

Jerwood Contemporary Makers At Kilkenny's National Craft Gallery

Exploring New Perspectives in Making: **Jerwood Contemporary Makers**

21 January – 8 March, 2011

Opening Event: Friday January 21st at 6.30pm.

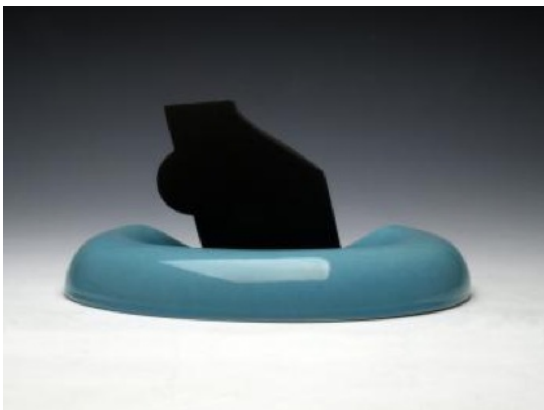
Jerwood Contemporary Makers takes a fresh and unexpected look at work by a new generation of makers, bringing together a broad range of work from across craft and the visual arts.

This year's exhibition will explore the notion of making from a variety of creative perspectives. Selectors **Hans Stofer, Richard Slee and Freddie Robins** – three of the most inventive names in the visual arts - have chosen 29 makers to take part. **Freddie will be in Kilkenny to officially open the exhibition** - see more info on her experimental knitting below. Striking images of the stunning work, are available to be downloaded at <http://gallery.me.com/ccoi#102909>

The exhibition, designed by **Michael Marriot**, takes visitors on a visual journey through the different approaches to the art of making, highlighting its importance as a visual arts discipline.

As the Crafts Council of Ireland celebrates Year of Craft throughout 2011, this diverse exhibition of contemporary fine craft is a dynamic start to the year in their flagship exhibition space, the National Craft Gallery.

The 2010 Jerwood Contemporary Makers are: Laura Ellen Bacon David Rhys Jones Laura Potter Chien-Wei Chang Kirsty McDougall Tomoaki Suzuki David Clarke Nicola Malkin Ingrid Tait Carl Clerkin Taslim Martin Marloes ten Bhomer Julie Cooke Flora McLean Maud Traon Robert Dawson Rowan Mersh Richard Wheater Nora Fok Gareth Neal Conor Wilson David Gates Karen Nicol Emma Woffenden Joseph Harrington Heather *Park Dawn Youll Tony Hayward Lina Peterson*



Dawn Youll 'After The Event'

GALLERY EVENTS

Friday January 21st – 4.30pm: Exhibition Tour with Freddie Robins

Tuesdays and Thursdays – 11am: Exhibition Tours – booking required For more details see: www.nationalcraftgallery.ie

Saturday January 22nd – 11am

FIRST NATIONAL CRAFT GALLERY CURATION MASTERCLASS

Experimental knitter and Jerwood selector Freddie Robins and independent curator, David Littler will co-facilitate the first NCG curation masterclass.

FREDDIE ROBINS: Sees experimental knitting as a powerful medium for communication because of the cultural preconceptions surrounding it. Freddie is a tutor for Mixed Media in the Royal College of Art, London. She has exhibited extensively and her work is held in many collections including the Victoria & Albert Museum, and the UK Crafts Council. www.freddiebobins.com

DAVID LITTLER: David Littler is a curator, educator, designer, club DJ and the director of London Printworks Trust, Brixton. He's a passionate advocate for the cultural, economic and social role of textiles in contemporary life. In 2007 he was recipient of the UK Crafts Council 'Spark Plug' curation award for Sampler- Culture Clash, a collaborative project combining embroidery & dj-ing!

Friday February 25th – 6.30pm, NCG Late Date

Informal Tour with Tomm Moore, Creative Director, Cartoon Saloon.

For more details see: www.nationalcraftgallery.ie

Further Media Information on Jerwood Contemporary Makers: Christine Monk | Irish Arts Publicity | 087 675 5329 | christinemonk@eircom.net

Further Media Information on Crafts Council of Ireland: Susan Brindley | Crafts Council of Ireland | 056 779 6152 | susan@dccoi.ie

NOTES TO EDITORS:

1. The National Craft Gallery The Crafts Council of Ireland's flagship exhibition space which is housed in the beautifully restored 18th Century stables of Kilkenny Castle. It exhibits a programme of groundbreaking national and international contemporary craft and develops exhibitions that tour museums and galleries worldwide.

2. About Contemporary Fine Craft Contemporary craft work that is innovative in its use of materials and aesthetic vision, reflects the signature of the individual maker, and demonstrates investigation of processes and critical enquiry with the highest standard of workmanship.

3. About Jerwood Contemporary Makers Jerwood Visual Arts is a contemporary gallery programme of awards, exhibitions and events at Jerwood Space, London. Jerwood Contemporary Makers was launched by the Jerwood Charitable Foundation in 2008 as a three-year exhibition series supporting and showcasing emerging creative talent. Each year, a different panel of selectors has curated the exhibition. Jerwood Contemporary Makers was

shown at the Jerwood Space, London in Summer 2010, and toured to Dovecot Studios, Edinburgh, before traveling to Ireland. For more information visit www.jerwoodvisualarts.org

4. About Year of Craft 2011 The Crafts Council of Ireland and Craft Northern Ireland have designated 2011 as Year of Craft. The year marks the 40th anniversary of the Crafts Council of Ireland which was founded in 1971 following a visit by the World Crafts Council to Ireland the previous year. Year of Craft 2011 will be celebrated through a diverse range of dynamic events and programmes to showcase the very best of craft made on the island of Ireland. A highlight of the year will be the hosting of the Annual General Assembly of the World Crafts Council - Europe in June 2011. This 3-day event will attract representatives of national craft bodies from all over Europe adding an international dimension to Year of Craft 2011. Further information is available at www.craftinireland.com