50 YEARS OF WORKING WITH CELEBRITIES: OTHER EXAMPLES

VOICES OF THE DISAPPEARED – THEATRE ***(1994)***

Performed live at Dublin's Gaiety Theatre, the show featured the stories of six people abducted by state and non-state groups. The show was produced as part of Amnesty International's campaign against enforced disappearances. Held on 16 October 1994, it was shown on RTÉ television on International Human Rights Day that year. Cast included Mick Lally, Bianca Jagger and Liam Ó Maonlaí.

AMNESTY IRELAND'S SHAW STREET OFFICES – FUNDED BY ART AUCTION

In 1986 Amnesty International Ireland moved in to its first permanent office, on Shaw Street in Dublin's inner city. Funds for the purchase were raised by an art auction in 1982, organised by Irish artists Louis Le Brocquy and Anne Madden under the heading 'Artists for Amnesty', which included works by Francis Bacon. The offices were formally opened by Seán MacBride, then Secretary General of Amnesty International. It was attended by Bono and The Edge of U2.

JEREMY IRONS – RADIO ADVERTISEMENT

In 2008, Jeremy Irons supported Amnesty International in Ireland by recording a radio advertisement which ran on three national stations. The advertising campaign raised awareness of Amnesty International's human rights work, asking people to join the organization by SMS text. Hugely successful, the campaign exceeded Amnesty International Ireland's expectations in terms of new members recruited.

HUMAN RIGHTS - RADIO DRAMA SERIES

Two series of human rights plays broadcast on RTÉ Radio 1 (Main Irish broadcaster) in 2006 and again in 2007.

The 2006 broadcast featured new plays by prominent authors. Maeve Binchy; on the theme of Ageism, Peter Sheridan; on asylum seekers, George Seremba; on torture and Gerard Stembridge; on sexual rights.

In 2007, there were new plays from Roddy Doyle, Eugene McCabe, Frank McGuinness and Harold Pinter's *Mountain Language*.

Actors included Vanessa Redgrave, Liam Cunningham, Jeremy Irons and Nick Dunning.

VOICE OUR CONCERN – HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

A human rights education project in Ireland, aimed at educated the community about human rights, offering a forum for creative, participatory and empowering discussion.

Originally the brainchild of Irish authors Maeve Binchy and Roddy Doyle, 'Voice Our Concern' was conceived in conjunction with the Executive Director of Amnesty International Ireland at the time, Seán Love.

The programme has been running annually since 2004 and aims to engage young people with human rights through drama, music, poetry, photography, film and visual arts**.** The project uses these media to encourage students to explore and investigate human rights and what it means in the day-to-day lives of most people.

Over the course of the programme writers, painters, sculptors, photographers, musicians and filmmakers have visited schools and non-formal education environments to collaboratively develop work that explores and reflects concerns about human rights issues. The work is then displayed to a wider audience through exhibitions, performances and screenings. Since it began, the 'Voice Our Concern' Programme has worked with some of Irelands most talented artists including Roddy Doyle, Christy Moore, Liam Ó Maonlaí, Vivienne Roche, Robert Ballagh, Dominic Thorpe and Conor McPherson.

This year in collaboration with the Irish Museum of Modern Art and artist Paul Seawright, the programme is focusing on the visual arts. Eighteen schools are participating and an exhibition of the work produced will be held in the Amnesty International Ireland building in March 2011.

There are a number of Voice Our Concern publications available, including handbooks for teachers to replicate the project in their classrooms.

http://www.amnesty.ie/voice-our-concern