

News Release

Ann Mulrooney appointed as Director to Science Gallery Dublin

[Click on image of Ann Mulrooney](#)

Dublin, Sunday November 18th 2018 – Trinity College Dublin and the board of Science Gallery Dublin today announced the appointment of Ann Mulrooney as the new Director of Science Gallery Dublin.

Previous to her new appointment, Ann Mulrooney was the CEO of VISUAL Centre for Contemporary Art in Carlow since 2013. She takes on her new role at an exciting time in the development of Science Gallery at Trinity College Dublin. Science Gallery has firmly established itself as a national and international leader in the fields of art science and public engagement with science. With over 3.2 million visitors since it opened in 2008, it has demonstrated the interest and appetite among Irish audiences to engage with unique, transdisciplinary exhibitions, events and educational programmes that explore the interface of arts, science, design and technology in connective, participative, and surprising ways.

Congratulating Ann on her appointment **Trinity's Vice-Provost and Science Gallery Board member, Professor Chris Morash** said: *"Dedicated to igniting a passion for science and creativity, Science Gallery continues to engage young adults with cutting-edge culture and innovation. Now in its tenth year we are delighted to welcome Ann on board who will lead us into the next decade. Science Gallery is uniquely placed in Trinity, providing a platform for leading research and innovation to an audience of curious young minds. We look forward to Ann's stewardship in the next chapter of this wonderful initiative."*

Commencing on December 1st next, Ann Mulrooney comes to the role with a passion for creating transformative experiences that link science, technology, engineering, art, and design. Initially trained as a sculptor, Ann went on to run the National Design and Craft Gallery from 2009-2013 and the VISUAL Centre for Contemporary Art from 2013-2018, where she developed ambitious cross-disciplinary artistic programming in STEM-related areas including digital technologies, augmented reality, architecture, design, science, agriculture, engineering and urban planning, with a particular focus on developing public engagement through socially-engaged practice.

Speaking about her appointment, **Ann Mulrooney** said: *"I am delighted to be appointed to lead Science Gallery at Trinity College Dublin into its second decade. It has been an innovative and groundbreaking institution since its inception: in its vision, its international impact and its focus*

on engaging 15-25 year olds as the pioneers of the future. The combination of scientific and artistic research with meaningful public engagement has enormous transformative potential and I look forward to working with Science Gallery's national and international partners and stakeholders to realise this."

Pioneered by Science Gallery at Trinity College Dublin just over a decade ago, the rapid growth of the Science Gallery Network across four continents is testament to its success. This year saw the launch of Science Gallery London at King's College London, while Science Gallery Melbourne at The University of Melbourne, Science Gallery Bengaluru at the Indian Institute of Science, Science Gallery Venice at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, and Science Gallery Detroit at Michigan State University are all delivering programming to local audiences.

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Notes to Editors

ABOUT ANN MULROONEY

Ann Mulrooney graduated with a BA in Fine Art from the Crawford College of Art, Cork, Ireland, and an MA in Sculpture from the Royal College of Art, London. She exhibited widely in the UK and Ireland and her work is held in numerous public and private collections. She worked as a freelance curator in Ireland and the UK before joining the Design and Crafts Council of Ireland in 2008 to run the National Design and Craft Gallery, where she directed and curated national and international exhibitions. She took up the post as CEO of VISUAL Centre for Contemporary Art in Carlow in late 2013, directing artistic programming across the galleries and theatre. As a curator, she has realised solo exhibitions by artists including Yinka Shonibare, Tim Hetherington, Gareth Kennedy and Paul Mosse and group exhibitions including Haris Epaminonda, Daniel Cramer, Bedwyr Williams, Laura Ford, Keith Wilson, Daphne Wright, Ailbhe Ni Bhriain and Yvonne McGuinness. Her areas of interest are in material culture and identity, and she has a specific interest in developing audience engagement, participation and understanding through collaborative and innovative programming. In recent years this has included Fergus McCarthy's 'Take Me To The River'; 'Building Stories' in relation to the work of Niamh McCann; 'Materials Library' in relation to the work of Paul Mosse; and 'Town Planners' co-produced with Workhouse Union in 2018. She has been a lecturer, external assessor and frequent contributor to cultural publications and programmes. She was selected for Tate Intensive, an international professional practice programme in Tate Modern 2017, and awards

include Bursary for artistic and curatorial research, PlaCe Research Centre, University of Western England (2006), the Ciclitira Scholarship Prize for Sculpture, RCA, UK (2002) and an Arts Council of Ireland Postgraduate Bursary (2001).

ABOUT [Trinity College Dublin](#)

Trinity College Dublin is recognised internationally as Ireland's leading university. The university offers world-class teaching and scholarship in all major academic disciplines across the arts, humanities, engineering, science, social and health sciences. More than 17,000 students benefit from an education that is inspired by current research and taught by academics at the frontiers of their disciplines.

ABOUT SCIENCE GALLERY DUBLIN

In 2008, a car park in a forgotten corner of Dublin was transformed into a living experiment called Science Gallery Dublin. Through a cutting-edge programme that ignites creativity and discovery where science and art collide, Science Gallery Dublin at Trinity College encourages young people to learn through their interests. Since opening in 2008, over three million visitors to the gallery have experienced over 43 unique exhibitions ranging from living art experiments to materials science and from the future of the human race to the future of play. Science Gallery Dublin develops an ever-changing programme of exhibitions and events fuelled by the expertise of scientists, researchers, students, artists, designers, inventors, creative thinkers and entrepreneurs. The focus is on providing programmes and experiences that allow visitors to participate and facilitate social connections, always providing an element of surprise. Science Gallery Dublin is kindly supported by the Wellcome Trust as founding partner, and by 'Science Circle' members – Accenture, ICON and the NTR Foundation. Science Gallery Dublin receives support from programme partners Intel Ireland, FSAI, The Marker Hotel and Walls to Workstations. It also receives government support from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and Science Foundation Ireland. Science Gallery Dublin's media partner is The Irish Times.

ABOUT THE SCIENCE GALLERY NETWORK

Science Gallery is the world's only university network dedicated to public engagement with science and art. The Science Gallery Network consists of leading universities united around a singular mission: to ignite creativity and discovery where science and art collide. Bringing science, art, technology and design together, Science Gallery delivers unique, transdisciplinary exhibitions, events and educational programmes that engage millions of curious and inquiring minds every year in connective, participative, and surprising ways. Science Gallery International is the non-profit, charitable organisation catalysing the growth of the network, providing services, tools and resources required to power and expand this unique global collaboration,

which now has six members across four continents: the pioneering Science Gallery at Trinity College Dublin; Science Gallery London at King's College London; Science Gallery Melbourne at University of Melbourne; Science Gallery Bengaluru at the Indian Institute of Science; Science Gallery Venice at University of Venice Ca' Foscari, and Science Gallery Detroit at Michigan State University. For more information about the Network, visit: international.sciencegallery.com.