

BUZZ

City Lives/City Kidz, In Their Own Words

21.05.14 - 28.05.14

Opening by Peter Sheridan
with guest speaker, City Arts Officer, Ray Yeates

Oonagh Young presents the comic - "BUZZ - City Lives, City Kidz, in Their Own Words" illustrated by **Philip Barrett** and **Fintan Taite**. BUZZ was devised and produced by Oonagh Young as part of a Neighbourhood grant from Dublin City Council Arts Office.

Oonagh Young Gallery was established in 2008 on 1 James Joyce St in the city centre. Amongst her regular visitors to the gallery over the past 6 years, the only locals were children, but she noticed they were seen as a bit of a 'nuisance' by local businesses and professional people working in the area. BUZZ is designed to address this and reflects the daily lives of children growing up in the city centre today - family life, attending school, playing etc.

BUZZ emulates a style of comic produced when adults may have been buying comics themselves with details, such as; the format and the use of newsprint being important factors. It was essential that the language and stories in the comic came directly from the children themselves. The integrity of their voice was imperative.

Young worked with The Central Model Senior School on Gardiner Street and children from fourth class, where she recorded their stories and general observations about growing up in their neighbourhoods. She also talked to some of the children visiting the gallery. Philip Barrett and Fintan Taite, two professional illustrators, were commissioned to visually interpret the recordings and bring them to life as comics.

Coinciding with the Comic launch is an exhibition of drawings included in the comic, and a series of drawings by some of the children, of their neighbourhoods.

The comic will be distributed to local businesses and schools for free and available to buy in the gallery for €3.