

Dr. Fiona McDermott
Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

- 2021 **PhD. The School of Computer Science and Statistics, Trinity College Dublin**
Thesis: 'Waste of Time – Examining the Politics and Temporal Practices of Smart Cities Through Urban Systems'.
Supervisor: Prof. Linda Doyle (TCD)
- 2009 **M(Arch) Urban Design. The Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London**
Masters programme focused on the challenges of global urbanism and sustainable cities.
- 2006 **B(Sc) Music Technology, Queens University Belfast**
Specialisation in human-computer interaction and digital media technologies.
Awarded the May Turtle Scholarship in 2006 by QUB for dissertation project.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2020 – Present **CONNECT Research Centre for Future Networks, Trinity College Dublin**
Research Fellow
PI on socio-technical research project 'INTUIT - Assessing the Environmental and Public Value of ICT Systems',

TCD research lead and project management on the EU Horizon 2020 project, 'Artsformation', on how the arts and creative practices engage in critical socio-political issues in relation to the digital transformation. (artsformation.eu)

Co-chair of CONNECT Network Ecologies Working Group.
- 2017 – 2018 **The School of Media Studies, The New School, New York City**
Fulbright Visiting Research Scholar
Research on the application of technologies to urban, municipal infrastructures, as co-sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency Ireland.
- 2016 – 2017 **CONNECT Research Centre for Future Communications and Networks, Trinity College Dublin**
Research Assistant
Research on the design and deployment of Internet of Things applications with multiple industry and academic partners for the SFI funded project 'Pervasive Nation'.
- 2013 – 2015 **Interaction Design Centre, University of Limerick**
Research Assistant
Research and project management on the EU project 'Material EncounterS with digital Cultural Heritage', exploring the convergence of materiality, interactive exhibitions, and smart objects in cultural institutions.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024– Present **CHARM-EU MSc in Global Challenges for Sustainability, Trinity College Dublin**
Module Coordinator & Lecturer
Design and delivery challenge-driven, transdisciplinary teaching on sustainable cities.
- 2022 – Present **MSc Smart and Sustainable Cities, Trinity College Dublin**
Guest Lecturer / Masters Supervisor
Lecturing on smart cities initiatives, innovation policy and digital rights. Thesis supervision for masters students.
- 2021 – Present **BA and MA Visual Culture, National College of Art & Design, Dublin**
Adjunct Lecturer / Thesis Supervisor
Course design and lecturing of elective module, 'critical practices of the environment and ecology'. Thesis supervision for masters and undergraduate students.
- 2021 – 2023 **Artsformation / Coursera Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)**
Course Developer
Development and production of online course as part of the EU Horizon 2020 research project 'Artsformation'.
- 2019 – 2021 **MA Art in the Contemporary World, National College of Art & Design, Dublin**
Guest Lecturer, 2019 – 2021
Lecturing and leading seminars in subject areas included critical infrastructure studies and Technology, Design and Society.
- 2016 – 2018 **BA Fine Art (Media), National College of Art & Design, Dublin**
Guest Lecturer & Tutor
Lecturing and leading workshops for course entitled 'experimental geographies' on design strategies for urban space.
- 2013 - 2015 **MA Interactive Media, University of Limerick**
Guest Lecturer
Lecturer for Masters programme on exhibition design and digital media technologies.

EDITED BOOKS

Anderson, S., Butler, A., Capener, D., Lally, D., Lyster, C. and **McDermott, F.** (2021) States of Entanglement: Data in the Irish Landscape. New York and Barcelona: Actar Publishers.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

McDermott, F. (Forthcoming 2025), 'From Rigorous Routines to New Temporal Frameworks in Sensor Mediated Infrastructures', Cities: The International Journal of Urban Policy and Planning.

McDermott, F. (Forthcoming 2025), 'Ways of Knowing: Between the Smart City and Traditional Practices of City Making', Special Issue on Environment and Planning D: Society and Space.

Jardine, J., Nadal, C., Barry, M., Snow, D., **McDermott, F.**, Robinson, S. (2024) 'Design for the Long Now: Temporal Tools for Navigating Ethics in HCI, Design for the Long Now: Temporal Tools for Navigating Ethics in HCI. In Designing Interactive Systems Conference (DIS Companion '24), July 01–05, 2024, IT University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

McDermott, F., & Šiljak, H. (2023). Artistic Interventions in the ICT Industries: Legitimate Critical Practice or Empty Gestures in the Contemporary Digital Age? In B. Herlo, & D. Irrgang (Eds.), Proceedings of the Weizenbaum Conference 2022: Practicing Sovereignty - Interventions for Open Digital Futures (pp. 194-198). Berlin: Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society - The German Internet Institute. <https://doi.org/10.34669/wi.cp/4.18>

Šiljak, H., & **McDermott, F.** (2023) Quantum Observer. In *Morals & Machines*, Issue 2(2), 2023, Page(s) 54-63, ISSN 2747-5174. Publisher: Nomos. DOI: 10.5771/2747-5174-2022-2-54

McDermott, F. (2022) 'The Rise of 5G: The Next True or False Public Utility of the Future City', *Mediapolis, A Journal of Cities and Culture*.

Booth, P., Evers, L., Fosch Villaronga, E., Lutz, C., **McDermott, F.**, Riccio, P., Rioux, V., Sears, A., Tamo-Larrieux, A., & Wieringa, M. (2022). Artountability: Art and Algorithmic Accountability. In D. Hallinan, R. Leenes & P. De Hert (Eds.). *Data Protection and Privacy: Enforcing Rights in a Changing World* (Computers, Privacy and Data Protection, pp. 45–66). Oxford: Hart Publishing.

McDermott, F. (2019), 'New Sensorial Vehicles - Navigating Critical Understandings of Autonomous Futures', *Journal of Architecture and Culture*. In *Architecture and the Smart City*, edited by Sergio M. Figueiredo, Sukanya Krishnamurthy, and Torsten Schroeder, 247-256. London: Routledge.

Ciolfi, L., Avram, G., Maye, L., Dulake, N., Marshall, M.T., van Dijk, D. and **McDermott, F.** (2016), 'Articulating Co-Design in Museums: Reflection on Two Participatory Processes', in Proceedings of CSCW 2016, New York: ACM, 13-25.

<http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2819967&CFID=757472523&CFTOKEN=47713290>

McDermott, F., Maye, L. and Avram, G. (2014), 'Co-designing a Collaborative Platform with Cultural Heritage Professionals', *iHCI Conference*, Dublin, Ireland.

Maye, L., **McDermott, F.**, Avram, G., and Ciolfi, L. (2014), 'Interactive Exhibitions Design - What can we learn from cultural heritage professionals?', in Proceedings of Nordichi 2014, Helsinki, Finland. <http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2639259&dl=ACM&coll=DL&CFID=856791088&CFTOKEN=53024319>

Book Chapters

Renza, V., Andersen, K., **McDermott, F.** and Fieseler, C., (2023) 'The Arts Mobilizing Communities: From Socially Engaged Arts to Social Artrepreneurship'. In: *Arts, Business and Sustainability: The Role of Arts-Based Methods in Advancing Change in Business and Society*, Page(s) 1-15. Publisher: Palgrave.

McDermott, F. (2021), "Sensory States: Instrumentation and Automation in the Natural Landscape" In *States of Entanglement: Data in the Irish Landscape*. Barcelona: Actar Publishers.

McDermott, F. (2018), "Working in Beta: Experiments in Urban Governance and Micro Trials within Dublin City Council", in de Lange, M. and de Waal, M. (Eds.), *The Hackable City: Digital Media & Collaborative Citymaking in the Network Society*, London: Springer.

Cioffi, L., Petrelli, D., **McDermott, F.**, Avram, G. and van Dijk, D. (2015), "Co-Design to Empower Cultural Heritage Professionals as Technology Designers: The meSch Project", in Bihanic, D. (Ed.), *Empowering Users Through Design*, London: Springer, 213-224.

Reports, Articles & Conference Proceedings

Manton, R., Croot, P., **McDermott, F.**, Sunderland, K., Parfrey, F. (2025) 'Integrating Sustainability in the Engineering and Computer Science Curriculum: A Report from the Royal Irish Academy'.
<https://www.ria.ie/assets/uploads/2025/04/RIA-Integrating-Sustainability-Conference-Report.pdf>

Lyster, C., Lafon, C., Harty, M. and **McDermott, F.** (2023) *Farm Life: On Productive synergies between farming infrastructure, data storage centres and housing*. The Irish Architecture Foundation.
<https://housingunlocked.ie/journal/call-to-action-3-farm-life-aka-the-hanging-gardens-of-adamstown/>

McDermott, F. (2021) 'Entanglement', *The Cost of Convenience*. Minderoo Centre for Technology & Democracy, the University of Cambridge.

McDermott, F., Clarke, L., Hornecker, E. and Avram, G. (2013) 'The Challenges and Opportunities Faced by Cultural Heritage Professionals in Designing Interactive Exhibits', NODEM 2013, Stockholm, Sweden.

Baese, J., Colini, L., Hilbrandt, H., LeBas, T., **McDermott, F.**, Richter, A. and Zimmermann, N. (2013) 'Das Geld liegt auf der Strasse', *Archplus*, 124-125.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & PUBLIC TALKS

- 2025 **Environmental Media Studies Ireland Research Seminar, Humanities Institute UCD**
Presentation 'Beyond Climate Isolationism in Industry-Led ICT Development'
- 2025 **Urban Speculations: Cities, Technologies, Futures Conference, Leuphana University.**
'Building Next Generation Networks: Towards the True or False Public Utility of the Future City'.
- 2024 **Radical Futures: The Radical Humanities Laboratory, UCC**
Panel on 'Critical & Creative Methods for Navigating Ethics in Technological Development'
- 2023 **Beta Festival of Art and Technology, the Digital Hub, Dublin**
Panel 'From Local to Global: Ireland as an Infrastructural Node'
- 2023 **The Irish Architecture Foundation Summer School Seminar**
On-line presentation with Marina Otero Verzier and Patrick Bresnihan
- 2023 **The Future of Robots in Our Everyday Lives, Trinity Long Room Hub, Dublin**
Invited presentation and transdisciplinary discussion as part of the Human+ tech talks.
- 2022 **First Thought Talks, the Galway International Arts Festival**
Panel discussion on Ireland at the Venice Architecture Biennale, in association with NUIG.

- 2022 **The Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society Conference, Berlin**
Workshop presentation on 'Practicing Sovereignty. Interventions for Open Digital Futures'.
- 2022 **Dublin Art and Technology Association (D.A.T.A.) National College of Art & Design**
Presentation, Entanglement: Ireland at the Venice Architecture Biennale.
- 2021 **V&A Museum Dundee, 'What if.../we reconsider how we live together?' (on-line)**
Invited presentation in collaboration with Scotland+Venice partnership and the British Council.
- 2021 **Department of History of Art and Architecture, TCD Public Research Seminar (on-line)**
Presentation, 'States of Entanglement: Ireland at the Venice Architecture Biennale 2021'.
- 2021 **Bristol Ideas: Festival of the Future City, (on-line)**
Invited panel discussion on 'What is the Relevance of History in Imagining Our Futures?'
- 2021 **Infrastructural Times: Exploring Temporalities of Urban and Regional Infrastructure, Regional Studies Association Conference (on-line)**
Paper presentation, 'From Rigorous Routines to New Temporal Frameworks in Smart Waste'.
- 2021 **The Cost of Convenience, Minderoo Centre for Technology & Democracy, University of Cambridge (on-line)** Invited workshop presentation and discussion.
- 2021 **Artountability: Art and Algorithmic Accountability, Computers Privacy and Data Protection (CPDP) Conference (on-line)**
Panel presentation on the arts and algorithmic governance in relation to digital transformation.
- 2019 **Ascend: Artistic Strategies for Engagement with Data, NCAD, Dublin**
Paper presentation, 'Public Infrastructures and the Masquerading Meaning of IoT'.
- 2019 **Dronesphere Colloquium, John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design, the University of Toronto**
Paper presentation, 'The Moving Network: UAVs as Future Urban Infrastructures'.
- 2018 **Architectural Humanities Research Association International Conference, Department of the Built Environment, TU Eindhoven, the Netherlands**
Paper 'New Sensorial Vehicles - Navigating Critical Understandings of Autonomous Futures'.
- 2018 **Digital Cultures Conference, Leuphana University, Lüneburg, Germany**
Panel on 'Cultures of Sharing' with colleagues from CONNECT research centre.
- 2018 **The American Association of Geographers Conference, New Orleans, USA**
Paper, 'Learning from the Smart Trash Can: Implications of the Internet of Everyday Things'.
- 2017 **Data & Society Research Institute, New York City**
Presentation 'Lessons from the Field' on digital culture and ethnographic research methods.
- 2017 **The Douglas Hyde Art Gallery, Trinity College Dublin**
Presented talk on verticality, infrastructure and technology for 'Elevations' event with artists.
- 2016 **ETHZ Zürich, Practices & Urban Issues with STS' Summer School, Switzerland**
Presentation on 'Urban Systems in the Age of Algorithmic Regulation'

- 2016 **Arts Technology Research Lab, The School of Creative Arts, Trinity College Dublin**
Presentation, 'Highways & Horizons - Lessons from Urban Design for Autonomous Vehicles'.
- 2016 **Future Cities Catapult, London**
Presentation 'The New Urban Design: Intelligent Systems in Contemporary City Making'
- 2016 **Design & the City Conference, Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences, NL**
'Street Life: The Evolution of the Urban Streetscape' lecture as part of 'New Approaches to Sustainable Cities' Workshop.

SELECTED ART, DESIGN & CURATORIAL EXPERIENCE

ANNEX Design and Research, Dublin (annex.ie)

Designer and Curator, 2019 - 2022

Exhibition designer and curator for 'Entanglement', Ireland's pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale 2021. The exhibition subsequently toured to the 2022 Transmediale Festival for Digital Culture, Berlin and the 2022 Galway International Arts Festival. This exhibition was also nominated for the European Union S+T+ARTS (Science, technology and arts) Prize 2022.

Designing for the Unknown Public Lectures and Seminars, Trinity College Dublin

Curator and Events Organiser, 2018 - 2020

Public lectures and seminar series on the societal implications of emerging internet technologies. Guest speakers included Prof. Shannon Mattern (The New School, US), Dr Pat Brodie (Concordia University CA.) and Paul O'Neill (Dublin City University).

COBE Architecture and Urbanism, Berlin & Copenhagen (cobe.de)

Urban Designer and Researcher, 2011 - 2013

Concept design, spatial planning, project development for exhibitions, architecture and masterplan projects. Design and research for books, journals and publications on architecture and urban design.

SELECTED PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 **'Abandon all hope ye who enter here', Transmediale Festival of Digital Culture, Berlin**
- 2021 **Powerhouse, ROCA Gallery, London**
- 2021 **The 17th International Architecture Biennale, Venice**
- 2017 **E.A.T + Aspen (with OMG), Coast-Lines Exhibition, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin**
- 2015 **Open Lab Architecture Section, Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space, Prague**
- 2014 **Berlin Unlimited, Zentrum für Kunst und Urbanistik, Berlin**
- 2013 **'Cities Methodologies', The Slade Research Centre, University College London**

FUNDING, SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2022 **The S+T+ARTS Prize 2022.** The European Commission. Nomination for Entanglement

- 2022 **SFI Discover Fund**, BETA Festival, with the Digital Hub and Aisling Murray
- 2022 **Arts Council Ireland, Touring and Dissemination Award**, Entanglement at Galway Arts
- 2021 **Culture Ireland**, Entanglement Exhibition at Transmediale Festival for Digital Culture
- 2020 **European Union Horizon 2020**, Artsformation
- 2019 **Culture Ireland**, The Irish Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale
- 2017 **Fulbright Commission & Environmental Protection Agency Ireland**, Fulbright Award
- 2016 **Thomas Dammann Jr. Memorial Trust, Ireland**, Memorial Trust Award
- 2016 **Cyberparks COST Action**, Short Term Scientific Mission, Future Cities Catapult, London
- 2016 **Arts Council Ireland**, Travel and Training Award
- 2013 **ARCH+ & Stiftung Bauhaus Dessau, Germany**, 'Out of Balance-Critique of the Present. Information Design after Otto Neurath', 2nd Category prize.
- 2006 **Queens University Belfast**, May Turtle Scholarship Award for dissertation.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS / MEMBERSHIP

COMPASS ACM Special Interest Group on Computing and Society (SIGCAS), programme committee member, 2025 – Present

Royal Irish Academy, Multidisciplinary sub-committee, elected member, 2022 – Present

Minderoo Centre of Technology and Democracy, expert group, member, 2021 – Present

Network Ecologies Working Group, CONNECT, member, 2021 – Present

Women in Technology and Science Ireland, member, 2020 – Present

Fulbright Ireland Alumni Association, member, 2018 – Present