

Imagine Arts launches 2014 programme



This year's Imagine will include a two-day series of talks on the Great War. The image shows soldiers preparing to leave Waterford to fight in the first World War.

Editor of The Irish Times Kevin O Sullivan joined director Ollie Breslin and his team to unveil the programme at the Imagine Arts Festival launch last Thursday night at the newly refurbished St Patrick's Gateway Church.

As the Viking city celebrates the 1100th year of its' foundation, a veritable smorgasbord of arts experiences will be on offer over the ten day festival in late October. Breslin said that he and his team are very excited about the broad range of events lined up for the 13th festival. "The arts in Waterford has had such a battering this year. While we mourn the loss of Red Kettle our acclaimed professional theatre company, we take very seriously our mission to provide stimulating arts experiences for all in our city albeit on a shoestring budget.

"There is a good balance and variety across a range of genres that will appeal to locals and visitors. The festival will offer an opportunity to hear some rare visitors to our shores. The oldest and best brass band plays just one concert in Ireland and we are thrilled that the Black Dyke Brass Band is coming to Imagine. Legendary rock guitarist, Lee Ranaldo comes to us for one of only two Irish appearances and a feast of trad events will set a lively pace on the opening weekend. Families will be drawn to the range of childrens' workshops and events. The two day history weekend will offer a plethora of history events. Theatre and spoken word events will be a strong feature and art exhibitions all over the place will add a vibrant colourful element to unexpected places."