

**Meeting of European members of IFACCA  
Hosted by the Lithuanian Culture Council  
In cooperation with the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania**

**Ministry of Culture (J.Basanavičiaus str. 5), the White Hall**

**Monday 15 September 2014**

**Public Session**

**10.00-12.30 Creativity at the Centre. National cultural policies, arts councils and governance arrangements in planning and decision making, ensuring arm's length from government**

Increasing pressures of evidence based policy making and measuring the value and impact of culture and arts ask for a better balance and coordination of the implementation of cultural policies on one hand and greater flexibility of arts councils to engage with cultural and artistic field and expertise on another. What are innovative ways of meeting these challenges, clarifying and balancing functions of the governing bodies and arts councils, removing unnecessary constraints, ensuring cultural expertise and continuing dialogue with the sector? How are arts councils reacting to the current trends of strategic and financial planning, more oriented towards goal oriented programmes than art forms based principles? How it may influence or influences the structure of current committees or boards of experts, in majority of cases based on sectorial expertise? Issues of governance arrangements ensuring arm's length from government are at the centre of debate.

Moderated by **Audronis Imbrasas**, Director, Art Printing House, and **Elona Bajorinienė**, Dean of the Faculty of Theatre and Film, Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre

Opening Addresses

10.00 **Šarūnas Birutis**, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania

10.15 **Sarah Gardner**, CEO IFACCA, International Federation of Arts Councils and Arts Agencies

Presentations, Questions, Discussions

10.30 **Orlaith Mc Bride**, Director, Arts Council Ireland. *Developing the Governance, Independence and Decision Making of a State Agency* (20 min + following discussions)

11.00 **Staffan Forssell**, Director General, Swedish Arts Council. *Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Expression* (20 min + following discussions)

11.30 **Janet Archer**, CEO Creative Scotland. *Unlocking Potential, Embracing Ambition* (20 min + following discussions)

12.00 **Alan Davey**, CEO Arts Council England, IFACCA Chair. *Great Art and Culture for Everyone* (20 min + following discussions)

12.30 Concluding remarks and close of the session.

The language regime of the session is Lithuanian and English

## Speakers



**Šarūnas Birutis** is the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania. He is also a member of the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania, a member of the Committees on Education, Science and Culture and European Affairs. Previously he was a member of the Vilnius City Council and from 2004 to 2009 he served as a member of the European Parliament. Since 2009 Šarūnas Birutis has been a representative of the Lithuanian Industrialists Confederation to the Parliament and Government of the Republic of Lithuania. He was also the President of the Baltic-Indian Chambers of Commerce and the Vice-president of the Lithuanian-Indian Forum.



Since March 2001, **Sarah Gardner** has been the founding Executive Director of IFACCA. She was previously the Director, Strategic Initiatives at the Australia Council, where she held various senior executive roles from 1990. She was formerly the Director of Public Affairs for the Australian Bicentennial Authority and a consultant in the private and public sectors for the leading Australian firm Issues Australia. Prior to that she was technical manager with the German company, Schering AG, and worked freelance in the tourism industry and community sector in England, Italy, Scotland and Spain. She has a BSc and Masters in Public Policy from the University of Sydney.



**Orlaith McBride** is the Director of the Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon, the state agency for developing the Arts in Ireland. Prior to this appointment, she worked in the arts across a broad range of arts organisations including Local Authorities, arts-in-education, youth arts and theatre. She worked for many years in South Dublin County Council developing and co-ordinating arts projects and programmes before becoming Arts Officer at the National Youth Council of Ireland where she developed the first National Strategy for Young People and the Arts. She was Director of NAYD, the development organisation for youth theatre in Ireland from 2003 - 2011. She produced the National Youth Theatre at the Peacock Theatre from 2007 - 2011.



Since March 2014, **Staffan Forssell** has been the Director General of the Swedish Arts Council. Prior to his appointment, he was the Director General of the Swedish Exhibition agency, as well as CEO of Scenkonstbolaget, company active in performative arts, film, dance, theatre and music. Prior to that he was Director of Armémuseum, and was holding several other managerial positions both in culture sector and beyond. Staffan Forssell also holds a degree in Physics.



**Janet Archer** took up her post at Creative Scotland in July 2013. Since that time she has appointed a new senior leadership team and produced a long term plan for the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland 'Unlocking Potential, Embracing Ambition'. Alongside this she has simplified Creative Scotland's approach to funding and begun implementing a new People Strategy for the organisation. She played an active role in developing Arts Council England's 10 year framework for the arts: 'Achieving Great Art For Everyone'. She also led the team that delivered the 2012 State of the Arts conference in Salford: Artists Shaping the World.



**Alan Davey** was appointed Chief Executive of the Arts Council in November 2007. He was Director for Culture at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport from 2003 until December 2006, having previously worked in the department as Head of the Arts Division since 2001. In an earlier stint at the then Department of National Heritage he was responsible for designing the National Lottery. Alan Davey has also worked at the Department of Health, where he led the Modernising Division and held the post of Secretary to the Royal Commission on Long Term Care. He has been a visiting Fulbright/Helen Hamlyn Scholar at the University of Maryland and has degrees from the universities of Birmingham, Oxford and London.