



Fresh Talent

Design Hub, the Coach House, Dublin Castle: 3 July – 20 September 2015

An exhibition of work by creative new designers and practitioners

The exhibition draws from a range of fields and incorporates a selection of design disciplines including craft, architecture, set design, visual communication, product design, fashion and design engineering.

Participants include:

Gazel

Dedicated to improving the home experience, new Dublin-based design studio Gazel recently launched its first collection, *Living*. This striking ensemble is a unique take on storage solutions, bringing invention and style to household staples. “They reflect our core design philosophy of creating beautiful and clever objects for modern living”.

Gazel was founded in 2014 as a contemporary design studio that lives by the motto, ‘Rethink The Everyday’. Bringing invention, ease and elegance to modern homes and interiors, Gazel designs everyday objects, exploring functionality and ergonomics with an avant-garde style and an emphasis on detail that produces smart and inventive responses.

Gazel is led by award-winning Irish designers Ronan Murphy and Kevin Doherty. Their partnership was formed while studying at the National College of Art & Design, Dublin. With a shared passion for thoughtful and inviting design, they approach their work with over 20 years experience between them in manufacturing, craft, multi-media and product design. 2015 promises to be an exciting year for Gazel, with the launch of their second collection, *Creating*.

Awards Received

Kitchen Innovation of the Year Award, 2015

Institute of Designers in Ireland Universal Design Award Winner, 2014

House and Home Make It Award, 2014

Miele, Kitchens of the Future Design Award Winner, 2012

James Dyson Award, International Shortlist, 2012

Arthritis Ireland and Pfizer, Easy to Use Design Award Winner, 2011

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Designgoat

Cian Corcoran and Ahmad Fakhry graduated from the National College of Art & Design's Industrial Design course in 2011 with first class BDes (Hons). They set up Designgoat studios on the day they graduated and started working on interior and furniture projects as well as developing their own range of products and creating exhibitions. The studio has recently moved to its own building in Dublin's Inner City. They are strongly influenced by the city around them and the energy in Dublin's creative community.

Awards Received

Institute of Designers in Ireland, Award for Best Retail Interior, 2013

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Darragh Casey

Darragh Casey's practice continually seeks ways of challenging our habits, norms and routines. His investigations reconsider common assumptions around furniture, product and spatial design disciplines with humorous and curious outcomes. Shelving the Body addresses the typology of the shelf with a physical consideration for the figure, subverting our relationships with furniture & reassessing the idea of the 'user'.

Darragh graduated with a BA (Hons) in Art and Design Education from the National College of Art & Design, Dublin in 2007 and an MA in Design from Central Saint Martins, London in 2012. In April 2014 he published his first book, Shelving the Body with Soapbox Press. Collaboration with clients include Harley St Clinic, Camper Shoes, Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, Vogue UK and Van Cleef & Arpels. He currently works as a maker at Heatherwick Studio in London.

Awards Received

Nova Award, Shortlisted, 2013

Design & Crafts Council of Ireland, Future Makers Award, 2012

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Orla Reynolds

Orla Reynolds captures her vision from a love of dance and the magic of the theatre. Simple, clever and functional products are created through imagining the home as a stage. Observing how our lives play out within the four walls informs each product created to utilise space. As if from nowhere is like a scene change at the theatre. It transforms the space like props on a stage. The dancers can be seen in the chairs and tables. These are made of such strong material that there is an expectation that they are heavy. But they are lightweight. They are streamlined creating an elegant silhouette.

Orla graduated in 2012 from Dublin Institute of Technology with a first class BDes (Hons) in Design Interior and Furniture. Her furniture collection has been showcased on television and featured in publications worldwide including Dezeen, Gizmodo, Buzzfeed and WIRED magazine.

Orla was recently selected and exhibited at The Salone Satellite at The Milan Furniture Fair in April 2015. At the fair she was shortlisted for the Design Report Award, where the jury included Dr Jana Scholze, who is curator of Contemporary Furniture at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. She was also named 'an Emerging Talent' by Dwell Magazine.

Awards Received

Design & Crafts Council of Ireland, Future Makers Award, 2013

Institute of Designers in Ireland, Graduate Awards, Grand Prix Award, 2012

Institute of Designers in Ireland, Graduate Awards, Best Furniture Design, 2012

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Kate O'Kelly

Inspired by the solitude of rural Irish countryside in Annamoe and her grandmother's eclectic Georgian house, which was filled to the brim with beautifully crafted objects from around the world, Kate O'Kelly's work manifests as surreal hybrid objects that reference the visual environments of her childhood. The work is playful and evocative, engaging the viewer with a sense of familiarity and wonder. Pieces are made using a combination of found objects and digitally produced forms, which are used as models for slip casting.

Each piece is then assembled using a number of the ceramic components. Combining traditional craft methods with industrial processes, the work embraces classical elements and modern features of design through both its style and technique.

Kate graduated from the National College of Art & Design, Dublin with an MA in Ceramics. She went on to complete a four month placement with the British Ceramics Biennial in Stoke-on-Trent, where her work was exhibited as part of the 2013 Biennial. She is currently pursuing a Designer in Residency programme with the Industrial Design Department at the National College of Art & Design, Dublin.

Awards Received

Merit Golden Fleece Award, 2015

Design and Craft Council of Ireland, Future Makers Awards, 2014

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Kevin Callaghan

Kevin Callaghan works with steel, ceramic, wood and digital photography. He continuously investigates new ways of working and new ways of self-expression that reflect the essence of his conceptual goals. Colour and form are very important in his work and he attempts to question the viewer with his bold and extensive colour combinations. Off the Planet comes from a series of investigations for his MA at the Royal College of Art, the use of the square is seen as means to move forward, a place to travel through. The work is playful, architectural, yet the colours chosen question its origins.

Kevin has his studio with The London Sculpture Workshop in Bermondsey, where he teaches workshops in ceramics, concrete and plaster, and is also the ceramic technician there. He is currently showing with Unknown Fields Division at the Victoria and Albert Museum's exhibition "What is Luxury".

Last year Kevin finished a private commission for the famous Bluebird Restaurant in Chelsea, London. He works with art consultancy companies and has gallery representation in London.

Awards Received

Shortlisted for the Arts & Crafts Design Award, 2015

Design & Crafts Council of Ireland, Future Makers Award, 2013

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Julie Connellan

Julie Connellan's practice explores the specific capacity of jewellery to communicate ideas and to open dialogues. Hers is a research led, interdisciplinary approach that explores the physical qualities and cultural associations of everyday materials, objects and forms. The work presented here is part of an investigation into the social and cultural significance of particular materials and forms, both in relation to the individual and their wider context as part of a society. Connellan holds a BA (Hons) in European Studies from Trinity College Dublin, 2004.

Julie graduated in Jewellery and Design from the Berufskolleg für Design, Schmuck und Gerät in Pforzheim, Germany in 2009. She continued her studies at the National College of Art & Design, Dublin where she graduated with an MA in Design and Metals in 2011. Julie has presented and lectured at Irish and European art and design symposia and lecture series. Her work has been exhibited nationally and internationally in museums, galleries, art and design fairs and in diverse publications. She currently teaches art and design at the National College of Art & Design, Dublin.

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Ail+El

Ail+El is the joint force of Aileen Balfe and Eleanor McCaughey. Their experiences and styles are layered together to inspire pieces that are both functional and aesthetic while thoughtfully designed and uniquely crafted. Their product range comprises of concrete home ware, art prints and textiles. Ail+El's concrete collection is informed by architecture and urban living.

Aileen holds a BA (Hons) in Interior & Furniture Design from the Dublin Institute of Technology and a Postgraduate Diploma in Community Arts Education from the National College of Art & Design, Dublin. She spent several years abroad in both Japan and Indonesia where she was awarded a scholarship to study textiles.

Eleanor graduated with an BA (Hons) in Fine Art in 2011 from Dublin Institute of Technology. She has exhibited both nationally and internationally including the National Portrait Gallery London, the Royal Ulster Academy Belfast, the Royal Dublin Society and the Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin.

Ail+El are currently designing and making in Dublin and their products are stocked in numerous Irish retailers throughout Ireland.

Awards Received

Aileen:

Red Dog Design prize for Textile Design 2014

Common Ground Studio 468 Research Residency Award 2013

Eleanor:

K&M Evans Painting Prize at Royal Hibernian Academy 185th Annual Exhibition 2015 and Conor Prize from the Royal Ulster Academy in 2014

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Sinead Kennedy

Sinead Kennedy's work explores self perception in a negative sense, touching on themes such as anxiety, distorted body image and identity. She is interested in the inseparable connection between food and the body, the matter of disconnect between mind and body and the completely irrational thought process that is associated with this subject.

The work shown here is from her degree show and has been influenced by *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka in which the main character awakes one morning to find that he has transformed overnight into a giant insect. Although his transformation completely alters his outward appearance, it leaves his mind unchanged, creating a discord between his mind and body.

Sinead Kennedy was awarded a first class BDes (Hons) in Fashion Design from the National College of Art & Design, Dublin in 2013. She has undertaken a year-long residency in the Talbot Gallery and Studios, Dublin and has held two solo shows *Cloy*, Dublin in June 2014 and also *Lure*, Belfast in October 2014. She had also exhibited in Brown Thomas's Create Exhibition, September 2014 and recently completed a three month long residency in Iceland.

Awards Received

Listhus AiR SKAMMDEGI Award, 2014/2015

Arts Council of Ireland, Travel and Training Award, 2014

Talbot Gallery & Studios, Dublin, Most Promising Graduate Award Winner, 2013

National College of Art & Design, Dublin, Staff Prize, 2013

Persil Fashion Award Winner, 2013

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Cait Corkery

Cait Corkery graduated with a BA (Hons) from the Institute of Art, Design & Technology, Dún Laoghaire in 2013 and began exploring the world of theatre under the mentorship of the Rough Magic Theatre Company.

She studied Design for Stage and Screen, where she specialized in Production Design for film, television and theatre. During this time, she developed an interest in theatre and experimenting with various elements to enhance this space. In particular the use of visual aspects such as perspective, light, colour and reflection.

Theatre design credits include; Macbeth (Fast Intent, Smock Alley Boys School) – Set and Costume Designer; Snow Angels (Rosemary McKenna, Project Arts Theatre) – Set Designer; The Soldier's Tale (Ensemble Music, Smock Alley) – Set and Costume Design.

She has worked as a design assistant with The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny (Rough Magic/Opera Theatre Company, Olympia) and the Abbey Theatre's production of 16 Possible Glimpses on the Peacock stage.

Since then, she has further developed her design work from set into costume design. Cait is currently working as SEEDS designer for 2014/15 with Rough Magic.

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Craig Higgins

First Mate started with the question of 'what if?' What if a user finds themselves overboard in potentially lethal cold waters? The scope of the project began broadly at the research phase, narrowing all the way through concept generation, extensive prototyping and refinement, until the final design was produced, with the user at the centre of all design decisions.

First Mate is an inflatable device, designed to facilitate vessel re-access from the water and to raise user's upper body from cold water, considerably reducing body heat loss. It increases user's visibility and visual footprint in the water and allows for access to other emergency equipment from aboard the vessel as well as from the water.

Craig Higgins graduated with a first class BSc (Hons) in Product Design & Technology from the University of Limerick in 2014. He is currently working with Medtronic Galway as part of a team bringing new medical technology to market.

Awards Received

Institute of Designers in Ireland, First Place Product Design Graduate Awards, 2014

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James King

James King's self-conceived product Medical Transportation Pod – Medi-Pod™ – is an aerodynamic self-cooling pod for transporting medical supplies via aerial drone or personal transportation methods. This was inspired by James's personal interest in model making and his family connection to the ambulance service. Bringing these together allowed

James to see the potential in an under used technology which spurred the design of the Medi-Pod™. James graduated with a BEng (Hons) in Mechanical Engineering from the Cork Institute of Technology, Cork in 2014. He was awarded the title 'Innovative Student Engineer of the Year 2014' from Engineers Ireland and was shortlisted for the 2014 Dyson Awards.

In August 2014 he joined the Lally Group in Dublin City University. He is currently working on the design and development of medical devices with the Lally group funded by Enterprise Ireland and ERC funding granted to Dr. Caitríona Lally.

Awards Received

Engineers Ireland, Innovative Student Engineer of the Year, 2014

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Edwyn Hickey

Edwyn Hickey has a strong interest in structurally expressive architecture and is inspired by the aesthetic qualities of work of architects such as Eduardo Reidy, Artigas, Oscar Niemeyer and Paul Mendes da Rocha. His work has been informed by these qualities and seeks to combine the best aspects of human physical, socio-political and cultural structural systems.

Edwyn graduated from Dublin Institute of Technology in 2013 with a BA (Hons) in Architecture. A year later he was awarded the 2014 AAI Maurice Craig Graduate Award for the best thesis of the Irish Schools of Architecture, as well as being published in the Architectural Review. He spent some time working in London with Make Architects before returning to Ireland to pursue his personal career in architecture and furniture design. He has recently set up a company that provides a 3D architectural visualisation service.

“I have designed a ‘United World College’, as a vehicle for exploration in which multi-national young people from diverse ethnic, religious and socio-economic backgrounds will be brought together. The site is located at Lough Tay, Co. Wicklow. While this beautiful scenic landscape may be seemingly at odds with the traditional context of the Paulista schools’ urban interventions, I was interested in testing the idea at the scale of the building rather than at the scale of the city.”

Awards Received

Architectural Association of Ireland, Maurice Craig Award, 2014

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Ronan Kelly

Ronan Kelly is a graphic designer living and working in London. A graduate of Institute of Art, Design & Technology, Dún Laoghaire, Ronan completed the Threex3 internship after completing his studies. This led to some invaluable experience in three of Ireland's best studios – Atelier David Smith, Zero G and Detail. There, he worked on projects for clients in a variety of fields, from arts and culture to pharmaceuticals and everything in between. After that, he moved to London to work as a Junior Designer at Mr. President, an award winning creative agency in Soho. In his time there he worked on projects for Bacardí, Martini, Nike Womenswear, Virgin, Volkswagen, Greenpeace and Unilever. These days Ronan is a graphic designer at Applied Wayfinding: a leading wayfinding consultancy based in London, where he started in May 2015.

He undertook freelance projects after graduating, which gained him interest from industry and online press; including poster design for Junior Spesh, a Dublin club night which started in 2011. This allowed Ronan to experiment with letterforms and composition. Often limiting himself with constraints such as working only with letters and in restricted colour palettes paid off, and he ended up working on a number of higher-profile freelance commissions – most notably a full page illustration for Wired magazine.

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Arturo Borrego

Arturo Borrego's current collection explores various compositions and arrangements of objects that depict personal experiences and artistic interests in relation to space, materials, patterns and colour. It develops the social meaning and iconic representation of brooches, which is that of civil commendations, medals and badges of honour. After graduating with a BA in Industrial Design at the University of Monterrey, Mexican born Arturo specialised in rapid prototyping and model making of consumer products and has practised for 22 years in four different countries.

He completed an MA in Design from the National College of Art & Design, Dublin in 2012. He is currently a part time lecturer in Ceramics at Limerick Institute of Technology and a part time lecturer in Jewellery at the National College of Art & Design, Dublin. He has also been an associate lecturer at the Institute of Art, Design and Technology and is a freelance consultant and instructor in 3D modelling, reverse engineering and rapid prototyping working across design disciplines.

Awards Received

Society of Designer Craftsmen, UK, Distinction Award, 2013

Design & Crafts Council of Ireland, Future Makers Award, 2012

Royal Dublin Society, National Craft Competition, First Prize for Jewellery, 2012

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Ashleigh Smith

The Atlantic Equipment Project (AE) is an outdoor brand that designs and makes carry equipment inspired by Atlantic adventure. AE have a growing collection of backpacks, satchels and luggage made from hardwearing and natural fabrics. All the products are designed with a comprehensive industrial process and manufactured in Sligo. The ambition for AE is to become a Sligo made, globally recognized brand, representing durability, natural fabric, and Irish Atlantic heritage.

Ashleigh Smith graduated with an MA in Integrated Design at the Technical University of Delft, Netherlands in 2013. She has also completed a BSc (Hons) in Product Design from the University of Limerick.

Awards Received

Design & Crafts Council of Ireland, Future Makers Award, 2014

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Richard Malone

Richard Malone graduated from Central Saint Martin's BA Fashion Womenswear in 2014, where he was awarded the prestigious LVMH Grand Prix scholarship. His graduate collection opened the year's fashion press show and was awarded the Deutsche Bank Award for Fashion, previously won by Christopher Kane. He was the first Irish designer to win either and the first designer to consecutively be awarded both. His collection stemmed from his own background and observation of working class Ireland in the midst of the recession. The collection utilised unwanted and up-cycled fabrics, including unwanted masonry paint, a reminder of the collapse of the Irish construction industry in which Malone's own father, a decorator, lost his job.

Recently, Malone was selected by the BBC as one of the Best Young Artists under 25 working in the UK, the only Irish person and fashion designer to make the selection. Malone's work has been purchased and exhibited by museums and collectors around the world. Since graduating, Malone has established his own luxury womenswear label, informed by this ethos of directionality and sustainability, with a focus on exceptional cutting techniques and impeccable finishing. He has previously worked for Louis Vuitton in Paris and also works as a freelance designer and creative director. His collections are available as made to order to private clients, are sustainably sourced and made in-house in limited quantities.

Awards Received

Deutsche Bank Award for Fashion, Winner, 2014

Louis Vuitton Moet Hennessy Grand Prix Scholarship Winner, 2014

Colin Barnes Drawing Prize Winner, 2012

National Wool Museum Wales, 'Hiraeth' Fine Art and Design Awards, 2010

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Rory Simms

Rory Simms is a graphic designer whose work encompasses a diverse range of disciplines. Since graduating he has worked on large scale identity projects that require print, web, motion graphics and environmental applications. Rory is passionate about expressive and experimental typography and often uses analog technologies to influence the aesthetic of his work.

Originally from Dublin, he studied at the Institute of Art, Design & Technology where he received a BA (Hons) in Visual Communication Design in 2013. Rory has worked on projects for clients such as: The Public Theater; The Philadelphia Museum of Art, Jazz at Lincoln Center; Queens Theater; Miami Science Museum and the New York Times Book Review amongst others.

Rory is a member of the AIGA (American Institute of Graphic Arts), ADC (Art Directors Club), TDC (Type Director's Club), and the SEGDC (Society of Experiential Graphic Design). Rory is also a founding member of Ireland's 100 Archive, on which his work has been featured. Rory currently works in the New York office of Pentagram.

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Billy MacDonald

“The psychoanalyst, like the archaeologist, must uncover layer after layer of the patient’s psyche, before coming to the deepest, most valuable treasures.”
– Sigmund Freud

Billy MacDonald is a designer and maker. He is obsessed with developing concepts through experimentation, research and prototyping. His practice revolves around the interplay between 2D and 3D disciplines, generating ideas between the tangible and intangible. By uprooting the vulgar, visceral and unconscious, his work aims to uncover a life less rational. The Freudian Object is a set of three designer toys. They each embody one of Sigmund Freud’s key psychoanalytic concepts. The Freudian Objects are artefacts of the unconscious taking the form of The Uncanny, The Castration Complex and The Primary Narcissist.

He graduated with a BA (Hons) in Model Making, Design and Digital Effects from the Institute of Art, Design & Technology, Dún Laoghaire in 2013. He has since collaborated with design agency Animal based in New Delhi and Designer Books Beijing. He is currently working as an architectural model maker at Modelworks Media, Dublin.

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Rebecca Marsden

Rebecca Marsden's work focuses largely on processes and fabric manipulation, exploring the extent to which a concept can be realised and made tangible. Drawing inspiration from surroundings, wherever they may be, informs her work alongside the constant search for new ways to manipulate materials and the re-interpretation of traditional techniques.

Rebecca received a first class BA (Hons) in Fashion Design from the Limerick School of Art & Design in 2012. She has worked internationally with designers in London, Paris and New Delhi. For the last three years her work has retailed in Brown Thomas, as part of their Create project.

Awards Received

Irish Fashion Innovation Awards, Designer of the Year, 2014

Irish Fashion Innovation Awards, Innovation Award Winner, 2014

Homi Makers Design Award, Milan, 2014

Design & Crafts Council of Ireland, Future Makers Award, 2013

Limerick Institute Technology Graduate Award, 2012

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Vincent Lam

Vincent Lam has always enjoyed creating something from nothing and from a young age he developed a strong interest in crafting sculptures. A keen curiosity for how things work generated an interest in mechanics and designing and making functional objects. The desire to make that, which can only be imagined, and his love of science-fiction brought about the creation of the alien. The freedom of creative expression that comes with making the unobserved is something he is pursuing with a career in the film industry.

He graduated with a first class BA (Hons) degree in Model Making from the Institute of Art, Design and Technology in 2014. Since then he has worked on prosthetics and costume at Vikings and Penny Dreadful and the films From the Dark and Zenith. He has also been involved in design and creating sculptures for APE and April and The Bear. He is currently creating his next monster for a short film.

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