



AIB announced as the Official Community Partner for ‘Gilgamesh’ by Macnas during Galway 2020, European Capital of Culture

AIB is the Official Community Partner of Macnas for 2020 and the Main Sponsor of ‘Gilgamesh’ – a Galway 2020 commission - from the internationally acclaimed Galway-based spectacle theatre company Macnas.

Master storytellers Macnas will bring a dramatic new interpretation of the world’s oldest story - the original hero’s journey about a king called Gilgamesh – to Galway across four seasons in 2020 as part of Galway 2020, European Capital of Culture.

The year-long epic will see Galway become a playground for the imagination as the legendary adventures of Gilgamesh – two thirds god, one third human – play out in multiple sites and communities across the city, county and digital realm.

Macnas will elevate its signature style, taking traditional theatre and storytelling into new outdoor, indoor and digital territories, to bring the contemporary themes of the ancient story Gilgamesh – love, loss, rivalry, friendship and death - to life on a never-before-seen scale, inviting intrigue and participation from audiences locally, nationally and internationally.

2020 will also see Macnas receive the Special Tribute Award at this year’s Irish Times Theatre Awards, in recognition of the company’s contribution to Irish theatre culture and practise over more than three decades.

Evin Cusack, Head of AIB Galway/Mayo commenting on the partnership said “We in AIB are delighted to confirm our role as Main Sponsor to Macnas for the Gilgamesh suite of events in 2020, and in doing so to provide our support to the broader Galway 2020 programme. The multi-location Gilgamesh programme was of particular interest as it allows AIB to support the delivery of enjoyable community-based events in many of the locations in which we operate. This program will be additionally supported by a volunteer programme to allow interested AIB staff to participate in and support Macnas in the delivery of Gilgamesh events in each location.”

Mark O'Donnell, Executive Director, Macnas stated “The Macnas team are delighted to welcome AIB on board as Main Sponsor and Official Community Partner for Gilgamesh in 2020. We are looking forward to staging an epic production in what will be an extraordinary year for Galway as European Capital of Culture, and greatly value AIB’s support in delivering this ambitious project.”

AIB is keenly aware of its role in communities across Ireland. Its commitment to that relationship is reflected in its support of community events and the arts across four provinces. Over the past forty years AIB has endeavoured to support a wide range of Irish artists, performers and numerous community projects. AIB’s partnership with Macnas is yet another example of how the organisation is providing much needed support to the arts community in Ireland.

As well as the Main Sponsor and Official Community Partner for the Gilgamesh series of events by Macnas, AIB is also an Official Supporting Partner of Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture.

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