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## “For posterity, it’s something important to do”: Festivals, digital practices, and conserving community heritage

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# “For posterity, it’s something important to do”: Festivals, digital practices, and conserving community heritage.

Dr. Enya Moore, TU Dublin  
CIG Conference, Wexford, 16-19 May 2023



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# Festivals, Audiences, and the Digital Experience.



Scan to complete  
national survey

FADE investigates the implications of the digital turn for arts festivals in rural Ireland. FADE is currently undertaking fieldwork in West Cork, Tipperary and Clare as well as conducting a nationwide survey. The project is led by Dr Bernadette Quinn and Dr Brian Vaughan, alongside research officer Dr. Enya Moore. It is funded by the Irish Research Council, under the Collaborative Alliances for Societal Challenges (COALESCE) scheme.

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## What are rural festival's digital needs?



FADE Project leads:  
Dr. Bernadette Quinn  
Dr. Brian Vaughan

Researchers:  
Samantha Morris



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'Cultural festivals thus provide one emblematic example of immaterial cultural heritage, since they are experience goods which expire at the moment they are produced and not only express artistic innovations in the field but also draw on previous cultural background, perceived as accumulated cultural capital' (Del Barrio et al, 2012, pp. 235).



Fig 1-2. Cashel Arts Festival in Tipperary, 2022.







'But also, like, just for posterity, like, especially over the last couple of years, we've livestream some amazing gigs and magic moments, and like, you know, you mightn't be able to see them online, but we have them.' (Interviewee, 2023)

'And then as we were doing it, one of the headline acts who played here the previous night he's an amazing Greek lute player and just jumped into the session, and it was just f magic, like, you know, and we captured this live. And we still have that for posterity. And like, and it just really kind of, that's what the whole festival is about. Trying to, you know, like, not manufacture, but just trying to make an environment for these artists to engage what's gonna happen with the musicians like, you know, he was meeting all the travelers and like, for five minutes, he just introduced themselves, like, you know, it was f unreal.' (Interviewee, 2023)



## LIVESTREAM: TRADITIONAL IRISH SESSION –

📍 DeBarra's Folk Club  
📅 Monday 12th September, 2022  
🕒 9:30pm | Performance

'I was really glad we did because we were umming and ahhing and if it was worth doing because it was shot really well, it sounded great, it's a document, its definitely that festival, it's definitely the 2022 Guitar Festival [...] So you would just just the specificity of that moment was worth capturing and broadcasting and then, of course, keeps us in touch with that global audience of during the pandemic unit of 'the digital only year.'  
(Interviewee, 2023)

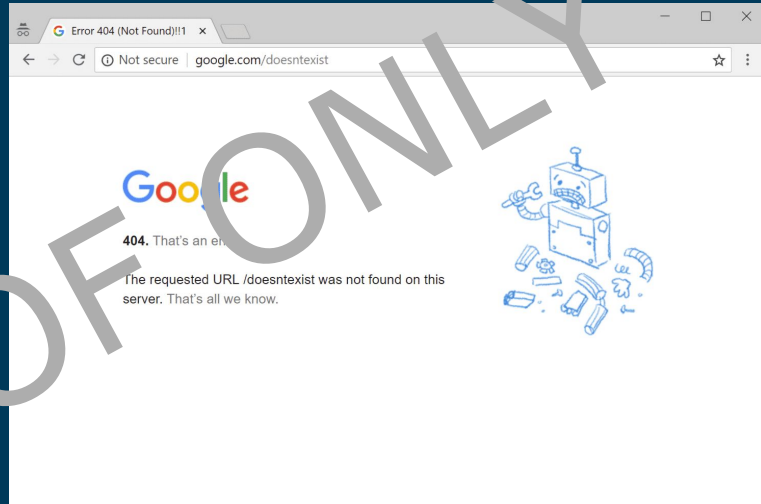
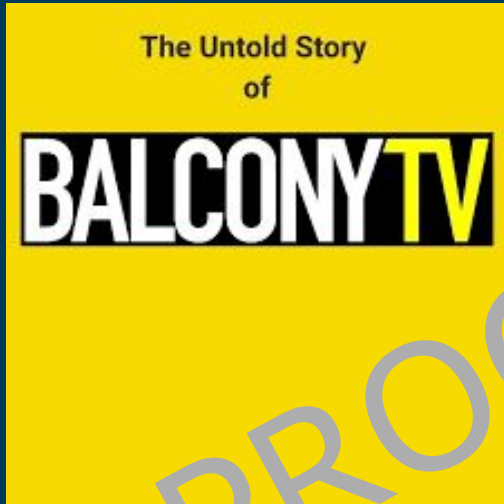
'It's a document'. (Interviewee, 2023)



'So it's the amount of creation that got exposed in our time, like just people always creating, you know, and collaborations between artists was unbelievable. And in that timeframe, all these people had this time to collaborate. And collaborations are amazing, some of them. (Interviewee, 2023)'



'I see this as an act of cultural desecration.'  
Stephen O Regan, Co-founder of Balcony TV, [thetimes.co.uk](http://thetimes.co.uk), 2019.



# The Artist-led Archive

[1970 – The Present Day]:  
Sustainable Activism and the Embrace of Flux.

Curated section of the  
archive relating to Cork  
Artist-Led Initiatives.

Curated by Dirty Books Publishing House.

08 — 30/10  
2021



Thank you



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