



MENTOR DIRECTORY



STEPHEN JAMES SMITH

POET / PERFORMER / PLAYWRIGHT

(WRITING)

Stephen James Smith is an Irish poet. They are also a writer, performer, and playwright.

Their work has been seen by millions of people worldwide, leading them to perform with people like Eddie Vedder (Pearl Jam), Patti Smith, and Bono (U2).

As a touring artist, Stephen has performed all over the world, from Ballydehob to Bangkok, but perhaps most notably at Glastonbury, the Nuyorican Poetry Café (New York), the Centre Culturel Irlandais (Paris), and the Palladium (London).

As a recording artist, Stephen's work has been critically acclaimed nationally and internationally, and led them to be called "Dublin's unofficial poet laureate".

Their work has been translated into eight languages and received numerous awards and nominations. Stephen was born in Dublin in 1982, and while they have done all this and more, Stephen recognises it's subjective and a lot of it is down to luck.



BRIAN SCALLY

CO-FOUNDER & CO-CEO OF PARAGON RECORDS

(MUSIC)

Brian Scally is co-founder and co-CEO of Paragon Records, an independent label established in 2018. With leading independent FUGA as their distributor, Paragon has a multi-genre roster that includes singer-songwriters Pa Sheehy (former lead singer with Walking On Cars) and Curtis Walsh, NI Music Prize Album Of the Year Winner Kitt Philippa, Belfast-based producer, top-line specialist and performer Jessica Hammond, electronic act and sync favourites The Sei, female-fronted rock band Sick Love and all-girl indie band Florence Road.

Paragon were an early signatory to the Keychange pledge to bring underrepresented genders in the music industry to the main stage and are also members of the 1% For The Planet initiative, where a minimum of 1% of their annual sales go to environmental and climate justice causes.

Brian is also a Board Member of The Association of Independent Music (AIM) Ireland, is a Mentor for Keychange's We Grow mentoring programme for women and gender-expansive artists and innovators.



TRACY SAYERS

WRITER / FACILITATOR / SUPERVISOR / CONVENTION ORGANISER (COMIC)

Hi there, I'm Tracy and I am a writer, facilitator, supervisor, and conventions organiser. I have worked in the comic industry since 2016, as a volunteer, as a sales rep, as a support for other creators, and as a creator selling my own work. I immersed myself in all aspects of comic life, running the gauntlet that is the small press industry and convention scene, and survived, I have self-published comics and written scripts for other creators. I am the proud owner & organiser of Valkyrie Comic & Craft Conventions. I have also been a member of the Comic Crusaders podcasting network and have been on several of their shows. I am also a proud member of the Nerdy Girls, speaking on Dublin City FM, at Dublin Comic Con, and on their podcast.

Since the pandemic hit my focus moved from writing to teaching. I held classes for my niece and some of my younger cousins showing them how to write a story put it together, and make a comic. This lit a fire in me and the organisers of Cosmic Rebels Con let me run my first workshop. Since then, I have held workshops at other conventions and festivals, and I run 6-week creative writing and comic arts programs via zoom. I am also a supervisor for 3rd-level animation students. I came up with a 6-week comic prep course and a 12-week work experience program.



AILEEN GALVIN

MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SYNC & SWIM (MARKETING & COMMUNICATION)

A graduate of Limerick School of Art & Design, Aileen Galvin is Managing Director of Sync & Swim, the creative marketing and strategic communications agency working in arts, culture and heritage, festivals, entertainment and events, and the tourism and hospitality sectors.

She has worked in marketing and communications for almost 30 years and her clients include the National Gallery of Ireland; MoLI – Museum of Literature Ireland; Landmark Productions; The Dean Arts Studio, Dublin; Creative Places; Music Network; Dublin City Arts Office and many more. She also curates the art collections for Press Up Hospitality Group.

Aileen was Director of Public Engagement for the national St. Patrick's Festival from 2019 - 2022. She was recently awarded an Irish Times Theatre Award and a Writers Guild Award for services to the arts as part of the National Campaign for the Arts National Steering Committee, for which she led the communications and marketing activities throughout the pandemic, devising and launching the #SaveTheArts campaign.

Aileen specialises in marketing and communications strategy, project management, development, and advocacy.



JENNIFER DAVIDSON

CHAIR OF THE WRITERS GUILD / WRITER (WRITING)

Chair of the Writers Guild of Ireland since 2020, Jennifer writes for Ireland's national soap opera, Fair City, having been a core member of the writing team since 2012. She also has a number of original series and feature films in development.

Jennifer is an experienced screenwriter with a background in documentary production and development. Having spent almost twenty years working for a number of Ireland's top independent production companies, securing commissions for a wide range of programmes, her years spent encouraging other people to have their stories told on screen informs her work as a writer.

A fierce advocate for Irish writers, through her work with the Writers Guild, she has originated and run a wide number of training and development initiatives for new writers. Her development experience includes contracts for O'Sullivan Productions, Independent Pictures, Jump Films, Animo, Adare, Shinawil, Coco and Kite.

She recently completed a Postgraduate qualification in Creative Entrepreneurship & Enterprise Development through CREW Digital/ATU Galway with a view to setting up her own writer led production company, Heartfelt Drama.



SUSAN SWEENEY
DIRECTOR OF WINDYMILL
PRODUCTIONS / VISUAL ARTIST
(MULTI-INDUSTRY)

Susan Sweeney is the Director of Windymill productions and is an Independent Tech consultant, exhibited visual artist and research academic.

She has been working with VR since 2017 where she trekked across Canada wearing her VR headset embodying SUBORG. She is a pioneer of 3D modelling and animation since the mid 1990's.

Susan is a meditation teacher and won a scholarship with the Eckhart Tolle foundation for her work with third level students. Susan's research involves visual literacy, wearable technology and is looking to work with fractal geometry and also morphic resonance research projects.



JULEY-ANN COLLINS

MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTS MANAGER, PRODUCER

MULTI-INDUSTRY

Juley-Ann Collins is a freelance Arts Manager and Producer, with over 10 years' experience in cultural and production management in a multi-disciplinary national and international context; producing and co-ordinating small to large scale projects and tours, funders including the Arts Council of Ireland and Creative Europe.

Juley-Ann has worked across multi-disciplinary arts settings such as festivals, production companies, venues and local authorities, working with leading artists across different artforms including circus, dance, spectacle, theatre, visual arts and work for early years, children and families and with communities of interest and place.

With a Higher Certificate in Broadcasting IADT, Bachelor of Business in Event Management and PR GMIT, MA in Public Advocacy and Activism NUIG and a Professional Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Leadership UCD Professional Academy, memberships include Theatre Forum and the Irish Street Arts Circus and Spectacle Network, and Board member with expertise in Arts for Mother Tongues.



CAREY FITZGERALD

PRODUCER / LECTURER / ENTREPRENEUR

(FILM & TV)

Named by The Irish Post Business Year in Review as a Game Changer and one of the fifty influencers who made their mark in 2022, Carey is an experienced Film & TV Entrepreneur, Producer, Mentor & Lecturer in Film & TV. She has a long history in production, distribution, advertising, financing & global sales, and marketing. She has enjoyed Oscar Nominations and Festival Selections along with a wide range of commercially successful TV Commissions.

She is the Founder of Irish Silver Mountain Productions, the Film & TV production, distribution & training business, specialising in creating film, drama, and creative documentaries for the international market in all languages, focusing on stories of the historically underrepresented. She partners with Len Collin in the UK's Ballpoint Films.

She is currently Chair of and produced SHOUT LONDON - The Ashford Place Mental Health Film & Arts Festival. She is also the Chair of Irish Film London.

She founded the global female empowerment social enterprise, Wise Women. She is a Mentor for Screen Skills Ireland, WIFTV & Birds Eye View. Concerned about the disconnect between academia and the commercial world, she created BOFTV.



MARIA AULETTA

LCIRCUS SKILLS FACILITATOR / THEATRE DIRECTOR

(PERFORMING ARTS)

Hi, My name is Maria Auletta. Born in Italy. Based in Galway since 2005. I am a Creative and Somatic Life Coach. A Mother, a Circus skills Facilitator and a Theatre Director for Young Audiences.

While studying Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Naples in Italy I became fascinated by the rituals that different tribes from around the world use on a regular basis. What really sparked my interest was the element of playfulness in these rituals, and the element of movement. Laughter, play, and dance, a flow of authenticity. Since then I decided to become a Circus and a Theatre Practitioner and to deliver these skills workshops in Corporations and Schools. I researched flow into movement, vulnerability into clowning, and groundedness into being a mother. I graduated with a Master's Degree in Sociology and completed my studies with a thesis/research about juggling & circus, choices, and motivations that draw the artist to choose this path.

In the past 5 years, I moved my creative mind and purpose toward Theatre for Young Audiences. Thanks to a self-development path and mentors I was able to focus on what was important for me and frame my ideas into a project that resonate with my values and also gave visibility and recognition to my creative intent.. I firmly believe life is our main teacher and the people we meet can become our mentors.



RICHEY MCCOURT

SONGWRITER / PRODUCER

(MUSIC)

With a career spanning 20 years in music, Richey McCourt has established himself as one of Ireland's most sought after songwriters and producers. From humble beginnings in Dublin guitar bands, and years spent working as a session guitarist – it was the world of songwriting and music production that ultimately ended up being home for Richey.

A songwriter with versatility and ambition, Richey spent many of his formative professional years as a songwriter collaborating with Swedish pop teams, harnessing his skill for delivering top tier melody. He's written with and for international artists such as Will Young, Rebecca Ferguson and Latin sensation TINI. He's also become the defacto collaborator for some of Ireland's brightest shining talents such as Aimée, Erica-Cody, Megan O'Neill and many more. Working predominantly between Dublin, Stockholm and London, Richey also works as a mentor with Minding Creative Minds, offering workshops focused on songwriting to mentee's.



MORAN BEEN-NOON

VISUAL ARTIST

(VISUAL ARTS)

Moran Been-noon is an Israeli, Dublin-based visual artist. She predominantly makes moving image installations, using animation, archived material, and non-traditional projections. Her practice has a subject matter focus on political identity and post-migration living. It incorporates manipulations of the body, its movement in a place of belonging, and a consideration of the link between folkloric places (real or imagined) and the self. She uses her own identity to explore how compound ethnicities influence one's sense of belonging.

In 2022, Moran was awarded the Home Residency with Digital Arts Studios in Belfast, and a visual artist residency at Axis, Ballymun in Dublin, which includes acculturation-related community engagements. In 2021 she exhibited two acculturation-related projects in Dublin: 'On Belonging' at The Library Project; and a digital commission for The LAB. She was awarded the 2021 Arts Council Ireland's Artist Bursary to pursue her projects as an artist.

Moran will be exhibiting her first solo exhibition at South Tipperary Arts Centre in November, 2023. Her year started with a residency in Iceland, as part of the SÍM Residency programme.



CLÍ DONNELLAN

MUSICIAN / FACILITATOR / PRODUCER / CURATOR (MUSIC)

Cli Donnellan, a native of East Clare, is an Irish traditional fiddle player, facilitator, producer, and curator at Turas House. She founded and ran the Mountshannon Trad Festival for ten years (2010-2019) and produced and presented a live Irish traditional music radio show “The Morning Dew” for Scariff Bay Community Radio from 2019-2021.

Cli completed a Ph.D. in Philosophy through music in 2018. Her research focused on investigating ways that we can enhance our creative process and performance experience. Drawing on her own life experience and practices while working with clients, Cli places emphasis on creative awareness, establishing perceptions about our ‘self’, identifying and letting go of negative patterns, and devising practices that may help to connect more deeply with the creative process and performance.

As a musician, Cli’s music is deeply rooted in her native East Clare style. In 2020, she produced and released her debut album “Beneath the Hedgerow” and is currently working on a new music project.

Cli continues to curate music and multi-disciplinary arts events in East Clare through various funding opportunities presented by Clare County Council in collaboration with Mountshannon Arts Festival. Cli is currently on the peer panel of the Arts Council of Ireland and is a Mentor with Minding Creative Minds.



STEPHEN DALY

TV& RADIO PRESENTER / VOICEOVER & CONTENT CREATOR (MULTI - INDUSTRY)

Stephen Daly is an Irish TV and Radio presenter, Voiceover and content creator with 20 years experience in the media industry.

He is currently part of the announcing team at Channel 4 in the UK, and a national radio presenter at Today FM. In the past Stephen was known for his work as a weather presenter with RTE and TV3, and also as a radio presenter at RTE Radio 1 and RTE Gold, and also at many of the locals and regionals across Ireland.

When not on screen, or on air, Stephen is one of Ireland's most sought after voiceover talents, with clients such as Disney, Coca-cola, The Irish Government, Diageo, Vodafone, The RNLI and Xtravision/HMV seeking him out to voice their campaigns.



MAYA CULLEN PETROVIC
ARTIST MANAGER & CO-DIRECTOR OF
JAWDROPPER MUSIC.
(MUSIC)

Maya Cullen Petrovic is an artist manager and co-director of Jawdropper Music, with a management roster of clients in Ireland, the UK and Germany. She has worked in the Arts for over 17 years, & has a broad range of experience, from running festivals, to artist development and management, music PR and Music Business education, as she currently holds the Artist Manager lecturing position in BIMM Dublin. Maya has also just been announced as one of the Keychange Talent Programme Innovators for 2023. Keychange is the pioneering international initiative for gender equity in the music industry.

Bringing together a multitude of different skills and networks through the Keychange Pledge and Talent Development Programme, Keychange offers a unique ecosystem with international collaboration at its heart.

Selected by industry and export specialists as future leaders, the newly announced participants mark the third cohort of artists and music industry professionals from 12 countries across Europe and Canada to take part in a year-long programme.

Maya has worked for DICE, as a team member for festivals such as Body&Soul, Electric Picnic, Choice Music Prize, Sounds From A Safe Harbour and many more.



CORRINA KAVANAGH

AUDIENCE & BRAND MARKETING COACH / PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT COACH (MULTI - INDUSTRY)

Corrina Kavanagh is a freelance Audience and Brand Marketing Consultant and a qualified Personal Development Coach. Her career spans almost 10 years, primarily in the music and entertainment industry across audience development, social and content strategy, event management, talent management and influencer marketing.

In her last role as Senior Audience Development Manager at Columbia Records UK, Corrina was responsible for devising best in class social media, content and CRM strategies for artists signed to the label. As the voice of the fan, her focus was understanding and building audiences, by drilling down into their individual needs and triggers for engaging with their favourite artists. Her roster covered a variety of established and developing artists including George Ezra, Harry Styles, Declan McKenna, James Vincent McMorrow and Tom Odell.

Corrina was also on the winning Artist Marketing team at the Music Week Awards in 2019 and 2020 for campaigns with George Ezra and Harry Styles. Previously, Corrina also held positions at Google Ireland and at influential talent agency Gleam Futures in London.



PAULA PHELAN
CREATIVE LIFE COACH / CEO
(MUSIC)

Paula has spent over 20 years in senior leadership positions in the Arts in Ireland, including CEO of VISUAL and Head of Quality at Music Generation Ireland.

Paula is a musician and founder of Traverso Coaching where she works to support creatives to develop new insight and gain clarity in their personal and professional life.



EOIN SANDFORD

MARKETING CONSULTANT / LECTURER / ARTIST MANAGER (MUSIC)

Eoin Sandford is a Marketing Consultant, Music Business Lecturer at BIMM Dublin and Artist Manager.

Specialising in Digital Marketing, Eoin has over ten years experience working with clients such as American Express, Coca Cola, Adobe, Hewlett Packard among others. He managed numerous campaigns across multi channel platforms while overseeing six figure online advertising budgets.

Eoin produced and co-hosted the successful music industry podcast Around The Sound and has previously managed Irish Singer Songwriter Megan O' Neill who has amassed over a million streams, had a successful sync in Netflix show Firefly Lane and supported Sir Tom Jones on tour.



AILISH MCCARTHY

COMEDIAN

(COMEDY)

Ailish is a comedian based in Dublin. She has climbed the ranks in the past 4 years to become a regular at clubs in Ireland.

Ailish has supported household names at multiple festivals and is one of the co-founders of the Irish Comedy guide.

She can offer support on:

- resources
- project management
- getting started in comedy
- strategy
- advice other performance resources available



ELAINE MCCANN

MUSIC CONSULTANT / CAMPAIGN & DIGITAL
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER / MENTOR
(MUSIC)

Elaine McCann is a music consultant, mentor, campaign, and digital distribution manager with 15+ years of experience in the music industry at an international level.

Working within the digital distribution landscape, Elaine has in-depth experience working on campaigns for bands and artists alike, including some of the UK and Ireland's most notable independent record labels & aggregators (The Orchard, Rubyworks, Hozier, Irish Women In Harmony, Orla Gartland, Hudson Taylor, Wyvern Lingo, Lyra, David Keenan, Rodrigo y Gabriela, Jonny Greenwood (radiohead) Al Green and many more).

Elaine also has a vast knowledge of Canadian markets. She worked the festival and live circuit in Toronto for 5+ years, producing music Industry showcases and networking events, with a high emphasis on marketing, management, and artist development.



FIONA LINNANE

COMPOSER / MUSIC PRACTITIONER

(MUSIC)

Fiona Linnane is a composer, specialising in opera and vocal music. She has been the recipient of bursaries through the Arts Council of Ireland Limerick City and County Council.

In 2023 she was awarded the King House Piano Commission and a Project Award for Crawford Art Gallery's Building as Witness Project. Previous work includes the site-responsive opera No.2 Pery Square, devised in collaboration with, and commissioned by, production company Opera Workshop and her song cycle Songs for Kate O'Brien, which have been in development since 2011. Linnane is spearheading the Kate O'Brien 2024 Initiative aimed at celebrating and amplifying the work of Limerick author Kate O'Brien.

She is widely sought after for her work in arts in education. She has undertaken training at European level through participation in the International Teacher Artist Partnership Professional Development. Her work has twice been the recipient of the Arts in Education Documentation Award. She is also on the panel of experts for the Heritage in Schools Programme. Linnane is very active in community music and collaborative practice. In 2022 she worked with Limerick Bat Group, supported by the Arts Council of Ireland Artist in the Community Scheme.



AOIBHIE MCCARTHY
ARTS MANAGER / CURATOR & ARTS EDUCATOR /
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
(VISUAL ARTS)

Aoibhie McCarthy is an arts manager, curator & arts educator and, since August 2020, Artistic Director of Sample-Studios.

After graduating with a B.A in Art History, Architectural History & English Literature from TCD, she worked in the National Gallery of Ireland, the Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin Contemporary and Whyte's Auctioneers before securing the Shinnors Curatorial Scholarship, M.A tracking PhD research scholarship and becoming Education Curator of Limerick City Gallery of Art and eva International.

She led visual arts programming at Galway Fringe Festival and Make a Move Festival before undertaking project management roles as part of regional and national initiatives such as Limerick City of Culture 2014, The Year of Irish Design 2015 and National Adult Learners' Festival 2016.

From 2016-2018, Aoibhie McCarthy was Visual Arts and Outreach Manager of Garter Lane Arts Centre in Waterford, where she is currently on the board of Waterford Youth Arts. From 2018-2020, she was Marketing and Development Manager of Cork International Film Festival and the Business to Arts Fundraising Fellow.



ROWAN MCDONAGH

AV TECHNICIAN / STAGE MANAGER / FESTIVAL PRODUCTION MANAGER (MUSIC)

Rowan has 25 years of experience in the live music and corporate AV industry.

He is the ex General manager of the Av provider company CAVS, and has experience as a touring Av tech, stage manager, and festival production manager.

Rowan is also a Music industry mental health advocate.



JULIE GRIFFITHS

VISUAL ARTIST/CULTIVATOR

(VISUAL ARTS)

Julie Griffiths is an award-winning visual artist, activist, and cultivator who has delivered collaborative projects in Ireland and internationally for over 10 years. Her background is in textile design, and she uses many tactile processes in her projects, as well as horticultural and ecological approaches.

The key driver for her practice is concern for the environment, and how art can tilt peoples' understanding and motivations in the challenging times that we are living through.

Julie has delivered projects in all kinds of formal and informal settings, with a wide diversity of participants and groups: primary and secondary schools, academic institutions and seminars, galleries and community centres, gardens and beaches, town squares and parliamentary buildings, castles and kitchen tables



RITA MELIA

EARLY CHILDHOOD NETWORK CONNECTOR (MULTI-INDUSTRY)

Dr Rita Melia is a lecturer in early childhood education and care at Atlantic Technological University Galway and Mayo campuses. Rita has worked in Early Childhood Education and Care, in practice, research, and policy for over thirty years. As an owner /manager of a creche and preschool and as the Reggio Children International representative for Ireland, Rita has been influenced by Loris Malaguzzi's theory of the Hundred Languages. Rita was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to Harvard Graduate School of Education under the sponsorship of Professor Howard Gardner (Multiple Intelligences) and Professor Benjamin Mardell (The Pedagogy of Play). As a practitioner, educator and researcher Rita believes in the importance of supporting and enhancing young children's 21st-century skills, of curiosity, creativity, critical thinking and, communication through the arts as a right, not merely a need.

Rita has a variety of national and international experiences which have resulted in her developing relationships and networks which support her in her many areas of interest in Early Childhood Education and Care. Rita's PhD research is titled. My self-image and your interactions': The influence of the preschool educator's image of the child as a learner on children's wellbeing and involvement.

Mol an Óige agus tiocfaidh sí (praise the young and they will flourish)



LUAN PARLE

ARTIST/SONGWRITER/MUSIC EDUCATOR (MUSIC)

Acclaimed performing artist, songwriter, composer & music educator Luan Parle has had numerous hits and accolades, including a Meteor Award for Best Irish Female. Her top 10 hit single 'Ghost' spent three months in the Irish Charts, was the most played Irish single of that year, and featured on numerous number 1 compilation albums.

Luan signed her first record deal at just twelve years of age before later signing with Sony Music and Elton John's management company Twenty-First Artists. She has since written and recorded with some of the world's most successful songwriters and producers, including Grammy Award-winning Bill Bottrell (Sheryl Crow, Michael Jackson, Prince, Travelling Wilburys, Elton John) and Billy Steinberg (Madonna, Roy Orbison, Cyndi Lauper, The Pretenders, Whitney Houston, The Bangles, Celine Dion). After spending several years performing and touring extensively in Ireland, Europe, and the US, Luan released her fourth studio album, *Never Say Goodbye*, in February 2020, to critical acclaim. The album features ten original tracks, including two co-writes with Dire Straits guitarist Hal Lindes.

Luan has extensive experience teaching song writing to people of all ages and has facilitated song writing workshops for both IMRO (the Irish Music Rights Organisation) and the Department of Education for a number of years & most recently Waltons New School of Music.



SINÉAD MEANEY

ARTIST / CURATOR / PRODUCER / DJ
(MULTI-INDUSTRY)

Sinéad is a multi-disciplinary artist, curator, producer and DJ.

She holds a Masters in Music + Media Technologies from Trinity College, and has worked in various facets of the music, arts and tech industries - from the creation of audiovisual installations, music projects and performances, to event curation, music publishing, radio and film production. She is a recent recipient of an Arts Council Music Bursary.

Her installation work has been exhibited at The World Science Festival (New York), The Field Museum (Chicago), The Mind Museum (The Philippines), Electric Picnic (Ireland), Science Gallery (Dublin), and Engage Arts Festival (Cork). She has performed electronic music live at CTM Festival (Berlin), Rhizom Festival (Zurich), Body + Soul (Ireland), Panke Gallery (Berlin), and DJ'd at Turnmills (London), Kings Cross (London), Krake Festival (Berlin) and Berghain Kantine. She has curated events for Ableton's Loop: a Festival for Music Makers, Berlin Music Week, The National Gallery of Ireland, and produced content for RTE, Cork Midsummer Festival, Dublin Theatre Festival and Dublin Digital Radio.



SILKE MICHELS MINDFULNESS COACH (VISUAL ARTS)

Silke Michels, born in Germany is living in Ireland since 2002.

After completing the Arts in Group Facilitation Course at the Crawford College of Art and Design in Cork, she is working within the community mainly in the health and education field.

In her own art she explores the kinship with nature through an embodied presence by creating life performances and films.

Silke is a qualified Mindfulness Teacher and has a Diploma in Co-Active Coaching with Neuroscience.

Combining her skills she offers creative wellbeing courses and mindful coaching.



RUTH MEDJBER

PHOTOGRAPHER

(VISUAL ARTS)

Dublin-born and globally-based Ruth Medjber* was encouraged by her father to take photographs from a young age. While in her honors year of a Bachelor of Arts (Photography) at Dublin Institute of Technology, Medjber regularly contributed to Hot Press magazine and subsequently NME, Rolling Stone, Kerrang! and Classic Rock.

Medjber's portfolio includes portraits of Grace Jones, Hozier, Metallica, and the Foo fighters. Most recently, she documented Arcade of fire on their tour of the UK and Europe, as well as covering the Glastonbury Festival for the BBC. With close ties to her community, the artist uses her creative talent to support local charitable causes and has a long-term project Women of Notes, which celebrates inspiring women in the Irish music industry in a bid to create a gender balance in music.

In 2020, when the music industry was paused by covid19, Medjber began taking portraits of people at home through their windows in a series titled "Twilight Together". This body of work, now published as a book by Penguin, became one of the most iconic portrait series of our time.

*Pronounced: Medj (as in hedge) Ber (as in teddy)



ALEX BORWICK

PRODUCER/RECORDING ENGINEER/MIXER/MUSICIAN (MUSIC)

Originally from New Zealand, Alex has been based in Ireland since 2012. He is the head engineer at Grouse Lodge Residential Recording Studios, and his career includes working as a producer, recording & mix engineer, touring musician, and obsessive problem-solver! When not at Grouse Lodge, he works out of a variety of studios around Ireland and overseas.

He has worked with producers such as George Clinton, Garret "Jackknife" Lee, and Starsmith, and with artists such as Sam Fender, Parliament Funkadelic, Catfish & The Bottlemen, James Vincent McMorrow, and Lankum. Alex produced, recorded and mixed the critically acclaimed debut album 'Hemet' by Niamh Regan, which was nominated for the RTÉ Choice Music Prize Irish Album of the Year 2020



ALFIE HUDSON TAYLOR

ARTIST/SONGWRITER/MUSICIAN

(MUSIC)

Alfie Hudson - Taylor is an Artist, songwriter, and musician and the frontman of the band Hudson Taylor.

He has over twelve years of experience working in the music industry as a commercial musical artist.

With his band Hudson Taylor, He has worked with many distinguished producers and songwriters, Released music with both independent and major labels and performed in studios and on stages all over the world.



MICHELLE CAHILL

PRODUCER, ARTS MANAGEMENT, COACH (DANCE / THEATRE)

Michelle is a freelance producer, arts professional and coach. Her work is driven by a strong interest in supporting and nurturing creative and physical expression. She is passionate about supporting collaborative artistic projects across different disciplines to produce ambitious new works for public engagement. Artists and companies in her producer portfolio include Róisín Whelan Dance; Deirdre Griffin/Headonbody, Monica Muñoz Dance, Regan O'Brien, and Rowan Tolley Company (UK).

Since 2017 she works as a company line producer with the award-winning dance theatre company Junk Ensemble. She was assistant producer, then producer with Tipperary Dance (2019-2021), Participant Producer for Dance Ireland's Cruinniú na nÓg programme Let's Dance (2021) and Programme Co-ordinator at Shawbrook (2014-2021). She has 20+ years' experience working in dance, choreography, and performance. Her solo show 'Thirteen Steps to the Attic' premiered in 2018 that toured widely.

Michelle is a qualified Relational Dynamics coach, RD1st accredited.



GILL DOOLEY

AIM IRELAND, CEO / ARTIST MANAGER &
MUSIC CONSULTANT
(MUSIC)

Having begun her career working with EMI in 2003, Gill spent years working with indie distributors RMG Chart, before moving to New Zealand to work as a buyer for their largest music retailer in 2006.

Returning to Dublin she ran events with Hot Press magazine & spent 11 years as Director of Digital & Business Development with Universal Music. Leaving Universal in 2018 to branch out as an independent artist manager & consultant, she began managing rising pop star Aimée, and was part of an Enterprise Ireland backed team working on an audio software project. CEO of Irish indie music trade association AIM Ireland since 2021, Gill also sits on the board of European independent music champions, IMPALA.



BRIAN O'REGAN

DIRECTOR - ARTS LEADERS ASSOCIATES (MULTI-INDUSTRY)

With a background in classical music, Brian moved into arts administration after completing the MA in Arts, Festival & Cultural Management in Edinburgh. Since then, he has worked in a variety of different roles with organisations including Edinburgh International Festival, Malta Philharmonic Orchestra, and more recently with the Whale Theatre in Greystones where he serves as Artistic Director.

In 2020, Brian founded Arts Leaders Associates and since then has worked with a range of clients including the Arts Council, Wicklow County Council, Limerick City and County Council, Liz Roche Company, Backwater Artists Group and Sligo Festival of Baroque Music among others. Recently completed projects include a Craft Strategy for Co. Wicklow, a Feasibility Study for a Youth & Community Arts Centre and various other research and strategic development projects.



SHEELAH MOLONEY

CREATIVE CAREERS CONSULTANT

(VISUAL ARTS)

Sheelah is the founder of 2020 Curates which provides resources for visual artists to assist them in navigating the complex world of art sales through mentorship, advice and guidance.

She loves all things visual and has a degree in Art History (BA Hons) and is an avid amateur photographer. Her passion for art led her to open 2020 Art Gallery in 2009. In 2019, in response to the market and demand she transitioned the business into creative consultancy 2020 Curates. She has 15+ years' experience in the world of art sales as a gallery owner and curator, and has curated almost 50 exhibitions and worked closely with many artists.

She has a strong passion and belief in the importance of art and visual communications for the betterment and development of communities. This is the foundation of everything she does at 2020 Curates.



SHEILA MEANEY (TV/FILM)

Sheila comes from an extensive background in TV, film, and broadcast media production, among other complimentary areas. She has been producing, and production managing broadcast productions since 1995.

She has been the Executive Producer on programmes such as Dancing with the Stars, Last Singer Standing and many other TV productions.

Sheila has worked her way from being a floor manager, line producer through to assistant director, production manager & executive producer with many organisations and collaborations.



JILL THORNTON

EVENT MANAGER, THEATRE PRODUCER & BUSINESS OWNER (THEATRE)

Jill began her career in stage production, and supporting event production over a decade ago. With a background in live events production & mgt, event mgt, venue mgt, programming, theatre.

Jill is a motivated Event Manager, Production Manager, Stage Manager and Production Coordinator with experience in areas such as Live, Charity, Cultural, Theatrical and Festival Events in both Ireland and the UK.

Jill has also has experience as a tour manager abroad and at home.

Currently, she is working with Ashville Media to organise and host award ceremony events post Covid-19.



JOANNE RYAN

FREELANCE THEATRE PRACTITIONER (THEATRE)

Joanne is an award-winning Limerick-based theatre artist, playwright, and performer with a track record of making quality, ambitious work in socio-political contexts.

Currently, Joanne is developing a number of different projects in partnership with Ormston House, Fishamble Theatre Company, and Lime Tree Theatre. In addition to her work as a writer and maker, Joanne has performed with many companies in Ireland.

Joanne has received numerous grants and awards from Arts Council Ireland, Culture Ireland, Create, Local Authority as well as benevolent funds and other funding bodies.

She regularly consults with artists across art-forms advising on funding and other applications.



JUSTINE DOSWELL CREATIVE PRODUCER / CHOREOGRAPHER (DANCE)

Justine completed her dance training in the UK, graduating from Central in 1991. She has since worked extensively in dance, theatre, fashion, design and arts/music management.

She has been based in Dublin since 1997 and has been a resident dance artist in schools for County Councils. currently works with the junior section of Dublin Youth Dance Company (12-17yrs).

Justine also works freelance and contract on various other collaborative projects & dance productions and has previously managed Irish rock band, Preachers Son (2010/16).



SUZANNE DOYLE

MUSIC CONSULTANT AND ARTIST MANAGER (MUSIC)

Suzanne Doyle is a Music & Creative Consultant/Artist Manager with thirty years experience in the international music industry, and working directly with singer/songwriters Finbar Furey, Declan O'Rourke and Graham Sweeney. She first joined U2's management company, Principle Management, in 1987 and worked directly with the band over a thirteen year period.

She also worked with other companies such as MTV Europe in London, RooArt, an independent record company in Australia, and is currently Dublin based working for over twenty years with her own Consultancy.

The unique insight into the music world from so many different angles led to a vast range of experience. She also works as a freelance Music Associate on specialist Television programmes for Irish National Broadcaster, RTE. As a mentor Suzanne provides broad and varied support to mentees.



MICHAEL ROE

ARTIST / LABEL MANAGER

(MUSIC)

Michael Roe's career in music commenced when he became the drummer in the acclaimed Wexford based post-rock band Adebisi Shank. He also formed The Richter Collective to release the band's debut album. The band released three albums, one of which was shortlisted for the Choice Music Prize.

In 2012 he joined the highly regarded American label / management company Sargent House as the Head of European Operations. Roe's projects during this role included working on acclaimed albums from Deafheaven, Chelsea Wolfe and Russian Circles within Europe.

Michael joined Faction Music in 2017 to continue his focus on Irish acts and has been a Music Business Tutor at BIMM, Dublin.



ANDREW MACKLIN

ACTOR / CAREER COACH / TRAINER

(MULTI-INDUSTRY)

Andrew Macklin is a professional actor, career coach and trainer working in the creative industries.

Andrew aims helps people transform their creative career from where it is currently, to where they want it to be. He does this in ways that are personally meaningful and fulfilling to his client.

Andrew focuses on areas such as; getting clear on your career direction, working through professional and creative blocks, and sustainably balancing the competing demands of a creative life.

His approach is evidence-based, pragmatic and empowering.



JOHN GLENNON

MUSIC MANAGEMENT / PR / CONSULTANCY (MUSIC)

Founder and Partner in Jawdropper Music, a management label and PR consultancy with artists currently signed by Universal, Columbia, RCA, BMG, Akira, Kobalt, Sony Publishing etc

John has over 30 years' experience working with both Irish and international artists. Some of Jawdropper's current clients include Robert Grace, modernlove, L'aupaire, Crybabyamy and Columbia Mills.

Recently elected to the Board of AIM Ireland, John has a wide-ranging knowledge and experience of record labels, publishing, live, sync, streaming, digital marketing etc and a proven track record in mentoring and developing new artists.



DAVID WILKINSON PUBLISHER/ARTIST MANAGER (MUSIC)

After studying Music Business in BCFE Dublin, David went on to spend twelve years at the Irish Music Rights Organisation (IMRO) which culminated in him working his way up the ranks to Member Relations Manager.

During his time at the company, David worked closely with songwriters and music publishers on a daily basis. David is also an experienced independent artist manager, events coordinator and also acts as a music industry consultant.

In 2021, David co-founded Sticky Songs Music Publishing which is an independent, proactive global music publisher based in Dublin, Ireland.



MARK CROSSINGHAM
UNIVERSAL MUSIC IRELAND
MANAGING DIRECTOR
(MUSIC)

Mark has worked in the recorded music industry for over 35 years, starting as a trainee sales rep at Warner Music UK. He worked his way up through sales eventually running the UK International Department, working on Global campaigns for the likes of Seal & Enya. Mark joined the fledgling MCA International team in 1996, soon transferring to MCA UK as Marketing Director.

After MCA was re-named Universal Music, and after the merger with Polygram, Mark became General Manager at Island Records with various central roles including running the Universal Music UK International Department and overseeing Global Campaigns for acts such as U2, Snow Patrol & Keane.

He moved to Dublin in 2008 to take up his current role.



TONY KILLEEN

DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION (EVENTS)

Tony Killeen has over 40 years of experience of working in the live event industry. His roles have varied from Site Management to Event Control at most of Ireland's major events and festivals. He has been the Site Manager at Slane since 1995, and has also been the site manager for Croke Park, Aviva Stadium and the RDS and at events including the Papal visit in 2018, Oxygen at Punchestown (every year), Feile in Thurles 1990-1995, Trinity Ball since 2006 and many more.

Tony has been Head of Production at St. Patrick's Festival since 2006. He also works as an Event Consultant for a number of events and local councils, being involved from the first planning meeting until the last truck is off site. Over the years,

Tony has also contributed to the design and layout of many event and festival sites



SUE CULLEN
MINDSET COACH/ PROGRAMME
MANAGER
(MULTI-INDUSTRY)

Sue has spent the past 15 years coaching, mentoring, and training people from parents to individuals in a variety of programs, both private and voluntary through formal health support services, relationships, and career progression.

Sue has clients of various backgrounds and diversity, receiving coaching in all aspects of personal & professional development.

In recent years, Sue has been creating and managing support programmes, whilst also building a client base for 1:1 life coaching and more. As a life coach she has worked around Ireland and UK honing this craft, helping individuals break through their confidence barriers to achieve their goals, build resilience, self-confidence and belief while supporting them in their desired change & transformation.



FIONA LENNON

LIFE + CONFIDENCE COACH

(MULTI-INDUSTRY)

Fiona is a life, career, and relationship coach, a qualified teacher, and a musician.

She holds a Master's degree in Management from Smurfit College and in 2021, she established her own business and practice, 'Space2Relate'. As a coach, she works with clients across the country to build confidence, have a positive mindset, and increase self-belief/ self-worth.

As a singer-songwriter under the moniker Fí, and an artist for the last 6 years, she has learned first-hand, the ups and downs of being in the music industry. She's written music in London and Los Angeles worked with Grammy-nominated songwriters, played on national radio, and performed on stages at Electric Picnic, Whelans, and Cyprus Avenue.

Fiona has changed career paths several times going from teaching to business and coaching, all whilst working on her passion. She is proof that portfolio careers can work.

Using her coaching skills, creativity, her teaching background, business acumen, and life experience; Fiona is passionate about supporting and empowering creatives to get to where they want to be and shining a light on their unlimited potential.



LOUISE LONERGAN CEO OF LONERGAN GROUP (MULTI-INDUSTRY)

Louise is the C.E.O. Of The Lonergan Group, a company that provides end-to-end solutions in strategic reward and recognition, and branding. Lonergan Group works with companies that wish to reward their staff with hampers, Care packs, onboarding packs, service awards, branded gifts and much more. Louise's ambition for her company is to scale into new markets in Europe.

In the two decades she has been in business, she has continually expanded through innovation to move the company forward and offer clients the best service, ahead of the trends. Louise's areas of expertise include sales, innovation, entrepreneurialism and negotiation, Louise is also a great advocate for diversity and have huge experience in this area. Louise is part of Going for Growth, Entrepreneurial Spark, Vital Voices and WeConnect International . Lonergan Group partners with Ronald McDonald House Charities Ireland as her charity partner and has recently become Great Place To Work Ireland's preferred supplier.



REBECCA FOUNTAIN

CEO

(STRATEGIC & MARKETING)

Rebecca is a professional strategic marketer who has worked across many industries over the past 25 years.

For the past 10 years, Rebecca has worked from her virtual office in the South of France, using her marketing knowledge to service organisations around the world.

Rebecca helps start up business and individuals understand the ways in which they can promote their brands, products, and services to build awareness and ultimately, their client / following bases.

If you need support to get your name out there, Rebecca can advise you and help you make some quick, creative, and pragmatic interventions to get started or re-launch in your respective industry.

In addition to her professional marketing skills set, Rebecca is also an experienced singer with various bands (rock, funk, soul, pop) and currently part of a local duo in her hometown in the south of France, Playlist. She has a well-rounded network of global contacts that include vocal coaches, musicians, writers, road crews, studio owners and much more.



DARREN REDMOND

MARKETING DIRECTOR UNIVERSAL MUSIC IRELAND (MUSIC)

Having begun his career in advertising working with well-known global & Irish brands such as Audi, McDonalds, Honda, RTE & Jameson, Darren joined Universal Music Ireland in 2013 to work within the Digital and Business Development area of the label.

During his time in that role, Darren and his team oversaw the growth and development of UMG artists across streaming platforms such as Spotify, Apple Music, Deezer, Youtube Music & Amazon Music as well as music focused social platforms such as TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, and Thriller – a role he continues to lead today.

In 2018 Darren became Head of Digital Strategy & Partnerships to oversee the audience development, streaming, content, D2C and digital media strategies for all Universal Music Group artists in Ireland, as well as working with brand partners to help bring their music-based activations to live across experiences, sync, digital media and artist partnerships.



NICK YOUNGER

UNIVERSAL MUSIC IRELAND /
COO UM IRELAND / MANAGING
DIRECTOR 0207 DEF JAM, LONDON
(MUSIC)

Nick has worked in recorded music for almost 20 years having started a career in EMI in London, 2003.

Varying roles in EMI saw him based in New York, Dublin and then in Cologne, Germany as the Chief Financial Officer for EMI Germany, Switzerland and Austria.

Following Universal's acquisition of EMI in 2012, he returned to Dublin to become COO for Universal Music Ireland, recently leading the acquisition of Tara Music and the exclusive license deal with Claddagh Records. S

ince 2021 he has the dual role as Managing Director of 0207 Def Jam - the brand new label based in London.

