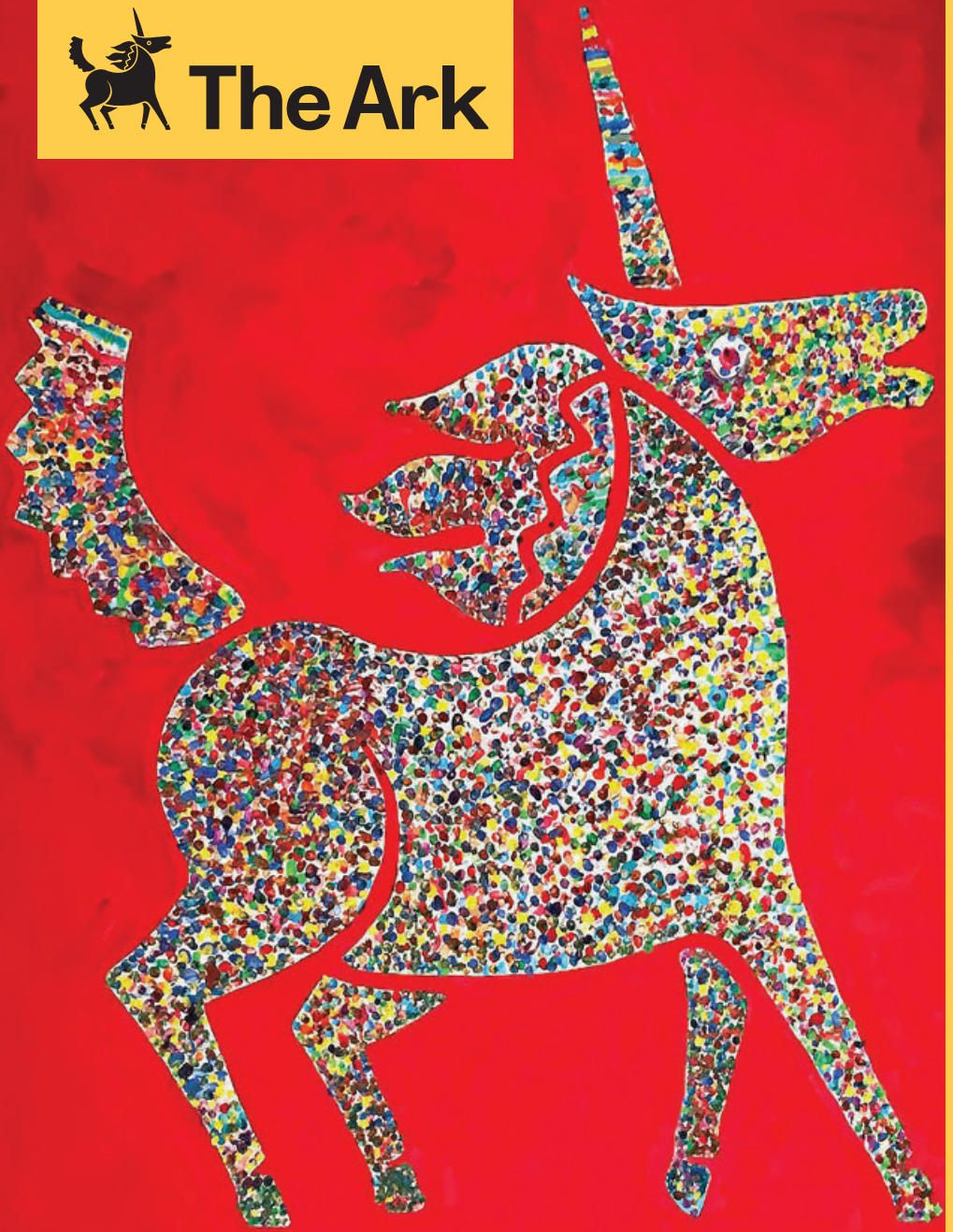




The Ark



Annual Report

April 2015-March 2016

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

25,629 children and adults attended both schools and public events for the period April 1 2015 to March 31 2016 through school classes, teacher's workshops, family/public events, outreach work, special events and national touring.

Highlights of our programme included:

- **Once Upon A Picture** a visual arts programme exploring the stories that artworks have to tell.
- The Ark's new theatre commission **Far Away From Me** by Amy Conroy went on a national tour in April 2015
- **Colour!** Our summer programme was a celebration of all things colour.
- International dance shows in partnership with **Dublin Dance Festival**
- An array of literature events in partnership with **International Literature Festival Dublin**
- International and Irish design was exhibited along with design workshops during **Design It**, part of *Irish Design 2015*
- Our annual fixture **Popular Music Week** brought a range of music genres to our venue for the October mid-term
- The World Premiere of our newly commissioned festive show **Tracks in the Snow** by The Henry Girls.
- Our 2014 show **A Most Peculiar Wintry Thing** (commissioned by The Ark & Music Network) toured venues in the North.



Once Upon a Picture. Photo - The Ark



Far Away From Me. Photo - Ros Kavanagh



Colour!. Photo - Luca Truffarelli



Tiger Tale - Barrowland Ballet



Design It!. Photo - Luca Truffarelli



Dracula's Disco. Photo - The Ark

- **BEES! A Musical** produced in association with Willfredd Theatre Company premiered in Dublin Theatre Festival before an extended run in Spring 2016
- **Put Yourself in the Picture** a free visual arts programme in April, celebrating the children of 2016, part of the 1916 commemorations.
- The official launch of the pilot year of **The Ark Children's Council** in an event with Cor Na N'Og
- And our range of **CPD events for teachers and artists** across the year covering a variety of art forms.
- The Ark was also delighted to present **Autism Friendly performances** during various show runs.
- There were also a number of **post-show discussions** throughout the programme.
- The development of early years work and artists working with this audience was supported by way of **Hatch**, our early years incubator programme in May.
- We delivered **292 free events at The Ark throughout the year** with more than 6,500 people attending.
- Key partnerships during the year were: **Dublin Theatre Festival; Dublin Dance Festival; Tradfest; International Literature Festival Dublin; Improvised Music Company; Music Network; Cavan Arts Office; Monaghan Education Centre; IMRO; The Design & Craft Council of Ireland; Dublin West Education Centre; and Dublin UNESCO City of Literature** among many others.



Tracks in the Snow. Photo - Ros Kavanagh



BEES! A Musical. Photo - Ros Kavanagh



Give Trad a Try! Photo - The Ark



Put Yourself in the Picture. Photo - The Ark



Put Yourself in the Picture. Photo - The Ark



The Ark Children's Council. Photo - The Ark



Thank You

The Ark greatly appreciates the continued support of all our funders and supporters. We particularly wish to thank our principle funders **The Arts Council** and the **Department of Education and Skills**. We also wish to acknowledge the valued support of annual supporters **Dublin City Council** and **Temple Bar Cultural Trust**.

Special thanks goes to our programme funders, artistic partners, corporate members, family members, the part-time front of house team, volunteers, interns and our wonderful audience who help make our work for children possible.

Key Supporters April 2015-March 2016

PRINCIPAL SUPPORTER



ANNUAL SUPPORTERS



PROGRAMME PARTNERS



PROGRAMME SUPPORTERS



The Ark is committed to complying with the Statement for Guiding Principles for Fundraising and has formally discussed and adopted the Statement at a meeting of the governing body on 8 July 2015.



Staff

Director: Aideen Howard

General Manager: Avril Ryan

Music Programmer: Aisling O’Gorman

Theatre Programmer: Maria Fleming

Visual Arts Coordinator: Aideen Lynch

Finance Officer: Mary Reade

Marketing Manager: Al Russell

Development and Events Manager: Sarah O’Dwyer

Production Manager: Mark Rooney

Assistant Production Manager: Franco Bistoni

Visitor Services Manager: Duffy Mooney Sheppard

Visitor Services Coordinator: Ashling Vierira

Board of Directors:

Catherine Byrne [Chairperson], John Coolahan, Brian Lavery, Tomm Moore, Marie McLoughlin, Helen O’Donoghue, Donnchadh Ó Madagáin, Gerry Smith.

Company Secretary: Avril Ryan

Full financial statements for 2015/16 are available on ark.ie/about

The Ark

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The Ark Children’s Cultural Centre CLG t/a The Ark is a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital - Company No. 222774. The Ark is a charity - CHY: 11334 & RCN: 20030827