

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT BARNSTORM THEATRE COMPANY

18 April 2017

Name	Date Appointed
<b>TRISH BRENNAN</b>	10 September 2012
<b>MARY CODY</b>	29 November 2010
<b>ALAN COUNIHAN</b>	31 July 2014
<b>ETAOIN HOLOHAN</b>	17 May 2016
<b>ANN MULROONEY</b>	17 May 2016
<b>MALCOLM NOONAN</b>	8 October 2012
<b>TONY WALSH</b>	4 April 2011

**TRISH BRENNAN** is a native of Kilkenny and graduated with a BA from UCD in 1986. Following some years working in a Women's Health Resource Centre, she returned to NUI Maynooth and acquired a Postgraduate Certificate in Community & Youth Work. Trish has spent time working on housing and regeneration projects in Inchicore, Dublin 8 and in Kilkenny city; in particular working on accommodation issues with Traveller groups.

In 2013 she completed an MA in Applied Social Studies in NUIM and is currently providing occasional teaching in the Dept. of Applied Social Studies at NUIM, while studying for her doctorate. IN 2014 Trish freelanced with the National Women's Council on health and gender issues and as a community worker she is active on social inclusion issues, in particular the participation of marginalised groups in community development and local government in County Kilkenny.

Theatre is Trish's main interest outside of work. She has been an active member of the Barn Owl Players since 2007 and has directed a number of projects in The Barn and a full-length play at the Watergate Theatre.

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A native of Cork city, **MARY CODY** moved to Kilkenny in 2005 to take up the position of senior journalist with the Kilkenny People. She has a deep love of theatre and has been involved in amateur theatre since her arrival in Kilkenny. An active member of Barnstorm's amateur acting group, Barn Owl Players, she has performed in several productions including Brian Friel's *Dancing at Lughnasa*, staged at the Watergate Theatre in 2012.

Mary is involved in other community groups, including Project Women which focuses on what it means to be a woman in Ireland today. She is an active fundraiser for a number of charities, and has completed marathons and other events to raise awareness and funds for a variety of causes.

Mary graduated from University College Cork with an honours degree in Law and has written for numerous publications and media including RTE, The Irish Times, The Irish Independent and The Irish Examiner.

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Since 1990 **ALAN COUNIHAN** has created works for commissions, solo exhibitions, and installations in both Ireland and the USA. His present work, *Personal Effects: a history of possession*, based on the belongings of dead patients from Grangegorman Mental Hospital, reflects a practice currently rooted in social activism and engaged citizenship.

Alan has been the fortunate recipient of several grants and awards including, twice, the Pollock-Krasner Foundation Award. A published essayist, his book *Townlands: a habitation* (Two Streams Press) was published in 2012.

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**ETAOIN HOLAHAN** is a curator who runs a cultural hub called Fennelly's in Callan, Co. Kilkenny. She holds a Masters in Visual Practice (MAVIS/ Curation). Her practice is centred on ideas of kindness, inclusion, hospitality and community enrichment; events and happenings include site-specific theatre, live music, installations, screenings, food experiments, performance interventions and residencies. She is part of the Callan Workhouse Union and is involved in the development of its building. She is the Co-Chairperson of the Abhainn Ri Festival of Inclusion, and directs and co-curates its visual strand. She was the civic engagement and architectural response producer for *The Bridge Street Project*, June 2015. She was co-producer, with Hollie Kearns, of *Courtyard Screen* in June 2016 which engaged with 130 participants to build an outdoor cinema using traditional skills workshops and collaborating with architects studio weave.

Etaoin curates monthly Breakfast Residencies in Fennelly's where an artist engages with a breakfast audience to give a rare insight into the creative process and gain instant feedback during its development. She has a great interest in the rejuvenation of our rural town centres through civic engagement, cultural enrichment and contextual using our past in a relevant and useful present and future.

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**Ann Mulrooney** graduated with a BA in Fine Art from the Crawford College of Art, Cork, and an MA in Sculpture from the Royal College of Art, London. She exhibited widely as a sculptor in the UK and Ireland and received numerous awards, including the Cicilitira Prize for Sculpture (RCA, UK, 2002) and the Deutsche Bank Pyramid Award for Fine Art (UK, 2003).

Ann worked as a freelance curator in Ireland and the UK before joining the Crafts Council of Ireland in 2008 to run the National Craft Gallery, where she directed and curated national and international exhibitions until 2013, growing annual audience numbers from 35,000 to 140,000 through development of partnerships and touring programmes. She has been a lecturer, external assessor and frequent contributor to cultural publications and programmes including The View (RTE)

television, Irl), Ceramics; Art and Perception (USA), Total Spec (UK) and the Irish Arts Review (Irl). She took up the post of CEO of VISUAL, Carlow in late 2013, where her responsibilities include direction of programming across theatre and the visual arts.

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**MALCOLM NOONAN** has been a Green Party Kilkenny Borough & County Councillor for 10 years, working hard over that time to help create sustainable communities. He grew up in Kilkenny, one of a large family brought up in a happy crowded house. Having studied Industrial Design in Carlow IT, he worked as a graphic designer in Dublin before returning to Kilkenny to set up a successful landscaping and gardening business. Prior to embarking on a political career, Malcolm was a community and environmental activist, a Director and National Local Groups Coordinator of *Friends of the Earth Ireland*.

Malcolm holds a BA in Rural Development and works as a part-time project development worker with Lifeline Kilkenny Suicide Prevention Forum. He led a participative planning process to develop the County's first Suicide Prevention Strategy. His remaining time is taken up with his work as a public representative and volunteering with local organisations. He is involved in the local arts scene as a musician and illustrator, and volunteers with local festivals. Malcolm has been Chairperson of the St Patrick's Day/Tradfest Committee in Kilkenny.

Malcolm served as Mayor of Kilkenny in 2009 - 2010 and led an ambitious policy-driven agenda, with many notable achievements including leading an EU Heritage Project for Kilkenny and securing the purchase of St Mary's Church on behalf of the people of Kilkenny. In 2011 Malcolm contested the leadership of the Green Party and was appointed Party Spokesperson for Environment, Community and Local Government by Eamon Ryan. Malcolm is married to Jennie, a community and family support worker to the Traveller Community. They have four children.

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**TONY WALSH** has over 30 years of experience in local economic and social development. For most of his career he has worked in Local Government.

For the latter part he has served as Director of Community and Enterprise with Kilkenny County Council. Prior to this he was Chief Executive of Kilkenny County Enterprise Board. Currently Tony is an active member of a number of local development organisations.

In recent years he has joined his wife Mary in the establishment and running of a free-range poultry business. They have three grown-up children and one grandchild.