

O'Regan, John

ABOUT THE ARTIST Born: Waterford, Ireland, 1960. Former Artist in Residence @ Garter Lane Arts Center, Waterford. Relevant Education: Diploma in Fine Art, RTC Waterford. Trinity College (Art History Courses) Bachelor of Arts, National University of Ireland, Galway. Recent Exhibitions: 'Out of the West' @ Upside Designs, Dalkey, Nov- Dec 2014. 'tenmileradius' @ Garter Lane Arts Center, Waterford Feb & March 2013. 'Recent Landscapes' @ Celtic Shore Festival, Oranmore, Sept 2012. 'The Muse Would Have it So' @ Arts Millennium Building, NUIG Oct & Nov 2015. 'Recent Landscapes' @ Chimera Gallery, Mullingar, Feb 2016.

ARTIST'S STATEMENT My inspiration comes from being physically present in the landscape, that frisson of excitement that everyone feels when the immediate environment corresponds with some inner zeitgeist and, in the artist's case, makes some form of expression absolutely necessary. For this to happen no landscape is more rewarding than the one in which I live, Ireland's western shore. The variety of landscape is astonishing, requires a considered response and only reveals its secrets to the perceptive and pro-active observer. The act of painting is physical, direct and, at its best, the perfect correspondence between sensation and gesture, bypassing the analytical brain and plugging into some aspect of our shared humanity. At least that's today's theory, to be replaced no doubt by tomorrow's, because, as every artist knows, there are no rules; an approach that produces results today will inevitably betray you the next. Art is a jealous mistress who won't be fooled, cajoled, bamboozled or mollified, which, of course, provides the fascination. And now..... back to work.