

Press Release Information
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“The Hybrid Love Seat”: where public art means local art.

St. James’s Hospital - Luas Stop

A new sculpture project was unveiled by former Lord Mayor, Catherine Byrne T.D. at the Luas James’s Stop on the Red Line today, February 13th, 2008.

Renowned sculptor and lecturer at the National College of Art and Design, Louise Walsh has created, with local young people, *The Hybrid Love Seat* situated beside James’s Luas Stop at St. James’s Hospital.

The Hybrid Love Seat spans a 40 metre boundary wall between Mary Aikenhead Flats and James’s Luas Stop curving to form love seats on either side. Railings stand vertically along the piece and are topped with unique bronze sculptures.

These sculptures were created by local teenagers who attended workshops run by Louise Walsh in a dedicated studio on Donore Avenue. Students from the Sculpture Department in National College of Art and Design (NCAD) volunteered as mentors on the project, so that drawing and sculpting was explored in a “fun, peer led learning environment”. The local young people took inspiration from Celtic Art, as well as the architectural features and gargoyles from around Dublin City.

The Railway Procurement Agency has supported this and other projects which contribute to the integration of Luas into the urban environment. Projects such as the Annual Luas Poster Competition, artwork at Drimnagh and Cookstown Luas stops and other initiatives have helped to blend the tram system into Dublin’s landscape in a few short years.

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