

~ Artists Brief ~

Celebrative Statue of Thomas “Big Tom” Mc Bride



Comhairle Chontae Mhuineacháin

Monaghan County Council

Arts & Heritage

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Civic Offices,
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Carrickmacross.
County Monaghan
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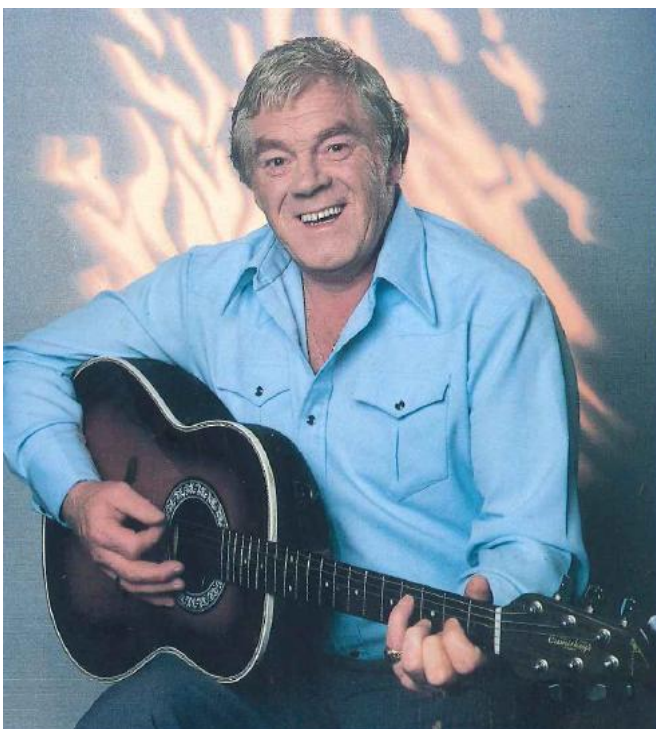
Artists Brief

Introduction

Monaghan County Council have formed a committee whom wish to commission an artist to create a figurative bronze sculpture to celebrate the life achievements of Thomas “Big Tom” Mc Bride. This commissioned artwork will create awareness of the achievements of Big Tom and his contribution to Country and Irish Music over his career as a singer, guitarist and saxophone player.

Thomas McBride, born 18th of September 1936, better known as Big Tom, is an Irish born country music, Traditional Irish music and Easy Listening singer, guitarist and saxophone player. Established since 1966, he was the front man of the Irish show-band “Big Tom and The Mainliners”. He is affectionately known as 'Ireland's king of country music'.

Originally named as "The Mighty Mainliners Showband", the band achieved fame after appearing on RTÉ Television's Showband Show broadcast on 21 May 1966 performing Gentle Mother which subsequently reached number 7 in the pop charts of Ireland. In the early 1970s, the band changed their name to "The Mainliners", however soon afterwards they adopted the name "Big Tom and the Mainliners" in line with other Irish show-bands where a single man was used to take centre stage.



“Who is Big Tom?

Big Tom as he is affectionately known is a man who is as humble as he is famous and as true to his roots as any man I have ever met and I'm so proud to call him friend. He is a quiet man who has many interests from farming to fishing, golf to wild life but most of all this icon in country music is a family man who is loved so dearly by all his family. Big Tom is more than people see or know, he is a loving and kind man who is so deep with such a wonderful wit that it has been a profound pleasure for me to get to know him and it is now after all of 50 years I'm getting to the heart of the man who is Big Tom McBride.

Tom is so proud of Oram and Castleblayney and he has always the Monaghan colours flying high at his home. He has brought Ireland in song to millions of emigrants all over the world and is a true son of Ireland. The songs of heartache that he sings have brought him into the hearts and homes of people across the world.

Who better deserves this honour in his home town than Big Tom McBride?"

These kind words have been contributed by, The Queen of Irish Country Music herself, Margo O'Donnell. Margo has been a true friend to Big Tom over a number of years and like Big Tom, Margo has also made an immense contribution to Country and Irish Music.

Site Location

The site location for the artwork is to be situated to the rear of the Market House, Market Square, Castleblayney. One of the reasons for this site location is that The Market House is situated in close proximity to the entrance of Lough Muckno and Hope Castle and has potential to draw visitors to that area of the town. Another reason for this location is that it is situated on the Oram Road from Castleblayney, which is the home town of Big Tom.



Site Visit

To organise a time for a site visit, you can contact the engineer on (042) 966 1236 or email carrickmacross@monaghancoco.ie up to 23rd of August 2017. Site visits can be arranged anytime between 9:30am and 4:30pm, Monday to Friday.

Material

The Commissioners request that the material of the figurative sculpture will be bronze and treated with brown or black patina. A concrete foundation/plinth can be constructed for the sculpture if required, the dimensions to be specified by the artist in their proposal. The commissioners will be responsible for the cost of the concrete foundation/plinth for the sculpture.

Selection Process & Criteria

This is a two stage selection process. The Selection Panel will consist of representation from Arts section, an independent professional artist, a close friend of Big Tom and representation from Castleblayney Regeneration Committee and Monaghan County Council.

Stage 1

Expressions of Interest are sought from artists to create a figurative sculpture of Thomas "Big Tom" Mc Bride. The piece is to celebrate the life achievements of Big Tom. Applicants are asked to provide information set out in Appendix A. Please complete Appendix A carefully and comply fully with the requirements. Short listing will be based on the information provided using the Evaluation Criteria set out in Appendix B.

The deadline for Expressions of Interest to be submitted is at 5.00pm on the 30th of August 2017. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Stage 1 applications must include:

- Application Form
- Images of up to 10 examples (minimum 3) of work in the public realm which are relevant and are complete. Hardcopy, CD or USB key accepted.
- Expression of interest must include sketches or visualisations of the proposal, a project plan, budget outline, timeline and an estimated completion date. Please also include details of how you plan to report to the commissioners throughout the process. (Max 4 pages).

Please note that all submissions should be posted in hard copy to:

Monaghan County Council,
Civic Offices,
Riverside Road,
Carrickmacross,
Co. Monaghan,
A81 RY22.

Clearly marked: THOMAS "BIG TOM" MC BRIDE - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Stage 2

€500 will be made available to the artists selected, who will be invited to present their proposals to the Selection Panel. The proposal must include; sketch designs, visualisations and a maquette as well as an explanation of the concept for the artwork and how the artist would approach its design, fabrication and installation. Details of maintenance requirements and lifespan expectations should also form part of the presentation.

The artist must demonstrate how the work can be implemented within the allocated budget and details of the anticipated duration of the project with timescale broken down into research, production and delivery.

Monaghan County Council will be at the heart of this project and the selected artist must demonstrate how they will work with the community, and the commissioners, to develop a sense of ownership, pride in the piece and most importantly help create a shared space for all. Therefore the artist must also outline the approach they will take to engage and work with the local community and showcase the successful project.

The selected artists must present their presentations to Selection Panel on Wednesday the 3rd of November 2017. The Selection Panel intends to select one artist to undertake the commission. The selection of the successful candidate will be at the discretion of the Selection Panel.

Timescale

The intended timescale of the commission is as follows:

Advertisement date	Wednesday 19 th of July 2017
Dead line for Stage 1 expressions of interest	Wednesday 30 th of August 2017
Short listing of artists based on Expressions of Interest	Wednesday 20 th of September 2017
Invitation letters to short listed artists for Stage 2	Friday 22 nd of September 2017
Presentation for Stage 2 detailed design and Presentation of sketches, visualisations and maquette to selection panel	Friday 3 rd of November 2017
Decision of Artist	Friday 24 th of November 2017
Anticipated delivery date	October 2018

Budget

The total budget for the artwork is €85,000. This amount is inclusive of VAT. The successful artist will be responsible for the design, creation, site delivery and installation of the artwork within the budget. The budget must include all of the artist's expenditure. The artist will be required to project-manage all associated work for the artwork, along with submitting an itemised project budget and must cover all expenditure including, health and safety requirements, insurance, design fees, expenses, materials, production and manufacturing, transport and any other necessary fees in order to install the artwork.

Insurance

Artists will be required to have Public Liability Insurance cover for work that they may have to undertake on site and Employers Liability Insurance cover for any person that they undertake to bring on-site as part of the design or installation of the artwork.

Originality & Copyright

All applications must contain a statement that the proposed design is of the sole creation of the artist and that no other person has or will have any legal call on the work.

Appendix A – Artists Details

ARTIST DETAILS		
1.	Name of Applicant:	
2.	Address:	
3.	E-mail address:	
4.	Telephone number:	
5.	Fax number:	
6.	Website address:	
7.	Company Registration number: <i>(if applicable)</i>	
8.	Are you VAT Registered?	Yes / No
9.	Please confirm you can provide a Tax Clearance Certificate.	Yes / No
10.	Registered address if different from above:	
11.	Please confirm you can provide Public Liability Insurance and any other insurance that are required for the delivery of the project.	Yes / No
12.	Please confirm you can provide all health and safety requirements required for the delivery of this project.	Yes / No

Appendix B – Evaluation Criteria

EVALUATION CRITERIA	
1.	Previous Experience: Quality of previous work and experience of working in this context. (25/100)
2.	Artistic Quality: Artistic merit of proposed artwork and engagement with the brief. (25/100)
3.	Project Plan: Suitability of the proposal and clarity of project outline. (25/100)
4.	Delivarability Perceived ability to realise the commission & confidence that the proposal will be realised within the budget and timeframe allocated. (25/100)

1. The Selection Panel has, within its power, the right to:
 - Select a preferred candidate from the proposals received.
 - Reject all proposals as unsuitable and to enter into a targeted commissioning
2. The successful artist will be required to satisfy the panel that adequate health and safety provisions will be made and that appropriate insurance cover will be in place.
3. The successful artist will be obliged to enter into a contractual agreement with Monaghan County Council until the time that the artwork has been delivered and installed at the site location.