# John Behan RHA ETERNAL RECURRENCE







Award-winning actor **Stephen Rea** officially opened **Eternal Recurrence**, an exhibition of new sculpture and paintings by **John Behan RHA**, at The Kenny Gallery, Galway on Friday October 13, 2017.



John Behan RHA
ETERNAL RECURRENCE

'James Joyce believed in the artistic phenomenon of eternal recurrence, that art is cyclical, not linear. In this, my latest exhibition at the Kenny Gallery, I revisit the themes of past work, the Táin, the Great Irish Famine, and the present, in the form of the emigrant crisis in Africa and the Mediterranean, and the ultimate journey in the leaky damaged boats to an uncertain future - so the work in the present exhibition is a journey from myth to reality, past to present, facing into a future of challenge and uncertainty ...the inevitable dilemma of the artist." JOHN BEHAN, 2017.



No.11 Human Chain (Homage to Séamus Heaney), Bronze, Unique, 13x16x16in, €6,000

# Sculpture

No.	Title	Medium	Size	Price €
I	Refugee Woman with Backpack	Bronze, Unique	16×13×4in	2,850
2	Hare in Motion	Bronze, Unique	20.5×25×4in	7,500
3	Achill Men with Currach	Bronze, Unique	14×19×4in	3,500
4	The Boar of Ben Bulben	Bronze, Unique	12×20.5×5in	4,500
5	Long London Bull	Bronze, Unique	20×30×8in	9,000
6	The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse	Bronze, Unique	23.5×20×18in	8,500
7	Dancing Rabbis	Bronze, Unique	13×17×15in	4,850
8	Libyan Refugee Boat	Bronze, Unique	13.5×17×15in	10,000
9	Weld Bull II	Bronze, Unique	16×25×10in	8,000
10	West Coast Famineship	Bronze, Edition of 9	26×27×10in	9,000
11	Human Chain (Homage to Séamus Heaney)	Bronze, Unique	13×16×16in	6,000
12	Fighting Bulls	Bronze, Edition of 9	10×24.5×7in	4,850
13	Famine Ship (Crows Nests)	Bronze, Unique	27×26×12in	9,000
14	Rib Bull	Bronze, Unique	12×21×6in	4,850
15	Refugees on Pier	Bronze, Unique	9×16×6.5in	4,000
16	Cork Famine Ship II	Bronze, Unique	19x21x6in	6,500
17	Refugee Figures in Boat	Bronze, Unique	12×17×5.5in	7,500
18	M-Famine Ship	Bronze, Unique	29×25×6in	8,000
19	The Dispossed	Bronze, Unique	8.5×16×4in	3,500
20	Famine Family	Bronze, Unique	17×12×5in	5,000
21	Flight of the Earls Ship	Bronze, Unique	30×26×17in	15,000
22	Memorial Famineship	Bronze, Edition of 25	18×18×5in	5,000
23	Canal Bull III	Bronze, Edition of 9	13×20×8in	9,500
24	Charon Crossing the Styx	Bronze, Unique	14×20×6in	3,500
25	Coracle Boat	Bronze, Edition of 9	8x6x3.5in	795
26	Ancient Boat	Bronze, Edition of 9	14×14×6in	1,600
27	1916	Bronze, Unique	26×16×6in	16,000
28	African Famine Victims	Bronze, Unique	28×20×12in	16,000
29	The Inishbofin Boatman	Bronze, Unique	21×12×9in	16,000
30	Arrival, Grosse Île	Bronze, Edition of 9	25×23×11in	10,000
31	Corrib Oar Boat	Bronze, Edition of 9	20×24×8in	5,000
32	Saint Francis	Bronze, Edition of 9	24×14×5in	5,500
33	Famine Cart	Bronze, Unique	18x22x9in	4,500
34	Easter Bull	Bronze, Unique	15×25×9in	9,500
35	Bridget O'Donnell and Her Children	Bronze, Unique	22×9.5×4in	5,000
36	The Morrigan	Bronze, Unique	21×24×14in	9,500
37	Swan Neck Oar Boat	Bronze, Edition of 9	19x14x7in	3,000
38	Two Bird Oar Boat	Bronze, Edition of 9	21×20.5×8in	4,500
39	Battle of Cuchulainn and Ferdia	Bronze, Unique	21x31x10in	11,750
40	Sheriff Street Bull	Bronze, Edition of 9	11.5×19×7in	14,250

## Paintings

No.	Title	Medium	Size	Price €
41	Mending a Lobster Pot	Acrylic on Canvas	20×16in	1,650
42	The Old Mariner	Acrylic on Canvas	20×16in	1,650
43	Fisherman Seated on Lobster Pot	Acrylic on Canvas	24×18in	2,000
44	Island Funeral	Acrylic on Canvas	16×20in	1,650
45	On Dooagh Beach	Acrylic on Board	18×22in	2,000
46	Launching The Currach	Acrylic on Board	I6×20in	1,650
47	Nativity in Bunnacurry, Achill	Acrylic on Canvas	20×16in	1,650
48	Two Men Carrying Currach	Acrylic on Canvas	18×24in	2,000
49	Man with Fish	Acrylic on Paper	19×15.5in	1,500
50	Funeral of a Playwright (Homage to Brian Friel)	Acrylic on Paper	19×15.5in	1,500
51	Yawl at Achill Sound	Acrylic on Paper	15.5×19in	1,500
52	Island Life	Acrylic on Canvas	23×18in	1,800
53	Inish Oirr Funeral	Acrylic on Canvas	24×18in	1,800
54	Cillín, Achill	Acrylic on Canvas	16×20in	1,650
55	Nights in the Gardens of Spain	Acrylic on Canvas	19×16in	NFS
56	1916	Acrylic on Paper	19×15.5in	1,500
57	Clay is the Word - P.K.	Acrylic on Canvas	20×16in	1,650
58	Seamus Heaney - Poet in Bogscape	Acrylic on Canvas	22×18in	2,000
59	Figure on Dooagh Beach	Acrylic on Canvas	20×16in	2,000
60	Four Men with Currach, Homage to Bill Doyle	Acrylic on Canvas	16×20in	1,650

#### JOHN BEHAN RHA - ETERNAL RECURRENCE

The exhibition will continue daily, 9.00 to 17.00, Monday to Saturday, until November 17 at The Kenny Gallery, Liosbán Retail Park, Tuam Road, Galway - Admission is free, and all are welcome. www.TheKennyGallery.ie Tel: +353 91 709 350 Email: art@kennys.ie

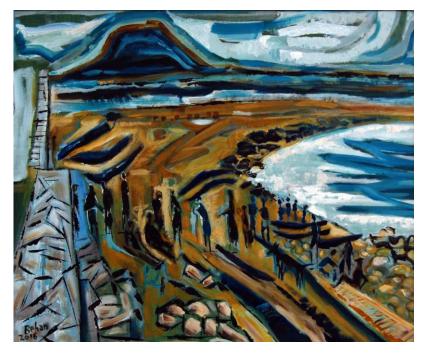


No.9 Weld Bull II , Bronze, Unique 16x25x10in, €8,000 No.6 Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, Bronze, Unique, 23.5x20x18in, € 8,500





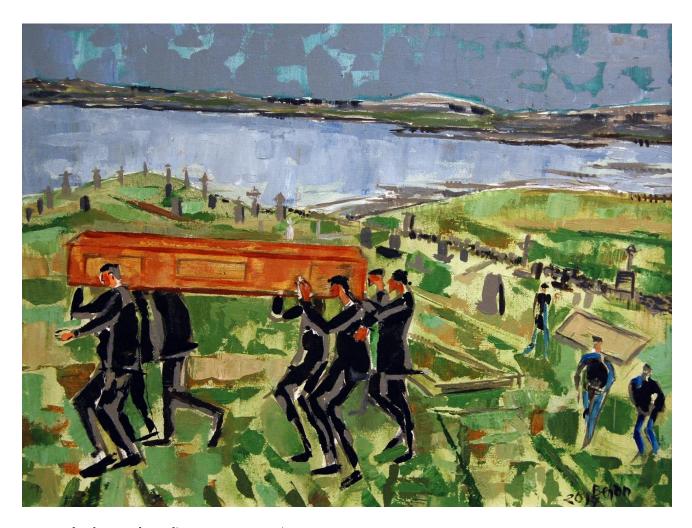
No. 2 Hare in Motion, Bronze, Unique, 20.5x25x4in, €7,500 Below (L) No. 45 On Dooagh Beach, Acrylic on Board, 18x22in, €2,000 (R) No. 57 Clay is the Word - P.K., Acrylic on Canvas, 20x16in, €1,650







No. 10 West Coast Famineship Bronze, Edition of 9, 26x27x10in, €9,000



No. 44 Island Funeral, Acrylic on Canvas, 16x20in, € 1,650

In this exhibition, the artist revisits many of the themes of his life's work, destined to personal 'eternal recurrence' - here is represented not only a cross-section of the best of Behan, but a bravura exploration of many of the thematic concerns of all artists. Some 30 new works in bronze are joined by more than 20 paintings by the artist.

# John Behan RHA

### ETERNAL RECURRENCE

Born in Dublin in 1938, and now living and working in Galway city where he continues to vary his style of expression, John Behan is firmly established as a sculptor of international stature.

After an apprenticeship in metal work and welding, the foundations for Behan's success were laid in the sixties, when he trained in London and Oslo and began to exhibit widely. But he also had a wider artistic vision, which saw him challenge the elitism of the art establishment and seek to popularise art. He was a founder member of the New Artists' group in 1962 and Dublin's innovative Project Art Centre in Dublin in 1967.

He has been awarded many honours and became a Member of the Royal Hibernian Academy in 1990, having been an Associate of the Academy since 1973. He is also a member of Aosdána.

Celebrated for his early bull sculptures - described by playwright Brian Friel as 'enormously solid artefacts, 4-square on the earth, confident, assured, executed to a point of absolute completion' - Behan's style is still evolving and growing. In a general sense he can be credited with playing a major part in the development of sculpture in Ireland over the last forty years.

In June 2000 he was awarded an honorary doctorate from the National University of Ireland, Galway on the same day his large commissioned sculpture, Twin Spires, was unveiled at the college.

His major public commissions include Flight of Birds, Famine Ship, Tree of Liberty, Daedalus, Millennium Child, Arrival and Equality Emerging, unveiled in Galway city in November 2001.

A film documentary of John Behan's work entitled 'Famine Ship' was broadcast in Ireland and the U.K. in 1999 and is distributed in North America by The Cinema Guild Inc. and the rest of the world by Network Television.

The poet and Nobel Laureate, Seamus Heaney has said of the artist: "There is something psychologically salubrious about John Behan. It is as if you are encountering what the Upanishads call the ancient self, something previous to an underlying individual character, some kind of psychic bedrock."

view complete collection on-line:

The Kenny Gallery

Liosbán Retail Park, Tuam Road, Galway, Ireland www.TheKennyGallery.ie art@kennys.ie +353 91 709 350



John Behan pictured with his 'Hare in Motion' at The Kenny Gallery, September 2017 Image front: Libyan Refugee Boat, Bronze, Unique, 10.5x24x11in



