

CONFLICT TEXTILES



War-Torn Children exhibition

Limerick, 17th to 28th July 2017

Associated activities 2nd week

The second week of events of the War-Torn Children exhibition consisted of three events. On **Tuesday July 18th**, the launch of activist and author Margaretta D'Arcy's book 'Tell Them Everything' featured her in conversation with UCC's Laura Aguiar. During a captivating hour of discussion, Margaretta covered issues that included prisons, patriarchy, principles, neutrality, regulations, war, the erosion of our critical faculties and more.

She spoke of the inhumane and cruel treatment of women in Armagh Gaol, as well as the treatment of young women in Irish prisons today. The dysfunctionality of many aspects of our society was reflected in what she said, but so too was the hope that is ever present in our humanity.

War-Torn Children created a space in which the perspectives of people affected directly by war, and others, were shared; having those voices heard in city-centre Limerick over a two week period was in itself a great success.

John Lannon



On Thursday July 20th Radwan and Osama Abouhajar gave an informative and passionate insight into the culture and diversity of Syria, both old and modern.

His presentation offered a counterbalance to the ongoing media coverage of their country as one at war, providing a packed CB1 gallery/café with an outline of another side of Syria, one rich in tradition.

Syrians, Irish and others joined in conversation about the importance of looking forward, and of having hope for the future.



A big thanks to Patrick Edmund Lynch and CB1 Gallery, Limerick.
Without the gallery and his contribution this project would not have been possible.



The exhibition close on **Friday July 28th** featured music from Palestinian, Congolese and other performers, as well as some reflections from Rob Fairmichael of the Irish Network for Nonviolent Action Training and Education (INNATE). It was a fitting end to an exhibition that provided an opportunity to discuss personal and collective responses to war, oppression and domination in its many forms.

In Rob Faimichael's words:

*Over thirty people attended the closing session of the **War-Torn Children** at the CB1 Gallery in Limerick at lunchtime on 28th July 2017. The programme included a brief introduction by John Lannon of Doras Luimní, a talk by INNATE coordinator Rob Fairmichael, and a rolling set of music or songs by people from a variety of backgrounds including the Congo, Palestine, Syria and Ireland, as well as lots of chat and interaction for those attending.*





Report prepared by John Lannon
Photos courtesy John Lannon and Rob Fairmichael
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