

TEMPLE BAR GALLERY + STUDIOS

Spring School: *Mean, but not exactly*

with Frank Sweeney

1 – 9 April 2025

Overview:

Spring School is a free adult programme of shared learning through art activities, designed and facilitated by **Frank Sweeney** with guest speakers **Eva Richardson McCrea** and **Luke van Gelderen**. Four evening sessions to learn and gain insight into using found materials to explore montage, contradiction and copying in filmmaking.

Learn about the history of these ideas and explore how they can be applied to a variety of artistic practices. For first-time filmmakers, the programme aims to be an easy way to begin to understand and work with filmic materials, for more experienced participants it may provide a new way to approach cinematic communication.

Participants will create a short film based on the workshop and the outcomes will be screened at the final session. Ideally participants will have access to a laptop or smart phone at home. If not, Frank Sweeney and TBG+S can facilitate. Please contact orla@templebargallery.com for further info.

Please see the following pages for the course schedule and further information on the facilitating artists.

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Session 1

Tuesday, 1 April 2025

6–7:30pm

Frank Sweeney will introduce the spring school with a talk followed by a screening and initial workshop with participants.

Week 1: Session 2

Wednesday 2 April 2025

6–7:30pm

We will be joined by guest speaker Luke van Gelderen. Luke will screen his recent film 'Romeo Save Me' and talk about his process of refining online found materials in the project. The talk will be followed by a workshop exploring ethics, refining and care in using found materials.

Week 2: Session 3

Tuesday, 8 April 2025

6–7:30pm

We will be joined by guest speaker **Eva Richardson McCrea**. Eva will talk about adaptation as a structuring device in her work, focusing on 'The Decameron' (2025), currently on show at Project Arts Centre, and 'Rope' (2022). The talk will be followed by a workshop exploring structuring devices in film.

Week 2: Session 4

Wednesday, 9 April 2025

6–7:30pm

Participants will have an opportunity to screen the outcomes of the Spring School and receive peer feedback on their work.

About the Artists:

Frank Sweeney has designed this year's Spring School and will facilitate all four sessions. His research-based practice uses found material to approach questions of collective memory, experience and identity through film and sound. This often involves exploring the history of communications technologies through larger ideas such as historical materialism, cultural hegemony and imagined communities. In doing this, my work attempts to suggest points of departure from the social, political, and economic status quo.

Recent exhibitions and screenings include Anthology Film Archives, New York (2024); FILMADRID, Madrid (Special Mention) (2024); International Film Festival Rotterdam (Winner Tiger Short Award) (2024); EVA International, Limerick (2023); Sirius Art Centre, Cobh (2023); CCA-Derry (2022); Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin (2021); Green on Red Gallery, Dublin (2019) . Frank Sweeney is a current studio member in Temple Bar Gallery + Studios

Luke van Gelderen is a guest speaker and will present his work at Session 2. He works across video, sculpture, and digital media, creating immersive installations that examine the performance and mediation of contemporary identities through technology. Converging celebrity culture, alienation, masculinity and violence, his work is grounded in his own experience of recurring intrusive thoughts and images amplified by the internet.

Recent solo exhibitions include: 'unrecognisable (spillway)', Ormond Art Studios (2020); 'My Activity', Rua Red (2019); 'Chatroulette', K4 Galleri, Oslo (2019). Recent group exhibitions include: 'REAL', B63, Witten, Germany (2024); 'this is perfect, perfect, perfect, Transmediale, Berlin (2024); 'Manslows Hammer-Periodical Review 13', Pallas Projects/Studios, Dublin (2023); 'LOCKJAW', Ranelagh Arts Centre, Dublin (2023); 'FAKE BODY", Platform Arts, Belfast (2023) and 'Rendering

New Realities', The Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin (2021). Recent screenings include Toxi Space, Zurich (2024)

Luke is a co-founder of CRUX, an off-site curatorial collective. He lives and works in Dublin and is a current studio member in Temple Bar Gallery + Studios. His work is kindly supported by the Arts Council of Ireland.

Eva Richardson McCrea is a guest speaker and will present her work at Session 3. She lives and works in Dublin and Berlin. Working across video, sculpture and photography, her practice takes specific sites as points of departure into exploring the politics of the built environment and relations between architecture and daily life in the production of contemporary subjectivities. Borrowing from conventions of television, documentary, cinema and theatre, her work draws on a range of source material, from philosophy and current affairs to the language of advertising and aspirational living.

Recent exhibitions and screenings include Project Arts Centre (Dublin, 2025), The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art (Connecticut, 2024), Composite (Melbourne, 2024), TACO (London, 2023), and CCA (Glasgow, 2020). She studied at Städelschule, Hochschule für Bildende Künste, Frankfurt am Main; CRMEP, Kingston University, London; and the NCAD, Dublin. She is supported by the Arts Council of Ireland and her work is included in the Arts Council of Ireland National Collection.