



SIGNAL ARTS NEWSLETTER

Volume 6

October - December 2009

Issue 4



Denis Dunne, The Key, 2009

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Monday to Friday
9.00 - 1.00 and 2.00 - 5.00

Gallery Hours

Tuesday to Friday
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Saturday and Sunday
12.00 - 5.00

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Denis Dunne (Co-Secretary)
Greg Murray (Co-Secretary)
Róisín Verdon (Co-Secretary)
Colum O'Neill

Contact Signal Arts Society: signalsociety@gmail.com

Opinions expressed in this magazine will not always be those of Signal Arts Centre and of course we reserve the right to edit all submissions where necessary.

Content

Editorial and Signal News	1
Views and Reviews	2
Changes in the Signal Arts Society	3
Exhibitions Programme	4 & 5
Island Hopping in West Cork - Penny Byrne	6
Newcourt School project - Greg Murray	6
"Yes we can" - Pat Burns	6
What's Happening?	7
Four Signal Artists and their Work	8
Signal Staff	9

Signal Arts Society Benefits of Membership

- All members are entitled to reduced commission on any works sold through the centre - either in exhibitions, Meitheals or the Annual Members Show.
- All members are entitled to a discount on works purchased at the Signal Arts Centre.
- All members are entitled to reduced rates when using the facilities at the Signal Arts Centre, including the use of the kiln, pottery room and dark-room facilities.
- All members are invited to the opening of every exhibition and any other special events organised at the centre.
- All members are invited to the Christmas Party.
- All members are invited to participate in the Annual Members' Exhibition.
- All members will receive a copy of the Quarterly Newsletter.
- All members are entitled to partake in the Discount Scheme.
- All members will be invited to the periodic members meetings.
- If you have any queries about members' benefits please do not hesitate to contact any of the committee members.

Editorial by Kieran Dalton

Welcome to the 2009 autumn edition. This has been a successful year for Signal Arts Society. I would like to welcome our new members, some of whom have provided us with a few words about themselves and their practice (see elsewhere in this newsletter).

I would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Colum O'Neill, for all his hard work on behalf of S.A.S. over the years. Those of you who were present at the opening of our exhibition will know that he is resigning as secretary so he can concentrate on his new role on the fundraising committee re the purchase of the Signal Arts centre building. We are also losing to that committee Linda O'Neill and Pat Burns both of whom have also worked very hard on our behalf. GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF YOU!!!!

That also means we are welcoming new members who will introduce themselves to you in this newsletter. WELCOME ON BOARD!

This year's SAS exhibition was very interesting so we asked Colum (who is still co editor) to write a piece for your perusal.

This year's Christmas party is on the 19th of December and we hope to see you there. Also don't forget about the fundraising film and quiz nights at Signal. They are proving very popular so book your seats by phone or call in to the centre.

Please remember that this is your newsletter!!!! So comments, letters and/or articles for inclusion are always welcome. They can be emailed to signalarts@gmail.com or posted to the centre at 1 Albert Avenue, Bray, Co. Wicklow

Signal Arts Centre Artist in the Community 2009

Signal Arts Centre invites Artists whose practice involves engaging with local communities to submit an application to the Centre's annual Artist in the Community Award which is grant aided through Wicklow County Council.

Interested artists should submit a CV, examples of previous work, and an outline of the concept and how you would engage with a community, including what kind of community you see yourself engaging with (e.g. youth group, women's group, special interest groups, etc.) Signal is particularly interested in the artistic merits of the concept and an understanding of engaging with or collaborating with communities. All art forms are welcome.

The successful artist will be expected to engage with a community organisation based in Bray for a minimum of 20 hrs from October 2009 to January 2010. There will be an exhibition of the process/product in Signal Arts Centre in February 2010. Details on Application.

The aim of the scheme is to encourage intense collaboration between communities of place and/or interest and artists, culminating in an artwork or a project in which the members of the community group and the artists work together in order to realise an artistic project or an event. Signal have many community groups interested in engaging with an artist for this project ranging from youth groups to community resource groups to voluntary organisations.

Closing Date for receipt of applications is: 5 p.m. Friday 25th September 2009

Artist in the Community 2009

Signal Arts Centre, 1 Albert Avenue, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

Bray Summerfest

We'd like to say a big thanks to members of the Society who contributed art works to the exhibition which took place during Bray Summerfest, and especially to those who were available to help us during the show. We got great feedback from visitors regarding the work on show, and the event helped to spread the word about Signal Arts Centre and Signal Arts Society. The organisers are aiming to build on this year's experience towards having a stronger arts presence during the festival, and we look forward to having a little more time to plan a schedule of events to coincide with next year's Summerfest.

News from Claire

Well here we are again, another Newsletter, there seems to be no time between each one! As you will probably notice we are playing around with the format of the Newsletter, we are attempting to make it more user friendly and allow the reader to dip in and out of it finding lots of pieces of interesting information.

One of the suggested ideas is to do a profile on new Signal Arts Society members as they come on, in an effort for all members to have an insight on other artists' medium. In this issue we have focused on a young fashion designer, Bébhinn Flood, who just joined the SAS and painter, Ewa Krupa. For the first time ever we actually received more replies to this request than we needed, so if you have sent in your profile, don't worry, we will get it into forthcoming Newsletters. If you would like us to include you in the process please contact us, the profile will then be placed on the website.

In this issue we will also cover four staff artists who will be showing in the gallery in the next few months. The idea is for the artists to talk about their approach to their art work.

We have introduced a "what's on" section in the hope that what we have chosen may be of interest to you too.

We have had a very successful few weeks having had a few Quiz nights and one Film Night which have been great social events, if you fancy joining us for any of these events please contact us. The Book Club is thriving and we are beginning to get a handle on the process of critiquing, no surprises there as the given group have something to say on everything.

We also have been involved with the Bray Summerfest, albeit at the last moment, but considering how little time we had to organise it, it happened to be a great event. It has to be said that it would not have been such a success if it were not for the staff really pulling together and giving over plenty of time and effort under extreme time pressure. While I am on the subject, could the artists who have not already collected their work please collect now as the Centre is very tied for space. We are hoping that next year we will have more time to develop the arts area of the Summerfest, we will keep you posted. All of these events are covered on the website: www.signalartscentre.ie so please go on to the site and have a look at the images and join the blog or Facebook networks.

We are hoping to have the usual Christmas Party in Signal on Saturday 19th December, we will have the usual karaoke and the film "It's a Wonderful Life" showing somewhere in the building. Please let us know if you interested in joining us by any medium you favour – we are so techno now!

P.S. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Biddy Scott who donated the proceeds of her sales in the Signal Arts Society Show to the Building fund – thank you so much from us all.

Meitheal - December 8th to 20th 2009

The Meitheal is our annual Christmas exhibition. The Irish word 'meitheal' refers to workers coming together in a co-operative way to get work done, traditionally activities such as turf cutting, hay making and other community jobs. This year we invite you to get arty crafty! We want this year's Meitheal to be a celebratory coming together of artists and society members to create a colourful and enjoyable Christmas Show. We are looking for small scale art works, ceramics, glass, textiles, cards, calendars, candles, soaps, sweet treats, etc. We will be having a meeting in September to make plans for this show. If you'd like to join us ring the Centre for further information.



Views and Reviews

The World According to Garp

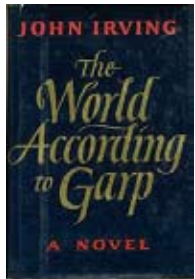
by Vincent Rae

This was the first real book I ever read as a teenager. It was quite an eye opener for me. It opened the world up to me in respect of life elsewhere, I was very naïve and had no idea of broader views of life as we go about our daily mundane lives.

John Irving having grown up in New England I feel has based some or a large portion of the book on his own life. I am not suggesting this is biographical but I feel the emotions and sentiments of this book appear to be from personal experience.

I would not go as far as to say I loved the book as most of the characters are not very likable but I did enjoy the insight into New Hampshire / New England and their sugar coated idea of life and death and just deserts.

This book can come across as being a bit crude but I feel it was not unnecessarily so and that it all helped to build up the relationships in the book.



Garp's world is one where sexuality is basically a source of trouble and heartache but it was very reminiscent of the era, where feminism and free sex were the order of the day.

A favourite paragraph of mine from the book is where a high-up publisher gives all his manuscripts to his cleaning lady, and she's the one that tells him whether they're worth publishing or not. When he asks her why she read a particularly disturbing novel, she answers "To find out what happens next."

The World according to Garp

by Penny Byrne

We never really did find out what the world was like according to Garp. An often crude story, to me it only spoke of an odd little man who was quite happy to be dictated to by women, namely his mother and his wife. Garp was a free-loader, living off some flimsy excuse of being a writer, even though he wrote only four things in his entire life. Taking the story at face-value, to me it seemed like someone's obsession with two body parts, one - the tongue and the other a certain part of the male anatomy that I'm too polite to mention. People talk of this as being the author, John Irving's sensational debut novel that launched him into fame, but it would not encourage me to read another of his books. But everyone to their own warped taste!

Paris & Art

by Roisin Verdon

When you put the words Paris and Art together, the logical thought proceeding is the Louvre. With its grand design and its prominent Crystal Pyramid, there are very few buildings that can compare. "You would need a whole day" I was told, "to see all the art". And I did, I spent the whole day walking down corridors, in and out of rooms, getting lost, stumbling on the Mona Lisa, "Oh look, isn't she very small". Looking at maps and moving on.

I have to say that the buildings are absolutely amazing. I spent more time looking up at the ceilings and admiring the architecture than I did looking at the art. Granted, the paintings and the sculptures are technically perfect, but I have to say, for this fussy mare, it just didn't cut it for me. Don't get me wrong, I respect the skill of the great Masters but I find them boring after about 10 min, when they all start to look the same. I spent the day hoping with every corner that I took, that I would stumble on some form of impressionism and light, but to no avail. It wasn't until my second trip to Paris that I realised (because I can be a dopy Mare as well as a fussy one) that what I was seeking all along was not in the Louvre but in the Musée d'Orsay across the river. What a thrill! Rooms upon rooms of "OMG, I can't believe it!" Do trust me when I say "You haven't seen a Van Gogh or a Gauguin unless you've seen them in the flesh. Manet's, "The Lunch on the Grass" stopped me in my tracks, Degas' ballerina's brought tears to my eyes. Cezanne, Monet, Corbet, Pissaro, I could go on and on and on, but you'd really have to visit this magnificent building (which was originally built as a train station) and experience the feast of creative beginnings for yourself. For me it was the highlight of my artistic journey so far.

Signal Arts Society 9th Annual Members' Exhibition

by Colum O' Neill

This year's Annual exhibition was held from Tuesday 7th July until Sunday 19th July in the Signal Arts Centre. Unfortunately the Art Around Town exhibition had to be cancelled due to circumstances outside the control of the organising committee. But the exhibition in the centre was excellent, due to the high quality of works submitted and also to the expertise of the staff at the centre. The exhibition was a major success, attracting many viewers over the two week period.

The exhibition opening was held on Friday 10th July and was opened by Jim Morrisson. Jim's speech referred to the quality of work exhibited and also to how well the exhibition was hung. He then handed the floor to me so that I could announce the changes to the Signal Arts Society committee and introduce the new committee members.

Linda and Pat are standing down from the committee after many years of hard work building the society into the popular and practical entity that it is today and I thanked them on behalf of all the membership. I will no longer be the secretary so Greg, Denis, Penny and Roisin have decided to try the secretarial duties for a month each and decide then who will take up the position. Greg and Denis were at the opening and they promised that the new committee have new and exciting ideas for the society.

The turn out for the opening was impressive with more than fifty people turning up on the night.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the years during my tenure as secretary and assure you all that I will still be at your service as a committee member. Do not hesitate to contact me or any committee member with any queries. We can be contacted through the Signal Arts Centre or by email at signalsociety@gmail.com.

I wish you all good luck with your artistic endeavours and look forward to meeting you again at the Christmas party.

Breakfast at Tiffany's

by Denis Dunne



23rd July Signal Arts presented its first Movie Night. The Movie was the classic 1961 *Breakfast at Tiffany's* directed by Blake Edwards and starring Audrey Hepburn. Even though it was a success and nominated for five Academy awards, the one person who was not happy was the Author Truman Capote and he was very outspoken in his disapproval of what had been done to his book. He was unhappy with the tone, the director and the casting. "It was the most miscast film I've ever seen, Holly Golightly was a real tough character not and Audrey Hepburn type at all.

The role was originally written for his friend Marilyn Monroe, whom he wanted for the part, but her drama coach suggested that playing a call girl would be bad for her image.

We had a full house in the gallery for the movie, all of us there together in the dark watching a movie that was over 50 years old. There was popcorn and candy and even Holly Golightly cocktails. Half way through the movie we had an interval and we were treated to a very special performance by our very own Karen Golightly singing Moon River from the movie which was written especially for Hepburn to perform in the movie and won an Oscar for best original song. Karen played the part of a diva a little too convincingly for my liking. We had a raffle for a pencil drawing donated by the very talented Greg Murray and the very deserving winner was our very own (man who can do anything) Vincent. There was lots of ooohs and aahhs throughout the movie and fun was had by everyone there, and we all went home with a tune in our heads, Moon-river and me.

Signal Arts Society News and Profiles

New SAS Committee



Since the last Newsletter the committee of the Signal Arts Society has changed, both Colum and Linda are taking a well earned rest although Colum will still be on the committee. On behalf of the Signal Arts Centre, and I am sure you will

all concur, I would like to thank them both for the hard work they have put into developing the society to what it is today. They were instrumental in the setting up of the Newsletter many moons ago and produced it using only a typewriter and photocopier and yet the standard was still excellent. They also initiated the 'around the town' section of the annual SAS exhibition, so we have a lot to be grateful to them for.

While it is hard to say goodbye to the old it is also exciting to welcome the new! The new committee comprises of Kieran Dalton (chairperson), Denis Dunne (staff artist), Penny Byrne (staff artist), Róisín Verdon (staff artist) and Greg Murray (ex staff member). The four new members propose to rotate the secretary position on a monthly basis until they all find their feet.

The new SAS committee has already joined on the Newsletter committee and they hope to get a lot of feedback from the society. They propose to continue the development of SAS and will keep you all posted regarding any new initiatives etc. We have included a photograph of the new members so if you have any questions do not hesitate to get in touch with them or approach them any time in the Centre.

New SAS Member: Ewa Krupa

My name is Ewa Krupa and I am from Poland. Since last four years I live in Dublin. I've joined Signal Arts Society in June 2008. When I was a child I was fascinated about film and I wanted to be an actress but in the same time I was drawing a lot. My family is very much into arts so it was easy for me to get involved. When I was around 18 I wasn't that interested in acting anymore and actually that was the time when art took first place. I am a bit interested in poetry and photography as well. At this moment I am working in a hotel which helps me to pay my bills and college. I study in UCD Adult Education - Diploma in History of European Painting and I see myself in the future working in a gallery or museum. My work is inspired by philosophy, psychology and the style is a mixture of cubism, surrealism and abstract. Till I've reached 20 I was drawing mostly landscapes but after that I wanted to push my work in different direction so since then my work is my imagination. What I like the most in art is that it really gives me freedom. I have been painting and drawing for years, but since last few months I've started looking for places to show my art basically I am just starting out. I can't give any advice to other artist because I am new in this business. I hope that this short introduction will be useful for you.
Kind regards, Ewa Krupa

New SAS Member: Bébhinn Flood Fashion Designer

by Claire Flood

It seems that Bébhinn knew from an early age what she would like to do because during her transition year in Newpark Comprehensive she decided to do a portfolio course, at night, in Dun Laoghaire College of Art & Design. On completing her Leaving Cert. she continued her education in Fashion Design at Sallynoggin Senior College where she feels she learned invaluable technical skills. She then completed her Degree in Fashion Design with honours at Limerick Institute of Technology.

Since graduating in 2004 she has worked with international Irish designer John Rocha and Joanne Hynes. She found working with these successful designers as an eye opening experience, she realised even at this level it is necessary to pull a few all nighters to get the desired end result.



She then worked in the mass market side of the trade which gave her a great grounding of the trade both here and abroad, but she felt it took the creative life out of it for her.

She decided to bite the bullet and establish her own label (B fashion Design) in 2007 and uses The Loft Market, Powerscourt Town House Centre, Dublin as a platform for her work where you can buy off the peg or commission a piece to your own specifications. And now she also stocks other boutiques around the country. B fashion Design specialises in unique occasion wear with hand beading and embroidery, she sees

her work as modern vintage chic using classic craft techniques with modern fabrics which inspire her.

Bébhinn is planning on having an exhibition in Signal Arts Centre next year, 22nd June -4th July 2010, entitled the Art of Fashion, where she proposes to display some of her more intricate beaded and textured work and head pieces as works of art, which should be an interesting and visually exciting show.

E- bev@bfashiondesign.com,

W- www.bfashiondesign.com,

M- 086 1627887

Paul Flynn in Galway

Signal Society member Paul Flynn had an exciting solo exhibition in the Providence Market Gallery, Galway, from July 27th - August 29th, 2009.

Paul Flynn has studied colour and images in detail on a professional level for many years. His art is influenced by the Irish landscape, culture, writers, storytellers, the people and all aspects of Irish life. Have a look at Paul's work on www.artec.ie/paul





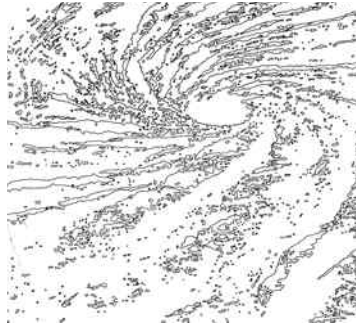
Exhibitions Programme

SARAH MORSHEAD '1+1 = one'



Tuesday 29th September - Sunday 11th October. Opening Reception: Friday 2nd October

LINDE FIDORRA 'Stillness and Movement in the Field of Endless Possibilities'



Tuesday 13th October - Sunday 25th October. Opening Reception: Thursday 15th October

LOUISE NEWMAN 'The Water Line'



Wednesday 28th October - Sunday 8th November. Opening Reception: Friday 30th October.

October - December 2009

Gallery Hours: Tuesday to Friday 10 - 1 pm and 2 - 5 pm | Saturday and Sunday 12 - 5 pm
Openings: 7 pm - 9 pm. See www.signalartscentre.ie for more information

All are welcome!

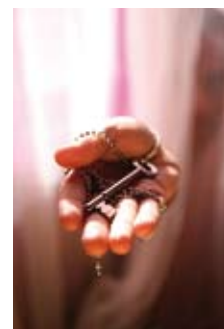


JOANNE BOYLE 'Per Chance'



Tuesday 10th November - Sunday 22nd November. Opening Reception: Thursday 12th November

DENIS DUNNE 'Delicate'



Tuesday 24th November - Sunday 6th December. Opening Reception: Friday 27th November

MEITHEAL 'Festive Arts & Crafts'



Tuesday 8th December - Sunday 20th December. Opening Reception: Thursday 10th December

Island Hopping in West Cork

by Penny Byrne

There's an island for everyone in west Cork, and with the summer crowds diminishing, now is a good time to enjoy everything that they have to offer. Illnacullen, or **Garnish Island** as it is better known, is accessed by boat from Glengariff. It's a beautiful oasis in the otherwise craggy Beara Peninsula. This part of Ireland boasts sub tropical weather so it is possible to find plants here that would not survive as far north as only Wicklow or Dublin. With woodland and formal gardens there is plenty of variety to interest even the less green fingered.

For ferries see www.bluepoolferry.com

Bere Island - having been here twice now I was disappointed with the facilities available to day-trippers. It is a beautiful island however and well suited to hill walkers and cyclists. The island has an interesting maritime history with the French leaving their troupes here in the 1600's during the battle of the Boyne and during World War 1 you could practically cross from the island to the mainland by jumping from deck to deck of the battleships. The harbour of Castletownbere is the second deepest in the world.

Take the ferry from Pontoon (3 miles from Castletownbere) to the village of Rerrin. www.murphysferry.com

Another ferry service operates from Castletownbere but leaves you at the opposite end of the island. www.BerelIslandFerries.com

Dursey, the farthest west of the islands, has until this year been connected to the mainland by a novel 1960's cable car. The cable car is being replaced this summer with a new one at a cost of 150,000 euro. With a population of only six, it is not hard to see why this island is so sparsely inhabited as it is totally exposed to the full force of atlantic winds. If you reach the Signal Tower you can see the Skelligs to the north and Mizen Head to the south. To reach Dursey take the road on the Castletownbere side of the Beara Peninsula rather than the one from Kenmare as it has many hairy twists and turns.



Sherkin Island in Roaringwater Bay is a very sociable island popular for traditional music and its sandy beaches. Walking is pleasant as there are no hills and seals and dolphins can sometimes be seen from its shoreline. Proven attractive to artists, you can study a Fine Arts Degree here on the island or buy the work of the crafts people in the shops of Baltimore. Take the 10 minute ferry trip from Baltimore to Sherkin for 10 euro return.

www.sherkinisland.eu/ferry

Finally my favourite, **Cape Clear**, a Gaeltacht

island which has a strong sense of community. With a friendly population of 130 the island is relaxed and welcoming.

Walking or taking a guided tour are the best ways of getting around. Soak up the sun while eating a chocolate bar or an icecream made from goats milk which can be bought directly from the home of a blind goat farmer.

Home to an International Story Telling Festival this island has a rather eclectic mix of inhabitants. Take a trip from here around the austere Fastnet Lighthouse and watch for whales and turtles or visit the Birdwatching Observatory and get close to nature. An incredible sight to be seen here is known as 'the fall' when hundreds of thousands of birds descend on the island during their migration south.

The ferry to Cape Clear leaves Baltimore alongside the Sherkin Island ferry and costs 15 euro return. www.capeclearferry.com

Allotments!!!

Allotments are enjoying a surge in popularity as people take up the 'grow your own' trend and look for ways to eat healthily without breaking the bank. I was watching Nationwide recently and they showed allotments for rent in Enniskerry. I thought this was a brilliant idea and some of you may be interested. When I googled allotments in Wicklow it showed a lot of different ones in the county – could be worth checking out! The name of the one in Enniskerry is Beech Hill Allotments, email: maguireangela@yahoo.ie Claire

Newcourt School Project

by Greg Murray



In April this year Carmel Nugent, a teacher in Newcourt School, contacted us at Signal with an interest in organising an arts project involving a group of students from the school

working with some of the artists from Signal.

Penny, Denis and myself decided to work together on this project and we agreed to meet with Carmel and some of the staff to discuss the project. Our first impression of the school was really positive. The wonderful staff and in particular the attitude and leadership of the Principal, Dan, gives the school, which has 90 or so students, the feel of a very large family living in a very large house. Everyone is on first name basis and the feeling of care, support and inclusion made us instantly appreciate how enjoyable this experience would be for each of us.

The school is under some construction work at the moment and it was at our initial meeting we decided to produce a large scale replica of the school logo to mount on the new corridor wall on completion of the construction work in early September, though the work with the students had to be completed before the summer holidays.

The school logo consists of three symbols: the sun, a heart and a flower.

As there were three student groups and three staff artists we each chose a symbol, Penny the heart, Denis the flower and I chose the sun. Although we worked together with each student group on their chosen symbol there was a fun sense of competition.

We had 6 weeks to work on the project and we met with each group once a week. Each group started with a plywood shape of their symbol and we had to cover this shape with a collage of images and words representing that symbol. The students chose the images and words for their symbols and some produced pictures and poems to include.

Denis, as another strand to the project, decided to set up his camera in a way that allowed the children to take a self portrait. He made a slideshow of the images and included a soundtrack which was presented on the final day of the project to the entire school. This proved to be very popular with everyone.

The students were a pleasure to work with and the teachers helped to make each group work together with us in a very natural and relaxed way.

“Yes We Can” by Pat Burns

The proposals came hot and heavy at an exciting public meeting held by the Lions Club at St Thomas Community School, Novara Road, on July 15, 2009. About 200 people arrived to brainstorm solutions to the current economic downturn. Over 40 Proposals were divided into 7 categories. The relevant category to our Signal Members was the Arts and Crafts sector.

The ideas were as diverse as holding an Arts festival along the lines of the Galway Arts Festival, to a Christmas Craft Fair utilizing the empty stores on the Main Street, to an Art Market and Art on the Railings, to a World Cultures Festival in the Peoples Park, Bray.

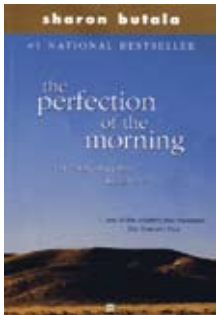
A committee was formed that included Siobhan Egan, Roision Verdon, Brigid O'Brien, Elis Taves, with John McManus and Nora Hickey, Director of the Mermaid Centre assisting. Signal Arts Centre was again offered as a meeting place for the committee and also offered backup administrative resources such as typing and telephone. The meeting was adjourned with a very positive outlook on the future of the arts in Bray.

What's Happening? compiled by Denis Dunne

SIGNAL ARTS CENTRE

Book Reading

On **Saturday 19th September** we are delighted to have Canadian author Sharon Butala to do a reading in the gallery. Sharon is a bestselling



author of both fiction and non-fiction.

The Perfection of the Morning remained on bestsellers lists for over a year and won several awards. It was followed by another bestseller, *Coyote's Morning Cry*.

Apart from her sixteen books of both fiction and

nonfiction, numerous essays and articles, she also has written some poetry and five produced plays. Due to limited space in the gallery we would appreciate it if you could ring us beforehand to let us know that you are interested in attending.

'Talking Art'

An open forum for discussion

every 1st Tuesday in the month, 7pm at Signal

An informal gathering of working artists, meeting to discuss art and art related matters from its philosophy to its creation, from its practice to periods of fallowness. We hope to generate a space where working artists feel free to brainstorm, analyze, construct and deconstruct the visual arts.

We started the ball rolling by having a topic for the first session. The question we put out was "What is Art?". There were many different opinions on the night and the discussion was lively and engaging. The conversation turned to individual practice and the different directions that artists can both start from and arrive at. Altogether a stimulating and interesting evening.

The sessions will not always be topic based, they will follow the interests of those present on the night.

MERMAID ARTS CENTRE

Glendarragh 10 Years On

Sat 8 August – Sat 12 September

Glendarragh Studios, near Newtownmountkennedy, was founded in 1999 in the response to the shortage of artists' studio space in County Wicklow. To celebrate its 10th anniversary, the Studio artists have invited the many people who have been through its doors, whether as artists or visitors, to respond to their experience at the studios, through art, music, writing and much more.

The exhibition will include current artists in residence Chiara Browne, Dara Clear, Jean Clyne, Fiona Coffey, Riain Darcy, Fergal Flanagan, Fiona Flinn, Michael Gemmell, Cathy Henderson, Joanna Kidney and Yanny Petters.

TEMPLE BAR CULTURAL TRUST

12 East Essex Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2

01 6772255

Wednesday 21st October 2009

Chocolate Festival Exhibition



'Come with me and you'll see a world of pure imagination!' (Willie Wonka & the Chocolate Factory, 1971)

NGG collaboration with the Chocolate Festival brings an exhibition inspired

by chocolate, its appearance, taste, consistency or simply how good it makes one feel!

Showtime/Duration: **21st October – 4th November**

Sunday 4th October 2009

"Contrasts" by Carol Eakins

Carol's art is a direct reflection of herself and how she interprets life and the different stages of her life. You can see Carol draws a direct influence from her relationships, situations in life, her own sexuality, youth and Japan in her paintings. Carol spent two months working and painting in Japan. Tokyo's presence continues to reappear in her work. Along with a graphic cartoon effect which was also influenced by the city.

Her paintings are energetic, feminine, spiritual and sensual. She loves using color and shape, mixed in with the female form. She captures emotion and paints to express the things that can't be put into words.

IMMA

Royal Hospital Kilmainham, Beit Wing.

Dublin 8 6129900, Admission free.

25 Nov 2009 - 07 Feb 2010

Picturing New York:

Photographs from The Museum of Modern Art



"Picturing New York" comprises 150 masterworks from the photographic collection of the Museum of Modern Art in New York, covering the period from the 1880s

to the present day. It celebrates the tradition of photographing New York, a tradition that frames and influences the perception of this vibrant urban centre. Including photographs by such influential photographers as Berenice Abbot, Diane Arbus, Garry Winogrand, Lisette Model, Alfred Stieglitz and Cindy Sherman, it explores both New York and its inhabitants, highlighting associations – from the vast, overwhelming architecture and bright lights, to the diversity of people that lie at the soul of the city.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF IRELAND

19 September - 6 December 2009

Edvard Munch: Prints

an exhibition from the Munch Museum

This exhibition from the Munch Museum in Oslo is dedicated to prints by Edvard Munch (1863-1944).

Featuring 40 of the finest prints spanning his career, the works have been specially chosen to illustrate his development as a graphic artist.



THE GATE THEATRE

Cavendish Row, Parnell Square, Dublin 1, Ireland

Box Office: 01 874 4045 / 874 6042

EMAIL: boxoffice@gate-theatre.ie

THE BIRDS

WORLD PREMIERE Tuesday 29 September

Previews from Thurs 24 September

Written and Directed by Conor McPherson

Adapted from the short story by Daphne Du Maurier

From the celebrated author of such masterworks as *Rebecca*, *Jamaica Inn* and *My Cousin Rachel*, comes Daphne Du Maurier's enthralling gothic tale of mystery and suspense. Immortalised by Alfred Hitchcock in his legendary film and now reimagined in a chilling new adaptation by acclaimed Irish playwright Conor McPherson, *The Birds* is an unrelenting and spellbinding portrait of terror and alienation. STARRING: Sinéad Cusack, Denise Gough, Ciarán Hinds

O2 DUBLIN

Fleetwood Mac

24th & 25th October '09



Stevie Nicks, Mick Fleetwood, John McVie and Lindsey Buckingham to delight their millions of fans at arenas across Ireland and the UK.

One of the most successful Rock bands in history are back, with their best-selling line up featuring

Four Signal Staff Artists and their Work

Four Signal staff members will show their work in solo exhibitions during this quarter. We have asked them to tell us a little about their approach to their art work.



Sarah Morshead

I see painting and drawing as something that I just 'do' and have always done since I was little – something fundamental which helps me to explore life in a non verbal way.

It is a way of being. It's fun. I feel restless and ungrounded if I'm away from it for any length of time.

I work in a fairly intuitive, gut way, letting ideas filter into me over time. Seeing other artist's work, painters in particular, old and contemporary, is very important to me – finding inspiration from a wonderful painting can push me into 'going for it' even more with my own work. Old favourites, such as Kandinsky and Klee give nourishment on an ongoing basis.

But my actual paintings come from daily drawing and sketching the places and people, objects, paintings, ideas that I encounter living wherever I am at the time – Dublin for the last number of years. In my paintings, a series of work is sparked off by a thought, or an idea that has been around for quite awhile but has now bobbed to the surface. For example – as my statement for my show in October will outline – at the moment I am curious about 'the gesture' and 'doodle' in drawing and in painting, and in the crossover between drawing and painting. These feelings, ideas have been floating around in me and processing over at least a few years – but just now they are taking centre stage – and then they are only a starting point so I have no idea where they will take me. Having said that, I only sometimes work with starting points, usually I simply start painting and the painting comes together intuitively. I think my subconscious is probably pretty full of material gathered and re-gathered over the years in my head, and in my sketchbooks. "When you're working out of your unconscious, figures are bound to emerge." (Jackson Pollock)

The daily use of the sketchbook is of fundamental importance to me, even though I don't usually use sketches and drawings directly in my paintings (I see drawing as a discipline in itself), it informs my work and develops skills. Everyday, I can't help thinking, feeling, breathing, questioning – that all goes into my paintings.

Integrated with and prior to this I love learning about different materials, traditional and present day, and how they can be used, and have been used in previous centuries such as more 'traditional' mediums like oil or egg tempera painting.

I hope this goes some way in explaining how I work as a painter. For me painting is a lifelong journey of discovery and exploration.



Linde Fidorra

What I like best about being creative is feeling inspired. When ideas just appear in the mind, and one thing leads to the next, there is a sense of openness, of endless possibilities, of feeling alive and in the flow.

I get into this state most easily when I am pursuing a question that matters to me. Pondering the question and wondering what it could look like visually is like opening a space for inspiration. Ideas don't seem to be the result of thinking, though, they come in between thoughts when there is stillness in the mind as well as pondering. The question of what we really are as human beings came back to me, sitting with my mother as she slowly withdrew from her body. What is this presence that remains - in the stillness, when the speaking has ceased, when the body no longer responds, when the thought stops that it should be other than it is, and there is nothing left to do?

The way I am drawing for this exhibition is a bit like 'writing' about my wonderings without words. I have always connected drawing with mental explorations (and painting with the physical world or with feelings).

In these works I am also using drawing to move beyond the mental. Drawing lines, dots and simple shapes very slowly creates a meditative space, a focus in the moment.

Being the movement of the hand, of the line or the pattern, being the looking eye, drawing and seeing feeding each other – in a still mind it all becomes one. The drawings then are traces of presence, of awareness, of aliveness.

The attention is on inner space as much as on the outer, on the stillness as much as the movement, on the forces that shape form as much as on the form.

And I experience aliveness as an energy that can take any form, whether I use a pen to create patterns and images on paper or thought patterns and beliefs to create my experience of life.



Joanne Boyle

For the past two years I have worked as an artist in the community with the Signal Arts Centre .

This has enabled me to work on various projects and with different groups within the community and has deepened a commitment within my art practice to work collaboratively. Due to this my work has changed and has begun to move away from a solely object based practice to incorporate installation and the creation of a space within which one is.

What interests me the most at the moment is the interruption of our normal daily lives, as in something that causes the viewer to question

what just happened or what they just encountered. For this reason I am interested in where I situate my work and in using the spaces outside of the normal gallery context. I am interested in collaborating with the community in ways which move the viewer from a purely spectatorial role to inclusion within a process that then becomes their own.

To this end I am exploring new ways to engage more effectively with people from art and non-art backgrounds. I am interested in observing and researching emotional and communicative patterns within society as a collective and within the individual in relation to the larger group also. For me this way of working allows for an engagement with a living and constantly moving set of paradigms.

The heated debate around whether or not art has become too theoretically based and conceptually orientated, has led to sections of community becoming isolated from the art world. I believe that art and the creation of art work is an essential part to all community and society and that it is important for me as an artist to neither 'dumb down' the process and interegration of art nor to create an elitist sub-group.



Denis Dunne

From a very early age even without knowing it the camera and photography have been part of my life. As a young child I would use my eyes and blink to imitate the shutter of the camera to take photographs of what I was looking at. Then reading that the American Indians believed the camera could capture your soul, I burned all my childhood pictures of myself trying to save my soul. Little did I know photographs would become so meaningful in my life.

My approach to taking photographs begins with meeting a model that interests me on some level. I arrange a meeting with them and have a list of questions to do with their life present and past, we share thoughts and life experiences. I take this information and process it over a few weeks, then add elements of my own life and from this create a third character. This third person will then become the subject of the work I will create. My next meeting with the model we discuss it further, and from this point arrange to do the shoot. If at this stage or further on either of us is not content with any aspect of the project it will be scrapped and will never be realised. It is exclusive to this model in this moment of time. My images are constructed using light and nature as symbols to add layers of meaning and understanding. The work relies so much on collaboration between me and my subject and I never really feel that I am the true owner of the work. My work is an ongoing project taken over a long period of time, an exploration of the subject of people and life. The intention is that it will be joined together as one.

Claire Flood is Signal's epicentre. She is the supervisor of the CE (community employment) project, administrator of everything else and knowledge base of all that happens. If there is anything you need to know she's the person to ask. She has been with Signal since 2002 and as well as working full time in Signal is also studying for a Degree in Community Development in Maynooth.



Helen Doyle joined Signal in January 2008 and is responsible for the exhibitions. She comes from an administrative background having studied at Bray Institute of Further Education.

Karen Luby joined Signal in December 2005, she looks after sales and administration.



Susan Slater is on a temporary contract with Signal Art Centre, to cover for Lydia's maternity leave from July to December 09. Susan is responsible for accounts and payroll.

Penny Byrne has a Diploma in Interior Design from Tiernan Design School and another Diploma in travel writing. She is currently studying Autocad.



Lian Callaghan is a multi-media artist with a BA in Fine Art, Sculpture. She has experience in costume and set design in film and theatre, and in special paint techniques and gilding on interior design projects. Her main work now is animal portraiture and living willow sculpture. She gives workshops in the use of living willow.

Denis Dunne has a BA in Photography from D.I.T. His practice is multi layered - he seeks to represent innocence, light, change and the transformation of the human spirit. His subjects are collaborators in his practice. Denis joined Signal in October '07.



Anne-Marie Farrell is a CIW professional site designer. She has redesigned the website and is now focussing on expanding Signal's web presence. She is also compiling and presenting the popular fundraising Quiz nights that are run in Signal on a regular basis.

Linde Fidorra has a Diploma in Fine Art and joined Signal in September 2007. She uses drawing, digital image-making and artist's books to explore the dynamics of life. She enjoys working on the Newsletter.



Aoife Fitzgerald has a degree in Fine Art. She specializes in drawing, painting, printing and sculpture. All her work comes from her drawing. Her present projects stem from the energy she sees underneath the surface of land- and cityscapes, where chaos meets silence. Aoife runs life drawing sessions and workshops.

Conall McCabe joined Signal in July of 2009. His work to date is mostly focussed on oil painting, although he worked as a professional sculptor for a few years. Conall has a HND, BA and MA in Fine Art, studying for his final two years in New York. Conall's artwork is based mainly on realism. He plans to have his third solo show in 2010.



Ilan Metoudi was born in Tel-Aviv, Israel and emigrated to Ireland in the early eighties. This emerging poet attempts to revitalise the trusted Sonnet form. Also he composes orchestral music using computer based instruments.

June Molloy joined Signal in May 2008. She has a Diploma in Fine Art from BIFE and is interested in oil painting and ceramics. She enjoys working with children's groups and facilitating art classes in local nursing homes.



Sarah Morshead is a practicing painter (BA Hons Fine Art) and has a teaching qualification. She exhibits in Ireland and the UK. She facilitates several Rehab classes and is also an art facilitator at a local nursing home in Bray.

Vincent Rae enjoys tinkering with computers and has taken on the administration and maintenance of our computer network. He has studied web design and is filming and video editing various Signal art projects.



Róisín Verdon studied Art, Craft and Design in Bray and has recently acquired a BA (Hons) in Visual Arts Practice from Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art Design and Technology. She is very interested in bringing art out into the community and is currently facilitating art classes in several nursing homes in Bray.



Film Night at Signal

Thursday 24th September

Casablanca

Dir: Michael Curtiz

Starting at 7.30 pm - Tickets € 5
Phone 2762039 to book



Fundraiser

Quiz Nights at Signal

8 pm sharp

Halloween

Fancy dress - Thursday 29th October

Christmas

Themed Quiz - Thursday 10th December

Tickets must be booked in advance
€ 30 per table, maximum of 4 per team
(limited to 10 tables)
€ 100 prize for the winning team

Signal Book Club

Tuesday 6th October

The periodic Table by Primo Levi

Tuesday 3rd November

Too close to Home by Linwood Barclay

Tuesday 1st December

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

The Book club is held in the gallery at 5 p.m.
on given dates

Christmas Party

Saturday 19th December

Tickets €10 in advance

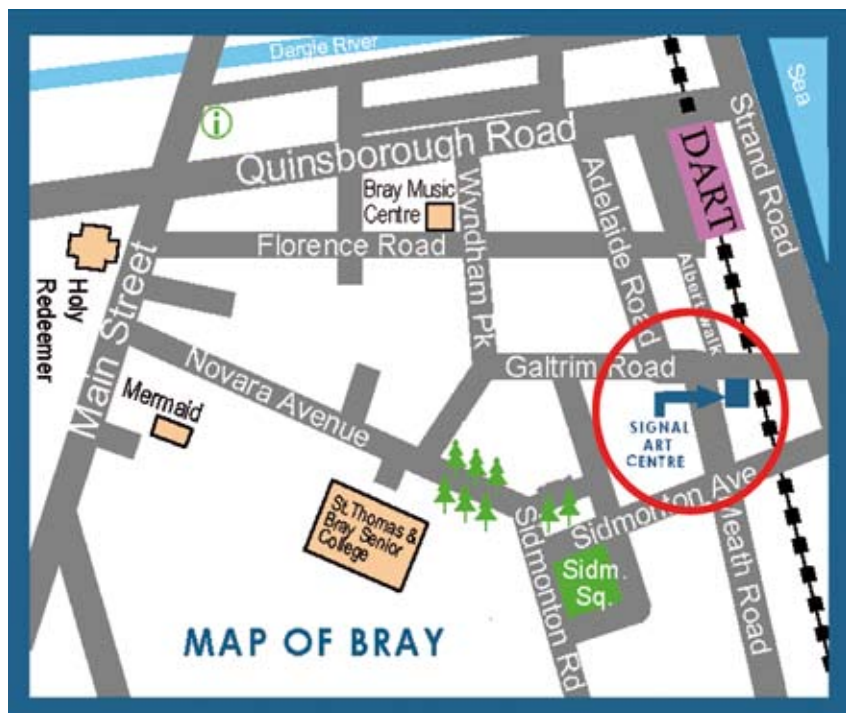
Bray Arts Club Performance Nights

Every first Monday in the Month
at 8 in the Martello on the Seafront

Sep 7 - Oct 5 - Nov 2 - Dec 5 2009

Closing date for Submissions for the next Newsletter: 1 November 2010

Signal's Location



Signal Arts Centre

1 Albert Avenue,
Bray, Co. Wicklow.

Tel:01 2762039

Fax:01 2869982

Email:info@signalartscentre.ie

www.signalartscentre.ie

Office Hours

Monday to Friday

9.00 - 1.00 and 2.00 - 5.00

Gallery Hours

Tuesday to Friday

10.00 - 1.00 and 2.00 - 5.00

Saturday and Sunday

12.00 - 5.00

