

This is Not My Beautiful House II

Speaker Bios

**Seminar as part of Age & Opportunity's Bealtaine Festival 2017
in partnership with Create and the Irish Architecture Foundation**

Date: 30 May

Time: 9:30 – 17:30

Venue: The Studio, Lexicon, Dun Laoghaire

Joe Coveney

Joe Coveney is an Irish artist, designer and maker. He works across disciplines to realise ideas that bring value to our everyday experiences. Joe has worked for the past fifteen years on a range of exhibitions, workshops and community projects. Joe is currently involved in Public Age is an open call commissioned by the dlr CoCo/HSE Arts and Health Partnership with additional grant aid from the Arts Council, in partnership with the Irish Architecture Foundation.

Catriona Crowe

Catriona Crowe is former Head of Special Projects at the National Archives of Ireland. She was Manager of the Census Online Project, which placed the Irish 1901 and 1911 censuses online free to access. She is an Editor of Documents on Irish Foreign Policy, which published its tenth volume, covering the period 1951 – 57, in November 2016. She is editor of Dublin 1911, published by the Royal Irish Academy in late 2011. She is Chairperson of the Irish Theatre Institute, which promotes and supports Irish theatre and has created an award-winning website of Irish theatre productions. She is an Honorary President of the Irish Labour History Society, and a former President of the Women's History Association.

She is Chairperson of the SAOL Project, a rehabilitation initiative for women with addiction problems, based in the North Inner City, and also Chairperson of the Inner City Renewal Group, which delivers employment and welfare rights advice and support to the community in the North Inner City.

The Decorators

The Decorators is a multidisciplinary design collective founded by Suzanne O'Connell, Xavi Llarch Font, Carolina Caicedo and Mariana Pestana. Combining the disciplines of landscape architecture, interior architecture and psychology, The Decorators work on spatial design projects that aim to reconnect the physical elements of a place with its social dimension. As a socially engaged practice they put conversation at the heart of their design process. Driven by the principle that people make places, they create spatial opportunities for social interaction. Through collaborative frameworks that involve many actors, The Decorators imagine alternative futures for everyday spaces.

Sophie Handler

Sophie Handler works at the intersection of social policy, urban theory and creative practice exploring the spatial politics of ageing through creative writing, participative urban interventions, research and policy development. She is author of *The Fluid Pavement* (a large print psychogeographic novel on ageing), *An Alternative Age-friendly Handbook* and is chair of the RIBA working group on Research and Ageing. Her practice-based work operates under the platform *Ageing Facilities*.

Gerry Kearns

Gerry Kearns is Professor of Human Geography at Maynooth University and a member of the Geosciences and Geographical Sciences Committee of the Royal Irish Academy. He is the author of *Geopolitics and Empire*, a comparison of the geographical ideologies of the British Empire at the start of the twentieth century and of the US Empire at the start of the twenty-first. He also co-edited with John Morrissey and David Meredith, the collection *Spatial Justice and the Irish Crisis*. His work in the field of Art and Geography includes pieces of Olwen Fouéré's *riverrun*, on Fiona Whelan's art practice (in the most recent issue of *Klaxon*), on literature of the Irish diaspora (an essay with Karen Till for *Irish Lifeworlds*, forthcoming Cork University Press), and on the artistic projects around the anniversary of the 1916 Proclamation of Irish Independence (in press with *Irish Review*).

Jack Keyes

Following a career of successful leadership and management in the public and private sectors including 10 years as Cavan County Manager, Jack now works as a senior advisor and is also involved in a voluntary capacity in many areas nationally. His strong people skills and management background help individuals and organisations reach their potential, plan strategically, manage change, develop innovative solutions, drive implementation and get results. He has a strong passion for advancing issues around inclusion and equality. As Chair of the Cavan Age Friendly Alliance he oversaw the implementation of strategic actions shaped by older people. In recent years he has been involved with Age Friendly Ireland at national level and chairs the network of alliance chairs. He has delivered training across the local government sector on public realm and housing design for older people. He was appointed by Government to chair the boundary committees for Athlone and Drogheda, chair of the National Rural Water Services Committee and serve as a board member in the National Library.

Dr Christine McGarrigle

Dr Christine McGarrigle joined The Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing (TILDA) as a Social Epidemiology Research Fellow in 2012 and became Research Director in 2015 and leads on ensuring that TILDA is used to inform policy and practice with respect to population ageing in Ireland. TILDA is a nationally representative longitudinal study on ageing that collects information on all aspects of health, economic and social circumstances from people aged 50 and over in Ireland. Christine's research is currently focused on intergenerational transfers, and the demographic, social and health factors associated with transfers between the generations. She received her BSc in Chemistry from University College Dublin, and her MSc and PhD in Epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London.

Fionnuala Rogerson

Fionnuala Rogerson is a member of RIAI Universal Design Task Force and a former RIAI vice president. Since 2005 she has been director of the International Union of Architects (UIA) Work Programme on “Architecture for All”. She has over 30 years’ experience as principal of an architectural practice working mainly in the areas of urban design, housing, community, sports and education facilities.

Dr Austin Warters

Dr Austin Warters originally qualified as a social worker in 1983 and was a practitioner and manager of child care services in England and Scotland. He moved to Ireland in 1994 where he took up the position of manager of social work services for children. In 2004 he was seconded to services for older people where he was involved in the implementation of the national Elder Abuse policy and staffing structure. In 2011 he commenced working at Manager of Services for Older People in Dublin North City where he is responsible for the commissioning of a range of services for older people in the area. He also has a strong interest in research and innovation and in 2011 graduated from Trinity College Dublin with his PhD. He recently implemented a research, evidenced based model of home support service called re-ablement. While this service has been proven to work in many countries, his project team have demonstrated that it works in Ireland. He is currently involved in research networks across the EU and is part of a consortium which has been successful at obtaining EU funding. He also teaches in England and has been a guest lecturer at TCD, UCD and DCU.

Lois Weaver

Lois Weaver is an artist, activist and Professor of Contemporary Performance at Queen Mary University of London. She has been a writer, director and performer with Peggy Shaw and Split Britches since 1980. Her experiments in performance as a means of public engagement include Long Tables, Porch Sitings, Care Cafes and her facilitating persona, Tammy WhyNot. Lois is a 2014 Guggenheim Fellow and a Wellcome Trust Engagement Fellow for 2016-2018.

Sarah Wigglesworth

Sarah Wigglesworth set up an architects’ practice in London in 1994. Since then she has developed extensive expertise in green and sustainable design and master planning which was recognised in 2004 by the practice winning the RIBA Sustainability Award for their mixed use house/office in north London. The practice has since extended its approach to low energy design through a wide range of project types and now specialises in design for education, housing – especially housing for older people - cultural, neighbourhood and community projects. The practice has won numerous awards for its work.