

**Curriculum Vitae**  
**Liz Cullinane Multi-Disciplinary Artist & Designer**  
[Lizcullinane63@icloud.com](mailto:Lizcullinane63@icloud.com)

Liz is a multi-disciplinary artist, designer and storyteller with a background in Fine Arts. Her practise spans visual art, theatre, music, film, opera, multi-media and community art.

**Education**

BA Sculpture and Painting at MTU Crawford College of Art & Design 1988

Masters in Fine Art by Research, Crawford College of Art & Design 2008-2010. (The first academic research masters for the college) My thesis explored the work of the Irish artist Mary Swanzy: Mary Swanzy 1882-1978: An Evaluation of her Career; *This is our gift our portion apart*. My work was published by IMMA in a monograph for the Swanzy retrospective in 2018 (Mary Swanzy: Voyages)

**Current work in development**

**Small Threads**

A visual arts project creating light boxes and a digital photography book. Funded through the Arts Council of Northern Ireland ACNI (Creative Individual Recovery Programme). This R&D funding was to advance my understanding of digital editing and layering, bringing together my research photography and watercolour painting. The work will be exhibited in The Valley House, Achill island in June 2023

**OperaInABox**

This R&D innovation project explores the work of Irish artist Mary Swanzy (1882-1978) as a digital opera, marrying art history with a fictional script to tell the story of Swanzy's late paintings. Early stage development has created a series of white card model boxes for the the green screen filmed test segment, locating the opera in miniature in the scenography scale modelboxes. Using a mix of new technology & old school theatre craft, they are currently being refilmed to create the final sample opera in a box as a digital film sample.

Initial R&D funding with Future Screens NI paid for the libretto by Vittoria Cafolla, scored Conor Mitchell, an iPad Pro & software so I could learn digital drawing and video editing.

ACNI (SIAP Award) has enabled a number of short collaborations with a videographer, an animator and master model maker to continue the R&D process of sample making and to update my laptop to professional level. Current output for OperaInABox is a six minute rough cut film demonstrating the potential of the methodology for further funding to complete the project.

**WOE:Walking on Eggshells**

This is an ongoing visual art/dance project on familial sexual abuse with a number of collaborations including Nexus NI. (Northern Ireland's leading charity supporting people affected by sexual trauma) It is intended as a site specific participation project with an exhibition and a dance piece. The spoken word piece and musical score were written by me in collaboration with classical and contemporary musicians. To be exhibited at the Public Records Office Northern Ireland, Belfast, January 2024

<https://vimeo.com/507781366>

**2021 - 2022**

**Paradosa Theatre Company**

**Associate Artist**

Collaboration with playwright Victoria Caffola to initiate Swanzy libretto with a residency in Carlingford for R&D and further study block of the Swanzy late paintings phase one of OperaInABox.

[www.paradossotheatre.com](http://www.paradossotheatre.com)

**Amadanensemble**

**Artists residency in Vault Artists Studios**

My artist in residence with Amadan ensemble gave me access to a large more suitable studio space with dedicated dance space. Engaged in collaborations with company director Gemma Mai Halligan sharing knowledge and support systems bringing a different lens to continuous professional development.

**Lyric Theatre**

**Original Sin**

This new one woman show which developed I from a short story of mine was part of my participation in the Over 50's pilot writing group in the Lyric Theatre led by the award-winning resident playwright Karis Kelly. In

its first incarnation it was recorded with Belfast actress Maggie Cronin and subsequently dramaturged & recorded with Dublin author and actress Noelle Browne. (Audio available)  
This work is now being developed as a three-hander theatre piece with a filmed element for live performance.

### **Many Threads**

A collaborative dance & eckphrastic exchange project on a new script *The Divination* by BAFTA awarded author Kevin Toolis. I directed a rehearsed reading with a cast of four women and musical engagement by classical musician and teacher Anne McCambridge. The dance element was with Derry artist/dancer, Janie Doherty. This has been recorded and filmed for future development.

### **2020/21**

#### **Feile Films**

Three short films (*Farewell, Cara, If I Could Sing*) made with The Feile Women Singers a community choir in West Belfast. I produced and directed these during COVID with the support of the National Lottery Heritage Fund Northern Ireland Community Fund.

### **2019**

Associate artist with Kabosh Theatre Compnay, Belfast. I initiated two projects alongside design work with the company beginning with historical costume design and production for Hillsborough Castle & Gardens, HRP. New painting studio established.

Creative writing classes with Joan Carberry, Wordwell.

Gallery talk on Mary Swanzy for Crawford Gallery, Cork [A Journey through modernism in the age of war](#)

### **2018**

Artist in Residence IMMA (Mary Swanzy: Voyages)

[Gallery talk for Irish Museum of Modern Art IMMA](#)

[Publication of my biographical research](#) and timeline on Irish painter Mary Swanzy by IMMA

Design work with Kabosh & [LUXe landscape theatre company](#).

Creative writing classes with Joan Carberry, Wordwell.

### **2017**

#### **Costume design for Kabosh Theatre Company**

[A Bellaghy Tale](#) written by Vincent Higgins

[The Enemy Within](#) An all female version for The Friel Festival, Enniskillen.

[Be My Guest](#) a series of site specific performances in Hillsborough Castle & Gardens HRP

[A Queer Ceili at The Marty Forsyth](#) written by Dominic Montague, Outburst Festival.

on three productions.

LUXe design and construction projects throughout the year.

Volunteer with Ten Foundations in the Philippines working with children & Sama Bajau, nomadic group.

Qualified as an Approved Home Child Carer with paediatric First Aid Certificate.

Creative writing class with Joan Carberry, Wordwell.

### **2016**

Designed [Our History Our Future](#) Short Strand community project with Kabosh.

Designed [No News is Good News](#) for Kabosh at Cultra Folk Park.

Designed 1916 Commemorative event for Failte Feirste Thiar with Kabosh.

Chinese New Year Night Parade Hong Kong with LUXe, Donegal based company.

Waking The Feminists NI research committee member

Creative writing class with Jo Egan, Macha Theatre Co.

### **2015**

Designed and delivered *Come Dine with Us* community engagement event for Young at Art, Belfast Childrens Festival

Designed *Ballad of Reading Jail* for the Wilde Weekend, Enniskillen with Kabosh

LUXe various events

### **2014**

Theatre for Young Audiences showcase of *Playing Adults* dance project at Belfast Grand Opera House studio  
*Notions of Forever* solo exhibition at NMNI The Ulster Museum with Belfast Children's Festival.

LUXe various events including *The Gathering* and Earagail Arts Festival

## 2013

ACNI SIAP award for *Playing Adults* Project.

Wardrobe supervisor for *Blandings* TV Comedy drama for Mammoth Productions

Designer of *Inventors* with Kabosh, for Balmoral show at MLK.

Wardrobe supervisor for stage musical *Irish* for PBS television filmed at Wexford Opera House

Props master on *Noye's Fludde* & wardrobe supervisor for NI Shorts at The Mac with NI Opera

LUXe various events

## 2012

Designed *Enchanted Evenings* for Belfast Festival at Queens with Young At Art in The Botanic Gardens.

Designed costumes and props for St Patrick's festival Dublin with LUXe

*Imaginarium* Earagail Arts Festival artist with LUXe

## 2011

Set up and ran wardrobe department as wardrobe supervisor for The Lyric Theatre, Belfast, May to December.

## 2010

Completed my MFA at MTU Crawford College of Art (CCAD) with Julian Campbell and Roisin Kennedy, UCD, the first academic research masters for the college.

My thesis explored the biography and legacy of Irish artist Mary Swanzy

[Mary Swanzy: 1882-1978: An Evaluation of her Career; This is our gift, our portion apart](#)

## Opera Design work

1992 Musica Nel Chiostra, Batignano Festival, Italy, Don Giovanni and L'Augellin Belverde

1994 Opera Theatre Company, Dublin, Combattimenti: Three Battles, new short operas by Irish composers performed at IMMA & The Place London W1

## Awards

Arts Council Northern Ireland SIAP Award 2022

Arts Council Northern Ireland *Creative Recovery Programme* 2021

Future Screens *Future Creatives* 2021

Irish Writers Centre ACNI *Bursary* 2020 & 2021

National Lottery Heritage Fund Northern Ireland/Community Fund 2020

Arts Council Northern Ireland Commissioning Fund with Kabosh Theatre company 2019

Arts Council Northern Ireland SIAP Award 2020

Arts Council Northern Ireland SIAP Award 2013

Publicity Association Northern Ireland *Craft Award NI Fire Authority* Commercial Campaign 2003

Northern Ireland Screen Award *Being Special* experimental short film 2002

Irish Arts Council *Inaugural bursary for stage design* 1991 (Phelim Donlon award)

## Referees

**Rita Duffy, Artist/Aosdana Member**

[Rita@ritaduffystudio.com](mailto:Rita@ritaduffystudio.com)

**Conor Mitchell, Belfast Ensemble Composer**

[Conor@thebelfastensemble.com](mailto:Conor@thebelfastensemble.com)

**Cristín Leach, Writer, Art Critic & Broadcaster**

[leachcristin@gmail.com](mailto:leachcristin@gmail.com)

**Roisin Kennedy Assistant Professor, School of Art History & Cultural Policy UCD**

[roisin.kennedy@ucd.ie](mailto:roisin.kennedy@ucd.ie)

**Laura Magahy, CEO, Arran Street East, Dublin**

[Lauramagahy@gmail.com](mailto:Lauramagahy@gmail.com)

**Ali Fitzgibbon, Senior Lecturer in Creative and Cultural Industries Management, School of Arts, English & Languages**

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