

NEWPAINTINGS

PHYLLIS DEL VECCHIO

The Kenny Gallery, March 4 - 29, 2022



Kennys Bookshop & Art Gallery Liosbán Retail Park, Tuam Road, Galway, H91 N5P8, Ireland Tel: +353 (0)91 709 350 www.TheKennyGallery.ie



Phyllis Del Vecchio, *Highest Perch*, Watercolour, 11x15in



Phyllis Del Vecchio, *Windfall*, Watercolour, 11x15in



The artist pictured at her Co. Galway home

March 4 – 29 | Phyllis Del Vecchio New Paintings

Kennys' 2022 exhibitions schedule kicks off with the welcome return of Phyllis Del Vecchio, arguably one of Ireland's finest watercolourists.

Del Vecchio was born in Medford, Massachusetts, USA, and studied at the Boston Museum in Fine Arts School and the Massachusetts College of Art. She taught art, painted and exhibited in the USA until 1964 when she came to Ireland on holiday. The changing light and colour in Ireland influenced her so greatly that she stayed. She has lived in Co. Galway for many years now.

The West of Ireland remains her inspiration. It is the rugged wilderness we know so well, but seen in a personal and individual way. It is an intimate landscape, a hedgerow, a stream, a corner of a boreen, wild flowers, some trees, particularly her almost iconic bog birches. It is populated by wild birds and animals, but rarely humans. Indeed the only human influence usually seen in her work is an occasional abandoned cottage, or a remote fishing lodge. It is a moody landscape, stormy and magnificent, calm and serene, damp and brooding.

"The higher the art the fewer the gestures" is an aphorism that could have been written especially to describe Phyllis Del Vecchio's paintings. She paints 'pure' watercolours, in which the light is reflected from the paper, having passed through the various pigments. They are translucent. She uses the white paper as the highest light, and applies transparent washes, one over another, to obtain gradations of light and colour. It is probably her best medium for working from nature, so that she can contend with changing light, and evolve a swift notation of the everyday images which she represents. It is the direct brush stoke with the watercolour, the

instant fixing of a thought which she loves. Everything put on the paper stays there. This technical virtuosity allows her to express a subject directly without preplanning; there is fluency here, a spontaneity, which can capture a moment, a mood, and yet these paintings seem timeless.

By way of change her still life paintings are rich and warm in colour, more like oils than watercolours – and indeed this collection sees the very rare appearance of six works in oils by the artist. She makes it all look so simple, and that is her great gift - her work displays rare perception and quality.

The official opening of

Phyllis Del Vecchio New Paintings

will take place at the Kenny Gallery, Galway (H91 N5P8) on Friday 4th March at 6:00pm.

The exhibition will be officially launched by Lelia Doolan.

The exhibition will continue Monday to Saturday, 9:00-17:00, until 29th March.

Admission is free and all are welcome.

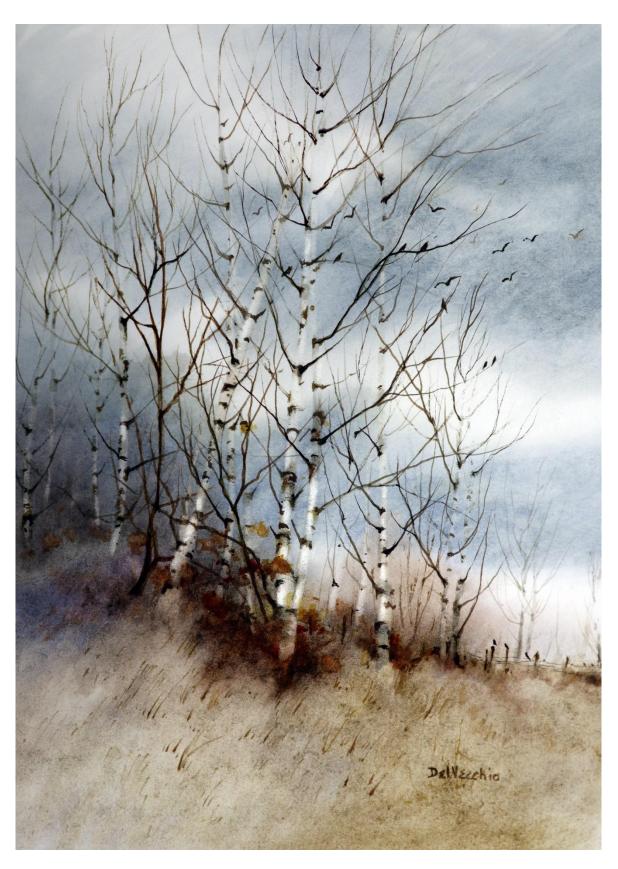


Lelia Doolan at the Kenny Gallery

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Phyllis Del Vecchio, *Deserted Pier I*, Watercolour, 12.5x22in



(cover image in full) Phyllis Del Vecchio, Bog Birch, Watercolour, 15x11in



Phyllis Del Vecchio, Western Sky, Oil on Canvas, 19.5x27.5in



Phyllis Del Vecchio, *Quiet Landscape*, Oil on Canvas, 22x30in



Phyllis Del Vecchio, *High Summer*, Watercolour, 22x15in



Phyllis Del Vecchio, *Dusk*, Watercolour, 15x22in

View the collection online now >>



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Gallery hours: Monday to Saturday, 9:00-17:00