

## DAN SHIPSIDES - 6 Star (re:public)

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**6 Star (re: public)** Temple Bar Gallery Dublin. Curated by Daniel Jewesbury  
 Connected to the **Via Ferrata** project ([Shipsides](#) and [Beggs Project](#))

The 1st and 2nd phase completion:

The 1st phase invited an artist (Rob Anderson) and architect (Mark Hackett) to design and build a structure in the gallery which would perform the function of a forum. They installed a beautiful tiered seating and a small stage in the large window area. The window looks out onto the busy Temple Bar Street.



### **6 Star**

My intervention (phase 2) takes up the stage and main window space.

Basically it's a 6 pointed star in the stage/window area which fills with smoke every hour. The smoke then leaks out and hazes the space. The star could have multiple references - The Star of David, Israel, Northern Irish Loyalism (this white star is on the official N.I. flag from '58 - 73 (now abolished but still used by some county councils and the N.I. Rugby and Football supporters) and lots of Loyalist (esp. UDA) murals and of course the Masons (who use both 5 and 6 pointed stars) and the Orange Order - all quite untransparent systems of belief and power - not quite the ideal transparency of a "re:public".

To watch short video of the star smoking click [here](#):

I felt the stage needed something to address - some kind of emblematic branding which subverted the transparency, accessibility and openness idealised by notions of

the public.

The smoking star also performs a visual device acting as an attention grabbing feature in the window space for people in the street - but which then obscures the view into and out of the gallery especially when it smokes.

And of course stages are made for stars....

