

DUBLIN BIENNIAL

Press Release

DUBLIN BIENNIAL INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBITION

13th– 22th June 2014

www.dublinbiennial.com

A Visual Feast for Dublin This Summer featuring 50 artists from 20 countries from 13 – 22 June

Dublin's largest International Contemporary Art Exhibition at The chq Building, IFSC Docklands.

This exciting Summer exhibition will run from 13th June - 22nd June. This is the 2nd edition of the **Dublin Biennial Pop-Up** which first opened at The Point Village in 2012. This year's Biennial will showcase the works of 50 International and National artists in a 15,000 ft space next to the Customs House in Dublin. Open M-F from 12noon to 7pm and Sat-Sun 12noon – 6pm everyone is encouraged to take part in this visual art celebration. Alongside the exhibition will run a series of FREE events including workshops, talks, documentary and experimental films. There will also be a number of 'meet the artist events' which are scheduled M-F 5:30-6:30. These will be announced on a day to day basis at the Gallery.

Founder and artist, Maggie Magee, describes the **Dublin Biennial** as a "visual feast celebrating art in all its forms and facets". "I am excited about opening the doors for International artists. The **Dublin Biennial** is a dynamic showcase for International and Irish art, and I'm delighted that we can bring it to Dublin again this year. My hope is that it will become a mainstay of Dublin's cultural events calendar for many years. One can only imagine the huge benefit economically, culturally, and in terms of International exposure the Biennial effect holds for Dublin and Ireland."

This year 50 Artists were selected to exhibit representing 20 countries: Australia, Armenia, Brazil, Bolivia, China, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Iran, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Switzerland, Turkey, UAE, UK, and the USA.

Included are **Sonia Falcone** (Bolivia), **Gavin Turk**, (UK) who were both recently represented at the **55th International Venice Biennale**, Italian artist **Carlo Gavazzeni Ricordi**, (**54th International Venice Biennale**), Brazilian Artist **Christina Oiticica**, German artists **Deva Wolfram**, **Karla Sachese**, American artists, **Blinn Jacobs**, **Brett Wallace**, Australian artist, **Graham Hay**, Brazilian Artist, **Khalil Charif**, Turkish artists, **Aydin Arkun**, **Ile Mitrea**, and **Indian artist Jain Anupama**.

Sonia Falcone's installation **Campo de Color** is certain to be one of the main attractions at this year's show. Featured at the Latin American Pavilion at the Venice Biennale **Campo de Color** proved to be a 'sensational' attraction. The work, which comprises 300 clay plates piled high with spices and pigments, spreads out like a vast landscape of sensation. A visual feast provoking synesthetic perception, **Campo de Color** evokes time, place, memory, 'the ephemeral nature of sensory pleasure and ultimately the fleeting nature of life itself.' (The Art Newspaper) **Gavin Turk** is a British born, International artist best known for 're-using' iconic art historical imagery, painted bronze and rubbish within his own work to make contemporary social and environmental comment. The Biennial will feature his works **Trash** and **Colourful Trash**.

Other highlights at the exhibition include: Brazilian artist **Christina Oiticica** who will install a site-specific work '**Seeds for Dublin**' at the Biennial along with an un-earthed canvas from the Amazon Rain Forest. Oiticica, who is married to the author Paulo Coehlo, is known for her 'non-concretist' Land-Eco technique of combining paintings with the earth and the elements. Using the earth as foundation matter, Oiticica 'buries' her work in the earth for up to a year – the paintings, when unearthed, reveal the indelible marks contributed by nature to her works. She has buried her canvases in the Amazon, the Sacred Valley of Ganespurs in India, and along the route to Santiago de Compostela.

German artist **Karla Sachese** will present **Baskets of Experience** for Dublin. Sachse weaves baskets and organic shapes out of newspapers. Her objects are interwoven with the local daily news stories, each piece relates to the place where it is woven. Passersby are invited to write their stories and these tales are integrated in the final pieces, their handwritten

contribution visible but illegible. For the **Dublin Biennial 2014** Karla will sit for the week weaving vessels from current Irish newspapers and the handwritten notes of visitors to the **Dublin Biennial**.

German Botanist and artist **Deva Wolfram** will prepare her *Wild Plant Buffet* for the Biennial's Solstice party on June 21st. Wolfram's botanical research focuses on the City, where she sees an increase of unusually rich wild flora. Due to climatic changes, contamination and industrial farming in the countryside, cities now offer a refuge to many short-lived plants who then propagate abundantly. The result of Wolfram's intensive research is a wild visual and edible feast. She has prepared her acclaimed *Wild Plant Buffet* throughout Europe, in Bonn, Dusseldorf, Florence and Rome.

As part of her preparation for the Dublin Biennial *Wild Plant Buffet*, **Ms. Wolfram** will conduct workshops and forage Dublin for native wildlife plants. She will be joined by **Niall O'Sullivan**, Head Chef at **Isabel's** Restaurant and Founder of **Nadur Collective**, Niall will present 'a taste' from the wild side.

Irish artists presenting this year will include site specific installations from **Andrew Duggan, 'Hole; Meadhbh O'Connor, Biosphere, Belinda Loftus, The Wood and the Trees, Rachel Joynt, Saltway Series, Catriona McLoughlin, forget-me-not,** and new works from **Gwen O Dowd, Speciman, Conor Walton, Bread, Helen Steele, Urban Jungle, Tommy Barr, Reclamation, Nigel Rolfe - Performance, and Guggi** who will present *Pots I,II,III*.

Free events at this year's Biennial will include a series of workshops, talks, documentary and experimental films which will run at the Odeon Cinema Complex at the Point Village. This year's Speaker / Conversation series: *Creative Practice and the Environment* will be co-hosted with DublinIntellectual and **Dr. Marisa Ronan** (UCD). Speakers for the Conversation series include: **Dr. Neil Carlin**, UCD, **Fiann O'Nuallain**, Master gardener and author, **Andrew Douglas**, Urban Farm Project, **Dr. Lucy Collins**, (UCD), **John Brannigan**, Lecturer (UCD), and **Raymond Beggan**, Photographer,

The Exhibition is open at the chq building M-F from 12:00 – 7:00 pm and 12:00-6:00 Sat-Sun. Dates, times and all events will be listed on **Dublin Biennial's** website www.dublinbiennial.com.

The Dublin Biennial this year will support the charitable foundation **Headway** and will host a Silent Auction of artworks in aid of this Charity on June 21st 5:00 – 8:00pm. Tickets for The Wild Plant Buffet and Silent Art Auction are available at info@dublinbiennial.com or call [086-1727285](tel:086-1727285). Tickets also available on site during the Exhibition. For more information on Headway go to www.headway.ie

The Dublin Biennial exhibition would like to thank chq Managemnt for the generous donation of the Gallery exhibition space. The organisers also gratefully acknowledge support from the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and Dublin City Council Arts Office.

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