



Candidate Information

Position:	Digital Media Artist / Research Assistant
School/Department:	School of Arts, English and Languages
Reference:	24/112022
Closing Date:	Monday 15 July 2024
Salary:	£33,642 - £36,744 pro-rata (0.6 - 0.7 FTE)
Anticipated Interview Date:	Monday 5 August 2024
Duration:	16 Months

JOB PURPOSE:

Funded by an award to Cavan County Council from the Creative Ireland 'Creative Communities on a Shared Island' Programme, the post holder will support the creative practice and public engagement strands of the Dance Connects project in the area of interactive digital media. This is a collaborative project led by researchers in QUB (Professor Aoife McGrath) and University College Dublin (Dr Victoria Durrer). A main activity for the postholder will be to collaborate with a choreographer (McGrath) on the design and touring of an interactive digital media installation that captures and projects participants' movements in real time.

This 24-month project partners local authorities of Cavan, Monaghan and Fermanagh-Omagh with researchers from QUB and UCD, and practitioners of diverse dance communities in their border areas. Employing an innovative, creative engagement approach combining dance practice-as-research and social science, the project will be delivered through four interrelated actions that respond to the main areas of development identified in the research partners' recent (2023) Creative Ireland/Cavan Arts funded pilot project, Sites of Significance. The project will consolidate new connections forged through that project, and also co-develop an innovative method of engaging with dance communities and the general public in further, rural border regions on (and off) the island.

The project strategically builds on the partners' existing relationships to respond to expressed need for sustainable cross-border exchange that informs policy and is meaningful to the unique dance ecology of rural, cross-border areas. The project aims to establish a sustainable, rural dance network that engages in cross-genre peer sharing and skill building through a series of dance sharing events with local facilitators at their sites of practice. It will also develop: a publicly available, cross-border dance database; a touring, interactive, digital dance installation and public engagement programme; and website with video, podcasts and reports capturing regionally shared experiences of dance as a professional, enjoyable, social, cultural, and creative activity.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Undertake a specified programme of creative practice and public engagement under the mentorship of Professor Aoife McGrath (QUB) and Dr Victoria Durrer (UCD), including co-design and creation of an interactive digital installation and co-management of a touring exhibition to venues across the island of Ireland.
2. Manage the development of the project website to disseminate and publicise research findings to external audiences.
3. Deliver public engagement workshops/talks as part of the touring exhibition.
4. Present regular progress reports on relevant work packages to members of the research group.
5. Prepare, in consultation with mentors, digital material for publication online and in academic journals.
6. Work together with the project co-ordinator/Cavan Arts Office and partner venues to assist with planning of touring exhibition.
7. Engage in appropriate training and professional development opportunities as required by the project mentors, the School, or University.
8. Engage in the wider research and scholarly activities of the partner Schools.
9. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project to ensure that tasks are completed on time and within budget. These might include organisation of documentation for project meetings and risk assessment of research activities, for example.
10. Read relevant literature to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have an academic or vocational qualification in digital arts or related discipline.
2. Previous experience working in the fields of practice related to digital arts/media encompassed by the project.
3. Demonstrable experience in the design and implementation of interactive technology for digital media in performance and/or installation. This can include experience in real-time moving image capture and generation, motion sensing, coding and/or immersive technologies.
4. Demonstrable ability for public engagement activities as evidenced by, for example, experience working on previous projects with public engagement elements.
5. An understanding of the operational requirements for a successful research project.
6. Self-motivated with good organisation skills, including a track record of completing projects in a timely manner.
7. Contribute to the School's outreach programme through links with artist networks, research networks, community groups etc.
8. Evidence of digital media design and computer literacy including experience of working with online engagement and organisation tools (e.g., social media platforms, event booking platforms).
9. Excellent organisational and administrative skills including a proven ability to work to deadlines.
10. Demonstrate an awareness of equality, diversity and inclusion agenda.
11. Excellent communication skills (oral, written, presentation).
12. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
13. Ability to work collaboratively and participate in internal and external networks.
14. Ability to work well with others.
15. Enthusiasm and curiosity for working in mixed-methods approaches.
16. Ability to travel to venues across the island of Ireland for project activities and to work outside of normal office hours, if required.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Expertise in the design of interactive, projected image installations that incorporate participants' movement in real time.
2. Experience in working together with interdisciplinary teams in a research environment.
3. Experience in website design and/or maintenance.
4. Experience in design of touring exhibitions/installations.
5. Experience in all-island, cross-border or transnational (international/non-Irish) related exchange.
6. Experience of website development and management.
7. Experience of event organisation.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Informal Enquiries to Dr Kurt Taroff: k.taroff@qub.ac.uk