

## Relevant CV

Raymond Watson

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## Employment

Current Visual Artist

## Societies and Organisations

Member Visual Artists Ireland

## Education

1989 - 93 Master of Philosophy University of Ulster

1986 - 89 BA Honours University of Ulster

## Statement

I am an eclectic artist who creates work in any media; I start with an idea then find the best way to visualise it. To date I have produced public artwork, gallery based work and site specific installations. Amongst the materials I commonly work with are – bronze, wood, clay, metals, paints and cement.

I have exhibited widely in Ireland and in a number of international venues in New York, France, Spain, India and the Basque Country. I have produced a number of site specific installation pieces in Ireland, Spain, India and the Basque Country and have produced a substantial number of pieces of public art locally; most of which have been made in close contact with local communities and schools.

Some recent and significant international and local arts activities are:

**Sept. 2007** I represented the Northern Ireland at the 3<sup>rd</sup>. **International Gathering of Artists for Peace, in Gernika, the Basque Country.**

**Jan – Apr 2007**, Conducted a four month residency in Calcutta, India; during which I produced a large temporary installation, **The Helix of Hope.**

**Mar. 2007**, I presented and discussed my work with lecturers and students at Santineketan, The International University of Peace, founded by Rabindranath Tagore, in West Bengal, India.

My artwork is included in the **International Humanist Art Archive, Melbourne Australia**

**December 2005** I was commissioned to produce an outdoor installation for the **1V Encuentro Internacional Artistas para la Paz** (4<sup>th</sup> International meeting of Artist for Peace), in **La Vall d'Uixo, Spain**. A painted element of the installation is on permanent exhibition in the **Municipal Library in Vall d'Uixo.**

**Sept. 2005** I had work exhibited with the **RUA** in the **Ulster Museum Belfast.**

**Aug. 2005** I organised an **International Humanist Arts** event and the **International Humanist Art Exhibition in Conway Mill, Belfast.**

**June 2005** I presented and discussed my work at the **Foc Art Festival, Moncofa, Spain.**

**March 2005** I was an **Arts Delegate** at the **Crossing Borders, Crossing Waters International Arts Project, Cork, Ireland.**

**2004** I presented and discussed my work at the **Peace Pedagogy Conference, Gernika, the Basque Country.**

**2003** I represented Ireland at the **1<sup>st</sup> International Gathering of Artists for Peace in Gernika, 2003.** At this same Gathering' I travelled with an International group of artists to schools and community centres to conduct workshops with hundreds of local people.

**As an artist I have been acknowledged with the following awards:**

- 1) Awarded the Aisling Award 2000 for Arts and Culture.
- 2) Previewed as Artist of the Month in Artslink, Jan. 2001, the monthly bulletin of the Northern Ireland Arts Council.

**Exhibitions and Forthcoming Events**

**Invited**

Nov. 2008	Residency	Santineketan International University, West Bengal, India
Apr. 2008	Solo Exhibition	Culture House, Gernika.
May. 2008	Solo Exhibition	John Hewitt, Donegal St, Belfast

**Previous exhibitions and events:**

Sept. 2007	Joint exhibition	International Gathering of Artists for Peace Gernika, Basque Country
Aug. 2007	Solo exhibition	An Culturlann Gallery, Belfast
Aug. 2006	Solo Exhibition	Sirius Arts Centre, Cobh
May 2006	Installation Exhibition	Lagan Tunnel, Belfast Cathedral Quarter Festival
Feb. 2006	Solo exhibition	James Joyce House, Dublin
Sept 2005	Exhibited	RUA, Ulster Museum, Belfast
Aug 2005	Joint Exhibition	International Humanist Art Archive
May 2005	Solo Exhibition	Gernika, Spain
Jan. 2005	Solo exhibition	Lyric Theatre, Belfast
Nov. 2004	Solo exhibition	Belfast Festival at Queens.
Aug. 2004	Solo Exhibition	An Culturlann, Belfast
Aug. 2004	Installation exhibition 'Cultural Barriers'	File An Phobal, Belfast
2004	Joint exhibition	Kenny Gallery, Galway
April 2004	Joint exhibition	Culture House, Gernika, Spain
Sept 2003	Solo exhibition	Belfast Festival @ Queens
May 2003	Joint exhibition	Space Gallery, Conway Mill, Belfast
Mar. 2003	Solo exhibition	An Culturlann, Belfast
Aug. 2002	Joint exhibition	Upper Springfield Dev. Trust, Belfast
July 2002	Joint exhibition	John Hewitts, Belfast
June 2002	Joint exhibition	The Space Gallery, Conway Mill, Belfast
Nov. 2001	Solo exhibition	Irish Arts Center, New York, USA
July 2001	Solo exhibition	Bank of Ireland Arts Centre, Dublin
June 2001	Joint exhibition	Space Gallery, Conway Mill, Belfast
May 2001	Solo exhibition	Cathedral Quarter Festival, Belfast
July 2000	Solo exhibition	Irish Arts Center, New York, USA
March 2000	Solo exhibition	An Culturlan MacAdam O' Fiaich, Belfast
Oct. 1999	Solo exhibition	Space Gallery, Conway Mill, Belfast
Autumn 1999	Joint exhibition	Canal Gallery, Newry, Co Down
Autumn 1999	Joint exhibition	Ilaine Somers Gallery, Co. Down
Autumn 1996	Solo exhibition	An Trian Centre, Armagh, Co. Armagh
Spring 1996	Solo exhibition	The Flowerfield Arts Centre, Portstewart

### **Conferences and Residencies**

Jan. 2007	Installation	Seagull Foundation, Calcutta, India
Dec. 2005	Produced site specific Installation and discussion.	1V Encuentro Internacional Artistas Para la Paz
Aug. 2005	Hosted panel discussion And exhibition	International Humanist Art Archive in Conway Mill, Belfast
June. 2005	Presented work and hosted discussion on art and peace.	Foc Art, Moncofa, Valencia, Spain
Mar. 2005	Arts participant/Delegate	Crossing Borders, Crossing Waters International project, Cork, Ireland
May 2004	Presented work and discussion	Peace Pedagogy Conference, International Peace Museum, Gernika
Dec 2003	Represented Ireland	Gernika Art and Peace Conference

### **Outdoor Commissions**

Autumn 2007, Swatragh Wall	Extensive mural project, Swatragh
2007 Helix of Hope	Bamboo, rice straw, clay; Calcutta, India
2006/7 The Dreamcatcher	Steel and Aluminium, Photography, Ballycastle
Dec. 2005, The Kicks	Bronze sculpture, Poleglass, Belfast
Nov. 2005, Finn and the Causeway	Bronze sculpture, Lenadoon, Belfast
Aug.2005, Hands On	Wall sculpture and mural, Glenbawn
Aug. 2005	2 Sculptures, Tullymore Comm.Centre
Salmon of Knowledge	
May 2005, Hands of Rang a Seacht (primary .7)	Bun Scoil, Slieve Dubh, Belfast
2004, Seat of Tara,	Tree sculpture, Teach na Ban, Belfast
2003, Tir na hOg	Bronze plaques located in Tir na hOg Park
Sept. 2002, Poetree	Tree sculpture, Upper Springfield Development Trust
Nov. 2002, The Gatepost	Portaferry Promenade, Ards Borough Council
Mar. 2002, The Spirits	Carnaget Comm. Group, Daisy Hill Park, Newry
Jan. 2002, St. Column's	Derry City Council, St. Column's Park, Derry
Nov. 2001, Dilworth Cross	Unique bog oak Celtic Cross, Royal School, Dungannon
Aug 2001 – Groundworks NI	Outdoor sculpture, Lancaster ST. Park
May 2001, Dulra	Outdoor sculpture, Drumlamph Wood, Co. Derry. Comm. By The Woodland Trust
May 2001, The Jockey	Outdoor sculpture, Sandy Row Community Centre. Comm. by Groundworks NI
Sep. 2000, Charabanc	Outdoor sculpture, Star of the Sea School, Belfast. Comm. By Groundworks NI
June 2000, The Nymph	Corrog Wood, Co. Down, by Woodland Trust

### **Corporate Commissions and Collections**

May 2006-Antrim Borough Council	'The Dug Out'
Nov. 2005-Antrim Borough Council	'Final Furlong', for Tony McCoy
2005 Gernika Gogoratus	'The Legend'
International peace Research Centre	
2005 Kultur-Etxea, Gernika	'The Legend'
May 2005-World Highland Games	Winners Awards
Jan. 2004 – International Archive of Humanist Art	Australia
Feb. 2003-05 – Celtic Film and Television Festival	Bronze Torc awards
Aug. 2002- Women's Group	Women's monument, Belfast
June 2002- World Highland Games	Strongman's Award
July 2001 – World Highland Games	Strongman Award
June 2001 – Parity Training Ltd.	18 original bronze awards for corporate clients
March 2001 – MDS Pharma- Services	Large indoor sculpture on mythology
Nov. 2000 – Cinemagic- International Film Festival	Bronze Jury Awards and bronze Best Film Awards
Oct. 2000 – Andersonstown News	Sculpture Award for Irish President Mary McAleese
July 2000 – Country Bank, USA	Two large indoor sculptures
July 2000 – Gabriel Byrne, USA	Indoor sculpture
Spring 2000 – Double Joint Theatre Group	Sculpture Award for guest
May 2000 – Goodfellas Restaurant	Indoor sculpture
Dec.1999 – NI Home and Interiors	Arts Award
Nov. 1999 – Roscoffs Restaurant	

### **Community projects**

Jan/Apr 2007	Loreto Sealdah School, Calcutta, India
Spring 2006	Healing through Remembering and An Coiste
Autumn 2005	Workshops and outdoor bronze sculpture – Poleglass.
Summer 2005	Workshops and sculpture, Tullymore, Andersonstown
Summer 2004 – USDT	Series of workshops and outdoor sculpture with special needs adults.
Summer 2003 – USDT	Series of workshops and outdoor bronze plaques for Tir Na hOg Park, Springhill.

Autumn 2002 – St. Gererd’s Education Centre	Conducted arts project with special needs pupils
Autumn 2002 – Upperspringfield Development Trust	Conducted community arts project
Summer 2002 – Conway Mill	Conducted Arts Open Week
Summer 2001 – Groundworks NI	Sculpted number of pieces for Mount Vernon Community Centre
Summer 2001 – Groundworks NI	Sandy Row Community Centre. Created sculpture, and workshops with local children
Spring 2001 – Conway Mill	Conducted an Arts Open Week
Summer 2000 – NIVT	Conducted a series of sculpture workshops at Benedy Community Centre, Co. Derry
Autumn 2000 – NIVT	Set up community exhibition in Arts Centre, Cookstown, Co. Derry
Autumn 2000 – Groundworks NI	Conducted series of sculpture workshops at Rostulla Special Needs School, Belfast.

#### **Awards and Bursaries**

Summer 1999 – **Irelands Homes and Interiors** - Artist of the Month  
 September 2000 – **Arts Flight** – Northern Ireland Arts Council  
 November 2000 – **Aisling Award 2000**, for Arts and Culture  
 October 2001 – **Travel Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council  
 February 2002 – **General Arts Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council  
 Sept. 2003 – **General Arts Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council  
 Nov. 2003 – **Bursary Award** from the Community Relations Council.  
 Mar. 2004 - **Travel Award**- Northern Ireland Arts Council  
 Dec. 2006 – **Travel Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council  
 Jan. 2007 – **Travel Award** – Northern Ireland Arts Council