



## Tom Treacy Who Facilitated EVA artist Michael Joo

Every two years EVA International Biennial brings some of the most important artists from around the world to Limerick. Some of the artists spend quite a while in Limerick, creating new art pieces here that respond to the unique culture, history and environment around them. These major endeavours would not be possible about the people like Tom Treacy from Shannon Foynes Port Company. Tom worked closely with Korean/American artist Michael Joo to create a beautifully atmospheric and meaningful installation in The Sailors Home on O'Curry Street.



"He really was a key part of the installation, in helping to make this happen", says Joo.

This artwork, which reflected on the relationship between the building and the nearby harbour, included maritime and industrial artefacts that Tom helped select and transport. As a very practical person, Tom had the ability to quickly turn creative aspirations into manageable tasks, from delivering heavy materials into an awkward spot to finding just the right kind of rusty weatherworn chain.

The conversations between the artist and the harbour man guided the way that Joo worked with and cared for the architecture of the building, especially given Tom's perspective as a man keenly tuned into the story of the harbour and all that it connect.

It helped, of course, that the two men got on so well.