

Manifesto for Belonging

Street Art, Circus and Spectacle have a unique contribution to make in telling a new story of belonging in Ireland

- We meet audiences where they are at - in public space, streets, parks, mountain tops and non-traditional arts spaces
- We tell stories that don't necessarily rely on language
- We present work that can be joyous, rebellious, challenging and expansive
- We are a multilingual community.

ISACS is the voice for the street arts, circus and spectacle sector in Ireland. We commit to using the resources and influence we have to build a flourishing and diverse sector. Specifically, ISACS will:

- Continue to ensure our board leadership includes a wide range of lived experiences and perspectives
- Prioritise opportunities for artists from seldom heard backgrounds in all of our programmes and activities
- Celebrate the heritage of traditional circus (or 'all forms of traveling entertainment including traditional circus, fit ups and variety') and what we can learn from these roots as we develop new ways of working
- Constantly improve our communications and events to ensure that they are accessible to the widest possible range of artists and audiences
- Champion the rights and working conditions of freelance artists, paying specific attention to the rights of artists traditionally underrepresented

There are changes needed that are beyond our control, and so as a sector we aim to:

- Advocate for changes in national policy, specifically:
 - Ensuring artists in receipt of disability payments don't have their income put at risk if they receive a bursary or award
 - Reform of work permits, so that artists from outside the EU can work in the Irish arts sector, with full workers' rights
- Advocate for increased investment in arts organisations from the state, and from corporate partners, to specifically fund programmes which support seldom heard artists and increase the knowledge and understanding of our artforms.