

# Martin Joseph O'Neill

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## Professional Summary

A multi-disciplinary community artist and creative producer specialising in community development, social arts practice and engagement.

## Qualifications

- Drama & Theatre Arts (BA/Hons) 1:1
- *Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh*
- Scottish Highers: AABCC
- Scottish Advanced Highers: BC
- *St Joseph's College, Dumfries*

## Awards

- SURF (Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum) Award for Creative Regeneration (The Stove Network), 2016
- Most Innovative Award: D-LUX Light Festival

## Key Skills

- Operational and strategic management
- Creative Consultancy
- Evaluation
- Graphic Design
- Co-creation and facilitation
- Events Production and management
- Team management
- Specialist in theatre directing, public art and creative writing

## Selected Positions

### Artistic Director

#### The Stove Network

2017 - Current

*Responsible for the strategic management, production and delivery of the Stove Network's annual programme of events, artistic interventions and community projects in liaison with lead artists, project managers and community ambassadors. EDI Ambassador and Creative Director of the regional creative place-making network in South of Scotland.*

### Curatorial Member

#### The Stove Network

2015 – Current

*The Stove is an artist-led network of trans-disciplinary practitioners in South West Scotland working with local people to support initiatives that will use art projects exploring the future identity of the town. Curatorial Members oversee the organisation's creative direction, values and arts practice, creating and leading arts and community projects engaging diverse communities within Dumfries & Galloway.*

### Founder & Director

#### Brave New Words

2015 – Current

*A monthly evening staging and celebrating creative writing, live music, film and performance by the people of Dumfries. An evolving platform with frequent outreach work to schools, community groups and charities to raise awareness, tackle stigma and develop skills in creative writing.*

### Founder & Director

#### The Plaza

2019 - 2020

*Responsible for the fundraising, management of staff and freelancers, reporting, branding and community engagement of the Plaza series of live music takeovers of abandoned, unusual and under-utilised spaces within Dumfries & Galloway.*

### Producer & Operations Manager

#### Dumfries Music Conference

2017 – 2020

*Responsible for the operational, budgeting, partnerships and strategic management and production of the Dumfries Music Conference programme of events, panels, and annual conference, as well as the training, skills development and mentoring of young people intending to pursue careers in music and associated creative industries/specialisations.*

### Artist-in-residence

#### Children's Ward: Dumfries & Galloway Royal Infirmary

2017

*Working alongside staff, schools and key partners in the realisation, participation, development, design and installation of several artworks within the new DGRI hospital.*

## **Selected Other Positions**

### **Artist-in-residence**

The Family Centre, Dumfries  
2017

### **Creative Producer**

Behavin' Festival  
July 2019  
Dumfries (The Oven, The Stove)

### **Graphic Designer**

#### **2016 - Current**

Various production posters, brochures, calendars, branding, photography and video.

#### **Organisations & Companies include:**

*The Stove Network, Dumfries Music Conference, Tinderbox Orchestra, The Plaza, The Family Centre, GroupWork Theatre, Summerhall, Brave New Words, Ema Jayne Park, Dumfries & Galloway Arts Festival.*

### **Consultant**

Dumfries & Galloway College  
*Developing, alongside a team of national practitioners and representatives, the formation of a Performing Arts & Theatre HNC/D within the region.*

## **Selected Artworks & Exhibitions**

### **Staying & Waiting**

Dumfries & Galloway Royal Infirmary, Children's Ward, reception and corridors  
Various sculptural, mural and illustrative work  
Installed: 2018 - 2020

### **Beyond The Pale**

Commissioned text-based film and installation in response to artist Zoe Childerley's exhibition

#### **Berwick Visual Arts, Berwick**

27th October - 20th January, 2018-19

#### **Gracefield Arts Centre, Dumfries**

February - May, 2019

### **Memory Windows**

#### **The Family Centre, Lochside, Dumfries**

Environmental installation based on the memories and colour associations of local residents.

Installation: June 2018

### **Midnight Moonlight Smalltown Rain**

#### **Dumfries High Street**

Temporary interactive light and text installation and performance.

Installation: D-LUX Light Festival, January 2017

### **Wisp**

#### **Sanctuary Dark Sky Festival,**

Temporary environmental interactive light and text installation.

Installation: September, 2017

## **Professional Productions**

### **Writer/Director**

Lowland

A participatory/community engaged play, inspired and developed by local residents.

Lochside Community Centre

March 2020 (later dates postponed)

### **Actor**

National Theatre of Scotland

(Development residency: Eilidh Daniels)

2013

### **Assistant Director**

Play, Pie & a Pint

Assistant Director

Three Seconds by Lesley Hart

Most Favoured by David Ireland

2013

## **Selected Student Productions**

### **Co-Writer/Director**

E. by Owen McGuire & Martin Joseph O'Neill

Traverse Theatre

Bated Breath Festival

2012

### **Director**

Mancub by Douglas Maxwell (extract)

Traverse Theatre

Jump Start

2011

## **Bibliography**

Artists Network Scene Report

<https://www.a-n.co.uk/news/scene-report-dumfries-rural-meets-urban-south-west-scotland>

Various Press:

Dumfries & Galloway Life, November 2017

The Herald:

<https://www.pressreader.com/uk/the-herald/20180419/282037622758291>

Brave New Words featured in The New Poets: BBC

Documentary, 2019

## **References**

Available on Request