



## Briefing Document for Artists

Cork City Library Service - Douglas Per Cent for Art Commission

In collaboration with Cork City Council Arts Office



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí  
Cork City Council

# Cork City Library Service - Douglas Per Cent for Art Commission

## 1. Commission Details

Commissioner: Cork City Council

Location: Douglas Village Shopping Centre

Budget: €6000

Source: Percent for Art for Douglas Library

## 2. Commission Description

Douglas Library is situated in the Douglas Village Shopping Centre. From January to August 2019 it had welcomed 84,843 visitors inside its doors, until the centre was destroyed by fire on August 31, 2019. This project involves the refurbishment and fitting out of the same space. It comprises of two large open plan areas with a selection of offices, storage and staff area to the rear. It is populated with fixed and mobile shelving storing approximately 35,000 items including books, DVDs and other AV materials.

The refurbished library will resume its very popular service to the Douglas community facilitating schools, young families and adults. The library will continue to host many activities, book clubs, writing groups and craft activities for all ages within the community. The Council's intention is that the library will proactively support learning, diversity and social and cultural inclusion, creatively embracing Douglas Library's past while ambitious for its future.

## 3. Commission Process

This commission process will be managed by Cork City Council Library Service supported by Cork City Arts Office. It is based on a two stage competition, whereby artists, makers, crafts people or other creative practitioners are invited to submit proposals. For the sake of simplicity, the term 'artists' will be used to describe the above throughout this document.

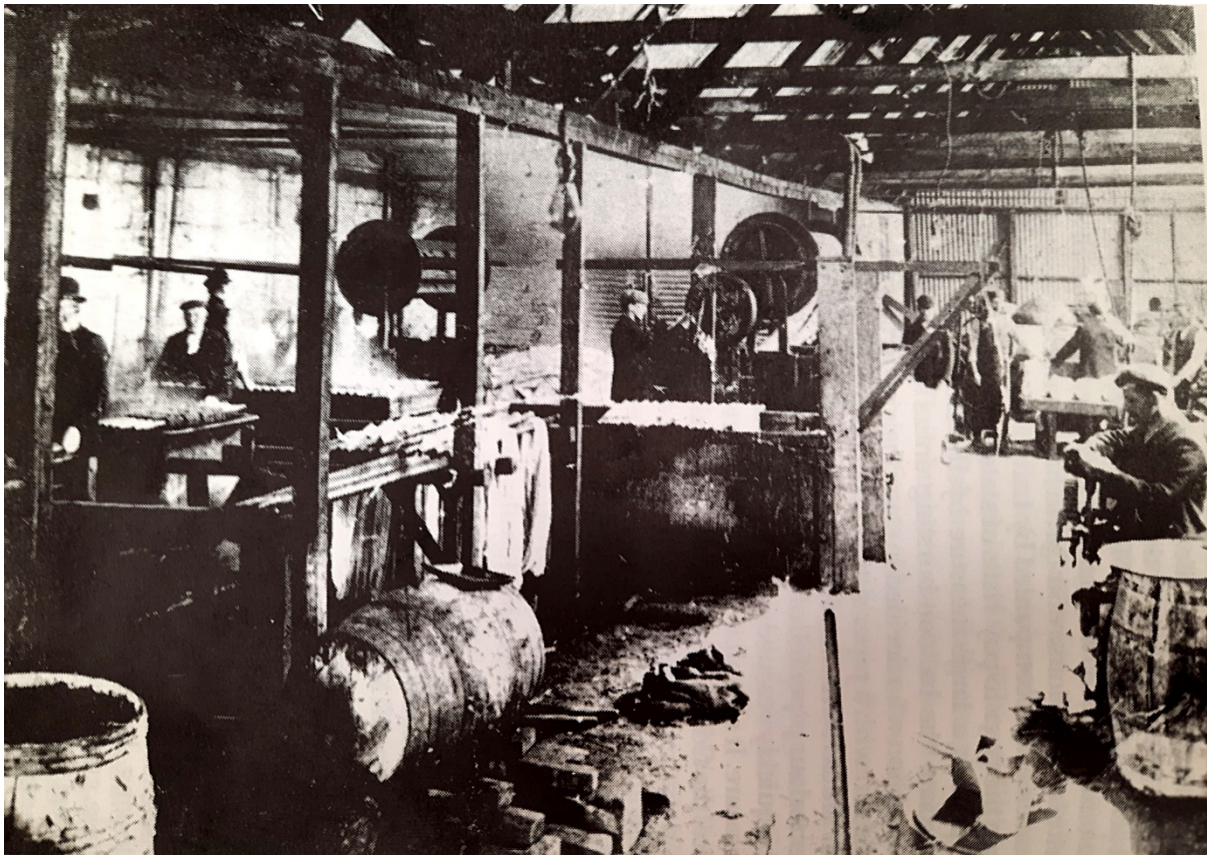
See overleaf for details on proposal requirements and submission criteria.

Shortlisted applicants may be called to interview by Cork City Council Library Service.



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Cork City Council

#### 4. Brief



Artists are invited to submit project ideas for a project to mark the reconstruction and re-opening of the Library in Douglas Village.

The commissioners are particularly interested in submissions that reflect or respond to the legacy of the local industry and its workers, particularly in relation to textiles. Accounts reveal a rich material history that emerged through migratory influence to have an impact on local, national and international practice and trade. Today, it is a thriving part of our city and home to Cork Craft and Design.

See Historic Note for more information and context overleaf.





## Historic Note on Douglas

Douglas developed as a suburban area in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries and was noted for a high concentration of 'big houses'. The popularity of the area among the nobility was such that high prices were commanded for surrounding land, and as a result, the acreage of their estates was lower than average.

The oldest house was believed to have been Ronayne's Court, built in 1627 by Morris Ronayne. The house was demolished in 1969 but the original inscribed fireplace was moved to Blackrock Castle.

The area began to develop as a wider urban settlement with the opening of the "Douglas factory" in 1726. In August 1755 this was reported to be the property of Messrs. Perry, Carleton and Co. with 100 looms operational. The mills produced sail-cloth and supplied sails to the Royal Navy, amongst other clients. The industry was established by Huguenot weavers and textile workers, such as the Besnards, who acquired the Mills by 1783. In 1801 they installed the first powered spindles in Ireland, along with skilled workers from Ulster and Scotland. In addition to the mill workers, employees included over 1,000 spinners working from their houses, and hacklers, bleachers and labourers tasked with preparing raw material in Douglas village.

Further textile mills opened in the nineteenth century, including an additional Besnard-owned scutching mill (Ravensdale, 1806), Lane's Corn and Hemp Mills (now Douglas Community Park, 1845), O'Brien's Brothers (St Patrick's Woollen Mills, 1882), Donnybrook Mills (Wallis & Pollock Flax Mills, 1866; later known as Morroghs' Woollen Mills, 1889/1890) and Conroy's Rope and Twine Mills (now Galway's Lane, 1892).

Most of the mills ceased operating in the early twentieth century, although St. Patrick's Woollen Mills and Donnybrook Mills continued until the 1970s. Some of the houses built



for the mill workers are still in existence, including the terrace near the junction of the Grange Road and Donnybrook Hill.

Other large businesses of the time included an Osiery (willow cultivation for basket making) beside Conroy's Mills, two large brick manufacturers which straddled the nearby estuary, the Ravensdale Flour Mill, and the Woodville Flour Mill which produced sea biscuits and ship bread.

In 1898, the Cork Electric Tramways and Lighting Company built a route from Cork City to Douglas. This operated until 1932 when it was replaced by a bus service.

In the second half of the twentieth century, Douglas underwent major changes as it became a suburb of Cork. New housing was built and the area between Douglas and Cork City became built-up. Schools, shopping centres, cinemas and other amenities developed to serve the growing population.

Following the release of the MacKinnon Report in 2017, covering a possible extension of Cork city's boundary, it was proposed that the Douglas area (including Douglas, Frankfield, Grange and Donnybrook) would be moved to the administrative area of Cork City Council. This moved all of Douglas to the city, ending the divide of the town between the city and county.

### **Cork City Library Newspaper Index Catalog.**

#### **Result(s) found for 'kw,wrld: douglas linen, textile'**

1. [Douglas linen factory] Publisher: Cork Examiner ; 1934 02 03
2. [Douglas Linen factory] Publisher: Evening Echo ; 1963 02 18
3. [Douglas Linen factory] Publisher: Evening Echo ; 1966 04 01
4. [Douglas linen industry] by Foley, Con. Publisher: 'A History of Douglas' by Con Foley pps. 10-30. 1981
6. In Douglas Long Ago by Henchion, Richard. Publisher: Douglas Weekly ; 2006 09 22
7. JD Wetherspoon pub chain plans to convert Douglas bank into bar, by Healy, Alan. Publisher: Evening Echo ; 2015 01 09
8. [Linen factory set up in Douglas in 1726 to manufacture sail cloth. Publisher: Cork Examiner ; 1934 03 03 p.14.
9. Recalling past glories by Noonan, Rory. Publisher: Evening Echo ; 2014 11 21
10. Douglas takes centre stage on CCTV, Publisher: Cork News ; 2010 12 03, p.14 (Morrogh's Mills -- Douglas (Cork County) -- Documentary | Saint Patrick's Woolen Mills -- Douglas (Cork County) -- Documentary | 'Douglas - A Village Wrapped in Cloth'. A TV documentary on the textile industry in Douglas is to be broadcast on Cork Community Television.



## 5. Application Process

**Application Deadline: 5pm (close of business) on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

Candidates must submit the items outlined below as a single pdf via We Transfer (see Submission content listed below) attached to an email addressed to [arts@corkcity.ie](mailto:arts@corkcity.ie).

Please type '**Douglas Library Commission\_[insert your name]**' in the subject line of your email.

Please note, in light of COVID 19 paper applications cannot be accepted for this commission opportunity.

Application Content to be supplied as a single pdf

- Title Page with artist name and contact details
- Contents page
- Proposal (one page max, see more details below\*)
- Detailed Timeline (if applicable)
- Artist Statement
- Current Artist Curriculum Vitae (3 pages max)

Portfolio Content to be included in the same single pdf:

- Max 5 pages with images and explanatory text from previous work
- For audio or video, please include weblinks to view online in the relevant webpage
- Max 3 pages with scans/images of any other material such as catalogues, reviews, publications etc that you may wish to include.

*\*Proposal must be no longer than one page outlining a) themes, b) medium, c) timeline for delivery and d) production process including an outline of any public engagement elements and how these might be facilitated.*

Qualifying Criteria	Weighting	Rule
<b>Aptitude of candidate</b>	<b>35 Marks</b>	Evidence provided of similar projects/commissions/accomplishments in portfolio (and appendix if applicable)
<b>Experience of candidate</b>	<b>35 Marks</b>	Evidence provided of previous experience in delivering a similar project on time and within budget demonstrated through CV
<b>Submission</b>	<b>30 Marks</b>	Submission of all items required as per list on page 2



## 6. Shortlisting and Interview Process

A shortlist of three proposals will be selected by the commissioning panel which will include staff of CCC Library Service, CC Arts Office and a local professional artist/craftperson.

The shortlisted artists will be invited to interview online on the content of their proposal. At interview stage, shortlisted candidates will be invited to make a presentation online that will include the items below for which each will be remunerated €300 inclusive of VAT.

- Detailed concept outline
- Details of medium/materials and guidance on maintenance
- Any technical specifications or installation requirements
- Preferred location(s)
- Outline of programme for delivery with key dates for deliverables
- Budget breakdown
- Any other relevant information or descriptions.
- Visual material by way of sample, in any format you may wish to present such as photomontage, sketches, digital drawings, maquette etc.

Interviews are likely to take place on Microsoft Teams **on the week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020** and will be no more than 90 minutes in length.

The successful candidate will need to meet the commission award criteria below:

Qualifying Criteria	Weighting	Rule
Quality of the Proposal = 50%	50 Marks	As per criteria outlined in section 5 on page 4
Value for money = 50%	50 Marks	As per costs outlined in budget supplied in relation to proposal
<b>TOTAL MARKS</b>	<b>100 Marks</b>	

## 7. Budget

The commission will be fulfilled for a maximum budget of €6000. This will include:

- Artist fees for research, development and production (including any elements of public engagement such as community consultation, workshop, artist talk etc)
- Materials and tools
- Installation costs

A separate budget of €250 has been allocated for a future launch event to cover catering, speakers fees and/or entertainment.

## 8. Contract Conditions for Successful Candidate

The successful candidate will be notified within 10 days of the decision by the selection panel. Commissioning will be dependent on provision of the following:

- a. The successful candidate will be required to enter into a formal contract with Cork City Council before any work commences. This will detail detailing the role, responsibilities, deliverables and conditions
- b. The successful candidate will provide a Health and Safety Statement including COVID-related procedures and Risk Assessment (if applicable) as per national guidelines
- c. Evidence of best practice standards in Child Safeguarding will be required prior to commencement ie. provision of a Child and Vulnerable Person Safeguarding Statement if applicable
- d. The successful candidate will be Garda Vetted through Cork City Council.
- e. Evidence of up-to-date tax compliance will be required before commencement.
- f. The successful candidate will work closely with Patricia Looney, Acting City Librarian, Cork City Council.
- g. Cork City Council will not be liable for any other expenses incurred by the successful candidate
- h. The successful candidate, while retaining copyright to any original content generated, does not retain any property rights to the creative outcomes once payment is made.
- i. Cork City Council will undertake to use their best endeavours to protect confidential and commercially sensitive information provided by you in this tender subject to the Councils obligations under Law and including the Freedom of Information Act, 2014. Should you wish that any of the information supplied by you should not be disclosed because of its sensitivity, you should, when providing the information, identify same and specify reasons for its sensitivity. If your tender is successful the price will, as a matter of course, be available to the public outside of the scope of F.O.I. legislation. Cork City Council will consult with you about the release of confidential and commercially sensitive information before making decisions on any F.O.I. request received. If, having considered your views, Cork City Council is of the opinion that the information should be released in the public interest; you will have the option of appealing the decision to the Information Commissioner. Please note that in the event that no information is identified by you as sensitive, with supporting reasons, then it is likely to be released in response to a request under the Freedom of Information Acts.





## 9. Commission Timetable

18 September 2020	Deadline for applications by close of business (5pm)
25 September 2020	Contact with shortlisted candidates
5 October – 9 October 2020	Online interviews for shortlisted candidates
14 October 2020	Commission decision announced
28 October 2020	Deadline for fulfilment of contract conditions (see section 8)
16 November 2020	Commencement of commission process
11 January 2021	Completion of commission process, installation of artwork
20 January 2021	Launch of commissioned artwork w/c
22 February 2021	Submission of report by commissioned party

## 10. Clarity of Information

All requests for clarification or further information in respect of the application stage of this commission should be submitted by email to [michelle\\_considine@corkcity.ie](mailto:michelle_considine@corkcity.ie) before 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

If it is considered that any question or request for clarification is of material significance, both the question and the responses will be communicated by email to all applicants who have been invited to submit a quotation for the services required. To facilitate inclusion on this circulation list, please register your interest in the project with [michelle\\_considine@corkcity.ie](mailto:michelle_considine@corkcity.ie) before 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## 11. How to Submit your Application

All application content should be in one single pdf. Portfolio content such as images or links to media hosted online must be included in the same pdf. The pdf can be submitted via email using We Transfer (<https://wetransfer.com/>) to [arts@corkcity.ie](mailto:arts@corkcity.ie) Please type 'Douglas Library Commission\_[insert your name]' in the subject line of your email.

Please note as per instructions in Section 3, paper-based submissions cannot be accepted currently.

Please address any queries on the above to Michelle Considine at Cork City Council Arts Office at 021 4924116 or [michelle\\_considine@corkcity.ie](mailto:michelle_considine@corkcity.ie)

## 12. Submissions

Deadline for receipt of emailed pdf applications is close of business on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

