

The Douglas Hyde Gallery
June 10 - July 13, 2011

Gallery 1
Mairead O'hEocha
via An Lár

Gallery 2
Mark Manders
Two Interconnected Houses

Gallery 1

Mairead O'hEocha
via An Lár



Image:
Workyard, Smithfield, Dublin
2011

Oil on board
46 x 55 cm

Courtesy of the artist and mother's tankstation

Mairead O'hEocha

via An Lár

Mairead O'hEocha paints small landscapes that are both graceful and intelligent. Low-keyed pictures, coloured predominantly in elegant shades of grey, green, and blue, they are rooted in a painterly tradition of modest and sensitive observation that includes artists as various as Corot, Morandi, and Maureen Gallace.

Nevertheless, in their quiet way, Mairead O'hEocha's images are unmistakably contemporary and individual. More often than not they depict Irish edgelands, those curious but unremarkable places where cities and towns merge with the natural landscape. And as the Irish countryside, in recent years, has become more and more developed, so there are increasingly frequent instances of incongruent juxtapositions between the rural vernacular and styles of modern urban life. These are the liminal areas that the paintings reflect. O'hEocha does not comment directly on the uneasy contradictions of the Irish edgelands; her paintings, which are neither approving nor critical, seem to gaze, with distant affection, on those overlooked parts of Ireland where a sense of belonging and permanence is being slowly eroded and replaced with a mood of transience and uncertainty.

Several of the more recent images in this exhibition are of Dublin, the capital and economic hub of the country. But this is a city that is not immediately recognizable; what we see is a place in a process of uneasy change, where the centre doesn't hold and where only peripheral corners and forgotten edges seem to have any connection with the comforting resonances of the past.

The Douglas Hyde Gallery gratefully acknowledges the help and support of the artist; Finola Jones of mother's tankstation, Dublin; and Anna O'Sullivan of the Butler Gallery (which recently held a related exhibition of Mairead O'hEocha's work).

Talks

Introductory talks on both exhibitions will be given on Wednesday, June 15 at 1:15pm; and Wednesday, June 29 at 1:15pm.

All are welcome, admission free.

Mark Manders

Two Interconnected Houses



Image:
Two Interconnected Houses (slide 10)
2010
Slide projection loop with 80 slides
Dimensions variable
Courtesy of the artist and Zeno X Gallery, Antwerp

Mark Manders

Two Interconnected Houses

Mark Manders, who first exhibited at the Douglas Hyde Gallery in 1997, shows regularly at major museums around the world. 'Two Interconnected Houses', a slide projection composed of photographs of the interiors of two domestic buildings that are connected by subterranean tunnels, is an important recent work that encapsulates many of the key elements of his practice. The images lead the viewer through neglected rooms, surreal juxtapositions, grimly poetic images, and apparently abandoned studio spaces filled with collected objects and ephemera. Joining the two houses and, by implication, the narrative, are the deep black tunnels, which infuse the whole with an almost palpable sense of absence and foreboding.

The Douglas Hyde Gallery gratefully acknowledges the help and support of the artist and of Frank Demaegd of Zeno X Gallery, Antwerp.

Artist's Talk

Mark Manders will give a talk on his work.
Friday, June 10, at 1:15pm.

There will be 40 seats; please contact the Gallery in advance to reserve a place.

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Opening Hours:
Monday - Friday, 11am-6pm
Thursday, 11am-7pm
Saturday, 11am-4:45pm

Staff

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Sheena Malone (Assistant to the Director)
Michael Hill (Gallery Assistant)

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