Collect 2012 - The International Art Fair For Contemporary Objects

11th May 2012

Eight contemporary Irish Makers on display at London’s Saatchi Gallery this weekend.

11-14 May 2012, Saatchi Gallery, London
COLLECT is the premier destination for anyone passionate about the very best contemporary craft.

This weekend will see the Craft Council of Ireland’s National Craft Gallery open their latest exhibition at COLLECT – the premier European art fair for contemporary objects. Exceptional work will be presented by eight contemporary Irish makers, working in jewellery, metal, ceramics and glass.

This prestigious fair, now in its fourth year at the Saatchi Gallery, London, presents a juried selection of 31 of the world’s finest international galleries. This stellar line-up of artists will occupy the ground and first floor of the Saatchi Gallery.

In speaking about the event, Karen Hennessy, Chief Executive Officer of the Crafts Council of Ireland said “The Irish presence at COLLECT reinforces Ireland’s reputation as a world-class source of contemporary fine craft, representing the concept of creative Ireland as a source of cultural and economic potential.”

Represented artists (First floor, stand 9.2)

Alan Ardiff, jewellery; Stuart Cairns, metal; Nuala Jamison, jewellery; Deirdre McLoughlin, ceramics; Susan O’Byrne, ceramics; Nuala O’Donovan, ceramics; Cóilín Ó Dubhghaill, metal; Paula Stokes, glass.

Further Media Information on COLLECT:

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Further Media Information on Crafts Council of Ireland

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Notes For Editors:

1. COLLECT 2012 www.craftscouncil.org.uk/collect

Runs in London’s Saatchi Gallery from 11-14 May. Through its presentation of work from the best international applied artists, COLLECT has become a prestigious event in the international cultural calendar gaining the respect and support of many private collectors, museum curators and galleries.


We are Ireland’s leading centre for contemporary craft and design. We play a critical role in building understanding of craft and material culture. We exhibit Irish and international designers, artists and makers who push boundaries in their engagement with the making process. We inspire appreciation, creativity and innovation through our exhibition and education programme, and along with our touring programme we reach an audience of over 100,000 people annually.

3. Crafts Council of Ireland www.ccoi.ie

The Crafts Council of Ireland (CCoI) is the main champion of the craft industry in Ireland, fostering its growth and commercial strength, communicating its unique identity and stimulating quality design, innovation and competitiveness.

4. The Makers

ALAN ARDIFF www.alanardiff.com
Jeweller Alan Ardiff combines colour and contrast to create forms that tell stories. He is best known for his miniature kinetic works, which combine whimsical images with intricate processes and articulation to create pieces that are innovative in terms of incorporating movement. He divides his time between his studio in rural Co. Mayo and his bustling Dublin studio and workshop.

CÓILÍN Ó DUBHGHAILL www.coilin.com

The work of metalsmith Cóilín Ó Dubhghaill focuses on the exploration of vessel forms in metal through a study of process, materials and colour. His current work draws on traditional Japanese metalworking techniques to explore the construction of custom made alloys, hand-raising and patination. Ó Dubhghaill is currently a Senior Researcher at Sheffield Hallam University, UK.
DEIRDRE MCLoughlin  www.deirdremcloughlin.com

Deirdre McLoughlin graduated from Trinity College, Dublin. She had a studio in Dublin from 1974-82, during which time Sonja Landweer was her mentor. In 1982 the work of the Sodeisha Group brought her to Kyoto, Japan. In 1988 she moved to Amsterdam where she still resides. She has exhibited widely internationally and her work is represented in many public collections, including the Icheon World Ceramic Centre, Korea; National Museum of Ireland, Dublin; Ulster Museum, Belfast, Northern Ireland; Keramikmuseum Westerwald, Germany; Museum Het Princessehof, Leeuwarden, the Netherlands; Frank Steyaert Museum, Ghent, Belgium, and the Arts Council of Ireland, Dublin.

NUALA JAMISON  http://www.nualajamison.com

Contemporary jewellery designer, Nuala Jamison works in Cork and London. She combines precious metals with brightly coloured acrylics or ‘perspex’ to create sculptural pieces. Over the years Nuala has developed a way to dye the acrylic material she uses in her work to create a vibrant almost luminous finish. There is also a smooth texture to the acrylic shapes which makes them very tactile – Nuala explains: “The process I use mimics the soft appearance of pebbles on a beach after the sea has worn away their rough surface- it means they are very soft against the skin.”

NUALA O'DONOVAN  www.nualaiodonovan.com

Nuala O'Donovan makes sculptural work in porcelain clay using irregularities in nature’s patterns as inspiration, and a fascination with the history behind a scarred or broken surface. She graduated from the Crawford College of Art and Design in Cork, Ireland, with a research based MA in 2008. She was the recipient of the Irish Arts Review/Crafts Council of Ireland Emerging Maker Award, 2008 and the Golden Fleece Merit Award, 2011.

STUART CAIRNS  www.stuartcairns.com

Stuart Cairns works as a silversmith combining natural materials and found objects alongside precious metals to create artefacts in the tradition of tableware and jewellery. He is a member of the British Designer Silversmiths and a part-time lecturer in the University of Ulster.
PAULA STOKES  www.paulastokes.com

Paula Stokes grew up in Ireland and graduated from the National College of Art and Design with a Bachelors Degree in Glass Design. She now lives in Seattle, USA, and specialises in glass and print-making, spending her time teaching, and making work. Her work is featured in many public and private collections including the National Museum of Ireland.

SUSAN O'BYRNE  www.susanobyrne.com

Susan O'Byrne was born in Cork, Ireland. Susan produces exquisite ceramic animals that display a fragile and awkward vulnerability. She uses the animal form as a vehicle for the expression of human emotions. Throughout history animals have often been used in storytelling, legend and folklore to simplify the complexities of adult life.