

PRESS RELEASE

8 AUGUST 2014

RESONANCE

Exploring the sonic qualities of glass, a stunning free exhibition of work from artists
Róisín de Buitléar and Karen Donnellan

National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, 8th August to 27th October 2014



Róisín de Buitléar, Irish Incantation/ Ortha. Glass Photo Fionán O'Connell

The 2014 Kilkenny Arts Festival runs from 8-17 August 2014 with a programme that builds on forty years of extraordinary creative moments. This, Festival Director Eugene Downes' first Festival programme, is all about artistic residencies, in-depth collaborations and surprise guests in a programme that moves beyond conventional artform boundaries. Just as many artists prefer not to define their work in a single genre such as classical or contemporary, jazz or folk, poetry or song, theatre or dance, Kilkenny is where the classical, traditional and contemporary meet. It's the tension and fusion between these styles that give both the city and the Festival their distinctive characters, and which is being celebrated this year.

This August at the National Craft Gallery there will be a stunning new exhibition featuring the work of artists Róisín de Buitléar and Karen Donnellan. Curated by Angela O'Kelly

Resonance brings together these two artists whose innovative work explores the sonic qualities of glass. Entrance to the exhibition is free.

Róisín de Buitléar's *Irish Incantation/Ortha* is a series of glass sound objects made to create an Irish incantation, a harmony of voice, object and Irish soul. When played by different hands and breaths of phrasing and rhythm, they become an evolving conversation. Liam O'Maonlai will perform with the sound objects in the Set Theatre on Friday 8 August.

Karen Donnellan's work is concerned with the intangible essence of things. Informed by her interest in the metaphysical, her work draws on a wide range of media including blown and cast glass, woodturning, sound, light and film. Working with composer Alma Kelliher, her work explores the boundaries of sound technology and experimental glass art.

In Gallery 1 Karen and Róisín have developed an interactive glass sound experience using objects found in everyday life that enables visitors to try out their own music.

On Tuesday 12 August at 5.30pm there will be an informal percussion evening. See www.nationalcraftgallery.ie for details and on Sat 9 August at 3pm learn more about the exhibition and the work of these artists at the Curator and Artist talk.

The full programme for the 2014 Kilkenny Arts Festival can be found at www.kilkennyarts.ie

Booking: Tel: +353 56 775 2175

In Person: Festival Box Office, 14 John St, Kilkenny (from 7 July)

Kilkenny Arts Festival is core-funded by An Chomhairle Ealaíon / The Arts Council and supported by Fáilte Ireland and Kilkenny Local Authorities.

About the National Craft Gallery

Established by the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland in 2000, the National Craft Gallery is Ireland's leading centre for contemporary craft and design. It exhibits Irish and international designers, artists and makers who push boundaries in their engagement with the making process. Its mission is to inspire appreciation, creativity and innovation and it plays a critical role in building understanding of craft and material culture in Ireland. nationalcraftgallery.ie