
10 x 10

Identity in Contemporary Ireland

The Lavit Gallery

Tuesday 22 January – Saturday 2 February 2008

Ivan Armstrong, David Connolly, Robin Cordiner, Dominic Fee, Anna FitzSimons, Terence Gravett, Lynda Hamilton, Séan Hanrahan, Michael Hart, Catherine Hehir, Raymond Henshaw, Mae Holland, Jo Kelley, John Kelly, Bronagh Lawson, Donna McNamara, Noelle Noonan, Amelia Norman, Anushiya Sundaralingam and Veronica Wallis.

Belfast Print Workshop and **Cork Printmakers** have come together to collaborate in the creation of a unique box set of prints, which will be shown in **The Lavit Gallery** from Tuesday 22 January to Saturday 2 February 2008. The exhibition titled, **10 x 10: Identity in Contemporary Ireland** features 10 artists from each print workshop.

The Ireland of today has gone through rapid changes, emigration changing to immigration, multi-ethnicity and the rise of consumerism have become preoccupations brought about as a consequence of the 'Celtic Tiger' economic boom. Artists have continually engaged with elements of social politics, and this body of work aims to explore the notion of identity in Ireland today, expressing a remarkable cross-section of viewpoints from both North and South.

The impetus for this project came as a direct result from a programme of residencies organised by Cork Printmakers and celebrating Cork City as European Capital of Culture 2005. The positive experiences that came from this initiative prompted a reciprocal art project, instigated by the artist Raymond Henshaw of Belfast Print Workshop. **10 x 10** was the result, bringing together ten artists from **Belfast Print Workshop** and ten artists from **Cork Printmakers**.

Belfast Print Workshop is the largest arts organisation in Northern Ireland, where professional printmakers can share facilities, materials and ideas with each other to express their art. The workshop also facilitates a gallery space and online gallery which promotes artwork to a worldwide audience. Belfast Print Workshop, initially known as Endhouse Print Workshop, grew from the activities, in the early seventies, of a group of artists and printmakers who were interested in establishing a workshop in Belfast. Endhouse Print Workshop was taken under the financial wing of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland in 1977 and its name changed to Belfast Print Workshop.

Cork Printmakers is a permanent, non-profit making fine art print workshop providing facilities, materials, support and artistic opportunities for both established and emerging artists. Activities include national and international exhibitions of members' work, comprehensive adult education and artist-in-school programmes, as well as public lectures and artist residencies. Cork Printmakers offers bursaries to graduates of the Crawford College of Art and Design, Waterford Institute of Technology and Limerick School of Art which range from full membership to free participation in the educational programme. The workshop currently facilitates over ninety member artist/printmakers. An ongoing and changing programme of framed and unframed work is on show on the second floor, and opens to the public all year round.

For further information contact:

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