

Signal Staff Artists Showcase



Monica Grossman



SIGNAL
ARTS
CENTRE

Volume 3

January to March 2006

issue 1



Yan DeGroot



Oonagh Donnelly



Monkey II By Collin Rush

Board of directors 2005

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Gavin McCabe
Greg Murray
Davnat O'Reilly
Eleanor Phillips
Sonia Haccius
Joan Quinn
Coilin Rush
William Slattery
Maura Ryan
Filip Servit

Signal Art Centre is represented on the following:

Bray Partnership
Wicklow Arts Networks
Wicklow Community Platform

Signal Arts Centre
1 Albert avenue
Bray
Co. Wicklow

Tel:01 2762039
Fax:01 2869982
Email: signalartcentre@eircom.net

Office Hours
9.30 - 1.00pm
2.00 - 5.00pm
Monday to Friday

Gallery Hours
10.00 - 1.00pm
2.00 - 5.00pm
Monday to Saturday

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Newest Society Members

- Cathy Doyle - Textile Artist
- Nita Daly - Painter
- Babs Johnston - Painter
- Nuala O'Toole - Painter/Teacher
- Mairead O'Sheehan - Painter
- Marlene McCarthy - Painter/Sculptor
- Sheila Kavanagh - Painter/Graphics

Signal Staff Profile



Johannes DeGroot: Jan studied print in NCAD and was a reggae DJ in many of Dublin's nightclubs. He joined Signal in May of this year and is currently working on a large mural project with the Bray Addiction team. He is also helping to run Life Drawing and Children's Art Classes in Signal.



Oonagh Donnelly: Oonagh studied (Design) Visual Communications in College of Marketing and Design, Mountjoy Square. She joined Signal in May of this year. Whilst on staff she has been designing and developing a new logo and 'corporate' look for Signal. She also runs workshops for the Clients of Rehab.



Monica Grossman: Monica studied furniture design in Bray Community College, specialising in stained glass. Monica also joined Signal this year and has been involved in many projects. Currently she is working within Signal on the Children's Art Classes which are held twice a week.



Gavin McCabe: Gavin has been working in Signal since 2004 and is an accomplished musician and writer. Gavin looks after the press releases for each exhibition in Signal, assisting exhibiting artists to write up the dreaded Artists Statement. Gavin has performed on fundraiser's for Signal and has recorded an album of his own work.



Greg Murray: Greg worked for many years in the highly competitive world of advertising. He is an accomplished graphic designer and portraitist. He joined Signal in 2005 and has worked on a number of Signal's community summer school projects. Currently he is working on the Children's Art Classes and has worked on the Ravenswell Summer School and Bray School Project.



Sonia Haccius: Sonia studied in Middlesex University London and went on to get an MA in Theatre Design from the Slade School of Art in London. She is an accomplished set designer and has worked on a number of sets for RTE. Whilst in Signal she has worked on a number of projects including our community summer school outreach programmes.



Joan Quinn: Joan studied computer aided graphic design in Bray Community College and joined Signal in September 2005. Since joining Signal she has helped to develop the new Signal Arts Society Newsletter.



Coilin Rush: Coilin studied Fine Art, Painting, in NCAD. He has been working in Signal since October 2004. Whilst in Signal he has worked on a large variety of community projects, including the summer school's programmes. Currently he is working with the Clients of Rehab. Coilin is interested in starting a painting class for adults, if you would like to avail of this service please ring the centre and ask for Coilin.



William Slattery: William has been a staff member since 2004. William has worked on a number of projects in Signal including a mosaic project with children in The Ark in Temple Bar. He has done extensive work with Marino School and they are so delighted with the work he has done there that they have requested him to work again with them throughout this term year.



Maria Nolan: Maria has been in Signal since 2003 and has one of the most important jobs in the Centre. She looks after the accounts!



Claire Flood: Claire is Signal's epicentre. She is the supervisor of the CE (community employment) project, administrator of everything else and knowledge base of all that happens. If there is anything you need to know she's the person to ask. She has been with Signal since 2002 and as well as working full time in Signal is also studying for a Degree in Community Development in Maynooth.

SIGNAL SOCIETY MEMBERS CURRENT DISCOUNT SCHEME

Signal Arts Centre Purchases and courses 10%
1 Albert Avenue 15% Commission on Sales
Bray of members work.
01 2762039 (Normally 25%)
Email: signalartscentre@eircom.net

Art Supplies
Arts and Hobby Shop All stores 10% Discount
Top Floor St. Stephens Green 01 4781263
Top Floor Dun Laoghaire SC. 01 2805047
Jervis St. Centre 01 8745312
Blackrock SC. 01 2832394

Cambridge Fine Arts Ltd. 10% Discount
17 South William St.
Dublin 2
01 6774652

D.P. Stationers (Dargle Press) Under €20.00 5%
Florence Rd. Over €20.00 10%
Bray
01 2862130

Michael Doherty Stationery 10% Discount
68 Main St.
Bray
01 2861091

Eason's Art Supplies 10% Discount
O'Connell St.
Dublin 1
01 8733811

Evans Art Supplies 10% Discount
28 Mary's Abbey/Little Strand St.
Dublin &
01 8726855

Kavanagh Educational Suppliers 10% Discount
64 Lower Camden St.
Dublin 2
01 4783804

O'Sullivan Graphic Supplies 10% Discount
23/25 Grantham St. (off Camden St.)
Dublin 8
01 4780422

RPM Supplies 10% Discount
50 Lower Dorset S
Dublin 1
01 8742281

Framing
Craft Picture Framing Gallery 10% Discount
3 Dublin Rd.
Bray
01 2866728

Photographic Materials and Equipment
Image Supply Systems Ltd. (ISS) Trade prices on photographic
6A Liberty Lane and darkroom equipment
St. Kevin's Street lower
Dublin 8 01 4782520

Photographic Processing
Bray Photo Lab 10% Discount
2 Herbert Rd.
Bray

01 2867418
Hetty's Darkroom 10% Discount
87A Kill Avenue
Dun Laoghaire
01 2843261

One Hour Photo 20% on Framing
110 Grafton St. 15% on Processing
Dublin
01 6774472

Pizza
Four Star Pizza Any 12 inch pizza €10
Dargle Centre, Castle St.
Bray
01 2865755
51 Upper Georges St.
Dun Laoghaire
01 2843629

Printing
Central Press 10% Discount
10 Albert Walk
Bray
01 2761002

Falcon Print and Finish Ltd. 10% Discount
22 South Cumberland St.
Dublin
01 2867686

Fortune Print and Design 2% Discount
Unit 4, Seaview Industrial Complex
Strand Rd.
Bray
01 2864349

Omniprint 15% Discount
Strand Rd.
Bray
01 2861844

Theatre
Pavilion Theatre Concession prices
Marine Rd. Mention Signal Society
Dun Laoghaire when phoning
01 2312929

Wine
O'Brien's Fine wines 10% Discount on
All Branches minimum one crate

Longest Serving Staff get a corner all to themselves!

Davnat O'Reilly: Davnat has been working in Signal continuously since 1999. She studied fine art in Dun Laoghaire College of Art and is now the full-time administrator of the exhibitions programme in Signal. Want to submit for an exhibition in the Gallery she's the lady to talk to.

Eleanor Phillips: Eleanor first started working in Signal in 1993 and hasn't been able to get away since. She studied Fine Art in NCAD and recently completed a H.Dip in Community Arts Education. Technically speaking she is employed full-time in Signal as the Studio Technician, which means she spends a lot of time fixing things! She is also a long serving member of the Board.

Comment

Welcome to the second edition of the new look newsletter. The feedback so far has been very positive and we are glad that readers take the time to let us know their opinions.

It has been another successful year for the Signal Arts Centre, with several really excellent exhibitions and massive growth in the Society (we now have over 100 members).

It was really great to see all the members who turned up for the Christmas party, for those of you who can't remember it was a great night, trust me. The party was divided between the gallery area with Karaoke and the work room with Johannes and his fifties extravaganza. With the main imbibing area in the middle – staffed by our own special bar staff who managed quite well with the Manhattans and Shirley Temples but rather fell by the wayside later in the evening with the Slippery Nipples and Baby Guinness's
Congratulations to all Society members who have reported a good year in their practices and here's hoping for an even better year in 2006.

As always your input is very important to the Society so keep sending in articles and stuff. Next newsletter deadline March 16th 2006.

The management and staff at the Signal Arts centre would like to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous and productive new year.

Colum O' Neill

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We want to hear about exhibitions you are holding (we want to tell everyone about it & it's free advertising for you); exhibitions or performances you have seen (write us a review); awards you have won (boasting is definitely encouraged). We would also love images of your work for the cover of the magazine. In fact send us anything you think might interest or amuse us!

SEND US YOUR STUFF YOUR MAGAZINE NEEDS YOU!

(Suggestions on improvements are also welcome. (oops!))

Four murals for a community centre. Part II

Here are two of the photographs that have been received for incorporation into the second (autumn) mural. I think people seemed to find there were too few birds in the last mural. To be fair there were some eggs, but no birds. The photographs this time have all kinds of birds. I suppose that had something to do with it being the time of year when birds flock to fly south, and all the trees are bare.

The first drafts of the mural design are due in the second week of January. Painting should begin shortly after a final draft has been agreed. Enjoy the holidays, see you next year.

By Yan DeGroot



POLITICALLY CORRECT SANTA

And had gone on Geraldo, in front of the nation,
Demanding millions in over-due compensation.
So, half of the reindeer were gone; and his wife,
Who suddenly said she'd enough of this life,
Joined a self-help group, packed, and left in a whiz,
Demanding from now on her title was Ms.
And as for the gifts, why, he'd ne'er had a notion
That making a choice could cause so much
commotion.
Nothing of leather, nothing of fur,
Which meant nothing for him. And nothing for her.
Nothing that might be construed to pollute.
Nothing to aim. Nothing to shoot.
Nothing that clamoured or made lots of noise.
Nothing for just girls. Or just for the boys.
Nothing that claimed to be gender specific.
Nothing that's warlike or non-pacific.
No candy or sweets ... they were bad for the tooth.
Nothing that seemed to embellish a truth.
And fairy tales, while not yet forbidden,
Were like Ken and Barbie, better off hidden.
For they raised the hackles of those psychological
Who claimed the only good gift was one ecological.
No baseball, no football ... someone could get hurt;
Besides, playing sports exposed kids to dirt.
Dolls were said to be sexist, and should be passe;
And Nintendo would rot your entire brain away.
So Santa just stood there, disheveled, perplexed;
He just could not figure out what to do next.
He tried to be merry, tried to be gay,
But you've got to be careful with that word today.
His sack was quite empty, limp to the ground;
Nothing fully acceptable was to be found.
Something special was needed, a gift that he might
Give to all without angering the left or the right.
A gift that would satisfy, with no indecision,
Each group of people, every religion;
Every ethnicity, every hue,
Everyone, everywhere ... even you.
So here is that gift, it's price beyond worth ...
"May you and your loved ones enjoy peace on earth."

'Twas the night before Christmas and Santa's a
wreck...
How to live in a world that's politically correct?
His workers no longer would answer to "Elves",
"Vertically Challenged" they were calling
themselves.
And labour conditions at the north pole
Were alleged by the union to stifle the soul.
Four reindeer had vanished, without much
propriety,
Released to the wilds by the Humane Society.
And equal employment had made it quite clear
That Santa had better not use just reindeer.
So Dancer and Donner, Comet and Cupid,
Were replaced with 4 pigs, and you know that
looked stupid!
The runners had been removed from his sleigh;
The ruts were termed dangerous by the E.P.A.
And people had started to call for the cops
When they heard sled noises on their roof-tops.
Second-hand smoke from his pipe had his workers
quite frightened.
His fur trimmed red suit was called
"Unenlightened."
And to show you the strangeness of life's ebbs and
flows,
Rudolf was suing over unauthorized use of his nose

A poem by Mairead O' Sheehan

About the writer:

I am a member of Abraxas writing group which meet every Tuesday night from 8 o'clock to 10 o'clock in Lenehans bar. Abraxas was launched in 1997 in the Town Hall and was originally known as the Bray Writers Centre. The group offers constructive criticism to aspiring professional writers. The group leader is Dermot Mc Cabe.

I am also a member of the Bray Writing group which differs from Abraxas in that the ethos is more critical. Both are stimulating and enjoyable.

Home Again

You are home again,
Home to the lakes
That gurgle with your slow laugh.
Home to the bogs
That hugged your back in labour.
Home to roads and bothrins
That twisted and turned,
As you pedalled with words in a bag.
Home to haughty mountains,
Beguiling hills.
Home to the stale pubs,
Where your accordion lifted
Sunlight,
From a stone floor.
Home to be laid to rest with your wife
Her tall dark and dangerously
Handsome man
Home from where your heart never travelled
Home as sweet as a ditch
Swollen in honey

Mairead O' Sheehan

Children's Art Classes

During the summer I worked with Signal Arts Centre doing art classes with some summer school projects and really enjoyed it, so i was delighted when it was decided to renew the Signal Arts Centre children's art classes, at Albert Avenue.

We were not sure what sort of response we would get initially so it was a pleasant surprise for us to have to add an extra class on Thursday to accommodate the number of applicants.

Though the ages of the children varied form 5 to 12 years of age , the number of girls attending the classes far outweighed the number of boys. This may not be a startling revelation to the reader but it was surprising considering our modern cosmopolitan tendencies. It certainly was more of a challenge to hold the interest of the boys, they are more easily distracted and were more likely to be showy if they were getting a reaction, but i think the boys felt a little out numbered and tried to make up for it at times with a little rebellion.

I don't know the reason for lower number of boys, whether parents don't think art classes are suitable for boys, boys refuse to attend or perhaps there are just far more girls than boys in Bray.

Regardless I very much enjoyed the experience of working with the children, their amazing ideas and imagination. There is a wonderful energy that exudes from a room full of children and the young imaginations are inspiring for an artist like myself. They have no inhibitions, no preconditions, no reservations or limitations just a brilliant confidence and assurance that 'this tree is blue', this flower has a smiling face', 'this horse has wings' or one for the boys 'this planet has ice-cream mountains and a chocolate sauce river'.

We will be starting up the classes again in January (18th and 19th) and in addition to the regular crew of Monica, Jan, Sonia and myself we will have Maura joining us to run classes for the younger children.

We all look forward to seeing some of the now familiar faces in the new year and hopefully to a few more new faces too.

By Greg Murray



Signal Christmas Party

This year we decided to have the party in the centre and base it on the original Rat Pack theme to include cocktails and karaoke. It took place on Saturday 3rd December and definitely lived up to expectations!

It all came around very fast; the main worry for the female staff members was where would we get a 50's style cocktail dress. I thought I was on top of this because in a former life I used to buy old style dresses but much to my chagrin the bloody dress I wanted to wear no longer fitted me (obviously had a former body too)!! The male members were encouraged to dress in tuxedos (completely politically incorrect on the behalf of the female members of staff but a girl can dream/fantasise- whatever!) or some form of formal wear – some of them actually turned up looking very suave, I won't name names or will I, better not show any favouritism!

On the night some members of staff who I will definitely name beautifully decorated the place: Sonia, Eleanor, Gregg and Jan, even the workroom looked brilliant. Eleanor did the shopping, where she excelled, Sonia made the gel cones for the lights. Some of the same crew plus Oonagh and her friend, Christine helped tidy up the following day, which I'm sure, was no easy task. Monica and her partner Alan came the following day to help also and ended up putting up the decorations in the kitchen – it was a great relief to me to come in on the Monday to a clean and decorated Centre. We employed the services of my nephew Lúí and his friend Shaman to prepare the cocktails, which they did admirably only asking once could they have one!!

Enough of the thanks etc. lets get down to the nitty gritty! The cocktails were flowing from the outset, very drinkable they were too. I, of course, before downing my first cocktail had to check out the equipment, I felt I couldn't expect any one else to sing into a faulty system! What sort of a supervisor would I be if I allowed the staff to use shoddy goods! That's my excuse and I'm sticking to it. It took a while to prise people out of the speakeasy (the workroom) so it was left to myself, Pat and Jim to entertain the troops for a while. But when the others got interested the fun really began. Karaoke allows the onlooker a completely different aspect on individuals.

Oonagh proved to be a hidden talent, she could give Macy Gray a run for her money, her husky voice and good sense of humour added greatly to the entertainment value of the evening, rumour has it that a medley of her songs will be coming out in the new year. Celia Robertson proved that she could hold a tune while being choked by Jackie Vickers. One of the highlights of the

evening was Jan's exceptional rendition of Somewhere Out There; I think I saw a few people wipe away a tear when he was finished!!

Sonia did a very sexy (whilst wearing a sari) rendition of Big Spender. It is safe to say that by the end of the night there was nearly a rumble over who was getting the mike next, Greg seemed to referee this section of the evening very well! He was definitely dressed for the part! Colum O'Neill cleared the room on more than one occasion but he looked like he was having a great time.

Michelle & Nico won a prize of an orange with pineapple and cheese for their dresses, which were definitely the best of the evening. Monica proved to be Signal's answer to Marlene Dietrich; she looked and sounded like a star, maybe it had something to do with her mother's Canadian bra, if you were there you'll know what I mean. Every member of staff excelled and proved that artists are true exhibitionists (with some administrative exceptions and I don't mean Maria Nolan). What happened after I left at 4.30 a.m. cannot be recorded or remembered by those die hards who were here till dawn!

Suffice it to say that it was a good night well had by all and hopefully we will repeat it again next year but I would suggest getting more than one mike for the night and would recommend rehearsals for some people – not naming names again! Happy Christmas.

By Claire Flood

Some Festive Photos!





SIGNAL ARTS CENTRE

Winter/Spring 2006 gallery programme

JANUARY-FEBRUARY

STICK PEOPLE WITH HUGE HAIRCUTS ARE TOP HEAVY AND FALL OVER

BY DEREK CUMMINS.
From Tuesday 3rd January to Saturday 14th January 2006.
Opening Reception:
Thursday 5th January 7-9pm.

MIDNIGHT AUTOMATIC

AN EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS
BY MARIANNE SHORTON.
From Tuesday 17th January to Saturday 28th January 2006.
Opening Reception:
Friday 20th January 7-9pm.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL & SIGNAL ARTS CENTRE PRESENT ARTIST IN THE COMMUNITY 2005

LITTLE BRAY FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE & ARTIST VALERIE TUCKER.
From Tuesday 31st January to Saturday 11th February 2006.
Opening Reception:
Thursday 2nd February 7-9pm.

PERFORMANCE

AN EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS BY STEPHEN MC KEE.
From Tuesday 14th February to Saturday 25th February.
Opening Reception:
Thursday 16th February 7-9 pm.

Derek Cummins

MARCH - APRIL

CHALLENGING PERCEPTIONS

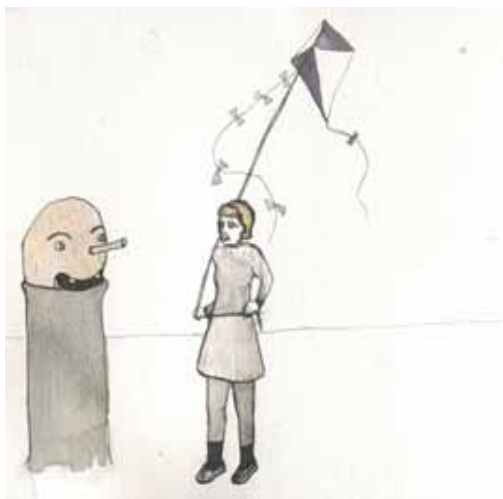
AN EXHIBITION OF MARINE PHOTOGRAPHY BY SARAH VARIAN.
From Tuesday 28th February to Saturday 11th March.
Opening Reception:
Thursday 2nd March 7-9pm.

SHADES OF ENIGMA

AN EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHY BY SUNBEAM HOUSE SERVICES
From Tuesday 14th March to Saturday 25th March 2006.
Opening Reception:
Thursday 16th March 7-9pm.

VITAL ILLUSIONS

AN EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ART BY RHODA CUNNINGHAM.
From Tuesday 28th March to Saturday 8th April 2006.
Opening Reception:
Thursday 30th March 7-9 pm.



SARAH VARIAN.



STEPHEN MCKEE.

Younger children's art classes

Age: 4 1/2 to 5 1/2 yrs
Day: Thursday
Time: 1.30 - 2.30pm
Venue: Signal Arts Centre
Cost: €60 for 8 weeks

Start Date: February 2nd 2006
Maximum Number: 8 Children

To confirm a place please ring 2762039

CHILDREN'S ART CLASSES

(8 weeks)

Wednesdays: 18th Jan 06' - 1st Mar

Thursdays 19th Jan 06' - 2 Mar 06'

