Portfolio



Golden Fleece

The Golden Fleece Award is a leading prize for artists and craftspeople at a pivotal point in their careers. This year the trustees have collaborated with Solstice Arts Centre for an exhibition celebrating over two decades of supporting Irish artists, makers, craftspeople and designers. Curated by **Aisling Prior**, it will present work from past Golden Fleece Award recipients, thus providing a unique insight into



contemporary making and visual art from 2002 to the present. The exhibition will feature work from this year's winners: Michelle Malone, whose multidisciplinary practice gives voice to working-class histories from the perspective of lived experience through sculpture, image-making, oral histories, audio and text; Locky Morris, whose work reflects on the complexities and intricacies of his immediate environment across photography, found objects, installation, text, sound and video; and glass artist Laura Quinn, who makes glass forms that encourage close human engagement and challenge the perceived restraints of the medium. The exhibition runs at the Solstice Arts Centre until 4 June. LAURA QUINN 2 LOCKY MORRIS

For the love of Piranesi

Giovanni Battista Piranesi (1720-1778), the Italian architect. antiquarian, etcher, vedutista designer and writer, was a prominent artistic voice in 18th-century Rome His interpretation and understanding of the Classical world remains influential. Celebrating his legacy in the 21st century, 'For the Love of the Master: 25 Artists Fascinated by Piranesi' features at the Casinn at Marino and the Coach House Gallery, Dublin Castle from 17 June to 18 September. In developing this exhibition, the curatorial team comprising art historian and curator Hélène Bremer. OPW's Mary Heffernan and artist and curator Matt J Smith have

chosen contemporary artworks that respond to the variety in Piranesi's work and his interpretation of the Classical world. With his work spanning studies in architectural drawings to rococo designs, the exhibition – which includes Irish makers Seliena Coyle, Kate O'Kelly, Mark Newman and Matt J Smith focuses on three specific areas within Piranesi's oeuvre: architectural fantasies, views of Rome, and vases and candelabras.

3 KATE O'KELL





Book value

The Blue Egg Gallery's summer exhibition celebrates the book art and printed work of seven national and international artists. Curated by Ann Kenny, the show explores the book as an art object and medium of expression that uses its form and function as its inspiration. Looking at the historically close connections between the printmaking process

and book-making, the exhibition highlights the many different forms of expression a book can take. Exhibitors include Sioban Piercy, Ann Kavanagh, Éitis Murphy (Folded Leaf), Antic-Ham, Viola Chang, Caroline Byrne, Ann Kenny and Andi McGarry. 'Open Book' runs at the Blue Egg Gallery, Wexford from 28 June to 23 July. 4 SIOBAN PIERCY

Town and country



A love of making led furniture designer **Tricia Harris** to study at the GMIT Furniture College in Letterfrack. She then moved to Dublin, taking a studio space at the Chocolate Factory, where she developed her studio practice until 2020, when a desire for country living saw her relocate to Kerry. She has now collaborated with fellow furniture-maker **Daniel Gill** on a range of Irish country-furniture-inspired pieces called the 'Dwellers Collection'. The starting point for this collection was a spindle-back

bench made from quarter-sawn Irish oak and Irish ash. A blend of the primitive and the polished, it combines the honest nature and construction of Irish country furniture with the natural beauty of wood. The collection also includes the Dwellers Stool, Fireside Stool and Milking Stool. Made in small batches and handcrafted using traditional techniques, much of the wood comes from Gill's own store of kiln-dried hardwoods, with the wood for the first batches coming from windfallen trees on the grounds of Dromoland Castle. 5 TRICIA HARRIS AND DANIEL GILL

Puzzling forms

Peter Meanley has received international acclaim for his abstract-spouted ceramic vessels and his mastery of the salt-glazing technique. A former ceramics tutor at the University of Ulster, his work includes strikingly engineered teapots and other functional pieces. His exploration of the soda-firing process forms the basis of his latest solo exhibition, where both abstract vessels and a selection of puzzle jugs are on display. Puzzle jugs have a perforated collar, making them impossible to pour from unless the drinker knows the location of the hole or holes they must cover to allow liquid to flow without spilling. These are inspired by early medieval puzzle jugs that also served as drinking games. 'Peter Meanley: New Works' is at the Craft NI Gallery until 11 June. 8 PETER



Fashion finalist

Irish fashion designer Róisín Pierce, already no stranger to accolades and awards, has reached the final of the LVMH Prize for Young Fashion Designers. Created to shine a spotlight on emerging new talents within the international fashion world, this year's edition of the prize attracted 1,900 applicants with just 8 brands, including Róisín Pierce, selected to compete in the final. Dedicating her collections to exploring the potential of zero-waste cutting and construction techniques, Pierce focuses on thoughtful ways of production through deadstock and material upcycling. Her third and current collection, "Two for Joy', evokes a sentimentality that resonates with the past as much as it embraces the future. Taking a nursery rhyme as her nostalgic starting point, 'Two for Joy' sees embroidered fabrics resting upon satin to create new flowing structures that offer a delicate translucency. 7 ROISIN PIERCE

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