



**What does it mean to be a citizen of Derry in this City of Culture year?**

**Does City of Culture reinforce or remove barriers?**

**Can culture and the arts be instrumental in creating jobs and growth?**

**Has City of Culture fostered a sense of civic pride?**

**What can City of Culture achieve? And what will the legacy be?**

#### JOIN THE **CIVIC CONVERSATION**

Void and CCA are delighted to announce that they will jointly present the next Civic Conversation, which will take place on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in the Thatched Cottage, Craft Village.

The theme of this Civic Conversation is '**Reflecting on the Aspirations and Outcomes of City of Culture at the Halfway Point**'. This is the second in a series of informal, discursive events, created by Void, which seek to channel the energies of this pivotal moment in Derry's life. Has City of Culture energized civic life in Derry? In ten years, when the citizens of Derry and its surrounds reflect back on 2013, what will they remember?

This open forum discussion is designed to involve and engage local Derry-Londonderry communities during the City Of Culture year. The format involves a panel of invited guests coming together to discuss all aspects of the City of Culture - cultural, political, economic and social. The event will be chaired by writer and filmmaker **Derek O'Connor**. Joining Derek will be **Shona Mc Carthy**, CEO of Culture Company, Glasgow-based writer and critic **Rebecca Gordon-Nesbitt** along with Journalist and Social Activist, **Eamonn Mc Cann**.

Civic Conversations aims to harness the response to the first UK City of Culture felt by the people who inhabit this city by creating a vibrant platform for inclusion, debate and active citizenship. It recognizes the need to reach out to the very community surrounding the event and hear their voices - voices that will ultimately shape the legacy of the project. Through the Civic Conversation programme, we hope to generate a sense of open ownership and fluid conversation around the City of Culture with Derry - Londonderry and its people, and thereby create a living legacy.

This is a unique opportunity to air your opinion. Come join the conversation, and have your say. Admission is free, refreshments will be served and all are welcome.

**For further information contact:**

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