



Curriculum vitae

## Soňa Šmédková

Born in 1984, the Czech Republic, based in Galway, Ireland

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### Employment

**2024** Red Bird Youth Collective and Galway Arts Centre Youth Council Coordinator, Visual Assistant and FOH, Galway Arts Centre, Galway, Ireland

**2024** Arts Programme Facilitator, ARD Family Resource Centre, Doughiska, Galway, Ireland

### Education

**2023** Professional Practice co-mentorship at 126 Artist-Run Gallery, third-year students, SDCA, ATU, Galway

**2022** Panel member – graduate representative for GMIT Programmatic Review

**2021** Master of Arts in Creative Practice, Centre of Creative Arts and Media, Galway, Ireland

**2020** Bachelor of Arts in Contemporary (Hons.), CCAM, Galway, Ireland

### Guest Lecturing

**2023** Visiting lecturer, practice and research at Burren College of Art, Co. Clare, Ireland

**2023** Visiting lecturer, practice and research at the School of Design and Creative Arts, Galway, Ireland

**2023** Visiting lecturer, practice, research and curation of Master of Arts in Creative Practice students' exhibition at the Galway Arts Centre, School of Design and Creative Arts, Galway, Ireland

### Residencies

**2022** Interface Inagh residency with T.E.C.A. Collective

**2021 - 2022** School of Design and Creative Arts (former CCAM), ATU (former GMIT) residency with T.E.C.A. Collective

### Art sector positions/ memberships

**2023** Artspace Studios Co-Director, Galway, Ireland

**2023** Catalyst Arts member, Belfast, Northern Ireland

**2022/24** Co-Director of 126 Artist-Run Gallery & Studios, Galway, Ireland

**2022** Design Lab Ambassador, Architecture at the Edge, Galway, Galway, Ireland

**2021** Artspace studio member, Galway, Ireland

**2021** Interface Inagh professional member, Recess, Co. Galway, Ireland

### Awards

**2023** Visual Arts Bursary Award Round 1 Shortlisted

**2021** Agility Award, Arts Council Ireland

**2020** RDS Visual Arts Award Longlisted



## Funded projects

- 2023** Reflections- A Commemoration of the Irish Women of 1923, Banners making with a group of women at Ballybane library led by artist Áine Phillips. The project was part of the Decade of Centenaries 2012-2023 initiative, supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts Gaeltacht, Sports and media.
- 2023** Shared Island feasibility study – Galway-focused group, funded by The Shared Island Local Authority Development Funding Scheme, developed in partnership with Galway City Council and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, facilitated by Galway Culture Company in collaboration with Galway Arts Centre, Atlantic Technological University and Southern Regional College
- 2021** Radius ATS GMIT Project Award, collaboration with one another MA student to engage with the transition year students at Merlin College, Galway, focus on diversity, inclusivity and creativity.
- 2020** Creative Ireland, working with a community group from Cope Glean Oaks Lodge, Galway under the Christmas Creation project.
- 2020** Not a Degree Show, end-of-year exhibition co-curator for all CCAM contemporary art graduates, funded by Galway Art Officer James C. Harrold, Connacht Tribune Printworks
- 2010** Space Invaders, Eyre Square Shopping Centre, Galway. The group was in collaboration with Galway City Art Office under concept of Councillor Niall McNelis

## Exhibitions

- 2024** *Ties that Bind*, 126 Artist-Run Gallery & Studios members show curated by Emily Lohan
- 2023** *Dear PrEUdence: A positive Headspace in the EU*, group exhibition, part of Mental Health Day, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium
- 2023** *to lean, fold, buckle, hold, carry, push, pull, support*, annual members' show, Catalyst Arts, Belfast, NI
- 2023** DÉAD Creative Pathways Programme, group exhibition in Goethe Institute Ireland, Dublin, Ireland
- 2022** DÉAD Creative Pathways Programme, group exhibition in Silent Green, Berlin, Germany
- 2021** *Plan C: Whereabouts?*, Master of Arts in Creative Practice exhibition, School of Design and Creative Arts, ATU, Galway, Ireland
- 2020** *Not a Degree Show*, group exhibition – degree show, Connacht Tribune Printworks
- 2020** *Reminiscence* (large digital inkjet print), solo exhibit GMIT library, Dublin Rd., Galway
- 2019** *Coast*, 3<sup>rd</sup> year group exhibition, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology, Dublin Rd., Galway
- 2019** *Flesh*, Townhall Theatre Gallery, Galway
- 2016** *Art trail for Galway Theatre Festival*, group exhibition, Merchants Road, Galway
- 2010** *Space Invaders*, group exhibition, Cornstore, Middle Street, Galway

## Curatorial work

- 2024 Sept** curator of *The Tide Rises, the Tide Falls*, group exhibition for Master of Arts in Creative Practice students, Galway Arts Centre
- 2024** producer/curator of *Go under the ivy, away from the party*, group exhibition at 126 Artist-Run Gallery & Studios, Galway, featuring three Artspace Studios artists-Fionna Murray, Anne O'Byrne and Helen Roberts
- 2023** curator of *Fissure*, group exhibition for Master of Arts in Creative Practice students, Galway Arts Centre
- 2023** co-curator of *Milk Box*, 3-rd yr. Contemporary Art students end year show at 126 Artist-Run Gallery & Studios, Galway
- 2022** co-curator of *Search Engine*, 3-rd yr. Contemporary Art students end year show at School of Design and Creative Arts, ATU, Galway
- 2022** curator of *A Remix of Change*, Galway International Arts Festival at 126 Artist-Run Gallery & Studios, Galway, featuring Ben Geoghegan and Aisling Phelan
- 2020** co-curator of *Not a Degree show*, show of all Contemporary Art graduates, Centre for Creative Arts and Media, GMIT at Connacht Tribune Printworks, Galway



## Commissions

**2023** Galway Art Centre, inaugural digital commission  
**2017** Carmel Donnellan, Formative Years, Gleann Na Ri, Galway Collections  
**2016** Paul Behan, Business Development Manager at Mykidstime, Ireland  
**2012** Raymond Reilly, Vertigo Acquisitions, Ireland

## Reviews/Articles/Catalogues/Interviews

[https://www.goethe.de/ins/ie/en/ver.cfm?fuseaction=events.detail&event\\_id=25035216](https://www.goethe.de/ins/ie/en/ver.cfm?fuseaction=events.detail&event_id=25035216)  
<https://galwayculturecompany.ie/projects/dear-preudence/>  
<https://www.instagram.com/reel/Cae7E7cDrZZ/>  
<https://www.irishartsreview.com/new-generation/sona-smedkova-2/>  
<https://www.irishartsreview.com/new-generation/sona-smedkova/>  
<https://www.atu.ie/student-life/student-stories/sona-smedkova>  
<https://www.facebook.com/revisionfestivalbelfast/videos/another-brilliant-work-by-sona-smedkova-sona-smedkova-%EF%B8%8Fthis-is-a-snippet-of-her-/252589355897851/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/100064206391788/videos/interview-with-sona-smedkova-%EF%B8%8F/2398612947112639/>

## Printed publications

**2023** *Casual Placements*, Catalyst Arts printed/online members' newsletter  
<https://www.catalystarts.org.uk/opportunities-posts/casual-placements>  
**2020** *Away with the Fairies*, William Henry, co-illustrations

## Skills

- Creative conceptualization
- Proficiency in an array of art mediums (drawings, paintings, sculpture and digital art)
- Attention to detail and strong visual communication
- Artistic collaboration and teamwork
- Great interpersonal and communication skills
- Mentorship and teaching/Art curation and exhibition planning
- Project management and organization
- Time management
- Networking and relationship building in art communities