

# art of protest

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Christopher Banahan  
John Behan  
Shane Berkery  
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John Coll  
Anna Cosgrave  
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Gertrude Degenhardt  
Rita Duffy  
Jim FitzPatrick  
Mike Flannery  
Sean Hillen  
Dean Kelly  
Dolores Lyne  
Olga Magliocco  
Brian Maguire  
Maser  
Fran McCann  
Paddy McCann  
Conor McGrady  
Luke McMullen  
Margaret Nolan  
Mick O'Dea  
Joe O'Shaughnessy  
William Orpen  
Áine Phillips  
Pádraic Reaney  
Dermot Seymour  
Will St Leger  
Mario Sughi  
Kieran Tuohy  
Ruby Wallis



curated by Dean Kelly  
The Kenny Gallery  
14 July - 25 August

# art of protest

## It all started with a stamp!



In late 2017 An Post issued Jim Fitzpatrick's Ché Guevara image in the form of a commemorative €1 stamp marking the 50th Anniversary of both the death of the revolutionary leader and of the artist's iconic design. It was released not without a little

controversy ...and then very quickly sold out!

The Ché stamp was the perfect combination of eye catching design classic, interesting idea, revolutionary/political act, and useful object to boot.

It got us thinking, what about an exhibition full of similar beautiful, interesting, challenging, political artworks? A show which would celebrate and challenge politically motivated and engaged artists - this could be something that could capture the imagination of both artists and the public.

As a painter of ideas myself it wasn't hard to envisage such a collection - but the challenge

would be in gathering the right blend of artists. We simply couldn't have proceeded without the cooperation of a number of key artists, starting with Jim FitzPatrick, and almost all that we approached thankfully agreed to participate.

Of course galleries upon galleries could have been filled with myriad combinations of work, so what we present in Art of Protest is just one take, one particular cocktail.

This eclectic exhibition comprises painting, sculpture, graphics, photography, and other artforms from the last 50 years, beginning with seminal works from Jim FitzPatrick and Robert Ballagh, both of whom emerged with iconic and socially aware graphics in the 1960s, and both still vividly active to this day.

Artists have been making their mark boldly ever since ...the current crop being no exception.

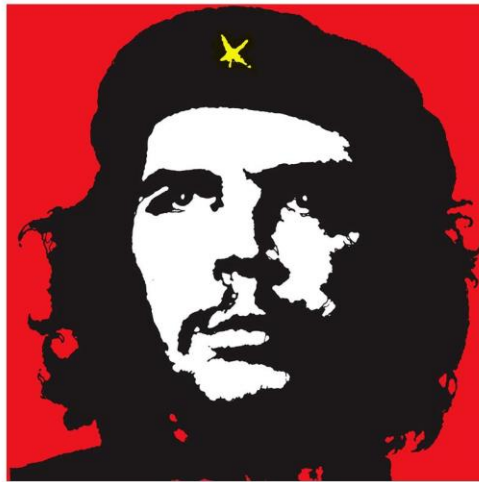
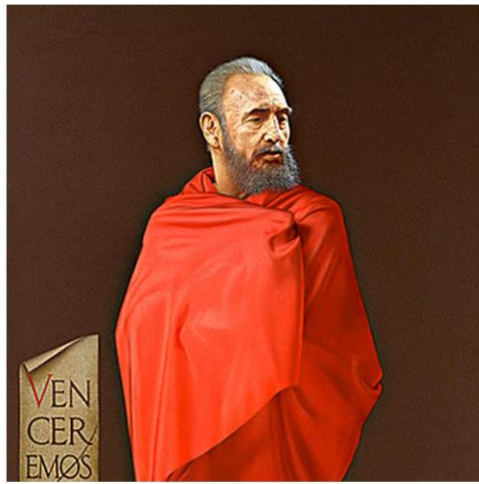
The exhibition touches on demonstration, outcry and dissent right up to the present day. It is an exciting collection touching on many issues including the treatment of the Palestinians, the war in Syria, the recent Abortion Referendum, Gay Rights, Marriage Equality, seaweed rights, housing, the Tuam Babies and just about everything in between.

Dean Kelly

**The exhibition will run during the Galway International Arts Festival and through August, 2018 at the Kenny Gallery, Galway.**

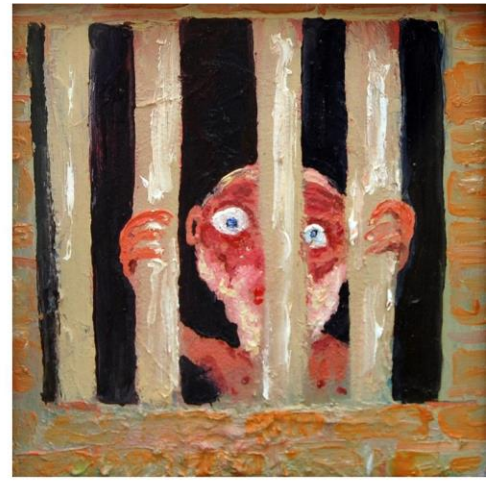
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## list of works

No.	Artist	Title	medium, edition, size	€
1	Rachel Ballagh	<i>Raw</i>	mixed media, 70x90cm	1,950
2	Rachel Ballagh	<i>Disgraced</i>	mixed media, 28x30x20in	2,500
3	Robert Ballagh	<i>Michael O'Riordan (1989)</i>	oil on canvas, 122x152cm	NFS
4	Robert Ballagh	<i>Fidel Castro (2009)</i>	oil on canvas, 183x92cm	NFS
5	Christopher Banahan	<i>Margaret Thatcher (Wicked Witch of the West)</i>	mixed media, 23x16.5in	650
6	Christopher Banahan	<i>Where are the Weapons of Mass Destruction, Tony?</i>	oil on canvas, 12x32in	995
7	John Behan	<i>War Protesters</i>	bronze, unique, 19x14x10in	15,000
8	Shane Berkery	<i>Donald Trump</i>	lim. giclée print, (a/p), 21x20in	495
9	Peter Burns	<i>Prisoner</i>	oil on canvas, 8x8in	NFS
10	Bernard Canavan	<i>Vertigo II</i>	oil on canvas, 24x16in	2,950
11	John Coll	<i>Save Our Seaweed</i>	bronze, unique, 17x23x6in	2,750
12	Anna Cosgrave	<i>Repeal Jumper</i>	garment, 19x15x10in	NFS
13	Shane Crotty	<i>Affordable House 2018</i>	lego, 12x6x6in	500
14	Shane Crotty	<i>Affordable House 2018</i>	limited print, A4	50
<b>(all proceeds of No.14 to Galway Simon Community)</b>				
15	Jennifer Cunningham	<i>Nite Club</i>	Mixed media, 22x30in	1,200
16	Gertrude Degenhardt	<i>So soll es bleiben (It should stay that way)</i>	etching, 63/200, 22x14in	3,200
17	Rita Duffy	<i>Manifestation Study I (2003)</i>	oil on lead on panel, 12x12in	NFS
18	Jim FitzPatrick	<i>Viva Ché, 1968</i>	limited print on canvas, (a/p)	2,495
19	Jim FitzPatrick	<i>Viva Che (Two Bare Feet, 1968)</i>	original poster, 29x19.5in	NFS
20	Jim FitzPatrick	<i>RFK (Two Bare Feet, 1968)</i>	original poster, 29x20in	NFS
21	Jim FitzPatrick	<i>Ahed Tamimi (2018)</i>	virtual exhibit	
		visit <a href="https://www.jimfitzpatrick.com/product/ahed-tamimi-free-print-download/">https://www.jimfitzpatrick.com/product/ahed-tamimi-free-print-download/</a>		FREE
22	Mike Flannery	<i>In the Land of the Blind the One-Eyed Man is King</i>	oil on canvas, 56x40in	7,500
23	Sean Hillen	<i>Frontier Times, # 4 (1983)</i>	photocollage, 9x8.5in	4,250
24	Sean Hillen	<i>Searching for Evidence of Controlled Demolition at WTC 7</i>	photocollage and mixed media, 4.5x6.5in	3,000
25	Sean Hillen	<i>Trouble in Paradise, #1 (2013)</i>	artist's facsimile, 8x9in	1,500
26	Sean Hillen	<i>Jesus Appears in the City (2013)</i>	artist's facsimile, 11.5x9in	1,500
27	Dean Kelly	<i>Did You Get Enough? (2007)</i>	acrylic / mixed media, 16x16in	NFS
28	Dean Kelly	<i>Liberation? (2008)</i>	acrylic / mixed media, 30x24in	NFS
29	Dolores Lyne	<i>Ironing for Ireland (2018)</i>	pencil on paper, 30x22in	595
30	Dolores Lyne	<i>Ironing for Ireland (2018)</i>	printed cotton, signed, 28x19in	21
31	Dolores Lyne	<i>Repeal Banner (2018)</i>	fabric, 30x85in	POA
32	Olga Magliocco	<i>Tuam Babies, A Memorial</i>	cotton draw sheets, printed 22ft x 6ft	POA
33	Olga Magliocco	<i>Tuam Babies</i>	oil on canvas, 24x36in	POA
34	Brian Maguire	<i>War Changes its Address, Aleppo (2018)</i>	lithograph, a/p IX, 35x23in	550
<b>(All proceeds of No.34 to the Mary Raftery Journalism Fund)</b>				

35	Brian Maguire	<i>American Hero Rachel Corry</i> (2010)	lithograph, a/p v/x, 35x23in	1,100
36	Brian Maguire	<i>Irish Landscape</i> (2000)	lithograph, 64/90, 35x23in	1,100
37	Brian Maguire	<i>Portlaoise Prison</i> (1988)	lithograph, 44/90, 29x21in	1,100
38	Maser	<i>Repeal the 8th</i>		POA
		spraypaint and acrylic on canvas, 100x100cm (x3)		
39	Fran McCann	<i>Bloody Sunday</i>	oil on canvas, 24x20in	1,850
40	Paddy McCann	<i>Figure with Raised Hand</i> (2013)	watercolour, 7x9in	NFS
41	Paddy McCann	<i>Forensic Figure</i> (2010)	oil on linen, 9.5x7.5in	NFS
42	Conor McGrady	<i>Mountjoy I</i>	gouache/polymer paper, 9x12in	595
43	Conor McGrady	<i>Mountjoy II</i>	gouache/polymer paper, 11x14in	595
44	Conor McGrady	<i>Silent Forest</i>	giclée print, 1/5, 15x22.5in	595
45	Luke McMullan	<i>Palestine is Bleeding</i> (2009)	acrylic on canvas, 30x20in	750
46	Luke McMullan	<i>Free Palestine</i>	acrylic on canvas, 20x30in	750
47	Margaret Nolan	<i>Warrior</i>	mixed media, 16x16in	750
48	Margaret Nolan	<i>What Are You Looking At?</i>	mixed media, 20x20in	925
49	Mick O'Dea	<i>Imperial City</i> (2015)	mixed media, 39x59in	12,000
50	Mick O'Dea	<i>Winston Churchill</i>	mixed media, 38x29in	8,000
51	Mick O'Dea	<i>Liam Mellows</i>	mixed media, 38x29in	8,000
52	Joe O'Shaughnessy	<i>Margaretta D'Arcy</i>	photograph, 15.5x23.5in	295
		<b>(All proceeds of No.52 to charity)</b>		
53	William Orpen	<i>Soldier of the Great War, 'Man posing, Somme Front, April 1917'</i>	pencil, 17x14in	NFS
54	Áine Phillips	<i>Repeal Banner Design</i>	watercolour on paper, A4	NFS
55	Áine Phillips	<i>Repeal Banner Design</i>	watercolour on paper, A4	NFS
56	Pádraic Reaney	<i>Famine Family</i>	Bronze Ed.35, 17x4x2in	3,250
57	Pádraic Reaney	<i>Ag Fanacht</i>	oil on canvas, 52x40in	4,500
58	Dermot Seymour	<i>Unleashing the Squealing Sneeze from Napoleon's Nose</i>	oil on canvas, 62x48in	6,500
59	Dermot Seymour	<i>The Headless Cacophony of Cattle</i>	oil on canvas, 62x48in	6,500
60	Dermot Seymour	<i>A Hereford nods in awe at the North Irish Horse who perished of pestilence and malaric fever on the fourth day of the Battle of Omdurman</i> (1989)	oil on canvas, 56x76in	7,500
61	Will St Leger	<i>Out of the Shadows</i> (2017)	mixed media, life size cutout	NFS
62	Will St Leger	<i>Out of the Shadows</i> (2017)	mixed media, life size cutout	NFS
63	Will St Leger	<i>Landmine</i>	mixed media, 9.5x9.5x1in	NFS
64	Will St Leger	<i>U=U, (Act Up)</i>	paste-up poster, A0	NFS
65	Will St Leger	<i>Science=Health, (Act Up)</i>	paste-up poster, A0	NFS
66	Will St Leger	<i>Silent Harris</i>	screenprint, 16x11.5in	NFS
67	Mario Sughi	<i>Ahhhhhhhhhh</i> (2017)	mixed media, 110x210cm	3,100
68	Kieran Tuohy	<i>Cauldron of Hunger</i>	bog oak, 14x8x8in	1,500
69	Ruby Wallis	<i>Re-visioning the sublime</i> (2018)	photographs printed on cotton with embroidery silk thread, 19x19cm (x4)	550

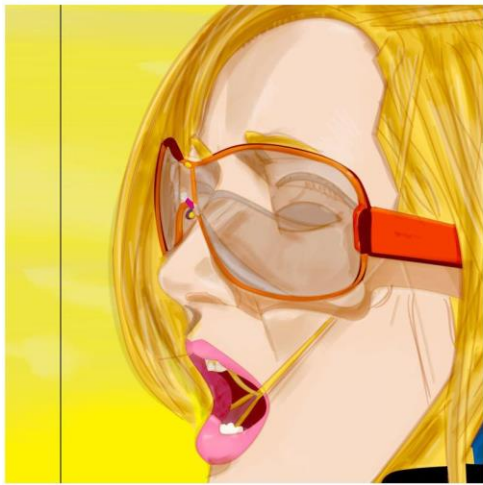
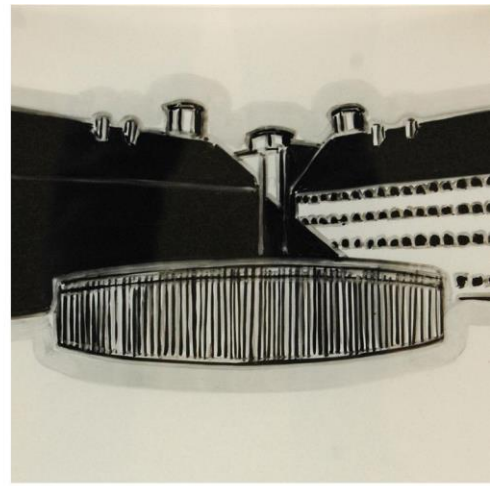
Joseph Maher	7 months
Teresa Dooley	20 days
Daniel Tully	3 months
Brendan Durkan	7 months
Sheila O'Connor	1 month
Annie Coen	3 months
Patrick J. Kennedy	6 months
Thomas Walsh	6 days
Patrick Rice	2 months
Edward McGowan	1 Year
Don Egan	10 months
	10 months
	10 months



- 32 Olga Magliocco
- 34 Brian Maguire
- 38 Maser
- 39 Fran McCann
- 41 Paddy McCann
- 42 Conor McGrady
- 45 Luke McMullen
- 47 Margaret Nolan
- 49 Mick O'Dea
- 52 Joe O'Shaughnessy
- 53 William Orpen
- 54 Áine Phillips
- 57 Pádraic Reaney
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## about the artists

**Rachel Ballagh** was born in Dublin in 1968 and graduated from the National College of Art & Design in 1992. In the past Rachel has used light and camera to depict interior worlds of many secret and playful themes while at the same time being intensely serious. She has received a number of awards from the Arts Council of Ireland and has a number of works in private collections as well as the Gordon Lambert Art Collection.

**Robert Ballagh** was born in Dublin in 1943, he studied architecture and worked as an engineering draughtsman, a musician and a postman before taking up painting in 1967. He represented Ireland at the Paris Biennale in 1969, and at graphic exhibitions in Florence, Ljubljana and Tokyo. His paintings are held in collections including the National Gallery of Ireland, the Ulster Museum, the Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery, and the Albrecht Dürer House, Nuremberg. Major survey exhibitions of his work have taken place in Lund, Warsaw, Sofia and Dublin.

**Christopher Banahan** was born in Nottingham in 1958 into an Irish immigrant community. His art work to this day was very much influenced by a period as a Rome Scholar 1990 to 91. He moved to Dublin in 1993 and in 2004 settled near Kinvara, in Galway Bay, with his wife Denise and their son Oscar. Besides painting, Chris has a Masters Degree in filmmaking and a Diploma in Radio Production.

**John Behan** (born 1938) is an Irish sculptor from Dublin. He studied at the National College of Art and Design in Dublin, and Ealing Art College, London, and Oslo's Royal Academy School. He helped establish the Project Arts Centre, Dublin in 1967 and the Dublin Art Foundry. Notable sculptures include *Arrival*, commissioned by the Irish Government and presented to the United Nations in 2000 and *Wings of the World* in Shenzhen, China, 1991. He is a member of Aosdána and the Royal Hibernian Academy.

**Shane Keisuke Berkery** was born in Tokyo in 1992 and at one year old his family emigrated to the USA. They stayed in America for seven years, they then went back to Japan where they lived for another 7 years. The family then moved to Ireland where they now reside. His cultural background has been a major influence on his work and is a frequent theme in his paintings.

**Peter Burns** makes paintings and objects in a variety of materials. His paintings have sculptural elements and the objects are strongly linked to the practice of painting. He has a very tactile and experimental approach to his work. People are shown in relation to nature and the universe. Small figures and animals exist and roam in painted worlds. The inspiration for his paintings originates in his interest in literature, art history, myth and allegory amongst other things. Peter Burns studied at NCAD where he graduated with a degree in Sculpture in 2001 and completed a Masters in Fine Art Painting in 2009.

**Bernard Canavan** grew up in County Longford in the 1950s, emigrated to England after he left school, where he did the usual emigrant jobs until he began to draw for many of the London Underground publications of the 1960s. He read politics, philosophy and economics as a mature student and since then he has taught Irish, British and European history at a number of London colleges and has had regular solo shows in galleries and art venues across Ireland, Britain, the US and Spain.

**John Coll** (b.1956) has always been amazed by the natural world and intrigued by its structures, textures and relationships, so it seemed natural to study Zoology at NUI Galway, which led to a BSc Hons in Marine Biology. Coll also drew and sculpted from a young age and after an initial career

in aquaculture he made the decision to try his hand at sculpture as a profession and 30 years later he's still at it.

**Anna Cosgrave** is a graduate of Trinity College and founder of the Repeal Project. 'Haunted' by the 2012 death of Savita Halappanavar, Cosgrave created her 'Repeal' sweater as an act of solidarity, "I just put it on a jumper to make the 12 women a day who have an abortion feel supported, and just to humanise the issue," she said. Thousands of the now iconic design were sold in the run up to the referendum of 2018.

**Shane Crotty**, born 1981, grew up in Galway towns of Woodford and Loughrea. He has studied at Galway Technical Institute, the National College of Art & Design, Dublin, and at Galway Mayo Institute of Technology, Cluain Mhuire where he specialised in printmaking. He likes to experiment in various forms of imagery from architecture, landscape photography, graphic design and abstract art. He tries to use as many mediums and methods as possible, especially in printmaking, but also painting, drawing, digital design, web design, photography and sculpture.

**Jennifer Cunningham** paints in oils, acrylic and watercolour. She has won multiple awards for her work. She has many years of teaching experience including in the National Gallery, in IADT and NCAD in Dublin. She exhibits regularly with the Royal Hibernian Academy and recently had a solo show at the Ashford Gallery. She is a printmaker and is a member of the Black Church Studio in Dublin. She graduated with Masters in fine art from NCAD in 2008 and a first class honours degree from GMIT in 2002. She exhibits nationally and internationally and her work is in several public collections including the OPW and ESB.

**Gertrude Degenhardt** is one of Germany's leading painters and graphic artists. She came to Ireland first in the early nineteen seventies, when she was commissioned to do some illustrations for a German edition of a book of short stories by Liam O'Flaherty. She fell in love with the West of Ireland and has been coming here ever since. Gertrude is a workaholic. She is constantly drawing, sketching, etching and recording. Most of her dry-point etching is done on site - on the landscape, or in the pub, hence its fluidity and spontaneity. There is also an element of caricature about the work.

**Rita Duffy** (b.1959) from Northern Ireland was described in 2005 as the province's "foremost artist". She describes herself as a Republican, pacifist and feminist. Her installations and projects often highlight socio-political issues and some of her work is in the permanent collections of the Irish Museum of Modern Art and the Imperial War Museum in London.

**Jim Fitzpatrick** is one of the most celebrated and internationally known Irish artists of his generation: his ornate, colourful and intensely decorative Celtic artwork is now so well-known and unique that it is instantly recognisable. Perhaps his most famous piece is his iconic two-tone portrait of Che Guevara created in 1968 and based on a photo by Alberto Korda.

**Mike Flannery** paints all of the players in our national drama of the last number of years - and includes more symbolism than you can shake a stick at - in his powerful work entitled "In the Land of the Blind the One-Eyed Man is King". Better known for his large seascapes, Flannery here commits to canvas a fanciful and chaotic scene of demonstration and spectacle. He has been personally moved to join various recent public demonstrations, and he here vents his ire in paint. Included are humorous caricatures of members of Dáil Éireann, the Troika, Journalists, Bankers, among others.

**Sean Hillen** (b. 1961 in Newry, N.Ireland) lives and works in Dublin. He studied at Belfast College of Art, London College of Printing and the Slade School of Fine Art. A 'traditional' collagist whose work has both popular and intellectual appeal,

Hillen, regarded as one of the most significant Irish artists of his generation, and one of the most widely-published, is also probably the most censored in Ireland and Britain in the period. He first gained notice for his early works based on his own photos from the Northern Irish 'Troubles' era.

**Dean Kelly** (b.1977, Galway) makes paintings and photographs. His increasingly expressive, representational and symbolic works chronicle changes in Irish society through recent years. Colour, texture, drawing and various forms of mark-making, are collaged, layered and juxtaposed using various media. Between 1995 and 2001 Kelly was a member of Macnas Theatre Company as a prop and theatre designer where he made their 'cabezudos' style caricature heads which were later used on Chris Evans' Channel 4 (UK) 'TFI Friday' show during the late 1990s. He has exhibited his paintings in numerous solo and group exhibitions, and his work appears in public and private collections in Ireland and abroad. He has also worked with the Kenny Gallery as an exhibition organiser for many years.

**Dolores Lyne** is originally from Co. Kerry and studied fine art painting, printmaking and sculpture in Waterford. An interest in scale and theatre led her to study set design and model making in London (Motley Drury Lane) at home as scenic painter and art director. She loves creating new and interesting places/spaces to show work. Winner of Irish Times/E.S.B award for best set design 1999, and worked as judge for Irish times/ESB awards 2004, also in the collections of OPW, the Arts Council, Bank of Ireland, Dublin Writers Museum, N.U.I. Galway, Tipperary County Council, Galway City and County Collections. Dolores acts as head of visual art install team for the Galway International Arts Festival.

**Olga Magliocco**, a Galway native, has a background in publishing and has recently followed her lifetime's passion in pursuing a Degree in Fine Art at Galway Mayo Institute of Technology. This recent graduate has been longlisted at this year's RDS Visual Art Awards for her work regarding the almost 800 young victims of Tuam Bon Secours Mother and Baby Home. Her passion for justice is palpable in her work and her goal is to continue to highlight the plight of the dispossessed in society through Art Activism. Olga held her first Solo exhibition in 2015 and her work is held in private collections in Ireland, the UK, Germany and Canada.

**Brian Maguire** was born in Bray, Co. Wicklow, in 1951, he was educated at Dun Laoghaire School of Art and the National College of Art & Design in Dublin. He subsequently taught at both institutions, and was appointed professor and head of the fine art faculty at NCAD in 2000. His expressionistic drawings and paintings typically explore themes of sexual and political alienation, and he has also created works using video, photography, and large billboard posters. He has been artist-in-residence at prisons in Ireland, Poland, and the U.S., at the Bayview Correction Center for women in Manhattan, which resulted in a project exhibition at the White Box gallery and a billboard on 10th Avenue (2002). He represented Ireland at the 1998 Sao Paulo Bienal, and created the "Casa de Cultura" series based on people from that city's favelas.

**Maser** is originally from Ireland, now living in the USA. As early as 1995 under the moniker 'Maser', he began painting graffiti on the streets of Dublin, where he soon earned the respect of other graffiti artists in Ireland and throughout Europe for his unique abstracted style. After studying Visual Communication at Art School in his home city, he went on to establish himself as one of Ireland's leading visual artist working in the urban environment. His early work, such as 'They Are Us' Project (2010) was strongly influenced by typography, letterforms and sign painting, but soon after 2010 his style gradually began to transition towards graphic representation and geometric abstraction. His works demonstrate unassuming techniques emphasizing simplicity of form.

**Fran McCann's** art might owe more to Myles Davis or John Coltrane than to any visual artist. It can be seen in his subject matter, and in his method - a painter's equivalent of a jazz's spontaneous riffs and improvised chords. From Belfast, McCann is a self-taught artist, who paints using a palette knife, rather than a brush, as he feels it allows him an "immediate and direct way" to express his ideas. His paintings express an inner world of emotion rather than a naturalistically rendered reality.

**Paddy McCann** was born in Clady, County Armagh, in 1963. McCann received his MA in Fine Art from the University of Ulster in Belfast in 1989; he is amongst Ireland's most critically acclaimed contemporary painters.

**Conor McGrady** is an artist and Dean of Academic Affairs at Burren College of Art. He has exhibited internationally, with one-person exhibitions in New York, Miami, Atlanta, Chicago and Zagreb. Group exhibitions include the 2002 Whitney Biennial in New York, The Jerusalem Show VII: Fractures (Qalandiya International Biennial), D-0 Ark Underground Biennale of Contemporary Art, Sarajevo-Konjic, and IK-00 Spaces of Confinement in Venice. Editor of Radical History Review's Curated Spaces, his writing has appeared in The Brooklyn Rail, Ruminations on Violence (Waveland Press, 2007) State of Emergence (Plottner Verlag, 2011), State in Time (Drustvo NSK Informativni Center, Ljubljana, 2012) and The Design of Frontier Spaces (Ashgate, 2015).

**Luke McMullen's** introduction to art came about from writing graffiti in Galway in the 90s; it was then that he adopted the pseudonym 'Stix'. Through his self-taught artistic journey he has discovered that his ideas and mental images, difficult to describe with words, are most easily expressed and communicated through his use of visual art. He hopes that those who view his art don't feel constrained by the titles of his paintings but rather 'explore their meaning in your own imagination'. Although he doesn't paint on walls anymore, graffiti is the foundation of the art he makes today. He always looks forward to completing each new piece of artwork, experiencing its evolution in the creative process, assured that someone will continue enjoying it.

**Margaret Nolan** is originally from Dublin, but moved to Galway in the mid 80s. She is a fine art painter, producing both personal and commercial art. She is interested in the urban landscape and loves buildings, architecture and the hustle and bustle of street life. In her pieces she likes to move buildings to challenge the viewer and cause them to wonder: 'Is that really where it should be?' In doing this she attempts to make the public more appreciative of their surroundings. Margaret is most influenced by the Mexican muralists, such as Diego Rivera an artist whose work can be seen all over South America, depicting the life and colour of that time.

**Mick O'Dea** (b. 1958) is an Irish artist best known as a painter of portraits and historical subjects. The second youngest of five children, O'Dea grew up in Ennis, County Clare. He displayed talent for portraiture at a young age, recalling "I drew incessantly." From 1976 to 1981 O'Dea studied at the National College of Art and Design, and the University of Massachusetts. He continued his studies in Barcelona and at the Winchester School of Art, where he was awarded an M.A. in European Fine Art in 1997. O'Dea has received numerous awards, and has exhibited internationally. From 2008 to 2011 he was the first School Principal of the RHA. In 2014 he was elected President of the Royal Hibernian Academy. He is a member of Aosdána.

**Joe O'Shaughnessy** is a native Galwegian. He was educated at St. Joseph's College, The Bish in Galway. His interest in photography started when he was at school in the early '70s. He is self taught and has long processed his own work. He has worked as a staff photographer with The Connacht Tribune since 1980. His images have appeared in magazines and

newspapers all over the world. He has had a number of solo exhibitions in Galway. He has won many awards. Joe lives in Galway with his wife Bernie and daughter Joanne.

**William Orpen** (1878-1931), was an Irish artist who worked mainly in London. Orpen was a fine draughtsman and a popular, commercially successful, painter of portraits for the well-to-do in Edwardian society, though many of his most striking paintings are self-portraits. During World War I, he was the most prolific of the official artists sent by Britain to the Western Front. There he produced drawings and paintings of ordinary soldiers, dead men, and German prisoners of war, as well as portraits of generals and politicians. Most of these works, 138 in all, he donated to the British government and they are now in the collection of the Imperial War Museum. His connections to the senior ranks of the British Army allowed him to stay in France longer than any of the other official war artists, and although he was made a Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire in the 1918 King's birthday honours list, and also elected a member of the Royal Academy of Arts, his determination to serve as a war artist cost him both his health and his social standing in Britain.

**Áine Phillips** has been making performance art and video in Ireland and internationally since the late 80's. Over the years her practice has engaged with auto-ethnography, feminism and activist performance in public spaces. She has created performances with and for diverse communities such as educational institutions, historic sites, nightclubs, rural contexts, town and city street populations. Curation of performance events and teaching (fine art, performance & theatre) are significant aspects of her varied practice. In 2015 Phillips edited *Performance Art in Ireland: A History*, published by Intellect Books & Live Art Development Agency UK, the first survey on performance and live art in Ireland.

**Pádraic Reaney** was born in Carraroe, Co. Galway in 1952. He studied Fine Art at Galway, Regional Technical College encouraged by the well-known sculptor Oisín Kelly and has been a full-time artist since leaving college. He painted for several years in Galway; later he built a studio in Moycullen, where he now lives and works. He has exhibited extensively in Ireland, Scotland and Wales and his work is in public and private collections in Ireland as well as in Europe, Canada, USA, Brazil, Japan, South Africa and Australia. His work is held in collections such as the Modern Irish Art Collection; Dublin Writers Museum, Ireland; Irish Embassy, London; Ireland's Great Hunger Museum, Quinnipiac University, USA; Siena Art Institute, Italy; Urawa Wood-Cut Prints Association, Japan.

**Dermot Seymour** (b. 1956, Belfast) has been described as "a social realist, exploring the anxiety, bewilderment and absurdity of the situation in Northern Ireland and representing it with definite imagery but in an oblique and obscure way". His social realist approach towards Northern Irish politics frequently involves a juxtaposition of images within the Irish landscape, particularly livestock, and religious and military symbols. He studied at the University of Ulster where he received a BA in Art and Design in 1978 and an Advanced Diploma in Art and Design in 1981. He lives in County Mayo and is a member of Aosdána.

**Will St Leger** is a street artist/activist, Radio DJ and Gay Rights activist living in Dublin, Ireland. A former Greenpeace activist St Leger has been involved in activism for many years. In 2009, St Leger co founded an LGBT direct action group, 'Equals' who demonstrated their discontent with what they see as the inequality in the Civil Partnerships Bill 2009, by chaining themselves to the gates of the building. In April 2007 he placed 100 fake 'landmines' made from stencilled enamel plates in five parks around Dublin, Ireland. In 2007, St Leger exhibited at Dublin Fringe Festival where guests were permitted to 'steal' the art on display at the sound of a security alarm. In 2008 St

Leger placed €50,000 worth of fake 'Bertie' bills depicting Irish Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern on the statue of Molly Malone in Dublin. The artist claimed that the money which also depicts an excavator tipping Celtic art into a waste skip were in protest to the N3 road's incursion of the Hill of Tara.

**Mario Sughì** aka nerosunero, was born in Cesena in 1961. His father was the artist Alberto Sughì and it was in his studio under his guidance that Mario started painting and drawing. Towards the end of the seventies in Rome he published his first cartoons and illustrations for *Il Male* and *Zut*, two popular satirical magazines of the time. In 1986 he graduated from La Sapienza University with a degree in Art and History. Three years later he moved to Dublin where in 1995 he completed a PhD in Medieval History at Trinity College. In 1996 in Queen's University, Belfast he prepared for the Irish Manuscripts Commission an edition of a Latin medieval text. On his return to Dublin he went back to his original occupation, working as an illustrator for a commercial company of archaeologists. It was during this time that he started to use digital techniques for his drawing. In 2007 he turned to producing his own art and illustration on a full-time basis.

**Kieran Tuohy**, a skilled craftsman, has unearthed a medium from the bogs of Ireland through which he has reflected many mystical and remarkable images. His inspiration stems from his great love of Irish history, his attentive ear to old historians and his dedicated study of wood in all its forms and intricacies. To him, each tree tells a story and none more compelling than those buried in our bogs over many millennia. His passion for expressing Ireland's sometimes colourful but most often tragic past is both evocative and exhilarating. Using oak and yew which was some 5,000 years old, Kieran sculpted masterpieces which he exhibited at the dawn of this Millennium - these included some legendary Irish heroes - Setanta/Cuchulainn, Ferdia, Druids, Beggars, Saints and Sinners. His interest in music was truly reflected in his exquisite carving of a group of musicians who today grace a stately home in North America.

**Ruby Wallis** is an award winning artist who recently completed her PhD in Fine Art Practice at the National College of Art & Design, Dublin. She also has an MA in Documentary Photography from the University of South Wales. In 2013 she was nominated for the Prix Pictet Award and won first prize at The Claremorris Open Exhibition. Wallis was selected for Belfast Exposed Futures and is preparing for a solo show in 2016. She lectures in Visual Culture at Griffith College, Pulse College and The Burren College of Art.

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