

PORTFOLIO COMES
TO LIFE **P.7**

TRACING THE LINE
EXHIBITION **P.28**



Crafts Council of Ireland



STOPPRESS

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Micheál Martin TD, Minister for Enterprise, Trade & Employment, presenting Mel Bradley (Textiles) winner of the Index 50 award, Giles O'Neill, Manager of Consumer Goods, Enterprise Ireland and Martin Walsh, Chairman CCol

Showcase 2006

Showcase 2006 ended on a high note with a visit by Micheál Martin TD, Minister for Enterprise Trade and Employment. Minister Martin, had a tour of the show before presenting the Index 50 winner and runners up with their certificates and awards (see also page 2).

Numbers from the important UK and Northern Ireland markets were both up - although there was a slight drop (of 7) in US buyers. All told there were 75 more International buyers at the show this year than in 2005.

The exit survey, which is carried out every year at Showcase, highlighted that 97% of buyers felt that the show was worthwhile or very worthwhile and 89% placed orders at the show - with 65% stating that they placed orders up to €15,000. 61% said that they placed orders to the same value or higher than at Showcase 2005.

Importantly for the craft sector 92% of buyers said that the level of Irish craft products in their outlets has either, increased substantially, increased or stayed the same. 89% of buyers stated that they found new product during their visit. 91% stated they or a colleague are likely to visit the show next year.

These results are very encouraging at a time when all trade fairs are operating in an increasingly competitive marketplace. Initiatives like the CCol Lifestyle Trend Area, located at the end of the SOURCE aisle were key in winning the support of buyers for Showcase and helping them to see Irish craft in the context of the current international consumer themes.

[Continued on next page](#)

News and Reviews

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showcase Ireland

The 30th International Craft, Gift, Fashion & Interiors Fair

Continued from page 1

Using craft products available at the show the Lifestyle Trend Area depicted 5 trends: *coté sud*, *minimalist*, *coast*, *rustic* and *retro modern* (see images on page 3). The reaction from buyers, journalists and exhibitors was very positive - with many buyers re-visiting stands and placing orders having seen specific products in situ.

Indeed the CCol Lifestyle Trend Area proved so popular that the Council will take it directly to the 40,000 consumers expected to visit the MyHome.ie Spring House and Garden Show which takes place in the RDS from the 16th - 19th March 2006, to promote the relevance of Irish craft to contemporary lifestyles. It will also feature as a window exhibition in the National Craft Gallery for the whole of April and May (see information on Lifestyle exhibition on page 28).

While all of this is certainly good news, the craft sector cannot afford to get complacent. As highlighted in the last issue of Stoppress, consumers buying habits are changing - and the reality is that the 25-35 age bracket (a group with high disposable income and with many years of consuming ahead of them) shop predominantly in mainstream retail outlets such as in department stores, shopping centres and high street stores.

Yet 75% of craft sold in Ireland is sold directly to the consumer - not through a retailer. This flags a very important issue moving forward - if the craft sector wants to access the lucrative 25-35 age group, then craft must appear on retail shelves.

When you take this in context this means that shows such as Showcase which match buyer to producer become all the more important. With this in mind the Crafts Council are developing a year round support programme for current and potential exhibitors at Showcase that will be announced in the coming weeks.

Further study of the consumer market is being undertaken and this will inform the planning process of the next CCol Strategic Plan which takes place over the coming months. In the meantime CCol are offering a broad range of opportunities aimed at enabling craft businesses to prepare themselves for their relevant market (see Opportunities Pages 13-19).



INDEX 50 at Showcase 2006

Mel Bradley scoops the overall INDEX prize

Index 50 - offers a display platform for new products at Showcase - specially selected by an international jury of buyers. Over 200 submissions were made and the panel selected their top 50 products.

The overall winner of Index 50 at Showcase 2006 was contemporary textile artist Mel Bradley from Drogheda. She received a specially commissioned trophy by one of Ireland's leading designers and silversmiths, Cara Murphy.

The winners and runners up were:

- Kathleen McCormick Basket Barn
- Amanda Daunt, Knitwear
- Hilton Pottery
- Tipperary Crystal - Louise Kennedy Candlestick
- Theresa Cullen, Hand 'n' Earth Ceramics

The 2006 Showcase Buyers Choice - voted for by buyers visiting the show, was also Mel Bradley.

This was Minister Martin's first visit to Showcase and he expressed how impressed he was by the number and standard of exhibitors and in particular by the standard of design and presentation amongst the Index Top 50. He also praised the work of Enterprise Ireland in attracting buyers from over 30 countries to this year's show.

For the full list of INDEX 50 winners go to the CCol website at www.ccol.ie and visit the news section.



Martin Walsh, Chairman CCol (left) presents Wexford County Enterprise Board with Best Group Stand Product Display Award, also Leslie Reed, CEO, CCol (right).

Best Group Stand Product Display Award 2006 is Won by Wexford CEB

Wexford County Enterprise Board were announced the proud winners of the best Group Stand Product Display Award at a reception for CCol exhibitors at Showcase 2006. The award, which is selected by a panel of experts, is always hotly contested and previous winners include Waterford CEB (2005), Cavan Monaghan Crafts (2004), Donegal Enterprise Board (2003) and Leitrim County Enterprise Board (2002).

Runners up this year included 2 former winners - Cavan Monaghan Crafts and Donegal County Enterprise Board.

The Wexford stand included work from Bernadette Doolan of Muck Ceramics, Lena Varna of Lena Varna Jewellery, Andrew Coggins of Andrew Coggins Furniture and Theresa Cullen of Hand 'N' Earth Ceramics and was organised by Tom Banville, Assistant CEO of Wexford County Enterprise Board.

The winning group were presented with a trophy by Glasshammer Designs.

News and Reviews

Source at Showcase 2006 & 2007

SOURCE @ Showcase 2006 was very successful, with the majority of the 38 exhibitors reporting good sales and excellent buyer numbers visiting the aisle. All of the 2006 exhibitors passed the re-selection process and will be eligible for SOURCE 2007.

"The first day of the show was absolutely fantastic this year - the following days were not as busy but that seems to be the pattern of the show. I found it was much better than last year and I think the Lifestyle Trend Area was a real asset - it drew people all the way down the SOURCE aisle to the very end," explains Angela Hope, who makes limited edition handbags using Irish or Welsh blanket wool fabric.

"This was my third year exhibiting at the show and my second in SOURCE and each year I've found my sales have improved. In fact this year I had about twice as many orders as last year. I think this is because my display was stronger, and I had invested in more merchandising material - branded boxes, story cards etc.," explains Geraldine Murphy of Saba Jewellery. "I also spent some time refining my product range prior to the show - I asked some retailers and some friends (who I knew would be honest) what they really thought of my designs - and then I refined my work based on their feedback, rather than just sticking to what I liked. I also was pleased to find that after the show I got an order via the Showcase web site from a buyer in the US who hadn't even been to the show!"

The selected aisle, which is located in the centre of the Main Hall at Showcase, is entering into its third year - and there will be a number of spaces available in SOURCE 2007. We would encourage all current Showcase exhibitors (and indeed potential Showcase exhibitors) who feel that their product meets the standard of SOURCE to apply and take full advantage of the benefits that exhibiting in SOURCE offers.

If you are interested in applying for SOURCE 2007 the selection process will take place on the 16th of May, 2006 in Kilkenny. For details on closing dates for application and how to apply go to the Opportunities section on P. 15. For further information contact Catherine Jordan at 087 2215287 or e-mail jordanevents@eircom.net.

It is important to book your stand at Showcase as soon as possible - and if you are selected for SOURCE you will simply be relocated into the SOURCE aisle. If you would like to discuss your suitability to SOURCE or find out how to approach the process of applying call Mary Whelan at 056 7761804 or e-mail maryw@ccoi.ie

A program of activity aimed at supporting exhibitors at Showcase will be unveiled in the coming weeks - please keep an eye in Stopress and on the CCoI web site.

Lifestyle Trend Area at Showcase 2006

minimal



rustic



coast



retro modern



coté sud



50% SCHEME - SHOWCASE SUCCESS

Showcase 2006 proved an immense success for participants in the 50% Scheme with new products developed under the project scooping three Index awards and creating exciting new opportunities in export markets.



Alec Good, Irish Country Pottery with Mary and Michael Jackson (Ceramics)



One of the new ranges from Irish Country Pottery



Micheál Martin TD, Minister for Enterprise, Trade & Employment, Amanda Daunt (Textiles), Model and Martin Walsh Chairman CCol

The Index awards, for the 50 best new products at the show, are selected before Showcase opens by a panel of international buyers and prove an excellent indication of which products are going to make an impact during the event. Irish Country Pottery was awarded not just one but two Index awards in the Tableware and Interiors category for its Clare range of giftware, developed with the help of the 50% Scheme.

The up-market Clare range, designed for Irish Country Pottery by Michael Jackson, represents a significant shift in focus for the 30 year old company which has been known for its mid-market terracotta tableware. Alec Good of Irish Country Pottery says that change was inevitable. Concerned for some time at the sweeping changes taking place in the tableware market place right across Europe, squeezing the middle market and resulting in the closure of many established potteries, the company realised it would soon be in a "life or death" situation.

The future, it was decided, lay in flexible manufacture. The 50% Scheme has helped Irish Country Pottery re-invent itself, becoming a plant which is swiftly able to translate designs created by external designers into product. A year's hard work developing stunningly new glazes for the

"We had a tremendous reaction from buyers to the new range"

Clare creamware range has paid off. "We had a tremendous reaction from buyers to the new range and quite a bit of interest from the international market, which opens up opportunities we've never had." The range, which launches at retail level in May, includes wall-to-table pieces, each hand-painted piece signed and accompanied by a book showing the artists.

"There is a demand for designer-oriented product. We are creating a space for designers to work with our artists to create individual products, fully backed by our technical support and experience," says Alec Good. "When you put a greater emphasis upon design and what the public really want, the reward you reap is a higher price for your product."

He is clear about the importance of the change. "We have a big opportunity before us. We have been able to change our market segment. If we hadn't, there wouldn't be a future." His advice to others is, "Go for it. Make those changes. Face up to what is happening out there." Another Index award winner was fashion designer Amanda Daunt who also saw the benefits of taking part in the 50% Scheme in sales of her Autumn Winter 06 collection.

“The 50% scheme helped me to make a more cohesive collection”

Having launched her own label, Amanda Daunt, - an eclectic mix of quirky knitwear pieces and accessories - at Showcase 2005, Amanda wanted to source new raw materials and to fine tune her branding. “The 50% scheme helped me to make a more cohesive collection,” she explains. She sourced new materials and trimmings at Pitti Filati in Florence and Première Vision in Paris, and also gained inspiration and market information at Prêt à Porter and London Fashion Week. “I was able to look at the collection from a new perspective, bringing in new, different materials. Having a safety net there meant that I could take a chance and it really paid off.”

The scheme also meant she could afford to hire a model for Sunday at Showcase. Having secured a high turnout of buyers with mail shots and a much better position (in the Source area) than last year, she believes the model certainly benefited the collection's image. This year's Showcase proved her instinct - to concentrate on the export market - spot on. “The majority of sales are international. The label is doing very well in the USA. Contemporary stores want to offer something completely different.” The higher price point for her knitwear and quirky accessories mean that she is placing the USA to the fore for the moment. As for the Irish market, “it is important, but sometimes I think you need to become well known abroad before people appreciate you at home.”

Thanks to the 50% Scheme Anne Behan of knitwear label Aine also had her best ever Showcase this year. Over the previous three years customer feedback had suggested her range of knitwear might benefit from expanding to include pieces in woven fabrics, but as a young business - just four years old - Anne felt she couldn't justify the investment in fabrics for the experiment. The scheme allowed her to take the leap, designing skirts, trousers and jackets in traditional wool tweed fabrics to co-ordinate with her knitwear, known for its sophisticated Irish look.

“I had a brilliant reaction,” says Anne. Buyers from USA were particularly impressed. Consequently she has added three new retailers there and four new accounts in Germany, with Scottish buyers also very positive about increased orders.

“The fabric pieces enhanced the collection and made it more viable for retailers,” says Anne. The 50% Scheme also helped with costs of having the range photographed which proved a huge help in selling the “whole look”. The timescale for the project may have been tight, starting in

“Having a safety net there meant that I could take a chance and it really paid off”

October 2005 and finishing, Anne admits, about three hours before Showcase opened, but the result is certainly worth it: “The scheme gave me the opportunity to expand my business and be more creative - it really has been liberating.”

Alan Ardiffe featured on RTE's Nationwide programme recently, described the scheme as “a getting-out-of-a-rut grant”. As an artist who is also a successful jeweller, he valued the opportunity to concentrate on imagery, developing the narrative elements in his intricate jewellery into limited edition framed works for the wall.

Although he is now in the happy position of being able to employ a manager for his jewellery business, Alan Ardiffe is well aware of the “Catch 22” situation craftspeople find themselves in: you produce a successful product, people order it and soon you are locked into an increasing amount of book keeping and administration, leaving little time, energy or motivation for change. By applying for the 50% Scheme, you do focus on doing something different and there is a financial buffer that allows you to experiment.

The new framed pieces, shown at the Christmas Craft Fair and at Showcase have all sold and Alan Ardiffe is looking at expanding the imagery. He is also developing larger pieces cast in bronze, first shown at the Collectors at The Hunt Museum Exhibition in December, looking towards an exhibition of bronzes. While the motivation for his bronze work is promotional, he feels this, and the framed pieces developed under the 50% Scheme, will have a beneficial “trickle down” effect on his commercial production jewellery.

“By applying for the 50% Scheme, you do focus on doing something different”

Since the 50% Scheme began, 30 craftspeople from a total of 52 applications have received co-investment from CCol (50% of costs with awards up to €4000) towards making new products for a particular consumer show, trade event or exhibition. These experiences prove it works for a wide range of craft businesses and we expect more positive feedback as other successful applicants present new products developed under the scheme. Three 50% sessions have already taken place: in July and November 2005 and February 2006.

For information on the next round see page 14 in the Opportunities Section.

50% Scheme Awards

The first round of awards for 2006 were awarded to:

- Alan Burke (stone)
- Sean Campbell (glass)
- Noel Cleary (baskets)
- Bernadette Doolan (ceramics)
- Rosemarie Durr (ceramics)
- John Lee (furniture)
- Patricia Murphy (rugs)
- Nest Furniture (furniture)
- Rachel Quinn (ceramics)
- Inga Reed (jewellery)

News and Reviews

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Breda Haugh winner of Made for America 2005 with Brian Pillow TJH Ltd

MADE FOR AMERICA DESIGN AWARD PRESENTED TO JEWELLER BREDHA HAUGH

Breda Haugh winner of the coveted Made For America Design Award 2005, was presented with her perpetual trophy by Leslie Reed, CEO of the Crafts Council of Ireland (CCol) and her cheque for \$1,000 by Neville Gardner, President of the North American Celtic Buyers Association (NACBA) at Showcase on Sunday the 22nd of January 2006.

In all the prize included:

- Perpetual Trophy and Certificate
- \$1000 cash prize
- Professional product photography and license for use
- Introduction to key North American buyers
- Contract with an Irish jewellery manufacturing company, TJH Ltd. to commercially manufacture the design

The winning entry, a sterling silver carved spiral pendant entitled 'Spiral Fragment', fought off tough competition from some of Ireland's leading craftspeople.

Breda Haugh is considered one of the finest Jewellery Designers working in Ireland today. She set up her own studio designing and making contemporary jewellery when she completed her training at the National College of Art and Design, Dublin and in Sir John Cass College, London - having had experience in the Jewellery industry in London and Dublin.

"Winning the Made for America in 2005 has given me a great opportunity to develop my work for a wider market - particularly that of the USA." Said Breda.

Made For America Design Award is jointly sponsored and organised by the CCol and NACBA. The award celebrates the very best in Irish Celtic design and craftsmanship, its purpose is to stimulate and promote new product development for the American Celtic market - a key market for many craft businesses exporting to the US. The theme for the 2005 award was 'Symbols of Ireland - The Celtic Code' and the winner was chosen by a panel of US and Irish experts including: Neville Gardner (President, NACBA), Fran Siefert (Treasurer, NACBA), Charlene Connolly-Sheridan (NACBA member), Brian Schwer (TJH Ltd) and Kela Ledwidge (Marketing consultant).

For further information contact: Helen Lynch Project Manager T: 048 30833605 E: helen@helenlynch.net

EDUCATION NEWS

CRAFT IN THE CLASSROOM

Cork primary school pupils achieve impressive results

CCol's primary schools initiative 'Craft in the Classroom' was first launched in Spring 2005 with 15 schools on board. The main aim of this project is to train craftspeople in the delivery of the primary visual arts curriculum and to raise the profile of craft in primary schools.

The first phase has now come to a close with a project review day held in Macroom in February. This gave teachers and craftspeople the opportunity to recount their experiences and show off techniques learnt and work created by the 400 participating children during their residencies in the autumn term.

The enthusiasm and dedication brought to the project by both craftspeople and their partner schools was very much in evidence. In sharing their skills, the craftspeople have brought to life the various strands of the primary visual art curriculum - drawing, paint and colour, print, clay, construction and fabric and fibre. A healthy emphasis on experimentation and creative play has produced some very impressive results from the children, using an array of materials and techniques. All 15 craftspeople are now trained and have experience in the delivery of the curriculum, and most wish to continue working in this area.

Next Steps

Numerous recommendations for future projects emerged on the day, which will be fed into the planning process. Phase two will shortly be underway, using the model already created, and rolling it out in another geographic area. Following that, CCol plans to produce a publication which will serve to promote the project and showcase what has been achieved. Further details will be announced in the next edition of Stopress.

For further information on this project contact:

Sharon Rollston T. 056 7761804 E. sharon@ccoi.ie W. www.ccoi.ie/education

JEWELLERY NOTICE

CCol Short Course Jewellery Programme

for members of the Jewellery Trade

Please note that due to the re-location of the jewellery workshop, there will be no Short Course Programme this year. We plan to resume the programme next year, and details will be advertised in Stopress in due course.

NOTICE

3rd Level Awards

*For more information see
Opportunities on page 17.*



Supported by
The National Lottery
through the Arts Council of Northern Ireland



PORTFOLIO comes to life...

As many of you will be aware, 38 craftspeople were selected by a panel of international experts to take part in Portfolio during 2005. The purpose of Portfolio is to link art-led craftspeople with commissioners, collectors and galleries - through a CD directory which contains images from all of the participants, along with their contact details and resumes.

The culmination of this project has been the production of the interactive cd, coupled with a supplement on Portfolio in the Spring issue of Irish Arts Review - both of which are being launched in the National Museum, Collins Barracks on the 7th of March, 2006.

We'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate all 38 Portfolio participants and to encourage any craftsperson wishing to target the collectors market to have a look at the supplement and the CD - and if they feel their work meets the required standard to apply for the next intake.

To find out about applying to the next round of Portfolio go to the Opportunities Section on page 15.

Silversmith, Seamus Gill the latest 'Standard Setter'

Chosen by a panel of experts on behalf of the Crafts Council of Ireland, Seamus Gill silversmith, based in Dublin, is the latest 'Standard Setter' to be profiled in the Irish Arts Review.

Standard Setters is a joint initiative with CCoI and Irish Arts Review and promotes the concept of acknowledging consistency in design excellence within the craft industry. You can read about Seamus Gill in the Spring 2006 issue of Irish Arts Review.

For further information see www.irishartsreview.com



SPECIAL OFFER FOR CCOI-REGISTERED CRAFTSPEOPLE!

The Spring 2006 edition of the Irish Arts Review will feature unprecedented coverage of Irish craft. In addition to Design Portfolio, this edition will include **PORTFOLIO**, a Special Crafts Council Edition of Irish Arts Review. CCOI-registered craftspeople may claim a **20% DISCOUNT** off annual subscription rates to the Irish Arts Review. Subscribe today to guarantee your copy of this landmark craft edition of the Irish Arts Review.

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SAVE 20% OFF THESE ONE-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
Irish: €56; UK: €65; Europe: €67; US: €70; ROW: €71/€59
Credits: Top (l-r): Liam Flynn, Peadar Lamb, Michelle O'Donnell; Middle (l-r): Margarita Pua, Mandy Parslow, Aislin O'Dwyer; Bottom (l-r): Seamus Gill, Jane Jermyn, Inga Reed. All work featured in Portfolio, published with the Spring 2006 Edition of the Irish Arts Review.

The SPRING edition of Irish Arts Review is out now!

- this issue celebrates the launch of PORTFOLIO, and includes a dedicated craft supplement along with an interactive CD directory of the 38 makers, selected by an International panel of experts.

Make sure you get your copy!

Remember Irish Arts Review offer a special subscription offer to all registered crafts people. For more details see advert on this page.

KDW were a practical demonstration of the importance and application of design in craft and manufacturing.

Design team at the Workshops c 1972: L to R: Asger Max Andersen (workmaster silver/metal workshop), Holger Strøm (packaging), Jim Kirkwood (ceramics), Gerald Tyler (general 3D design), Jenny Trigwell (textiles), Jim King (general manager), Damien Harrington (graphics), Oisín Kelly (artist-in-residence), William H. Walsh (Chairman)



DESIGNING IRELAND

A KILKENNY DESIGN WORKSHOPS (KDW) RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBITION 1963 – 1988

History of Kilkenny Design Workshops (KDW)

Kilkenny Design Workshops opened in 1963, the vision of William H Walsh, head of CTT/The Irish Export Board. Since the 1930s, Ireland's indigenous industry had been protected from foreign competition by high import tariffs and taxes. Joining the EEC would result in cheaper foreign imports competing with Irish products: due to the closed market in Ireland, these Irish products were below the standards both in design and manufacturing of the foreign imports.

Eager to improve these standards and make Irish products competitive, Walsh invited a group of experts to Ireland in 1961 to conduct a survey and make a report. Called the Scandinavian group (there were three Danes, a Finn and a Swede), they presented the Design in Ireland report which caused a furore.

Highly critical of design education in Ireland the report made recommendations concerning the setting up of an educational institution along European lines. However, Walsh instead set up the Kilkenny Design Workshops (KDW), based on a privately-run enterprise in Norway. Kilkenny Design Workshops were a practical demonstration of the importance and application of design in craft and manufacturing. Housed in the Ormonde stables, across from Kilkenny Castle and set up under the banner of CTT, the Chief executive and Chairperson of the new enterprise was William H Walsh.

The first workshops were jewellery/metalworking, candles, textiles, ceramics and woodworking. From the beginning, Walsh attempted to create a space where artists, craftspeople, designers and technicians would work side by side. The painters Louis le Brocquy (who designed the distinctive double K logo) and Patrick Scott were on the Board of the Workshops and the well-known sculptor Oisín Kelly was artist-in-residence.

The main aim of the Workshops was to improve design in mass production and manufacturing.

The lack of design training in Ireland in the 1960s and 1970s, meant that staff at the Workshops visited college shows in Britain and the rest of Europe and employed young graduate designers including Helena Ruuth, Jenny Trigwell and Jenni Green. Experienced technicians and modelmakers were brought in from Britain and worked alongside appren-

Teatowel, hand screen-printed linen, Oisín Kelly, KDW, 1970 – 1975



'Chevron' giftware, earthenware, Jim Kirkwood, Celtic Ceramics, 1976

A visit of the World Crafts Council to Ireland in 1970 which included a visit to the Workshops, was instrumental in the setting up of the Crafts Council of Ireland.

tices and craftspeople from Kilkenny and the rest of Ireland. Artist craftspeople such as Sonja Landweer (who worked principally on glaze testing in the ceramics workshop) and Maria van Kesteren (a wood turner) brought European influences to Ireland.

The main aim of the Workshops was to improve design in mass production and manufacturing and much work was undertaken in ceramics, textiles and furniture making. KDW designed objects such as dinner sets (Celtic Ceramics in Clare), giftware (Belleek), interior furnishings (including wallpapers and fabric for curtains) kitchenware (teatowels, casserole dishes, glasses) and souvenirs for tourists (such as money boxes). Often the KDW developed a prototype, tested it through the manufacturing process in its own workshops and often sold them through the two Kilkenny Design shops in Kilkenny (opened in the late 1960s) and Dublin (opened in 1976 in Nassau Street). Once the products were proven in this way, manufacturers were more likely to buy and produce them.

KDW continued to produce items such as Oisín Kelly's teatowels and often encouraged staff to set up independent workshops to make work for the shops. Many of these workshops were set up around Kilkenny. The shops also sold work from craft businesses based in Ireland which had passed a rigorous selection process, thus giving many young craftspeople their first exposure to the marketplace. The first "lifestyle" shops in Ireland, the Kilkenny Design shops played an enormous part in the popularity of Irish crafts in the 1970s and 1980s.

Returning to the aims of the Design in Ireland report, KDW started a residential training programme for graduates in the early 1970s based in Butler House, the renovated dower house for Kilkenny Castle. With links to a network of European and American designers, visitors such as Terence Conran, Henry Moore, Gio Ponti and Ake Huldt also came to stay at Butler House.

A visit of the World Crafts Council to Ireland in 1970 which included a visit to the Workshops, was instrumental in the setting up of the Crafts Council of Ireland (CCol) in 1971 by a KDW staff member (Mary Mullin), a Bord Fáilte staff member who was working with craftspeople (Blanaid Reddin), the secretary of the Royal Dublin Society's Industry, Arts and General Purposes committee (Betty Searson) and a member of the Slieve Bawn Co-operative Handcraft Market (Patsy Duignan). As part of its remit for design promotion, craft and design exhibitions were also run by the Workshops in the 1970s. In addition, Frank Sutton, the first Chief Executive of CCol, was initially seconded to the new body from CTT at its inception.

A move towards industrial design in the late 1970s and 1980s coincided with the recruitment of Irish trained designers from the first industrial design courses. Products such as stoves, projectors, telephone consoles and electrical switches were prototyped for clients in the workshops. This reflected the changing nature of manufacturing as technology companies searching for lower costs arrived in Ireland.

...people remember the items with fondness but never realised that they had been designed by KDW.

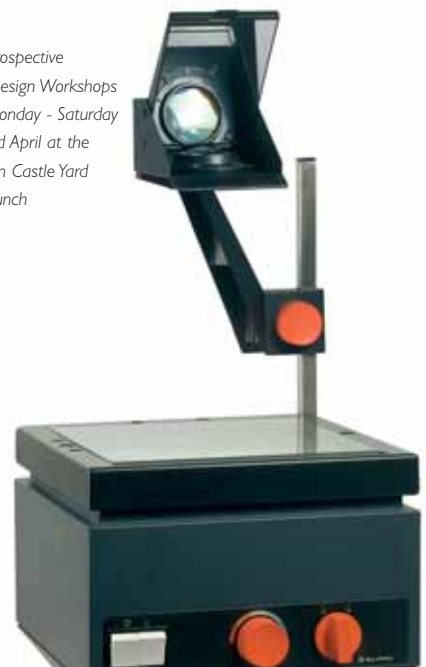
While the Workshops were supported throughout their life by a yearly grant from government, the income from the shops had become more important for financing the running of the Workshops. By 1985, the grant was 17% of income, with the shops providing 70%, design fees 11% and ESF funding (for the Butler House scheme) 2%. Pressure was being put on the Workshops to become completely self-sufficient, but following the opening of a London shop in 1986 and declining sales in the Irish shops, the financial situation became too difficult and the Workshops were closed in 1988. The two shops in Dublin and Kilkenny were sold to private enterprises; both kept the name 'Kilkenny' in the title showing how synonymous Kilkenny had become with craft and design.

Exhibition

Seventeen years since the closure of the Workshops, this is the first exhibition of their work. The exhibition project was enthusiastically supported by Vincent O'Shea, Exhibitions programme manager for the Crafts Council of Ireland: "I worked in Kilkenny in the 1980s and was always fascinated by the Workshops and the people who worked in them. Once I became Exhibitions manager for the Crafts Council I looked for ways of funding a retrospective KDW show for the CCol Exhibition Programme. When Cork 2005: European Capital of Culture started up I made a proposal to them on the CCol's behalf and the exhibition was finally put together as a jointly funded venture between the Council and Cork 2005", he says. "Cork 2005 were very excited by the European dimension to the Workshops." The exhibition was first opened in Cork in November 2005 by the Chairman of the National Museum of Ireland and is currently running in Kilkenny.

Conceived as an exhibition to illustrate the range of work KDW produced, *Designing Ireland* shows ceramics, graphics including posters and logos, industrial design, textiles, silver and jewellery. Comments from the visitors' book in Cork confirm that people remember the items with fondness but never realised that they had been designed by KDW. The exhibition hopes to raise awareness of how much was designed by KDW in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s and how influential it was. Its seminal role in helping to create our contemporary visual culture has been neglected and is even unknown to many young Irish designers. The Council hopes that its landmark exhibition will remedy that.

Designing Ireland: a retrospective exhibition of Kilkenny Design Workshops is open to the public Monday - Saturday 10 am - 6 pm until 2nd April at the National Craft Gallery in Castle Yard in Kilkenny. Closed for lunch 1.45 pm - 2.15 pm.



Overhead projector: Mick Marchant and Raymond Turner, Bell & Howell, 1978



CRAFT-IT

Blogs - Just Another name for an Internet Site?

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Digital Imaging: Part 3
(for Part 1 & Part 2 see 2004 Issues 5 & 6)
- ▶ Stopress 2, 2005 Looking Back, Planning Forward
- ▶ Stopress 3, 2005
The Nasty Stuff: Part 1 Viruses
- ▶ Stopress 4, 2005
The Nasty Stuff: Part 2
Adware & Spyware
- ▶ Stopress 5, 2005
Backing up your computer
- ▶ Stopress 6, 2005
The Nasty Stuff: Part 3 Spam

Lets start by looking at why consumers buy craft products. It may be because of a love of the craft or because something catches their eye and sometimes it is because they are buying into the personality and individual behind the object.

And face to face is the best way of getting that across - always. Printed media can play their part as well - in the last article I referred to the weekend lifestyle article. These are glossy, colourful, have lots of graphics/photos and usually give an insight into the person behind a business. And everyone enjoys reading them.

Internets sites are (for the most part) lousy at getting that kind of feeling across. It is difficult to deliver a site that is not corporate/clinical and efficient. The medium dictates that - it is usually perceived to be lifeless or flat.

So why is an internet site called a blog any different given that the same limitations seem to apply?

Here are the key areas of difference:

- Blogs start from a different point - they are deliberately structured to allow individuals to put their writing online easily and informally.
- They make it really easy for visitors to the blog to leave comments on what is contained there.
- The style of the blog is dictated more by the content than by the design - so a person with a blog can evolve it over time to be a very personal statement of who they are and what they do.

All of the above seems kind of obvious. Yet those of you who have gone through the process of developing a "traditional" internet site will understand the difference.

- You are urged to make decisions at the beginning on the look and feel of the site that will then be set in stone, otherwise it could be expensive to change.
- You are told to labour long and hard over the text that will be included on the pages of the site - because it is crucially important to get it right. And as for images - double the fear-dose here if you dare to put up one that is "wrong"
- If visitors to the site want to leave feedback or comments they send you an email or fill in a form on the site. Either way that feedback is for you or you alone.

There are good reasons for all of the above. But seriously why would you subject yourself to this unless you really had to? And so a lot of craft businesses take the understandable decision not to bother.

Try the test Blog site

Back to blogs. I am using a free service called Blogger that is run by Google as an example - there are other free services listed at the end of the article. It can be found at <http://www.blogger.com> I have set up a test blog at the following address: <http://stopress.blogger.com> and you can use the following username and password to log into the blog software and experiment with it - post something if you want.

Log in here: www.blogger.com

Username: stopress

Password: stopress

News and Reviews

You will then see this page - and if you click on the green cross called "New Post" you can write something and then click on the orange button on the next page called "Publish Post"

Your post will then appear on the <http://stopress.blogger.com> page. You can also click on the "change settings" button and play with the look of the blog using the template tab.



So it's easy. And it's free (or can be – there are also paid services out there).

Lets now look at a couple of live blogs to get a feeling for what people do with them.

The first one is The Chip Shop -
<http://chipshop.blogspot.com/>

"Take a look for yourself behind the scenes at Seafoam Woodturning Studio. Learn about the craft of woodturning, the wonderful materials I work with and what I have been making with them. New products and events will be announced here. Subscribe today!"



In this blog Derek Andrews, a wood turner living in Canada, writes about his work and his customers. His blog has been up since October 2003 so he is a veteran of the medium! He covers everything from his production techniques to the wood he uses. This is a great example of how to use a blog to communicate your product and the work behind it so that customers can appreciate the price they are asked to pay for it.



Blogs can also be written by groups with a common theme. Take a look at <http://whipup.net/>

"Handcraft in a hectic world"

This collaborative blog has currently got 17 contributors and has the aim of "creating a community of artists, crafters and makers and share ideas in a central space". While keeping in mind that the site is more US focused and thus their definition of craft is closer to a hobby than a way of earning a full-time living it is still useful to look through the site and see the posts on exhibitions, inspirations for the work of the contributors and other sites that they find of interest. This blog has a very professional look to it.



We can finish with the blog that was briefly mentioned in the last issue of Stopress: <http://www.loobyly.com/>

Loobyly is the personal web site of Claire Robertson, an illustrator and toy maker living and working in the suburbs of Melbourne, Australia.

This blog is the most personal featured here - Claire not only writes about her work but also includes references to her family and friends. Something to note for those of you who use photography as a medium for your creativity is that she includes a link to her Flickr photos. There is a great sense of the person behind her pieces here.

So whats the catch?

First one is that you cannot hand a blog over completely to a web designer and rely on them to build and maintain it. A blog means that you have to go online and do things for yourself. Even if that is free it still takes a certain level of confidence.

Secondly blogs work best when they are dynamic - and that means regular postings from you the blog owner. Without that regularity the blog becomes stale and that reflection of your personality and work is not exactly what you were looking for! Regular could mean one post a week - it does not have to be every day. But once a month is probably not going to work.

If you enjoy writing and are comfortable with computers then give it a go. The market in Ireland is wide open for the early craft businesses who set up blogs to make their mark - I could not find a single example of an Irish crafts person with a blog when researching this article. Being early means you can get an audience, maybe some publicity and from there sell more of your products. And all for free!

Some free blog services: www.blogger.com www.wordpress.com www.livejournal.com

In the next issue: whether it's a blog or an internet site you want people to see it. We cover the clever ways of doing that online!

Louth Craftmark launches new Directory & Commissioning Guide

Louth Craftmark has just published a new directory and guide to commissioning crafts from Co. Louth. You will find details on each maker's work, along with information on commissions they have completed and, of course, inspirational images of commissionable craft.

To obtain a copy of the directory please contact the office:
T: +353 42 939 6943 or E: sarahdaly@craftmark.ie

The directory can also be downloaded from our website www.craftmark.ie

THE DIRECTORY

Craftmark's Piece exhibition continues its tour

Leitrim Designhouse,
Carrick-on-Shannon
1st - 31st March 2006

Glór Gallery,
Ennis
7th - 27th April 2006



New website for Cavan-Monaghan Crafts

www.cavanmonaghancrafts.com

The dedicated craft website highlights crafts produced in the area and is part of the ongoing Craft Development programme undertaken by Cavan Monaghan Rural Development.

For further information contact Peter Pollock T: 049 4338477 E: crafts@cmdr.ie



Where corporate and trade buyers of quality craft and design will have the opportunity to order and commission products, designed and produced by a select 21 award winning crafts people, designers and artists.

This event will showcase a calibre of talent, which can only be found in County Wexford and highlights a complimenting mix of long established exhibitors with well renowned businesses with relatively new up and coming talent. The level of excellence however throughout the event is not to be underestimated. Buyers wishing to attend, may register online at www.selectevent.biz

SELECT is supported by the Crafts Council of Ireland under the Network Support Scheme.



On a visit to West Cork, President Mary McAleese was presented with a Celtic lamp from Cronin's Forge, Bantry, Co. Cork

If you have a good news story, let us knowemail: stopress@cco.i.ie

About the RDS National Crafts Competition

The RDS National Crafts Competition is a major event in the Irish Crafts Industry calendar, allowing professional and amateur craft designers to compete together for prestigious awards with a significant prize fund across 20 different categories. The RDS National Crafts Competition is Ireland's oldest crafts competition, dating back to the 18th century.

The exhibition of category winners will be exhibited as part of the annual Fáilte Ireland Dublin Horse Show which this year takes place from August 9 - 13. The exhibition attracts thousands of national and international visitors each year. It has proven to be a valuable forum for gaining recognition and has been a launching pad for many of Ireland's top craft designers. Past winners include Geoffrey Healy, Nicky Mosse, Alan Ardif, Ciaran Forbes, Liam O'Neill and Christy Keeney.

Since 1999, the RDS has funded a travelling exhibition to increase the profile of craft workers and promote a greater awareness of Irish craft. In 2006, the winners' exhibition will travel to three venues: Farmleigh Gallery, Dublin from August 24 to Sept 24; The Dock, Carrick-on-Shannon, from September 29 to October 21 and Flowerfield Arts Centre, Coleraine, from October 29 to December 2. These venues are visited by thousands of people every year with Farmleigh having up to 8,000 visitors per weekend.

The RDS National Crafts Competition is part of the RDS Foundation Activities which support initiatives in Agriculture, Arts, Industry and Science. The Arts programme aims to support the professional development of young musicians, artists and craftspeople; to promote and foster excellence and to support developmental projects in the arts. This year, the RDS celebrates its 275th anniversary.



Call for entries ...



RDS National Crafts Competition 2006

– Prize Fund in Excess of €25,000 –

Open to professional and amateur craft designers, resident in Ireland or Irish craft workers based abroad, with 20 different categories.

An exhibition of winners and other commended entries will take place as part of the Fáilte Ireland Dublin Horse Show from August 9–13 and it will then travel to Farmleigh, Dublin; The Dock, Carrick-on-Shannon and Flowerfield Arts Centre, Coleraine between August and December 2006.

Closing date for first round photo submissions: May 26, 2006

Entries must be accompanied by an entry form.
For further information contact:

Johanna Suhr,
RDS Arts Department,
Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.
Tel: 01 240 7255 Fax: 01 660 4014
Email: johanna.suhr@rds.ie
www.rds.ie/arts

Creative Skillnet - launches in Kilkenny Castle

.....bringing together the creative industries



What is Skillnet

Skillnets is an enterprise-led body which receives funds from the National Training Fund to support companies and their people. Skillnets role is to provide funding, advice and support to underpin the competitiveness of enterprises as well as increasing the long term career opportunities and employability of employees.

There are many Skillnet groups set up around Ireland, from fruit growers to companies involved in the space industry. These companies all involved in similar enterprises come together to network and share knowledge and training, amongst other aspects of business and see strength in numbers. Rather than looking at each other as competitors they see this 'coming together' as a united front, as a positive force in the ever increasing competitiveness in the market place.

'Creative Skillnet' – bringing together the creative industries

Creative Skillnet is one of the recently established Skillnets. Its objective is to bring together the creative industries, across such sectors as furniture, glass, textiles, candle making, ceramics, giftware, etc. within indigenous small and medium size enterprises. The aim of Creative Skillnet is to provide opportunities to network between enterprises, sharing market information, experience and supporting each other in strategic business development. In addition providing new energy, focus and direction to the industry as a whole.

The official launch of Creative Skillnet took place at a Forum in Kilkenny Castle recently. Speakers included, Bridie Corrigan Matthews, of Skillnet who spoke about the history and raison d'être of Skillnet and Pat McCarthy of Pat McCarthy Studio spoke about the reasons behind setting up Creative Skillnet and its potential benefits to craft businesses. This was followed by two excellent presentations on recent Market Research by Triple Dee of London on current international trends in the marketplace and Conroy Consulting on recent Consumer and Retail research specific to the Craft sector - extremely interesting and thought provoking information for all to digest. The evening ended with much discussion and debate into what craft companies can do to compete in today's very competitive marketplace.

For more information

If you are interested in finding out more information on how Creative Skillnet could assist your craft business or want to learn more about the upcoming training programmes, please contact either Pat or Ann at:

Creative Skillnet,
Pat McCarthy Studio,
The Rower, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny
T: 051 423857 E: info@patmccarthystudio.ie

Opportunities

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bursary⁰⁶ It could be you!

"I was totally amazed when I heard that I had won an award! This is not a complicated process; the form is very straight forward but you need to read the questions carefully and understand the ideals behind this bursary". Liam Flynn (2005 Bursary winner)

The Crafts Council of Ireland Bursary 2006 is now open for applications.

Closing Date: Friday 28th April 2006

The application form is available to download from the Crafts Council website at <http://www.ccoi.ie> or by post from Mary Whelan T: 056-7761804 E: maryw@ccoi.ie

IT IS ADVISABLE TO READ THE FORM CAREFULLY AND ALLOW PLENTY OF TIME TO FILL IT OUT.

Some questions answered:

What is the Crafts Council of Ireland Bursary?

The Crafts Council Bursary will be awarded to support professional craftspeople in the creative development of their craft, which will lead to new opportunities in their practice.

How much is it worth?

In 2006 the Bursary Scheme has a fund of €20,000. The full €20,000 may be given as a single bursary to an individual, or divided between two or three awardees.

What is the purpose of the Bursary Scheme?

This is an award that is focused on the primary issue of creative development. Its essential purpose is to release the craftsperson from their usual commitments so that they can invest in creative development of their professional practice.

Who can apply?

Full-time craftspeople

- who have operated a business based on their craft for a minimum of 5 years
- who are Tax Compliant
- who are not in receipt of funding for this proposal from any other source
- who are registered with CCoI

Rules pertaining to use of Bursary monies

Monies can be used to benefit and develop creativity of the craftsperson e.g:

1. Acquiring additional skills, training and further learning (funding appropriate recognised third level courses, masterclasses, mentors, field experts etc.)
2. Travel and associated costs for travelling abroad to pursue additional skills, education or research
3. Research (materials, technology, practices)

Monies cannot be used for

1. Capital expenditure on equipment or property
2. Rent of premises
3. Funding of solo exhibitions
4. Funding of samples to launch new product lines

For further information on the Bursary Scheme contact:

Hilary Morley, Project Manager T: 091-528524 E: hmorley@esatclearie



WANTED! - NEW PRODUCT

Apply to 50% Scheme

Closing date: 28th April 2006

...and get assistance towards those new product ideas you've been planning

The '50% Scheme' gives registered craftspeople financial assistance towards making new products for a specific market opportunity i.e. exhibition, consumer event or trade show.

CCoI contributes 50% of the costs of developing the new product.

How to apply

An application form and a CD of images must be submitted by **28th April 2006**.

An independent panel will make their selection in mid May and applicants will be informed shortly afterwards. 50% of the award will be given up front and the remainder on completion of the new work.

Read about others who have successfully completed their new products on page 4 & 5

Don't miss out, apply now!

Application forms are available to download from: www.ccoi.ie/50-percent.html

For further information contact: Helen Lynch
T: 048 30833605 E: helen@helenlynch.net



**2007****Closing date for applications is: 12th of May 2006**

If you are successful in being selected for the SOURCE aisle you will take part in one of the most prestigious promotions at Showcase including promotion to Buyers by Enterprise Ireland and CCol. The SOURCE aisle is fresh and eye-catching and is targeted by buyers seeking the best of Irish craft.

What the panel are looking for:

- High standards of design and manufacture
- Pricing matched to market opportunity
- High standards in supporting point of sales material and literature and packaging.
- A commitment to high standards in display.
- Originality in design.

The benefits of exhibiting in the SOURCE aisle include:

- Opportunity to take part in one of the most prestigious promotions at Showcase since the launch of the Village in 1988.
- Strong international and national promotion of the Source aisle to Buyers by Enterprise Ireland and the CCol.
- Targeted promotion to high quality Buyers.
- Greater comfort for Buyers with special Source seating areas.
- Fresh eye-catching stand design
- Promotional and PR opportunities

How to apply:

If you are interested in applying for SOURCE 2007 the application forms will be available from the beginning of April. Closing date 12th May 2006.

For further information contact: Catherine Jordan T: 087 2215287 E: jordanevents@eircom.net.

It is important to book your stand at Showcase as soon as possible - and if you are selected for SOURCE you will simply be relocated into the SOURCE aisle. If you would like to discuss your suitability to SOURCE or find out how to approach the process of applying call: Mary Whelan T: 056 7761804 E: maryw@ccoie

A program of activity aimed at supporting exhibitors at Showcase will be unveiled in the coming weeks - please keep an eye in Stoppress and on the CCol web site. See also the article on Source Pg 2.

PORTFOLIO 2006

Your next opportunity to apply for inclusion to PORTFOLIO

Closing date is Tuesday 5th September 2006



PORTFOLIO is the Crafts Council of Ireland's digital directory of Ireland's leading designer makers, selected by an international advisory panel.

Application is by submission of a combination of actual work and images rather than by image only. A New updated brochure will be available in April which will have details of all the current changes to the PORTFOLIO application process - all applicants will receive a copy of the current edition of PORTFOLIO. See also article P 15.

September will also be the first opportunity for current PORTFOLIO members to update their work.

For brochure or further information contact:

Ann Dack, Project Manager E: anndack@eircom.net or M: 087 6490463

Supported by
The National Lottery
 through the Arts Council of Northern Ireland



Opportunities

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Collectors Events

Expressions of interest sought to exhibit at two major upcoming collectors' exhibitions

Closing Date for Expressions of Interest:
Friday 21st April 2006

The Crafts Council of Ireland is organising two major collectors' exhibitions in 2006.

Hunt Museum Limerick 16th Nov - 6th Dec 2006

The inaugural exhibition at the Hunt showcased a range of quality work to discerning buyers and collector's and this year we aim to build the reputation for this high quality exhibition in prestigious venues. www.huntmuseum.com

National Craft Gallery 24th Nov - 6th Jan 2006

This exhibition will replace Christmas Presence, which ran at the National Craft Fair, RDS for the last three years. The focus in Kilkenny will be a range of quality work for discerning buyers and collectors.

If you are interested in exhibiting please send us the following:

- 4 images of recent and representative work (hard copy only / no originals)
- An up-to-date CV.
- Please specify which exhibition you wish to be considered for. You may submit work to be considered for the exhibition in the Hunt Museum and/or the NCG
- All materials sent must be individually labelled with your name and contact details.
- If you wish to have your materials returned to you, please include an addressed envelope. Crafts Council will pay return postage.



Seamus Gill

Exhibition Themes and Price Points

You are invited to pick up on themes from the **Hunt Museum collection. €250 - €2,500** including 40% commission.
Kilkenny €150 plus including 40% commission

Information Day

The Hunt Museum invites you to visit the Museum on **Saturday April 1st 2006** at 2.30pm for a guided tour.

Send your expressions of interest by Friday 21st April 2006 to:

Collectors Events,
National Craft Gallery,
Castle Yard,
Kilkenny

**You can exhibit on one or both exhibitions. Please indicate which event you wish to take part in.*

Féile Clai – Festival of Clay

Exhibition and Bursary Opportunities for ceramicists

Closing Date for Expressions of Interest: 30th April 2006

1. Emerging Makers Exhibition

An exciting opportunity for new and emerging ceramic artists to exhibit in both the National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny and the Ceramics Gallery at the Aberystwyth Arts Center, Wales in September 2006. An award of excellence will be given to the best 'New and Emerging Maker' selected from the exhibition.

Eligibility

To be eligible for inclusion in this exhibition you will need to have been working in ceramics for 5 years or less, or intend setting up a workshop.



2. Féile Clai – Bursaries

A bursary is available for a ceramic artist who would benefit from working with an established ceramicist.

Eligibility

You must live or work in the Interreg I I I A area, Wicklow, Dublin, Wexford, South Tipperary, Carlow, Meath, Kildare, Kilkenny, Waterford.

Closing date is: 30th April 2006

For further information Contact: Tina Byrne Studio
10 Downs Ind. Est. Delgany, Co. Wicklow.

E: tinabyrne@feileclai.com W: www.feileclai.com



Upcoming Conference

Setting the agenda for change...

A conference to discuss the future of the Irish craft industry.

31st March 2006
The Parade Tower, Kilkenny Castle.

You are invited to participate in a conference to discuss the future of the Irish craft industry which will be used to inform the Crafts Council of Ireland's Strategic plan for 2007 - 2009. The conference is timed to coincide with the Designing Ireland exhibition on Kilkenny Design Workshops: KDW was set up to tackle issues in the 70s and 80s. What can we learn from that approach now?

Chaired by Jim Dunne, who is a director of design company EnterpriseIG and a board member of the Crafts Council of Ireland, this should be an exciting day for you to assist in creating the agenda for change in the Irish craft industry.

Consumer research specialists, Conroy Consulting will make a presentation and animators such as Kathleen Moran (Owner, Kilkenny Design Centre), Deirdre Murphy (Marketing Manager, Habitat Ireland), Charles O'Toole (furniture designer) and Rudolf Heltzel (jewellery designer and maker) will be present to lead and contribute to the discussions.

To book your place:

To place are limited and attendance is free (light lunch will be provided). If you have not received a booking form and you would like to attend, please contact Mary Whelan T: 056 7761804 E: maryw@ccoi.ie

Photoscheme 2006

27th June & 17th October 2006

Cost: €75 per image for non-model shots and €100 per image for model shots. All Photography Scheme images are automatically included on CCol Image Bank which is provided to the media free of charge and also used in CCol promotional publications and on the CCol website.

Expressions of Interest forms will be available 4 weeks prior to each shoot. For further information contact Mary O'Shea or Emma Briscoe T: 056 7761804 E: info@ccoi.ie. Please note this is a very popular project and places are limited.

Crafts Council 3rd Level Awards 2006

supporting the future of the Irish Craft Industry

Deadline for applications is Friday 9th June..

Two awards of €2,500, will be made to two final-year honours degree undergraduates and postgraduates students who show the most potential to develop a craft-based practice beyond their current studies.

Students working in any of CCol's recognised craft disciplines (visit www.ccoi.ie for a full list) are eligible to apply, with the proviso that, they must be nominated by a craft tutor. They must also be registered as associate members of the Crafts Council (this service is free of charge). Further training, research, travel, materials, studio costs and production of promotional materials can all be applied for.

The deadline for applications is Friday 9th June. All applicants will subsequently receive an interview on 27/28th June.

For further information contact contact:

Sharon Rollston, Education Development Officer on
 T: +353 (0) 56 7761804,
 E: sharon@ccoi.ie
 W: www.ccoi.ie/education

BEST PRACTICE IN COMMISSIONING

“ All you ever wanted to know about commissioning, but were afraid to ask.....”

INFORMATION DAY - FRIDAY 19th MAY
 in Kilkenny Castle

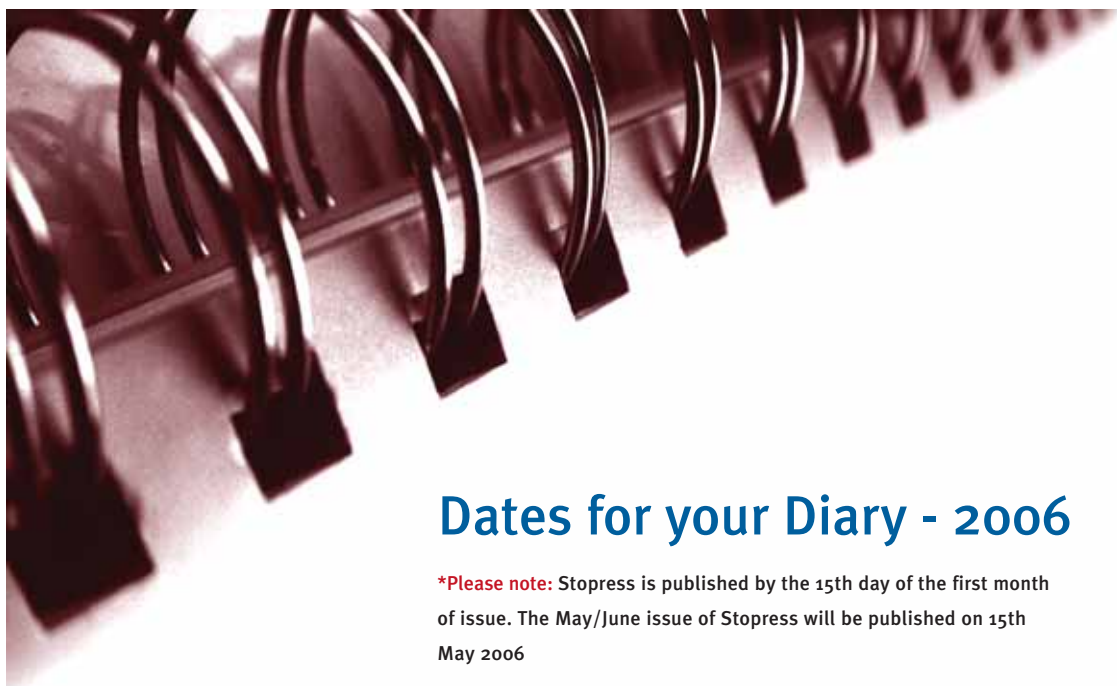
A fantastic opportunity to become more informed about the commissioning market, with key speakers involved in Public and Private Commissioning and Corporate Gift Buying and also learn from the most recent research in the sector. There will be an opportunity to meet individually with Commissioners and inform yourself realistically as to how you can access this market. Brochure with detailed information will be available in April.

For further information contact:

Mary Whelan T: 056 7761804 E: maryw@ccoi.ie



Noel Forde



Dates for your Diary - 2006

***Please note:** Stopress is published by the 15th day of the first month of issue. The May/June issue of Stopress will be published on 15th May 2006

OPPORTUNITY DIARY DATES

BY/ON/CURRENTLY/TBC*

Stopress deadline for May/June issue	is	13th April 2006
Setting the agenda for change... A conference to discuss the future of the Irish craft industry	on	31st March 2006
Collectors Event	by	21st April 2006
Bursary	by	28th April 2006
50% Scheme	by	28th April 2006
Féile Clai Exhibition and Bursary	by	30th April 2006
Source 2007	by	12th May 2006
Best Practice in Commissioning	on	19th May 2006
3rd Level Awards	by	9th June 2006
Photoscheme - *see page 17	on	27th June 2006
Research Missions	by	28th July 2006

*For details go to www.ccoi.ie/researchmissions

PORTFOLIO by 5th September 2006

Photoscheme on 17th October 2006

NCG EXHIBITIONS 2006

New Programme for 2006 now available contact NCG or visit website www.ccoi.ie/exhibitions

NCG, Castle Yard, Kilkenny

Designing Ireland on 4th Feb - 2nd April

Tracing the Line on 7th April - 28th May

Lifestyle in Galley 2 on 7th April - 14th May

40 Shades of Green on 2nd June - 16th July

Ceramic Ireland International Festival on 11th August - 1st October

Emerging Makers on 1st September - 8th October

Silver Connections on 13th October - 26th November

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

ENTERPRISE IRELAND TREND FORECAST EVENTS

Jewellery Design and Market Trend Forecast on 21st June 2006

**Womenswear Trend Forecast Autumn/
Winter 07/08 - Sessions 1& 2** on 28th June 2006

Furniture Design and Market Trend Forecast on 9th November 2006

Womenswear Trend Forecast Spring 07 and 08 on 29th November 2006

For more information on the above events: T: 056 7761804 or e-mail info@ccoii.ie



Registered craftspeople from Northern Ireland are eligible to participate in 50% Scheme, Portfolio, Photoscheme, Best Practice in Commissioning and Third Level Awards.



**HIGHLIGHT
IMPORTANT
DATES ON YOUR
CALENDAR**

**STICKERS
LOCATED ON
BACK OF CCOI
CALENDAR**



Piece from Tracing the Line

Advertisements

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FOR SALE

Irish Craft/Interiors leasehold shop, Enniskerry Village, Co Wicklow, with good customer base. **For further information contact T: 01 2866820 M: 087 2849438**

Gas kiln (bottle gas) - dimensions inside: Depth 51cm, Width 53cm, Height 72,5cm. Dimensions outside: Depth 91cm, Width 81cm, Height 108cm (with feet 154cm). Cost: €1400, ono includes 2 potburners, 2 full gas bottles, 2 empty bottles. To be collected. **For further information contact Brigitta T: 0876189313**

Brother KH970 Knitting Machine with ribbing attachment for sale. Little used. **For further information contact Yvonne T: 086 8818 921.**

Kilcarra hand and machine knitting yarns, various colours. Mixture of silk, wool, mohair and various fancy yarns. **For more information contact Amanda T: 086 0634634, E: info@amanda-daunt.com**

16 Shaft AVL Dobby Loom 160cm/60" weaving width Fly shuttles, two boxes, two beams (one sectional), automatic advance system, computer capability includes accessories. Built in bench. Manuals included. Excellent condition. Sale due to career change and house move. £3,500. Also available: 6' warping mill, 3m circumference £200. Tapestry loom: £300

For further information contact Daphne McGuigan T +44 (0) 28 4482 8415 E: daphnenelson@hotmail.com

Pottery Kiln, K and F 15.8 cu ft. top loader with original controller; furniture and spare set of elements, 5 years old, excellent condition €3000. **Contact Sun Ceramics T: 086 8172988**

Electric kiln 16 cubic ft toploader. Cromartie workhorse, including shelves, controller etc. Excellent condition. Might exchange for similar but smaller plus balance. **For further information contact Charles T: 085 1622721**

Fibres for spinning and felt making. Top quality silk and wool tops. Gaywool dyes perfect for dyeing wool and silk. Ashford weaving and spinning equipment. **For further information contact Suzie Sullivan T: 098 21888 or www.derryauncrafts.com**

Pottery Equipment and raw materials - Alsager wheel in good working condition (€300), a Venco 75 mm de-airing pug mill in perfect working order; (€2250), a slab roller (€100), banding wheels (€25), some onglaze and underglaze stains including some lustres (€25), earthenware stains (€20), oxides (€20). **For further information contact Rosemary T: 065 7087153, mandrquinn@iol.ie. Open to all reasonable offers!**

YEW - air dried - 19% moisture content. €20 per cubic foot. Dimension 9" down (approx). **For further information contact Ray T: 061 368283 M: 086 0573275**

Kiln S65, top loader 6.5 cu foot capacity/184 litres, incl. shelves and timer; little used, €1,600 ono. **For further information contact Fergal O'Hannrachain T: 01 8380913 E: fohann@eircom.net**

Jewellers solid timber workbench, on double trestle measuring 50ins by 26 ins and 35 ins high €130. **For further information contact Des T: 087 9347397**

Glenmarkra floor loom, four shaft, weaving width 31", also warping mill, reeds, raddle, stretcher and large amount of wool (Navan and finer). €1,000. **For further information contact Jean T: 01 2956260**

Ratcliffe belt wheel, excellent condition, **top loading kiln** 7.5 cu ft. single phase cromarite ct1200b excellent condition and bentrup ct405 controller for kiln as new. **For further information contact John at T: 071 9183838 or E: oriainpottery@hotmail.com**

NOTICE

During breakdown at Showcase 2006, **Earthform Ceramics** (stand D203/204) had two black folders stolen containing all orders taken at the show, along

with a sum of money. Earthform are requesting that any outlets who placed an order, and who have not been contacted yet by us, to contact Claire, Karen or Zona on T: +44 (0) 2890 894563 E: info@earthformceramics.co.uk Also if anyone has any helpful information or saw anything, please contact us.

WANTED

Sink Trap Box - New or Used. Call Orla T: 086 2440511

STUDIO SPACE

Studio available city centre **Dublin 2**. approx area 3.4 m x 5m - mezzanine level. **For further information contact T: 087 2500375**

Beautiful loft space (22 x 5.5 m) to let/lease in Grennan Mill, Thomastown, **Kilkenny**, overlooking River Nore. Former showroom of 'Cloth of Gold' couture company. Fully equipped for commercial business, including heating. Floor below, same size, also available. Rent negotiable, according to needs. **For further information contact T: 087 923 8102**

Dublin, - North Great Georges Street space available for flexible sub-letting. Would suit Gallery/Showroom. **For further information contact T: 01 8735420 E: ciaranadamson@eircom.net**

Glass Studio - London. Office area (80ft sq) and 2 work areas (88ft sq & 56ft sq) available in a Hot Glass studio. Situated 5mins walk from Victoria Line with off street parking. **For further information contact**
London Glassworks.
Tel: +44 (0)20 8531 0088

Studio space in North Kilkenny. Farmhouse extension includes double bedroom, shower, w.c., kitchen and large artists studio with garden and space for parking. Available for short or long term. **For further information contact**
T: 056 8833623 M: 087 0539504

Opportunities

Eigse Carlow Arts Festival 2006. invites crafts people to submit their work for selection for this exhibition. An award of €1,000 will be given to an exhibitor whose work is deemed to be of an exceptional standard. Closing date for submissions is **Friday March 24th 2006** **For further information and submission forms contact**
T: 059 9140491 or
e: eigse3@eircom.net

L'ARTIGIANO IN FIERA - 11th International Crafts Selling Exhibition, Milan, Italy 2nd - 10th December 2006. Open to public and trade - Direct sales allowed Entrance free 2,382 craft enterprises exhibited in 2005 in an exhibition area of 115,000 sq.m with 3 million visitors. **For further information contact Roberta Roffi, Foreign Office, Ge.Fi. SpA, via A. Canova 1920145 Milano**

T: 0039 02 31911961
W: www.artigianoinfiera.com

Fibre Art International 2007
- USA. Exhibition of Contemporary Fibre Art www.fiberartinternational.org closing date **For further information contact Mary Towner**
T: + 001 412 521 2547 or
E: fiberartinternational@yahoo.com

Morristown CraftMarket in Morristown, New Jersey (USA), 20th - 22nd October 2006. There's limited availability for this juried show. You must contact us by **20th March 2006** if you are interested in participating in the show. Applications must be submitted by **1st April 2006** The show attracts about 10,000 visitors each year from a craft-savvy community not far from New York City. **For further information and application forms contact: Robert Grayson, special events coordinator,**
E: graydrew18@aol.com



Dublin City Enterprise Board Export Marketing Initiative Fund Are you in business and seeking to develop overseas markets? Our Export Marketing Initiative Fund can assist you. The fund can part-fund the cost of travel & subsistence, Trade Fair attendance/Exhibiting, and the creation of marketing material specifically for overseas markets. **Commercial Website Development Grant** Dublin City Enterprise Board is making available website development funding for small businesses.

Deadline for applications:

Friday 26th May 2006
Friday 18th August 2006
Friday 17th November 2006

Early applications are advised. **For further information contact T: 01 677 6068 or W: www.dceb.ie**



An new and exciting development in the Gift Show Calendar is **Crafted, the West Cork Gift Show, 6th & 7th April 2006** is a West Cork Leader Co-op initiative open to trade only offering a platform for the best of West Cork Gifts. This trade show is a unique opportunity to view new gifts and established brands from West Cork in the inspiring setting of Inchdoney Lodge & Spa Hotel. All work is made within the West Cork area and the show is open exclusively to trade buyers. **For further information contact Ivan T: 023 34035 or Meabh T: 087 6711147**
www.fuchsiabrands.com/giftshow

PLACEMENTS/JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Senior Furniture Maker, required for Joseph Walsh Furniture, Co Cork. Our work is commission based and we offer a bespoke service to private & corporate

clients. Successful candidates will be experienced, skilled & motivated craftspeople with an appreciation for design. **For further information contact Joseph T: 021 4771759 or**
E: joseph@josephwalshbespoke.com
www.josephwalshbespoke.com

Experienced Thrower required for permanent position at Tomas Diem Pottery, Ashbourne, Co. Meath. **For further information please contact Thomas**
T: 01 8359083
E: info@diempottery.com

WORK WANTED

Arkansas Studio Potter/Fiddler seeks work for 4-6 weeks, beginning of June. Will work cheap, anything considered. **For further information contact Mr Greer Ferriss, 200 North 21 St., Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901. USA. T: +479 783 4477**

STANDS AVAILABLE

Artist working in mixed media, textiles is looking for ceramic, glass artist/craftsperson to share stand at **National Crafts Fair, RDS, December 2006**. Stand will be in main hall. **For further information contact T: 086 3394724**

Advertisements

EXHIBITIONS



A Colourful Past - History with a little red 12th March - 2nd April 2006. An exhibition of new work by ceramic artist **Brigit Beemster** and paintings by **Póilín McGowan** at Sliding Rock Contemporary Ceramics, Ceardlann, Spiddal, Co Galway. **For further information contact T: 091 553376 M: 086 1923969**

Innovative graduation show of fibre and graphic Higher National Diploma students of **Ballyfermot College of Further Education** will open at 6.30pm at the Civic Offices, Fishamble Street on 23rd May. The show continues until 26th May 9.30 - 5pm. **For further information contact Orla T: 01-6261920**

'Paintings' An exhibition of new work by five painters in Ireland. The artists are Shane Johnson, Eadaoin Harding Kemp, Daphne Petroholis, Paul Swan and Terri Farrell. 1st March - 30th March at **The Bridge Gallery**, 6 Upper Ormond Quay, Dublin 7. Opening Hours: Monday - Saturday 10am to 6pm. **For further information contact T: 01 872 9702**

WORKSHOPS/ COURSES

Residential Raku Week Monday 1st - 6th May 2006. Anam-Cre Studio, Rusheens, Kenmare, Co.Kerry. **For further information contact Anne Marie O'Shea on T: 06441849 or 06441673 or www.kenmare-pottery.com**

BEN RUSSELL'S 3-Day Woodcarving Courses 29th - 31st March 2006 5th - 7th April 2006 Suitable for complete beginners and experienced craftworkers. Learn the basics with simple exercises, then develop skills with a project. Learn about tool choice and care. €335 fee includes lunches and ongoing refreshments - all tools and materials are provided. Fás recognised. **For further information contact Ben Russell, Kealkil, Bantry, Co Cork T: 027 66133 E: benr@esatclear.ie www.benrussell.info**



DESIGN TO GO a 5 day workshop 'designing jewellery' in Delft, Netherlands. 10th - 14th July 2006 or 28th August - 1st September 2006. This summer advanced students can attend a workshop by Froukje Idsardi, well known Dutch jewellery

designer. Cost €500 incl. lunches, lecture & excursion; excl. material, dinner, travel & accommodation expenses. **For further information and application contact W: www.idsardi.nl**

Patchwork Skills Workshop at Fota House, Co.Cork. 20th & 21st May 2006. Improve your Patchwork Skills with experienced City and Guilds Instructor Emer Fahy. This class will be suitable for patchwork improvers and will involve entirely machine based sewing. Cost: €150 including lunch at Fota. A deposit of €30 will be required to secure a place by 30th April. **For further information contact Carmel T: 086 6095656**

Feltmaking Workshop, at Cobh Community College, Carrignafoya, Cobh, Co.Cork, 1st April 2006. Bags with Pizzazz! Design and create your own bag using seamless felting methods - no mess, no fuss, no stitching, unless you really insist! Cost: €75 including lunch and materials. A deposit of €30 will be required to secure a place. **For further information contact Carmel T: 086 6095656 or Barbara T: 086 2441323**

Feltmakers Ireland Shibori workshops, 11th and 12th of March 2006, at Grennanmill Crafts School, Thomastown, Co Kilkenny. Feltmakers Ireland are hosting two, two-day workshops in the ancient Japanese art of Shibori dyeing with internationally renowned Textile artist Chad Alice Hagen in March 2006. Chad Alice Hagen has been exploring hand felted wool and

dyeing since 1979. She is the author of two books "Fabulous felt Hats", "The Weekend Crafter: Feltmaking". **For further information contact Sheila Ahern T: 01 8202826 W: www.virtualdublin15.info/sheila/**

2 day Workshops on Hand Papermaking by Tunde Toth - Papermaker and Fibre Artist at Papermaking Studio, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny. Limited places available: 6 people per class. Beginners: 1st & 2nd April, 6th & 7th May, 20th & 21st May. Advanced (follow-on) course: 22nd - 23rd April. Also one and two day workshops on handpaper-making, demonstrations and childrens workshops (papercrafts, recycled materials, paper-making) are available for schools, libraries, museums etc. **For further information contact Tunde T: 056 7754418 M: 087 2543362 E: tundetune@gmail.com or tundetoth@hotmail.com**

SUPPLIERS

Barcodes & Labels printed Black on White €19.99 per 1000 (No set-up charge). **For further information contact N&M Craft t: 01 7978875 or e: nmcraft@eircom.net**

Jem textiles are agents for Bennetts Silks in Ireland, offering a comprehensive **range of silks**, e.g. dupions, satins, georgette, chiffon, crepes & velvets in an extensive range of colours, suitable for bridal, fashion & interiors, and at competitive wholesale prices.

For further information please contact Jacinta T:059 9152270 Mob:087 9952489 or E:jemtex-tiles@eircom.net

information contact Brendan or Kevin T: 1850 930390 W: www.accountingandtechnology.ie

Print and display company based in Newry N.I. are offering portable exhibition display units to craftspeople. If you would like more information contact Paul T: 048 30266118



Do you have Tourist's asking for the VAT back when purchasing goods in your shop? **Moneyback VAT** refunds offer the tourists the best refunds and you can also generate a rebate for administration. No cost involved. **For more information contact Anthony T: 087 7716888 or W: www.moneyback.ie**

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Craft Supplies Website
www.craftsupplies.ie cardmaking, scrap booking and other craft supplies. Includes crafter's forum. Ships all over Ireland. **For further information contact info@craftsupplies.ie**

Design Shannon working nationwide to promote design for enterprise success. We find design-focused solutions to help you compete on innovation and not on price. **For more information contact Deirdre Johnston, Design Shannon T: 065 6880498 E: info@designshannon.ie W: www.designshannon.ie**

Accounting and Technology: Our services include accountancy for both sole traders and companies and in particular start up business. We also provide IT support, software development and web site development. We specialise in developing customised software to aid business access real time information at the touch of a button. **For more**

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New online store:
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Award winning Fashion Accessories and Home Accessories now available online. Featuring multiple colour options, complimentary gift packaging and international delivery. **For further information contact Ciaran Sweeney T: 01 4113953**

To submit your opportunity to the CCoI website (Crafts Events, Stands, Fairs, etc.) please forward 70 words maximum to info@ccoi.ie and mark it for **Web Opportunities**



Piece from Designing Ireland

Flexible Outsource Solutions

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Exhibition Snapshots

Showcase 2006



Angela Hope with Index award for her textile bags



Leslie Reed CEO CCol, Gerry Murphy Executive Chairman Expo, Giles O'Neil Enterprise Ireland, Martin Walsh Chairman CCol



Model pictured with the overall Index winning piece by Mel Bradley



Micheál Martin TD, Trade & Employment presents Kathleen McCormick, (Baskets) with her Index award also Martin Walsh CCol Chairman



Michael Tattan of Stephen Pearce pottery chats to Micheál Martin TD, Minister for Enterprise, Trade & Employment and Martin Walsh Chairman CCol



Jennifer Kinnear, Kink Bijoux Ltd



Clare and Karen Gibson and Zona Crilly from Earthform Ceramics and Stephen Farhan



Micheál Martin TD, Minister for Enterprise, Trade & Employment presents Mel Bradley, (Textiles) with her Index award also CCol Chairman, Martin Walsh

Exhibition Snapshots

New Irish Ceramics at The Bridge Gallery



Sarah Alexander and Miwako Otsubo at the Bridge Gallery



Geoffery Healy, (Ceramics), Cornelia McCarthy, CCol Programme Manager & Hilary Morley, CCol Project Manager



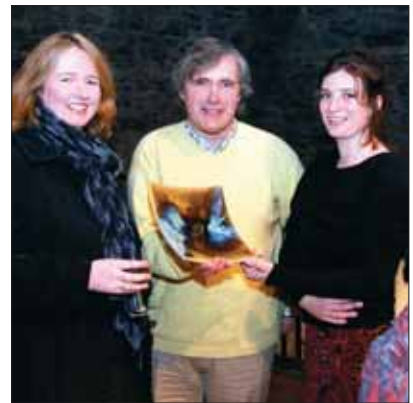
Michael Jackson (Ceramics), with Patrick McDonnell and Patrick Bailey at the Bridge Gallery



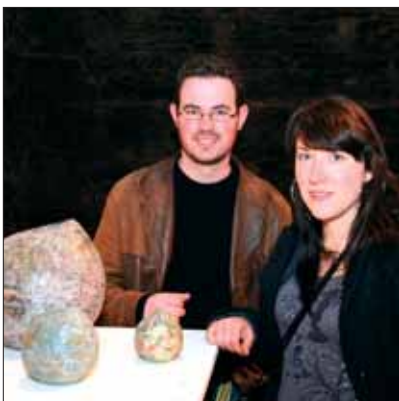
Lucy Dolan (Ceramics), with Richard and Michael from Celt Iberia, Pennsylvania



Guest of Bridge and Anthony O'Brien



Nicola Whelan, CCol Communications Manager, Michael Jackson (Ceramics) and Deirdre Carroll



Caomhan MacConloaire with Emma Betts at the Bridge Gallery



Martha Donaghy, Curator; Hilary Morley, CCol Project Manager and Guest



Leslie Reed, CEO CCol and Martha Donaghy, Curator

New Irish Ceramics journeys to Dublin!



Roger Harley

Marta Donaghey from Contemporary Ceramics in London made a welcome return to the Bridge Gallery in Dublin in January to curate the final show of work culminating from the Crafts Council of Ireland's Contemporary Ceramics Programme.

The seven makers pulled out all stops to present a fresh body of work representing advances made since their premier show in Kilkenny in 2004.

Choosing the Bridge Gallery as a venue meant that the group had the chance to attract buyers and gallery owners attending Showcase. The well-attended opening was a sign that many had made their way directly from the RDS to see the work and sales were very encouraging.

The group would like to extend their thanks to Deirdre Carroll and the staff of the Bridge Gallery as well as the National Craft Gallery for their support and back-up.

For further information contact:

Hilary Morley

T: 091-528524

E: hmorley@esatclear.ie

See snapshots of the opening, page 25.

NCG spring into 2006

It's a busy Spring for the National Craft Gallery. Following on from the spectacular success of Designing Ireland, both Gallery 1 and 2 are hosting two exciting exhibitions, Tracing the Line and Lifestyle.

Added to this, the gallery is on the move once more. First to Dublin, where one of our most ambitious projects to date, **Forty Shades of Green**, is travelling. In conjunction with St Patrick's Festival, this groundbreaking exhibition opens in the Farmleigh Gallery, Dublin. Running from March 16th to April 17th 2006, this is an opportunity to see the worlds of fine art and craft together in one of Ireland's most prestigious venues.

Also in Dublin, the National Craft Gallery's feature garden **Waters & the Wild** will once again take centre stage at the Myhome.ie Spring House & Garden

Show in the RDS (March 16th to 19th). This year, our garden is designed by Oliver and Liat Schurmann of Mount Venus Nursery, who skillfully combine craft and nature beautifully.

A second Crafts Council of Ireland initiative will also be on display at the RDS show. **Lifestyle**, curated by Anne Kennedy, opens in the RDS before moving down to Kilkenny in April. This exciting new concept sees stylishly displayed room-sets dressed with the very best of Irish craft.

And our travelling doesn't stop there! The National Craft Gallery are also heading to London to take part in their St Patrick's Day celebrations. **St Patrick's Presence**, a stunning showcase of contemporary Irish craft, is showing in Leicester Square, London on Sunday March 12th. As the city celebrates all things Irish, visitors are given the chance to see original, hand-crafted and beautifully designed works of art.

TRACING THE LINE

Continued from page 28

Curator Liam Flynn, himself one of Ireland's leading woodturners, has selected makers who have had a huge influence on his own craft. All seven played a part in exposing him, and indeed most Irish woodturners, to new cultures, techniques and ideas: From Partridge's pioneering scorching technique to van Kesteren's use of acrylic paints to eliminate the grain.

Tracing the Line features historical pieces and new work by all seven makers. Embarking on this journey from their old work to their new is a wonderful way of tracing the progression of woodturning both in Ireland and beyond.

For further information contact the gallery at:

T. 056 7761804 E. nccpress@ccoii.ie W. www.ccoii.ie

The National Craft Gallery is open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 6pm and Sundays 11am to 6pm. Admission is free.

LIFESTYLE

Continued from page 28

Curator Anne Kennedy has created five rooms, each depicting a current lifestyle trend: Minimal's cool, uncluttered style has an architectural quality while natural textures and hand-crafted pieces in matt colours complete the urban Rustic theme. For Cote Sud, there's a sun-drenched, outdoors air with warm colours and textured terracotta. Escape from the city to Coast, whose aged, chalky colours and painted furniture contribute to a wonderfully calm feeling while Retro Modern is an eclectic mix of quirky materials, individual one-offs and coloured prints.

These five themed 'rooms' will sit in the windows of the National Craft Gallery until May 14th. *Lifestyle*, a Crafts Council of Ireland exhibition, gives a whole new dimension to window shopping.

National Gallery News**Designing Ireland**

Designing Ireland proved itself to be one of the most exciting exhibitions ever staged by the National Craft Gallery. A retrospective of the groundbreaking Kilkenny Design Workshops, the show has attracted huge interest locally, nationally and even internationally. Visitors to the gallery, coming from as far afield as the United Arab Emirates, were unanimous in their praise for the show.

This collection of historically significant work has excited the interest of craftspeople, designers and the public, whose memories of the 60s, 70s and 80s were peppered with these stunning pieces.

The show was also the subject of an entire Nationwide programme, with RTE travelling to Kilkenny to talk to some of the people involved in the Workshops.

Designing Ireland is the first exhibition of the work of KDW since they were shut down in 1988. Wandering through this vast collection of original products is a beautiful and breath-taking history lesson. Curated and researched by Joanna Quinn this is a wonderful celebration of Ireland's visual heritage.

IQ Light, Holger Strom, Kilkenny Illuminations, 1972



Upcoming Exhibition - NCG

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TRACING THE LINE

Gallery 1, National Craft Gallery

7th April - 28th May 2006



Piece from Tracing the Line

Pioneers, artists and master-craftsmen. The National Craft Gallery pays tribute to seven renowned makers who have helped shape woodturning in Ireland.

Tracing the Line is an exceptionally beautiful exploration of the formative influences on Irish woodturning. Each of these makers have made a huge contribution to the craft world-wide: Opening our eyes to the artistic possibilities and potential of this most natural of materials.

American David Ellsworth, Ray Key and Jim Partridge from the UK, Australia's Richard Raffan, Maria van Kesteren from Holland and Ireland's Liam O'Neill and Ciaran Forbes have all had a major influence on a generation of woodturners, both technically and artistically.

[Continued on page 27](#)



LIFESTYLE

Gallery 2, National Craft Gallery

7th April - 14th May 2006

Bridging the gap between the gallery and your home. This stunning new showcase shows how contemporary craft can bring any room to life.

Lifestyle is an exciting new concept by the Crafts Council of Ireland. Stylishly displayed room-sets are dressed with the very best of Irish craft. Placed in their natural home, these pieces display just how versatile and relevant they are to current lifestyle trends.

This exhibition is aimed at promoting craft currently available from Irish retailers. But for once, people are given the opportunity to see just how comfortably these designs will fit in with their own sense of style.

[Continued on page 27](#)

FOR NATIONAL CRAFT GALLERY NEWS TURN TO PAGE 26 & 27

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Advertising in Stopress is free and is welcomed. Submissions for articles from craftspeople and those interested in craft are also always welcome – please contact:

Communications
t.00353 (0)56 7761804,
e:stopress@ccoi.ie

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