

# *The London 2012 Cultural Olympiad and Northern Ireland*

## A Brief Introduction

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The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is the lead agency for the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad in Northern Ireland, as appointed by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure.

Since 2008, over 350,000 people have engaged with over 67 Cultural Olympiad projects in Northern Ireland.

Today's launch event specifically announces the majority of our programme for the London 2012 Festival, 21 June – 9 September. More announcements are likely in the new year.

The London 2012 Festival is a twelve-week festival of the arts, running parallel to the Olympic and Paralympic Games taking place in London. It is the finale of the four year Cultural Olympiad and intends to celebrate excellence in the arts as the world's leading athletes are on track and field. It also celebrates the Games outside of London and offers the public an opportunity to join in.

The London 2012 Festival is coming our way and will bring with it some of the world's leading artists to Northern Ireland, but also a world stage for some of our best artists at home.

The Cultural Olympiad programme for London 2012 was founded on the values of internationalism, inspiring young people and leaving a legacy for our arts and culture sector. The Arts Council of Northern Ireland has been delivering this through 67 projects since 2008. The Cultural Olympiad office in Arts Council of Northern Ireland has been working with some of our best community based projects over that period to deliver Olympic recognition for their work and championing their inspirational achievements with young people in activities from Strabane to Larne, and from Derry-Londonderry to Newry.

Some of the highlights in this programme have been projects within the Connections programme, funded by Legacy Trust UK. Luminous Soul by Open Arts has been holding disability dance workshops across Northern Ireland since 2009 in the aspiration of developing our first professional disabled dance facilitators and choreographers. They have been collaborating with world-leading disability dance companies like Candoco to do so. Other Connections projects like ImagineAction by the Beam Creative Network in Donaghmore have been inspiring young people to participate in the performing arts and have been doing so with great media acclaim and enthusiasm. Echo Echo Dance Theatre Company in Derry Londonderry produced The Chess Piece, a truly powerful new dance piece involving themes of truce and conflict with a cast of both professional and young amateur dancers.

In the broader programme, under the London 2012 Inspire mark, Northern Ireland's Cultural Olympiad programme has offered the Ulster American Folk Park's Fighting Irishmen project directly involving young people from boxing clubs near Omagh in the interpretation of an exhibition on emigration through the story of our successful history in the sport of boxing. Prime Cut Theatre Company's The Demeter Project has brought inter-generational groups of women from across Belfast and involved them in a large-scale immersive theatre project through which they discovered the inspiring contribution women have made to the history of Belfast over the last 100 years.

There have been twelve Inspire mark projects in the Cultural Olympiad programme in Northern Ireland since 2009, involving the above and other inspirational programmes by the Ulster Orchestra, National Museums of Northern Ireland, Voluntary Arts Ireland, Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Creative Peace Mural Society, Verbal Arts Centre and Libraries NI.

In addition to recognising excellence in community arts projects, the Cultural Olympiad programme in Northern Ireland has been involved in managing or brokering a series of commissioning partnerships for Northern Ireland artists. Namely through Artists taking the Lead and Unlimited but also for music through 20x12 and the PRS for Music Foundation. We have facilitated the delivery of Film Nation in Northern Ireland and worked closely with our colleagues at Legacy Trust UK in the delivery of TATE Movie, Somewhere to (delivered by PLACE in Northern Ireland) and Community Celebrations (Land of Giants) in Northern Ireland.

Now we are preparing for the finale, the London 2012 Festival, and have been working closely with the Director of London 2012 Festival, Ruth Mackenzie, in ensuring that we have the most cohesive and powerful programme of work for a festival fit for Olympic association. One that offers our audience an opportunity to celebrate the arts on a world scale and champions Northern Ireland as we build a legacy for Derry-Londonderry City of Culture 2013.

Cian Smyth,  
London 2012 Creative Programmer  
Northern Ireland.

**PRESS RELEASE:**

EMBARGOED until 7.45am, Friday 4th November 2011

**LONDON 2012 FESTIVAL IS COMING OUR WAY!**

From Belfast to Derry-Londonderry, from Enniskillen to the Giant's Causeway, London 2012 Festival is coming our way.

London 2012 and Arts Council of Northern Ireland today unveiled many of the London 2012 Festival events taking place in Northern Ireland between midsummer's day, 21 June 2012, and the last day of the Paralympic Games on 9 September 2012.

Northern Ireland's Festival programme will run parallel with events happening across the UK, celebrating the quality, range and accessibility of the UK's cultural landscape and offering people the opportunity to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Today's launch featured one of the easiest ways to participate. Turner Prize-winning artist and musician, Martin Creed, invites the people of Northern Ireland to join in with **All the Bells**, a project which encourages people across the UK to ring bells as loudly and quickly as they can at 8.00am on 27 July 2012 to welcome the 205 competing nations on the first day of the Games.

Other new announcements include a staging of Benjamin Britten's **Noye's Fludde** by NI Opera featuring a large cast of local school children singing and playing different musical instruments, from recorders to violins, in a spectacular setting for an opera where animals play a crucial part - Belfast Zoo.

Internationally renowned German artist Hans Peter Kuhn will transform the Causeway Coast with his project **FLAGS**. A series of flags will stretch along the bay of Port Noffer as it approaches the Causeway. Red on one side, yellow on the other, they will present an impressive but quiet and contemplative presence along the coastal trail.

We present legendary theatre director **Robert Wilson's** adaptation of **Krapp's Last Tape** by Samuel Beckett as part of the proposed *HAPPY DAYS*, Enniskillen International Festival of Beckett; and *On the Air* filmmaker, Joel Simon, will create a new animated film, **Escape from the Factory**, centring around a story of disabled toy characters on an adventure through the streets of Belfast; **Draw Down the Walls** will be engaging with international artists in the lead up to July 2012 and, with the help of communities in North Belfast, identifying one to create something unique at an interface zone in their area; While **NI5** brings the New Music 20x12 Cultural Olympiad commission *Our Day* by Conor Mitchell and Mark Ravenhill together with four other new short operas by composers and writers including Brian Irvine, Frank McGuinness and Owen McCafferty at The MAC.

Further highlights in the Northern Ireland Festival programme include the largest outdoor arts event ever seen in Northern Ireland - **Land of Giants**, with the support of Legacy Trust UK. Presenting 500 cast and crew delivering acrobatics, aerial dance, carnival, circus, music, multi-media and pyrotechnics in a unique spectacle for an audience of more than 20,000 people.

We countdown to the Festival with BBC's *Music Nation* and **Orchestral Fusion**, the first ever collaborative performance by the Ulster Orchestra and RTE Concert Orchestra at the Waterfront Hall in March, while **Peace One Day's** countdown to 'Global Truce 2012' opens our London 2012 Festival in spectacular style with leading innovators *Massive Attack* headlining a rock concert at Ebrington Barracks in Derry-Londonderry.

**Deborah Warner** will be collaborating with **Fiona Shaw** for some spectacular special events inspired by love poetry at our most impressive coastlines; while Belfast-based Sinead O'Donnell brings five international performance artists to the Golden Thread Gallery during the Paralympic Games to explore invisible disability as part of **CAUTION**; furthermore you can donate objects and your stories of them now for Northern Ireland's very own public art project for London 2012 Festival, **NEST**, via [www.2012nest.com](http://www.2012nest.com).

All confirmed programming for the Festival is now available for the public to view on the London 2012 Festival website, [www.london2012.com/festival](http://www.london2012.com/festival), where people can sign up to receive information as the programme develops.

**Caral Ni Chuilin MLA, Minister of Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure** said:

“Central to the successful London bid for the 2012 Games was a commitment to reconnect world class performance in sport with excellence in the arts. Our participation here in the north of Ireland with the Festival gives us a strong connection with the Games and allows us to showcase some of the very best of our local talent as well as giving people here a chance to see works by internationally acclaimed artists and performers. This is a fantastic opportunity for local people to be part of a truly historic event so close to our shores in such an important year for the north of Ireland.”

**Rosemary Kelly, Chairman of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland** said: “The London 2012 Festival is fast approaching and I have a strong sense that what has been created is a cohesive and powerful programme of work for a festival that is fit for Olympic association. One that offers our audiences an opportunity to celebrate the arts on a world scale and champions Northern Ireland as we continue to create a legacy that will substantially enhance the Derry-Londonderry City of Culture 2013 experience.”

**Ruth Mackenzie, Director of the Cultural Olympiad and London 2012 Festival** said:

“The programme for London 2012 Festival will deliver once-in-a-lifetime cultural experiences for audiences across Northern Ireland during the summer of 2012. We are excited about the scale and ambition of the projects, from the largest ever outdoor arts event Northern Ireland has seen, in Land of Giants, to bringing some of the world's leading artists into communities and iconic locations, as with Hans Peter Kuhn's FLAGS, to celebrating Northern Ireland's artistic talent from Frank McGuinness to Brian Irvine as part of NI5. Opening the UK-wide London 2012 Festival is a rock concert in Derry-Londonderry with Peace One Day and by the time we close our Festival we expect to leave a rich legacy for City of Culture 2013.’

**ENDS**

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**Notes to editors:**

**London 2012 Festival and Northern Ireland**

The Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure is responsible for coordinating delivery of the Northern Ireland legacy strategy for the 2012 Games, across three key themes – sport, social, and economic.

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is responsible for coordinating delivery of the Northern Ireland legacy for culture, contributing to the social legacy of the London 2012 Games for Northern Ireland. It hosts the office of the London 2012 Creative Programmer for Northern Ireland and leads on the Cultural Olympiad and its finale, the London 2012 Festival, in Northern Ireland.

London 2012 Festival is proud to partner with Derry-Londonderry City of Culture 2013 in the delivery of two major events within its programme.

London 2012 Festival works in partnership with the Northern Ireland Tourist Board's ni2012 campaign for the delivery of four signature projects celebrating Northern Ireland in 2012.

**About the Cultural Olympiad and London 2012 Festival**

The London 2012 [Cultural Olympiad](#) is the largest cultural celebration in the history of the modern Olympic and Paralympic Movements. Spread over four years, it is designed to give everyone in the UK a chance to be part of [London 2012](#) and inspire creativity across all forms of culture, especially among young people.

The culmination of the Cultural Olympiad will be the [London 2012 Festival](#), bringing leading artists from all over the world together from 21 June 2012 in this UK-wide festival – a chance for everyone to celebrate London 2012 through dance, music, theatre, the visual arts, fashion, film and digital innovation.

Principal funders of the Cultural Olympiad and London 2012 Festival are [Arts Council England](#), [Legacy Trust UK](#) and the [Olympic Lottery Distributor](#). [BP](#) and [BT](#) are Premier Partners of the Cultural Olympiad and the London 2012 Festival.

For more details visit [www.london2012.com/festival](http://www.london2012.com/festival)

### **Legacy Trust UK and Northern Ireland**

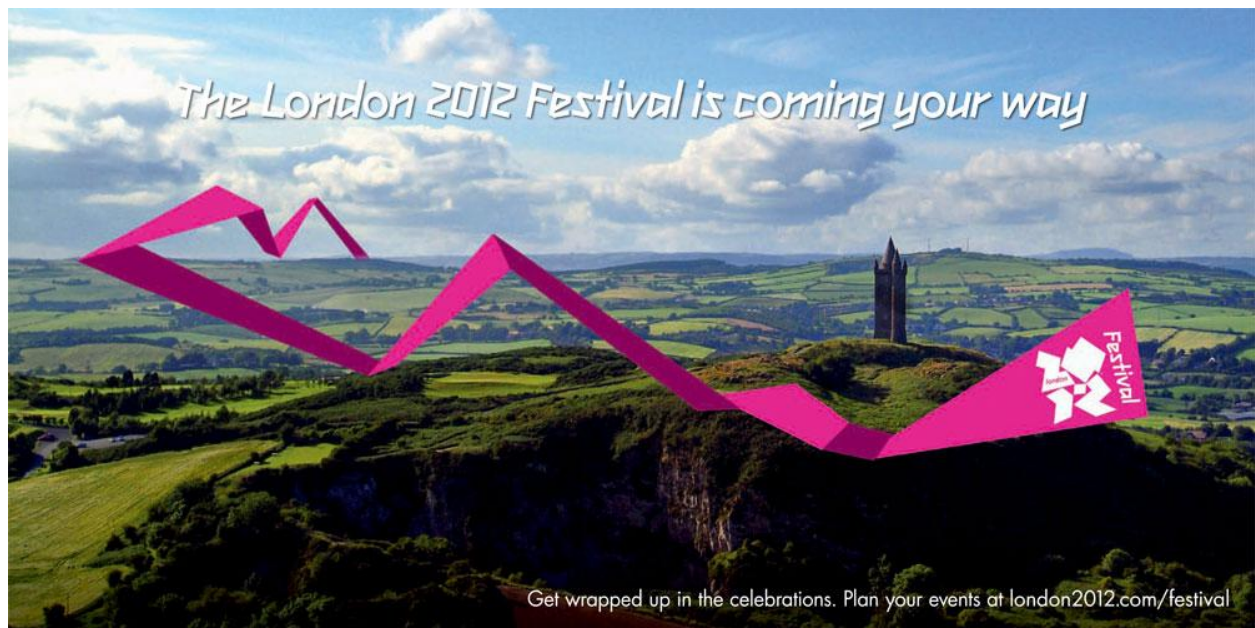
Legacy Trust UK is an independent charity which is creating a lasting cultural and sporting legacy from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games across the UK.

The Trust is a Principal Funder of the Cultural Olympiad and London 2012 Festival and is supporting a wide range of sporting and cultural projects across Northern Ireland which are part of these official London 2012 celebrations. Legacy Trust UK has allocated over £2 million to London 2012-inspired projects in Northern Ireland since 2008 through Land of Giants and Connections, which brings together sports and the arts through a range of NI-wide projects.

# *London 2012 Festival - Northern Ireland*

Event details

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**CAUTION**

**NEST**

# *All the Bells*

*Martin Creed*

*27 July 2012, UK-wide*

Co-commissioned with the Heritage Alliance and The Mayor of London with funds from the National Lottery through the Olympic Lottery Distributor.

On 27<sup>th</sup> July 2012 at 8:00 BST, *Work No. 1197: All the bells in a country rung as quickly and as loudly as possible for three minutes* by Turner Prize-winning artist and musician **Martin Creed**, will be performed throughout the UK to celebrate the first day of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games as part of the **London 2012 Festival**, and to welcome the 205 nations to the UK.

This London 2012 Festival commission will give people across the UK the opportunity to be part of a work by a Turner Prize-winning artist and thousands of people are needed to help make this happen.

Everyone can take part - from ringers of the largest church and town hall bells through to hand bells, school bells and bicycle bells. From the bell ringing community, to community groups, clubs, and individuals with a bell - all are encouraged to participate in this UK-wide celebratory performance. Sign up at [www.allthebells.com](http://www.allthebells.com) or via [www.london2012.com/festival](http://www.london2012.com/festival) from today (4<sup>th</sup> November 2011).

Everyone's experience of hearing this piece performed will be unique, dependent on where they are and what they are doing at that time, making it both a personal and a communal celebration.

***'It's by people and for people. On the morning of the opening of the Games it's a massive signal that something is happening.'***

Martin Creed

# *Noye's Fludde*

*NI Opera*

*10-12 August and 17-19 August 2012, Belfast Zoo*

A co-commission by London 2012 Festival, KT Wong Foundation with support from Belfast Zoo

NI Opera will present a new co-production by the KT Wong Foundation and NI Opera of Benjamin Britten's much loved children's opera, Noye's Fludde, in the truly unique location of Belfast Zoo

Noye's Fludde portrays the story of Noah's Ark before and during the flood of forty days and forty nights. NI Opera present one of the most unique performances of Noye's Fludde ever attempted - in the spectacular location of Belfast Zoo.

For an opera in which animals play such a crucial part, the lakeside performance at the foot of Cavehill in Belfast Zoo will feature a sight never seen there before, an animal costumed cast featuring a large number of local school children becoming their own orchestra and operatic chorus of singers led by a professional cast of performers.

This will be an opportunity for many young people to join in one of the most theatrical art forms in the most special of celebrations, their creation of the musical score through the use of many musical instruments, from recorders to violins, and singing along at the top of their voices.



*Noye's Fludde*

*NI Opera*

# **FLAGS**

*Hans Peter Kuhn*

## *August 2012, Port Noffer, Giant's Causeway*

Co-commissioned by London 2012 Festival using funds from the National Lottery through the Olympic Lottery Distributor, and Northern Ireland Tourist Board.

Hans Peter Kuhn's installation embedded in the dramatic landscape of the Giant's Causeway creates a new visitor experience with this unique natural phenomenon. The work located just beyond the stones themselves stretches along the length of the bay of Port Noffer.

Allowing visitors to first view the natural beauty of the original site of the Giant's Causeway then continuing along the trail they will discover another view, this time man made.

The work is a series of flags randomly positioned along the trail and the banks of the cliff face is directly related to nature, drawing on the natural power of the elements.

The flags, red on one side and yellow on the other will rotate freely in the wind. Depending on the strength and direction of the wind the viewer will see a flickering pattern of red and yellow set against the backdrop of this spectacular landscape, generating a strange form of semaphore transmitting nature's message.

Flags, emanates a quiet, contemplative power perfectly compatible with the surrounding landscape.

Hans Peter Kuhn

FLAGS

# *Krapp's Last Tape*

*Robert Wilson*

*24 – 27 August 2012, Enniskillen*

A co-commission by London 2012 Festival and HAPPY DAYS, Enniskillen International Festival of Beckett.

London 2012 Festival is bringing iconic New York theatre director Robert Wilson's adaptation of Krapp's Last Tape, in which he also performs, to the UK for the first time.

HAPPY DAYS is proposed as the world's first annual festival dedicated to the work and influences of Samuel Beckett, featuring a wide range of international and UK artists, from theatre to music to comedy, who are influenced by Beckett.

Samuel Beckett spent his formative years as a pupil at Portora Royal School, Enniskillen. Oscar Wilde was also a former pupil. HAPPY DAYS is an international cultural festival intending to celebrate this talent and the rich cultural experience of Enniskillen and Northern Ireland from the landscape to cuisine, from sport to the arts.

HAPPY DAYS is planned to take place over 4 days in August 2012 (24th-27th) as part of the London 2012 Festival and the 400th anniversary of the founding of Enniskillen. The full line-up is to be announced at a later date but featured artists and events include Robert Wilson's KRAPP'S LAST TAPE (UK premiere), Pan Pan Theatre's ALL THAT FALL, Ian Bostridge singing Schubert's 'Winterreise', Antony Gormley's 'Tree for Godot', writers John Banville, Edna O'Brien, Alice Oswald, Colm Toibin, Melvyn Bragg and Rugby 7s Ireland vs France.

**Robert Wilson** (born 4 October 1941) is an American avant-garde stage director and playwright who has been called "[America]'s — or even the world's — foremost vanguard 'theater artist'". Over the course of his wide-ranging career, he has also worked as a choreographer, performer, painter, sculptor, video artist, and sound and lighting designer. He is best known for his collaborations with Philip Glass on *Einstein*

*on the Beach*, and with numerous other artists, including Heiner Müller, William S. Burroughs, Allen Ginsberg, Lou Reed, Tom Waits, David Byrne, Laurie Anderson, Gavin Bryars, Rufus Wainwright and Marina Abramovic.

# *Escape from the Factory*

*Joel Simon*

*July 2012, Various*

Commissioned for Unlimited; a project celebrating disability arts, culture and sport on an unprecedented scale. Principally funded by the National Lottery through the Olympic Lottery Distributor, and is delivered in partnership between London 2012, the Arts Councils of the UK and the British Council.

*Escape from the Factory* is a short animated film in which a group of soft toys rebel and escape their production line fate, seeking a new life amongst humans in the great outdoors.

Like a mixture between street performance and stop-motion animation. The film will use pixilation to present real world locations as backdrops for the toys' adventures. The real world passes by very quickly in time-lapse style as the toys overcome fears, anger and bemusement in their newly discovered world and use the Paralympic values of determination, courage, inspiration and equality to reach their goals.

Hollywood based animator, Joel Simon, is originally from breezy Belgium. His early exploits in drawing Tintin-esque comic strips for fanzines led him to study fine arts at the Royal Academy of Fine-Arts in Liege. He later studied design in Manchester, England, where he discovered the joys of claymation by messing around with a Super8 camera and lumps of clay. Developing a real passion for animation, Joel spent his first two years in Belfast working on "Ciderpunks", a 10 minute mockumentary on the early goth scene which won awards at animation festivals around the world. In 2003 he established Flickerpix Ltd with an aim of producing top-notch character animation for all ages. Joel directed children's series Buska & Barney for UTV; comedy series On The Air for BBC, numerous animated TV commercials and more shorts like the Bombay-based Horn OK Please (winner of 15 international awards to date).



*Escape from the Factory*

*Joel Simon*

# *Draw Down the Walls*

*9-14 July 2012, North Belfast*

Commissioned by London 2012 Festival

*Draw Down the Walls* is an ambitious series of events and interventions organised by the Golden Thread Gallery with key groups from both sides of the interface zones in North Belfast, including the North Belfast Interface Network and Lower Shankill Community Association. *Draw Down the Walls* uses a combination of arts and community relations to challenge mindsets and encourage dialogue about invisible, as well as the more obvious, barriers in post-conflict Belfast.

*Draw Down the Walls* will invite an international artist to explore issues that are relevant to local residents during July 2012 in the vicinity of North Belfast's most disputed interfaces.

The artist will be invited on a pre-event residency to meet with and listen to key groups and individuals and to find out as much as possible about the issues that affect the people who live in some of Belfast's most contested spaces. They will develop their findings into a new body of work that will be presented as an intervention during July 2012 along with a series of participatory talks and events.

***NI5***

***NI Opera***

***28-30 June 2012, The MAC, Belfast***

A series of commissions involving the PRS for Music Foundation, BBC Radio 3, Arts Council of Northern Ireland and The MAC.

NI Opera and The MAC will present five brand new operas by Northern Irish composers, as part of the London 2012 Festival celebrations.

Proving that new opera is alive and well, this exciting premiere will unveil five bite-sized operas that are each between 10-20 minutes long. Entitled **NI5**, these operas have been written and composed by some of the biggest names in the arts in Northern Ireland.

The new operas include *Our Day* composed by Conor Mitchell and written by international playwright Mark Ravenhill; an opera composed by Brian Irvine and written by leading playwright Owen McCafferty; and three other pieces including new work by Frank McGuinness and composers Christopher Norby, Deirdre McKay, and Ed Bennett. With accompaniment from the Ulster Orchestra and performances by NI Opera's young singers, it promises to be a fast-paced night of fantastic music and exciting theatre.

This NI Opera production will run for three nights at The MAC in Belfast, from 28-30<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

Conor Mitchell and NI Opera were commissioned to produce *Our Day* as part of the New Music 20x12 project, one of a series of UK-wide commissions to celebrate the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad. *Our Day* is a short thriller set against the extraordinary backdrop of Mary Peters' Olympic win of 1972.

Tickets for this production will go on sale in January 2012, via The MAC box office.

# *Land of Giants*

*30 June 2012, Titanic Slipways*

Funded by Legacy Trust UK with support from Northern Ireland Tourist Board, Arts Council of Northern Ireland and Belfast City Council.

With a cast and crew of over 500 people, Land of Giants will be the largest outdoor arts event ever seen in Northern Ireland. This ambitious event will combine acrobatics, aerial dance, physical performance, music, special effects and pyrotechnics in a one-off spectacular show. Taking place on the night of Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012 Land of Giants will present a unique tale on an epic scale to an audience of 20,000 on Belfast's newest events space The Titanic Slipways.

The event takes inspiration from some of the iconic giants found in the history, society and landscape of Northern Ireland – Jonathan Swift's Gulliver, the legendary Finn McCool, Harland and Wolff's iconic Samson and Goliath, the ships the Olympic and Titanic and of course the Giant's Causeway - as well as the vision of Northern Ireland and its population as being giant in ideas, talent and heritage.

Funded by Legacy Trust UK, Land of Giants will be a highlight of the London 2012 Festival and of NITB's 2012 events programme. One of only four UK Community Celebrations the event presents a new image of Northern Ireland on the international stage. Presented by Giant Events Company, Land of Giants is directed and realised by Mark Murphy (European Capital of Culture Opening Ceremonies, Liverpool 2008, Turku 2010), produced by John Wassell (Walk the Plank), associate produced by Kathy Hayes (previous work with NVA and Event Scotland) and featuring Northern Ireland poet Sinead Morrissey (Patrick Kavanagh Award Winner, Irish Times Poetry Prize 2009, UK National Poetry Competition Winner 2007) in a key creative role. The project is led by a consortium of Northern Ireland partners including Beat Initiative, Belfast City Council, Belfast Community Circus School and Young at Art.



*Land of Giants*

## *Orchestral Fusion*

## *Ulster Orchestra*

*4 March 2012, Waterfront Hall*

A London 2012 Festival countdown event co-commissioned by BBC's Music Nation project.

The Ulster Orchestra and the RTÉ Concert Orchestra perform together for the first time at the Waterfront Hall as part of BBC's Music Nation countdown event to the London 2012 Festival.

The performance will include a new work by Northern Ireland composer, Brian Irvine, commissioned by BBC Radio 3. The work will be performed by one giant orchestra formed from both the Ulster Orchestra and Dublin-based RTE Concert Orchestra. The performance will be conducted by David Brophy, the Principal Conductor of the RTÉ Concert Orchestra and a regular conductor of the Ulster Orchestra.

The event will include a collaborative performance of a second major work as well as separate performances by both orchestras and will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 3.

## *Peace One Day "Global Truce 2012" Concert*

*21 June 2012, Ebrington Parade Grounds, Derry-Londonderry*

Presented by Peace One Day, London 2012 Festival, Derry City Council, Culture Company 2013 and the Northern Ireland Tourist Board.

Featuring a host of international artists, this major Peace One Day concert in Derry-Londonderry marks the 3-month countdown to a Global Truce on Peace Day 21 September 2012.

Led by founder and filmmaker Jeremy Gilley, Peace One Day hosted its first annual celebration at Brixton Academy in London. Since then, Peace One Day concerts have played an integral role in taking the message of Peace Day to the world.

Peace One Day "Global Truce 2012" will be an extraordinary event. A major concert in Derry-Londonderry and one of the opening events of the London 2012 Festival, this event on 21 June 2012 marks the 3-month countdown to a Global Truce on Peace Day 2012 - hoped to be the largest reduction in global violence in recorded history and the biggest ever gathering for peace around the world.

Taking place at Ebrington Parade Ground, the city's new cultural quarter for the arts linked to Guildhall Square by the recently opened Peace Bridge, the concert is a special collaboration between Peace One Day, London 2012, Derry City Council and co produced with Derry-Londonderry City of Culture 2013. The show is being produced by Jeremy Gilley and Peace One Day ambassador, Jude Law.

As well as being a musical celebration of peace, the event is an opportunity to highlight the extraordinary global Peace Day activities that have taken place around the world and to call the world to action on Peace Day 2012, the day of Global Truce.

Jeremy Gilley is a British filmmaker and founder of the non-profit organisation Peace One Day. He joined the Royal Shakespeare Company at 17, and following a decade of professional acting started making his own films in 1994. Gilley launched Peace One Day in 1999 to document his efforts to establish the first ever annual day of global ceasefire and non-violence with a fixed date. The day was unanimously adopted by UN member states in 2001 as 21 September – Peace Day. With the day in place, Gilley's goal is to institutionalize Peace Day around the world, working principally in Education, instigating Life-saving activities, in film, music, sport and online. In 2007 and 2008, Gilley went to Afghanistan with POD ambassador Jude Law, to spearhead a campaign that has seen 4.5 million children vaccinated against polio as a result of Peace Day agreements in the region.

Jude Law is a British actor, film producer and director. He began acting with the National Youth Music Theatre in 1987, and had his first television role in 1989. After starring in films directed by Andrew Niccol, Clint Eastwood and David Cronenberg, he was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor in 1999 for his performance in Anthony Minghella's *The Talented Mr. Ripley*. In 2003, he was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actor for his performance in another Minghella film, *Cold Mountain*. In 2007, he received an Honorary César and he was named a Chevalier of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government. Most recently, he appeared as Hamlet at the Donmar Warehouse, London in 2009 and on Broadway and was nominated for both an Olivier and a Tony Award as Best Actor. He has also worked closely with Jeremy Gilley for Peace One Day, travelling twice to Afghanistan in 2007 and 2008.



*Peace One Day*  
*Jeremy Gilley and Jude Law*

## *A Coastal Installation*

*Deborah Warner*

*June/July 2012, Northern Ireland coastline*

Co-commissioned by London 2012 Festival using funds from the National Lottery through the Olympic Lottery Distributor, with Derry~Londonderry Culture Company 2013 and the Northern Ireland Tourist Board.

Created by the renowned opera and theatre director Deborah Warner, in collaboration with the actor Fiona Shaw and creative producer Artichoke, this new living artwork has been for London 2012 Festival.

Installations will appear simultaneously from dusk til dawn at locations along the UK and Ireland coast. From Northern Ireland to Cornwall, from remote Scottish islands to East Anglia, these artworks will be a poignant exploration of love poetry and a celebration of the extraordinary beauty of our coastline.

Deborah Warner is one of the leading theatre and opera directors working in the world today. Her productions include work for the National Theatre (Mother Courage, Happy Days, Richard II, King Lear); the Royal Shakespeare Company (Titus Andronicus, King John, Electra); The English National Opera (Messiah, Death in Venice, St John Passion); and the Royal Opera House (The Turn of the Screw). She has worked extensively in Europe including work for the Salzburg Festival (Coriolan); The Bavarian State Opera (The Rape of Lucrece) and the Vienna Festival (Dido and Aeneas). She is an Associate Director of the Barbican Theatre where she has recently presented a new production of The School for Scandal. Her many productions with actress Fiona Shaw include Hedda Gabler and Medea and their production of T.S. Eliot's The Waste Land has toured the world. Her installation projects The St Pancras and The Angel Project were commissioned by LIFT, The Perth International Arts Festival and the Lincoln Center, NYC. She was awarded L'Officier des arts et des Lettres by the French Government and made CBE in the Queens Birthday Honours list 2006.

## **CAUTION**

***Sinead O'Donnell***

***24 August – 29 September 2012, Golden Thread Gallery, Belfast***

Commissioned for Unlimited, a project celebrating disability, arts, culture and sport on an unprecedented scale. Principally funded by the National Lottery through the Olympic Lottery Distributor, and is delivered in partnership between London 2012 Festival, Arts Council England, the Scottish Arts Council, Arts Council of Wales, Arts Council of Northern Ireland and the British Council.

Northern Ireland based artist and curator Sinead O'Donnell brings five international performance artists to collaborate on a project exploring invisible disability through live art performance at the Golden Thread Gallery, Belfast.

Sinéad O'Donnell will collaborate with artists Sylvette Babin (Montreal, Canada), Mariel Carranza (Lima, Peru/ Los Angeles, USA), Paul Couillard (Toronto, Canada), Poshya Kaki (Erbil, Kurdistan-Iraq) and Shiro Masuyama (Tokyo, Japan).

During 2011, Sinéad will visit each artist in their own country and work with them to produce material for the final exhibition. Their creative process will be a cumulative experience and each artist will build upon ideas generated by their previous encounters and journeys. Sinéad will connect the artists' collaborative work under their common exploration of invisible disability for a unique six week live art exhibition in Belfast.

The project allows the artists to explore disability through their limits physically, artistically and geographically. Through CAUTION they seek to break some of these boundaries and cross borders but also to work with the edges of their abilities. Through this powerful explorative journey and final exhibition they will present an innovative exhibition challenging audiences about perceptions of disability and challenge the artists themselves to consider their invisible disabilities in relation to their own artistic work.

You can follow the CAUTION project now at [www.sineadodonnell.com](http://www.sineadodonnell.com)



***CAUTION***

***Sinead O'Donnell***

# **NEST**

**Brian Irvine and John McIllduff**

**20-22 July 2012, T13, Titanic Quarter, Belfast**

Commissioned by Arts Council of Northern Ireland through Artists taking the lead, a Cultural Olympiad project led by the Arts Councils of the UK.

Nest is a glorious and poignant celebration of the people of Northern Ireland. It is the coming together of thousands of individual possessions, thoughts, words, sounds and voices for the making of a single landscape, a single sound... a single Nest. An unusual census, Nest is a unique study of life across Northern Ireland: a collection of individual moments and hidden stories revealed through the objects that line our nests.

At the heart of Nest are thousands of donated objects collected from homes across Northern Ireland. Attached to each object will be a baggage label that explains the story of how that object is connected to its donor:

"This was my first bicycle"...

" My dad wore these Wellington boots on his farm for 27 years"...

" I was sitting on this sofa when I first ever heard the word Tsunami..." etc.

These objects will form a large-scale visual installation that will host a musical and theatrical performance specially created from the stories collected. Nest will involve over 500 singers and performers recruited from all corners of Northern Ireland in a unique collaboration with the magnificent Ulster Youth Orchestra.

All objects, people and stories will be filmed and photographed as part of the creation of a unique Nest archive. To learn more about the journey of a Nest object, please visit [www.2012nest.com](http://www.2012nest.com)



# Nest

This is a shirt... but it's not just a shirt.

***NEST***

***Dumbworld Productions***

***Brian Irvine and John Mellduff***