

Meet Ireland's Most Promising Future Makers & Designs

***Generation* opens at the National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny**

An exhibition representing the first-ever collaboration between the Crafts Council of Ireland and the Institute of Designers in Ireland to showcase the very best new designers and makers on the island of Ireland opens in the National Craft Gallery on Saturday (31st October, 2009).

Featuring the very best new designers and makers on the island of Ireland, *Generation* is an exhibition of new work shortlisted for two prestigious awards – *The Irish Arts Review/Crafts Council of Ireland Emerging Maker Awards* and the *Irish Design Institute Graduate Awards*. Traditionally, the disciplines of craft and of design have been very separate. *Generation* aims to explore the common ground between the two disciplines and re-assess the traditional view of where design ends and craft begins.

Generation includes 33 of Ireland's most promising future makers and designers as selected by a jury across a range of disciplines such as interior architecture and interior design; furniture, glass & ceramics; fashion & textiles as well as lighting and visual communication. One of the designers participating in *Generation* is leather artist Úna Burke, a recent winner of the *Crafts Council of Ireland Future Maker Award*, who is already achieving international recognition and whose work was selected for inclusion in *Cologne Catwalk 2009*.

Generation also features: a stunning neckpiece by jewellery designer Justyna Truchanowska who was a multiple-award winner at this year's *RDS National Crafts Competition*; an innovative typeface design by Naoise O'Conchubhair, which was chosen as the Grand Prix winning entry in the 2009 *IDI Graduate Design Awards* and

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contemporary furniture by award-winning designer Garvan de Bruir whose work in furniture and in sculpture has been exhibited in London, Dublin, Milan and Dubai.

Commenting on the exhibition, Úna Parsons, CEO, Crafts Council of Ireland said, “*Generation* is an exciting new departure for the arts and for craft in Ireland. By collaborating for the first time with the Institute of Designers in Ireland we are not only highlighting the brightest and most talented graduate designers in this country but are also illustrating the common ground and shared qualities in both design and contemporary craft practice in Ireland.”

Curated by Ann Mulrooney and Derek McGarry, *Generation* runs from 31st October 2009 to 10th January 2010 in the National Craft Gallery, Castle Yard, Kilkenny.

Admission is free. For further information visit www.ccoi.ie

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Note to Editors:

The National Craft Gallery is the Crafts Council of Ireland’s flagship exhibition space which is housed in Castle Yard, the former stables of Kilkenny Castle.