



Here There Now Then

Anne Cleary and Denis Connolly

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Limerick City Gallery of Art Presents

Here There Now Then

By Denis Connolly and Anne Cleary

15th September – 27th October 2006

Denis Connolly and Anne Cleary, installation and video artists, have lived and worked in Paris since 1990. Their work, which is highly regarded internationally, has appeared in such prestigious events as the Yokohama Triennial and the European Media Art Festival.

This entirely new body of work, commissioned by LCGA with support from the Arts Council, uses interactive technology to explore a recurring issue in Cleary & Connolly's work – the shifting boundary between art and life. The exhibition, comprising six video installations, uses 5 computers, 5 digital video cameras, and seven video projectors to create an exhibition where the spectator becomes actor, the gallery becomes theatre and the artist becomes spectator.

Collaboration has always been central to Connolly and Cleary's work, and no less here. One of the works in the exhibition was created with Eriko Momotani who will be present at the opening to recreate one of her improvised *soirées musicales*, while at later date October 14th at 3pm, the artists will be working with London based dancers John Hurley and Laura Murphy to create an interactive dance performance, made possible by Chris Hurley of the Cork Film Centre and Daghdha Dance Company, Limerick.

Here There Now Then an interactive exhibition conceived for the Limerick City Gallery of Art
With the support of the Arts Council of Ireland, The Cork Film Centre, Daghdha Dance Company,
Special thanks to Kinsale Arts Week

And with the participation of **Eriko Momotani, Laura Murphy and John Hurley**.

Eriko Momotani, Japanese artist and curator, has lived in Paris since 1990, where she is a well-known figure in the Parisian art world. Renowned for her Micro-Expositions, Eriko questions the notion of public and private by curating exhibitions in her own apartment, thus turning her living place into a public space.

This original and personal approach brought her to the attention of the Ville de Paris, who support her work highly, and the Yokohama Triennial, who commissioned three exhibitions from Eriko in 2005, one of which was Cleary and Connolly's *Yokohama Houseguests*.

John Hurley trained at the London Contemporary Dance School. He currently works as a freelance dancer with established international choreographers and dance companies in London and throughout Ireland.

Laura Murphy achieved an MA Honour in Dance Performance from the Irish World Music Centre in 2003, she is currently supported by the Arts Council of Ireland to train at Laban, London's leading Contemporary Dance Conservatoire.

Here There Now Then

I used to see the world through the goggles of the existing arts. I would go to the Louvre to see the paintings and sculptures of the past, and I found them more beautiful than reality. Today, when I go to the Louvre, all these representations of the external world... strike me as partial, precarious. I ask myself how the devil they could have seen it like that. And what astonishes me, what really gets me, isn't the paintings and sculptures anymore, but the people who look at them. Now I look only at the people who are looking.

Alberto Giacometti, The Louvre Dialogues, 1967

Artists Statement

Here There Now Then is not only the fruit of two years of hard work, but the result of two decades of obsession.

The first time we spoke to each other was in an art gallery, the Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art on Parnell Square in Dublin, during a college outing on the 12th of September 1983 at 2.40 in the afternoon. This apparently banal moment was to set a pattern in our lives together over the next twenty years.

As young architects in Paris in the early 1990's visiting exhibitions was an almost daily activity. We became involved in an underground Paris art scene heavily influenced by the situationist ideas of Guy Debord, Fluxus, and recent technological innovations emerging from various research institutions such as the IRCAM.

If *Here There Now Then* is a synthesis of all these accumulated influences and chance meetings, it only finally came together during our recent trip to the Yokohama Triennial in Japan, which we visited with our twin daughters Bo & Lotti. We had been grappling with the whole Spectator/Institution/Object problem since 1996, and, in Japan, watching Bo and Lotti visiting the exhibition, things fell into place.

Bo & Lotti were not interested in looking at art, they were interested in the whole experience of being there, the people, the place, themselves... the art too, but only as part of the whole experience. They looked at people, people looked at them. Everybody was looking at everybody and everything. Museums are temples of the regard, and this is what sets them apart from the world.

Soon after we returned from Japan, Michael Fitzpatrick invited us to do an exhibition for the Limerick City Gallery, *Here There Now Then*, is the result.

The Installations

A series of 6 video installations lead the visitor through the varied spaces of the gallery. Although each piece is independent, treating space, sound, time and movement in a different way, together they make a single work.

On entering the gallery piano notes and scales are heard from the surrounding exhibition spaces. These notes are randomly generated by movement from the public, creating an evolving sound construction which is infinitely variable while remaining harmonic.

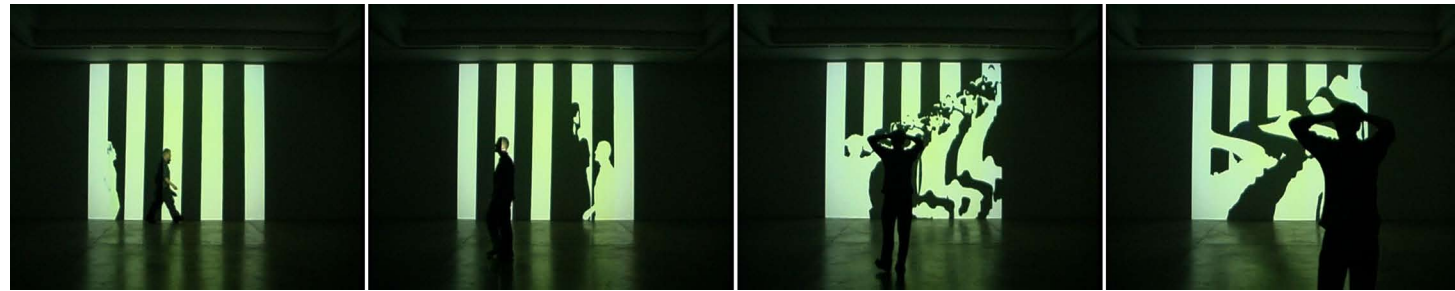
Software for all pieces is designed by Denis Connolly¹, based on original ideas by Anne Cleary and Denis Connolly.

Here There Now Then

Here and There

Interactive Video Installation
Dimensions Variable
Year 2006

Movement in real space creates an infinite play of positive/negative reflections in virtual space.



Here

Interactive Video Installation
Dimensions Variable
Year 2006

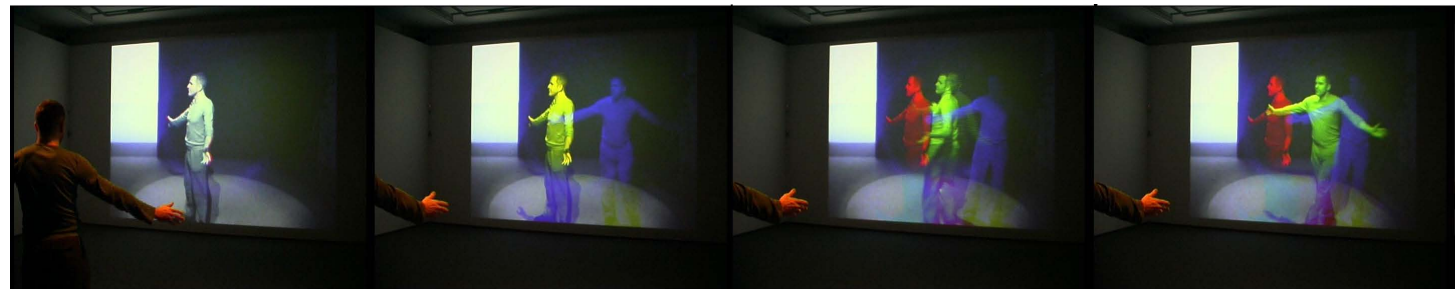
A play of presence/absence, movement/stillness.



Now and Then

Interactive Video Installation
Dimensions Variable
Year 2006

A choreography between the continuous present



Now

Interactive Video Installation
Dimensions Variable
Year 2006

A play of shadows on colour reflects the moment.



Here There Now Then



The work in context
Here Then and Now is a commission of LCGA with the support of the Arts Council of Ireland, and is part of the LCGA permanent collection.--

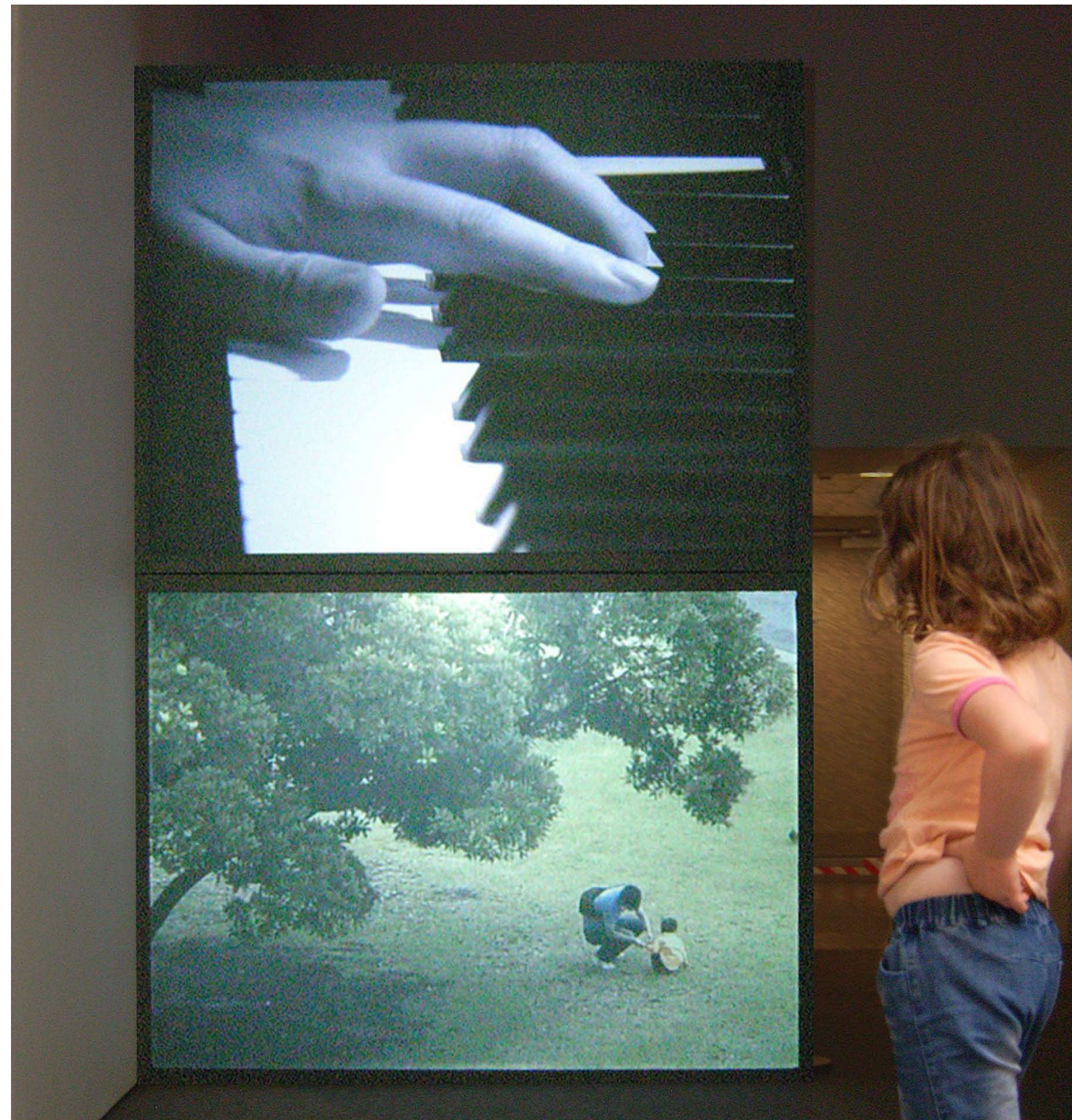
Here then and Now
Interactive Video Installation
Dimensions Variable
Year 2006

Daily life in the picture gallery, then and now.

Image shows the public of Limerick City interacting with the installation on during the exhibition in the Limerick City Gallery of Art, 16th September 2006



Here There Now Then



There and Then
Musical Video Installation
Dimensions Variable
Year 2006

With Eriko Momotani, Salamambo Connolly and
Pipilotti Connolly.

Here There Now Then



Plus Minus
Interactive Dance Performance with John Hurley
&
Laura Murphy, during the Kinsale Arts Week,
July 2006

Here There Now Then

Now and Then

Interactive Video Installation

Dimensions Variable

Year 2006

Public of Limerick City interacting with the
installation during the exhibition

Here There Now Then, Limerick City Gallery of Art
16th September 2006



Here There Now Then

Here and There
Interactive Video Installation
Dimensions Variable
Year 2006

Public of Limerick City interacting with the
installation during the exhibition
Here There Now Then, Limerick City Gallery of Art
16th September 2006



Here There Now Then

Here

Interactive Video Installation
Dimensions Variable

Year 2006

Public of Limerick City interacting with the
installation during the exhibition

Here There Now Then, Limerick City Gallery of Art,
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Here There Now Then

Now

Interactive Video Installation

Dimensions Variable

Year 2006

Public of Limerick City interacting with the
installation during the exhibition

Here There Now Then, Limerick City Gallery of Art,
16th September 2006





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Denis Connolly

- 1965 Born in Dunlaoire, Ireland
- 1989 Diploma in Architecture, Dublin Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Architectural Science, Trinity College, Dublin
- 1990 Moved to France (lives and works in Paris)

Anne Cleary

- 1965 Born in Tullamore, Ireland
- 1990 Diploma in Architecture, Dublin Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Architectural Science, Trinity College, Dublin
Moved to France (lives and works in Paris)

PROFILE

Denis Connolly and Anne Cleary, Installation and video artists, have lived and worked in Paris since 1990. Both architecture graduates, they abandoned architectural practice early and turned their attention to the moving image.

From 1999 to 2005 they concentrated their energy entirely on large-scale multimedia project, *The Boulevard Project*, inspired by the specific urban environment in which they live. The project has found a large public through a long series of international exhibitions and screenings that continues to this day.

Always working as a team, they have directed and produced numerous video installations and short experimental films, developing a personal language of expression where elements of performance rub shoulders with home movie, documentary and experimental film.

They are presently exploring interactive technology with the aim of furthering their investigation of the art/life boundary, taking art out of the museum, into real places and real contexts, and conversely inviting life into the museum. In September 2005 they presented their first interactive work at the Yokohama Triennial, and in September 2006 they completed 5 interactive video installations for their exhibition *Here There Now Then* in the Limerick City Gallery of Art. They are currently working on a commissioned interactive work for the Ballymun Health Care Facility in Dublin, a two-year commission for South Dublin County, and a collaborative art/science project in association with *Centre National de Recherche Scientifique* in Paris.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2006 Limerick City Gallery, Ireland, *Here There Now Then*
- 2005 Yokohama Triennial, Japan, *Yokohama House Guests & RVB*
Jubilee de l'Art Cybernatique, Espace Schöffers, Paris, France, *RVB*
- 2004 Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris, France, *RVB*
- 2002 Galerie Éof, Paris, France, *Scènes du Boulevard*
Le Triangle Centre d'Art Contemporain, Rennes, France, *Touchy 1-8*
- 2000 Limerick City Art Gallery, Limerick, Ireland, *Des Vraies Histoires*
Galerie Éof, Paris, France, *Des Vraies Histoires*
- 1999 Galway Arts Festival, Galway, Ireland, *Touchy 1 - 7*
Bretigny Centre d'Art Contemporain, France, *Touchy 1 - 7*
- 1998 Arthouse, Dublin, Ireland, *Touchy 1 - 7*
Galerie Éof, Paris, France, *Touchy 1 - 7*

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2006 BBC Big Screen, Liverpool, *Scènes du Boulevard*
Tina –B, National Gallery, Prague, Czech Republic, *BPM*
Kinsale Arts Week, Ireland, *The Boulevard Project and Plus/Minus*
- 2005 Kilkenny International Art Festival, Ireland, *RVB*
Tulca Season of Visual Arts, Galway, Ireland, *Scènes du Boulevard*
Limerick City Art Gallery, Limerick, Ireland, EV+A 2005, *RVB*
W139, Amsterdam, Holland, Global Tour, *Endless Walk*
- 2004 Kulturforum, Dresden, Germany, *Scènes du Boulevard*
- 2003 European Media Art Festival, Germany, *Scènes du Boulevard*
- 2002 Centre d'Art Contemporain de l'Abbaye Saint-Andre, France, *Des Vraies Histoires.*
Nuit Blanche, Galerie Éof, Paris, *Scènes du Boulevard*
- 2001 Musée d'Art Moderne, Marseille, France, *Tosser*
- 2000 Art House, Dublin, Ireland, *Touchy 1 - 3*
Centre d'Art Contemporain, Herouville-Saint-Clair, *Des Vraies Histoires*
- 1999 Triskle Art Centre, Cork, Ireland, *Touchy 1 - 3*
Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris, France, ZAC9, *Pizza Project*

SELECTED FILM AND VIDEO FESTIVALS

- 2007 Videoformes International Festival of New Media, France, *12345six*
- 2006 International Film Festival, Rotterdam, Holland, *Scènes du Boulevard*
- 2005 New Zealand International Festivals, *Scènes du Boulevard*
- 2004 Kerry Film Festival, Tralee, Ireland, *No Thank You*
Bangkok Short Film Festival, Bangkok, Thailand, *Scènes du Boulevard*
Simrisham International Art Film Festival, Sweden, *Scènes du Boulevard*
Les Écrans Documentaires, France, *BPM*
- 2003 La Rochelle International Film Festival, France, *Scènes du Boulevard*
Flanders International Film Festival, Belgium, *Scènes du Boulevard*
International Festival of Electronic Arts, Columbia, *Scènes du Boulevard*
- 2002 Backup 2002 New Media in Film, Weimar, Germany, *Scènes du Boulevard*
Viper Film & Video Festival, Basel, Switzerland, *Scènes du Boulevard*
- 2001 Rencontres Internationales Paris-Berlin, Paris, France, *Touchy*
- 2000 16th Hamburg Short Film Festival, Hamburg, Germany, *Touchy*
Interfilm Short Film Festival, Berlin, Germany, *Touchy*

AWARDS

- 2006 Ville de Paris, Aide à la Création
- 2005 EV+A 2005 award, Limerick, Ireland
- 2003 Best Documentary Film Prize, Kerry Film Festival, Ireland
- 2002 Ville de Paris, Aide à la Création
Ville de Paris, Bourse d'Aide à la Réalisation
- 2000 Moving Image Award, Cork Film Centre, Cork, Ireland
- 1999 Prix de jury, Biennale of Video Art, Sofia, bulgaria

AWARD NOMINATIONS

- 2004 Best Experimental Film Prize, Kerry Film Festival, Ireland, shortlist
- 2003 International Media Art Award, ZKM, Germany, shortlist
International Award, FIAV, Tavira, Portugal, shortlist
Prix de Création Vidéo, Videoformes, Clermont Ferrand, France, shortlist
- 2002 Viper International Festival Basel, Switzerland, shortlist
Backup 2002, New Media in Film, Weimar, Germany, shortlist

COMMISSIONS

- 2006 *Still Here*, Interactive Installation, Ballymun Primary Health Care Facility.
City-Loops, In-Context 3, South Dublin County.
Kinsale Arts Week (*Plus/Minus & Here*)
Limerick City Gallery and the Arts Council of Ireland, (work in progress)
- 2005 RB & Cie Paysagistes and Ville de Paris, *Jardin Sensitif*
W139, Amsterdam, *Endless Walk*
Yokohama Triennale, Homestay Art Project, *Yokohama HouseGuests*
Eagle House, Brittany, France, *Houseguests*
- 2004 Centre Culturel Irlandais and Ville de Paris *RVB*
- 2003 Cité de la Musique, Paris, *BPM*
Zenith, Paris, *NON*

COLLECTIONS

- 2006 Private Collections in France, Belgium, Ireland
Limerick City Gallery of Art, Ireland
The Arts Council of Ireland
- 2005 École Nationale Supérieure, Paris La Villette
Collection of Gilbert Petitbon, Maison de l'Aigle, Brittany, France

PUBLICATIONS

- 2006 - *Here There Now Then*, Karen Normoyle, in *CIRCA 118 Winter 2006 p 99*
- 2005 - *Difference, 4'39, Une Gaie Anarchie*, Marc Mercier, in *Les Anarchistes 13*, March 2005
- *Image en Mouvement/ultracontemporain*, L'OIEL, March 2004
- *Danser-Dormir*, Marc Mercier, *Bref*, le Magazine de Court Metrege, March-April 2005
- *The Arts*, Aidan Dunne, *Irish Times* March 22, 2005, p14
- 2004 - *RVB*, Catalogue, Centre Culturel Irlandais and Ville de Paris
- 'The Migrant's Perspective: Irish Artists in Mainland Europe', Lucy Cotter, Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon Critical Reflection Award 2004.
- *BPM*, Manéci, le Journal des Écrans Documentaire, Dec 2004
- *Through the Window*, Nathalie Stefanov, in *cat RVB, Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris, 2004, p4-17*
- *Entretien avec Anne Cleary & Denis Connolly*- Nathalie Stefanov, in *Parade 4 Revue d'art et de littérature de l'école d'expression plastique de la ville de Tourcoing*, nov 2004
- 2003 - *Scènes du Boulevard: Urbanisme*, Nov/Dev 2003 p12
- *Somebody's Watching Me*, in *Catalogue Bandits'images*, Dec 2003, Luc Brou p 126