### IRELAND'S EYE An exhibition of new art from Ireland

Patryk Gizicki Katerina Gribkoff Jan O Connell Ethan McGarry Asha Murray

**Curated by Mark Joyce** 



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Cultúr Éireann Culture Ireland



**Ambasáid na hÉireann** Embassy of Ireland







# IRELAND'S EYE

Five emergent artists based in Ireland, **Patryk Gizicki, Katerina Gribkoff, Ethan McGarry, Asha Murray** and **Jan O' Connell** explore questions of environment, globalisation, social inequality and rapid technological change. These emerging artists cast a critical eye on the world around them, employing an interdisciplinary approach to create works that resonate with the intricacies of our interconnected yet polarized global community.

As Ireland undergoes a rapid generational shift, and its young and emergent artists are remixing the distinctive cultural traditions and expression of the island in new forms —bringing them to international audiences through Music, Dance, Art, Literature, and Film—the artistic landscape is evolving. In this transformative journey, these five artists stand as exemplars of the tremendous power of creativity in a society in flux.

This evolution in the artistic and cultural landscape is not unique to Ireland alone but is part of a global phenomenon. Countries worldwide, Indonesia included, are navigating shifts in demographics, urbanization, technological advancements, and evolving cultural attitudes. These multifaceted changes contribute to a broader transformation in societal structures and values, impacting different generations in diverse ways. Ireland's Eye 2024 marks the third exhibition in a series showcasing the works of Irish artists, a testament to the growing influence of Ireland's contemporary art scene on the global stage. The Embassy of Ireland to Indonesia provides crucial support, aligning this cultural celebration with the annual St. Patrick's festivities in Jakarta. Beyond the capital city of Indonesia, the exhibition is set to embark on a journey, captivating audiences in Surabaya, East Java, further exemplifying the universal appeal of these Irish artists.

The five emergent artists are recent graduates of Irish art schools including Technological University Dublin www.tud.ie Belfast School of Art www.ulster.ac.uk/ Limerick School of Art and Design www.tus.ie , National College of Art and Design www.ncad.ie and The Burren College of Art https://www.burrencollege.ie/

Developed by ISA Art and Design in Jakarta, this exhibition is a collaborative effort supported by the Embassy of Ireland for Indonesia and PT Jakarta Land. Mark Joyce, an Irish artist and lecturer, takes on the role of coordinator and curator, ensuring the seamless presentation of these diverse artistic expressions. His involvement adds a layer of depth to the exhibition, bridging the cultural nuances between Ireland and Indonesia, creating a harmonious dialogue between the artists and the audience.

### Asha Murray



Asha Murray graduated from The Limerick School of Art & Design in Sculpture and Combined 2023 with BFA in Media. As а multidisciplinary artist Asha creates experimental films in tandem with textile work of wool tufted collages. Mixing the two mediums form of non-linear and non-conventional. has created а experimental storytelling. Asha explores concepts surrounding Identity, memory, the internal conscious stream and emotions in relation to temporality. These ideas prompt her to experiment with narrative, through visual rhythmic collages of sounds and moving image and textiles. Immersed in filmmaking, Asha won awards in the International Fresh Film Festival in 2016 and 2021. Her work was selected for K-FEST Arts Festival in County Kerry, Ireland in 2022 and she was commissioned to supply an art work for their permanent collection.



Feeling Tired Lost, Lonely Tufted Wool 106 x 204 cm 2024



Because You're Worth It Tufted Wool 106 x 204 cm 2024

Asha's work in this exhibition contains experimental film, working in tandem with wool tufted wall hangings. The visuals, audio and text found in both the film work and the wall hangings are a synthesis trom her personal tilm archive, a video diary that Asha continuously collects and compiles, that is ever evolving and growing. These works explore her experiences with feeling helpless against the shitting of time. This work looks at how our experience can leave us living with stagnant emotions and paused internal conscious streams; suspending our internal reality into a specific time in our lives. It inquires into how specific moments and happenings can lead to the hoarding of our memories. Themes of feminism, social constructs and women's health are interwoven into her work.

## Ethan Mc Garry



Ethan Mc Garry is a Dublin based artist. His practice is concerned with the everyday, reflecting on societal living, he creates and compiles a variety of imagery through expanded photography and digital media into moving images. His work connotes oblique narratives that emphasize and employ each person's independent understanding of the world we live in. He is very much interested in the way we as people navigate and bring meaning into our lives, offering a new perception on how we exist in contemporary mundanity. Since graduating with a first-class hons in Fine Art Media at the National College of Art and Design, Dublin in 2023 he has been longlisted for Royal Dublin Society Visual Arts Awards and Shortlisted for Photo Museum Ireland's Early Career artist award.



In between, We navigate Video Art Variable Dimensions 2023

'In Between, We Navigate' is an oblique 3D video piece that compares the differences between conjured imagery of hopes and aspirations against the exaggerated sense of reality. These two extremes and stereotypes are neither realistic nor entirely false, yet it is somewhere between these harsh and soft spaces that we navigate our days.

The two-channel projection plays off one another, asking the viewer to devote their attention between the screens, re-enacting these fluctuating, contrasting, emotional, visualisations. Our imagination builds off of what we know, creating adaptations and reiterations of what is familiar to us. Resulting in imagery that is rooted to the ground, while also reaching for an element of weightlessness. One screen floats in the space while the other grasps the ground.

# Jan O' Connell



Jan O'Connell is an artist and the director of F22 photography, based in Cork, Ireland. She has specialised across all forms of photography for two decades and has recently completed an MFA in Photography at the University of Ulster, Belfast. This body of work entitled 'Surrender' explores a personal relationship with the landscape of West Kerry. Established by award winning photographer Janice O' Connell, MFA, BA, AIPPA, QEP, and in good company with colleague & fellow photographer Áine Saunders, BA, BSc, MScIM, LIPPA, and resident videographer, Dervla Baker, MA, BA. We bring our individual expertise together to give our clients creative and technical excellence, using the most up-to-date equipment for both architectural, portrait photography and videography. This allows us to understand what is important to each client's project, from one off bespoke houses to large scale developments & our unique corporate portraits.



Piléir Marthana photographed on Coumeenoole Beach, Slea Head, West Kerry, Ireland Photography 122 x 152 cm 150 x 150 cm 2023

'The rocks in themselves are extremely powerful but my methodology had to be reviewed many times to allow their individual personalities and strength be experienced in the images. They are my pillars of survival - emblems of endurance, custodians of courage, set out on our shores to remind us of a new path. These rocks represent the marginal, whose existence, by design or by default, has been separated from the mainstream norms.'

### Katerina Gribkoff



Katerina Gribkoff is a visual artist based in western Ireland. A PhD candidate at the Burren College of Art and National University of Ireland in Galway, her research aims to find alternative, liveable ways of making and creating in tandem with growing systems, and directly links her studio practice with a dye and pigment garden in the Burren, a UNESCO Geopark. Her work includes foraging and growing to make dyes and inks, biodegradable soft sculptures, photography, and plant support systems. Her research moves through contemporary eco-critical themes, systems thinking (permaculture) and new materialist studies.



Paper Quilt with Plant Inks Paper, Natural Ink, Thread 155x260 2024

Paper Quilt with Plant Inks is a work that displays a variety of inks made from local plants. Katerina works with plants from her garden and from the local area where she lives in Ireland, to make inks, dyes, and pigments. With this project, she created an instruction manual for the ISA team, with recipes and information on how to make inks from plants local to Indonesia, such as turmeric, telang (clitoria), sappan wood, mangosteen, eucalyptus, etc. Certain elements of the work were left for the makers to play with, like the arrangement and placement of colours. It was a collaborative effort between Katerina, the ISA Art team, and the collected plants. With her art, Katerina aims to encourage a collaborative mindset, seeing materials and plants involved in artistic processes as collaborators, hoping to shift thinking that objectifies nature or labels plants as inanimate or less-than (humans).

Included with this larger "paper quilt" are four digitally-made collages that feature images from Katerina's garden, her studio, and images from the ISA Art team. These are combined with scanned and photographed ink samples. These collages are meant to give some insight into the process of making inks from plants.

## Patryk Gizicki



Patryk Gizicki is a Dublin based photographer, originally from Poland and emigrating to Co. Mayo in his early years. Patryk's practice is based mostly around the relationship between photography and personal experience. Patryk heavily involves analog photography in his image making process. Colour is a fundamental part of his style and having full control of the development process allows for vivid and honest photographs. Being present at every part of the image making process is something he prides himself in. Patryk's artistic vision extends beyond the frame, as he crafts stories that touch upon themes of identity, home, and memories.







**Stay Forever More** Photography Variable Dimensions 2023

Stay Forever More is a reflection on my childhood and adolescence, delving into and confronting difficult memories. This is a project about identity, which speaks to my experience of emigrating from my home in Poland to county Mayo, Ireland when I was six. It attempts to evoke and reflect upon the desire to feel connected and to be at home. While the project explores feelings of liminality and belonging, it is also a love letter to the complexities of my hometown, Castlebar, and what it means to be Irish. The concept of home has had bittersweet resonance for me for most of my life. My family left Poland due to financial instability and we arrived in Ireland at the height of the Celtic Tiger economic boom, along with thousands of others in search of a new home. Settling in was a slow process.

### Acknowledgements

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And finally thanks to **Deborah Iskandar** of ISA Art Gallery who dreamt up the idea of connecting the worlds of Irish and Indonesian arts and education with an exhibition in the World Trade Centre, Jakarta. We owe her thanks for sowing this seed which, with some nurturing, can grow into a regular cultural exchange.

Curated by Mark Joyce, IADT, Dublin.

### Credits

#### Colleges Instagram and Twitter

@tudublin\_artanddesign
@WeAreTUDublin
@burrencollege
@ncad\_dublin
@lsadlimerick
@LSADatTUS
@belfastschoolofart
@belfastschart

#### Curator

@markj0yce

#### Artists Instagram

@murray\_asha@ethanmcgarry@janconnellphotography@katerina\_gribkoff@patrykgizicki

**Venue** @wtc.jakarta

#### ISA ART GALLERY

@isaart.id

Jl. Wijaya Timur Raya Mo.12 Kebayoran. Baru, 12170 Jakarta, Indonesia +62 21 723 3905

#### WISMA 46 – KOTA BNI

Jl. Jendral Sudirman Kav. 1 Tanah Abang, 10220 Jakarta, Indonesia +62 811 1733 553 WTC 2 @wtc.jakarta

Jl. Jend. Sudirman Kav. 29-31, Jakarta 12920

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