

JANUARY REVIEW 2016

A touch of frost reminds us that Winter is here. Bray Arts faithful came in fine furs and sheepskin to warm themselves about the first artistic flames of 2016. In fine form indeed for female harmony, challenging art and a Kinky coda with some electric rock.

Mood swings seems an ominous name for a female singing trio, but this was less Valkyrie, more smiling harmony. In descending shades of polka dot, the ladies delivered melodic pop taking us back to the halcyon days of the sixties and seventies. One guitar provided a rhythmic platform for the interweaving vocals of Ruth Corbett, Hazel Evans and Marion Smith. California Dreaming sets the mood from the off. Since the mood has a swing to it, I suppose they do what it says on the tin, without the implied tantrums. The Beatles Blackbird is there, without a hint of menace. Carpenters and Bread feature too, with Carole King to finish. Will you still love me tomorrow? Yeah, still do.

Towards the end of her presentation, artist Joanne Boyle showed figurative drawings from a project working with teenagers. This contrasted with other work which relied heavily on verbal explanation. The question whether art is public or private typically revolves around the divide between Graphics and Fine Art. Better to ask: can art exist outside of the ostensible human condition? If it's too abstract or private we need a set of instructions. Joanne began with an account of her installation consisting basically of pouring bitumen. A performance in itself, she claimed, with yoga-like properties. This is rather internalised for something implicitly shared as visual art. Artist and viewer meet halfway with crafty drawings burned into MDF. These were based on bones recovered from the landscape. Ostensible things, possessed of fascination and beauty, they give pleasure at the recognition of art.

Finally, a quartet of Sea Creatures washed upon our shore. Three front men on guitars and keyboard, each bringing a distinct flavour to their own compositions. If there is a main man, Ravi Kasinathan from West London fits the bill. Inevitably, I suppose, he finished with a Kinks number, Sunny Afternoon. Shows they can do covers, and for more proof they're in the Hibo on Saturdays, and The International, Wicklow Street, Mondays. The band grew tighter as they played. Cutting loose on Everyman Blues with a stomping beat and tasty blues harp. Johnny Joyce on drums got his short solo, the piano solo, shades of Manzarek, from Justin McCann in golfer chique. Penultimate number, Lonely Hearts, was best of impressive set of originals. A slice of mod love, a blend of pop and rock typical of the London sound. Get on your scooter and get to the sea! What a wonderful beast these creatures make.

Shane Harrison

MARK LAWLOR

t's the visual story of a family. A series of mono - prints that has

the tale of Daedalus at its core. Daedalus was a wonderful smith, and that is all that can be said with any truth about him. The rest is made up by whatever people were in power at the time. Some say he was Athenian born, others Cretan. Daedalus had a nephew. Talos or Perdix who was busy in the workshop with him. So busy, that Talos invented the saw, the compass, the potter's wheel.

When Daedalus saw this boy out doing him he brought him up to a high place and chucked him down. Talos or Perdix, flew up, a Partridge, (Perdix) that shimmered away as his soul. Daedalus had two sons, one of whom was Icarus. To get out of a tight corner he made wings from feathers and wax that would fit him and another pair for Icarus.



Before they took off he said "Don't fly too near the sun as it will melt the wax" and" Don't set your own course". Icarus, well I will leave that story there...you can see the show and find out more....

ARTIST

FEBRUARY PREVIEW 2016

BRIAN QUIGLEY



POET/WRITER

am 46 and a native of Bray. I have been writing poetry and short stories for 25 years and have had poems and short stories published in various literary journals over the years, including Flaming Arrows, Abbey Echoes, the Bray Arts Journal and The Sunday Tribune. I was short-listed for the Sunday Tribune New Irish Writing poetry award in 1996. I am a contributing writer to the Wicklow Voice and Dublin Voice

newspapers. Outside of writing I work as a

chemist and university lecturer.

CODDLE

The fruit that fell before it could be picked or after it wasn't, we'll rescue them and make a pie, of sorts.

The leftovers from previous dinners,

we'll rescue them and make a pie, of sorts.

The words that didn't suit the other pieces of writing, we'll rescue them and make a poem, of sorts.

BOIL'S LAW

won a whistling kettle at a whistling competition, brought it home for a boil-off against my plug-in. Sure, the electric boiled quicker, but electric steam doesn't

whistle like mermaids.

HILT

jaltland pick up your sword by the hilt, brandish it to repel the invaders; the Nordic to your north and east, the Sassenach to your South and West.

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I'd like to focus simply on my art practice sort of chronologically, also sharing a bit the positive effect of having a dedicated studio again for the last eighteen months.

"For the last several years, my work has been mainly based on nature and life. I've also recently started working on more Pop - styled and narrative works. This has been an interesting and surprising process; I think that it has a lot to do with my being able to put more time into my art practice".







FEBRUARY PREVIEW 2016



THE CARTY SISTERS

rom Wexford, who have just released their debut EP, 'Cogar', in October, are among the most exciting young prospects to emerge on the national music scene in years. The sisters, Saoirse, Naoise and Ciara, all share a passion for their native language and spend many of their summers in the Gaeltacht areas around Ireland embracing the country's native language and culture.

Though the musical roots of the three-piece group are based in the Trad genre their passion for musical expression sees them explore many avenues and as a result their sound crosses many boundaries.

Part Trad, part Folk, part Americana the girls have a sound that is as unique as it is captivating and that's underlined by rousing applause wherever they play live - and playing live is what they do best.

Appearing at prestigious events as the Kilkenny and Temple Bard Tradfests.

They were also invited to share stages in a special guest capacity with some illustrious Irish performers including KÍLA, Sharon Shannon, Seán Keane, and Louise Morrissey, as well as international soloists such as Nashville singer-songwriters Charlie Roth and Melissa Greener.

Hearing the Carty Sisters live it's incredible to think they've only been performing in public for two years; however, "Their inherent talent continues to astound people who witness them perform" (Brendan Keane, New Ross Echo)

Their debut EP showcases their diverse influences and musical prowess in exemplary fashion. The EP" Cogar features all original material (four songs and three tunes) displaying influences from jazz, trad, ethnic and country.

The recordings were produced and mentored under the watchful eye of KÍLA front man, Rónán Ó Snódaigh, in Cong, Co. Mayo, and the EP was recorded in the ideal setting of the Quiet Cailín Studios.

SIGNAL ARTS CENTRE CURRENT EXHIBITION

Sunbeam House & Carmona Services



Jan 18TH - Jan 31ST

'INSIDE AND OUT'









Mark Lawlor Artist

It's the visual story of a family. A series of mono prints that has the tale of Daedalus at its core. Daedalus was a wonderful smith, and that is all that can be said with any truth about him.

Brian Quigley Writer

short-listed for the Sunday Tribune New Irish Writing poetry award will share his poetry and short stories created over the past 25 years and published in various literary journals.



Dave Flynn Artist

Will show several pieces based on nature and life that illustrate the kind of artwork that he likes and the surprising process involved in his more recent Pop - styled and narrative works.



The Carty Sisters three-piece group Will present their unique and captivating sound rooted in Trad and the Irish language with a distinctive edge that is part Folk and part country.

Doors open 8:00 pm everyone is welcome Admission: €5 & €4 conc Information: Julie-Rose McCormick, 087 248 6751



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