



Irish Traditional
Music Archive

Taisce Cheol
Dúchais Éireann

Press Release
15 September 2020

Duala: Creator-in-Residence Scheme – Film Premiere

The Irish Traditional Music Archive (ITMA) and the Arts Office of Clare County Council are delighted to announce that the outcome of the first **Duala: Creator-in-Residence Scheme** will be launched in glór, Ennis on Culture Night, Friday September 18th, 2020.

Following an open competition that attracted a wide variety of eclectic and attractive proposals, the Duala commission was awarded in 2018 to joint applicants **Jack Talty** and **Maurice Gunning**.

The open call for this pilot initiative between Clare Arts Office and ITMA attracted a large number of applicants excited by an opportunity to reflect /respond creatively to collections and materials that were of relevance or reference County Clare held in ITMA. Along with traditional musicians and dancers, applications were received from a multitude of art forms including visual art, sound art, opera, film and photography.

Jack and Maurice set out to compose an audio-visual installation that explores the relationship between music, people, and place, specifically drawing on ITMA multimedia collections of traditional music and musicians of County Clare as its primary inspiration. Their initial proposal developed, drawing on the concept of place and the finished piece explores the ways in which memory and landscape influence our identity formation.

'**Duala**' examines this sense of place and identity through the lens of Irish traditional music and song. The 25-minute film weaves archival footage alongside original music and videography.

Siobhán Mulcahy, Clare County Arts Office stated "Once again Clare County Council breaks new ground in the traditional arts, building on partnerships developed at local and national level. Not only will **Duala** be of interest to local traditional artists, there was strong interest from artists not normally associated with traditional music, who saw this as an opportunity to work across art forms. We are delighted with Maurice and Jack's production which we are sure will be enjoyed by many."

Liam O'Connor, ITMA Director stated "Connecting artists with archival material to create new works of art is hugely rewarding for ITMA. County Clare is synonymous with traditional music, song and dance. These traditions are deeply embedded in the identity of the people. For multi-talented artists such as Jack Talty and Maurice Gunning to be given a blank canvas upon which to explore connections between people, place and collective memory is really exciting. I am personally looking forward to the premier in glór on Culture Night to view the creative results of their research. They are both intelligent, discerning and talented artists who share a deep understanding about the subject. **Duala** promises to be a wonderfully produced, insightful and reflective film."

Duala will premiere online at 5:30pm (IST) Friday 18 September 2020 on: ITMA website / ITMA Facebook page / ITMA YouTube Channel / ITMA Instagram TV.

Duala will be shown in glór, at 5.30pm and 7.30pm on Friday 18 September 2020. The 7.30pm screening will be followed by a Q&A with the artists. **Booking for both glór screenings is required as numbers are strictly limited. Phone 065 68 43103.**

Requests for information relating to the [Duala: Creator-in-Residence Scheme 2018](#) should be directed to Alan Woods, ITMA alan.woods@itma.ie 00 353 (1) 6619699

ENDS

Notes to editors:

Jack Talty is a traditional musician, producer, composer, and researcher from Lissycasey in County Clare. He is the founding director of the traditional music label, Raelach Records. In October 2018 Jack was appointed Traditional Artist in Residence at University College Cork.

Further details at: www.jacktalty.com

Maurice Gunning is a photographer and documentary filmmaker from Limerick. He is the Photographer in Residence at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, and his work has been exhibited internationally with support from the Arts Council and Culture Ireland.

Further details at: www.mauricegunning.com

Irish Traditional Music Archive (ITMA) is the national public archive and resource centre for Irish traditional music, song and dance, and the globally-recognised specialist advisory agency to advance appreciation, knowledge, and the practice of Irish traditional music.

Established in 1987 and funded by the **Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon**, and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, **the role of ITMA is to:** collect and preserve the historical and contemporary materials of Irish traditional music, particularly those that are at risk; organise and describe these materials according to international standards of archival and library practice to create collections that are discoverable by all; present and publish content from our collections in ways that enhance the living tradition; contribute to the knowledge base of traditional music, and engage with our diverse audiences worldwide.

Further details at: www.itma.ie

Clare Arts Office work with artists of all disciplines (painters, musicians, dancers, writers, actors etc.) and communities throughout the county on a variety of programmes and projects.

Further details at: www.clarecoco.ie

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Media Assets

Duala Trailer: – [click here](#)

Duala Image: – [click here](#)