

# Drift

**Mark Garry in collaboration with Séan Carpio**

**Horseshoe Harbour, Sherkin Island, west Cork**

*Drift* is an installation and performance by artist Mark Garry in collaboration with composer and Jazz drummer Séan Carpio. This ambitious project involved Mark and Séan working with Nigel Towse, a musician and boat builder based on Sherkin Island, to transform a wooden sail boat into a floating Aeolian wind harp (a harp played by the wind). This sonic sculpture was accompanied by a new composition written for Brass ensemble that was performed in Horseshoe Harbour, one of the natural amphitheatres on Sherkin Island. This new composition is an interpretation of a series of Sumerian Hymns. These Hymns are the first known archived song.

*"I am particularly interested in the fluidity and democracy of music as a cultural form, the manner in which it integrates complex mixtures of geographic, social and historical instances/influences and continues to do so as it evolves"*

Mark Garry

The performance took place on **Saturday 30 June 2012**. A bus was provided to bring people from Cork city to Baltimore. The audience accessed the performance by ferry. Two ferry boats took approx 110 people from Baltimore and anchored outside the sailboat / floating windharp in Horseshoe Harbour while the musicians, located on shore, performed the new composition.



This project enabled a developing art work be made public. It connected West Cork Arts Centre with National Sculpture Factory and with Cork Mid Summer Festival. These new relationships enabled greater resources to be leveraged and enabled us reach a significant audience.



Placing the visual arts into the festival model of CMF greatly expanded the audience for the project in terms of diversity of audience and scale of audience. The audience interest exceeded capacity. It encouraged local participation and brought economic benefit to the island and local community.



*“Our motivation to create this particular type of a sonic sculpture in this situation i.e. an instrument whose form and volume of output by the harp is dictated by the strength and type of wind, mirrors the specific connection between Island life and its inhabitants and the natural environment. Both the reliance upon, and bond, with the natural environment”.*  
Mark Garry

We introduced Mark Garry to Baltimore-based film maker Pat Collins and Tadhg O Sullivan who Mark commissioned to film the event. The performance was filmed by Tadhg O'Sullivan, filmmaker, director and editor and the resulting film will be screened in a number of venues in 2013 including the Kerlin Gallery, Dublin and West Cork Arts Centre as well as Sherkin Island.



Mark's practice stems from, and is informed by a number of diverse fields of research. They inform his interest in observing and engaging with the many mechanisms that influence and effect how one navigates the world, or more specifically the complexity and subjectivity inherent in these navigations.



While Mark uses a variety of media and mechanisms in his practice, including curating, drawing, film making and writing papers, he mainly focuses on the making of site-specific gallery-based installations and musical collaborations.



Mark has a keen interest in music and musicology and characteristics of this cultural field have become the predominant conceptual motivation in many aspects of his cultural output. Mark has released a number of musical documents as part of his curatorial practice and has employed sonic elements in his installations. More recently he has engaged in a number of ambitious collaborative music projects. These projects typically involve long periods of research that culminate in musical collaborations. These projects act as a means for Mark to observe the manner in which certain historical geographical and sociological forces have combined to shape many of the cultural characteristics of contemporary society.



This project has a link to a project entitled *Making and Meaning* that Sean and Mark undertook in Detroit in 2011. Mark and Sean have collaborated on a number of other Irish and international projects including: *Radical love*, Dublin (2011); *Sleepover*, The Serpentine Gallery London (2010); *A Generous Act*, The Mattress Factory Art Museum, Pittsburgh PA. (2010); *Sending Letters to the Sea*, Dublin (2009)

***Drift* was promoted through the National Sculpture Factory, Cork Midsummer Festival and West Cork Arts Centre's on-line and printed publicity material and was resourced through funding, project development, management and technical support from the National Sculpture Factory and Cork Midsummer Festival, local liaison support from West Cork Arts Centre and an Arts Grant from Cork County Council.**

## **Drift** Mark Garry



A new work by artist **Mark Garry** in collaboration with composer **Seán Carpio**, a live sound art performance in the magical surroundings of Horseshoe Bay in Sherkin Island, West Cork. *Drift* brings together one of Ireland's leading contemporary artists, Mark Garry, and jazz musician and composer Seán Carpio, to create a unique outdoor visual and auditory experience on Sherkin Island in West Cork.

Mark has worked with a boat builder based on Sherkin Island to transform a sail boat into a floating Aeolian wind harp. This sonic sculpture will be accompanied by a new composition, based on Sumerian Hymes, written for wind instruments to be performed in Horseshoe Bay.

Check [www.corkmidsummer.com](http://www.corkmidsummer.com) and follow @CorkMidsummer on Twitter for updates.

**This event takes place on Sherkin Island on Saturday 30 June 2012:** Sherkin is an Island off Baltimore, West Cork, which is 2 hours drive from Cork City. The ferry to Sherkin Island for the event will depart from Baltimore Pier at 7pm. A bus will run from Grand Parade to Baltimore at 4pm and return to the city after the event (around 12.30am). Ticket for bus and ferry €20 from Festival box office. Outdoor event, please dress appropriately and wear suitable footwear.

RSVP to [tickets@corkmidsummer.com](mailto:tickets@corkmidsummer.com)

This event is a collaboration between Cork Midsummer Festival, National Sculpture Factory and West Cork Arts Centre.

### **Festival Talk: 27 June, 1pm, National Sculpture Factory**

Artist Mark Garry presents a lunchtime lecture and presentation on his practice.



National Sculpture Factory



**National Sculpture Factory & Cork Midsummer Festival**  
**in association with West Cork Arts Centre**  
present:

***DRIFT***

**a new work by artist Mark Garry  
in collaboration with composer Seán Carpio.**

**7.30pm, Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Horseshoe Harbour, Sherkin Island, Co. Cork**

[www.nationalsculpturefactory.com](http://www.nationalsculpturefactory.com)

[www.corkmidsummer.com](http://www.corkmidsummer.com)

[www.westcorkartscentre.com](http://www.westcorkartscentre.com)

*DRIFT* brings two of Ireland's leading contemporary artists together to create an outdoor performance on Sherkin Island off the coast of West Cork. Artist Mark Garry and composer and jazz musician Seán Carpio, have worked with musician and boat builder Nigel Towse to transform a wooden sailboat into a floating Aeolian harp that will be played by the wind passing through the instrument. This sonic sculpture will be accompanied by a new composition written for wind instruments that will be performed in Horseshoe Harbour, one of the natural amphitheatres on Sherkin Island. This new composition is based on a series of Sumerian Hymns. These Hymns are the first known written songs.

Artist, curator writer and educator Mary Garry is one of Ireland's most exciting visual artists. Selected to represent Ireland in the 2005 Venice Biennale, Mark's work has been exhibited internationally. For *Drift*, Mark has collaborated with Peruvian born musician Seán Carpio who is composing, scoring and conducting the music to accompany the sound of the aeolian harp. The harp will be built onto the bow of boatbuilder Nigel Towse's 'An Rún' a replica of the 'Shamrock' a Mackerel Yawl built in Baltimore in the 1920s.

Saxophonist and clarinetist Robin Fincker will lead the quintet of musicians accompanying the harp, with David O'Keefe on trumpet, Kevin O'Hara on Horn, Colm O'Hara on Trombone and David O'Regan on Tuba.

"We are excited to have the opportunity to work with Mark Garry and help him enable this unique artwork to happen for one night only in West Cork," said **Director of the National Sculpture Factory Mary McCarthy**. "Its specific relationship with place is compelling and it is a complex and challenging undertaking to create this intimate moment whereby the elements will interact with Mark's sculptural work and Sean Carpio's compositions. I have no doubt the interplay of the artist sculpture with the elements and geography of place will create a memorable and special moment for those lucky enough to be in possession of a ticket."

"At the National Sculpture Factory we are really interested in expanding the possibilities of what can be conceived, designed and constructed as Public Art," said **Programme Manger of the Sculpture Factory and project curator David O'Brien**. "Artists are always pushing the limits of these possibilities and this brings with it a range of disparate responsibilities: on the artist, the commissioning organisation and especially on the general public. We are delighted to be working with Mark Garry, whose extensive practice includes a variety of researches, collaborations and manifestations. His exciting new work, *DRIFT*, is a great example of how the limits of what a public artwork can be, can be pushed to extremes."

"Mark Garry is one of Ireland's most prolific and diverse visual artists, and this will be a truly memorable detour to Sherkin Island," said **Director of the Cork Midsummer Festival Tom Creed**. "This marks a renewed series of collaborations with the National Sculpture Factory, and

also the beginning of the Festival's attempt to extend the programme beyond the City and into County Cork."

"DRIFT is an exhilarating undertaking that marries contemporary art with the ancient craft of boatbuilding, alongside evocations of the earliest Sumerian hymns, to create a unique outdoor visual and auditory experience in the inspiring setting of Sherkin Island, West Cork," said **Director of the West Cork Arts Centre Ann Davoren**. "This site-specific work also builds on Mark's engagement with the local community, working with a local boat builder to construct a floating wind harp and with the ferry operators and land owners, as well as local musicians and film-makers."

**Cork Midsummer Festival** is a smart, startling, annual festival that takes place in Cork city, Ireland and captivates a growing audience of all ages. Over ten days of world-class performances, special events and entertainment, we endeavour to bring a Festival to people and parts of the city that might be hard to reach. We bring the world to Cork – and show Cork to the world.

The festival is a not-for-profit organisation and could not happen without the support of its funders and sponsors, including: The Arts Council, Fáilte Ireland, Cork City Council, Carling, Bord Gáis Energy, BAM Contractors, Cogans, UCC Campus Accommodation and The River Lee Hotel. Festival media sponsors are *The Irish Examiner*, RTÉ Supporting the Arts, RTÉ lyricfm, Bravo, Entertainment.ie, Cork's 96FM and C103, which will offer up to the minute information and exclusive festival ticket giveaways.

**Date:** Saturday 30 June

**Performance duration:** 7.30pm-8.30pm approx

**Coming from Baltimore:** Access to this performance will be by a specific DRIFT event ferry only, which leaves Baltimore harbour at 7.00pm, will return to Baltimore from the performance at either 9pm, directly after the performance, or approx 10.30/11pm after a stop on Sherkin Island

**Coming from Cork City:** A bus will leave Grand Parade, Cork City, at 4.00 pm to Baltimore and will return to Cork that evening for 12.30 am (approx). Tickets for bus & ferry are €20

**Tickets:** performance is free, but tickets for the bus and ferry are €20 and must be purchased in advance from the Cork Midsummer Festival Box Office

Also: On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 1pm at the National Sculpture Factory, Mark Garry will give a lunchtime lecture on his practice. Mark's talk will set out the way that he has integrated sound into his practice over the past number of years, both within his installations and his musical collaborations. Please note: There is limited space so first come first seated.

#### **Cork Midsummer Festival Box Office:**

Open Mon to Sat, 12-6pm (Sundays during the Festival)

Triskel Arts Centre, Tobin Street

T: +353 (0)21 4215159

E: [info@corkmidsummer.com](mailto:info@corkmidsummer.com)

W: [www.corkmidsummer.com](http://www.corkmidsummer.com).

For regular festival updates become a fan on Facebook or follow updates on Twitter [twitter.com/corkmidsummer](https://twitter.com/corkmidsummer)



National Sculpture Factory



Biographys:

Mark Garry

Born in Mullingar in 1972, Mark is an artist based in Dublin. Mark has had a number of notable international opportunities as an artist and was one of the artists who represented Ireland at the 2005 Venice Biennale. Recent selected exhibitions and projects include : The MAC , Belfast Northern Ireland .(Permanent commission)(2012) "All Humans Do " White box , New York ,USA(Group Exhibition)(2012) "All Humans Do " The Model Niland ,Sligo ROI (Group Exhibition) (2011) Stephen Freidman Gallery, London UK(2 person Show) (2011) Cave, Detroit USA (Solo exhibition)(2011) University of Ulster gallery , Belfast (Solo exhibition)(2011) Maria Stenfors , London (Group exhibition) UK "Brittleness"(2011) Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris, France (Group exhibition) "Phoenix"Curated by Caroline Hancock. (2011); Kerlin gallery Dublin, (2010); Gallery Vartai, Vilnius, Lithuania, (2010); Solo Exhibition, Middlesborough Institute of Modern Art, Middlesborough UK (2009); Frequency: The Hugh lane Gallery Dublin (2009); Flower Power, Tai Turin Art International, CRAA Centro Ricerca Arte Attuale, Torino,Italy (2009); Inner and Outer Space, The Mattress Factory Art Museum, Pittsburgh Pensilvania USA (2008); Green Screen: The Institute of Contemporary art Newtown, Sydney Australia.(2008); Gallery 2 The Paradise, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, (2006); The foundation to life, New York, USA (curated by Cathy Siegel.) (2006); Glass Box, Paris (2006); Ireland at Venice, Venice Biennial, Scuola di San Pasquale, Venice (Representing the Republic of Ireland) (2005), which traveled to Lewis Glucksman Gallery, Cork (2006).

Sean Carpio

Born 1979 in Arequipa, Peru, Seán is the youngest member of family of professional musicians. Seán started his music education at a late age taking piano lessons from the age of twelve, guitar at sixteen, and finally drum-set at eighteen. He graduated with honours from the Newpark Music Centre in 2002 receiving a diploma in performance and arranging from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. In 2003 he attended the Banff International Workshop for Jazz and Creative Music under the tutelage of Dave Douglas, and once again in 2005 when he received the Chris Driscoll Memorial Scholarship. In 2004 he was a student of Sri T.A.S Mani in Bangalore, India, where he studied Carnatic percussion and theory. Since 2006 he has been a member of Project Catalyst, an initiative to present contemporary art to new and future audiences. Since 2005 and has been active as a soloist in Europe and the USA, and to this date he has featured on thirteen recordings.

Sean also practices in a number of contemporary art contexts, He has performed, exhibited and undertaken residencies in a number of prestigious art venues including the Mattress Factory Art Museum in Pittsburgh PA and The Serpentine Gallery London.

"Seán Carpio may be the finest drummer ever produced here" - The Irish Times

Links to Mark and Sean's individual work and collaborations.

Mark Garry

Wind harps. Carrick on Shannon ,Co Leitrim .

<http://www.publicart.ie/main/public-art-directory/directory/view/wind-harps/1628d38e55110ea8df7038f52d6b8a78/>

Sean Carpio

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YPBTsY08dZo>

<http://seancarpio.wordpress.com/sketches/>

<http://seancarpio.wordpress.com/videos/>

Collaborations.

*Sending Letters to the Sea*. Fingal County Council Arts office.

<http://sendingletterstothesea.bandcamp.com/album/sending-letters-to-the-sea>

<http://www.publicart.ie/main/public-art-directory/directory/view/sending-letters-to-the-sea/7473aecaba/>

*Sending letters to the sea*: Donal Dineen's Fresh Air Festival. Live on Today FM.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJePEcRFbBU>

*A Generous Act*, The Mattress Factory Art Museum.

<http://www.mattress.org/index.cfm?event=ShowExhibition&eid=100&c=past>