

image: VR Cinema, Carlow Arts Festival

OUT OF THE ORDINARY



Irish National Opera

traction-project.eu

irishnationalopera.ie



The INO Team

We look forward to working with you.

hesitate to get in touch.

If you have any questions about this project, our contact info is at the back of the booklet. Don't

to do with you.

little more information on the work we're hoping exciting new project. This guide will give you a Hello and thank you for participating in this

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

In short, we want to create a virtual reality community opera.

What is a community opera?

A community opera is simply an opera made with professional artists in collaboration with people from the community. Our opera will be in virtual reality, so the final piece won't appear on a stage like a conventional opera, but instead you'll experience it through a VR headset. You don't have to know anything about opera or virtual reality to take part in the project. A willingness to collaborate and an open mind are all that's required.

We'll be working with communities in three areas of the country:

- Tallaght, in partnership with the Civic
- Offaly/Westmeath, in partnership with Music Generation Offaly/Westmeath
- Inis Meáin, in partnership with Conradh Na Gaeilge

Each community will work with professional opera practitioners and VR experts to create this new opera together. The final opera will be presented for each of the three communities in 2022, so you can see for yourselves how your stories have been brought to life, before touring to audiences nationwide.

COMMUNITY OPERA



image: The Tales of Hoffmann, Irish National Opera

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

In 2020

We'll run a series of opera and virtual reality workshops in each community as a first step towards getting to know the people we'll be working with to create the opera. You will learn about some of the skills used in creating an opera, like composing, writing and designing while also getting the chance to experiment with virtual reality technology.

In 2021

Building on the work done in autumn 2020, we'll return in spring 2021 to provide a larger series of workshops which will contribute to the creation of the final VR opera.

In 2022

A team of experienced artists will take all the material created in 2021 and shape it into a fully realised VR opera. Once finished, we will return to each community to share the final VR opera with those who helped create it. We will then take the opera on tour around Ireland for the rest of the year, sharing the opera with as many people across Ireland as we can.



WHAT ARE WE ASKING FOR?

We're asking for people of all backgrounds to be part of this exciting journey and shape this new opera.

We're looking for people who are open to exploring new experiences and are up for trying something new.

We'd love for you to take part in as much of our events and activities as you can.

Along the way, we'll ask you to take part in research so we can understand the impact of the work we're doing. So, we might ask you to fill in questionnaires or take part in focus groups or interviews. All the information collected will remain anonymous. This research will be carried out in accordance with standard EU ethical procedures and you will need to sign a consent form which we will provide and guide you through.

A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT US...

IRISH NATIONAL OPERA

Opera has the power to move and inspire and our mission is to give everyone the opportunity to experience this. As Ireland's national opera company, we produce great operatic performances in venues throughout Ireland and overseas. We showcase world-class Irish opera singers alongside guests from all over the world. We promote engagement with opera, finding new ways to explore the art form and what it means to modern audiences.

We believe that opera should be available to all. In our first 24 months, we produced 72 performances of 14 operas in 24 Irish venues with many more audiences reached through online streaming and radio broadcasts. We look forward to reaching many more audiences in 2020 and beyond.

image: The Tales of Hoffmann, Irish National Opera



VIRTUAL REALITY

image: The Tales of Hoffmann, Irish National Opera



OUR PARTNERS

To create this exciting experience, we're working with three community organisations – The Civic Theatre in Tallaght, Conradh na Gaeilge and Music Generation Offaly/Westmeath – to help us better understand the local landscape and discover who might benefit most from engagement with the project. If you'd like to learn more about our community partners, feel free to visit our website www.irishnationalopera.ie

This whole project is part of a much larger research project, called TRACTION, a 3-year EU initiative (2020-2022), funded by the European Commission's Horizon 2020 programme.

The project brings together a mix of arts organisations, technology experts, academics and community and participatory art experts to explore new ways to devise and present opera.

The project consists of 9 partner organisations. If you'd like to learn more about TRACTION and the other partners involved, you can learn more here: traction-project.eu

GET IN TOUCH

If you have any questions regarding any part of the project, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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Sign up to our newsletter at irishnationalopera.ie to stay up to date with all the latest INO and TRACTION news.

We are also active on social media.



#TractionEU