

THE KILDARE GALLERY

Sculptors

Anna Campbell (large Goshawk will be displayed pre-xmas)

Anna Campbell is an Irish sculptor, born in Newry, County Down in the North of Ireland. She studied sculpture at the Crawford College of Art in Cork and in the early nineties she moved to England, where she worked for four years at Pangolin Editions, Gloucester. It was here that she gained valuable experience as a sculptor and further developed her technique of working with bronze. Through her work at Pangolin Editions, she was exposed to the work of other sculptors and had the opportunity to work on bronze pieces by notable sculptors, such as Lyn Chadwick. Her own bronze sculptures, whether they feature figures or animals, as her subject matter are characterised by their elegant modelling and highly distinctive and unique patination, a skill that she still employs for Cast Foundry in Dublin, where she continues to work. She has exhibited her bronze sculpture extensively, throughout Ireland and England, taking part in exhibitions such as the Royal Hibernian Academy Annual Exhibition in Dublin, the Royal Ulster Academy Annual Exhibition in Belfast, and various group exhibitions. Anna has also received many awards for her bronze sculpture in Ireland, including the Penn Chemicals, Cork Award, the Iontas Small Works Exhibition Award and the Sculpture in Context Award.

Aoife Bambury

Aoife Bambury is a Kildare based contemporary visual artist and sculptor, whose current practice is focused on modernist sculpture, using bronze as the core material.

Utilising her interest in popular culture, pop art and the designer toy movements, Bambury's work includes abstracted elements from the animal world. Her work is mostly connected to the figurative and is intended to convey reactionary responses connected to our subconscious.

Through her process and working of the bronze her work can take on the appearance of different materials, and at first glance could be manufactured from vinyl or another plastic. This alchemy of how we view the objects around us is core to Bambury's work as an artist. She continuously experiments with deeply contrasting patinas and with lacquer, and high gloss finishes on bronze. She wants to highlight the clash between high art and high street, and how these lines become blurred in the works of artists that she admires such as KAWS, Sterling Ruby and Murakami.

Aoife has studied at post graduate level at N.C.A.D. and at Crawford College, CIT, Cork. She learned bronze casting techniques during extended study periods in Burkina Faso, West Africa. Originally from Kerry, she currently lives and works in County Kildare. She is an emerging artist and her work has been included in many group shows over the past few years, such as Sculpture in Context, CIACLA-(Contemporary Irish Arts Centre Los Angeles) and the annual exhibitions at The Royal Ulster Academy. Aoife's work has recently been purchased by the Arts Council of Ireland for their permanent collection.

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Ayelet Lalor

Dublin based Irish artist Ayelet specialises in decorative and colourful figurative sculpture and graphic art, and has worked in clay, bronze, concrete, and even edible materials.

Art and creativity have always been an intrinsic part of her life, and her work is inspired by the female form which features strongly in the work, a constant muse, referenced through colour, texture and strong graphic stylisation. Ayelet works in a variety of media and scales.

My sculptures have been exhibited both in Ireland & abroad & her pieces can be found in various collections

“I grew up in West Cork surrounded by artists, and as a child spent many summers camping under the stars, and dancing around maypoles. I was surrounded by independent, free- thinking women, in sharp contrast to the American southern belle influences of my maternal family. This has shaped my work greatly, with the strong female form being central to my artwork.

I’ve worked as a professional clay artist since 1999. I’ve always liked to get my hands dirty, and the physical act of mark making, digging with fingers, smearing, smoothing and tearing are intrinsic to my creative process, and continuous research and exploration have resulted in more experimental ways of working. I also really enjoy the challenge that comes from working in different mediums: clay, cement, bronze, and have built sculptures from materials as diverse as chocolate, icing and cement!”

Bob Quinn

Born in 1948 Bob Quinn enjoyed a long career within the Irish advertising business as a commercial artist, designer and as the head of a successful design and production company. He now works full time as a sculptor in Blackrock, Co Dublin.

He has pursued his love of drawing and sculpture throughout his career and has illustrated several publications and has been a regular contributor of illustrations to Independent Newspapers. His sculptures appear in private collections and gardens throughout Ireland, Britain, and Europe.

Although loosely described as figurative his art is expressionist and his deep knowledge of anatomy allows him to abstract the human form and make the simplest of observations. His lifelong influences have been Epstein, Marini and Giacometti and painters such as Millet and Degas. His current work is a celebration of the drama and the nobility of the most ordinary of human activity.

In terms of the craft of sculpture he enjoys the whole time worn process: Working from preparatory sketches to the wax or clay original he then makes his own moulds before taking the wax through the long casting procedure to the patination process and to the permanence of the final sculpture.

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The Butlers (Liam & his 2 sons Ronan & Davin)

Originally from Kilkenny Liam Butler now lives and works in the West of Ireland, where he works alongside his two sons Ronan & Davin, both sculptors. Liam is a welder by trade and worked abroad in Germany and America for many years before returning to Ireland where he began using his skill to express himself artistically.

He is a completely self-taught, technically brilliant sculptor. His tools are no more than a welding torch and a hammer. Liam's signature style of highly polished copper alongside heavily textured patination makes his work recognisable anywhere. Growing up alongside their father in the workshop both Ronan & Davin from a young age began sculpting. Liam has passed on his craft to both his sons who are talented artists in their own right.

All are inspired by the natural elegance in their immediate environment, species of birds, trees & flowers. In recent years, willingness to experiment and a growth in confidence has seen an explosion of new subject matter especially the natural beauty of the windswept landscape of the West of Ireland & figurative pieces. The Butler's love and empathy with the natural world cries out from each piece. Their work is in both private & public collections worldwide.

Calnan & Anhøj (husband & wife Michael & Gunvor)

Michael Calnan & Gunvor Anhøj speciality is forged bronze and corten steel sculpture for the garden. They have been creating for 20 years, going back to the time where they simultaneously fell for each other as well as for our craft. They quote George Bernard Shaw 'Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire, you will what you imagine and at last you create what you will.'

Setting off on our adventure after art college finished, they conjured a joint vision of artistic metal sculpting, which they have been building on ever since. Their sculpture has now been widely exhibited in Ireland and England and can be found in many private collections around the world. Public collections include The Irish State Art Collection, The Department of Foreign Affairs, The Office of Public Works, and The Crafts & Design Council of Ireland's Permanent Collection. Their awards include the 2015 Mill Cove Award for a sculpture of distinction.

The National Craft Awards, first and second prize awarded by the Royal Dublin Society in 2011 & 12. The Crafts & Design Council of Ireland's Purchase Award 2012. And the Stanley Allcard Award in 1998 by The Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths.

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Dawn Conn

International figurative sculptor Dawn Conn is captivated by the nostalgia of childhood, *'joie de vivre'* & embracing life. For Dawn, her sculptural process is intuitive - an emotional language, the way she sees the world. Although, it starts with imagery of personal experiences, feelings, and memories, as a daughter, a mother and as a woman, her themes are universal. Dawn comments, *'ultimately, I want people to respond to my work with feelings rather than thoughts.'* These are examined through a whimsical and instinctive perspective to create authentic and meaningful sculptures.

Dawn grew up celebrating her Celtic heritage on a farm, near a settlement called 'Avoca' in New Zealand. Her humble beginnings taught her the value of resourcefulness, joy of imagination and love of nature. Although Dawn's childhood is long gone, it is still very much alive in her heart and in her work.

Dawn undertook nearly a decade-long year journey of academic art education (including art and design studies at the prestigious Central St Martins College in London. She combined it with an organic approach of continued self-instruction and independent study to create her own unique artistic style, fusing techniques, mediums, and inspiration.

Since 2011, Dawn established a successful sculpture business based in Australia and in 2016 returned to Europe. Her bronze and resin sculptures can now be found in private and public collections in Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Singapore, France, Germany, Finland, Portugal, Italy, Switzerland, USA, UK and Ireland. In 2020 Dawn won the BBC1 'home is with the art is' (S2E2) art show with her original sculpture.

Dawn sees her creativity as an evolution – *'my art has always represented my vision and spirit'*. Dawn's journey of life is brimming with adventure, travel, people and places. Her personal passion is in evidence in her work which is underpinned by a slightly quirky take on life and a gentle sense of humour which mirrors her own.

Dirk Hudson

"Neither memoir nor manifesto: I create what I see, and I see more clearly as I create."

Dirk Hudson is a sculptor and conceptual visual artist working in metals, wax, bronze, stone, found objects, drawing, and installation. He has worked in industry as a master craftsman and in other associated roles with a strong interest in and understanding of materials and process. Dirk is motivated by finding ways of seeing more clearly, attempting to bridge the gap where words fail, often focusing on human endeavour and unseen forces. He uses metaphor to challenge preconceptions, asking, "what does it look like?" when confronted with engaging ideas, objects, or situations.

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Donnacha Cahill

Donnacha Cahill, is an experienced, professional artist from Athenry, County Galway who works mainly in steel. His art practice revolves around observations and his pieces aim to spark the imagination and create conversation. He has been commissioned to make large works for– The Department of Education, Galway County Council, and Antrim County Council. He has also created large art installations for Trinity College Dublin, RTÉ, The Electric Picnic, The European Recycling Platform, Dublin Airport and Bloom in the Park with The Kildare Gallery. Donnacha has exhibited at many arts festivals in Ireland and throughout the UK.

Cahill's playful works bring a smile & joy to both old & young who see them. Perfect for the home or garden. These collectable, fun sculptures are available in both welded steel & bronze.

Artist Statement

“After receiving a degree in Fine Art Sculpture in 2004, I worked in a variety of jobs from construction work to metal fabrication. In 2006, I set up my own business called *Red Hill Sculpture* which specialises in bespoke metalwork in which I design and make contemporary gates, staircases, and railings. Since then, my work has headed in a more creative direction.

I have been involved with many different public sculpture commissions throughout county Galway. I have also been employed by different schools to give creative workshops in design and creating sculpture. The *Electric Picnic* commissioned me in 2011 and 2012 to make large-scale installations for the festival, one of which received an award in 2011. I have been asked to work with the *European Recycling Platform*, a pan-European organisation, on a regular basis to work on installations, sculptures and campaigns to highlight the responsible disposal of electrical waste. I'm also a board member of the Irish Artist Blacksmith Association. The most important aspect of my practice is creating work for myself. I see myself as a storyteller and want my art to create conversation, be a talking piece & inspire.

John Hogan

John's career in hand forged ironwork began in 1998 at the age of 19, when he began studying in the Irish School of Blacksmithing. Here he was given the opportunity to train under US blacksmith Henry Profret and Irish blacksmith Paul Devlin, before going to the UK to work with Master Blacksmith Bill Corduroy at his forge in Norfolk.

The mentorship from these well renowned & highly skills blacksmiths', forged the path for John's career in blacksmithing, cementing his skills on all kinds of projects including Georgian, contemporary, and artistically expressive Iron, steel & bronze work.

After qualifying with distinction, John then joined an artistic ironworks company in Dublin for five years, where he worked on many large-scale projects including the grand gates of Birr Castle, railings restoration at Trinity College, as well as many bespoke iron staircases and gates for private clients. With years of top-notch training and experience under his belt, John set up his own business in 2005. What started small, soon developed into a large warehouse suitable for projects of all scales.

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Having been in operation for nearly 20 years, John has built up an extensive portfolio of bespoke pieces, that includes hand forged traditional gates and metal railings, curved staircases, garden sculptures, award trophies and much more.

John's sense of creativity knows no bounds and his ever-growing collection of fascinating artistic pieces includes large scale public sculptures, garden sculptures as well as smaller wall sculptures.

John's work has been commissioned all over the country and overseas in the US and Australia. He is experienced in working with several different metals including mild steel, stainless steel, wrought iron, copper and bronze

He has worked with interior designers, garden designers, architects, conservation officers and some of the biggest building companies in the country. Looking to the future, John plans to continue to create bespoke artistic pieces that break the mould and can be enjoyed by people for years to come.

Mike Duhan

"Like so many artists before me and around me I use the naked human figure as the metaphor to explore and describe my take on the beauty and complexity not only of the human form but also of our shared human condition; neither of which, (form and condition) will be changing anytime soon. My work is thus object based and as I use traditional materials and techniques (clay, metal, fire) my work does not fit in with current curatorial and critical art templates. I don't mind that in the least I have no need to fit in. I always wanted my work to be timeless and like to think of myself as being *post-contemporary*.

To me how one says what one says is as important as what one says in the first place. I enjoy using my hands and acquired skills in the making of my art. It wouldn't upset me in the least to be described as an artisan or craftsman rather than an artist as long as I'm happy with the quality of my output. I use permanent materials so that my work can reach out through time; I try to make the work aesthetically pleasing and try to lace it with humor. I would like to think that it could touch people from the past equally well as those not yet born.

The work an artist does expresses who and what he or she is; not only that, but the creative processes also involved, both physical and mental, serve as exercises in self-exploration and discovery; helping one know oneself. My Art along with the meanings I weave into it, should in its finality and totality define who I am or who I was. I suppose on a worldwide level Art has that same function namely to serve as a diagnostic tool, a civilizing stimulus and diary of mankind's journey.

Art is one of the things that defines us and explains us, it helps distil our humanity and pass on its message."- Mike Duhan

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Stephanie Hess

Stephanie is an award-winning sculptor based in Dublin.

Born in Singapore to Irish parents with a taste for adventure, Stephanie lived widely throughout Europe, Canada and the States before settling in South Africa from 2000-2014. This period saw her explore ceramics and sculpture under the tutelage of local and international artists. She found a bronze casting course in 2003 to be an exhilarating introduction to the medium, sparking a love for the material and the process. Stephanie and her family came to live in Ireland in 2014 and she began casting her work with CAST foundry in Dublin. Within a few months she submitted her work to the prestigious Royal Hibernian Academy Annual Exhibition for the first time and was awarded the ESB Moran Award and Medal for Outstanding Sculpture.

Her distinctive patinas play an integral part in conveying the characters of her stylized animals brimming with whimsy, playfulness, humour and tenderness.

“My childhood bookshelf has been a great influence in my life. The adventures, hopes and dreams of the little creatures anthropomorphized in the stories of Beatrix Potter, A.A. Milne, Richard Scarry and Kenneth Grahame to name but a few, have given me a sense that anything is possible in a world inhabited by animals who sail rafts, bake pies, drive cars, make cups of tea and head off on adventures!”

For Stephanie, sculpting is all about joy.

Her works appear in private collections and gardens throughout Ireland, the UK, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, Hong Kong, South Africa and the United States.

In 2020/2021 Stephanie was commissioned to create the Lord Mayor of Dublin Awards, the Lord Mayor of Dublin Youth Awards, and the Freedom of the City of Dublin Award.

In 2022 she was commissioned by Dublin Zoo to create a bronze sculpture of a Red Panda as a thank you from the zoo to the people of Ireland and beyond who responded so generously to the Save Dublin Zoo initiative.

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Petr Holecek

Petr Holecek was born in 1976 in Benesov, Czech Republic.

Between the years 1996 to 2001 he studied at University in Ceske Budejovice, CR, Pedagogical Faculty, and specialized in Art and Civic Education. In the Spring of 2003, he attended a drawing studies course at the National Gallery of Ireland, and in 2004 he was an art assistant in the studio of Patrick O'Reilly in Dublin

He has had many solo exhibitions in the Czech Republic and numerous group exhibitions throughout Ireland including a solo show at The Kildare Gallery in 2018. Petr was awarded The Goodbody Outstanding Artist Award at the 2022 Sculpture show at the National Botanic Gardens.

Painters

Andrzej Mazur

Andrzej Mazur was born in 1979. He is a Dublin based visual artist with Polish roots. He holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from University of Maria Curie-Sklodowska, Lublin, Poland. He specialized in fine art prints. For the last 15 years of his professional painting practice, he has been exhibited extensively in Ireland and abroad.

“My works tell the human story from the perspective of fleeting moments, single occurrences. I’m trying express emotions and feelings in a uniquely subtle way – indirectly and between the verses. Sometime static, sometime expressive movements of my human figures, their gestures and mimicry become an almost abstract symbol of the state of mind that ‘the viewer’ projects onto his/her mental experiences. Let’s make an art to be a mirror where we all can stand “Face –to – face” to our inner life.”

“There is something deeply peculiar about Andrzej Mazur’s arresting, if often arcane images. His beautifully accomplished oils, many small and exquisitely detailed, teem with cryptic fragments of myth, Aesop’s Fables or Biblical tales; with a visual lexicon colliding Renaissance art and science with Baroque, Romantic, Symbolist, Dada, Surrealist and Catholic iconography. Hardworking and prolific, his tumult of imaginary landscapes are allegories mostly centred on the human form; often cowed or masked, resplendent or recoiling. With extraordinary facility he shifts styles – from the macabre, grotesque and apocalyptic to the fantastical, even sentimental – his Old Master techniques bolted to a free-ranging post-modern sensibility.”

Mic Moroney

“Garden of Earthly Delights”

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Cathal Manning

Cathal Manning is a self-taught oil painter based in Dublin, Ireland.

Many of his paintings capture images of Irish landscapes and the more traditional Irish way of life. As a child Cathal grew up on the North side of Dublin to parents from farming backgrounds in the West of Ireland. As a child he spent his school holidays returning to his parent's home place from the late 1970s and right through the 80s. Manning adored these times and fell in love with the way of life that existed then. He was intrigued as to how the environment and way of life contrasted so much with that of his surroundings in Dublin, how the landscape and colours of West Kerry contrasted with the opaque tones of the city.

In the villages where his grandparents were living, life was simple. Most were living off the land where they had a small number of livestock. Some of the neighbours lived in houses without electricity or running water. As a child he worked with his grandparents, uncles and neighbours on the farms. Life was very simple for most.

The memories he has of these times along with the stories about life from his parent's childhood he holds dearly and enjoys trying to keep alive through his painting. The vibrant colours used in the paintings are how he remembers rural life from childhood memories. Manning's paintings are created with oil freely applied to a stretched canvas board, completed entirely with a palette knife. Cathal also produces portraits of various musicians, actors, and other artists from both the past and present, as well as completing private commissions.

Daniel E. Robinson

Daniel works using images gathered by drawing, painting, and photographing the landscape of Achill Island (situated off the West Coast of Ireland). The paintings deal with the feelings of being in and remembering a time and a place in the landscape as much as the visual aspect. Daniel has also become obsessed with Homer's Odyssey and Greek mythology via music from the soundtrack to the Coen brother's film "O Brother, Where Art Thou." "I was listening to this music while driving around Achill looking for places to work from and it fitted with the visuals that were hitting me, so I decided to go with it and allow it to affect the paintings. I'll keep doing this until it's all over."

Debbie Chapman

Born in Co.Wexford, Ireland and having spent many years in both London and Australia, Debbie Chapman is a contemporary artist now currently living and working in Dublin. She is mainly a painter but also active in collaborative youth arts.

A common thread runs through her work; the unseen and unnoticed. Unseen characters that inhabit worlds between us. Unnoticed moments that pass before us. Unseen parts of ourselves and unnoticed moments of self-reflection. While sometimes we make time to contemplate life's big questions, it's the gradual accumulation of micro-reflections that create our view of the world. These thoughtful pauses occur throughout any average day and often go unnoticed. They lead to observations, realisations or just an appreciation of the moment itself.

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She uses oil, acrylics and mixed media in her paintings. Her compositions are a deliberate and considered jumble of informal abstraction and realistic representation. They portray strength and vulnerability, often simultaneously. She merges pictorial images with personal experiences reconfiguring fragments to achieve understanding.

Heidi Morrisson

Heidi is a visual artist & Art Psychotherapist based in Kildare. Her own professional art practice developed since her graduation with a BA (hons) in Fine Art at Plymouth University. Heidi decided to move to Ireland after studying at The National College of Art & Design Dublin as part of her degree.

Heidi is interested in creating paintings that connect and communicate a personal response to the natural world around her. She is compelled to paint in response to nature's simple yet dynamic forms, lines and colours in landscapes or seascapes through representative or abstracted form. Heidi believes that the process of creating art is intrinsically connected to our emotional response with our external world past and/or present. Heidi has hosted solo and group exhibitions locally and abroad.

Jason O'Ceannobháin

Jason is a wildlife and portrait artist working and living in Kildare, Ireland.

Born in Dublin 1982, Jason's young talents were nurtured and encouraged by his close family. At the age of fourteen he was invited to exhibit his work with *The People's Art*, Dublin, exhibition and after a successful show, he decided to focus on a career in art.

He studied at Ballyfermot College of Further Education where he received a B.A. (Hons) Degree in art and animation.

Jason has been expanding his skills in wildlife and portrait studies for over twenty years.

During his progression he studied life-drawing where he experimented with different styles and mediums with very loose techniques. Gradually he introduced wildlife and landscapes into his portfolio. Working primarily in acrylic, pencil and charcoal, his technique is characterized by a close attention to detail and realism to accurately capture his subjects and their surroundings.

As a wildlife enthusiast Jason's work is strongly influenced by Ireland's native animals and rolling landscapes. He collects his research through fieldwork photography across the country allowing him to not only obtain the reference material needed, but to study his subjects in their natural environment.

Jason is a professional artist and has completed countless commissions for clients from all over the world. His work has been displayed in numerous galleries and auctioneers across the U.K. and Ireland. He continues to work in Co. Kildare and when not in his studio he enjoys the quiet rural village life.

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Jonathan Dickson

Born in Dublin in 1970, Jonathan is a Kildare based visual artist. After graduating from the National College of Art and Design in 1991 he went on to lead a successful career as a multi-award winning illustrator and designer. During 2006 he dedicated himself to further artistic development outside the design industry. Positive reaction to work created subsequently led him to make the decision to leave this career behind and commit full time to painting. Since then, he has taken part in numerous solo and group exhibitions.

His work is held in public, corporate and private collections in Ireland, Europe and the USA. He has also been the recipient of a number of public, corporate and private commissions.

Artist statement

“I paint and document what I experience around me (the visceral as much as the visual) as acutely as I can. Certain places and objects I experience resonate and won't let me go until I work through them, sometimes I know why during the process and sometimes the obsession is revealed afterwards. I'm ever increasingly aware that hindsight reveals far more about my work than anything I could ever conceive up front and I'm happy to allow this to continue (for now). Allied to this I have a deep curiosity about the nature of perception and memory (both visual and conceptual) and how it affects the subjects that call to me”.

Karen Wilson

Karen was born in Dublin in 1960 counts herself lucky to live and work in the beautiful seaside town of Skerries, Co. Dublin.

Mainly self-taught, she has painted all her life, the catalyst being the gift of oil paints from her sister at an early age. In fact, she has an oil painting that she painted when she was twelve years old. Following a painting workshop in Holland, plein air influenced her work, with inspiration around every corner of Skerries and beyond. The daily painting movement inspires her small still life paintings in oil of local scenery and kitchen still lives.

Working mostly with a palette knife, her paintings are characterised by vigorous thick buttery splashes of colour, with highlights of heavy impasto paint.

She paints every day, either a small still life painted in her Studio/Gallery, situated in the magnificent courtyard of the 15th century restored watermill, or, weather permitting, a plein air study of either of the two magnificent beaches or harbour, right on her doorstep in Skerries.

As well as her personal work she has taken on various commissions including a large body of work for the Hotel Isaacs, in Dublin and Cork. Karen's paintings can also be seen in the Lyrath Hotel, Kilkenny, Sheraton Hotel in Athlone and Lismore House Hotel in Lismore, Co. Waterford. Private collectors include Intel in Lexlip, Actor Brendan Gleeson, Designer Laney Keogh, Actor Aongus O'G McAnally, Irish rugby Captain Niall Hogan & TV and radio presenter Matt Cooper.

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Patrick Cahill

Born in Dublin, Ireland, Patrick Cahill has been working as an artist for over thirty years. He began his career as a graphic artist and then spent some time working in illustration, and for the past twenty years he has devoted himself exclusively to fine art.

He would originally have been best known for his very personal interpretations of the streets and buildings of his native city, and most particularly his unique observations of the Horse Fair in Dublin's Smithfield.

Cahill shows with the best commercial galleries, and his work has featured regularly in the annual exhibitions of the Royal Hibernian Academy, the Watercolour Society, Oireachtas and the Dublin Painting and Sketching Club. He has had many solo exhibitions to date, mainly in Dublin, and he also shows annually in Wexford, during the Opera Festival. His work can be found in private and public collections, both abroad and in this country, and is included in the permanent watercolour collection of Limerick University.

Watercolour was Cahill's first love, and he has been a member of the Watercolour Society for all of his painting life. He has won three awards with the Society since the awards system was introduced in recent years, and his watercolour work has been featured in the International Artist Magazine's "Master Showcase".

Nowadays, Cahill paints both in oils and watercolour, and his subject matter covers a wide range, including landscape, streetscape, still life and the nude. His painting style could be described as "alla prima" which means "first go", and he would say that "the marks made are as important as the subject, sometimes more important". He likes the painting process to show through in the finished painting.

Patrick O'Reilly

Patrick O'Reilly (b. 1957 Kilkenny, Ireland) is a highly acclaimed Irish artist who studied at the Belfast school of Art. He has since achieved international fame for his innovative and dynamic visual works, having exhibited throughout Ireland & Internationally for over two decades.

His work is included in many international museums and important private collections & in 1996 he had a solo exhibition in the Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery in Dublin. He has also won many awards including the RHA sculpture prize.

O'Reilly's works are not only philosophical expressions of thoughts and experiences but also reflect his feelings, emotions, and personality. Monumental large-scale public commissions have allowed his sculptures & mixed media works to become much loved parts of the local landscape particularly in Ireland, with prominent sculptures standing outside the 3 Arena, Adare Manor, Burlington Road & Sandycove, Dublin.

O'Reilly is represented by many major galleries including the Mayor Gallery, London, Gallery Vallois in Paris and Friedman Gallery on Maddison Avenue, New York. In addition, he has exhibited at prestigious international art fairs including Tefaf in Maastricht, At Basel & Art Miami. O'Reilly now lives and works between studios in Dublin, Venice, Madrid and the Auvergne.

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Susan Cairns

"Taking the old, broken, unwanted and often forgotten everyday objects, my ambition through painting is to capture character and beauty, transforming the usual into something unique and wonderful. With many years spent drawing and watercolour painting my current work in oils has evolved and developed into a style that is very identifiable, clear and detailed. Exploring light, colour, texture and tone is an essential part of my painting. Through my work I want the simple things to stand out, the not-so-pretty to be beautiful and everyday objects to shine."

Susan Cairns was born in Ireland in 1979 and grew up and still resides in Malahide, Co. Dublin. Cairns achieved an NCVA Certificate in Art and Design and a Diploma in Interior Architecture and Design.

Susan started painting in watercolour from 2002. After a few years she decided to change direction to oil paintings specialising in still life. Susan has exhibited in Dublin and Cork and is proud to have many of her works in private collections worldwide as far a-field as England, Germany, Texas, New York, New Jersey, Canada and Australia.

END