ENNISKILLEN ARTS FESTIVAL

VISUAL ARTS TRAIL

2010
Intro

Enniskillen Visual Arts Trail is a symposium that encourages emerging contemporary visual arts. The Arts Office annually in association with the Arts Festival seeks diverse and ambitious submissions from artists involved in all areas of artistic practice & encourages proposals that aim at siting work within the wide spread fabric of a modern urban environment.

Launch date: Saturday 2nd October at 7.00pm
The Higher Bridges Gallery, Enniskillen.

Shop Front Cinema

Shop Front Cinema is a unique event curated especially for Enniskillen’s bustling High Street during the Enniskillen Arts Festival. Some of our favourite film-makers, artists and organisations have been put together with a collection of our favourite Enniskillen shops - it’s all set to be an adventure in film and a spectacle not to be missed!

Floating World Books

Floating World is a group of artists who make books. The artists, who come from Ireland, England and Japan, have made and exhibited works in different venues, from the foyer of Enniskillen Town Hall to Tate Britain. The aim of the group is to use the book medium to express their ideas to as broad an audience as possible.

In September Floating World will be creating two site-specific installations at Enniskillen Museum. The installations will display work by members of the public alongside works by Floating World artists.

In the run up to the show Andy Parsons will be working with members of the public to make artists books onsite at the museum. This part of the project aims to provide everyone with a voice to relate ideas, share images, thoughts, insights and memories.

www.floatingworldbooks.com

Partners

This stunning exhibition celebrates the theme of creative partnerships. The show highlights work by Fermanagh artists who are also partners. It includes examples by:

Jeremy Henderson & Patricia Martinelli
Denise and Brian Ferran
Anthony Scott & Cheryl Brown
Miriam de Búrca & Seamus Harahan.

The exhibition showcases a wide range of work from paintings and drawings to sculpture and film.

Co-ordinators:
Sarah McHugh,
Castle & Museum Curator
Noelle McAlinden, EAF Chair

www.floatingworldbooks.com

Partners Location:
Enniskillen Castle Museums
30th Sept 2010 - 7th Jan 2011
Bbeyond is committed to promoting the practice of performance art and artists in Northern Ireland and further afield. Our aim is to raise people’s consciousness of live/performance art as being integral to the world in and around us, inspiring reflection and enriching lived experience. We host artists of international reputation throughout the performance art world and encourage newer artists to experience performance art practices for themselves. Bbeyond encourages greater access to and appreciation of this visually based art form, through facilitating modes of active private/public participation, allowing people from all sectors of society, not just the traditional arts, to experience and enjoy performance art directly.

Bbeyond participants for the festival:
Alastair MacLennan, Brian Connolly, Brian Patterson Hugh O’Donnell, Chrissie Cadman, Elvira Santamaria James King, Pavana Reid, Paul King, Rainer Pagel

www.bbeyondperformance.org

Artist In Residence:

Andrew Dodds

Andrew Dodds is a Belfast-born artist who is particularly noted for his context-specific works exploring our historical and cultural relationship with ‘nature’, the ‘voice’, and the shared potentialities of public space. He consistently engages and acknowledges others in the imagining, production and reception of his artwork, often questioning received structures and certainties within and beyond the art arena. Dodds’ work has been exhibited and commissioned widely at major public galleries, artist-run spaces and sites beyond the gallery including Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead (2009), Tarrahan-e Azad Gallery, Tehran (2010), The Architecture Centre, Bristol (2009) and Gallery 400, Chicago (2007).

Andrew will be producing a new work for the Enniskillen Arts Festival in response to his residency in Waterways Ireland’s headquarters. The artist will draw upon the organisation’s role as ‘guardian’ of the inland, navigable waterways to question how cultural material produced by the tourism and leisure industries informs our perceptions of landscape and ‘nature’.

www.andrewdodds.com

Image: Andrew Dodds, Underfall, 2009; biodiversity survey of a dry dock in Bristol, commissioned for the exhibition New Growth. Photo: Chris Kennedy, courtesy The Architecture Centre, Bristol.
Visual Arts Open

The Visual Arts Open boasts an intriguing collection of visual artists and includes fifteen specially selected national and international artists who responded to this year’s Open Call.

1. Emily Robyn Archer
The Ardhowen Theatre (upper gallery)
Archer’s work is based on remembered imagery, childhood and ideas of ‘home’. Her drawing process is both physical and psychological, using a pencil and paper to literally draw out images from memory.

2. Chris Boland
Lakeland Forum
Chris Boland is a Limerick based artist whose practice is predominantly sculptural. He is a founding member of Faber studios Limerick artists led studio/gallery. His work is concerned with the meaning/interpretation of the useless and the idea of fruitless pataphysical investigation.

3. Rebecca Bradley
Tourist Information Centre
Postcards is an ongoing body of work consisting of a series of paintings based on memories, journeys & daily observations.

4. Amanda Dunsmore
Enniskillen Bus Station
Head is Whole Woman. In June 2008 Dunsmore found a hole in a rural road and put her head in it. She became intrigued by the simple visual metaphor of this action. The work on show in Enniskillen is a subsequent video work with photographic material gathered from repeating this action in Enniskillen.

5. Lilian Ingram
The Lakeland Forum
Working largely through the intaglio printing process Ingram’s work explores the idea of soul and the various means to communicate it, such as metaphors, symbols, or allegory.

6. Ellie Irvine & Kiera McCluskey
Café Merlot
Fermanagh based artists Irvine & McCluskey have come together to create a large scale suspended installation that incorporates elements of colour, light, rhythm & energy.

7. Dragana Jurisic
Lakeland Forum
Seeing Things addresses issues on both a socio-cultural and photographic level. Firstly, it references the work I was occupied with from Nov 2006 – Feb 2008, on the largely overlooked social problem of poverty in modern Ireland. Secondly, it questions the nature of photographic seeing. Are photographers, as Badger says standing back and taking the wider view which separates them both physically and psychologically from their subjects ‘like the gods gazing down on the earth with Olympian dispassion’; or are they hiding with their presented vision, the hurt that they experience in the process? Does this predicament to get taken by the visual beauty of the scene in front of them - even a very upsetting one - override what is essential to one’s mental health - the optimism of memory? Are photographers tricked by beauty? Yes. Yes. Yes. Yes.
8. Pauric Leahy
Enniskillen Library
The main focus of Pauric’s work is associated with targets, animals, children & weapons using a variety of medium to make a series of imaginative compositions questioning notions of real.

9. Kevin Miller
Russell & Donnelly’s Deli
Miller is interested in the layers of meaning, pleasure & narrative that alter as a viewer bodily experiences painting from different distances.

10. Eilis Murphy
Mad Hatter, Clinton Centre
Murphy’s work involves unearthing fragments of social heritage and local folklore, using older buildings in a community as subject matter. She has been researching cinema heritage in Ireland, using the recently demolished Star Cinema in her hometown, Ballyhaunis, Co Mayo, as a starting point.

11. Nuala O’Sullivan
Erneside Shopping Centre (top of escalator)
In All Fall Down O’Sullivan uses The Financial Times & its supplement as source material. Through painting, print & installation, the work examines mass media influence on our self-image and also considers the background & unseen financial forces that often manipulate both how we see ourselves & how we spend our money.

12. Zita Reihill
Frances Restaurant
Reihill’s work In Defence of Poetry starts with writing all over the canvas - this writing is poetry. The idea that poetry can make us emotionally psychologically & even physically better goes back to the ancient world.

13. Paul Tierney
Fermanagh House
Portrait Odyssey consists of making a journey of portraits of people working within the Enniskillen area. It is a participative project involving the community as a whole with the outcome of the artist’s journey becoming the exhibition.

14. Louise Wallace
Russell and Donnelly’s Deli (Lower walls)
Wallace’s recent work draws upon a waking dream-state and the idea of disappearing into the mother role – a mater-morphosis where the female subject dissolves, sometimes with monstrous consequences.

15. Niall Walsh
Enniskillen Museum Courtyard
The Tyranny of History refers to the concept of history as a weight of ideas, philosophies, and circumstances. Borrowing the classical architectural and monumental form of the archway, traditionally constructed in stone to glorify conquest and subjugation.
Susan MacWilliam: Supersense

Supersense presents a collection of video works by Belfast based artist Susan MacWilliam who represented Northern Ireland with her solo exhibition Remote Viewing at the 2009 Venice Biennale. Supersense features works about the Irish born medium and founder of the New York Parapsychology Foundation, Eileen Garrett (1893-1970). Since first meeting the family of Eileen Garrett in New York in 2006, MacWilliam has made a number of works about this infamous and influential trance medium. During a residency with the Parapsychology Foundation in 2007 MacWilliam lived with Garrett’s 90 year-old daughter Eileen Coly. MacWilliam’s synchronised three-screen work Eileen 2008 was exhibited at the 2009 Venice Biennale. Supersense provides an opportunity to see other works about Eileen Garrett alongside earlier works that delve into the worlds of the paranormal and the supersensory.

Eileen Garrett first traveled to New York in 1931 on invitation of the American Society of Psychical Research. Describing the 1930s and 40s transatlantic crossings of Eileen Garrett and daughter, The Only Way to Travel 2008 presents a world of high living, the cocktail hour, the rise of the New York skyscraper and an era of glamorous travel, optimism and new horizons. While making the work MacWilliam discovered that in 1934 relatives of hers traveled on the same sailing to New York as Garrett and daughter. In 13 Roland Gardens 2007 Garrett’s daughter Eileen Coly describes Garrett’s R101 Airship Séance of 1930 and living above Harry Price’s Laboratory of Psychical Research at 13 Roland Gardens, South Kensington.

Through anecdote, reconstruction and editing MacWilliam’s works explore forms of portraiture and interpretation, and provide a historical visual record of cases within the history of parapsychology and psychical research. MacWilliam has made works based on historical cases of materialisation mediums, x-ray vision, optograms, table tilting and dermo optical perception. Since 2005 she has worked closely with prominent parapsychologists and psychical research institutions, including the Dermo Optical Laboratory of Madame Yvonne Duplessis, Paris and the Parapsychology Foundation and American Society for Psychical Research, New York. In 2008 MacWilliam researched the TG Hamilton Spirit Photograph Collection, University of Manitoba Archives, Winnipeg.

MacWilliam is a lecturer in Fine Art at the National College of Art and Design, Dublin. Her video works (1998-2007) are housed in the Drama and Literature Section of the British Library’s Sound Archive. In 2010 she will exhibit in Belfast, Dublin, London, New York, Esslingen, Vancouver, Winnipeg and Taiwan.

www.susanmacwilliam.com
Tara Moran Woods: Forgotten Loops

Tara Moran Woods is based in Belleek, Co. Fermanagh, she studied at Sligo Institute of Technology, graduating with an Honours Degree in Fine Art in 2006. Since then she has exhibited in solo and group shows in Fermanagh, Sligo, Belfast, Offaly, Co. Down.

The sculpture for festival represents the woman of the house and the lost crochet skills of the past. The top of the piece incorporates plastic fruit and flowers a sign of modern consumerisms ornaments and decorations that adorn our homes. The artificial gradually develops into crochet flowers and eventually a female figure emerges, and the handmade overpowers the mass produced.

Phil Hession

For the Enniskillen Arts Festival Phil Hession will sing a series of traditional songs as part of a live artwork installed in Blakes of the Hollow on the High Street. Past performances have seen Hession exploring the possibilities of fusing his love of singing with his art practice, an endeavor which has led him to producing works of art that see him singing and teaching traditional Irish songs alongside people of other nationalities as diverse as Taiwanese to Slovenian.

Hession’s practice has also found him making rare performances accompanied by mobile phone ring tones, the click of a slide projector or singing alongside multiple video projections. Come along and watch this unique artwork unfold within the atmosphere of one of Fermanagh’s most special venues.

Art Barter

A major event of the festival this year and is an opportunity to swap something for an original work of art! The idea of Art Barter is that you can acquire a beautiful piece of art through alternative means to money: the artist may swap you a painting in exchange for anything from some plumbing being done in their house to a couple of chickens for the garden! Art Barter allows art to become something we can all get our hands on no matter our income and encourages us all to think about what unique skills we might have to offer the artist in exchange for their work.

What could you swap?

www.visualartsfermanagh
Visual Arts Co-ordinator & Fundraiser:
Diane Henshaw, Visual Artist,
Arts Officer for Fermanagh District Council

Selection Committee for Enniskillen Visual Arts Open:
Diane Henshaw
Caoimhin Corrigan,
Arts Officer Leitrim County Council
Andy Parsons, Visual Artist

Curatorial Committee for Visual Arts Trail:
Diane Henshaw
Helen Sharp, Visual Artist

Visual Arts Trail Programme design:
Keith Connolly, Tonic Design

Special thanks to:
Flo’s Restaurant, Sloans, McElwaine Electrical,
The Money Shop, Clive Alexander Hairdressing,
Stuart’s Auction House, Enniskillen Bus Station,
The Tourist Information Centre, Café Merlot,
Enniskillen Library, Erne Pharmacy, Cancer Research,
Tyrone & Fermanagh Locksmiths, Wesley J Elliotts,
Johnnie Lawson, McElholm Opticians, Deil Quinn,
Enniskillen Castle Museum, Blakes of the Hollow,
Higher Bridges Gallery, Ardhowen Theatre,
Lakeland Forum, Rusell & Donnelly’s Deli,
Mad Hatter Café, Erneside Shopping Centre,
Frances Restaurant, Fermanagh House.