

IAN BRUNSWICK. HEAD OF PROGRAMMING, SCIENCE GALLERY, TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

Professional Biography

Ian Brunswick is the Head of Programming at Science Gallery Dublin, having joined in 2010 originally leading the Events Programme and subsequently holding positions including Exhibitions and Events Manager, Head of Programming and Acting Director. He has overseen partnerships with diverse collaborators including University of Cambridge, Museum of Modern Art in New York, the HRB and the Wellcome Trust. As exhibitions lead, he has been responsible for the development of programmes including ILLUSION, DESIGN AND VIOLENCE, IN CASE OF EMERGENCY and SECRET. At Science Gallery Ian spearheaded a community-oriented approach to programming that empowers audiences to participate in exhibition development and co-develop events. He is a member of the ECSITE annual conference programme committee, has been a jury member for the Bio-Art and Design Award, and has previously worked in media and founded multiple after-school programmes for young people. He holds a BA in Comparative Literature from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, an MSc in Science Communication from DCU, and is a regular contributor to Irish radio.

Personal Statement

I believe in the vibrant and vital role that museums play in our society, but I am also cognisant of the challenges facing our industry. The current financial and social environment presents both challenges and opportunities, and my experience with partnerships and innovative public engagement practice means I can contribute to the IMA's mission of improving museum practice nationwide. I care deeply about the macro social role of museums and I am involved in research on the large-scale impacts that museums can have on society. However, I also believe in the value of the individual meaningful experiences that people have at museums. I would bring to the IMA board a decade of experience in public engagement in Ireland, expertise in event, conference, and temporary exhibition production, and an international perspective on museum practice. I believe museums can engage with contemporary social issues no matter their size or style, and that the IMA can help our industry improve standards and foster more meaningful museum experiences for our audiences.