vieco, Director of Semeitrias Fundación Internacional; Juan Avila, President of Council of Cuenca; Jim Devine, Director of the Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Dún Laoghaire; Richard Shakespear, Director of Department of Environment, Culture and Community, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council; Creative Policies for Creative Cities is an artist-led research project coordinated by Nollaig Ó Fiongháile, Development Manager of the Graduate School of Creative Arts and Media (GradCAM).

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# Creative Policies for Creative Cities

Asking the Question

*'How may artist-led policies and practices engage a culturally diverse public in the regeneration of our civic space?'*

GradCAM - IE

Creativity, Culture and Education - UK

Simeitrias International Foundation - ES

Delivering a programme of events  
from January - June 2010

# International Programme of Events

## Phase One - Setting the Stage

### Cultural Mapping

January - March 2010

Project leaders undertake a mapping study of the public space, addressing the issues raised in discussion with the local authorities. Civic scenarios addressed include animating the public space; engagement of marginalised groups in cultural events, artists engagement with the public and private sector; nurturing permeable performance spaces with meaningful and dynamic cultural connectivity and inter-cultural dialogue.

### Arts Research: Publics + Purposes, International Conference

Feb 14 - 19th, 2010. Dublin

GradCAM co-hosts an international conference on 'arts research: publics + purposes'; this unique event comprises a series of symposia, workshops, presentations, performances and exhibitions addressing the state of development of contemporary research in and through cultural practice. It makes particular reference to questions of the public interest, and of the broad purposes, that arts research may serve. The international programme of discussion, exchange and presentation will be of interest to those concerned with the relationship between the development of creative research and the possibility of public culture; the conference opens a dialogue among arts researchers, practitioners, critics, curators, performers and educators in order to ask, who for? what for? For the complete programme see [www.gradcam.ie](http://www.gradcam.ie)

### Project Launch

Feb 18th 2010, 15.00 - 16.00. DLRCOCO Council Chambers

Department of Environment, Culture and Community of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council hosts the Creative Policies for Creative Cities Public Launch. Presenters; Paul Collard and David Faulkner (Newcastle), Marie Angeles Diaz-Vieco and Juan Avila (Cuenca), Nollaig Ó Fiongháile (GradCAM), Alan Mee (Alan Mee Architects), Richard Shakespear, Hal Ledford (Dún Laoghaire).

## Phase Two - Case Studies

### Pilot Projects

March - May 2010. Cuenca, Newcastle and Dún Laoghaire

The project team is actively engaged with local authorities of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council (IE), Newcastle City Council (UK) and Cuenca Town Council (ES) to evolve and curate artist-led interventions in the public domain. To this end, each council has presented a civic scenario to the network and the partners seek to evolve and test responses over a scheduled period of three months from March - May, 2010. Through a combination of conferencing, eventing, experimentation and analysis, we ask for the public's engagement in this process towards evolving 'purpose' and 'quality of life' in our local communities.

## Phase Three - Knowledge Transfer

April 2010. Cuenca

Simetrías Fundación Internacional and Council of Cuenca (ES), presents a technical assistance workshop and seminar.

May 11th 2010. Newcastle

Creativity, Culture and Education in association with Newcastle City Council and Intercultural Arts hosts a conference addressing 'compatibility' questioning how the design of public space defines the extent to which separate communities can share common spaces.

June 17th - 18th 2010. Dún Laoghaire

GradCAM and IADT will host a conference and suite of events, presenting models of best practice underway throughout the EU; identifying methodologies evolved through the project actions across the partnership; and presenting an interim impact assessment of the project activities in the public domain. This event will take place on campus at the IADT, Dún Laoghaire.

## Phase Four - Publishing and Dissemination

August 2010

GradCAM and network partners will publish the findings of the project activities and present a final report to the network, to the EC-EACEA, to be followed with a documentary publication for dissemination in the public domain.

All events are open to the public. Throughout the cycle of the project, the partners will present the project's progress and outcomes to a range of European - wide networks to advance knowledge transfer and communication to the wider public. For updates on the project see [www.gradcam.ie](http://www.gradcam.ie)

