The Arts in Education Research Group at the School of Education conducts research into the ways in which artists consciously or unconsciously hone their skills. In the Artist Biography Series, conversations with artists are used to explore key influences in their artistic development. In particular, the focus is on biography: not only the artist’s own, but also those who have influenced them most. These influencers may be family, teachers, fellow artists or even artists working in other media. We are interested in “imagined biographies” — the stories they construct — and in how they use the biographies of others in their work as a way of illustrating their own artistic concerns. In addressing biography, we are interested in the human, emotional side of aesthetic experience, as well as situating it in contexts that are social, cultural, and political. Finally, we aspire to further link artistic biography, as outlined above, with audience biographies, in order to draw out the resonances between these levels. Projects have included the piano music of Gurdjieff / De Hartmann with pianist Elan Sclroff; self-taught songwriter and performer Ralph McTell; internationally acclaimed writers in music education Professor Marie McCarthy and Professor Lucy Green; John Sheahan’s The Making of a Dubliner; links between artists and musicians, featuring writer Roisin Meaney and the Bookshop Band; and contributions to the TCD Beatles in Twelve Lectures series at the Trinity Long Room Hub in 2014. The Artist Biography Series, now entering its third year, provides rich data for the purposes of informing education policy. Publication and dissemination of this research includes film, audio recording, forthcoming book and journal articles, as well as conference presentations in 2014 and 2015. This project within the Arts in Education Research Group (AERG) is led by Marita Kerin and Carmel O’Sullivan, with Associate Professor Michael Grenfell, University of Stirling. A full description of the AERG appears on page 10.