

From: e-Flux <info@mail.e-flux.com>
Subject: LIMERICK CITY GALLERY OF ART presents Noughties but Nice: 21st Century Irish Art
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September 9, 2009

e-flux

LIMERICK CITY GALLERY OF ART



*Denis Connolly/Anne Cleary
Plus/Minus, 2006
Interactive Video Installation*

**Noughties but Nice:
21st Century Irish Art**
September 10th - November 8th 2009

LIMERICK CITY GALLERY OF ART
Carnegie Building, Pery Square,
Limerick, Ireland

<http://www.gallery.limerick.ie>

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**Aideen BARRY | Sarah BROWNE | Amanda COOGAN | Denis CONNOLLY / Anne CLEARY |
Joe DUGGAN | Ciara FINNEGAN | Andrew KEARNEY | Sean LYNCH | Tom MOLLOY |
Caroline MCCARTHY | Seamus NOLAN | Eamon O'KANE | John SHINNORS**

Curated by Mike Fitzpatrick and Susan Holland

Noughties but Nice: 21st Century Irish Art surveys the extensive terrain of art made in Ireland during the first decade of this millennium. This exhibition selects some of the most exciting contemporary master-works of the Noughties, including seminal works by leading Irish artists. Audience engagement is a central element of this exhibition; the selection includes high impact works

in sculpture and on canvas juxtaposed with digital media, participatory and experiential works. The exhibition will be officially opened at 7pm on Thursday 10th September by Dr. Martin Mansergh TD, Minister of State at the Department of Finance with special responsibility for the Arts.

Working with thirteen high profile artists the exhibition presents a playful and exciting exploration of contemporary art. Experiential works draw audiences into new sensory engagements through **Andrew Kearney's** room-size, light-pulsing orb, which responds to sounds outside the gallery and **Connolly / Cleary's** interactive video installation *Plus/Minus*, placing the viewer within the film. **John Shinnors** presents his eighteen part painting series *Scarecrow Portraits*, which confronts the viewer through strong aesthetic and dramatic scale. **Eamon O'Kane** investigates production and communal usage inviting the visitor to participate in his DIY furniture fabrication studio. Visitors experience **Amanda Coogan's** iconic documented performance *Adoration*. Further reflecting on our obsession with consumerism, **Caroline McCarthy** and **Seamus Nolan** present sculptural objects which reveal their fascination with the use of materials discarded by society. The compelling works of **Sarah Browne, Joe Duggan** and **Sean Lynch** take very differing, enquiring views on how values are determined in social contexts. **Ciara Finnegan's** lyrical documentary film looks at an active age groups' collaborations choreographing a dance, while **Aideen Barry's** new film work playfully investigates the effects of personal and societal pressures. **Tom Molloy** presents a delicate series of cross-stitch portraits of the forty-four First Ladies of the USA.

Surveying current practice from the brush stroke to digital media, **Noughties but Nice: 21st Century Irish Art** seeks to demonstrate the strength and energy of contemporary Irish art. The central focus determining this exhibition is visual and sensory excitement for viewers through the representation of a diverse selection of contemporary Irish practice. These works are juxtaposed together because they share an interest in playful exploration of human nature and the contemporary environment through an exciting diversity of mediums.

Noughties but Nice: 21st Century Irish Art is funded by The Arts Council of Ireland as a touring pilot in Visual Arts. The exhibition will premier in Limerick City Gallery of Art before touring to Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny, Donegal (2nd February - 20th March 2010), Solstice Arts Centre, Navan, Meath (2nd April – 8th May 2010), and VISUAL Centre for Contemporary Art, Carlow (21st May – 3rd July 2010).

Noughties but Nice: 21st Century Irish Art is accompanied by a full colour, 72 page catalogue. ISBN 978-0-9553668-9-5

LIMERICK CITY GALLERY OF ART

Part of Limerick City Council. Supported by the Arts Council, Shannon Development and Fáilte Ireland

Open 7 days. **Admission is FREE**

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