



## The Living Wheel

The installation reimagines Belfast's hydrological heritage through a kinetic, light-generating sculpture that transforms rainwater into energy, motion, and reflection.

Inspired by waterwheels and the buried River Farset, of which Belfast's name is derived, this installation pays tribute to the waterways that once powered Belfast's industries and shaped its identity.

Rainwater collected from the environment flows through the wheel to generate light and motion — a poetic revival of the historical waterwheels that once drove mills and factories.

In drier periods, human touch or wind activates the carousel wheel, symbolising shared responsibility for sustaining energy.

The Living Wheel is both a public artwork and a functioning micro-power system, celebrating the city's invisible rivers and resilience in the face of environmental change.

More than a monument, it's a conversation piece. It turns passive observation into active participation — inviting the public to co-generate energy, and reflect on their relationship to water, sustainability, and community.

Built with low-carbon and recycled materials, the sculpture echoes circular economy principles and reinforces the link between climate, heritage, and collective action.

In essence, it's a metaphor for climate resilience: in abundance, the water flows; in scarcity, we act. Neither nature nor humans alone can turn the wheel — only together.