

Claire Doherty

Claire Doherty is a producer, writer and curator, and was founder Director of the international arts producing organisation, Situations, which over 15 years spearheaded new approaches to arts in the public realm – from Theaster Gates’ first public project in the UK, Sanctum, Alex

Hartley’s Nowhereisland for the London

2012 Cultural Olympiad to the 100-year Norwegian project – Future Library.

Known for its innovative approach to place-based commissioning and social engagement, Situations also challenged conventional approaches to public art through its thought leadership and publishing – most notably the ‘New Rules of Public Art’.



From 2017-19, as Director, Claire took Arnolfini through an 18-month transformation, repositioning this 50-year old institution as a new kind of civic space and reconnecting with its home city. Claire is a Trustee of Artes Mundi, was a member of the AHRC Peer Review College, Plus Tate National Steering Committee and Chair of the European Network for Public Art Producers.



Michael Chandler

Michael Chandler leads Cardboard Citizens’ civil society engagement and social sector partnerships, heading up the national programme and the organisation’s campaigning and advocacy work - identifying opportunities for projects to inform individual, social and systemic change. Overseeing Cardboard

Citizens’ engagement and pastoral support work with communities, Michael also leads on impact and evaluation (including peer-led research with Groundswell).

Michael has overseen campaigns and projects such as Cardboard Citizens’ member engagement in the *Crisis Turned Away* report (which informed the Homelessness Reduction Act); the *Citizens Do* campaign (which won a National Campaign Award); and Forum and Legislative Theatre projects that have led to systemic changes in councils and national organisations. This has subsequently informed the initial Arts for Social Change events across the country.

Michael is also co-founder and chair of WAYout Arts, which engages and empowers Sierra Leone street youth through the arts.

Wendy Smith

Wendy Smith was born and brought up in Middlesbrough and has always lived and worked in the North East of England. In 2002 Wendy joined Sage Gateshead and is currently Director of Creative Learning. Her work as a senior leader in the arts developed through a career in popular culture as a performing artist with the band Prefab Sprout and through understanding the potential of music to change lives. In 2017 Wendy trained in Systems Change with Forum for the Future School of Systems change. Her interest is in collaborating with diverse people and organisations to create sustainable change.



Dr Steven Hadley

Dr Steven Hadley is an academic, consultant and researcher working internationally in arts management, cultural policy and audience engagement. He holds research posts at the Universities of Sheffield, Bradford and Leeds and is a Visiting Lecturer at Leuphana University of Lüneburg (Germany). Steven is an Associate Consultant with The Audience Agency, and sits on the Steering Committee of the Cultural Research Network (USA) and the Editorial Boards of both *Cultural Trends* and the *European Journal of Cultural Management and Policy*. He has lectured, taught and delivered training in over fifteen countries and works as a consultant for a wide range of cultural organisations. His recent published work has focussed on cultural democracy, audience engagement and hyperinstrumentalism. His forthcoming book, 'Audience Development and Cultural Policy', will be published by Palgrave MacMillan.

Lyn Gardner

Lyn Gardner has written about theatre for the last 30 years for numerous publications including the Guardian and the Independent. She is a recipient of a Total Theatre Award, an Action on Children's Arts Award, a UK Theatre Award and a Tonic Award all for outstanding contribution to British Theatre and theatre journalism.



Joanna Resnick

Joanna Resnick is the Producer for Slung Low. Founded in 2000 Slung Low is an award-winning theatre company specialising in making epic productions in non-theatre spaces, often with large community performance companies at their heart.

Slung Low recently relocated to The Holbeck, the oldest working men's club in Britain, and manage the space as a community club and open development space for artists. The equipment and vehicles of the company are lent to those who have need. It is a useful place that shares its resources with those who need them.

The Holbeck is home to Slung Low's Cultural Community College; a place where adults come to learn new cultural skills - from stargazing to South Indian cooking, from carpentry to singing in a choir – and all workshops, supported by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, are provided on a Pay What You Decide basis.



Dicky Eton

Dicky Eton is a Producer with Duckie – who create Good Nights Out and Culture Clubs that bring audiences together in fun and celebration.

From their legendary 24-year weekly residency at the Royal Vauxhall Tavern to winning Olivier awards at the

Barbican, Duckie are purveyors of progressive working class entertainment who mix live art and light entertainment.

Having spent over ten years in corporate banking and the NHS before the red lights came on, Dicky re-trained as an actor and developed an interest in experimental theatre and performance.

These days you will generally find him lurking in the shadows at one of Duckie's numerous events for the glitterati or fighting his way through throngs of older people at The Posh Club – Duckie's event for swanky senior citizens, elegant elders & glamorous golden girls.

Claire McColgan MBE

Claire is the Director of Culture Liverpool, responsible for Major Events, Liverpool Film Office, Cruise Liverpool, Tourism, City Halls and Cultural Policy

Claire developed the successful participation programme (Creative Communities) that was key to Liverpool's transformative European Capital of Culture bid.

In 2006 she was appointed Executive Producer of European Capital of Culture with responsibility for major events, public participation and community engagement. She received the MBE for services to the arts in 2009.



Claire has led the legacy program in Liverpool over the last 10 years supporting and funding 35 cultural organisations, bringing new commercial events to the city and designing and producing a creative program for Liverpool that shapes it as a destination and a place to live. She sits on the City Regions Cultural Partnership

and the Visitor Economy Board. Claire is a recipient of many awards the most recent being Eventex Best Events Team in the UK and 15th in the World.

Claire is a national and international advisor on best practice in culture acting for Arts Council England and Ireland, the British Council, Local Government Association and represented the UK in Thailand, Brazil and China. Claire was a Director on the Board of Derry/Londonderry the inaugural City of Culture program and is the European Board Director for Galway European Capital of Culture 2020. She was chosen by Karen Bradley, Secretary of State as the UK expert for the 2022 European Capital of Culture competition.