

TRANSMISSION reflects a collective narrative. It speaks of life on the river, the decommissioning of boats, the invisible border line in the water, socio-economic change, and diving to find a World War II bomber.

It also includes extracts from "Hovering Above the Sea" composed by 3Epkano, a contemporary music collective and the last transmission of morse code signal from Malin Head radio station. The river itself becomes a visual element within the work, framing the voices contained in the audio recordings, thus creating a "live" performative public artwork. Transmission will also be audible at various locations along the river's edge, and on Inishowen Community Radio.

A time-lapse film portrait of the River Foyle accompanies the sound work.

Over the course of a day, two cameras recorded the river from fixed viewpoints at Greencastle, Co. Donegal and Magilligan Point, Co. Derry. The imagery reflects the night time navigation of ships, Magilligan Prison, Martello Towers, local people, and the ebb and flow of the river itself. This film will be projected as a site-specific, audio-visual installation in the Planetarium at the Maritime Museum. To extend the location-based dialogue and create an open forum for communication, audience members and the wider public are invited

through a number of cross-border community networks to submit their audio testimonies on the theme of the river. This will extend public participation in the project and will be reflected in North-55's website in due course. This month-long event will engage a daily audience of over 1000 people – students, deliverymen, commuters, local people and tourists among others – as they journey on the Foyle Ferry. A public seminar entitled CIVIC TESTIMONIES (September 18th) brings together artists, participants, critics, academics and others to respond to

the Testimonies of the River project. Speakers include Mary Jane Jacob, (Independent Curator, Chair and Professor of Sculpture at the School of Art Institute Chicago), Russell Lewis, (Chief Historian, Executive Vice President of the Chicago History Museum and Board president of the not-for-profit Street Level Youth Media), and Sophie Hope (Curator, evaluator and researcher B + B Curators, London).

MISSION

North-55 is a visual arts organisation developing site-specific public art that engages divergent communities on civic issues on a cross-border basis.

North-55 has shaped a hybrid form of cultural practice that utilises a multi-disciplinary approach, fusing cultural and aesthetic pursuits with community development processes. North-55 establishes new coalitions with other arts, community and statutory organisations through long-term partnerships, thus creating a cultural corridor where innovative ideas are visualised and articulated across the region.

North-55 promotes critical art practices and cultural strategies through projects, ongoing research, and public forums.

AIMS

To act as a catalyst for the development of innovative, multi-disciplinary, cross-border projects.

To initiate collaborative site-specific projects targeting marginalised groups, encouraging access to the arts, and engaging diverse audiences.

To develop strategies that breach cultural isolation and create a dialogue beyond conflict. North-55 takes full cognisance of cultural diversity in the development and delivery of its programmes.

To promote international collaborations, critical debate, and the dissemination of information, within this area of practice.

North-55 refers to the line of latitude crossing the border between Derry and Donegal.

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NORTH-55

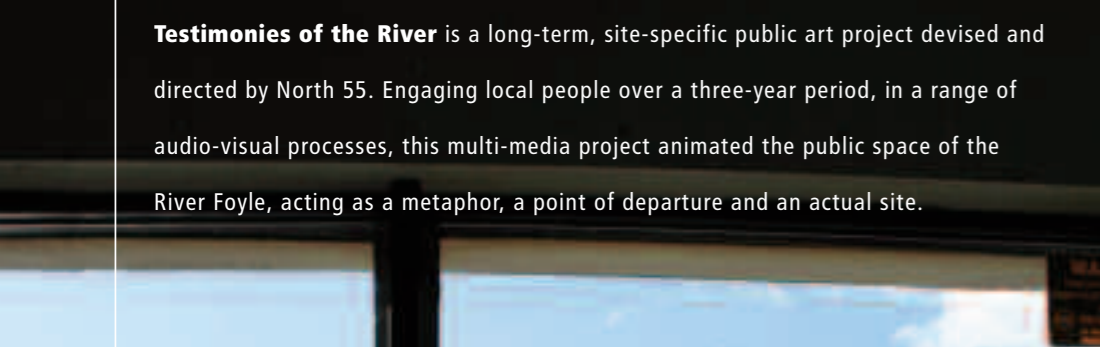
CREATING

A CULTURAL

CORRIDOR

TRANSMISSION



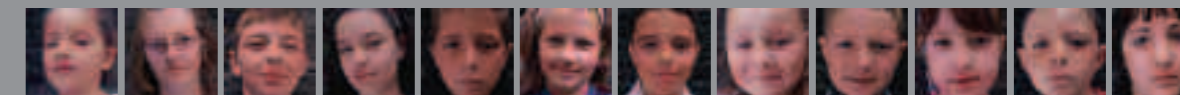


Testimonies of the River is a long-term, site-specific public art project devised and directed by North 55. Engaging local people over a three-year period, in a range of audio-visual processes, this multi-media project animated the public space of the River Foyle, acting as a metaphor, a point of departure and an actual site.

Over four consecutive weekends from mid-September 2007, the various testimonies of the diverse communities inhabiting the environs of the River Foyle, emanate from the tannoy system of the ferry as it traverses the border. The ferry operates a critical link across the river, which separates Donegal's Inishowen Peninsula and the Antrim Coastline of Northern Ireland. The broadcast event is entitled *Transmission*.



TESTIMONIES OF THE RIVER



Testimonies of the River is a collaborative project that has developed strategic alliances with other artists/organisations. Central to its success has been the building of close working relationships with local

agencies connected to the river and the participation of a wide range of individuals from communities connected to the river who provided audio testimonies.

Audio-visual files of recorded material gathered throughout the project will be accessible through North-55's website.

COLLABORATORS

- Inishowen Partnership Company
- Inishowen Maritime Museum
- Foyle Ferries
- Inishowen Sub-Aqua Club
- Transition Year, Moville Community College
- Greencastle/Moville Youth Group
- The Playhouse
- The Nerve Centre
- The Cathedral Youth Club
- The Glen Youth Club
- ConjunctionArts, New York
- Inishowen Community Radio
- Foyle Search and Rescue
- The Coast Guard
- The Loughs Agency