



Christine Mackey
The Collection

Christine Mackey is from Leitrim but also lives and works in Dublin. She was the winner of the open section of this exhibition last year. Her work continues to be concerned with the act of drawing as a social interaction. She has collected almost three thousand jam jars from people in her local area, diverting them from re-cycling bins as well as getting a sizable donation from a re-cycling company. The drawings on the lids of the jars come from an early nineteenth century book about meaning associated with forms or lines. These have been copied several times via a photocopy machine, humanising the mechanical process through several generations of copying. As an exercise in social drawing the work also references landscape in its arrangement, growing from the corner like crystalline basalt or bacterial growth.

Paul McAree
West

Paul McAree is from Cork but lives in London. This installation of paintings looks at various aspects of the Irish history through the history of painting. The style is reminiscent of Paul Henry or Jack B. Yeats but greatly enlarged and with little respect for classic framing and sequencing. The paintings reference the iconography of these other artists who contributed toward early Irish national and cultural identity by mirroring impressionist painting styles and content from continental Europe, placing peasants and working landscapes, like farmland, in the foreground. But even McAree's own paintings have been copied and re-rendered here, forcing us to think about how culture is constructed in a similar way to the Irwin group have combined several traditions and ideologies.