



# *i* IRELAND INVITES

## Impact Report

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IRELAND INVITES  
Impact in  
Summary



# 01. Origin Story

Driven by a shared aim to highlight Irish contemporary art practice on the global stage, the Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA), Hugh Lane Gallery, and Culture Ireland launched IRELAND INVITES in 2023. This three-year pilot project advocates for the presence and prominence of Irish visual art on the international biennial circuit.

**IRELAND INVITES** seeks to enhance international exposure for Irish visual artists by hosting biennale curators to undertake visits to studios and art institutions across Ireland. During their visits, curators have the opportunity to develop their understanding of contemporary art practices in Ireland, availing of the curatorial expertise of IMMA, Hugh Lane Gallery and Culture Ireland, who facilitate research and create bespoke hosted trips for each visiting curator.

In its first two years, IRELAND INVITES has achieved great success.



Guests pictured at the EVA International collaboration hosting event in 2023. Pic: Pati Guimaraes.



# 02. A Shared Vision

“An analysis of biennale over the last twenty years shows an opportunity to develop the representation of Irish visual artists internationally and IRELAND INVITES seeks to address this in a joint initiative between IMMA, Hugh Lane Gallery and Culture Ireland. Over the next 3-years we look forward to welcoming curators from around the world to see the very best Ireland has to offer in terms of visual arts.”

Annie Fletcher, Director IMMA, Barbara Dawson, Director Hugh Lane Gallery and Sharon Barry, Director Culture Ireland.



Inti Guerrero, Artistic Director of the Sydney Biennale, 2024, pictured alongside from left Mary Cremin, Head of Programming, IMMA; Barbara Dawson, Director, Hugh Lane Gallery and Ciarán Walsh, Deputy Director, Culture Ireland. Pic: Marc O'Sullivan



# 03. IRELAND INVITES at a glance to date

74

Irish artists visited by curators

18

Irish artists chosen to participate

9

International biennales featuring Irish Artists

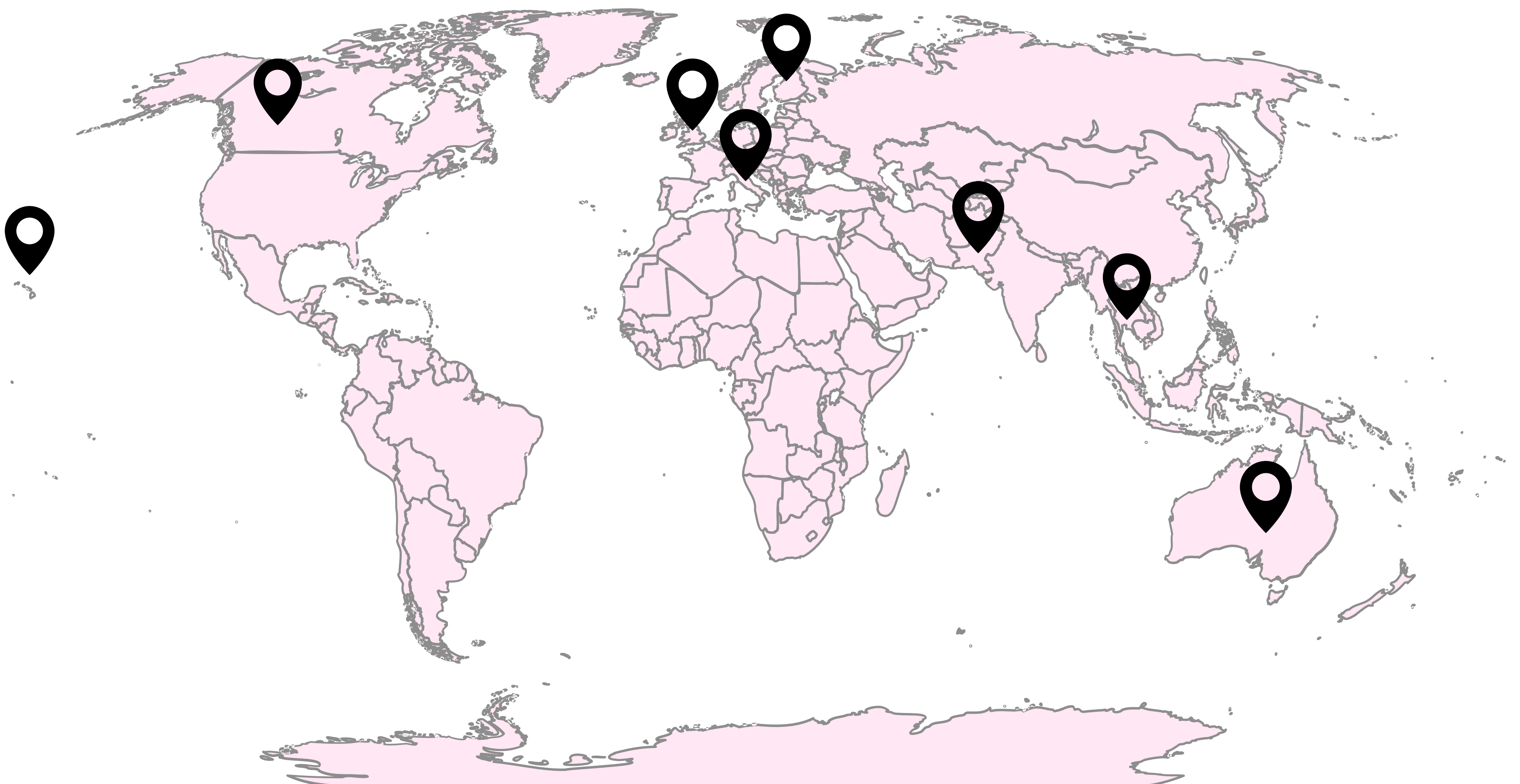
9

Public talks & engagements

21\*

Curators of international biennales who have visited Ireland as a result of this initiative, **representing 15 international biennales.**

\*6 curators have visited but have yet to make a final decision on included artist.



Irish Artists participating in Sydney Biennale, Toronto Biennale, Liverpool Biennale, Lahore Biennale, Bangkok Biennale, Hawai'i Triennial, Helsinki Biennale, Edinburgh Festival, and Venice Biennale.



# 04. Talks & Public Engagement

1

**Inti Guerrero**

Friday 19th May 2023, Hugh Lane Gallery

2

**Dominique Fontaine and Miguel A. López in conversation with Annie Fletcher**

Sunday 27th August 2023, IMMA

3

**Binna Choi**

Thursday 29th February 2024, Hugh Lane Gallery

4

**John Tain**

Saturday 13th April 2024, IMMA

5

**Blanca de la Torre**

Saturday 27th July 2024, IMMA

6

**Hoor Al Qasimi**

Thursday 31st October 2024, Hugh Lane Gallery

7

**Defne Ayas**

Tuesday 4th March 2025, IMMA

8

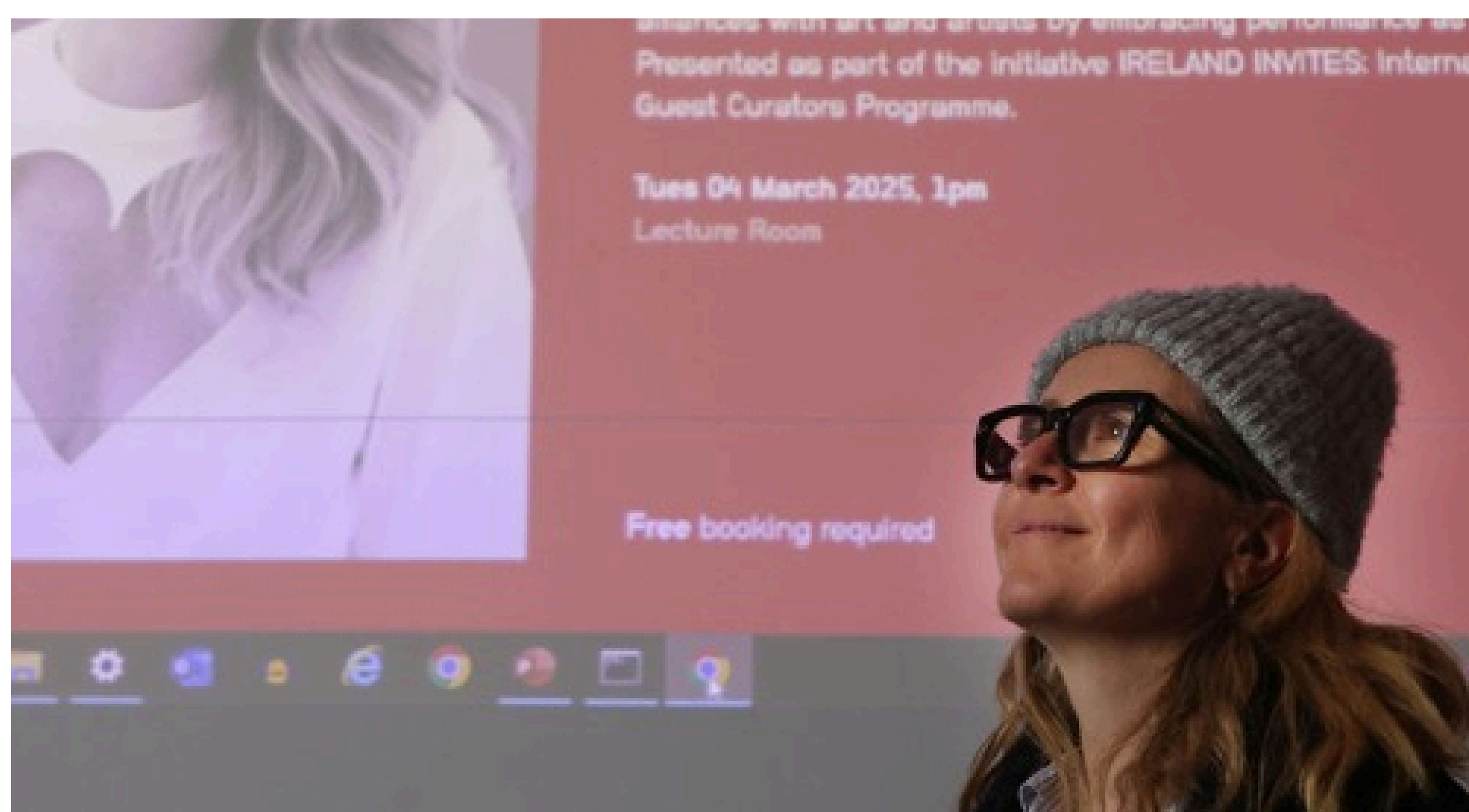
**Erzen Shkololli**

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025, Hugh Lane Gallery

9

**Sabina Sabolović**

Tuesday 25th November 2025, IMMA





# 05. Selected Irish Artists

Curator	Visited	Artists Selected	Biennale
Inti Guerrero	Q2 2023	Breda Lynch	24th Sydney Biennale
Dominique Fontaine and Miguel A. López	Q3 2023	Léann Herlihy	Toronto Biennale
Sam Lackey, Marie-Anne Mackay & Aoife Robinson,	Q4 2023	Alice Rekab, Isabel Nolan	Liverpool Biennale 2025
Binna Choi	Q1 2024	Vivienne Dick, Belinda Quirke, Isabel Nolan, Kian Benson Bailes	Hawai'i Triennial
John Tain	Q2 2024	Ailbhe Ní Bhriain, Basil Al-Rawi	Lahore Biennale
Apinan Poshyananda	Q2 2024	Aideen Barry, Amanda Coogan, George Bolster, Kira O'Reilly	Bangkok Biennale
Blanca de la Torre	Q3 2024	Katie Holten	Helsinki Biennale
Kim McAleese and Eleanor Edmondson	Q4 2024	Alice Rekab	Edinburgh Art Festival
Gabe Beckhurst Feijoo and Rory Tsapayi	Q2 2025	To Be Announced	Venice Biennale

## Visits recently completed but awaiting decision on included artists:

Hoor Al Qasimi, 4 2024 from the 25th Sydney Biennale (&Sharjah)

Defne Ayas, Q1 2025 from Performa, New York

Erzen Shkololli, Q4 2025 from the Autostrada Biennale

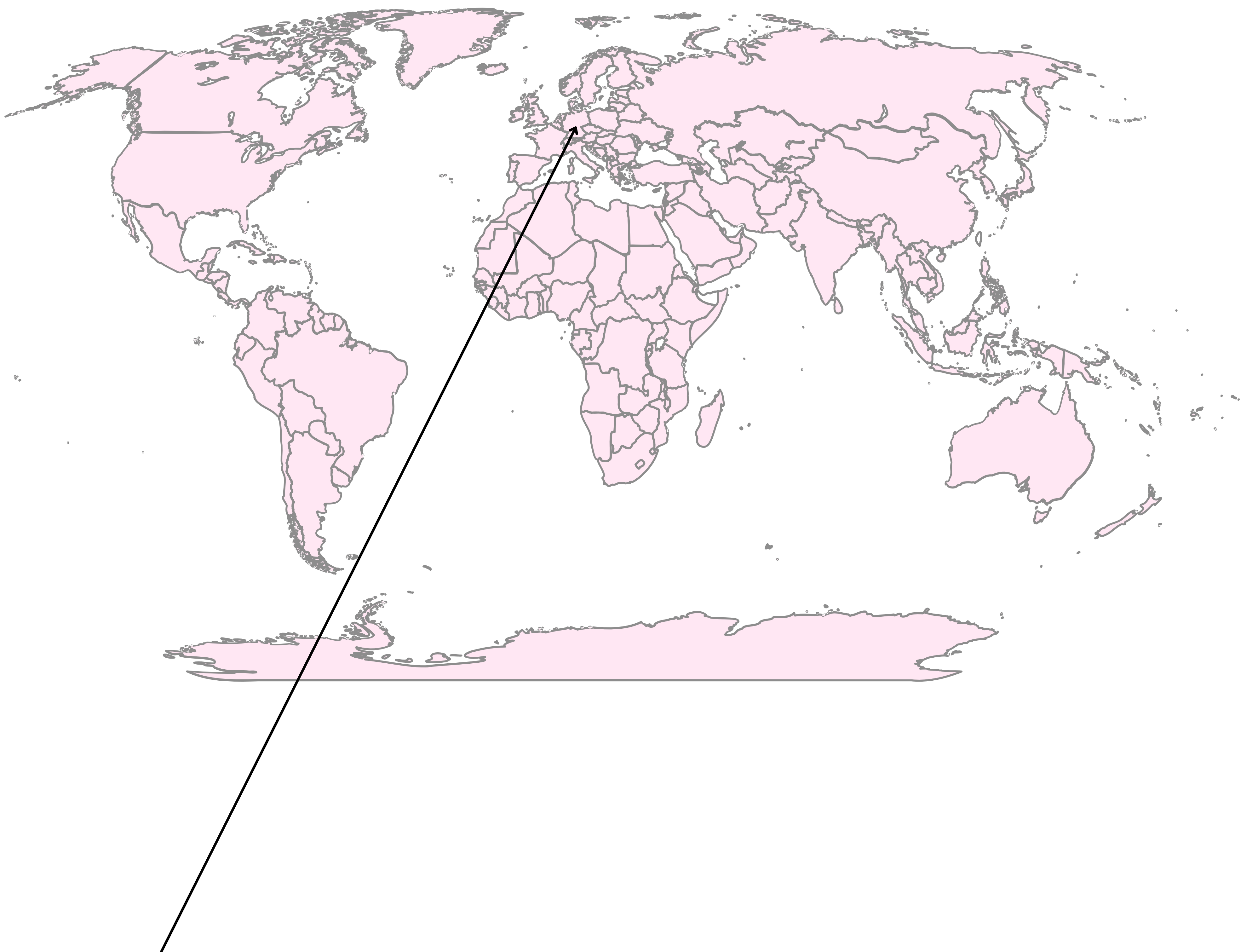
Sabina Sabolović and Vincent Schier, Q4 2024 from Skulptur Projekte Münster 2027

Kyongfa Che, Q4 2025 from Gwangju Biennale

Folakunle Oshun, Q3 2025 from Lagos Biennale



# 06. Upcoming Scheduled Visits



Naomi Beckwith, Documenta 16  
Date TBC



# 07. Kīpuka Ireland: Hawai'i Triennial 2025

Produced in partnership with Hawai'i Contemporary and supported by Culture Ireland, Kīpuka Ireland was a week-long visiting and exchange initiative, prompted by the IRELAND INVITES initiative. With three artists from Ireland and organized as part of Hawai'i Triennial 2025: ALOHA NŌ, Kīpuka Ireland consisted of individual presentations, a plenary event, intimate meetings by the artists, and visits to the Triennial exhibitions and sites.

From 31 March to 6 April 2025, the three Irish artists introduced their work in different forms and exchanged with the local artists and communities of Hawai'i.

**Kian Benson Bailes** presented a participatory play workshop and reading session; **Vivienne Dick** screened a series of her films and features in a post-screening conversation; and **Belinda Quirke** performed a live sonic and vocal landscape.

Kīpuka Ireland was curated by **Binna Choi**, one of three curators of HT25 (together with **Wassan Al-Khudhairi** and **Noelle M.K.Y. Kahanu**), in collaboration with **Rachael Gilbourne** (IMMA).

This visiting program fosters deep cultural exchange, exploring the sacred histories of colonisation, language and connection to land between these island nations. Through film, performance, and a hands on workshop, Kipuka Ireland explores how art bridges oceans and histories - positioning IMMA as a centre for research, and a global connector.



Kian Benson Bailes, leprechaun 9, 2025. Exhibited as part of 'Culchie boy, I love you / Grá mo chroí thú, mo chábóigín féin' (Song From the Leeward Slope Edition)' at Limerick City Gallery of Art, Limerick. Courtesy the artist. Image courtesy of Vivienne Dick. Image courtesy of Belinda Quirke.



# 08. IRELAND INVITES Impact in Summary

Since its inception, IRELAND INVITES has achieved a **success rate of 100%**. Every international biennial curator who has visited through the programme, **and finalised their list of included artists**, has selected an Irish Visual Artist for their forthcoming biennial.

Of the **74 artists who have been visited, 18 artists have been selected, achieving a selection rate of 24%**, with six curators still to announce their final list of selected artists.

This is an enormous achievement for such a young programme, demonstrating the appetite for Irish Art globally as well as the desperate need for a platform that can connect international curators with new, exciting, and often underappreciated, talent.

IRELAND INVITES has piqued the interest of the public, with the programme, attracting attention through talks and engagements as well as online. IRELAND INVITES has achieved the following digital reach, predominantly gained through LinkedIn:

- **Digital Content Reach: 53,000+**
- **Social Media Engagement: 1,500+**

Finally, IRELAND INVITES has maintained and encouraged an ethos of diversity and inclusivity, with **94% of the artists selected to participate at biennials identifying as female, LGBTQ+, and/ or of diverse racial/ ethnic heritage**.

IMMA, Hugh Lane Gallery, and Culture Ireland and their wider respective teams are excited to achieve even more in the coming years through IRELAND INVITES.







**IRELAND  
INVITES**

is an initiative from IMMA (Irish Museum of Modern Art), Hugh Lane Gallery and Culture Ireland.

**IMMA**

**ÁRAS NUA-EALAÍNE  
NA hÉIREANN  
IRISH MUSEUM OF  
MODERN ART**

**HUGH LANE  
GALLERY**



**Cultúr Éireann  
Culture Ireland**

**Impact Report compiled by**

**IMMA**

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NA hÉIREANN  
IRISH MUSEUM OF  
MODERN ART**