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An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha  
agus Trádála

Department of Foreign Affairs  
and Trade

**PRESS RELEASE**, 15 July 2015

### **Support for Smashing Times from Reconciliation Fund,**

### **Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade**

**Memory Project** *promotes cross-border reconciliation through theatre*

Smashing Times Theatre Company are delighted to announce that the company has received support for **The Memory Project** from Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Reconciliation Fund. Speaking about the support, the company's artistic director, Mary Moynihan, said "I wish to thank Mr. Charles Flanagan, T.D., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the Department of Foreign Affairs for their support for cross-border arts-based projects that use creative process to promote peacebuilding and reconciliation and to thank all those working together for peace and reconciliation."

#### **About The Memory Project**

**The Memory Project** is an arts-based project operating in Ireland and Northern Ireland, which uses workshops, theatre performances, post-show discussions and a television documentary to address a legacy of conflict and to promote peace, reconciliation and mutual understanding. These elements reflect a diverse range of lived experiences as a result of conflict and explore a view of the future as a peaceful shared experience for all.

**The Memory Project** uses story-telling and theatre based workshops to promote gender equality and human rights, and a television documentary recording memories and experiences of the Troubles.

This is complemented by performances of two plays, ***Thou Shalt Not Kill*** and ***Uprising***, which feature powerful performances from professional actors that engage the audience not only in an examination of the past, but also in a quest for a vision of the future. **The Memory Project** uses these creative tools to collaborate with young people and adults on a cross-community and cross-border basis with a range of schools, hard to reach communities and with the general public.

### **About Smashing Times**

Smashing Times is a professional theatre company involved in performance, training and participation. This work is underpinned by a rights-based approach and a commitment to artistic excellence and social engagement. The company patrons are Sabina Higgins, Áras an Uachtaráin First Lady; Joan Freeman, CEO, Pieta House; Ger Ryan, Actor; Brian Friel, Playwright; and Tim Pat Coogan, Author and Historian.

### **Contact:**

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