Galway Arts Centre **RED BIRD** YOUTH COLLECTIVE

an arts organisation for young people





Red Bird Youth Collective is an arts organisation for young people. What is unique about Red Bird is that it is also youth led, with members making every decision for each project from start to finish, making it the only youth-led visual arts youth collective in Ireland.

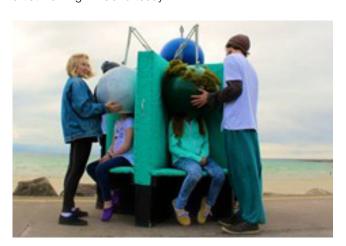
The group, which is for anyone in Galway aged 15-24, started in 2011. Working out of Galway Arts Centre, Red Bird collaborated with artist Louise Manifold on their first ever project *Sample*.



#### the only youth-led visual arts youth collective in Ireland

From there the group went from strength to strength.

Each week members attend free workshops with professional artists, which culminates in an exhibition twice a year. Members will gain skills in various art forms, event management, curation, administration and artistic development and learn what it's like to be a professional visual artist working in Ireland today.



Art forms include fashion, web art, film, video, architecture, performance, dance, sound art and graphic novels



# Red Bird is open to anyone in Galway aged 15-24

With funding from Galway City and County Councils and the National Youth Council of Ireland Red Bird have worked with a variety of different art forms including fashion, web art, film, video, architecture, performance, dance, sound art and graphic novels. Artists the group have worked with include Maeve Clancy, Colm Keegan, Marielle Macleman, Vicky Langan, Dominic Thorpe, Ruth Le Gear, Dominic Stevens and Blaithin Quinn. Since 2011 Red Bird Youth Collective have exhibited in Galway, Dublin, Leitrim, Kildare and Roscommon. Several current and past members have gone on to study art or other arts disciplines at third level. Red Bird also has members who enjoy creating art but do not necessarily want to pursue it as a career.

Top: Project 2016 Claiming Space
Left: Project 2014 P.O.D. (Place of Dreaming)
Right: Project 2016 Agitating Space

### **Experience**

Past members include visual artist Gabrielle Drimalovski, illustrator, photographer and writer Saffron Lily, Tate curator Iarlaith Ni Fheorais and writer Daniel Mulcahy.

#### **Saffron Lily**

Illustrator, Photographer and Writer

"Joining Red Bird provided a space for me to engage with the arts in a collaborative and youth-orientated setting. Whilst in Red Bird, I was able to take advantage of new creative opportunities that arose through the Arts Centre. I was also able to learn from different professionals across an array of fields. Each project took a different shape depending on which mentor you had, but the weekly meetups provided a creative structure to look forward to. Red Bird was definitely a valued experience and I enjoyed being able to learn and develop new projects with people who also

## Iarlaith Ni Fheorais Tate Curator

"I joined Red Bird when I was 15 after choosing Art for my Junior Cert.

I had never been in an art gallery before and was unsure of what to expect. It turned out to be one of the most exciting, fun and welcoming experiences I had as a teenager, that started me off in the world of art. As a member of Red Bird, I got to meet with loads of different artists, writers, film makers, architects, animators and performers, making projects together. These projects were shared with friends and family through exhibitions and public events which was a precious

Daniel Mulcahy
Writer

"For myself and many other young Galwegians, Red Bird was foundational to our artistic and cultural development. Barriers in scope or resources were never put before us, and through project after project, the contact and rich collaboration we had with various artists expanded our fields of reference for what we could create and who we could become. All we had to do was stretch our wings."













