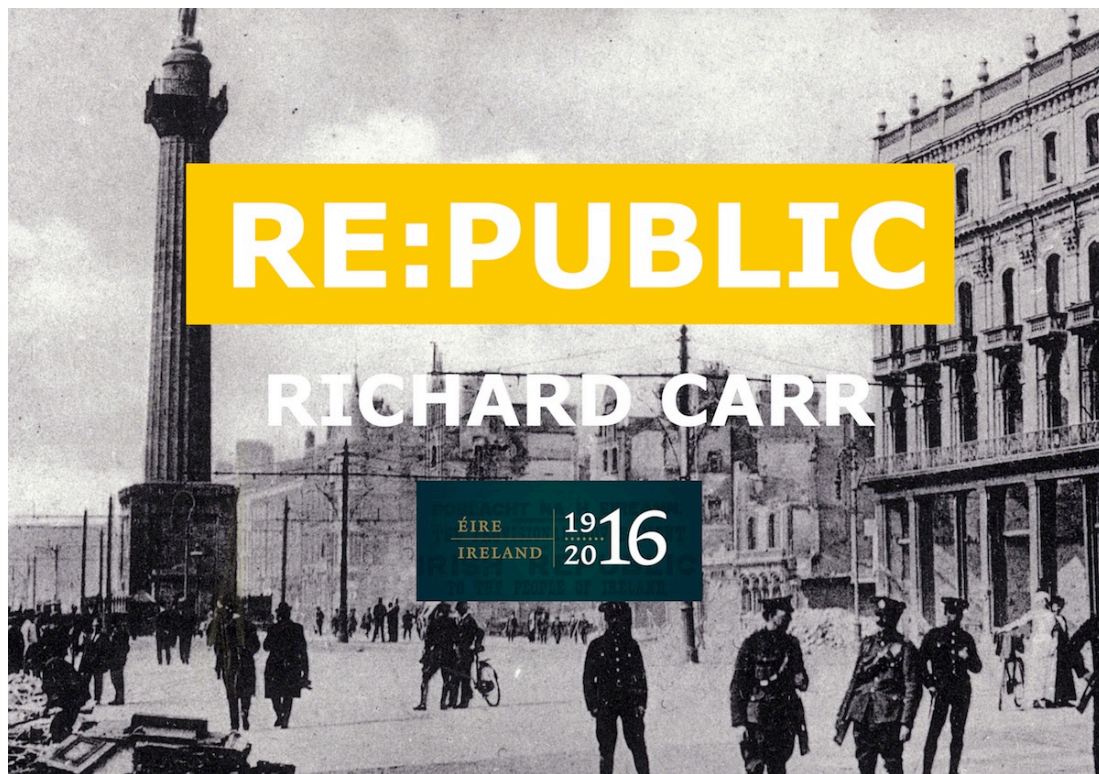


Susan Edwards / Richard Carr



Richard Carr invite, front.

What sound cast thou into the void?

Climbing up the stairs to a small door he entered the space, squatting down to better listen to the static sounds, time flooding through his brain to years not wishing to remember. This wasn't the real thing, no hisses or scratchings which he had learned to interpret, yet... and yet, he knew by the sounds and speed of the bumps. A language, a sound that has become obsolete in these days of media, technology and digital pulses, yet... and yet, this was considered cutting-edge technology in his day.

He sighed, slowly standing upright to soothe his stiff knee joints. He reminded himself of a sentence he had once come across long ago, the poet unknown to him. The sentiment at the time was unappreciated, but now he felt he could comprehend the words, "I am an old man, a dull head among windy spaces". [1]

Yet... and yet, despite the dullness of his head, he was of a handful that understood this was not merely irritating noise. A radio man in an early war, horrible moments endured, scars worth many lifetimes, often feeling isolated, these dots and dashes connected him to a humanity that had been his comfort and could still offer him comfort if he allowed himself to savour it.

Into a void this message had been sent. A risk that it might not be heard, but a passion of the force of the statement propelled it through history.

"Irish Republic declared in Dublin today. Irish troops have captured city and are in full possession. Enemy cannot move in city. The whole country is rising." [2]

A slight smile appeared on his face and carefully he retraced his steps down the stairs and out into the night air.

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[1] T. S. Eliot, *Gerontion*, 1920

[2] the message was first broadcast on the streets of Gorey at 1pm April, 24, 2016. This date was to coincide with the original message in 1916 in Dublin. However in 1916, Ireland operated on Dublin Mean time, which was 25 minutes behind GMT. It was broadcast on Tuesday April 25, 1916 at 5:30pm DMT from The Irish School of Wireless Telegraphy, 5th floor, 10-11 Sackville Street (now O'Connell street)

Technical Note: This exhibition combined contemporary technology with the digital remix of the original Morse code segment used in the 1916 Rising on a staggered audio loop between two audio-spotlight systems mounted on walls opposite each other.

Richard Carr 'RE:PUBLIC', Market House, Gorey, Co. Wexford, 24, April - 30, April, 2016.