



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**30/ 07/20**

**For immediate release**

### AATE20 FESTIVAL OF ARCHITECTURE 'Boundaries'

## Press release: Architecture at the Edge issues open call for entries

The Architecture at the Edge festival has issued a call for entries for the 2020 event, which promises a city- and county wide exploration of the theme "Boundaries" through a wide range of events between 2-4 October 2020. (Please note deadline has been extended to 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2020. 5pm.).

Architecture at the Edge is seeking applications from architects and artists for projects for 'The Boundaries Commission', part of Architecture at the Edge Onsite. Responses may include but are not limited to temporary site specific indoor or outdoor works, temporary installations, workshops or online events.

The Boundaries Commission is a collaboration between Architecture at the Edge, Mayo County Council and Galway County Council, its ambition is to create a series of spatial or site specific interventions by architects/ artists in the west of Ireland. Architects/ Artists will be asked to respond to the context of the recent debate around public space. How we do shape the public realm in a post-covid19 world and who is it for? This is possible through generous funding from the The Arts Council of Ireland.

#### Applications & Budget:

Project proposals are now being invited for potential stand-alone events or temporary works. From the open call, three architects/ artists will be selected to produce their design concept for the festival. Each architect/ artist will be provided with a project budget of € 1,500. Budget to include artist fee, materials, project expenses and VAT.

Priority will be given to project proposals that re-imagine and represent the built environment in contemporary Ireland and the spaces we inhabit.

Applications should include the following information and be emailed to [architecture.edge@gmail.com](mailto:architecture.edge@gmail.com) by 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2020, 5pm.

- Artist / Architect CV (max. 2 pages)
- Project proposal: outline of concept or design, brief description of event or installation to take place, drawings or visuals of project, budget outline. (max. 3 pages)
- Examples of previous work or projects (max. 5)

AATE will assist the appointed architects/artists in facilitating involvement of relevant communities if needed. The selected projects can be supported by or further explored in the festival's programme of ancillary events which will investigate various paradigms of 'boundaries', to be discussed and agreed with AATE and the selected

architects/artists.

About the AATE Festival and 2020 Theme:

The 2020 AATE Festival aims to connect with as many people as possible, in ways that demonstrate architecture's relevance to our lives. Each year Architecture at the Edge presents a different theme as the focus of its wide programme of public events. The 2019 theme of 'Adapt Reuse Reimage' inspired over 40 events across counties Galway and Mayo last October, attracting thousands of visitors.

The boundaries theme will explore the frameworks within which we live and work, the systems and environments, physical, social and cultural, that enmesh us.

AATE Director Frank Monahan says of the theme 'For the past three years, AATE has opened doors to buildings throughout the west of Ireland, and encouraged citizens to explore their built environment. We have done so because we believe that our towns and cities only truly flourish when they are open to all. We want to empower people to shape their built environment.'

Given the current restrictions on our movements during the Covid19 crisis this also presents an opportunity for exploring and examining the potential for a rebalancing of our public realm as a place for people.'

'To live in the west of Ireland is to be surrounded by boundaries, both tangible and intangible: structures, infrastructures, coastlines, field boundaries, and townlands. Look around and everywhere you will see the architectural memories and morphology that define us, past and present, and our place in society. Boundaries put us in our place.'

'Now with Covid19 we are constrained, ordered and defined by other borders, limitations, restrictions, fences and walls that in many ways make

us comfortable. For architects, however, boundaries are more than a mundane fact of everyday life: they're something to be challenged.

Perhaps boundaries are made to be blurred?

"Boundaries are fundamental to any discussion about Ireland's future. To what extent does the National Framework Plan define what our country could and should look like by 2040? What about personal boundaries at the other end of the scale? Whether that's space standards or professional standards, architects need to act responsibly.'

Ireland's architects pay no heed to national boundaries as they build around the world, and their global leadership is largely thanks to a fearless attitude towards design or technical boundaries. But at home does public procurement currently favors large companies which tend to be based in large population centers? How can we build better public procurement at home that lead to better places for us all to live, work and relax?

"These are just some of the questions posed by our theme. Like previous AATE themes, we want participants to interpret and respond to it with imagination, flair and enthusiasm. We're sure that AATE 2020 will be decidedly unbound as we explore our new theme of Boundaries."

Further information is available from the Festival website:  
[www.architectureattheedge.com](http://www.architectureattheedge.com)

Queries

Contact Frank Monahan at [architecture.edge@gmail.com](mailto:architecture.edge@gmail.com) for further clarification or queries.

The call for entries will close Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August, October.

The full programme of events to be confirmed later in the autumn.

END

Notes to editors

Frank Monahan is available for interview.

Architecture at the Edge was designed to encourage citizens to explore their built environment, to increase awareness and equip them to better able respond critically to issues contingent with the quality of their built environment. To gain a deeper understanding of the many ways that architecture impacts on our personal health & well-being, economic prosperity, and social cohesion.

The festival allows the public an opportunity to discover the built environment from unexpected perspectives. It also allows an opportunity to interact with one another and to strengthen our sense of place and community. We need these things now more than ever.

The 'Open Call' seeks to engage architects, artists and other creative to respond to our changing spatial relationship with our city.

In rethinking mobility and public space, we seek to engage some of the most innovative practitioners from across architecture and art to participate in this design led challenge. Together to suggest ways in which architecture and spatial planning can address and question contemporary issues of 'boundaries' in a post Covid19 world.

[www.architectureattheedge.com](http://www.architectureattheedge.com)

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