



RTÉ

Independent Productions Annual Report 2022



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2022 was an extraordinary year. It began as the third year of the Covid pandemic, with significant restrictions still imposed on the population. The Russian invasion of Ukraine in February led to the highest levels of inflation seen in Ireland for 38 years.

This backdrop put huge pressure on the budgets of all programming as the costs, some of which included power, heat, light, travel and accommodation reached record levels. This, combined with a high volume of international productions taking place in Ireland, led to further inflation in the costs of crews, editing and special effects.

Notwithstanding these pressures, the Irish independent audio-visual sector returned to near full production capacity and RTÉ commissioned most of the indigenous programming produced by the sector.

Highlights included the three-part documentary series *Quinn Country*; in drama, the commencement of pre-production of *Hidden Assets Series 2* and production of *Kin Series 2*; the continuation of the drama initiative *Storyland* (in partnership with Screen Ireland), which saw over 200 applications, with three projects making air in the autumn; event television like *Hospital Live*; and the second season of *URC Live* in association with TG4.

Under the *Broadcasting Act 2009*, RTÉ has a statutory obligation to spend a predetermined minimum amount every year on independently produced television and radio programmes. This amount is lodged to a separate bank account, the Independent Programmes account. Part of RTÉ's obligation under the *Broadcasting Act* is to issue a report on that account. This report outlines how the funding in the account was used in 2022.

The statutory amount RTÉ was required to spend in 2022 was €41.0m (2021: €39.8m). In 2022 RTÉ paid into the Independent Programmes account the full amount in accordance with the *Broadcasting Act 2009*. Schedule 1 provides an explanation of this requirement. Total expenditure for the year was €43.6m, which was €2.6m above our statutory requirement.

The production of commissioned television and radio programmes is financially and contractually managed through RTÉ's Content division.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

TELEVISION



Independent productions in 2022 saw original Irish drama, the best of entertainment, thrilling moments in sport, most talked about documentaries and strong factual programming all telling unique Irish stories. These, together with arts programming, world class natural history and original Irish content dedicated to our younger audiences, continue to be core to RTÉ's offering as the nation's public service broadcaster.

RTÉ One

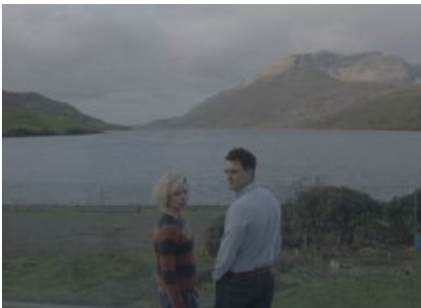
RTÉ One remains by far the most popular channel in Ireland, with a peak time share of 24.2% which is much larger than that of any other channel available in the country. It is the channel of record for News & Current Affairs, but it is also where the country comes together to enjoy live entertainment, drama and comedy.

Regionally produced drama has been a feature of RTÉ One's offering in recent years and in the autumn, the channel showed *North Sea Connection* (Mopar Media/Subotica), a six-part thriller set against the backdrop of the fishing industry in Roundstone on the Connemara coast. Like all high-end dramas, this was co-financed by a range of partners, including, Screen Ireland, Section 481 tax relief, Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI), Scandinavian platform Viaplay and international distributor A+E International. The series was subsequently sold to the BBC.

Big returning entertainment shows included *Dancing with the Stars*, *Ireland's Fittest Family*, *Ultimate Hell Week: The Professionals* and *The Tommy Tiernan Show*. 2022 also saw the launch of a development drive to find a new generation of original Irish formats, the fruits of which should be produced in 2023 and 2024.

Documentaries continue to enthrall Irish viewers and generate strong audiences. *Quinn Country*, a major three-part series documenting the rise and fall of Sean Quinn's business empire, achieved enormous audiences on both RTÉ One and RTÉ Player. Landmark historical programmes included *Cold Case Collins* and *Beyond the Bullets: Real Life During the Civil War*. 100 Years of Ulysses marked the centenary of the publication of James Joyce's extraordinary novel. *Micheál Ó Súilleabháin: Between Worlds* was a feature-length documentary exploring the legacy of one of Ireland's most talented musicians and composers, and *Tommy Tiernan's Epic West* told the story of the West of Ireland through its rich body of culture.

In 2022, RTÉ transmitted *North Sea Connection*, as well as going into production on the hugely popular *Kin Series 2* (Bron Releasing UK) and pre-production for *Hidden Assets Series 2* (Saffron Moon).



North Sea Connection



Kin



Hidden Assets

Droichid na hÉireann explored the history and stories behind some of the country's best-known bridges. *Faoi Bhláth* celebrated Ireland's biodiversity and *Le Chéile*, a two-part co-production with BBC Northern Ireland, followed the trials and tribulations of setting up a new GAA club in a traditional Unionist stronghold. *Tackling the All Blacks* looked at the historic and ground-breaking tour by the Irish rugby team and its victory over the mighty New Zealand team on its home territory.

Drama

In 2022, RTÉ transmitted *North Sea Connection*, as well as going into production on the hugely popular *Kin Series 2* (Bron Releasing UK) and pre-production for *Hidden Assets Series 2* (Saffron Moon) – both will be ready for audiences in 2023. *North Sea Connection*, produced by Tristan Orpen-Lynch for Subotica and William Diskay from Mopar Media was launched in September. The six-part series centred around the Kenny's, a fishing family on the west coast of Ireland who are dragged into the international drug trade. It starred Sinéad Cusack, Kerr Logan, Lynn Rafferty, Lydia McGuinness and Stuart Graham as well as Swedish stars Alida Morberg and Claes Ljungmark. *North Sea Connection* was directed by Paul Murphy and Hannah Quinn.

After the incredible success of series one, the second series of Peter McKenna's *Kin* was shot in Ireland and Spain across the summer and into the autumn of 2022. These episodes are currently in post-production. Returning stars Clare Dunne, Charlie Cox, Emmet J. Scanlon, Aidan Gillen, Maria Doyle Kennedy and Sam Keeley will be confronted by compelling new antagonists, from within the characters' own family and community, and from abroad. Directors new to *Kin* include Felix Thomson, Kate Dolan, Christine Molloy and Joe Lawlor.

After the success of the first series, the international crime thriller *Hidden Assets* was developed and entered pre-production for series 2. Shot on location in Limerick and Antwerp, *Hidden Assets* is produced by Siobhan Bourke and Kathryn Lennon from Saffron Moon with investment partners from Acorn, Screen Ireland, Screen Flanders, Streamz and Mediafonds in Belgium, Facet 4 in Canada and with DCD Rights as the international distribution partner. Series 2 is written by Peter McKenna, Sinead Collopy, Susan Connolly, Marty Fox and Mary Thornton, with Thaddeus O Sullivan once again as lead director.

Hidden Assets cast brought together exemplary Irish talent in a complex psychological thriller written by Peter McKenna and Morna Regan. Angeline Ball, Simone Kirby, Peter Coonan, Aaron Monaghan and Cathy Belton, with Belgian actors Wouter Hendrickx and Gilles De Schryver and the international names of Charlie Carrick and Michael Ironside, starred in the series. *Hidden Assets* was sold to the BBC and to SBS, the Australian public broadcaster. Much of the scripting is being done or overseen by Mary Fox and Marty Thornton, who came through RTÉ's *Storyland* in 2017.

Entertainment, Comedy and Music

Output featuring new entertainment, musical talent and the welcome return of favourites meant that RTÉ continued to be a major commissioner of prime-time entertainment programming from independent producers.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

TELEVISION

On RTÉ One, 2022 saw the return of two hugely popular shows in *Ireland's Fittest Family* (Animo TV Productions) and *Dancing with the Stars* (Shinawil). In January the nation slipped its dancing shoes on for the fifth series of the hugely successful entertainment juggernaut, as large numbers tuned in to dance away the winter blues. Jennifer Zamparelli and Nicky Byrne were joined by new judge Arthur Gourounlian to put a cast including Billy McGuinness, Erica-Cody and Gráinne Seoige through their paces, before Nina Carberry waltzed away with the glitterball trophy.

Later in the year, Nina swapped the quickstep for hard yards, becoming a coach on *Ireland's Fittest Family*. The series featured a brilliant range of exciting events, inspirational families from across the country, and our committed coaches who support and encourage our competitors. Proving that original Irish content is world-beating, the ninth series of the format, which RTÉ first supported in 2014, brought audiences together, with all the signs indicating that this homegrown entertainment format has become a firm family favourite.

Building on this model, 2022 also saw the launch of a new development drive across the wider independent production sector to secure a new generation of original Irish content to sit alongside existing formats. Extensive work across several months has led to new commissions and pilots, which will be announced in due course and will come to screen later in 2023 and into 2024.

One of the first of these to emerge debuted at Christmas as Adare Productions delivered a new entertainment show that united our broadcast platforms, bringing the stars of the 2FM breakfast show to screen. *The Full Irish Hidden Camera Show*, hosted by Doireann Garrihy, Donncha O'Callaghan and Carl Mullan, was a brand-new 30-minute programme combining elements of comedy and traditional prank shows to produce something altogether new and contemporary. The show was well received by audiences.

The award-winning *Tommy Tiernan Show* (Power Pictures) returned to screens, turning nationwide Covid restrictions to its advantage by increasing the intimacy and intensity of the always revealing conversations that make this unique show an unmissable treat for audiences. Guests including Joanne McNally, Steve Coogan, Gabriel Byrne and Roger Daltrey helped make this the most successful series to date. Elsewhere, *Home Advantage* (Loosehorse), the quirky family quiz, returned for a second series, hosted again by Jennifer Zamparelli.

Comedy on RTÉ One saw Oliver Callan's satirical review of the year in *Callan Kicks the Year 2022*. Commissioned from Wonky Chair Media, Oliver brought us his most popular characters from the worlds of politics, entertainment and public life.

After a period of development, RTÉ commissioned *Sisters*, a six-part comedy drama directed by Emmy Award-nominee Declan Lowney, starring Susan Stanley and Emmy nominee Sara Goldberg. Co-produced by Peer Pressure in Ireland and Shaftesbury in Canada, it will air in 2023 on RTÉ One and on AMC in America.



Dancing with the Stars



The Full Irish Hidden Camera Show

Extensive work across several months has led to new commissions and pilots, which will be announced in due course and will come to screen later in 2023 and into 2024.



The Tommy Tiernan Show

Meanwhile *The Ultimate Irish Playlist* (Shinawil) brought RTÉ's broadcast platforms together as 2FM asked the nation to choose its top 20 Irish songs and the results were revealed in a two-hour special on RTÉ One. This show not only showcased many original artists but also brought innovative interpretations from trailblazing Irish artists including Shobsy and Ruth Anne Cunningham. Along with *Fleadh Cheoil* (Red Shoe Productions), *RTÉ Choice Music Prize* (Southpaw Productions) and *St Patrick's Festival Parade 2022* (Coco Content), this meant that RTÉ Entertainment kept Irish music, talent, creativity, performance and culture firmly centre stage for audiences across all our platforms.

Cláracha Gaeilge

In 2022, RTÉ's Cláracha Gaeilge in-house production was complemented by an ambitious slate of new series commissioned from the independent sector, with support from the BAI Sound and Vision fund and the Irish Language Broadcasting Fund (ILBF).

Droichid na hÉireann (New Departures Media) opened the year on RTÉ One. Presented by actor Lochlann Ó Mearáin, this six-part BAI-supported series explored the history, stories, engineering and people behind some of Ireland's best-loved bridges.

Faoi Bhláth (Abú Media), a series celebrating Ireland's biodiversity, was broadcast on RTÉ One in February. Across 13 episodes, presenter Aedín Ní Thiarnaigh travelled through the parks, lakes, bogs and mountains of Ireland to uncover our rich array of wildflowers and explore the science and folklore associated with each one, as well as their uses in cookery, medicine and craft.

In April RTÉ marked the 50th anniversary of Raidió na Gaeltachta in a gala concert broadcast from the heart of the Gaeltacht. Produced by Aniar TV and supported by the BAI, *RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta 50* brought the RTÉ Concert Orchestra to Connemara to collaborate with the cream of musical talent from our Gaeltachtaí. Courage, identity and pride of place were the primary themes for the spectacular concert, which was presented by Raidió na Gaeltachta's Neansaí Ní Choisdealbha, Michelle Nic Grianna and Sláine Ní Chathalláin.

In May 2020 the newly formed East Belfast GAA put out a tweet inviting people from all backgrounds and abilities to join its new club. Over 2,000 people responded, and by the first training session, 400 players had signed up. *Le Chéile* (Macha Media) was a two-part co-production with BBC NI, funded by the ILBF, that followed the highs and lows of setting up a new GAA club in a traditional Unionist stronghold. The series was broadcast on RTÉ One in April.

Bog Amach (Strident Media) was a six-part ILBF-supported lifestyle series presented by Tessa Fleming and broadcast by RTÉ in June. The series followed six families as they turned their backs on the hustle and bustle of city life for a new adventure in rural Ireland, checking out homes for sale in spectacular locations from Donegal to Galway to South Kerry.

The Man with the Moving House (Bang Bang Teo) was a one-off documentary broadcast on RTÉ One in August, a David-and-Goliath story of Breannán Ó Beaglaíoch's 14-year struggle with the planning authorities to be allowed to build a house on his own land. The story, which was the highest-rating documentary of the summer in that slot, also reflected the broader theme of the impact of planning laws on rural Gaeltacht communities. This project was supported by the BAI.

RTÉ Entertainment kept Irish music, talent, creativity, performance and culture firmly centre stage for audiences across all our platforms.



Faoi Bhláth



RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta 50



The Man with the Moving House

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

TELEVISION

The popular vet series *Saol an Tréidlíá* (Strident Media) returned to RTÉ One for a second four-part series in the autumn. This time, city vet Emma and horse vet Liam were joined by Connemara-based mixed-practice vet John, and viewers got a first-hand look at every aspect of modern veterinary practice, from small-animal operations to dealing with large-animal issues on the Aran Islands and preparing thoroughbreds for international sale at Goffs.

The Life of Seán/Saol Sheáin (Tyrone Productions) was an hour-long documentary that aired on RTÉ One in December, exploring the lives of six men over the age of sixty, all of whom share the same name: Seán. The idea was to reflect the story of a generation of Irish men by letting each Seán tell his own story and reflect on life, love and loss and the changes, good and bad, he has witnessed over his lifetime.

During 2022, two projects that had been delayed because of the Covid pandemic went back into production. We look forward to seeing *Réaltai na Gaeltachta* (Big Mountain Productions), a BAI-supported celebrity entertainment series based in the Donegal Gaeltacht, on screen early in 2023. Also back in production is *Banríon Síogas* (Léirithe Rúnda), the story of Irish woman Mary Waugh Lamb, who has dedicated her life to educating disabled children. This one-off documentary will broadcast on RTÉ One in early 2023.

Several RTÉ-supported Irish language series and single programmes started production in 2022 and will broadcast on RTÉ One in 2023 and 2024. *Madraí* (Big Mountain Productions) is a six-part ILBF-supported series in which vet Ellen Hegarty and dog whisperer Paula Doohan help families with their problem pooches.

Saol na Feirme (Strident Media) is a new six-part observational series following farmers from all over Ireland across four seasons as they deal with unpredictable weather, changing markets and fluctuating commodity prices, while trying to balance the demands of work and family life.

Ré Reabhlóide (Imagine Media) is a one-off documentary commissioned to mark the centenary of the Civil War in which GAA commentator Gráinne McElwain will look at the impact the war had on GAA communities all over Ireland.

Seisiún (Sugartown Films) is a new performance-based music show that will bring audiences to some of Ireland's best-loved music venues – from McGrory's in Donegal to Connolly's of Leap in Cork – to celebrate the best of local musical talent, from established performers to those just starting out.

Pass It On (Mind the Gap Films) is a four-part bilingual series that will follow the fortunes of several young female soccer players during the Irish Women's National League over the 2023 season. The series will air on RTÉ in early 2024.

In addition to commissioning content for RTÉ, RTÉ Cláracha Gaeilge commissions content for TG4 as part of the content-provision agreement between the broadcasters. This includes entertainment content and some sports coverage, like IRIS Productions' coverage of *URC Live/Rugbaí Beo* for broadcast on TG4.



The Life of Seán/Saol Sheáin



Réaltai na Gaeltachta

Several RTÉ-supported Irish language series and single programmes started production in 2022 and will broadcast on RTÉ One in 2023 and 2024.



URC Live

Factual

Documentaries and Series

Factual documentaries and series provided over 70 hours of peak-time programming on RTÉ One in 2022.

The year began with the welcome return of two long-time schedule favourites: *Operation Transformation* and *Room to Improve*. *Operation Transformation*'s fifteenth season, under the stewardship of Vision Independent Productions, was marked by the continued evolution of the format from being focused on weight-loss to a holistic health programme that encourages the nation to reset its wellbeing in January. Meanwhile, Coco Content's flagship series *Room to Improve* continued to deliver the kind of audiences and talkability that are the benchmarks for all series in the Sunday night slot. Also, at the beginning of the year, *Great House Revival* (Animo TV Productions) proved that the audience appetite for big house renovations has far from abated. Another favourite that returned to our screens, *The Way We Were* (Waka TV), proved that well-crafted nostalgia remains popular with an RTÉ One audience.

DIY SOS: The Big Build Ireland (JMACTWO Productions) launched a busy spring. The series delivered big audiences with its well-crafted mix of drama, entertainment and heart-breaking stories of human kindness. Baz Ashmawy also appeared alongside his ever-popular mother Nancy as they faced their mortality in *Baz and Nancy's Last Orders* (Mahy Media). Mortality loomed again in *Charlie Bird: Loud and Clear* (John Kelleher Media), which charted Charlie Bird's journey from his diagnosis with MND to his hugely successful fundraising and awareness campaign during his climb of Croagh Patrick.

The award-winning documentary *Young Plato* (Soilsiu Films) aired at the beginning of the summer, followed by the welcome return of the hugely popular Brennan brothers to our screens in the expanded version of *At Your Service* (Waddell Media). The series – delayed several times due to Covid – heralded the return of the talented hoteliers as well as a final return to normality of the hospitality industry in the summer of 2022. Another Covid casualty was Dr Eva Orsmonde's new hotel project in Portugal. Audiences were able to track the last stages in her new business venture in the second series of *Dr Eva's Great Escape* (Tyrone Productions): a frank account of the launch of a new business at a time of deep personal crisis.

One of the most gratifying hits in the autumn was Dearg Films' pairing of Foster and Allen with a plethora of emerging Irish singers and musicians in *Foster & Allen: Lost in Music*. Co-funded with the BAI, this short series was a breath of fresh air in the darkening autumn evenings. Another hit was the new format from JMACTWO Productions, *Build Your Own Home*, which introduced new talent Harrison Gardner to Irish audiences, as he gently guided homebuilders with micro-budgets and big ambitions through the minefield of building their own homes. In single documentaries, *The Tuskar Rock Tragedy* (Animo TV Productions) gave voice to the forgotten victims of Ireland's worst air disaster.

As the year wound down, our biggest impact series made its debut on our screens. *Quinn Country* (Holly Island Films), produced over four years, charted the rise, fall and repercussions of Sean Quinn's business empire. The series was undoubtedly one of the TV highlights and talking points of the year.



Room to Improve

Factual documentaries and series provided over 70 hours of peak-time programming on RTÉ One in 2022.



Charlie Bird: Loud and Clear



Foster & Allen: Lost in Music

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

TELEVISION

Finally, over Christmas JMACTWO Productions brought us a two-part, even bigger *DIY SOS: The Bigger Build Ireland* as their crack team of builders and volunteers transformed six houses in less than two weeks for Ukrainian refugees in Mitchelstown, County Cork. And to cap the year, we celebrated Ireland's first successful tour of New Zealand in *Tackling the All Blacks* (Videos on The Net).

Popular Factual and Factual Entertainment

2022 continued the success of both established formats and newly developed formats on RTÉ One, across a range of programme content, including fashion, health, personal finance, property, gardening and wildlife.

Ultimate Hell Week: The Professionals (JMACTWO Productions) captured a wide audience through a combination of great casting and extreme experiences for those involved and was particularly successful in attracting a younger audience to the channel. New format *The Price of Everything* (indiepics) saw the combination of new talent Santis O'Garro and Conor Pope get to grips with the cost-of-living crisis through a range of money-saving tips and consumer advice. *Cheap Irish Homes* (Cameo Productions) continued to rate very strongly and gave inspiration to those looking to get on the property ladder across the country. Suzanne Jackson, in her third series of *The Style Counsellors* (indiepics), helped six deserving women transform themselves with a fashion and style makeover.

In *Keys to My Life* (Waka TV), Brendan Courtney took eight celebrities down memory lane through some of the key places that have shaped their lives, with this show again proving very popular with a wide audience. *Home of the Year* (Shinawil) had another very successful season as Hugh and Amanda were joined by new presenter Sara Cosgrove. The three judges took us into some of Ireland's most beautiful homes, putting a spotlight on design, sustainability and energy efficiency.

Five very diverse amateur garden designers got to make over a garden in a social housing estate in *Super Garden* (Vision Independent Productions). In meeting the needs of the homeowners, the designers were also competing for a coveted place at Bloom. A BAI-supported series, *Zoo Live* (Moondance Productions), brought the world of Dublin Zoo to life in a live series of programmes transmitted over the course of a week.

Capitol Man – Donie O'Sullivan (Reflektor Media) was a documentary that followed Irish journalist Donie and his rise through the ranks of CNN in America. Donie came to international prominence for both his expert reporting live from the riots on Capitol Hill and his ongoing pursuit of exposing 'fake news'.

Specialist Factual

The specialist factual slate stretched far and wide in 2022, outputting over seventy hours of original content in the areas of science, natural history, diversity, music and modern history.

Among the many highlights was *Cold Case Collins* (Loosehorse), a feature-length drama documentary that imagined an investigation that never happened – into the death of Michael Collins at Béal na Bláth in August 1922. Other notable history-led content included *Beyond the Bullets: Real Life During the Civil War* (indiepics), a six-part, pre-watershed examination of regular life in Ireland from 1921 to 1923, and *Two Tribes* (Midas Productions), a Seán O'Rourke-fronted two-part look at the origins and history of Civil War politics in Ireland. This series was accompanied by a twelve-part podcast that was the most subscribed in Ireland during Christmas 2022.



DIY SOS: The Bigger Build Ireland



Cheap Irish Homes

The specialist factual slate stretched far and wide in 2022, outputting over seventy hours of original content in the areas of science, natural history, diversity, music and modern history.



Beyond the Bullets: Real Life During the Civil War

Diversity and education were at the heart of the slate's more provocative projects in 2022. *Growing Up in Direct Provision* (Scratch Films) was a close-up, observational documentary about the lives of a handful of young people currently living within the DP system. *Speechless* (Firebrand Productions) was a magnificent profile of Fiacre Ryan, a young non-verbal autistic man from County Mayo whose first book, also called *Speechless*, was published by Merrion Press in November 2022. *Vincent Hanley: Sex, Lies and Videotapes* (Mind the Gap Films) was a vivid retelling of the colourful life and tragic death of the former RTÉ presenter who died in 1987 of an AIDS-related illness at the age of 33.



Growing Up in Direct Provision

Science once again played prominently on the RTÉ One schedules in 2022. Anna Daly assumed the presenter's role on a third season of *Future Island* (Loosehorse/indiepics), which played over three consecutive nights in November. Anna also co-hosted – alongside Philip Boucher-Hayes – a first season of *Hospital Live* (indiepics), which was broadcast live from the grounds of St James's Hospital in Dublin in May 2022. Maia Dunphy returned in October to anchor a third series of the family-focused climate and sustainability series *What Planet Are You On?* (Vision Independent Productions).



Hospital Live

Liz Bonnin hosted and led a high-end three-part series about the physical origins of the island of Ireland in *The Island* (New Decade TV). Elsewhere, Paul Duane's immersive film about Dublin's Natural History Museum, *The Dead Zoo* (Screenworks), and Shane Brennan's documentary about the Antarctic explorer Ernest Shackleton, *Shackleton's Cabin* (Moondance Productions), were editorially rich, international-facing pieces that played to big audiences and positive critical notices.

Religious Programmes

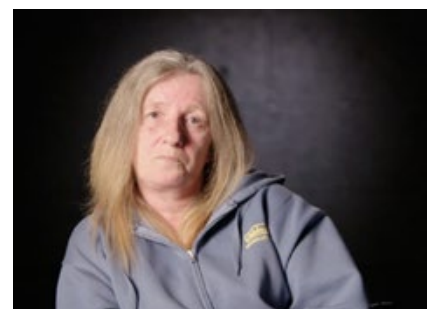
In 2022, religious content on RTÉ continued to reflect, interrogate, celebrate and explain the role of religion and spirituality in Irish society.

Ireland's Dirty Laundry (New Decade TV), a two-part BAI-supported documentary series gave a voice to the long-silenced Magdalene laundry survivors.

Walled City Passion (Gifted Live), co-commissioned with BBC NI and part-funded by various church and community organisations, marked Easter and the fiftieth anniversary of Bloody Sunday with a modern, cross-community dramatisation of the Passion of Christ, staged on the walls of Derry. It was streamed live on RTÉ Player on Good Friday and repeated in edited form on Easter Sunday on RTÉ One.

RTÉ remains committed to Christian worship with commissioned outside broadcasts from Kairos Communications on St Patrick's Day and at Easter and Christmas, including a Eurovision broadcast from Armagh shared across Europe via the EBU on Christmas Eve.

The impact of Covid on production continued to be felt, with delivery of several commissioned projects delayed. These include *Tukdam: The Point of Death* (Wildfire Film & TV), *Donal's Feasts, Fasts and Festivals* (Appetite Media), *A Ring and a Prayer* (Esras Films), *The Secret Peacemaker* (New Decade TV) and *Dzoghchen Beara: Dazzled by Daylight* (Lifeblood Films).



Ireland's Dirty Laundry

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THE YEAR IN REVIEW

TELEVISION

Arts and Culture

On 2 February 1922, James Joyce's *Ulysses* was published by Sylvia Beach in a small bookshop in Paris. To mark its 100th anniversary, RTÉ and ARTE joined forces on a major documentary. Based on fresh scholarship, *100 Years of Ulysses* (Create One) charts the journey of the novel and its relevance to modern audiences.

Brian Friel is recognised as one of the finest playwrights of the 20th century. With interviews for the first time with his wife Anne, and unique access to his private correspondence, *Brian Friel – Shy Man, Showman* (Walk On Air Films) seeks to capture the mix of place, people and events that shaped the man and his plays.

Songs of the Open Road (Harvest Films), a documentary on the great Traveller singer Thomas McCarthy, is an ode to the art of singing and the enduring power of song. McCarthy is one of the most exciting and moving traditional singers of today, with a voice of great strength, character and beauty.

Míchéal Ó Suilleabháin: Between Worlds (Red Shoe Productions), is a documentary that explores the life and worldwide legacy of the eponymous musician and composer.

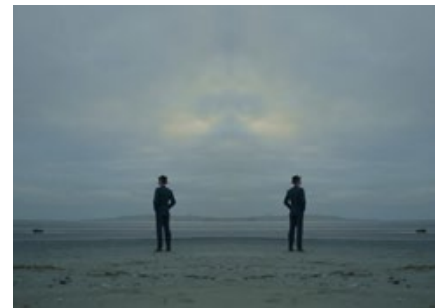
A Note for Nature (Crossing the Line Productions) is a celebration of wild Ireland and a call to arms. Over an hour we meet some remarkable people dedicating their lives to protecting Ireland's disappearing nature. And through music from the RTÉ Concert Orchestra and stunning location performances from stellar musicians, we feature some of Ireland's most fragile wild places and the beleaguered animals that somehow manage to survive there. Christy Moore, Clare Sands & Susan O'Neill, Alannah Thornburgh, Niamh Regan, Maria Doyle Kennedy, Iarla Ó Lionáird, This Is How We Fly and Tolú Makay perform powerful pieces that connect with the wonders of Ireland's wild world.

Tommy Tiernan's Epic West (Crossing the Line Productions) tells the story of the West of Ireland through the rich body of culture it has inspired. In a place he calls home, Tommy travels one of the world's most evocative coastlines, bringing us a visual feast and a fitting tribute to the immense beauty, rich heritage and unique spirit of the West of Ireland. Humorous and touching, this two-part series is an exploration of the West's epic crooked landscapes and the creativity they provoked. From romantic myths to harsh realities, *Tommy Tiernan's Epic West* is a ramble through the Irish imagination in all its awkward contradictions.

Clodagh (Curious Dog Films) features a trailblazing Irish designer who since the 1960s has been ranked in the Top 100 Interior Designers in the World. Living and working in New York for the last 40 years, she is still at the top of her game and is recognised as one of America's most successful interior designers. Inducted into the Design Hall of Fame, Clodagh Design is renowned for its work in spas, hotels and private residences all over the world. This film is a fascinating insight into Clodagh's colourful life, her remarkable career and extraordinary work.

In *Francis Bacon: The Outsider* (Mount Venus Productions), a diary reveals an unrecorded chapter in Francis Bacon's life. U2's Adam Clayton, a huge admirer, retraces a trip Bacon took to Ireland in 1929 with his new friend, the diarist Eric Alden, painting a fresh picture of Bacon's relationship with the land of his birth.

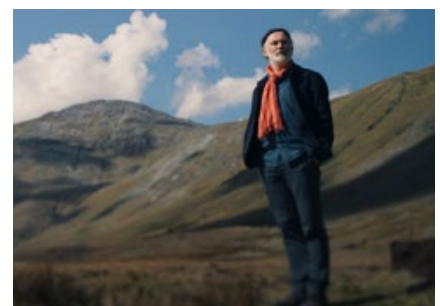
McCarthy is one of the most exciting and moving traditional singers of today, with a voice of great strength, character and beauty.



100 Years of Ulysses



A Note for Nature



Tommy Tiernan's Epic West

In *Sebastian Barry: Family Stories* (Icebox Productions), the multi-award-winning writer – a towering figure in contemporary Irish writing – takes us on a journey that begins with his own history: the familial entanglements and the historical griefs of the past and the creative and hope-filled energies that family can release.

A road trip with Miriam Margolyes and Lynn Ruane around Ireland, *Lady Gregory: Ireland's First Social Influencer* (Kite Entertainment) retraces the life of the enigmatic Lady Gregory. The two hour-long episodes shine new light on a brilliant, driven and complex woman, whose work, influence and impact on Irish political and literary life have often been neglected in favour of the well-known names whom she brought together around her dinner table and who drank her cellar dry.

In *Page Turners* (Vision Independent Productions), a new four-part docu-series, we dip into multiple book clubs across the country to get a true vox-pop of the thoughts and feelings of people in contemporary Ireland.

Untameable (Averner Films) reveals how the bogs of Ireland have always been a contested land: a rural birthright to some and an untameable frontier to others. But in the poems of Seamus Heaney, they offered a reflection of who we really are. Now, while the survival of the peatlands remains uncertain, Colm Tóibín seeks to reopen the bog-inspired works of Heaney and other artists to cast new light on our relationship with nature and the changes we are facing.

In *Face the Music* (Animo TV Productions), the sheer visual and aural joy of musical accomplishment makes the Royal Irish Academy of Music a fascinating backdrop for this entertaining observational series. *Face the Music* will follow several students and teachers at the RIAM over a year that is filled with fierce competition, immense pressure, world-class performances and the unveiling of a brand-new building.

Hidden Treasures (Bo Media) showcases items of historical and cultural importance that are scattered across the length and breadth of the country, but safely managed within the museums of Ireland. This three-part documentary series unlocks the stories behind a selection from over 4 million fascinating objects, and the people who keep them safe.

RTÉ2

Storyland offers up-and-coming writers, directors and producers the opportunity to make a fully formed drama, without the pressures of having to find international partners. It is co-financed by RTÉ and Screen Ireland. In 2022, three films chosen from over 200 applications were shown for the first time on RTÉ2 and RTÉ Player. *Mustard*, *Balor Hall* and *Every Five Miles* hit our screens in autumn to great acclaim, and already several of those who worked on these films have gone on to work on major drama series.

Developing new comic talent is a hallmark of RTÉ2. In 2022 *No Worries If Not* brought some of Ireland's most popular comedians, who already have significant following on social media platforms, to the small screen. Panel-based show *Clear History* returned for a second series. RTÉ teamed up with Screen Ireland to develop a number of scripted comedies, and this development work will continue in 2023.



Lady Gregory: Ireland's First Social Influencer

In *Page Turners*, a new four-part docu-series, we dip into multiple book clubs across the country to get a true vox-pop of the thoughts and feelings of people in contemporary Ireland.



Storyland - Every Five Miles



Clear History

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

TELEVISION

In factual entertainment, *First Dates Ireland* continued with another very successful run. A new Irish format, *Takeaway Titans*, saw three takeaway businesses battling it out each week to make it to a final showdown, with the eventual winner crowned as the takeaway titan. The 2 Johnnies returned to the USA for a new four-part series, ending with a live 2FM broadcast from New York. *Selling Ireland's Dream Homes* offered an aspirational look into some of the country's most desirable residences.

In music, *Other Voices* returned for its 20th series, once again coming from St James's Church in Dingle with its usual eclectic mix of some of the best Irish and international artists, including the likes of Dermot Kennedy and Sam Fender. *The RTÉ Choice Music Prize* once again announced the 'Best Song' and 'Best Album' of the year.

Sport plays a huge role on RTÉ2. RTÉ's coverage of the inaugural United Rugby Championship continued into 2022 and the introduction of the South African teams brought some fierce competition for the Irish provinces. *URC Live* is jointly presented by RTÉ and TG4, a partnership that has allowed free-to-air broadcasters to compete with pay platforms.

Drama

Original Irish drama is back on RTÉ2, with a new series of *Storyland* moving to RTÉ television for the first time, featuring three unique, original and exciting single dramas. In collaboration with Screen Ireland, RTÉ's *Storyland* commissions new scripts and brings them to your television screens, specifically to pave the way for tomorrow's writers, directors and producers. Marty Fox and Mary Thornton, currently writing three episodes of *Hidden Assets Series 2*, wrote a *Storyland* drama for RTÉ in 2017.

Storyland has always been a talent development space. The variety of stories this year demonstrates tremendous new Irish talent in directing and writing, with three dramas with different styles and tones, showcasing new voices and visions to Irish audiences. These diverse and authentic voices demonstrate the craft and originality that will sustain Ireland's rapidly growing television drama sector.

Mustard (Four Quadrant Films), a highly original story about self-harm, was written by Eva O'Connor, directed by Hildegard Ryan and produced by Jason Forde. *Balor Hall* (Fantastic Films), an entertaining whodunnit, was written and directed by Rioghnach Ni Ghrioghair and produced by Deirdre Levins. *Every Five Miles* (Vico Films), a harrowing tale of human trafficking, was written by Sinead Collopy, directed by Vincent Lambe and produced by Colmán Mac Cionnaith. In partnership with Screen Ireland, RTÉ continues to discover, foster and invest in diverse new talent and fresh thinking via *Storyland*, to propel careers and boost the entire industry. This year's dramas are a wonderful testament to that investment.

Entertainment, Comedy and Music

Supporting and developing new comedy talent is at the heart of RTÉ Comedy, and in 2022 the most popular Irish comedy talent from TikTok and other social platforms came together in *No Worries If Not* (Wonky Chair Media). This six-part comedy sketch show gave emerging talent a home on RTÉ2 and on RTÉ's social platforms, and included viral sketches from Killian Sundermann, Justine Stafford, Emma Doran, Michael Fry and many others.

Comedy on RTÉ2 saw a second series of the panel-based comedy show *Clear History* (Kite Entertainment). Presented by Kevin McGahern, Joanne McNally and Jason Byrne, this was a formatted series where guests could pitch to erase embarrassing events from their past.



First Dates Ireland



Selling Ireland's Dream Homes

Supporting and developing new comedy talent is at the heart of RTÉ Comedy.



Storyland - Mustard

While RTÉ continues to support and develop Irish comedy in both scripted and non-scripted content, 2022 saw continued scripted development of several comedy series, many of them in partnership with Screen Ireland. The development process will continue in 2023.

Other Voices (South Wind Blows) returned for its 20th series on RTÉ2, filmed in St James's Church in Dingle. It brought audiences the best in Irish music across a six-part series that featured several of Ireland's top artists including Dermot Kennedy and Orla Gatland and international acts including Sigrid and Sam Fender. *The RTÉ Choice Music Prize* (Southpaw Pictures) returned to celebrate the nominees and announce the winners of Irish Album of the Year (For Those I Love) and Song of the Year (Dermot Kennedy).

Popular Factual and Factual Entertainment

Takeaway Titans (Animo TV Productions) was a new home-grown format where each week, 3 takeaway businesses battled it out to reach the final and be crowned Takeaway Titan. The chefs competing were from diverse backgrounds, presenters were new talents Carl Mullan and James Kavanagh. Judges Dylan McGrath and new talent Suzie Lee were joined by a celebrity judge each week. *The 2 Johnnies Do America* (Straywave Media) took to the road again as they returned to America. This four-part series saw the lads kick off on the Mexican border and head to the deep south to discover the hidden, fun and quirky side of America, an expedition through states and cities to find material for their 2FM radio show which was broadcast live from New York at the end of the trip. *First Dates Ireland* (Coco Content) continued to find love in the *First Dates* restaurant, for its very diverse singletons.

Also in 2022, *Selling Ireland's Dream Homes* (Waddell Media) gives viewers a peek inside some of the country's most quirky, unusual and pricey properties. We showcase the very best in high end homes for sale across Ireland, taking in everything from urban villas, country mansions, swish penthouses to historic palazzo. Whilst seeing inside some of our country's most exclusive homes, we also meet the agents tasked to sell these masterpieces and meet their clients – the owners fortunate enough to live in these prestigious properties.

Sport

Rugby coverage continued with *URC Live* bringing coverage from the United Rugby Championship on RTÉ. Produced by IRIS Productions and presented on RTÉ by Jacqui Hurley and Daire O'Brien, the live action continued to the conclusion of the 2021/22 season in June 2022. In September, the show returned for the 2022/23 season with a continued commitment to keep the games involving Irish provinces, home and away, available free to air.

A Sporting Chance, broadcast on RTÉ One in October 2022, focused on the political, physical and financial issues facing women in the sporting arena. Produced by Loosehorse and hosted by sports journalist Joanne O'Riordan, the documentary featured expert contributors offering their perspective on what it means to be a female athlete in Ireland in 2022.

In early 2022 Brick Films received development funding to explore casting for a series to follow Olympic hopefuls on their journey to the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic games.



Takeaway Titans



The 2 Johnnies Do America

A Sporting Chance, broadcast on RTÉ One in October 2022, focused on the political, physical and financial issues facing women in the sporting arena.



A Sporting Chance

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

TELEVISION

Younger Audiences

2022 was a fantastic year for kids' content across all our services. RTÉ's digital first strategy really took root in 2022 and is now connecting with audiences across a myriad of platforms and services in a very meaningful way. Crucial to this is discoverability: RTÉ has worked hard to ensure there are now multiple touch points for both kids and parents to engage with and enjoy content. On demand video services are vital to this connectivity, and in 2022 a kids' button on IOS was produced for RTÉ Player. Android will follow in 2023.

RTÉ's Young People's department continued to actively pursue the representation of kids' voices across audio and video content. The importance of this mission cannot be overestimated, as access to public service media can profoundly influence how kids see, understand and treat their peers and interact with the world around them.

Outreach is a key pillar of RTÉ's Young People's strategy and 2022 saw RTÉ Kids participating in several Pan European initiatives, in collaboration with the EBU. The EBU Kids International Friendship #SayHi Campaign was the first to be launched. This was a European-wide anti-bullying programme that saw huge engagement across social media and RTÉ Kids YouTube channels and websites. Another initiative included the e-sports world, working closely with Dream Space, and continued to enhance an offering to teenagers across Ireland through partnerships with Creative Ireland, Junk Kouture and Fresh Film.

RTÉ Kids

2022 content showcased diversity more and more. For the RTÉ Kids audience, Dyehouse Films supersized a national digital art competition – This Is Art – by producing a brand-new companion art series, *This Is Art Club!* (Dyehouse Films), presented by Holly Pereira and Shane Keeling. *This Is Art Club!* is fast becoming the new place and new space to celebrate and participate in all things creative.

Continuing with the theme of celebrating creativity, it was also hugely exciting and a privilege for RTÉ Kids to collaborate with both Junk Kouture Productions for *Junk Kouture, Dublin City Final 2022* and Fresh Film for *Ireland's Young Film Maker of the Year 2022*, to showcase and celebrate the enormous amount of talent emerging from Ireland in 2022.

Keep It Up (Macalla) exploded onto our screens. This six-part series explored and analysed the circumstances that can lead teenage girls to disengage with team sports. Fronted by Emer O'Neill from *Home School Hub*, *Keep It Up* was so much more than a TV show – it was a movement.

Ireland's Future Is Mine (Reverist and Tamber Media) was the ultimate e-sports competition and a first for RTÉ. After months of nail-biting showdowns, two schools – Moyvore National School, Westmeath and St. Hugh's National School, Leitrim – went head-to-head in the final, with St. Hugh's emerging victorious.

Wild Atlantic Kids (Fubar Films) is a series for all those who have itchy feet. RTÉ followed the Fortune family as they weaved their way along the Wild Atlantic Way.

2022 also saw the launching of another very successful new series, *Storybud* (Kite Entertainment), featuring classic fairy tales with a twist. Written by Jason Byrne, Karl Harpur, Alison Spittle, Bernard O'Shea and Sinéad Quinlan and narrated by Doireann Garrihy, Deirdre O'Kane, Baz Ashmawy, Bernard O'Shea and Jason Byrne, *Storybud* is bite-sized perfection and full of LOL moments. There were also five Christmas episodes to unwrap at Christmas 2022.



[This is Art Club!](#)



[Ireland's Young Film Maker of the Year 2022](#)



[Keep it Up](#)



[Ireland's Future Is Mine](#)

The tail-end of 2022 saw several series return by popular demand. Tom Bán was back with another series of *Bush Kids Series 2* (GMARSH TV). Four new families were taking a walk on the wild side and learning all there is to know about how to survive in the wild.

After millions watched her making it all the way to the *Strictly Come Dancing* final, Molly Rainford, aka Nova Jones, was back on screens as intergalactic pop superstar in *Nova Jones Series 2* (Jam Media).

Animation, as always, was a cornerstone to output for this age group in 2022. World Mental Health Day shorts saw five beautiful and poignant films commissioned from the animation sector and explored various issues that affect children trying to navigate the world today (Alt Animation, Cardel Entertainment, Flickerpix, Giant Animation, Studio 9).

RTÉjr

2022 was jam-packed with animated and live action series for this age group.

Brand-new animated series for RTÉ's youngest viewers included *Happy the Hoglet* (Paper Owl), featuring Happy, a small character with very big feelings. *The Wee Littles* (Magpie 6 Media) featured Bitsy, Itsy, Mini, Teensy and Jeremy Throckmorton III showing us that no matter how small you are, you can do amazing things! *Atom Town* (Treehouse Republic) is a colourful community of characters based on the elements of the periodic table. *Fia's Fairies* (Little Moon Animation) is a wonderful language series that teaches Gaeilge while exploring fairyland with Fia, Ameer, Blaithín and Cuán. In *Ray of Sunshine* (Daily Madness), we meet the most sunshiny seven-year-old ever for fun tea parties and gardening adventures, and there are brand-new episodes from firm favourites *Alva's World* and *Kíva Can Do* (Kavaleer Productions).

Bright Sparks (Macalla) was back in the ever-colourful Bright's Park, to join Séamus, Dr Tunes, Wild Guy, Clara, Mrs Owlington, Billy, Aoife and Alpha on a journey through their animated everyday lives where they use their unique skill sets to clear up complications, create magic, help others, have fun and save the day.

Brand new to RTÉjr in 2022, *The Imagination Machine* (Firebrand Productions) follows Ella, Lucy and Blaze as they go on amazing adventures through time and space thanks to the magical powers of a special book and an old cardboard box. But around every corner lurk Dr Doty and Mr Fluffy Pants, looking to cause mischief.

Dizzy Deliveries (Macalla), with support from the BAI, was another first for RTÉjr: the first kids' TV show in Ireland to teach and use 'Lámh' signs. It is intended for pre-schoolers and targets children with special intellectual needs. In every episode we meet Joe, the delivery man with magical powers; Ozzy, the flying robot who works with Joe and helps him make his deliveries; and Aisling. She is the boss of the Dizzy Deliveries, and she helps the gang with their 'Lámh' signs every day. Aisling will also help everyone to learn three key 'Lámh' signs in a fun way, and she wants everyone to join in at home too!

Also supported by the BAI, *Simon Says* (Meangadh Fíbin) was a gorgeous music-filled series that closed out the year. Simon is a lighthouse keeper and a musician, and this series delivers the most fantastic earworms for all our viewers to sing along with, wherever they are watching.



Storybud



Happy the Hoglet



Ray of Sunshine



Bright Sparks

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

RADIO



All RTÉ radio stations continued to perform strongly in 2022, offering a wide range of radio content to all audiences in both the English and Irish languages. Alongside RTÉ’s in-house programming, the radio independent sector produced an extensive variety of high-quality factual and arts documentaries and series, entertainment, comedy and young people’s programmes, all of which showcased the quality of RTÉ Radio’s output in 2022.

As the nation emerged from the Covid pandemic and Russia invaded Ukraine, people all over Ireland turned to RTÉ radio stations to be informed on the latest news and current affairs, as well as sport, entertainment, arts and culture.

Content across RTÉ radio stations continues to present arts, music, entertainment and cultural programmes, from lyric fm’s Lyric Feature broadcasting new commissioned programmes to celebrating *RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta 50* in style on RTÉ RnaG, and

from a diverse line-up of fascinating guests on *Second Captains Saturday* to weekly laughs across two seasons of *Callan’s Kicks*, which aired on RTÉ Radio 1 across the year.

RTÉ Radio 1 introduced a brand-new slate of programming which included *Supercharged*, where presenter Anna Geary focused on people’s health and wellbeing. Other highlights included a celebration of music through Irish film, screen and television in *The Irish Soundtrack* and stories of three extraordinary Irish women in *My Passion, My Power*.



The Business

RTÉ 2FM had an exciting year as *2FM Rising on the Road* was brought around the country with five live concerts, while Ireland’s top traditional musical talents were showcased on *Cuan an Cheoil*.



Callan's Kicks



Second Captains Saturday

RTÉ 2FM had an exciting year as *2FM Rising on the Road* was brought around the country with five live concerts, while Ireland’s top traditional musical talents were showcased on *Cuan an Cheoil*. lyric fm also had an exceptional year, as programmes such as *New Voices*, *New Meanings* and *The Cry of the Curlew* were big hits with listeners. RTÉ also supported a wide range of radio projects that were funded through the BAI Sound & Vision scheme in 2022; several received significant awards and more will be broadcast in 2023.

RTÉ Independent Radio Productions continued to cultivate and invest in radio programming in the areas of arts and culture, comedy and entertainment, with programmes to suit a broad range of interests.

RTÉ Radio 1

RTÉ Radio 1 worked with eleven companies during 2022 to continue to produce existing commissioned radio series but also in developing new programming for its schedule throughout the year.

During 2022 RTÉ Radio 1 hosted seventeen of the top twenty radio programmes broadcast in Ireland according to radio listenership figures from JNLR (Joint National Listenership Research); *The Business* (Old Yard Productions) featured prominently in these figures. *The Business*, presented by Richard Curran, takes a weekly look at the world of work, business, personal finance and the lives of entrepreneurs both at home and abroad.

The ever-popular *Callan's Kicks* (Catchy Title) took a good look at weekly events for its spring and autumn run, giving us a welcome satirical take on what’s been happening in the world of politics, current affairs, entertainment and sport.

The summer Saturday schedule on RTÉ Radio 1 included a new series of *Second Captains Saturday*, with an innovative and inventive format that specialised in excellent interviews.

The final two series of *The Poetry Show* (Rockfinch) were varied and creative, spanning all generations of poets from across the country. As well as the weekly evening broadcast, these shows provide an invaluable archive of our living artists and are an important constituent of our public service remit.

Sunday evenings at 6pm continue to be a great slot for our independent programming, which covers history, music and fitness and wellbeing. *The History Show*, with Myles Dungan (Pegasus Media), provides very interesting material from the past relating to current events, as well as bringing us the voices and analysis of the past.

Supercharged with Anna Geary (OJO Productions) was a welcome addition to our schedule in 2022 and will continue into 2023. From personal stories of health and wellbeing to advice and analysis covering a wide range of topics, this show is really interacting with its audience in an innovative and interesting way.

Fíachna Ó Braonáin and Raven Productions brought us a new four-part series, *The Irish Soundtrack*, which celebrated the story of Irish film, screen and television music from the early 1900s to the present day. The award nominated *My Passion, My Power*, from producer Aoife Kavanagh, told the stories of three extraordinary Irish women and their passion, resilience and survival. Both series were co-funded by RTÉ and the BAI and were critically very well received.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

RADIO

RTÉ 2FM

RTÉ 2FM was able to combine lifestyle and music in its commissioned output in 2022.

Life Changing Moments (Mediatone), the second in a series of short-form stories in both audio and video formats, explored the lives of RTÉ 2FM listeners whose life-paths changed by either circumstance or will. Those profiled across a week of slots within weekday RTÉ 2FM shows included Cormac, who overcame a severe stutter, and Ailish, who gave up a career in accountancy to become a stand-up comedian.

Following a series of live RTÉ 2FM concerts across the country, the five-part *Rising on the Road* (Kate Brennan Harding) featured live music by up-and-coming Irish acts on the RTÉ 2FM Rising list along with interviews and behind-the-scenes fun with Tracy Clifford and Graham Smyth. Acts featured included Sello, Chasing Abbey and Thumper.

RTÉ lyric fm

RTÉ lyric fm's Lyric Feature broadcast 21 hours of new commissioned programmes from nine independent production companies in 2022.

Culture File (Soundsdoable) brings RTÉ lyric fm listeners 56 hours of daily arts and culture reports throughout the year, offering a unique and accessible take on music, media, technology, craft, art, comedy, food and design and featuring makers and creators from around Ireland and abroad. This feature is broadcast on *Lorcan Murray's Classic Drive* and gives voice to new cultural commentators. The monthly *Culture File Debates* series, with its panel of guests, reflected on some of the major issues for the arts and creative communities, and the daily and weekly reports have an extensive online presence through podcasts, SoundCloud and Twitter.

Among the newly commissioned Lyric Feature programmes in 2022 there was a particular emphasis on programmes made by and about women. Early 2023 sees RTÉ lyric fm broadcast two programmes from Claire Cunningham's Rockfinch Productions. *The First Pure Clear Place* is about Sylvia Plath's time in Ireland and *Ellen's Walk* is a retracing of a lost walk on the Iveragh Peninsula as described by the poet and niece of Daniel O'Connell Ellen Fitzsimon in her work 'Derrynane in 1832' – both programmes were commissioned with the support of the BAI. Other features include Siobhan Mannion on the Limerick writer Kate O'Brien's mid-20th-century novel *Mary Lavelle*, and Ocarina Productions' *Dorothea the Doozy* on the neglected 18th-century soprano and poet Dorothea Herbert, from County Tipperary.

A new two-part series, *New Voices, New Meanings* (J.J. O'Shea), was also commissioned, which follows twelve contemporary traditional musicians as they reinterpret music collected by Seamus Ennis in the 1940s in Connemara and Donegal and preserved by the Irish Traditional Music Archive. New recordings from artists including Maighread Ní Dhomhnaill, Mairéad Ní Mhaonaigh, Lillis Ó Laoire and Neansaí Ní Choisdealbha feature in the series.

An early and timely highlight in 2023 is Lenny Antonelli's *The Cry of the Curlew*, which celebrates the place of this endangered species in song and literature and documents the efforts being made to save it. This work stems from previously commissioned series like *Root and Branch* (Anja Murray), which offer another broadcast portal to pressing environmental issues, taking them out of exclusively current affairs programming and offering a broader cultural framing.

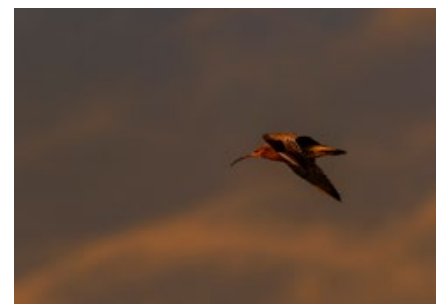
RTÉ 2FM was able to combine lifestyle and music in its commissioned output in 2022.



Culture File



New Voices, New Meaning



The Cry of the Curlew

Taken cumulatively, the programmes provide our listeners with valuable perspectives from the margins while offering audio makers, writers, creative artists, actors and musicians opportunities to create work that allows them to reach new audiences throughout Ireland and beyond.

RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta

RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta has placed an emphasis on developing opportunities to source more output from the independent radio sector as Gaeilge. As a result, the amount of content from the independent sector has increased and these projects have added greatly to the variety of output on the station.

Cuireadh Chun Ceoil (lontaobhas Fódhla) is a traditional music series produced and presented in Cúil Aodha, the County Cork Gaeltacht, by the musician and composer Peadar Ó Riada. Traditional music is part of the RnaG DNA, and this series has a strong connection with an audience here at home but also abroad, connecting them and strengthening the ties that bind that musical community together.

An Cúinne Dána (Tristan Rosenstock) has been an important platform for the Irish language literary and art scene over the past few years. The programme has engaged with the arts community, and they play an active role in promoting what is happening but also in making the arts world more accessible to the broader community.

The second series of *Cuan an Cheoil* (Stiúideo Cuan), supported by the BAI Sound and Vision Scheme, was recorded in An Spidéal in Connemara. This series featured some of Ireland's top traditional musical talents being interviewed by Liam Ó Maonlaí, who then joined them in playing a few tunes and singing some songs. We often hear musicians play, but in this series we get to know them as well. It was also streamed online and is still available to see and hear there.

RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta 50 (Aniar TV) was a magical live concert broadcast from the heart of the Connemara Gaeltacht in Galway, to celebrate the station's fiftieth anniversary. Over 100 musicians took to the stage, including the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, who collaborated with artists who represent the Gaeltacht and Irish language community on local, national and international stages. This was a truly cross-platform project as it was broadcast live on RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta and visually online, but also broadcast on RTÉ Radio 1 in the following weeks. It was supported by the BAI Sound and Vision Scheme.

Other projects that were produced in 2022 but will air in early 2023 include *An Stát Úr Nua* (Scun Scan Productions), a historical series on the founding of the Irish Free State, and *Carthanacht Chlíodhna* (Cillian Ó Donnchadha), a comedy drama series on the competition between two charity shops in a small rural town. We look forward to these projects and others from various genres such as drama, documentary, music, and storytelling for children, many of which are currently in the pipeline and will go to air in 2023 and 2024.



Cuireadh Chun Ceoil



An Cúinne Dána

RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta has placed an emphasis on developing opportunities to source more output from the independent radio sector as Gaeilge.



Cuan an Cheoil

OTHER FUNDING

The BAI Sound & Vision Scheme continued to be a key partner in RTÉ Television and Radio's commissioning output in 2022.

Twenty-two television productions, which have been or will be broadcast on RTÉ, were commissioned with BAI support. These are: *Atom Town*; *Blasts from the Past Series 2*; *Donal's Fasts, Feasts and Festivals*; *Face the Music*; *Francis Bacon, The Outsider*; *Funny Little Monsters*; *Hell for Leather - The Story of Gaelic Football*; *Hidden Treasures*; *I Dream in Photos*; *I Hate Christmas*; *Kerry: Stories from the Kingdom*; *Lady Gregory: Ireland's First Social Influencer*; *Marty and Liz's Big Picture Show*; *Pass It On*; *Page Turners*; *RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta 50*; *Seisiún*; *Simon Says*; *The Scavengers*; *The Secret Peacemaker*; *The Ultimate Playlist* and *Urban Tails Series 2*.

In addition to the radio programmes commissioned directly by RTÉ, twenty-seven productions delivering 96 hours of programming with BAI Sound & Vision Radio funding were secured by Independent Producers for broadcast on RTÉ Radio in 2022 and 2023. Programmes included: *An Stát Úr Nua*, *Anansi's Web*, *Brainy Ups*, *Carthanacht Chlíodhna*, *Cuan an Cheoil Series 2*, *Deirdre of the Sorrows*, *Dorothea the Doozy*, *Dorothy McArdle's Prison Notebooks*, *Ellen's Walk*, *For the Record*, *Fuil an Dóchas*, *Histrionix*, *Jó Johnny Joe*, *Mary Lavelle*, *Nero's Class*, *New Voices New Meanings*, *Rising on the Road*, *Scéalta*, *Sessions From Oblivion*, *The Almanac of Ireland Series 2*, *The Bard of Armagh*, *The First Pure Clear Place*, *The Gigantic Joke*, *The Irish Soundtrack*, *The Kids Are Alright!*, *The Live Vault* and *The Science of Sense*.

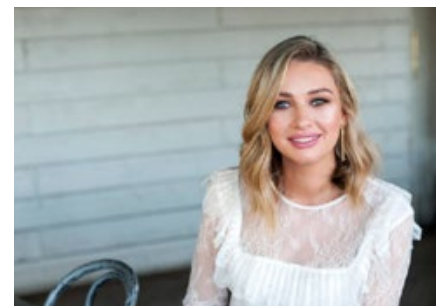
RTÉ again worked closely with Science Foundation Ireland to commission programmes that engage new and wider audiences through real stories that are underpinned by science, engineering and technology. The projects supported in 2022 included *Hospital Live* (indiepics), *What Planet Are You On? Series 3* (Vision Independent Productions) and *Future Island Series 3* (Loosehorse/ indiepics). All productions were broadcast during prime-time slots on RTÉ One.

Several drama, animation, scripted comedy and factual commissions benefited from funding from Section 481 and Screen Ireland. In 2022 RTÉ also entered into co-productions with BBC NI, ARTE and a number of other funders. An analysis of funding from other sources can be found on p.25.

The BAI Sound & Vision Scheme continued to be a key partner in RTÉ Television and Radio's commissioning output in 2022.



Atom Town



Future Island

OTHER SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

In 2022 RTÉ continued to offer practical support to the development of the independent production sector through its involvement in development schemes, by providing speakers for industry seminars and for film and television production training colleges, by participating in international co-production conferences, by providing support for producers seeking co-production partners and through meeting with and giving guidance to emerging companies.

Screen Producers Ireland, the representative body for independent producers in Ireland, is partly funded by a levy from its members on production budgets in respect of programmes commissioned by RTÉ. The levy is therefore a direct charge against the Independent Programmes account.

Animation Ireland is the trade association representing the interests of most animation studios in Ireland. RTÉ provides an annual contribution to Animation Ireland as part of its commitment to the development of the sector.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

RTÉ has complied with the 2016 *Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies* together with the corporate governance and other obligations imposed by the *Broadcasting Act 2009*, the *Ethics in Public Office Act 1995*, the *Standards in Public Office Act 2001* and the *Criminal Justice (Corruption Offences) Act 2018*.

RTÉ is committed to ensuring that the commissioning of independently produced programmes for public broadcast is performed in a transparent manner. RTÉ adheres to formal and clear procedures, which are available to independent producers on the RTÉ website, for the sourcing and commissioning, including re-commissioning, of independently produced television and radio programmes.

During the year RTÉ engaged Deloitte to perform specified procedures on the application of specified commissioning procedures to television and radio programme submissions in 2022. Deloitte performed these procedures and was satisfied that, for the sample of items tested, documentary evidence maintained by RTÉ reflected compliance with the relevant commissioning procedures.

RTÉ Choice Music Prize



FINANCIAL AND COMMISSIONING REVIEW

Summary of Expenditure 2022

RTÉ's 2022 statutory obligation for expenditure on independent commissions under the *Broadcasting Act 2009* was €41.0m, in respect of both television and radio. The total actual expenditure incurred, including RTÉ attributable overhead, on television and radio commissioning activities during 2022 was €43.6m.

	2022 TV €'000	2022 Radio €'000	2022 Total €'000	2021 Total €'000
Expenditure Incurred				
Statutory Expenditure (Sch. 5)	41,340	1,398	42,738	43,601
Additional Expenditure (Sch. 6)	26	-	26	(27)
Direct Expenditure on Commissioned Programmes	41,366	1,398	42,764	43,574
RTÉ Attributable Overhead	767	25	792	1,115
Expenditure Incurred on Commissioning Activities	42,133	1,423	43,556	44,689

The statutory expenditure incurred on independent productions through the Independent Programmes account in 2022 in respect of commissioned programmes was €41.3m for television and €1.4m for radio, a total of €42.7m, and includes administration costs. This is in excess of the statutory amount of €41.0m.

A total of 899 hours (414 radio, 485 television) was commissioned with the Independent Productions statutory expenditure in 2022, across a broad range of categories; these are detailed in Schedule 3.

An analysis of expenditure incurred in 2022 by programme category is detailed in Schedule 5.

Commissioning and Overhead Spend 2022

An analysis of independent television and radio productions expenditure incurred by RTÉ in 2022 is contained in the table below. Further detail by genre is contained in Schedules 5 and 6.

	2022 TV €'000	2022 Radio €'000	2022 Total €'000	2021 Total €'000
Expenditure Incurred				
2021 Commissions Brought Forward	12,838	462	13,300	10,405
Change in Spend on 2021 Commissions ¹	(891)	(67)	(958)	(501)
2021 Commissions Brought Forward as Restated	11,947	395	12,342	9,904
New Commissions during 2022 (see below)	42,240	1,349	43,589	44,697
Less Commissions for Delivery in 2023	(15,155)	(406)	(15,561)	(13,300)
Administration Costs (Schedule 7)	3,027	85	3,112	3,337
Awards/Schemes	74	-	74	51
Expenditure Incurred on Commissioning Activities	42,133	1,423	43,556	44,689

¹ 2021 commissioned spend brought forward has been updated for cost variances and re-timing of programme commitments which occurred during 2022.

FINANCIAL AND COMMISSIONING REVIEW

New commissions during 2022 of €43.6m (see table above) can be analysed as follows:

New Commissions	Statutory Spend	%	Non-statutory Spend	%	Total Spend	%
	€'000		€'000		€'000	
Television Commissions ¹²	39,015	90%	–	0%	39,015	90%
Television Development ¹	588	1%	–	0%	588	1%
Television Completion ¹²	2,637	6%	–	0%	2,637	6%
Television	42,240	97%	–	0%	42,240	97%
Radio	1,349	3%	–	0%	1,349	3%
RTÉ Total	43,589	100%	–	0%	43,589	100%

¹ See Schedule 1 for definition of commissions, development and completion funding.

² Includes RTÉ funding in respect of the BAI Sound & Vision Scheme.

Television commissions with a value of €24.3m, representing 58% of the value of new 2022 television commissions, were awarded to ten independent production companies, and a further sum of €7.0m or 17% was awarded to a further ten independent production companies.

Commissioning Activities 2022

Geographical origin of proposals for commissions received in 2022 is detailed below:

Location	No. of Companies		No. of Proposals Received		No. of Commissions Awarded		No. of Hours Commissioned	
	TV	Radio	TV	Radio	TV	Radio	TV	Radio
Dublin	96	20	516	32	82	24	264	197
Rest of Republic of Ireland	64	17	158	24	29	13	197	216
Northern Ireland	21	4	92	6	14	1	23	1
Great Britain	9	–	11	–	1	–	1	–
Others	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	190	41	777	62	126	38	485	414

Other Sources of Funding to the Sector

In addition to the €42.2m committed by RTÉ to new television commissions in 2022, producers of RTÉ commissioned programmes attracted funding from other sources. The total value of this additional funding on 2022 contracts was €32.6m, analysed as follows:

Sources of Funding	Drama and Animation	Other Genres	Total Third-Party Funding
	€'000	€'000	€'000
BAI Funding	1,393	3,555	4,948
Co-funding	17,785	2,500	20,285
Section 481	6,436	978	7,414
Total	25,614	7,033	32,647

Thus, the total value of RTÉ independent television programming activities in 2022, inclusive of all third-party funding, was €74.8m. In the case of programmes categorised as drama or animation, or part-funded by the BAI Sound & Vision Scheme, the amounts for other sources of funding above include projects where RTÉ provided development/completion funding only.

FINANCIAL AND COMMISSIONING REVIEW

Administration Costs

A full analysis of administration costs is detailed in Schedule 7. In 2022, direct administration costs incurred by RTÉ Independent Productions amounted to €2.3m, which represents 5% of the total Independent Productions direct expenditure incurred on commissioned programmes in 2022.

RTÉ Independent Productions relies on a range of RTÉ services including, for example, office space and related utilities, information technology and systems, consumables, technical services and human resources. An appropriate full-cost absorption/usage allocation basis is used to reflect a fair and reasonable cost of these interdivisional services consumed by RTÉ Independent Productions amounting to €0.8m for 2022 (2021: €1.1m).

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

RTÉ's 2022 Annual Report and Group Financial Statements (RTÉ Annual Report) have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and their interpretations approved by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) as adopted by the European Union.

Under IFRS, RTÉ records the cost of transmitted commissioned programmes rather than the expenditure incurred on commissioning activities. The RTÉ Annual Report records the level of programme inventories held, that is programmes made and for which costs have been incurred during the period but which have not been transmitted at the period end.

As required under the *Broadcasting Act 2009*, the Independent Productions Annual Report details RTÉ's activities with regard to commissioning of independent television and sound programmes during the year and the operation by RTÉ of the Independent Programmes bank account. It is not deemed appropriate to adopt IFRS for the purposes of the Independent Productions Annual Report. A reconciliation of the expenditure incurred on commissioning activities, detailed in this report, with programme costs, as reported in the 2022 RTÉ Annual Report, is set out below.

2022 Reconciliation	TV €'000	Radio €'000	Total €'000
Independent Productions Annual Report:			
Expenditure incurred on Commissioning Activities ¹	42,133	1,423	43,556
Add: Opening Stock of Programmes	17,386	–	17,386
Less: Closing Stock of Programmes	(16,262)	–	(16,262)
Total Cost of Transmitted Programmes	43,257	1,423	44,680
RTÉ Annual Report:			
Cost of Transmitted Programmes			
Commissioned Programmes Costs ²	43,257	1,423	44,680
Total Cost of Transmitted Programmes	43,257	1,423	44,680

¹ See Table on p. 24.

² 2022 RTÉ Annual Report and Group Financial Statements, Note 2(d).

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Independent Accountants' Agreed upon Procedures Report to the RTÉ Board in Respect of the RTÉ Independent Productions Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

We have performed the procedures agreed with you and enumerated below with respect to the RTÉ Independent Productions Annual Report ('the Annual Report') and Schedules ('the Schedules') for the year ended 31 December 2022. Our engagement was undertaken in accordance with the International Standard on Related Services (ISRS 4400 Revised) applicable to agreed upon procedures engagements. The procedures were performed solely to assist you in evaluating your compliance with your statutory obligations with regard to Independent Productions Reporting Requirements.

These procedures have been undertaken based upon financial information provided by the management of RTÉ and are the responsibility of the RTÉ Board. The procedures which we have undertaken and our findings are as set out below:

Procedures

1. We have checked that the information included in Schedule 2 'Operation of the Independent Programmes Bank Account for the year ended 31 December 2022' has been correctly extracted from the detailed general ledger transactions of the Independent Programmes bank account for the year ended 31 December 2022.
2. We have checked that the information included in Schedules 5, 6 and 7 has been correctly extracted from the underlying records and detailed analysis prepared for the purposes of the preparation of the Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022.
3. We have checked the mathematical accuracy of the Schedules.

Findings

We have performed the procedures set out in 1–3 above and noted no exceptions arising from our work.

Because the above procedures do not constitute either an audit or a review made in accordance with International Standards on Auditing or International Standards on Review Engagements, we do not express any assurance on the RTÉ Independent Productions Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Our report is solely for the purposes set out in the first paragraph of this report and for your information and is not to be used for any other purpose. This report relates only to the items specified above and does not extend to any financial statements of RTÉ taken as a whole.



Richard Howard

*For and on behalf of Deloitte Ireland LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
Deloitte & Touche House, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2*

31 March 2023

SCHEDULE 1: RTÉ'S STATUTORY OBLIGATION WITH REGARD TO INDEPENDENT PRODUCTIONS

1. Expenditure Requirement

Under Section 116, subsection (2) of the *Broadcasting Act 2009*, RTÉ has a statutory obligation to spend a predetermined minimum amount (the statutory amount) each year on independently produced television and radio programmes and to lodge this money to a separate account known as the Independent Programmes account (the account).

Statutory Expenditure	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Total Statutory Expenditure	40,962	39,778

The statutory amount for 2009 was €40m, and for subsequent years the amount varied in line with the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) measured from August 2008 to August immediately preceding the financial year concerned. Since CPI measured from August 2008 to August 2021 was +2.4%, the statutory amount for 2022 was adjusted accordingly. Under Section 116, the minimum percentage to be spent on sound broadcasting in 2022 is 3% (€1.229m).

2. Reporting Requirement

As required under Section 116, subsection (9) of the *Broadcasting Act 2009*, RTÉ shall not later than three months after the end of each financial year make a report to the minister of:

- its activities during that financial year as respects commissioning the making of independent television or sound broadcasting programmes
- the name or corporate identity of persons commissioned to make independent television or sound broadcasting programmes
- the operation by it of the account during that financial year (details of the operation of the account for 2022 are set out in Schedule 2) and
- any other matters as the minister may direct regarding the above.

3. Definition of Commissions, Development and Completion Funding

The sum identified as expended on 'Commissions' is defined pursuant to the requirement as per Section 116, subsection (11) of the *Broadcasting Act 2009*, that in order for a programme to be regarded as having been commissioned, RTÉ must incur 'a legal obligation to pay at least 25% of the cost' of making a television programme in advance of work on the making of the programme commencing.

The sums identified as expended on 'Development' and 'Completion' are defined as per Section 116, subsections (2)(a)(ii) and (2)(a)(iii), namely respectively 'procuring the formulation by persons of proposals' for independent television or radio programmes for commission by RTÉ and 'assisting the completion of independent television or sound broadcasting programmes the making of which has not been commissioned by RTÉ'.

SCHEDULE 2: OPERATION OF THE INDEPENDENT PROGRAMMES
BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

	€'000
Opening balance as per RTÉ at 1 January 2022	1,638
Lodgements	
Receipts from RTÉ, including bank interest received	45,411
Less Payments	
Payments	(47,049)
Closing balance as per RTÉ at 31 December 2022	-

SCHEDULE 3: 2022 STATUTORY TELEVISION PROGRAMMES / HOURS COMMISSIONED, COMPLETED AND DEVELOPED

Category	Production Company	Programme Title	Total Hours
Factual	Coco Content	First Dates Ireland Series 8	14.0
	Rare TV / Green Inc	Crimecall Series 19 2022/2023	10.0
	indiepics	Ear to the Ground Series 30	8.0
	Vision Independent Productions	Operation Transformation Series 16	8.0
	JMACTWO Productions	Ultimate Hell Week – The Professionals Series 2	7.0
	Animo TV Productions	Great House Revival Series 4	6.0
	Animo TV Productions	Takeaway Titans	6.0
	Coco Content	Home Rescue Series 6	6.0
	Coco Content	Room to Improve Series 14	6.0
	Cameo Productions	Cheap Irish Homes Series 3	4.0
	JMACTWO Productions	DIY SOS The Big Build Ireland Series 3	4.0
	Kairos Communications	Masses 2022	4.0
	Rare TV / Green Inc	The Case I Can't Forget Series 3	4.0
	Shinawil	Home of the Year Series 9	4.0
	Straywave Media	The 2 Johnnies Do America Series 2	4.0
	Waddell Media	Selling Ireland's Dream Homes Series 2	4.0
	Waka TV	Keys to My Life Series 3	4.0
	Cameo Productions	Cheap European Homes	3.0
	Crossing the Line Productions	Hell for Leather – The Story of Gaelic Football ¹	3.0
	Green Inc Film and Television	High Road Low Road Series 2	3.0
	indiepics	Hospital Live	3.0
	indiepics	The Price of Everything	3.0
	indiepics	The Style Counsellors Series 4	3.0
	JMACTWO Productions	Mean Machines	3.0
	Loosehorse/indiepics	Future Island Series 3	3.0
	Vision Independent Productions	Super Garden Series 14	3.0
	Vision Independent Productions	What Planet Are You On? Series 3	3.0
	Waddell Media	How Long Will You Live? Series 5	3.0
	Zucca Productions	Marty and Liz's Big Picture Show ^{1(Compl)}	3.0
	Appetite Media	Donal's Feasts, Fasts and Festivals ^{1(Compl)}	2.0
	Fine Point Films	The Agreement	2.0
	JMACTWO Productions	DIY SOS The Bigger Build Ireland	2.0
	Midas Productions	Communism, Sex and All That Jazz	2.0
	Midas Productions	Two Tribes	2.0
	Scratch Films	The People's Civil War	2.0
	Silver Branch Films	Kerry: Stories from the Kingdom ^{1(Compl)}	2.0
	Tile Films	The Normans	2.0
	New Decade TV	The Secret Peacemaker ¹	1.5
	Venom Productions	I Hate Christmas ^{1(Compl)}	1.5
	Animo TV Productions	The Tuskar Rock Tragedy	1.0
	Atom Films	Am I Here?	1.0
	Brick Films	Liam Brady: The Irishman Abroad	1.0
Dearg Films	How Ireland Rocked the 80's	1.0	
Des Cahill and Associates	Every Child's Dream – The Kevin Moran Story	1.0	
Gambit Pictures	I Dream in Photos ^{1(Compl)}	1.0	
Gifted Live	Walled City Passion	1.0	
Kite Entertainment	Brian and Arthur: A Very Modern Family	1.0	

SCHEDULE 3: 2022 STATUTORY TELEVISION PROGRAMMES / HOURS
 COMMISSIONED, COMPLETED AND DEVELOPED
 CONTINUED

Category	Production Company	Programme Title	Total Hours
	Midas Productions	A Deal with the Devil	1.0
	Mind the Gap Films	Deaf Not Dumb	1.0
	Mind the Gap Films	Tribute: The Teresa Deevy Story	1.0
	Ponder Media	Superagers	1.0
	Scanarama	Ireland in Music Series 2	1.0
	Seafever Productions	North Atlantic	1.0
	Strident Media	Wrong Side of History	1.0
	Venom Productions	Hashtag Dogs	1.0
	Videos on the Net	Tackling the All Blacks	1.0
	Zucca Films	Fools for Love	1.0
	Vision Independent Productions	Bloom 2022	0.5
	Kairos Communications	The Angelus	0.1
	Various development contracts with Animo TV Productions, Frontier Films, Frontline Films, Heavy Man Films, indiepics, Invisible Thread, Little Wing Films, Moondance Productions, Overcoat Films, Ponder Media, Rare TV, Scratch Films, Screenworks, Sideline Productions, True Films, Waddell Media and Zucca Films		
			176.6
Arts and Culture	Vision Independent Productions	Page Turners ^{1(Compl)}	4.0
	Animo TV Productions	Face the Music ^{1(Compl)}	3.0
	Bo Media	Hidden Treasures ^{1(Compl)}	3.0
	Kite Entertainment	Lady Gregory: Ireland's First Social Influencer ^{1(Compl)}	2.0
	Averner Films	Untameable	1.0
	Bigger Stage	An Post Irish Book of the Year 2022	1.0
	Icebox Films	Sebastian Barry: Family Stories	1.0
	Mount Venus Productions	Francis Bacon: The Outsider ^{1(Compl)}	1.0
	Development contract with Wildfire Films		
			16.0

SCHEDULE 3: 2022 STATUTORY TELEVISION PROGRAMMES / HOURS COMMISSIONED, COMPLETED AND DEVELOPED

CONTINUED

Category	Production Company	Programme Title	Total Hours	
Cláracha Gaeilge	IRIS Productions	TG4 – Rugbaí Beo 2022/2023	49.0	
	Big Mountain Productions	Madraí ^(Compl)	3.0	
	Strident Media	Saol na Feirme ^(Compl)	3.0	
	Mind the Gap Films	Pass It On ^{1(Compl)}	2.0	
	Strident Media	Saol an Tréidlia Series 2	2.0	
	Sugartown Films	Seisiún ^{1(Compl)}	2.0	
	Aniar TV	RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta 50 ¹	1.0	
	Imagine Media	Ré Réabhlóide ^(Compl)	1.0	
	Tyrone Productions	The Life of Seán/Saol Sheáin	1.0	
			64.0	
Entertainment, Comedy and Music	Shinawil	Dancing with the Stars Series 6	22.0	
	Power Pictures	The Tommy Tiernan Show Series 7	12.0	
	Animo TV Productions	Ireland's Fittest Family Series 10	11.0	
	Kite Entertainment	Love in the Countryside	6.0	
	Loosehorse	Home Advantage Series 2	6.0	
	South Wind Blows	Other Voices Series 21	6.0	
	Frontier Films	Entertainment from d'Telly	4.0	
	Peer Pressue	Sisters	3.0	
	Red Shoe Productions	Fleadh Cheoil 2022	3.0	
	Wonky Chair Media	No Worries If Not	3.0	
	Coco Content	St Patrick's Festival Parade 2022	2.0	
	Shinawil	The Ultimate Irish Playlist ^{1(Compl)}	2.0	
	Southpaw Productions	RTÉ Choice Music Prize 2022	1.0	
	Wonky Chair Media	Callan Kicks the Year 2022	1.0	
	Adare Productions	The Full Irish Hidden Camera Show	0.5	
	Various development contracts with Animo TV Productions, Frontier Films and Kite Entertainment			
				82.5
Drama	Bron Releasing UK	Kin Series 2	8.0	
	Fantastic Films	Balor Hall	0.5	
	Four Quadrant Films	Mustard	0.5	
	Vico Films	Every Five Miles	0.5	
	Various development contracts with Avalon Films, Escape Pod Media, Fantastic Films, Four Quadrant Films, Odd Boy Media, Reflektor Media, Saffron Moon, Savage Productions, Treasure Entertainment and Vico Films			
			9.5	

SCHEDULE 3: 2022 STATUTORY TELEVISION PROGRAMMES / HOURS
 COMMISSIONED, COMPLETED AND DEVELOPED
 CONTINUED

Category	Production Company	Programme Title	Total Hours	
Sport	IRIS Productions	URC Live 2022/2023	71.0	
	Loosehorse	A Sporting Chance	1.0	
	Development contract with Brick Films			
			72.0	
Young People	Firebrand Productions	The Imagination Machine Series 2	7.5	
	Jam Media	Nova Jones Series 2 ^(Compl)	5.0	
	Jam Media	Nova Jones Series 3 ^(Compl)	5.0	
	Pioneertown Productions	Will Slaney's Storytellers Series 2	5.0	
	Dyehouse Films	This Is Art Club! Series 2	4.0	
	GMARSHTV	Bush Kids Series 2	4.0	
	Little Moon Animation	The Scavengers ^{1(Compl)}	4.0	
	Meangadh Fíabín	Simon Says ^{1(Compl)}	4.0	
	Stopwatch Television	Body Brothers – Inventions Series 3	3.8	
	Firebrand Productions	Blasts from the Past Series 2	3.0	
	Mind the Gap Films	Space Academy	3.0	
	Treehouse Republic	Atom Town ^{1(Compl)}	2.5	
	Paper Owl	Happy the Hoglet ^(Compl)	2.0	
	Distillery Films	Sullivan Sails ^(Compl)	1.8	
	Daily Madness Productions	Ray of Sunshine ^(Compl)	1.5	
	Junk Kouture Productions	Junk Kouture Dublin City Final 2022	1.5	
	Mutiny Group	Funny Little Monsters ^{1(Compl)}	1.5	
	Reverist and Tamber Media	Ireland's Future Is Mine	1.5	
	Fresh Films	Ireland's Young Film Maker of the Year 2022	1.0	
	Ladybird and Bee Series 2 Ltd	Boin agus Beach Series 2	1.0	
	Pink Kong Studios	Urban Tails Series 2 ^{1(Compl)}	1.0	
	Kite Entertainment	Storybuds Christmas Specials	0.5	
	Samson Films	Tell Me A Secret: F is for Phone	0.3	
	Ronin Films	Girl Footballer Interstitials – Euro 2022	0.1	
	Animation Shorts			0.2
	Alt Animation	Better Weather		
	Cardel Entertainment	The Presenter		
	Flickerpix	Hugo Lets Go		
	Giant Animation	True Hue		
	Studio 9	Navigating the Rough Seas		
	Various development contracts with Deadpan Pictures, Mind the Gap Films and Paper Panther			
				64.7
	TOTAL 2022 STATUTORY TELEVISION HOURS COMMISSIONED			485

¹ Commissions which were part-funded by the BAI Sound and Vision Scheme.
^(Compl) Denotes Completion Contracts.

SCHEDULE 3: 2022 STATUTORY TELEVISION PROGRAMMES / HOURS COMMISSIONED, COMPLETED AND DEVELOPED

CONTINUED

Category	Production Company	Programme Title	Total Hours
Factual	Old Yard Productions	The Business 2022/2023	45.0
	Pegasus Media and Consulting	The History Show	20.0
	Second Captains	Second Captains Saturday	9.0
	Red Hare Media	The Almanac of Ireland Series 2 ¹	6.5
	OJO Productions	Supercharged Series 2	6.0
	OJO Productions	Supercharged Series 3	6.0
	Raven Productions	The Irish Soundtrack ¹	4.0
			96.5
Arts and Culture	Soundsdoable	Culture File 2023	56.0
	South Wind Blows	South Wind Blows 2022/2023	52.0
	Rockfinch	The Poetry Programme 2022	11.0
	JJ O'Shea	New Voices, New Meanings ¹	1.5
	Rockfinch	Deirdre of the Sorrows ¹	1.0
	Sharan McArdle	Dorothy McArdle's Prison Notebooks ¹	1.0
	Ocarina Productions	Dorothea the Doozy ¹	0.8
	Raw Nerve Productions	The Bard of Armagh ¹	0.8
	Rockfinch	Ellen's Walk ¹	0.8
	Rockfinch	The First Pure Clear Place ¹	0.8
	Siobhan Mannion	Mary Lavelle ¹	0.8
			126.5
Cláracha Gaeilge	Iontaoibheas Fódhla	Cuireadh Chun Cheoil 2023	104.0
	Stiúideo Cuan	Cuan an Cheoil Series 2 ¹	15.0
	Scun Scan Productions	An Stát Úr Nua ¹	10.0
	Stiúideo Cuan	Jó Johnny Joe ¹	5.0
	Cillian O Donnchadha	Carthanacht Chlíodhna ¹	2.5
	Macalla	Scéalta ¹	2.0
	Róisín Sheehy	Fuil an Dóchas ¹	1.0
			139.5
Entertainment, Comedy and Music	Catchy Title	Callan's Kicks	12.0
	OJO Productions	The Live Vault ¹	7.0
	Pat O'Mahony	For the Record ¹	7.0
	Central Entertainment Bureau	Sessions From Oblivion ¹	5.0
	Kate Brennan Harding	Rising on the Road ¹	5.0
	Mediatone	Life Changing Moments Series 2	0.3
			36.3
Young People	Heather McLeod	Anansi's Web ¹	3.0
	Michelle Connolly	The Kids Are Alright! ¹	2.5
	Tinpot Productions	Brainy Ups ¹	2.5
	Bobby Aherne	Nero's Class ¹	2.0
	Daniel Gillick	The Gigantic Joke ¹	2.0
	Mark Canton	Histrionix ¹	2.0
	Curious Broadcast	The Science of Sense ¹	1.5
			15.5
TOTAL 2022 STATUTORY RADIO HOURS COMMISSIONED			414

¹ Commissions which were part-funded by the BAI Sound and Vision Scheme.

SCHEDULE 4: 2022 NON-STATUTORY TELEVISION PROGRAMMES / HOURS
COMMISSIONED, COMPLETED AND DEVELOPED

Category	Production Company	Programme Title	Total Hours
TOTAL 2022 NON-STATUTORY TELEVISION HOURS COMMISSIONED			0

Note: There were no new non-statutory television hours commissioned during 2022.

SCHEDULE 5: 2022 STATUTORY EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON COMMISSIONED PROGRAMMES BY PROGRAMME CATEGORY

TELEVISION

Programme Category	2022 Total Hours	2021 Commissions Carried Forward €'000	2022 New Commissions €'000	2022 Commissions Carried Forward €'000	2022 Total Cost €'000
Factual	176.6	5,672	18,041	(5,651)	18,062
Arts and Culture	16.0	204	616	(197)	623
Cláracha Gaeilge	64.0	723	2,374	(892)	2,205
Entertainment, Comedy and Music	82.5	3,598	11,503	(5,146)	9,955
Drama	9.5	94	2,845	(450)	2,489
Sport	72.0	665	2,264	(965)	1,964
Young People	64.7	965	4,597	(1,854)	3,708
Overall Totals:	485	11,921	42,240	(15,155)	39,006
Awards – Schemes					74
Overheads and other costs (Schedule 7)					2,260
Direct Expenditure Incurred					41,340

RADIO

Programme Category	2022 Total Hours	2021 Commissions Carried Forward €'000	2022 New Commissions €'000	2022 Commissions Carried Forward €'000	2022 Total Cost €'000
Factual	96.5	156	585	(175)	566
Arts and Culture	126.5	137	304	(151)	290
Cláracha Gaeilge	139.5	62	117	(70)	109
Entertainment, Comedy and Music	36.3	38	318	(5)	351
Drama	-	-	-	-	-
Sport	-	-	-	-	-
Young People	15.5	2	25	(5)	22
Overall Totals:	414	395	1,349	(406)	1,338
Overheads and other costs (Schedule 7)					60
Direct Expenditure Incurred					1,398

DIRECT EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON COMMISSIONED PROGRAMMES

TELEVISION & RADIO	42,738
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Note 1: Costs are inclusive of non-recoverable VAT (NRV)

Note 2: 2021 Commissions have been restated for cost variances and the re-timing of programme commitments

Note 3: Figures in table do not include RTÉ attributable overhead

SCHEDULE 6: 2022 NON-STATUTORY EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON COMMISSIONED PROGRAMMES BY PROGRAMME CATEGORY

TELEVISION

Programme Category	2022 Total Hours	2021 Commissions Carried Forward €'000	2022 New Commissions €'000	2022 Commissions Carried Forward €'000	2022 Total Cost €'000
Factual	-	26	-	-	26
Overall Totals:	-	26	-	-	26
Awards – Schemes					-
Direct Expenditure Incurred					26

Note 1: Costs are inclusive of non-recoverable VAT (NRV)

Note 2: 2021 Commissions have been restated for cost variances and the re-timing of programme commitments

Note 3: Figures in table do not include RTÉ attributable overhead

Note 4: Non-statutory expenditure includes online costs for statutory commissions that are not allowable to be charged to the Statutory Account under the Broadcasting Act 2009

SCHEDULE 7: 2022 ADMINISTRATION COSTS AND ATTRIBUTABLE ORGANISATIONAL OVERHEAD

Expenditure Description	Television €'000	Radio €'000	Total €'000
Payroll Costs	1,841	54	1,895
Festivals / Industry Contributions	258	-	258
Set Storage	138	-	138
Advertising and Consultancy Costs	11	6	17
Office and Miscellaneous	12	-	12
Sub-total:	2,260	60	2,320
Attributable Organisational Overhead	767	25	792
Overall Total:	3,027	85	3,112

SCHEDULE 8: 2022 AWARDS

	Production Company	Programme Title
(a) Frameworks 27		
1	Elk Studios	The Last Set
2	M Studio	Nana Dee
3	Mayfly Films	Rural Rituals
4	Trickshot Films	The Bridge of Wonder
(b) Galway Film Centre Short Film		
1	Arcade Film	Misread

SCHEDULE 9: 2022 TOP 50 PROGRAMMES

Rank	Programme Title	Channel	Transmission Date
1	The Late Late Toy Show	RTÉ One	25-11-2022
2	Sunday Game Live – Live Play – All Ireland Football Final: Galway v Kerry	RTÉ2	24-07-2022
3	6 Nations Live: France v Ireland	Virgin Media One	12-02-2022
4	Sunday Game Live – Live Play – All Ireland Hurling Final: Kilkenny v Limerick	RTÉ One	17-07-2022
5	FIFA World Cup Live: Argentina v Croatia	RTÉ2	13-12-2022
6	FIFA World Cup Live: Argentina v France	RTÉ2	18-12-2022
7	6 Nations Live: England v Ireland	RTÉ2	12-03-2022
8	FIFA World Cup Live: England v France	RTÉ2	10-12-2022
9	6 Nations Live: Ireland v Wales	RTÉ2	05-02-2022
10	6 Nations Live: Ireland v Scotland	Virgin Media One	19-03-2022
11	RTÉ News: Six One	RTÉ One	21-01-2022
12	FIFA World Cup Live: France v Morocco	RTÉ2	14-12-2022
13	Room To Improve	RTÉ One	20-02-2022
14	RTÉ News: Nine O'Clock	RTÉ One	27-02-2022
15	FIFA World Cup Live: England v Senegal	RTÉ2	04-12-2022
16	Sunday Game Live – Live Play – Football Semi Final: Dublin v Kerry	RTÉ One	10-07-2022
17	Champions League Live: Liverpool v Real Madrid	RTÉ2	28-05-2022
18	The Late Late Show	RTÉ One	14-01-2022
19	Autumn Nation Series Live: Ireland v South Africa	Virgin Media Two	05-11-2022
20	NYE Countdown Concert with Westlife	RTÉ One	31-12-2022
21	Sunday Game Live – Live Play – Football Quarter Final: Kerry v Mayo	RTÉ2	26-06-2022
22	Dancing with the Stars	RTÉ One	09-01-2022
23	Autumn Nation Series Live: Ireland v Australia	Virgin Media Two	19-11-2022
24	6 Nations Live: France v England	RTÉ2	19-03-2022
25	I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out of Here!	Virgin Media One	06-11-2022
26	FIFA World Cup Live: Spain v Germany	RTÉ2	27-11-2022
27	The Rose of Tralee International Festival 2022	RTÉ One	23-08-2022
28	RTÉ Investigates: The Accountant, the Con, the Lie	RTÉ One	14-02-2022
29	The Tommy Tiernan Show	RTÉ One	08-01-2022
30	FIFA World Cup Live: England v USA	RTÉ2	25-11-2022
31	6 Nations Live: Ireland v Italy	Virgin Media One	27-02-2022
32	FIFA World Cup Live: Portugal v Uruguay	RTÉ2	28-11-2022
33	FIFA World Cup Live: Portugal v Switzerland	RTÉ2	06-12-2022
34	Sunday Game Live – Live Play – Hurling Semi Final: Limerick v Galway	RTÉ2	03-07-2022
35	Fair City	RTÉ One	09-01-2022
36	FIFA World Cup Live: Netherlands v Argentina	RTÉ2	09-12-2022
37	Quinn Country	RTÉ One	29-11-2022
38	FIFA World Cup Live: Brazil v Korea Republic	RTÉ2	05-12-2022
39	Crimes And Confessions	RTÉ One	24-01-2022
40	FIFA World Cup Live: Wales v England	RTÉ2	29-11-2022
41	Mrs Brown's Boys: Mammy's Hair Loom	RTÉ One	31-12-2022
42	FIFA World Cup Live: Morocco v Portugal	RTÉ2	10-12-2022
43	DIY SOS: The Big Build Ireland	RTÉ One	03-04-2022
44	Saturday Game Live – Live Play – Football Semi Final: Derry v Galway	RTÉ2	09-07-2022
45	Ireland's Fittest Family	RTÉ One	20-11-2022
46	Reeling In the Years	RTÉ One	04-01-2022
47	Saturday GAA Live – Live Play – Allianz National League: Kerry v Dublin	RTÉ2	05-02-2022
48	Operation Transformation	RTÉ One	26-01-2022
49	Sunday Game Live – Live Play – Munster Hurling Final: Limerick V Clare	RTÉ2	05-06-2022
50	Smother	RTÉ One	13-02-2022

Independently produced programmes commissioned by RTÉ are highlighted in bold above.

Source: TAM Ireland Ltd/Nielsen TAM.

Top Programmes based on Individuals 4+, All Subscribing Channels, Averaging Option: Any Day, Any Time, Best Episode, Minimum Duration 10 Minutes, Consolidated data, 1 Jan 2022–31 Dec 2022. Please note: This list uses best episode of a series.





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