

**The Death, Dinner and Performance: A Study of the Efficacy of Performance to Enhance  
Conversations Around Death and Dying project  
Project Overview and timeline**

Date	Rationale of research activities and decisions undertaken
2006-2011	Working as a nurse in palliative care, first within Our Lady's Hospice in Dublin and later as a nurse with the Irish Cancer Society, looking after individuals dying at home.
2017	<p>Monograph published, <i>Applied Theatre: Creative Ageing</i> (Bloomsbury, 2017)</p> <p>Plan to develop a new project in light of findings from book i.e. that there was very little written on death and dying and performance from an applied stance</p> <p>Sabbatical Application</p>
Summer 2018	<p>Research and Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• commensal practice,</li> <li>• death and dying,</li> <li>• rites and rituals,</li> <li>• cultural differences in relation to death and dying</li> </ul> <p>Ethical Approval Application</p>
August 2018	<p>Devising Period: Performance strategy/ dramaturgy of the event</p> <p>Development of accompanying materials (e.g. pre and post questionnaires, information sheets, menu, set prompts)</p>
October 2018	<p>Writing and devised elements completed</p> <p>Contributed to Sick! Festival event: cross-sectoral, interdisciplinary discussion event exploring the question 'What is the value of a human life?'</p> <p>Death Dinner Tech</p> <p>Contributed to Mats Staub Project: Death and Dying</p> <p>First Death Dinner</p>
November 2018	<p>Attended Day of the Dead Celebrations, University of Salford</p> <p>Second and third Death Dinner: completion of all three dinners with one week in between each for reflection</p>

	Analysis of questioners, anecdotal responses and documentation (photographs and video).
December 2018	Write up discussion of findings
January 2019	Development of Performance and Death Symposium: Sick! Festival and New Adelphi Theatre/UoS collaboration
April 2019	Performance and Death Symposium: Sick! Festival and New Adelphi Theatre/UoS collaboration
Summer 2019	Development of Death, Dinners and Performance piece for Sick! 2019 festival
October 2019	Death, Dinners and Performance, Sick! Festival