

WWDN
a new Creative Placemaking Network

THURSDAY 9 MAY 2024





What We Do Now is an exciting new creative placemaking network for Dumfries and Galloway, brought to you by The Stove, and shaped together with creative practitioners, community organisations, and partners from across the region.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is made up of community groups, organisations, and partners working in Dumfries and Galloway and a wider community of creative practitioners working collaboratively within our communities.

PROGRAMME

A programme of core activity aims to connect, inspire, advocate for, and grow creative placemaking practice within Dumfries and Galloway. Through peer-to-peer support and knowledge exchange, members will come together to embed the skills, capacity, and partnerships needed to use art as an action for change and take ideas forward for the long-term benefit of their communities.

The core programme will consist of:

- **Gatherings** – member events hosted across the region
- **Labs** – regional and national events relating to the themes of creative placemaking
- **Sparks** – embedded commissions to provoke, inspire, and explore ideas
- **Cross Network Projects** – programmes developed collaboratively between members
- **Training Sessions** – facilitated events through the year on specific topics



THE LAUNCH OF WWDN

The Launch is our very first Gathering to present the WWDN programme, share its values, aims, and ambitions for creative placemaking, and invite members to join and inform the future direction the network takes for our region.

SCHEDULE

Arrive 12.45
Tea, coffee, and nibbles

Presentations and Questions 13:15
Introduction by Katharine Wheeler, WWDN Director

Artists Presentations talking about their experience 14:00
working in public space

- **Betwixting: A Reflection on the Art of Inbetweening**
with artist Peter McCaughey
- **(Re)claiming Public Space**
with artist Emma Jayne Park

Small Group Discussions 14.30
reflecting on experiences of community embedded work

BREAK 15.00

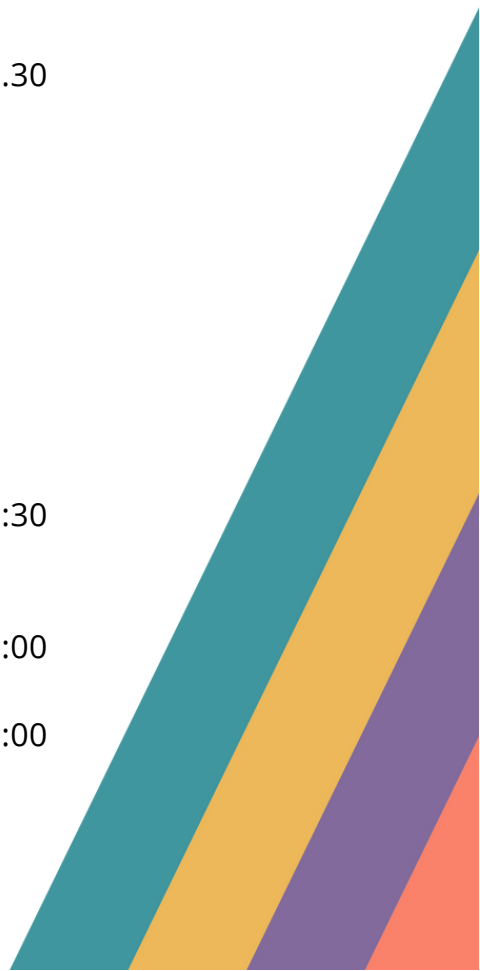
Workshop Activities 15.30

- **GCAT Tour** – Brian Edgar
- **New Galloway History Walk** - Zoe Kirkpatrick
- **A Journey Into the Unknown** - Peter McCaughey
- **Market of Possibilities** – Martin O’Neil
- **Sound Workshop** – Stuart Macpherson
- **Conversation Corner** – Emma Jayne Park

Closing Comments
Hopes for the future and discussion points from the floor 16:30

Buffet Dinner and Social
Sound Piece - with Stuart Macpherson 17:00

Close 18:00



PRESENTATIONS

BETWIXTING: A REFLECTION ON THE ART OF INBETWEENING

Peter McCaughey is an Irish artist living in Glasgow. He works internationally with a practice focused on the local and makes people-centred, ideas-based work. In this presentation Peter will explore the 'Art of Inbetweening', the opportunities for working in the gaps between things. The gaps in between institutions, people, thought processes, the gaps in time and space.

A lecturer at Glasgow School of Art in the Department of Sculpture and Environmental Art, Peter is Director/Lead Artist of WAVEparticle, an artist-led art organisation that works to produce new processes, events and objects, re-thinking how the places we live in, and the systems that regulate our lives, move to more creative, connective models. WAVEparticle presented a live demonstration of these methods as The Happenstance - Scotland's contribution to the 16th International Architecture Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia.

(RE)CLAIMING PUBLIC SPACE

From a rural, working class background Emma Jayne Park grew up with no connection to the 'creative industries', let alone an understanding of art in public space. Having spent over a decade navigating an industry that masquerades as elite whilst also undoing years of being told public spaces were not for them, in this playful call to action Emma will invite everyone to (re)claim the commons and refute the fallacy that public creativity is the domain of self-proclaimed experts.

Emma/Emma Jayne/EJ trained as a dancer but has been called many things. They're not fussed about definitions. They research, think, make, and do - preferably in collaboration. Their work explores failure, belonging, intimacy, and euphoria. It always begins in the body but manifests in whichever form best reflects the context; including performance, writing, conversations and staging protests. Emma works between Scotland, London and Lebanon, sometimes in 'art spaces', often with communities, and mostly working around bureaucracy.



WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES

GCAT TOUR

(will run at 15:30 and again at 16:00)

The Glenkens Community & Arts Trust has a 22-year track record of economic regeneration through arts and community work in the Glenkens. The CatStrand opened in 2007 as a purpose-built cultural hub for Glenkens with a program of high quality, accessible arts and creative learning opportunities.

Brian Edgar, Facilities & Enterprise Manager for both The CatStrand and The Smiddy, will give a tour of the building talking about the work of GCAT and how The CatStrand is a vital part of that.

HISTORY WALK

New Galloway is the smallest of the royal burghs in Scotland, gaining its charter in 1633, to serve as a market town for the region. Though small, it has a rich history with many markers of its past still remaining. These places hold the stories and histories that are part of what New Galloway has to offer today.


Former resident of and current history student, Zoe Kirkpatrick, will lead a short history tour visiting some of these landmarks including The Smithy, Town Hall and New Galloway's own Milestone

A JOURNEY INTO THE UNKNOWN

This creative and playful workshop will take the form of a walk with Peter McCaughey and invite you to take a journey into the unknown, making instant sculptural works that include using your body as a sculptural tool to explore your surroundings.

The condition of not-knowing is centre stage in Peter's approach. We don't know where we will go*, we don't know what we will encounter, we don't know what we will make, we don't always know who will accompany us. The walk and the work will emerge from the process and the contexts that include: the group dynamic and personalities involved, the time of day, the fall of the dart, the receptivity of the place in question.

* On occasion the throw of a dart selects a start point/finish point



MARKET OF POSSIBILITIES

What if the future was in our hands? The Market of Possibilities was a laboratory of imagination run in partnership between Dumfries Partnership Action Group and The Stove in 2023. It involved a space take-over of the Loreburn Centre in Dumfries, running a series of creative workshops that invited people to play, imagine, and ignite new ideas to build their very own towns of the future.

In this practical session, Martin O'Neil, Artistic Director of The Stove, will run an engaging workshop looking at hands-on techniques to inspire fresh perspectives and encourage people to envision beyond the present. From optical illusions to designing future shop signs, badges, and creative interventions, this session will equip you with practical tools and inspiration to help others imagine what's possible!

SOUND WORKSHOP

After a recent residency through Magnetic North's 'Rough Mix', local sound artist Stuart Macpherson has been exploring the use of geocodes to generate musical phrases to ignite people's sense and experience of their place.

In this workshop you will be invited to take part in a new musical sketch for The Catstrand using a beautiful set of handbells, kindly borrowed from Loch Arthur, to create an immersive sound piece to be performed at the end of the day's event.

To take part in this you must be able and willing to stay and be part of the evening's performance at 17:30



CONVERSATION CORNER

We hope that the afternoon will encourage stimulating and engaging conversations. This is a space for you to gather around the topics that energise, inspire, or provoke you. No preparation necessary, just the will to chat about something (sort of) related to the event.

Facilitated by Emma Jayne Park, Conversation Corner will offer a simple format that enables multiple conversations to happen in parallel in a way that works best for the people involved. Attendees can join or leave the space at any time without judgement. Whoever comes are the right people and whatever happens is the only thing that could have!*

*Loaned from the principles of Open Space, developed by Harrison Owen.



GETTING HERE

The Event will be held at The CatStrand, High Street, New Galloway, Castle Douglas DG7 3RN

There are two community buses offering transport to and from the event, with pick-ups in Dumfries, Castle Douglas, Stranraer and Newton Stewart. Booking is essential

FREE TRANSPORT

BUS 1: DUMFRIES - CASTLE DOUGLAS - NEW GALLOWAY

Depart Dumfries, Whitesands across from Frothy Bike	11:30
Depart Castle Douglas, Market Hill Car Park	12:15
Arrive CatStrand	12:45

BUS 2: STRANRAER - NEWTON STEWART - NEW GALLOWAY

Depart Stranraer, Waterfront Car Park	11:00
Depart Newton Stewart, Dashwood Square Pick-up	12:00
Arrive CatStrand	12:45

(please arrive 10 minutes before departure times)

Both buses will leave the CatStrand at 6pm to return via the same route



GETTING HERE BY CAR

If you are driving then can we ask that you park in the village's **Main Car Park**, marked on the map. This is a 5-minute walk up to CatStrand and is a much larger space so if able to, please use this car park to leave room in the smaller car parks for those that have accessibility needs.

If you have any accessibility needs, then please use either the internal carpark at the CatStrand or there is a small car park that fits 3 to 4 cars, to the Left of the main entrance of the venue.

Thank you and safe travels.

NEW GALLOWAY MAP





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THE STOVE NETWORK

PRESENTED BY: **the
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