

BRAY

ART

SHOW



Mon May 9th  
2016  
8pm



The Shed Poets



i am niagh



Ariyana Ahmad

**T**ime has sprung forward and all is sweetness and light as we gather for the April show at Bray Arts. A full program offers five acts covering the visual arts, music, humour, and poetry.

**Brigid O'Brien's** work is a visual diary, cataloguing the idiosyncrasies of daily life and the changing fabric of society. Her current project involves the development of craft brewing in Bray. I'll drink to that. Rather a lot, in truth. This series, chronicles the vital work and contribution to our society of Wicklow Wolf; something you should never keep from the door. Her drawings are typically meticulous and humorous, captured with more immediacy than a camera. Her own style of friendly narration makes us feel part of it. I'll drink to that. Again.

**James Devlin's** art has developed unmediated, a butterfly from its own chrysalis. He flutters through a potted biography, zig-zagging from Ardmore to New York and back to bray. Clad in black and white hoops and beret, he certainly looks like an artist. But he works like one too. There is nothing ontological about his art; it forms piecemeal from whatever takes his fancy. The jazz, blues, and crystalline formation of New York splatter his page. The page itself could be paper, canvas, or hessian, whatever comes to hand. It doesn't always work, but it often does. And it's never dull.

**Michael Gordon** is a time traveller. Before television brought sex to Ireland, or Hot Press made us safe for Rock and Roll, Michael fell into a time warp with a compendium of Irish balladry, journeying through an alternative universe before being disgorged back into the world. So, we heard such loved, if improperly remembered classics as the Wild Linoleum Boy and The Night We Went on the Piss with Pope John Paul. We really know these songs. It's just that we need to learn them again.

**El Grey** is not just a shade. Forty shades of Bray and other exotic spots blend in the unique sound of this duo. Marta and Christopher, from Poland, have been making music together since hitting these some years back. A tonal landscape unfolds, with Marta on guitar, ukulele, and vocals while Chris, between occasional strums, weaves a web of electronic wonder. There is sometimes a Celtic tinge to what they do and something very Eastern. Marta's soaring vocal harks back to the likes of Clannad and Renaissance. But it's futuristic too, and ultimately timeless.

**The Racker Donnelly** returns! Again. There's just no getting rid of him. Of course he's a globetrotter, a harem scarum globetrotter. And all roads lead back to Bray. Just ask Bormann. A history of life as we know it, and mostly as we don't, unfolded before our very ears. As serious facts unfolded, they were quickly mugged of sombre meaning by rhymes lurking in the long grass. Peter should be on the syllabus. But he's probably on something stronger. I'll certainly drink to that.

*Shane Harrison*

May Preview 2016

# SIGNAL ARTS CENTRE EXHIBITION



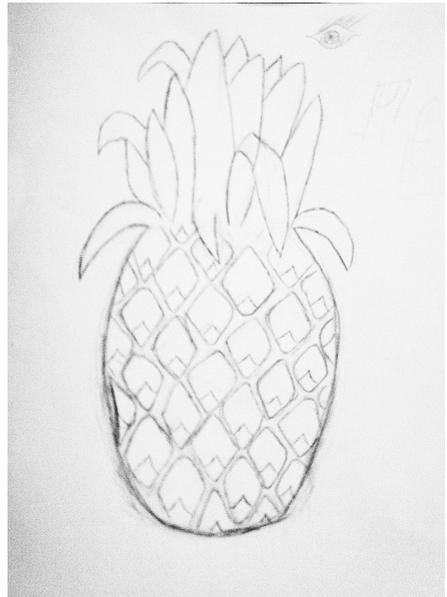
Drawings by Bray Primary School Students  
Curated by Greg Murray

Monday May 9th  
Sunday May 22nd

Opening Reception  
Sunday May 15th  
3pm - 5pm



Signal Arts Centre, 1 Albert Avenue, Bray  
Tel: 01-762039, [www.signalartscentre.ie](http://www.signalartscentre.ie)



# THE SHED POETS



Road to read, write and workshop our poems in a supportive yet rigorous way.

We are all widely published poets with individual collections, group anthologies – Time and Tide is our fifth – and poems in London and Irish magazines including The Shop and Stinging Fly. We also made a film, The Poets' Shed, with Anna Wilson of Little Fish Films. This and three of the anthologies, were funded with dlr Community Arts grants.

We also read our poems on radio and in many venues including the Irish Writers' Centre, Liberty Hall, Bray Arts, Dalkey Book Festival, Signal Arts, Amnesty International.

Bernie Kenny, Carol Boland, Maureen Perkins, Judy Russell, Marguerite Colgan, Rosy Wilson are a group of 6 poets who meet every Wednesday in a garden shed on the Vico.



**A**riyana Ahmad is a Dublin based artist who's originally from Malaysia. She is currently a Graphic Design student at Colaiste Dhulaigh in Raheny. Her biggest source of inspiration to draw every day is her wonderful son, Finn. She strives to nurture his imagination and help him to find beauty in even the tiniest of details.

Drawing provides her with escapism and therapy. Representing fantasy and mythical subjects transports her to another world. She finds it most inspiring to draw when she's feeling melancholic. Hence, the lack of colour in her artworks and why she draws using pens, brushes and black ink. With pens, she can focus on creating intricate patterns and detail. Thicker brushes and black ink helps to emphasize form. Here are some of her recent accomplishments:

Packaging design for Lily O'Briens Limited Edition Chocolates.

Painted a traffic box at the intersection of Custom House Quay for Dublin Canvas.

Illustrated a children's book titled 'My Brother is a Dragon' written by A.D Adams.

Painted a mural at the reception of the Physiotherapy Ward, Temple Street Hospital.

Exhibitions at the Exchange, The Bleeding Horse, Gallery X and Lighthouse Cinema.

Finalist for the DPP Skillnet Design competition with illustrations for a Dr. Seuss quote.

Ari's work can be viewed at [www.arisdolls.blogspot.ie](http://www.arisdolls.blogspot.ie), or find her on Facebook [www.facebook.com/ariahadart/](https://www.facebook.com/ariahadart/)





i am niamh, comprises primarily of Dublin based solo project artist, Niamh Parkinson. Her musical style is considered Avant-garde, shown through her classically trained voice with idiosyncratic tendencies in her music.

i am niamh is a multi-instrumentalist, she uses her voice, cello, digital piano, percussive instruments and skillfully intertwines them together with a loop pedal to create a complex palate of sounds. Her music takes unexpected interesting turns in each song. Her debut album, *Wonderland* released in May 2015, brings her electronica tendencies into successful focus alongside her continued quirky sounds. *Wonderland* was named within the top 30 albums of 2015 by RTÉ 2fm, The Thin Air and The Last Mixed Tape.

The 14 track album is a testament to i am niamh's creativity from her colourful string arrangements to her hypnotic beats and most of all, her vocal versatility. *Wonderland* was named 'Album of the week' by The Irish Times (Nialler9) and The Alternative RTE 2FM (Dan Hegarty). She has recently been nominated for four Hot Press Magazine awards 2016 for Best Female, Best Album, Best Track (Creep) and Best Debut Album.

Album of the week “very contemporary classically-informed chamber pop” - The Irish Times, i am niamh captivates crowds with her unique performances and has toured around the UK, Germany and Ireland. She has played prime slots at Electric Picnic, Body & Soul Festival and Life Festival and was also featured at the Ones to Watch festival at Whelans, Showcasing Dubliner Niamh Parkinson’s incredible voice, classical training and penchant for curious production. “BBC Radio Ulster

“It’s quite exciting actually to have an act like i Am Niamh coming through in the Irish music scene. She’s talented beyond belief.” - Goldenplec

“Classically trained soprano Niamh Parkinson cites everyone from Debussy to Deerhoof as an influence, and it shows. Her eerie, modern piano riffs and bold string arrangements make her one for Regina Spektor and Kate Bush devotees.”Time out London.





### The Shed Poets

Popular published poets Bernie Kenny, Carol Boland, Maureen Perkins, Judy Russell, Marguerite Colgan and Rosy Wilson return to read from their individual collections and group anthologies.



### Ariyana Ahmad – Graphic Artist

Makes use of pens, brushes and black ink to focus on creating intricate patterns and melancholic detail Representing fantasy and mythical subjects for escapism and therapy.



### i am niamh – Solo multi- instrumentalist

The Avant-garde Niamh Parkinson will engage her wonderful voice, cello, digital piano and percussive instruments to create a unique focus on experimental quirky electronica sounds.



Doors open 8:00 pm  
everyone is welcome  
Admission: €5 & €4 conc.

Information: Julie-Rose McCormick,  
087 248 6751



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