



'THE LAND OF HEART'S DESIRE'



WB Yeats saw a fountain in a shop window in Fleet Street, and imagined an island of his childhood. The poem he then wrote described a life for which he pined, but was never to live. We propose to evoke that yearning by raising two structures – the first of which weighs solidly on the end of the pier that leads to Innisfree. Nine limed-oak frames will be placed there: they widen to open to the view, their sills rising slowly to create a sheltered seat at the end. From here, a visitor can sit and view this island of Yeats' dreams.

The counterpoint to this perches lightly on the pier of the island: precise duplicates of those nine frames will be placed there, transformed into a childlike imagining of a small cabin, a universal symbol of home and comfort. The frames will trace the lines of wall and roof, creating an outline that suggests the possibility of habitation to the watcher on the shore. Those lucky few able to take a boat to the island will find their perspective shift as they close in on the cabin, as the clear orthogonal become exposed as triangles. It is a skeleton of a dream, through which they step into the island.

Once the festival ends, the structures will be brought to the campus of Sligo IT - all that matters is that they are placed the same distance apart, the window pointing towards the cabin. Those passing by can rest a moment on a bench, considering in the distance a dream of a cabin once on an island.

