

Ann O'Reilly

Design Studio



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After a break of 15 years from making bespoke bridal and evening wear, Ann O'Reilly is now joining forces with renowned and up-and-coming Irish designers.

Just over a year after she set up her new company, Design Studio, her work was featured at the ARC fashion show in Dublin.

Ann is no stranger to the world of fashion, having obtained a diploma in fashion from the Grafton Academy in the 1980s. But it was only after she attended a talk, delivered by Eddie Shanahan, at the Dock in Carrick-on-Shannon in January 2015, that she decided to return to the workforce.

Her years of experience in design, trends, and style gave her great knowledge of the industry, enabling her to advise designers on the early stages of their designs.

She met fellow ACORNS participant Siobhan Quinn, and together they created the first collection of Siobhan's Irish tweed and silk capes. Ann collaborated with French designer Delphine Grandjouan to create a selection of dresses for Winter 2016, which were most recently featured on TV3's Xpose. And now, she's making shorts, belts and dickie bows for Ronan Hanna in Donegal Tweed.

Taking part in ACORNS was a very positive experience for Ann and she still regularly meets with her fellow participants.

Ann has big ambitions for Design Studio. She plans to move her premises from Cunnareen House to Longford town, increase her staff, and a website showcasing her work, is on the way.

While her current focus is collaborating with other designers, she hopes to start designing her own collection next year.