



PRESS RELEASE

THE ARK, A CULTURAL CENTRE FOR CHILDREN APPOINTS A MUSIC PROGRAMMER

Today (Wednesday 27th July, 2011) The Ark, A Cultural Centre for Children announced the appointment of Aisling O’Gorman as the new Music Programmer. Aisling O’Gorman, musician, music educator and programme manager will take up the post in September 2011.

Based in Eustace Street in Dublin, The Ark is dedicated to exceptional cultural work for children, schools and families, and believes that children have the same right as adults to a rich cultural life. The Ark has won widespread respect for commissioning, producing and programming high-quality artistic work for children aged two to 12 and its work is founded on principles of artistic excellence, innovation and social inclusion. Through partnerships, professional development, outreach and research, The Ark also plays a vital role in inspiring the highest standards of culture for under-12s.

The Music Programmer is a new position in the organisation and was created to direct and further the development and implementation of a new music programme for The Ark, which will be a major focus in the coming three years.

Aisling O’Gorman has produced a considerable range of professional work in the field of music both in Ireland and the UK. With a 1st class honours degree in Music and English (Creative Writing), her experience encompasses programming, facilitation, performance, project management, music education, composition, artistic design, delivery and development.

In the role of Participation and Learning Programme Manager with University Concert Hall Limerick, she initiated and developed an innovative music engagement programme, including Africa Day and the Big Sing, which has seen upwards of 3,000 participants. She is also a regular guest lecturer on programmes for the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at the University of Limerick.

In addition, she has also facilitated music workshops and events for The National Chamber Choir, The Hawth Theatre, The University of Chichester and Limerick City and County Councils amongst many others. She has been a full-time performer for Shannon Heritage, directed several choirs, a children’s choir and song-writing club, performed as solo vocalist, composes for voices and contemporary music ensembles and has compositions published in the UK. In 2006 she undertook an MA in Community Music at the University of Limerick and was awarded 1st class honours. She has broadcast on RTE Lyric FM, Limerick’s Live 95FM, Clare FM and Spirit FM.

Aisling is delighted to be appointed as Music Programmer for The Ark and looks forward to a fruitful and successful future with the organisation.

The Ark gratefully acknowledges the financial support of its principal supporter the Arts Council and also support from the Department of Education & Skills, the Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht, Temple Bar Cultural Trust and Dublin City Council.

The Ark is currently running PLAY, Summer Music Festival for all the Family until 21st August, where young audiences can experience world class concerts and hands on music workshops. www.ark.ie

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